

COVID-19 Global Prayer Guide, May 2020

(5 days of specific prayer with and for our partners globally during this pandemic)

DAY	PLACE	TO READ	WE INVITE YOU TO PRAY FOR...
1	Jimma, Ethiopia	Psalm 34 Phil 4:4-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resources to help the poor who face economic crisis. There are people (day laborers) who had to stop their daily work because of the national state of emergency. The Jimma church wishes to support them but this is made more difficult since the church has been closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and members are not bringing their tithe and offerings. The Jimma church leaders who are encouraging their members through telephone. At this time one leader told us “we need a serious prayer. The crisis is coming in all directions.” Pray for protection from Co-Vid 19. The Becho Bore congregation, which has faced harassment and physical damage to the area around the church.
2	Central Asia	Matt 11:25-30 Zeph 3:14-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth for Christ Staff across Central Asia, four of whom are pregnant staff or spouses struggling to pay the rent and struggling to meet the most basic daily requirements for food and life during this time of pandemic. Domestic abuse, always prominent in Central Asia, is on the rise as husbands and families are quarantined to their homes. Pray for Central Asian women trapped in their homes who are being brutalized by their husbands. Muslims and Governments are using this difficult time when attention is on the COVID-19 virus to increase harassment and oppression of Christians. Pray for courage and relief for Christians suffering increased harassment and oppression during this time of pandemic.
3	Russia/ Central Asian Immigrants	James 1:1-4 Rev 21:1-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immigrants from Central Asia who typically work most basic jobs as day to day laborers. If they don't work then they don't get paid. If they don't get paid one day, they and their families do not eat the next. Immigrants who are dying on the streets of Moscow and Saint Petersburg often following loss of their laborer jobs and eviction from their apartments. Immigrants enjoy few protections and receive little or no support from the Russian Government. Christians who are working to help meet the physical and spiritual needs of Central Asian immigrants.
4	Cuba	Matt 6:25-34 Psalm 55:16-22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic food and life necessities will reach the common people, especially the poor, of Cuba during this time of pandemic. A reliable path or person to be identified that can facilitate critically needed food and other resources to be sent to and equitably distributed in Cuba. The hearts of those at First Pres. Harrisonburg and other dedicated followers of Jesus to recognize and respond to the pain and life sustaining needs of God's children during this time of hunger and pandemic.
5	Soshanguve, South Africa	Heb 4:14-16 Psalm 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give thanks with the Kerus family for the strong support by many from First Pres and elsewhere that has resulted in hundreds of boxes of food distributed to “the grannies” who take care of orphans and others in dire hunger circumstances. Protection for the Kerus volunteers who have taken on the perilous task to gather and distribute boxes of food to the most in need in Soshanguve. Continued financial and prayer support for those who are vulnerable, who are hungry and who are not safe, particularly those in the communities served by the Kerus family.

This document is designed to equip covenant partners of First Pres to engage more deeply with our global mission partners because of the COVID-19 pandemic by praying for our partners abroad who are experiencing specific needs. Many of the situations listed have received financial support directly from the Global Mission Committee of First Presbyterian Church.