



**ANNIE
ARMSTRONG**
EASTER OFFERING®
FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

UNITED

**2022
PRAYER GUIDE**

Week of Prayer for
North American Missions



UNITED

“Now may the God who gives endurance and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, according to Christ Jesus, so that you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ with one mind and one voice.”

Romans 15:5-6



North American missionaries depend on your prayers. They are taking the gospel to a region of 366 million people where the spiritual and cultural divides are deep and growing. Only the love of Christ can bring true unity and transformation.

As you read each story and lift up the missionaries' requests during the Week of Prayer, you are joining them on mission and providing vital support for their work.

To see more of their stories and how your prayers are making an impact, visit the links to their featured videos. And to receive weekly missionary prayer requests all year, please sign up at namb.net/pray.

366 million people
in North America

350 languages

275 million without the
hope of the gospel

United to Reach the Nations in our Neighborhoods

These are big numbers.

275 million people are estimated lost in North America. That's men, women, young adults and children. Among that population is more than 40 million people living in the United States who were born in another country. That's about 1/5th of the world's migrant population—more than any other country.

Almost every nation in the world is represented in North America, making it one of the most complex mission fields. And immigrants continue to come here for a better life, even from countries closed to the gospel.

But these aren't just numbers. They represent people made in God's image—people in need of gospel hope.

When we come together to reach the nations and our own neighborhoods, the Church becomes a beautiful representation of God's vision for every nation, tribe and tongue to be saved and united in praise to Him. Through all our differences, we can be transformed and united by the unchanging, life-giving gospel of Jesus.

Statistics from Pew Research and NAMB Missional Research

PRAY

To have eyes open to see the people around you in need of the hope of the gospel.

For the thousands of missionaries across North America working to reach new people even in the most challenging circumstances.



Michael & Traci
BYRD
St. Louis, MO

Serving the Abandoned

More than a decade ago, Michael and Traci Byrd moved out of a rough inner-city neighborhood of St. Louis, swearing they'd never go back.

But God called them to return and plant Faith Community Bible Church. Their mission is to care for people who feel abandoned, Michael said. The neighborhood, which is 95% African-American, has a high poverty rate, a high crime rate and mostly single-parent homes.

By canvassing the community, the Byrds quickly found their assumptions of needs were different from reality. Building relationships over shared meals, offering group cooking lessons and even trips to the grocery store have become pathways to meeting needs and discipling new believers. And now Faith Community Bible Church has expanded to a second campus.

“All people have the same heart condition in small towns and in the big urban centers,” Michael said. “We all need the same Jesus.”

PRAY

Pray for the Byrds to have wisdom in creatively reaching their neighbors.

Pray for God to open hearts to the gospel through Faith Community Bible Church.

Find more at
AnnieArmstrong.com/Byrd



Itamar
ELIZALDE
Guaynabo, PR

New Hope in the Wake of Storms

Itamar Elizalde says Puerto Rico is an island that just can't catch a break.

In the past seven years, it's faced an economic crisis, two major hurricanes, a political scandal, six weeks of non-stop earthquakes and the COVID-19 pandemic. But God is using that great need to open doors for the gospel.

In her work as NAMB's Send Relief ministry coordinator, Itamar mobilizes local churches and leads volunteer teams to repair homes and help people in crisis. And as she does, she connects with people in need of real, lasting hope.

"The Lord has used tragedy to awaken the hearts of many on the island who previously placed their hope in money, health and stability and can now see how fleeting it all is in light of the solid-rock hope found in the gospel," Itamar said.

PRAY

Pray for Itamar's teams to share boldly as they meet physical needs.

Pray for hearts to be open to the gospel and for more missionaries to join the work.

Find more at
AnnieArmstrong.com/Elizalde



Jared & Jennifer
HUNTLEY
Washington, D.C.

Deployed for Christ

Jared and Jennifer Huntley had a heart for military personnel long before they launched Pillar Church of Washington, D.C. Jared had served in the Army and knows firsthand how difficult it can be to navigate the unique challenges of the military culture—especially without Christ.

Now the couple is discipling and equipping military personnel and their families to follow Christ, share the gospel and be missionaries if they are moved to other bases or deployed. Jared says, it's a "great way to accomplish the Great Commission."

"They're already transient," he said. "The government is moving these people all over the place naturally. We see that as an opportunity to disciple these families and then they're going to take the gospel with them everywhere they go."

PRAY

For Jared and Jennifer to have favor on military bases and in the community.

For God to open hearts among military personnel and grow them in their faith so they go as missionaries to their future assignments.

Find more at
AnnieArmstrong.com/Huntley



Seeing the Gospel Move House by House

In the past couple of years, Steven and Cindy Martins have become good at inviting themselves to other people's houses. They've got thousands more they want to visit, but that number is getting smaller.

In the area where they live—the Niagara region of Canada—89–90% of the population of 400,000 doesn't believe in God. Since planting Sevilla Chapel in 2019, Steven and Cindy have been strategically and intentionally going door to door in the city of St. Catharines. They've been sharing, and people are listening.

Their church—which worships in Spanish and English—is reaching family after family with more than eight countries represented, both Latinos and other ethnicities who find the warmth of the Latino community comforting. “People in our city struggle to find community, satisfaction and hope. That's why God called us here,” Steven said.

PRAY

For Sevilla Chapel to continue making disciples in a challenging community.

For Steven and Cindy to have favor as they knock on doors and share the gospel.

Find more at
AnnieArmstrong.com/Martins



Brianna
MCKINNEY
Denver, CO

Showing Love to a Lonely City

Brianna McKinney says for many people Denver is a lonely place. For community, they might go to a coffee shop where they're surrounded by others—but they're still alone.

And the chances are slim the gospel will make it into their personal space. The city only has one evangelical church for every 32,000 people. To put that in perspective, there's one marijuana dispensary for every 2,000 people and one brewery for every 7,000.

But through the ministry center where Brianna serves as a journeyman, she and her teammates are seeing relationships built and people saved as they work alongside missionaries and church plants. They're reaching out to a nearby refugee school, ministering to the homeless, mobilizing teams of student volunteers and doing food distribution to families.

This year, “the mission has moved forward,” Brianna said. “We are just in need of more laborers.”

PRAY

For more workers to feel called to Denver to work alongside missionaries and expand their ministries.

For perseverance for Brianna and her team in Denver who are working to love their city well.

Find more at
AnnieArmstrong.com/McKinney



Amer & Vicky
SAFADI
Cincinnati, OH

The Gospel in Their Heart Language

At first, Amer and Vicki Safadi weren't sure Cincinnati was where God was leading them to plant an Arabic church. They'd been there before, just after leaving the Middle East, and it hadn't been easy.

But then they met Travis Smalley, lead pastor of Lakota Hills Baptist Church. He and his congregation wanted to come alongside them.

When the Safadis made the move from Milwaukee, God immediately began putting Arabic-speaking neighbors in their path in providential ways. Within three months of planting the church, they had 55 Arabic-speaking people from eight countries, and new people coming through its doors each week.

The livestream ministry they started during the pandemic further expanded their ministry, and they are now reaching thousands of Arab Christians and Arabic-speaking non-believers around the world.

PRAY

For the Safadis to have favor with the Arabic-speaking people they meet and for God to orchestrate those meetings.

For the Arabic-language church in Cincinnati to continue to grow in reaching its city and beyond.

Find more at
AnnieArmstrong.com/Safadi

United in Prayer

“We had been asking people to pray for quite some time for someone to reach the Arabic-speaking population in our area,” said Cincinnati area pastor Travis Smalley. God sent Amer and Vicky Safadi, and now Arabic-speaking people in Cincinnati, and around the world, are hearing the gospel. That’s what prayer can do.

Millions of Southern Baptists like you have faithfully prayed this week for the featured missionaries, their families, their churches and their communities. They are only a few representatives of a larger missionary force. Because of your faithful prayers and giving, every day, throughout North America, there are thousands more workers reaching people across the divides of culture, language and ethnicity with the gospel.

Your prayer support is the vital engine of their ministry. Prayer isn’t the least you can do—it’s the most. Your prayers for North American missionaries are powerful, and they don’t have to end this week.

NAMB’s prayer resource, **PrayForPlanters.com** gives you the opportunity to meet and pray for missionaries in every state and province. You can send notes of encouragement and join a missionary’s prayer team.

Thank you for uniting with your missionaries in prayer which was Jesus’ missional strategy in Luke 10:2. “Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.”

PRAY

For Southern Baptists to faithfully support their missionaries through prayer.

For God to show you a missionary family or families you can uplift and encourage through your intercession.

Visit **PrayForPlanters.com** to pray for and encourage more missionaries.

Your gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering support North American missionaries.

GIVE ONLINE

AnnieArmstrong.com

GIVE BY MAIL

North American Mission Board
P.O. Box 116543
Atlanta, GA 30368

Note: "AAEO" in the memo line



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