



# Pray For Us Calendar

**These prayer requests were submitted by coworkers in the Lord's mission.**

Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at [lcms.org/prayforus](http://lcms.org/prayforus) or call 888-843-5267 to request a copy.

**NATIONAL WITNESS — JANUARY 1–31** While The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) is sending a growing number of missionaries around the globe through the Office of International Mission, we no longer have to travel very far to share the Gospel with those who do not yet know Christ or believe in Him. There is much work to be done in the U.S. As we enter an increasingly secularized age, the LCMS is poised to bring Christ to those in our communities who are overwhelmed, suffering and separated from our loving Lord.

*Remember God's work through LCMS national mission efforts as you pray:*

- 1.** for the LCMS Office of National Mission (ONM), which is charged with serving and supporting our districts and congregations in their various settings and contexts.
- 2.** for the ONM's Mission Field: USA initiative, which is partnering with districts, congregations and Recognized Service Organizations (RSOs) to send domestic missionaries to places where the opportunity is great but the resources are limited. Please ask God to bless the work of these new missionaries as they reach out to the lost here at home.
- 3.** for the work of LCMS Black Ministry, that it would be effective in connecting and encouraging workers, congregations and schools engaged in ministry to African-Americans and people from different ethnic groups.
- 4.** for LCMS U, that the Synod's campus-ministry initiative would support Lutheran students who are facing trials and challenges to their beliefs on America's college campuses.
- 5.** for the work of LCMS Hispanic Ministry, that it would be successful in raising up a new generation of Latino leaders for the Church.
- 6.** that God would strengthen church workers in rural contexts through the training and resources provided by LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission.
- 7.** that God would use LCMS Urban & Inner-City Mission to support ministries working in difficult urban environments.
- 8.** for new church plants and mission starts, that the Lord would help faithful congregations sprout up in every corner of the United States.
- 9.** for church planters in the LCMS, that the Lord would provide support systems and encouragement to sustain them despite setbacks. Ask that He would bless their efforts.
- 10.** for LCMS congregations that are struggling in any way, that the Lord would provide the resources necessary to help these congregations undergo a lasting revitalization.
- 11.** with thanksgiving for all of the Synod's faithful church workers, that they might be re-energized daily and find great joy in their service.
- 12.** for opportunities to witness to friends, family members and strangers who do not yet know Christ. Please send Your Holy Spirit to give us wisdom and faithful words to use during these encounters.
- 13.** for passion and conviction. Please ask God to make us bold witnesses to the Good News in our homes and communities.
- 14.** that God would strengthen our faith so that God's Word has free course in our congregations and homes.
- 15.** that God would strengthen hope by encouraging partnerships in the Gospel that clearly confess Christ.
- 16.** that the Lord would guide the LCMS in reaching out to America's young people. Ask that He would help us raise our children in the faith, as well as point unchurched young people to the hope and salvation found only in Christ.



*Student Brittany Parker (right) walks to class with a friend at Faith Lutheran Middle School & High School in Las Vegas, Nev.*

## INVOLVEMENT IDEAS

- Visit [blogs.lcms.org/2015/new-pilot-project-sends-domestic-missionary-into-the-margins](http://blogs.lcms.org/2015/new-pilot-project-sends-domestic-missionary-into-the-margins) to read an article about one of the Synod's new domestic missionaries.
- Are you involved in rural ministry? Then LCMS Rural & Small Town Mission (RSTM) has an event for you! Visit [lcms.org/rstm/events](http://lcms.org/rstm/events) to learn about webinars, Engaging Your Community events and the RSTM national conference.
- Read the latest issue of LCMS Black Ministry's *TimeLine* newsletter: [blogs.lcms.org/2015/timeline-newsletter-fourth-quarter-2015](http://blogs.lcms.org/2015/timeline-newsletter-fourth-quarter-2015).

**17.** *for the revitalization of our Synod's school system, the second-largest parochial school system in the U.S. Pray that our schools would grow and flourish.*

**18.** *that our schools would be faithful mission outposts, reaching unchurched families with the Gospel and strengthening the faith of church families.*

**19.** *that the LCMS would find effective ways of reaching out to people of different ethnicities who are living in our neighborhoods and communities. Pray that the Lord would use us as His instruments to make the LCMS a reflection of the Church Triumphant.*

**20.** *for bivocational pastors, who are called to serve the church but who also serve in a full-time or part-time position outside the congregation. Pray that God would provide refreshment and encouragement.*

**21.** *for the members of our Synod's ethnic congregations, that they would faithfully tell their neighbors, family members and friends about the incredible free gifts of forgiveness, salvation and everlasting life that Christ gives to all people through His death and resurrection.*

**22.** *for strong districts, congregations and RSOs. When our Synod is strong at home, we can better reach out across the country and around the world.*

**23.** *for mission work in suburban areas, that we would not become complacent in the work God has called us to do in our own communities.*

**24.** *for the Synod's 35 districts, that they might have the resources and wisdom to effectively reach out to their communities.*

**25.** *with thanksgiving for the recent chartering of several new Hispanic congregations. Pray that God would guide these new congregations and use them to encourage others.*

**26.** *that the work of the ONM would be effective, efficient and relevant in a world that is increasingly turning its back on Christ and His life-saving cross.*

**27.** *that God would strengthen our congregations by fostering a faithful Lutheran approach to confessing Christ to neighbors and to planting daughter congregations.*

**28.** *that God would strengthen church workers by fostering intentional care of body, soul and healthy relationships.*

**29.** *for college students, who are struggling with many different issues and challenges. Ask God to make them receptive to the peace and healing of the Gospel.*

**30.** *for all people who turn away from the loving arms of their Savior. Pray that the Holy Spirit would transform their hearts and minds.*

**31.** *with thanksgiving that God has called and equipped us to join in His mission to seek and save the lost. Ask God to give you courage to be His witness in your daily life.*



*Church member Orlando Cabrera chats with a Puerto Rican man during a fellowship meal following a bilingual service at Salem Lutheran Church in Springdale, Ark.*

#### MISSIONARY & PERSONNEL BIRTHDAYS

Download the prayer cards of missionaries and other personnel from [lcms.org/prayercards](http://lcms.org/prayercards).

- Jan. 5** David Erber, Ghana
- Jan. 8** Monta Denow, Thailand; Thomas Goings, Japan; Michael Parris, Macau
- Jan. 12** Dennis Denow, Thailand; David Lyon, Asia; Matthew Ruesch, Puerto Rico
- Jan. 18** Charles Froh, Kenya
- Jan. 21** Robin McCoy, Thailand
- Jan. 24** Dale Kaster, Ghana
- Jan. 27** Mary Garetson, Hong Kong; Ashley Prothro, United Kingdom
- Jan. 29** Krista Trump, Kenya
- Jan. 30** Peter Burfeind, Toledo, Ohio

#### MILITARY CHAPLAINS WITH BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY:

Chaplain Richard Malmstrom, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Md.; Chaplain Curt Cizek, Shaw AFB, S.C.; Chaplain Peter Mueller, Rock Island, Ill.; Chaplain John Thomson, Guam; Chaplain Lynn Wilson, Rapid City, S.D.; Chaplain Jason Dart, Key West, Fla.