

# O N W A R D

MORAVIAN MISSIONS PUBLISHED BY THE MISSION SOCIETY, SOUTHERN PROVINCE

June 2008

Volume XXVIII Issue 5

## Western District—the WD6

Greetings sisters and brothers in Christ,

Last month Glenwood Moravian Church and Pastor Mary Lou Plummer invited some young adults to take part in morning worship. The purpose for their invitation was to share their upcoming opportunity to be partners with folks from Nicaragua through a Moravian Board of World Mission youth initiative, New Strength.

Six young adults from our Western District; Justin Rabbach (Ebenezer), Carolyne Rothrock (Sturgeon Bay/Madison), Janelle Lovelien (Our Savior's), Georgina Mayorga (Hope), Dason Kurkewicz (ecumenical), and Lauren Kolodziej (Sturgeon Bay) were going to travel to the village of Sukatpin, in Nicaragua. After long planning, their time in Nicaragua took place from May 18 to May 29. The "WD6" were joined by six *Nicaraguan* youth who traveled with them throughout their stay.

Their time in Sukatpin was to be spent in a variety of ways. They were to utilize camping ministry skills to engage young people in activities. They also were to assist with rebuilding. They will worship with their hosts. They will be learning and growing in relationships. Upon their return, they have stories of their experience to share.

The purpose of this note is to invite you to hold these young adults in prayer as they present the fruits of their mission as well as to

consider how we can offer them opportunities to give voice to their stories. How can we provide a way for them to engage us in how God is present and would have us to partner with others in a community unique from our own?

Glenwood Moravian and Pastor Mary Lou created the first way. The six have also been invited to share their experience at Chetek where the mission focus and fund raising will

be for the ongoing Nicaraguan Relief. How can your congregation enable them to share the gift of their experience?

Make it a great day in the Kingdom!

*Jill Kolodziej is a member of Sturgeon Bay Church in Wisconsin and acts as Intern to the BWM, Northern Province. You can reach her at [jillannk@charter.net](mailto:jillannk@charter.net)*

## When We Say "Yes" To God

*"Where previous generations found their identity in what they produced, we now find our identity in what we consume."*

Diana Butler Bass shares these insights from her book Christianity for the Rest of Us. She continues, "... consumer culture is so powerful that it absorbs all other cultures as content to be commodified, distributed, and consumed." As human beings and Christians trying to live for the kingdom of God we are met with the same challenge of either being consumers or producers/practitioners. Do we buy into the prevailing culture? Or, does our faith give us an alternative perspective? By grace, the Holy Spirit provides us with the ability and energy that we need to be faithful servants.

When we say "yes" to God we act counter-

cultural and allow the Spirit to shape and transform us. As an individual who participates in opportunities to serve I am richly blessed to witness the activity of the Spirit in the mind and souls of those willing to say "yes." A college-aged young person hears of the opportunity to travel to serve for two weeks in Tanzania. She intentionally chose and packed her suitcase with all the items that seemed necessary to make such a trip. Upon arriving at her destination she finds that the airline has lost her luggage. Those traveling with her provide her with the necessities from their carefully chosen items. After a week without her belongings the luggage arrives. She opens the suitcase, peers in and realizes that what she had gathered for her journey was *just stuff* that she felt was necessary in

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*Sponsored by the Moravian Board of World Mission*



## Heart in Hand World Mission Conference

Friday—Sunday, September 12th - 14th, 2008

**Purpose:**

- To learn how the Board of World Mission (BWM) is serving God and you
- To listen to what is going on in churches and mission societies
- Explore ways for BWM to partner with mission committees, and
- To share God's vision for our North American Moravian Church

**Registration:** \$25.00

**Included:** Room (in resident homes), Board, & in-conference transportation

**Location:** Moravian Theological Seminary,

**Checks made out to:** Bd. of World Mission, Note: Heart in Hand, sent to BWM, 1200 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018

## A Message From Our President: "Our cup is half-full"

The 2008 Intersynodal Conference brought Mission minded representatives of congregations in the Southern Province together at New Philadelphia Moravian Church in Winston-Salem North Carolina, during April 10 – 12, 2008. The focus of the conference was to empower congregations to see their cup as being half full by recognizing all their assets. During these times of high cost of living and fewer volunteers, Luther Snow shares his quick and simple "Asset Mapping Experience" which provides a tool for small and large congregations to identify their assets (gifts). Luther also, shows how congregations can connect their assets and interest to accomplish even greater good.

The conference started on Thursday evening with a very inspirational message "A gifted church, A giving church" from Rev. Dr. Wayne Burkette. Brother Burkette presented five gifts that we all share:

- Simplicity:** It is our ability to keep our focus on Jesus Christ. God is a God of love and we are all God's children.
- Happiness:** My joy is your joy. It is easier to move people into heaven than to scare them out of Hell.
- Characteristics of Un-intrusiveness:** We all have the ability to respect our brothers and sisters when they see things differently. We cannot all be in the same place in our journey.
- Fellowship:** Let's travel fast and travel long. Travel far and travel together. John 13:35.
- Mission:** Our will to serve. We have many untapped assets (gifts). Give your time, talent, and treasure without expecting anything in return.

Recognizing our assets through "The Power of Asset Map-

ping" is a powerful tool in looking at our cup as being half full. It enabled us to see abundance instead of scarcity. It identifies individual and congregational talents and skills. The association of people, institutions, physical assets and economic assets enable us to uncover hidden talents and treasures in assets that were previously overlooked or underappreciated. We can all make a difference by using existing assets; each of us have something valuable to contribute.



There is an affinity or connection between individuals and congregations. When we connect our gifts with others we can discover the creation of something greater. We can release the potential value of our own assets as we are motivated to finding overlapping interests or affinities with other people. These affinities may be based on likeness, or synergistic differences. When we build on each other's assets, we give each other permission to follow our hearts to get things done. We give up gate-keeping, screening, and control. This allows us to experience unexpected benefits in communities and a whole that is larger than the sum of its parts. We can become part of a larger movement for Jesus Christ.

Bishop Sam Gray gave the message for the closing worship by giving us a seed that could signify the growing of this process in our own congregations, such that we can move forward in missions by always looking at the cup as being half full.

*Evon Crooks, a member of New Philadelphia Moravian Church, is President of the Mission Society, Southern Province.*

## Capetown Update



I have now been in Capetown for 8 months, the time has passed quickly as the work has built to a level to what I guess could be

referred to as full capacity. Depending on the day will define the challenge that awaits, Monday – Friday I work at the Homeless Shelter, Thursday – Saturday I work with the Street Children, Tuesday night is youth group, Wednesday is Bible study and a seniors group, Thursday prayer meeting and then various preaching responsibilities on a Sunday. I will write more details on all these things soon, suffice it to say I am enjoying the challenge immensely and I give thanks to God for affording me this opportunity to serve God and share the Gospel.

### Facts about Capetown & South Africa

*Taken from Operation World, 2001*

- Population of South Africa is 40.4 million.
- Average income per person is \$3,210 which is 10% of the average US citizen.
- There are 32 languages spoken in South Africa.
- Eleven languages spoken in South Africa do not have the Bible in the vernacular.
- Churches in South Africa send out over 2,000 missionaries.

*Russell Winfield, from London, England, is serving the Moravian Church in Capetown, Africa. More to come of this ministry next month in the July/August issue.*

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*Checks are payable, and mailed to:* Mission Society, PO Drawer Y Salem Station Winston-Salem NC 27108. News submissions to: [moravianonward@yahoo.com](mailto:moravianonward@yahoo.com) Pray Every Day ministry inquiries to Helen Gulleddge at [helen@akcc.org](mailto:helen@akcc.org)

*ONWARD is on the world wide web at:* [www.bethabara.org/ONWARD.htm](http://www.bethabara.org/ONWARD.htm)

# A SENDING CHURCH SERIES

## Kernersville Moravian

*A Church United for this Purpose*

**“WHAT DOES A SENDING (SODALITY) CHURCH LOOK LIKE?” SERIES. PLEASE SEND A DESCRIPTION (500 WORDS) OF YOUR SENDING CHURCH OR ACTIVITY IN TO MORAVIANONWARD@YAHOO.COM SO WE CAN PUBLISH IT.**

*We believe in Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Savior.*

*We seek to serve Him in all we think, say and do.*

*We seek to save humanity for whom Christ died.*

*We are Church united for this purpose.*

Mission work, whether locally or in another country, is nothing more or less than our work as Stewards: simply sharing the wonderful gifts and talents with the world – in a place – in a heart – that is lacking in the gifts we have to share. What joy we have experienced in every case, in every situation, where God has called us to share our gifts and talents at home and

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abroad as we witness to God’s love, care and providence.

The seed was planted many years ago in this congregation by those saints who “had a heart” for the work of missions; who understood how witnessing with our hands and hearts can change lives, villages, even entire communities. These folks incorporated Stewardship and Mission lessons throughout our children’s Sunday school department on a regular basis, which continues today. A standing invitation to the Mission Society and Board of World Mission to “send us a missionary to share their work with us,” has brought many of our missionaries to worship and fellowship opportunities with us over the years. We learned them by name and recognized each one as we saw them, saw their pictures or read about them in various publications. Truly we were ‘One in the Spirit’ – we were ‘One in the Lord,’ which continues to be so today.

Our emphasis toward missions and understanding the work of missions as stewardship did not happen over night. God helped us “grow” in understanding and, very gently, began showing us how to respond. We listened. We heard God speaking; calling. We responded. I assure you, the blessings have been so numerous and the opportunities so varied that there has been a form of mission stewardship for every one who felt led by God for such an endeavor.

Our mission stewardship has literally touched the world. Our pastor has led three work crews to Alaska—the Children’s Home and Bethel, one work crew to Makkovik, Labrador; and conducted services of spiritual renewal in five communities in Labrador. We have sent longer-term missionaries to China, Honduras and Russia and short-term missionaries to Kenya, Mexico, Antigua, and Alaska with one person traveling to Bolivia during the summer of 2008, each of these experiences lasting from one week to one month. Locally our shorter-term missionary work experiences

have included Tennessee; Laurel Ridge Mission Camps with 22 participants in 2007 and as many as 26 participants possible in 2008; three work crews to the Mississippi area; and as many as 30 participants to the Crow Nation Indian Reservation in Montana during the summer of 2008. The Crow Nation mission trip this summer is an intergenerational mission

experience where we particularly encourage our families with children to consider participating in this 10-day experience.

I must also include that our congregation, through our Missions Committee, has a monthly “Missions Focus,” wherein we receive financial contributions for a ‘named’ missionary we assist and help support in that particular

mission ministry. Currently we have at least 10 individual missionaries we support in our monthly focus.

The wonderful thing about the mission program in this congregation is that it is totally owned by the entire congregation. There is no such thing as a little group of folks who are interested in missions. And, as you can well imagine, considering our past and looking to the future, major financial assets are necessary for these ministries to happen and it requires the whole congregation to be a part.

Fundraising is an ongoing and diverse effort. Again, we totally realize that our mission program is a very important part of our total stewardship. The beauty of our fundraising efforts lie in the fact that each church group, using their own gifts and talents, contribute to make all this possible. One group of our youth sells pocket and wall calendars and greetings cards annually. Another youth group sells ‘mega’ muffins all warmed and ready to eat early on Sunday morning. Another group makes and sells fresh hoagies. The Men’s Bible Class sponsors a huge yard sale annually. The Women’s Fellowship makes and sells chicken pies. The missionary participants and many throughout the congregation sponsor “An Evening of Elegance” gourmet dinner. This year we will sell sunglasses at our church’s outreach booth at our community’s Spring

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# Roman Brady and Morgan Smith and the School of Music and Worship in Costa Rica

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## Roman Brady

Which Door to take? Some people say that when God closes one door he opens another. I believe this to be true, for God has recently opened a door for me to fulfill one of my lifelong dreams of teaching music outside of the United States. August 2008 until August 2009 I will be in Puerto Limon, Costa Rica teaching at the BWM School of Music and Worship.

When I first received an e-mailed in February about prospectively teaching in Costa Rica I was unsure about even considering if I could go. I spent two weeks praying about God's plans for my immediate future and during that time a few doors opened that I thought were going to be closed, and some I thought that were going to be closed, opened. I had planned on going back home to the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System and teaching at one of the open high school positions. I was informed during the two weeks that I was praying that all of the positions that were open have already been filled for next year with teachers that are already in the school system. This door closed. The staff director for music teachers in W-S/FC Schools already had my resume, but after hearing that I would be teaching in Costa Rica for a year said that there would definitely be a position waiting for me when I get back. The experience of teaching in a different culture and knowing Spanish will be a valuable asset for me teaching in any school system. This door was opened. The BWM wanted the school to start up at the beginning of the summer, but having to get financial situations squared away before leaving the country might be important, or by the time I get back I'll be a wanted man. So being able to leave in August instead of May had a lot to do with my decision. I will be working at Laurel Ridge Moravian Camp, Conference, and Retreat Center this summer to help pay off college expenses and student loans (although this will only skim the top). This door opened.

My two weeks of praying ended as I asked Sam "who else are prospective teachers for this mission?" He told me that Morgan Smith was definitely going and that I was the only other candidate. I could not leave a teacher/student ratio of 1 to 77. It would be a huge task. With this information and the doors that had closed and opened before me, helped me to realize that this is the direction God wants me to go. God and Music are the two passions of my life. Being able to go and serve Him in this capacity is amazing and exciting. To be able to share with my students my love for Jesus Christ as well as my love of Music will be a humble and life changing experience. I am looking forward to this adventure God has prepared for me.

*Roman is a member of Trinity Moravian, Winston-Salem, NC.  
BradyMusic@gmail.com*

## Morgan Smith

Brothers and Sisters of the Moravian Church, It has always been said, and remains true, that the Lord works in mysterious ways. My decision to leave my friends and family for Puerto Limon, Costa Rica is a perfect example of just such a thing.

Music has always been a very important part of my life. I was raised in a musical family where it was second nature to offer our praise and prayers through the music of the great hymnists. It was not uncommon to find our family in the choir loft, or around the upright piano, singing for hours around one hymnal or another. The hymns spoke to me. The Lord spoke to me through hymns. I knew that it was his will that I pursue my musical training so that I could bring that same joy and faith to others through music education and personal testimony.

Initially, I had my entire life mapped out. I graduated with a degree in Music Education from one of our prestigious UNC schools, and moved to Nashville, TN to pursue my career and ultimately start a family. As it would turn out, the Lord had different plans. Despite my classical education, teaching high school music and drama weren't the callings I had firmly believed them to be. Disappointed, I felt a sudden bumping in my heart, propelling me towards my Bible in a way I had never experienced before. Suddenly I had an unquenchable thirst for the Word of God, and I read it and prayed over it with a passion I had never known.

Then the Lord spoke, and what he said set the course for what has led me to this point. One night, while reading and re-reading the Great Commission, he said "Give unto the Lord that which he requires, and he will not disappoint you." I knew what he was asking - that I spend the summer between jobs serving him in whatever way I could. For me, this was saying yes to everything I was asked - serving at Laurel Ridge every session, going to Gulfport, MS to rebuild from Katrina, and walking with faith in his great providence.

And He did provide. Almost as soon as the summer was over, I got a job working in the contemporary Christian music industry. I knew nothing, truly, about contemporary worship. I had no idea what was current or relevant in the field, but I knew enough to trust God's placement. A week before my first day at Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, I attended the first ever Moravian Youth in Mission Summit. For a whole weekend, mission-minded youth and young adults (quarter-lifers, as we preferred to be called) worked in groups to prepare presentations, as well as learn ways that missionaries are prepared and placed through other organizations. The weekend ended with a discussion of the new Antioch Project.

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**TO SUPPORT ROMAN OR MORGAN, CONTACT THE BD. OF WORLD MISSION, 336-773-1732 OR 610-868-1732, OR SEND YOUR CHECK, NOTED "ROMAN—SWM", "MORGAN—SWM" TO BWM.**

# Learning About Theology From the Third World

## General Principles of Contextualization and Syncretism



**T**he Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

In perusing writings about issues of contextualization and syncretism, the discussion has taken on richer meaning through the readings of authors like Pocock, et al and Dymess. The principles of contextualization and syncretism are helpful to understand whether we are discipling in a new foreign culture to us, but also in our local ministries; be it youth ministry, the homeless, or local victims of HIV/Aids. To be clear, we'll use these definitions of contextualization and syncretism in this article.

**Contextualization;** placing the Gospel message in the context of the person or people's cultural rhythms and world view rather than our own world view.

**Syncretism;** combining different systems of philosophical or religious beliefs or practices in order to reconcile different or opposing beliefs. An extreme example (C5 or C6) would be a missionary accepting a disciple's wish to attend ceremonies of his former (and opposing) beliefs in order to blend the beliefs, delay or avoid complete commitment, or to attempt to make the Christian message more attractive.

It also raises many questions and issues in the selecting, preparing, and sending of missionaries into the world. What is clear is that although there may be similarities of aspects of cultures within a region or nation, every culture has its distinctiveness which leads one to think that the principles of con-

textualization have to remain general as no two regions/cultures or situations will use the same specific solution. The one broad commonality is that all of us are created in God's image, He desires all souls to come to know Him, and He is already working amongst a people before a short or long-term missionary arrives on the scene. Some of these principles are:

△ Of the many principles of contextualization, the one that is key to engagement in crossing barriers is "everyone lives in a cultural setting and has to incarnate the Word of God and the Christian faith appropriately in that setting" (Dymess,321)

△ the Christian faith must be transmitted "as a whole"; conveying it in one's mind and heart as one's life to be lived out, and lived out in hope

△ Contextualization is best achieved when scripture is seen through the lens of different aspects of a culture; their history, societal and cultural values and networks, the language, economics and politics to name a few.

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*"it is our obligation to fervently seek understanding of the scriptures from God's point of view, rather than interpreting scripture based on our own experiences."*

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△ It is a challenge to envision the contextualization of scripture and the Christian life as a dynamic, life-giving process without thinking one has to change every aspect or ritual of a culture. This process will be one of giving and receiving. All cultures have something to offer.

△ The witness of the servant of a culture is crucial in the process of contextualization and the missionary needs to be seen as a humble spirit rather than a one of power or a "better way."

△ The church should be indigenous all around the world. Imagine the possibilities!

△ Allow the Gospel to be placed

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## "Yes" To God

*Continued from Page 1*

order to serve. Through the gift of the Spirit she understood that she had been prepared the moment she said "yes" to God to serve another in the mission of Jesus.

In the context of our lives God provides us with opportunities every day. Do we allow ourselves to be lulled by a culture that asks, "What's in it for me?" Or, do we look around the kingdom and ask, "How can I actively engage in it?"

*Jill Kolodziej*

## Sending Church: Kernersville

*Continued from Page 3*

Folly and Honeybee Festivals and the youth missionaries and their parents will sponsor a community-wide barbecue. We also work with local retailers with their "charity" programs where additional funds are raised in various restaurants and the local malls. Yes – it does take an entire congregation to make to mission ministry happen.

Our congregation's Mission Ministry is administered by a dedicated and committed Missions Committee. Attendance at meetings is open to any interested member of our congregation. We elected our officers annually. It is not unusual to have at least 15 folks at our monthly missions meeting. Everyone is invited to 'come be a part.' This committee managed over \$49,000 in financial contributions during calendar year 2007. God is doing and continues to do wonderful things in the Mission Ministry of Kernersville Moravian Church. Each day brings new excitement and opportunities. Each day we all are amazed at what God can do in our world when we give him an open heart and a willing spirit.

Yes, God has called us and we are responding stewards for "We are a Church united for this purpose," all the while giving God glory, honor and praise and sharing the love of Jesus Christ!

# Learning About Theology From the Third World

*Continued from Page 5*



within a culture without changing its content.

- △ C5 [syncretism] evangelism or above should be the exception not the rule.
- △ To be an effective missionary, one must be aware of *their own* perspective or presuppositions for which they read scripture before moving to another culture.
- △ Bible in the vernacular.

All of this is to say that through our daily prayers, meditation and searching for where God wants us to engage in His work, it is our obligation to fervently seek understanding of at least two things.

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*"...may we recognize the privilege and moving joy and hope of the Gospel we go to share, making each hour in that culture count for eternity."*

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One, is understanding the scriptures from God's point of view, rather than interpreting scripture based on our own experiences. Because the scriptures are the inerrant Truth, they are inspired by God for the whole of creation; the whole! They are God's gift to us so that all children of God can come to know Him intimately, no matter what our circumstance, environment or culture in life. Christianity is as unique as the God who created this world and the Christ who died for our sins. And two, seeking a deep understanding of the culture one

is desiring to share the Gospel to. An example might include the spending of excesses of money on items that our Western culture holds as necessities of life, but are not necessarily important to the life of a people in a simpler culture. Our object isn't to Westernize the culture, rather to enable the culture to come to a deep understanding of being a follower of Christ so they can ultimately send their own out into the world to preach the Gospel.

These are the core principles of contextualization, all of which strongly suggest that a prospective short or long-term missionary should be prepared in a number of ways prior to their intercultural ministry including but not limited to; a significant understanding of the social, psychological, historical, linguistic, economic, etc. aspects, a scriptural grounding, and a deep respect for human cultures. All of that plus the intimate knowledge that we go with the realization that we are the learner *first!* As we move outside our homes in the coming summer months to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, may we recognize the privilege and moving joy and hope of the Gospel we go to share, making each hour in that culture; whether it be the local Crisis Control or the youth of Cape-town, Africa, count for an eternity. Amen.

*Glenna Tasedan is a member of Calvary Moravian Church in Winston-Salem, and serves as Intern to the Moravian Board of World Mission, Southern Province.*

**"At the heart of every religion is an uncompromising commitment to a particular way of defining who God is or is not and accordingly, of defining life's purpose."**

Pocock, et al.: 101

# Roman, Morgan In Costa Rica School of Music and Worship

*Continued from Page 4*

Hearing that there was a need for musically trained missionaries for this project, my heart leapt within me. I can remember raising my hand and exclaiming "Here I am, send me!"

Now nearly two years have passed, and suddenly the path has been made clear. When an opportunity arose recently, God's timing was revealed in a way I would never have expected and here is where God's plan was illuminated in me.

When I *first* felt the desire to be a part of the Antioch project, I had only a classical education. I could teach music theory, but I knew nothing about worship-leading and contemporary praise. Now, two years later, I work in a company that supplies contemporary worship materials to music directors all over the world. My job requires me to be up-to-date on all current trends in contemporary worship, aware of new music and artists in the field, keeps me educated in the latest resources available, and allows me to talk to men and women who have heard the same call; to serve the Lord with song, regardless of their education. I feel that no better training could exist for such a call as I have heard. Now I know why it took two years to prepare the placement I am now so enthusiastic to accept.

Here in Nashville, there is excitement for our undertaking. Friends and co-workers, who had never heard the word "Moravian" until two years ago, have given me the chance to witness and educate about our faith and doctrine, as well provided endless encouragement. People want to know what we're doing, who we are, and how the faith of so small a church can have such profound expression through their outreach. The response has been overwhelming and affirming at the same time, proving that God's mysterious ways always have a purpose, even if we can't see them from our current vantage point. As my Boss said when I told him of my pending departure, "The Lord is always calling, but few ever answer. Accept your call; follow Him and all the rest will fall into place. Go."

And so I will go. Far from home, but never far from the Faith that brought me there.

In All Things Love,

Morgan Smith

*Morgan is a member of First Church, Greensboro Moravian Church.*

*morgan\_a\_smith@yahoo.com*

# Pray Every Day

1. **Sunday.** Praise our wondrous Father for His care and mercy. Pray for your pastor that he would be filled with the wondrous spirit of our Lord and Savior and that he would be responsive to the spirit's leading. May many people hear God's word today.

2. Jesus' will was to do and say what the Father sent Him to do. May our will be the same today and every day.

3. Pray for those with broken spirits. Lift those with broken hearts. Contact someone who is lonely and pray for them.

4. Pray for Michael and Cecelia Tesh and the children in their orphanage. Pray that their chickens will lay lots of good eggs and that they will provide good revenue. Pray for their safety and their health.

5. There is so much devastation remaining following tornadoes and hurricanes. Pray for the many work crews that are going to assist in rebuilding people's lives. Pray that many more will volunteer. Seek God's guidance in sharing your blessings with these less fortunate.

6. Do not be afraid. The Lord your God is in control of all things. Praise Him for His mercy and His goodness. Pray for those who work with "street children" in many areas, in many ways. Pray that many will recognize the love of Christ.

7. Pray for Safiatu and Mohamed Braima and the church in Sierra Leone. Pray for workers to complete the clearing of land and building of school and mission house buildings. Pray for good health and safety for them.

8. **Sunday.** Jesus taught us that whoever wishes to be great must become a servant. Lord, give me a servant heart. Pray for Vacation Bible Schools and youth mission trips being planned for the summer. Pray that the children will learn to be servants in many different ways.

9. Great is Thy faithfulness, Oh God! You are true to your promise to always be with us and to never leave us. Encourage us to be more faithful to our calling in you and to those whom you have placed in our lives. Remind us to pray faithfully for them.

10. Pray for Bishop Sam Gray today. Pray that God will continue to use him in the many ways he shares of himself with others. Pray for good health and for times of rest and recreation for Sam and his family.

11. One of Jesus' commands to us was to make disciples. Pray for **Morning Star Moravian Fellowship of Asheville**, and for the Board of Evangelism and Home Missions. Ask for the Lord's peace and guidance as the Morning Star family and the BEHM, together, seek new opportunities for outreach, ministry, and growth in the Name of Christ Jesus. Pray that the fellowship may move forward in faith to reach the Asheville community for the Lord and to grow into a chartered congregation within the Southern Province.

12. Jesus said for us to follow Him and He would make us fishers of men. Lord Jesus, show us when and where to cast our nets and enable us to be good witnesses for you.

13. Many young people are facing the possibility of committing suicide and lives torn by various addictions. Pray for Christian witnesses to come into their lives and lead them into the light of Jesus' love.

14. Thank God for the first missionaries who went to St. Kitts in 1777. Thank Him for the continuation of mission zeal evident in much of the Moravian church today. Pray that it will increase.

15. **Sunday.** It is our privilege to pray for those who seek to minister to people who do not know Jesus. Lift up the M family and their children who are in France serving with Wydliffe Bible Translators.

16. Thank you Lord for the life you enable us to live because You live

in and through us. Give us the boldness to seek your truth and to share your love and mercy. Allow me to show your grace in my life today.

17. 1722 Emigrants from Moravia began building Hermhut, Germany. Pray for all those who are living in foreign lands, away from home, striving to start a new life. Pray that that new life will be in Christ.

18. Do not worry about tomorrow, it will have worries of its own. The Father who takes care of the sparrows and the lilies of the field will surely take care of you. Trust Him. Acknowledge Him and all His grace and mercy, knowing that hardship will produce patience and endurance.

19. If any are deficient in wisdom, let him ask. God has said that it is His pleasure to give us wisdom. We have but to ask. Seek the wisdom of our Father above that of well-meaning friends and confidants. It often takes time to sit still and wait for God to answer where our friends are ready at hand with advice. It is a good investment, however. Grant me patience to wait on you, Lord.

20. "I am the righteousness of God in Christ; because He is with me today, I will rejoice in all things. I will lift up my eyes to the hills where my help comes from." I will worship you with all my heart this day, oh God.

21. Pray for the church in Uganda. It is a suffering church. The people are steeped in humility and are deeply spiritual but are living in great terror and intimidation. Pray for peace to reign in that area of the world.

22. **Sunday-**To lose any of life's things for Jesus is to lose nothing but instead is to gain all. The peace and love of His presence is more than anything the world can offer. Spend time today simply enjoying His presence. Thank Him for His abiding faithfulness.

23. Strength comes when we wait upon the Lord. Slow me down to your pace, please Lord. Help me to see your leading instead of my rushing ahead and expecting you to bless my efforts.

24. Lord God, your world is a reflection of Your creativity. Let us use that creativity to spread Your Word.

25. May our worship bring rejoicing loud praise in unison around the world and all of the Saints join in. May Your heart be filled with the joy of that sound!

26. Dear Lord, we are called to care. "He chose David from tending the sheep to be the shepherd of His people." Ps. 78:70-71. Help us all to be a caring shepherd of each that we encounter this day.

27. Father, we sometimes find ourselves stumbling down embankments into a murky river, helplessly stuck, struggling in vain for solid bottom. But, in Your seeing our pathetic predicament, you bring us out into safety. You call us to do the same. Let us not grow weary.

28. What do we feed those whom we serve? Are they getting frequent meals rich in nutrition? We will teach them to feed themselves . . . , so they can teach others.

29. **Sunday.** I will share humbly with God at least seven ways I failed Him today, repenting to do better tomorrow, seeking His forgiveness, and finding strength and freshness of spirit.

30. P.U.S.H. An acronym for "Pray Until Something(s) Happens"

*Contributors to the Pray Every Day this month were Helen Gullede and Glenna Tasedan. To contribute to Pray Every Day next month, email [helenakcc@org](mailto:helenakcc@org).*



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