

CALL TO PRAYER

APRIL 2024



now.

send workers

GREAT COMMISSION SUNDAY

If Jesus asked you to pray about something that was close to His heart, how would you respond? In Luke 10:1–2, Jesus sent 72 of His disciples ahead of Him to every place where He was about to go, saying, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” In a National Office chapel message, Bruce Lyman, director for Alliance ESL Ministries, put it this way: “Jesus was telling His followers that the harvest is plentiful, abundant, huge, great, vast, bigger than they could imagine. I love how all the different translations capture this passage. It gives us a fuller picture of what Jesus was saying—that there aren’t enough people who can take in the harvest! He is asking you this: ‘On your knees, beg, plead, for the Lord to send out workers into His harvest field.’”

Since our beginnings, The Alliance has been committed to sending workers to every tribe, people, and tongue (see Rev. 7:9). Why? Because the Bible says that the

gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come (see Matt. 24:14). According to the Joshua Project, of the 17,313 people groups existing today, 7,278 still need to hear the good news of Jesus. This is why The Alliance is taking intentional, strategic steps toward the work that has always defined us. If you’re part of the Alliance family, you’re a part of this moment.

The Alliance is perfectly positioned for the next decades of what God is calling us to do, but it can’t be done without you. *All of Jesus for All the World* takes all of us. This month, Great Commission Sunday kicks off in the U.S. Alliance. From now through June 2024, will you commit to pray for the Lord to send more workers into His harvest field? Will you ask Him to release the funds so we can raise up more laborers? In a time of uncertainty, God is at work and on the move, and we want to move with Him—**now**. Will you join us in this important moment for The Alliance?

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UKRAINIAN CHAPLAINS NEED YOUR PRAYERS

The ongoing conflict in Ukraine brings daily, heartbreaking updates affecting even the lives of chaplains within the army there. Some of them, like our own Alliance chaplains, serve as both chaplains and pastors. We have retired chaplains serving with the International Association of Evangelical Chaplains (IAEC), and they keep us informed about the experiences of their colleagues serving in different militaries worldwide.

Recently, the association shared news of a volunteer chaplain in Ukraine who was killed by a rocket that struck the church he pastored. He leaves behind a wife and children. On the night of March 2, enemy forces targeted a nine-story apartment building in Ukraine with a suicide drone while residents were sleeping, killing 12 people including 5 children under the age of 13. Among the casualties was a young mom with a four-year-old. They were family members of a pastor who survived because he was in another room. Pray for him and others who suffered loss in this attack. Pray, too, for our Alliance partners and their U.S. colleagues as they minister in these overwhelmingly challenging circumstances. Pray for those on both sides of the conflict to experience the peace that comes only from Jesus, our Prince of Peace.

adapted from an update by Kevin Pies, executive director for Alliance Chaplain Ministries

EYESIGHT RESTORED THROUGH ALLIANCE MEDICAL MINISTRY

When four-year-old Luke* arrived at Bongolo Hospital's eye clinic, he was completely blind and suffering from malaria. The pediatrician, Renee—an Alliance international worker (IW)—consulted the two eye doctors, Bintou and Wendy, another Alliance IW. They found that there was increased pressure in Luke's brain and around the optic nerve and recommended treating the malaria. A few days later, Luke could see again and was enjoying a coloring book! Renee said, "We have a good God who still restores sight to the blind, heals the sick, and frees prisoners and the oppressed—and we get to see it right here."

In another testimony, five-year-old Daniel* was born with cataracts in both eyes. He wasn't allowed to attend school because of his low vision. A short-term team from Canada in a town four hours from us referred him to Bongolo and even paid for his surgeries. Today, Daniel has excellent vision in both eyes, and his life will be forever changed. He tries to swipe Wendy's phone from her pocket so he can watch YouTube cartoons. Praise God for His amazing love and His ability to redeem all things! Pray for His continued blessing on the ministry of Bongolo Hospital and the eye clinic.

*Names changed

based on an update by Eric, an Alliance international worker serving with aXcess in Gabon, central Africa

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