

CALL TO PRAYER

NOVEMBER 2022



BECAUSE YOU PRAY AND GIVE, WE CAN BE PRESENT

My wife, Jill, and I are among 722 Alliance international workers serving in 63 nations worldwide. We are currently on home assignment, traveling to Alliance churches to share what we saw the Holy Spirit do in Ishinomaki, Japan, through our lives and ministry in the last four years. This part of Japan has few followers of Jesus. The norm is that we are the first touchpoint Japanese people have with Christians. It is because we are present in the life of our community that people have access to the gospel.

The Alliance Missions Emphasis theme this year is *Be Present*. How appropriate! After all, Jesus' mission started with presence. John 1:14 says, "The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood" (MSG). This is a core idea of our faith: God physically present on earth in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. Additionally, Jesus would later tell His disciples in John 20:21, "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

Jesus was sent on a mission to redeem the world. Just as Jesus was "pre-sent" by the Father, we, too, have been sent by

Him, and by you, on mission to "flesh out" the gospel where we live, work, and play. In other words, we are to be the tangible, loving presence of Jesus where God plants us.

Because of the faithful prayers and financial generosity of people like you, we have been able to be present in Ishinomaki, seeking to do what Jesus did. We are planting Him in the hearts of our friends so they can be His loving presence among their family and friends. We are seeing lives changed. Disciples of Jesus are being made, and a church from among new believers is being planted.

This all starts with being present. Thank you for participating in what God is doing in Ishinomaki and to the ends of the earth. Pray for me (Alan) as I speak in Alliance churches this fall and for Jill as she rests and regroups in preparation for future ministry. Pray for our kids' continued transition and that they will flourish in every area of life.

Jill and Alan Kropp, Alliance workers serving in Japan

TO ACCESS ADDITIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS, PLEASE VISIT CMALLIANCE.ORG/PRAY.

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HOPE FOR MARRIED COUPLES AFTER COVID

Post-COVID couples in Guadalajara, Mexico, where we serve at Breath of Life church, need your prayers. Divorce and separation are on the rise, and families must have tools to manage the difficulties of life after COVID. To that end, our Marriage Encounter small groups met March–July 2022; in August we invited everyone to a dinner, encouraging them to invite new couples and begin engaging them in the next Encounter in March 2023.

This was a discipleship event to support these couples in their fight to save their marriages and engage them in service to others experiencing the same problems. This year, we had the highest follow-up rate of couples after a Marriage Encounter—we think much of that is due to the problems related to the pandemic. For the first time in our Breath of Life ministry, a couple from the March Marriage Encounter took their faith to a new phase and were baptized in July!

Breath of Life is the church-planting arm of Project SouthPointe, which has a strategic vision to plant five churches in the Circle of Silence by 2025. This is an area comprised of six states with 20 million people, less than 3 percent of whom are evangelical. Today, Breath of Life has three campus sites, one of which launched October 2. Praise God that He

is moving here in the darkness, and the Light is shining in Guadalajara!

| by Bob and Cheryl Fugate, Alliance workers serving in Mexico

COMMUNITY CENTER BUILDS BRIDGES OF TRUST

We are so thankful for all of you and for your dedication to prayer. Join us in praising God for the 10-year anniversary of the community center our team has partnered with in Waren, Germany. It has been an honor to serve the community in the past decade by offering a variety of English courses, hosting our annual English day camp, and most recently, meeting there Sundays for church. God has used this partnership to increase trust within the community and build great relationships here. Will you join us in praying for even more connections to be made?

Our 2023 English day camp is coming up in February, and registration opened in October. After two years of cancellations, we are hopeful and excited as we begin to plan for day camp. Please pray for details to fall into place quickly and smoothly, for every spot to be filled, for a team to come together soon for the camp, and for enough translators to make camp run well.

| adapted from an update by Kenny and Karissa Young, Alliance workers serving in Germany



Thank you for praying for Alliance workers and for the people with whom they share the gospel.
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Alliance ministries are supported by gifts to the Great Commission Fund and CAMA.

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