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Chris and Faith Creech

The Creech's have been on this assignment almost a year.

Chris and Faith felt God calling them to missions training in Asia, and were called to teach at East Singapore Bible College. Chris is now teaching theology and training many to go back to their countries as pastors, church planters, and missionaries. Faith is doing many support ministries and trainings with the wives and families of these men to support and prepare them during their time in Singapore.



Prayer Needs:

Prayer support for the ministries that they are doing, as well as for those they are sending back into countries that are hostile to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

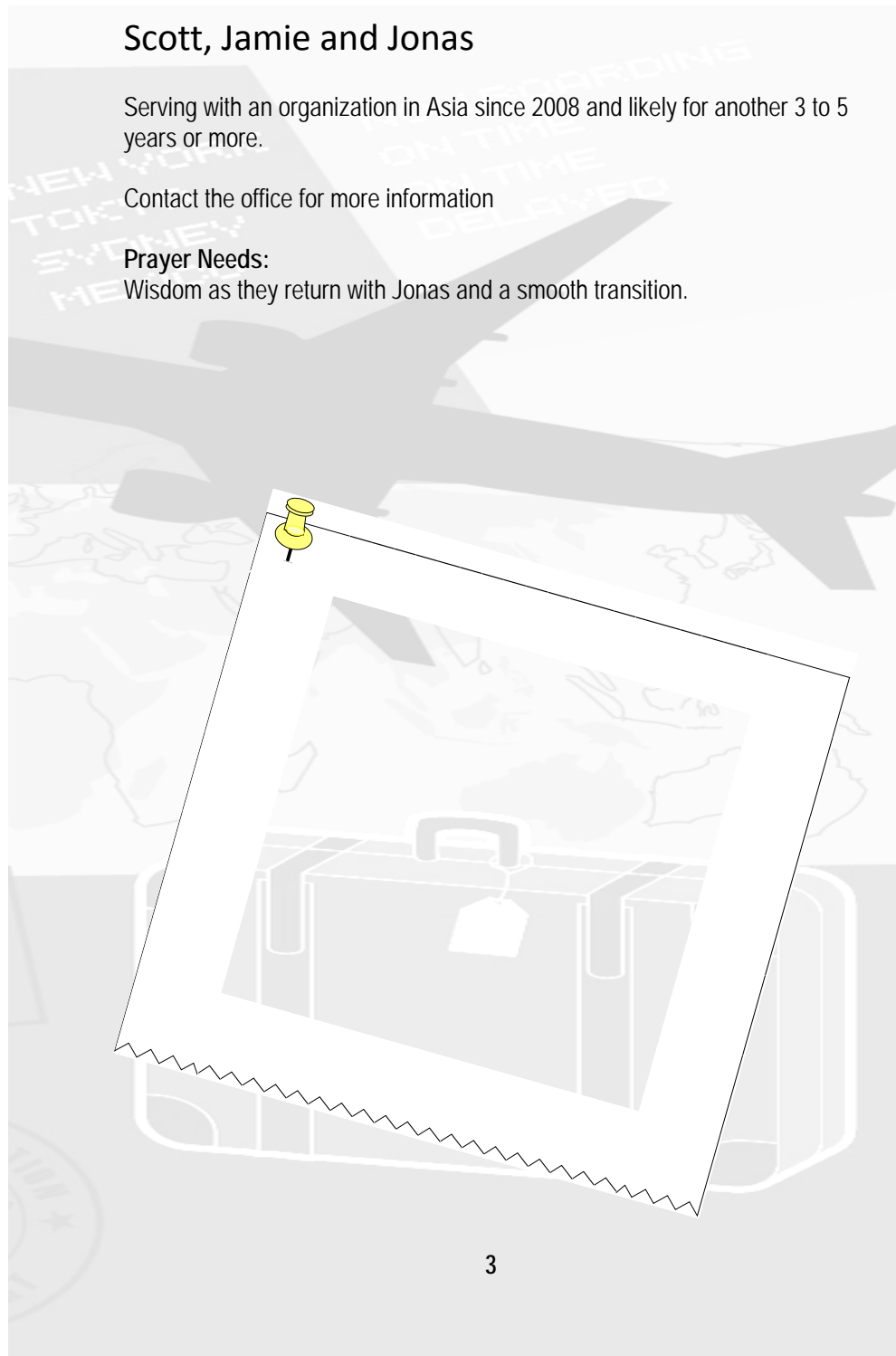
Scott, Jamie and Jonas

Serving with an organization in Asia since 2008 and likely for another 3 to 5 years or more.

Contact the office for more information

Prayer Needs:

Wisdom as they return with Jonas and a smooth transition.



Carol and David Jahnke

BGC's Converge Worldwide – Asia Regional Director

Converge Worldwide focuses on evangelism, leadership and starting churches. Its five core ministries are multiplication of disciples, mobilization, leadership, compassion and generosity.

David and his family were church planters in Tokyo, Japan for 15 years and David served as a field leader for eight of those years. Since 2003, he has served as regional director for over 50 expatriate workers as well as indigenous leadership engaged in Converge Worldwide/BGC ministry in Japan, the Philippines, Thailand, Cambodia, Singapore and Vietnam. They have three children.

Prayer Needs: In their role they travel a lot. Please pray for them as they travel; pray with them as they meet colleagues; pray for them as they share Jesus with dear friends in Japan; pray with them as they meet the not yet known.



Andrew and Jen, Amelia, Megan and Gabriel

They feel the call to reach out to the Asian people.

Please contact church office for more information



Prayer Needs:

Strength and wisdom for a strong marriage; insight and discernment for raising children; growing relationships with people learning English at their language school.

Mike and Linda Gunderson

Mike and Linda Gunderson, with their 2 teenage children Nick and Ali, have served as missionaries with EFCA Reach Global since 1989 in Brazil as church planters and then city team leaders.



Their new position with Reach Global and the Latin American field is coaching church planters in Latin America. The Gundersons are not planning on working in the Free Church National Office in Bloomington. In fact, they don't know where they are going to live long-term. Basically, they need a good internet connection and a good airport to visit and coach Reach Global missionaries and Latins. One of their dreams is that Linda could travel with Mike. They love working together and Linda is a natural coach, who has a passion to help women missionaries and church planter's wives. As they move into this new adventure, they will be depending on your prayers and support more than ever! They know for certain that God has led them into this position and are determined to have a greater impact on the world for Christ and they can't do it without you!

Prayer Needs:

Please continue to pray for their radical transition.

They ask for prayer as they make the decision over this next year as to where they might reside. They are willing to live anywhere, they want to know God's will for them! They are very concerned that their support stay strong during this economic crisis. Pray also for the increased needs for travel over the coming year.

Please pray for new friendships for both Nick and Ali. Nick begins at Bethel this fall. Ali will be doing her senior year of high school and her freshman year of college at Normandale Community College. They are both excited about this next year, but we know they will face some real challenges after living the majority of their lives overseas.

Steve and Liz Spellman

Steve and Liz Spellman have served in Brazil since 1989 ministering in the city of Rio de Janeiro. They were sent on a team of missionaries with the goal of planting churches and creating a “movement” of like minded churches in the city of Rio.

They are now at a crossroads in their ministry and will be spending 2– 3 years in the USA learning to become church planting coaches. At the same time, Steve will be helping to create a Church Planter’s Training Center.

Steve and Liz will continue to work as foreign missionaries within Reach Global (the Evangelical Free Church Mission). They will still be “Brazil Missionaries” and continue to spend approximately 2-3 months a year in Brazil, leading teams, English camps and strategic partnerships. Even during his months in the US, Steve has been asked to continue with his “foreign hat” as the Mission Representative and liaison to our Brazilian seminary. While still assigned to Brazil, they for the next 2½-3 years, *split their time* between Brazil and the US (with a majority of their time being in the southeastern region of the USA).

Steve & Liz have 3 girls, all of whom were born in Brazil.

—Alessandra – 19, currently a sophomore at Judson University in Elgin, IL.

—Rebecca – 18, currently a freshman at Trinity International University in Deerfield, IL.

—Kayla – 15, currently a sophomore in high school.



Prayer Needs:

This is a huge step of faith for their family...around the Spellman home they've likened it to “stepping off a cliff”. Obviously, the wellbeing of Kayla also weighs heavily in this decision. She is both positive and upbeat and willing to embrace this move and finish her high school years in the US. We are so excited about what this means for our future, for our ministry, and yes even for Brazil. But after 20 years of physically living in Rio, even leaving for these 2½-3 years seems daunting.

Sara Hewitt, One Challenge International (OCI)

Sofia, Bulgaria

OCI is an interdenominational faith mission that believes whole nations can be reached for Christ. With more than 500 missionaries, OCI is involved in evangelism, discipleship, leadership training, church growth, missions, and support services.

Sara helps to plant churches and to train indigenous church planters. She frequently travels within the region to listen and respond to the needs of church planters. She is a seasoned resource for leadership training and cross-cultural relationships, and an important encouragement for the people doing the hard work of starting new churches.

Prayer Needs: continued insight into the challenges and roadblocks specific to the church in Bulgaria (98% of Bulgarians are not followers of Christ); prayer for her brother, Greg, whose cancer has returned. She also wants to praise God for great improvement in her migraine troubles.



Steve and Deb Sellers

Canmore, Alberta, Canada

Serving with *Alpine Ministries*: church planting, preaching, teaching, worship, VBS, working with Olympic athletes, Bible studies, evangelistic outreach events, chaplain, coaching, working with chaplaincy for China Olympic games.

Steve—Husband, dad, pastor, teacher, counselor, Bible study leader, worship leader, evangelist, coach, enjoys skiing. Deb—Wife, mom, holds neighborhood and athletes Bible studies, substitute teacher in Canmore, Sunday school superintendent and teacher, church treasurer, VBS teacher.

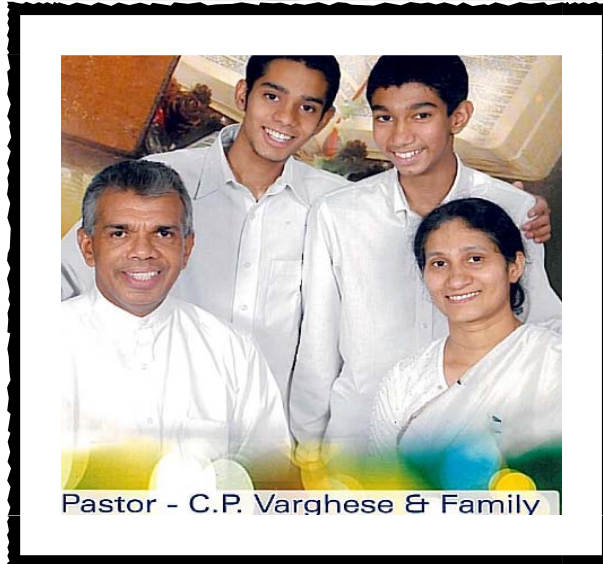
Children: Anna—second grader, enjoys skiing. Kjirsti started Kindergarten this fall.

Prayer Needs:

- Praise for the growth of Anna Ringsred and other World Cup Olympic trainees as they share Christ with their teammates
- Praise for new ministries opening up
- For the unchurched neighborhood kids that attended the backyard VBS
- For athletes and neighbors who attend Bible studies that they will see their need for Christ
- Leaders to attend the church plant to ease the Sellers' burden of many responsibilities there



Chacko and Vineetha Varghese, India



T.I.M.E., INC.
(The India Mission for
Evangelism, Inc.)

Chacko: Founded
Peniel Bible
Seminary in India 28
years ago.
It currently has 200
registered students.
After graduation many
enter full-time ministry
as itinerant pastors.
Instrumental in
organizing the opening
of Peniel Children's
Home and Academy, for

the education of impoverished children. 57 live at the academy and another 30 live at home and will attend classes this fall.

Wife *Vineetha:* Received her Master of Divinity degree May 4, 2007.

Son *Samuel and Shebul (Phil)* Continuing their education.

The Varghese family lives in Arizona but spend the summer and other times during the year in India working with the seminary and academy. Chacko preaches and teaches at the seminary, meets with alumni, attends to administrative duties and evangelizes in villages while he is in India. His family minister in various ways at Peniel.

Prayer Needs:

- God to change the hearts of the state officials in India who want to impose taxes on buildings at Peniel
- More partners to pray for Peniel and give \$30/month to support a national missionary pastor or needy child
- A great year of studies and ministries at Peniel
- Faculty, staff, students, and graduates
- For good health and well-being for all during the rainy season

Daniel and Gabriela Hernandez

Iglesia Bautista Cruz de Gloria is a ministry of Cross of Glory led by Daniel and Gabriela Hernandez.

On April 19, 2009, Daniel and Gabriela started services in Spanish for the Hispanic people in the Hopkins/Minnetonka area. Daniel is currently attending ICCM Bible School and volunteers his time as our ministry leader.



Prayer Needs:

- That God would open the doors for more people to attend the service
- To develop a core of people who share the vision for reaching Spanish speaking people
- To discover and develop leaders

Mike and Carolyn Aragon



After spending three years as an Electrical Engineer in Texas, Mike went to Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and received a Masters of Divinity. He then spent six years serving God in Youth Ministry. During that time, he led youth in several bilingual outreaches in the Twin Cities. That experience led him to a full time outreach to Hispanic people in 2001.

Mike and Carolyn met in the Chicago area in 1993. They have five children. Carolyn has a degree in Elementary Education and has worked in education, human resources, and at a foundation with community outreach/financial assessment. She has enjoyed her opportunities at work, church and in the community to share Christ with people.

Mike & Carolyn currently serve as missionaries with the Minnesota Baptist Conference, reaching out to Hispanic families in the southern suburbs of the Twin Cities.

Iglesia Vida Nueva is a bilingual church started in February, 2002. Services are bilingual, targeting Hispanic immigrants who are learning English, but whose heart language is still Spanish. In January 2008, Iglesia Vida Nueva began a partnership with Chapel Hill Church to reach second generation Hispanics by integrating them into the English speaking programs at Chapel Hill. The children have thoroughly enjoyed participating in the English activities such as Sunday School, Wednesday evening programs, VBS, choir, etc.

Prayer Needs: Pray for the formation of a healthy core of leaders. Demonstrating God's love to newcomers. That our people would learn to trust in Christ alone.

**Kerry Meads, Associate Artistic Director,
Lamb's Players Theatre** (Non-profit performing arts organization)
Southern California

Kerry has written dozens of scripts for Lamb's Players Theatre over the years. She recently created – and directs – a new play called *Hip Pocket*, currently playing for middle and high-schoolers. She explained, "During the play, each actor encounters some type of adversity they personally have experienced, whether it was being raised by a single parent, dealing with a learning disability or struggling with anger. That way the artist has a personal investment in the show and the kids in the audience come away thinking, 'If he overcame that, then so can I.'"

Prayer Needs:

That the theatre can continue to be funded and impact kids with the message of hope and determination, even when the road is tough and the challenges seem too big.



Paul and Leanne Miller

Paul began ministry as a part-time youth worker in an E Free Church in Brooklyn Center, when he met Brad Lien from Timber Bay. He became interested in the ministry of Timber Bay and their unique outreach to youth who are at-risk.



Paul and wife Leanne and I have been married for 26 years. They have two children, Katelyn who is 14 and Jonathan who is 11. Both children love Jesus and gave their lives to Him at an early age. One of the highlights of the summer was the opportunity for Paul to baptize both children in front of their church.

Ministry

Timber Bay: Since 1970, Youth Investment Foundation (YIF) has combined community ministry with camping (Timber Bay) to reach troubled youth and help them discover that Christ can bring emotional and spiritual health. They commit to a purposeful friendship with kids for years—through the turbulence of adolescence. This relationship can start early in middle school, continue through high school and in various ways with young adult alumni.

Camp: Contact with the kids often starts by inviting them to Timber Bay, a year-round camp and retreat center in northern Minnesota. Kid's spiritual perspective can begin to change after hearing short fireside discussions about Jesus Christ.

Community: "The Camp That Comes Home With Kids"

It's easy to leave camp with a "spiritual high." But, because they believe it's irresponsible to get troubled kids "high on Jesus" and then leave them on their own, they are dedicated to follow-through in their home community. The full-time and part-time staff, as well as regular volunteers that bring kids to TB continue the relationship back home.

Prayer Needs: Pray for the ongoing Bible study that meets every Tuesday night at 8:15 pm. Pray that God will lead them in the direction He wants for Timber Bay as they consider hiring new staff. Also please pray for the new Buffalo Timber Bay area director, Aaron Gullings.

God Littlest Angels Orphanage in Haiti

God's Littlest Angels is an independent, non-denominational ministry founded by John and Dixie Bickel on Christmas Day, 1994, to care for premature, malnourished, and abandoned children in Haiti.

Haiti's health care is underdeveloped and has few facilities to care for premature infants. Haiti has the highest infant mortality rate in the western hemisphere. Out of all the infants who die in their first year, 60 percent die in their first month of life. There is no other program in Haiti that focuses on these newborn babies.

Cross of Glory sent a team to minister in 2009 and plans to return with 2 teams in 2010.



Prayer Needs:

- For the babies that are in need of nutritional help that God would show them where to come. For their health needs.
 - Pray that God will connect us with parents that are interested in adopting.
- Pray that God will provide us with volunteers that are willing to come to Haiti to help us minister to the children. Pray for those that volunteer.
 - Pray that adoptions would start moving smoothly again and that passports would be issued quickly.
 - Pray that God will direct people to be willing to give donations to cover our financial commitments.
 - Pray for John and Dixie and the other staff.
 - Pray for our transportation needs and safety.
 - Pray that the Haitian government will open the way for further expansion of GLA's ministries.
 - Pray for our building project.



Epiphany Station

Epiphany Station in Thief River Falls, MN, was initially launched two+ years ago under the leadership of local laypeople – Kevin Brown,

Dale Schneider, Ben Kosharek and John Kelley. It is through their own nucleus of people and financial support, coupled with key ministry partners throughout Minnesota that are making this next important step in the church plant process take place.

Epiphany Station meets every Sunday morning at "The Station" (a renovated gas station) located at 403 Main Ave. North in downtown Thief River Falls.

Epiphany Station is affiliated with Converge Minnesota.

Prayer Needs:

- For lives and marriages to be transformed by the power of Jesus Christ.
- We are outgrowing our childrens' spaces. We need some divinely-inspired innovative solutions.
- We are currently raising money to buy a lighted church sign. We are about 75% there and would like the sign installed and ready by Jan. 1, 2010.
- We will be adding another worship service beginning in January.

Pray that the transition goes smoothly and the spiritual and numeric growth continues.

**Love God.
Love People.
Period.**



Pastor Jeff Gauss

Churches in Mexico

Iglesia Bautista Immanuel is a small village church just across the border in Mexico from Harlingen, Texas. Cross of Glory has a limited partnership with the church through Pastor Fernando and Rosalia. We have been involved in almost annual mission trips over the past 6 years. On earlier trips we did work for the church, more recently we have been ministering alongside them as they reach out to a new area with the gospel. A trip is planned for March 19-26, 2010.

Prayer Needs: Please pray for the health Pastor Fernando and his family. Pray for the outreach they are doing in a newer developing suburb. Pray for God's word to prosper in people's lives, especially for men to respond and begin to participate in the ministry of the church. Pray for our team, who they should be and our preparation.

Iglesia Bautista El Divino Salvador is a larger city church in the heart of Matamoros, a city right across the border from Brownsville, Texas. Similarly to our work with Immanuel we have done almost annual trips to El Divino to work with them or alongside them. El Divino has a number of mission churches that they support with the hopes that they will become stand alone churches in the coming years. Our ministry with them has been to encourage and help with ministry in the mission churches. A trip is planned for April 5-12, 2010.

Prayer Needs: Please pray for Pastor Ruben and Silvia as they continue to serve faithfully in a significant ministry in Matamoros. Pray for the church and their mission churches who are suffering in many ways from the current economic crises that has hit Mexico hard. Pray for our team, who they should be and our preparation.

UKRAINE –Uman

In 1998, Cross of Glory adopted a sister church in Uman, Ukraine. Ivan Melnik is the Pastor. There are about 300-350 worshipping in this Baptist Church. A team from C of G (of 2-5) have gone to Uman and ministered there a number of times.

Cross of Glory supports Vladimir and Boris and our sister church's Sunday school and church program so that 10-12 deacons can go to various villages and preach weekly services.

Prayer Needs:

- Continued openness to share the Gospel; Pastors may face persecution in the future depending on the political future.
- Pastor Melnik's health—he has poor circulation and has trouble with his legs.
- Deacons as they go to surrounding villages and preach that there will be safety and fruit for their labors.
- Vladimir and Boris, and their wives, as they lead the Sunday School program, minister in Sunday School/preaching points, day camps, children's correspondence Bible lessons, and teach educational AIDS and abstinence programs in the public schools.
- The cohesiveness of the pastors and leaders in the sister church and the church plant as they seek to share the Gospel.
- Someone to take over Vladimir's day camp responsibilities so he can be free to work with those with disabilities – this is where he feels God is calling him.



Maria and Vladimir

Contact Information

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God Littlest Angels Orphanage

El Divino Baptist Church in Matamoros
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