

RADICAL AMBITION FOR THE NATIONS
**20
24**

MISSIONS PRAYER GUIDE



But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

ACTS 1:8



MISSIONS PRAYER GUIDE



FIRST MISSIONS

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH JACKSONVILLE

WHY MISSIONS?

One of our core values at First Baptist Church is a **Radical Ambition for the Nations**. This means that we have a radical ambition to reach people from every nation with all of Jesus for all of life.

There are at least three biblical realities that drive our radical ambition for the nations:

1 *Our mission to reach people from every nation* springs from God's mission to redeem people from every nation through faith in Jesus Christ (Gen. 12:1-3; Gal. 3:8).

2 *Our mission to reach people from every nation* was given to us by Jesus Christ himself when he commissioned us to make disciples of all nations (Matt. 28:18-20).

3 *Our mission to reach people from every nation* is guaranteed by the reality that one day people from every tribe, language, people, and nation will worship Jesus Christ before the throne of God (Rev. 5:9-10).

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

LEARN

From supporting individual overseas missionaries to partnering with local and international ministry partners, First Baptist is engaged in many efforts to reach people from every nation with all of Jesus for all of life. This guide will help you learn about our missionaries, partners, and efforts and how you can get involved.

ENGAGE

This guide represents a wide range of opportunities for you to get involved in the efforts our church is making to reach people from every nation with all of Jesus for all of life. This might look like encouraging an overseas missionary or getting involved with one of our local, denominational, or international partners.

PRAY

The most significant way you can engage in our missional efforts at First Baptist is by praying. *Pray* that the light of the gospel would penetrate even the darkest corners of our globe. *Pray* to the Lord of the Harvest that he would send more workers onto the mission field. *Pray* for the specific requests that our individual, denominational, local, and international partners have shared in this guide. Don't stop praying. *Use this guide to keep praying for Missions at First all year long.*

GIVE

This guide presents you with a unique opportunity to receive blessings from God by sacrificially giving to our church's efforts to reach people from every nation with all of Jesus for all of life.

While your normal offerings already contribute to these efforts, the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (taken every December) is a special offering that sends every dollar contributed directly to the mission field through the International Mission Board.

TALK

If you have any questions about Missions at First or would like to get involved, you can reach out to one of the pastoral leaders of our Missions Strategy Team:

Pastor Richard Lucas

Pastor of Teaching and Reaching

richardl@fbcjax.com

Pastor Andrew Morrell

Nocatee Campus Pastor of Discipleship

andrewm@fbcjax.com

MISSIONS PARTNERS

INDIVIDUAL PARTNERS

Josh & Megan Hill

International Mission Board | Spain

T & R

International Mission Board | Middle East

“Paul”

International Mission Board | Asia-Pacific Rim

Hunter & Meredith Guthrie

First Baptist Church | Medfield, MA

Kevin & Jennifer Connell

Cross Community Church | Savannah, GA

Kathy Gould

Christians in Alliance | Ukraine

DENOMINATIONAL PARTNERS

International Mission Board

North American Mission Board

Florida Baptist Convention

First Coast Churches

LOCAL PARTNERS

First Coast Women's Services

One More Child

Trinity Rescue Mission

Sidewalk Ministries

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

The Gideons International

Operation Christmas Child

Overseas Instruction in Counseling

INDIVIDUAL PARTNERS



JOSH & MEGAN HILL

*International Mission Board
Spain*

Josh and Megan, along with their two children, are living in Spain, where their family works alongside local teams to reach the community for Christ. Outside of local ministry, Josh's primary focus is to work with other missionaries to develop secure ways for ministry, discipleship, and engagement across the world.

2024 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray for Josh as he continues developing new innovative ways to use digital technologies to reach unbelievers in closed countries. Also pray for unity in their local church in Spain. Pray that the whole family would advance in learning the Spanish language. And also pray for wisdom and direction as Maddie is in the end of high school and they are making college preparations.



T & R

International Mission Board
Middle East

T & R, along with their team, are focused on the core task of evangelism, discipleship, church planting, and leadership development in the midst of an unreached city in the heart of the Muslim world.

2024 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that T & R and their team would be filled with the Holy Spirit and that the Word of God would dwell richly in them. As they serve in a context where Christians are persecuted, pray that new local believers would be established and built up in the gospel.

**PAUL***

*International Mission Board
Asia-Pacific Rim*

Paul works among a significantly unreached people group in Asia. He teaches ESL classes and builds relationships with members of this people group with the goal to share the good news of the gospel with them and help them get connected in the body of Christ.

2024 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray for Paul as he continues to learn the language of the people group he works with. Pray that he would be strong in the grace of Jesus and that the heavily persecuted and unreached people group he works with in the Asia-Pacific Rim region would come to know all of Jesus for all of life.

**Name ammended for security purposes.*



HUNTER & MEREDITH GUTHRIE

First Baptist Church
Medfield, MA

Hunter and Meredith are revitalizing a church in the Greater Boston Region that was established in 1776 but dwindled to eight members and was on the verge of shutting down when they arrived in 2019 after forty years of spiritual, theological, and numerical decline. They are the only evangelical church for 15 minutes in any direction and are praying that not only would FBC Medfield be a thriving gospel light, but that they would also eventually be able to send pastors and people to revitalize other historic churches in their area who have lost the gospel.

2024 PRAYER REQUEST

We praise God for all that he has done in our church over the last four years. We would like to ask for prayer for our new leadership team, specifically for wisdom in our leading of the church. Also, please join us in praying that God would give our church a passion for the lost all around us so that we can be effective in making disciples.



KEVIN & JENNIFER CONNELL

*Cross Community Church
Savannah, GA*

Kevin and Jennifer Connell, along with their children Daniel, Emily, and Nathan, are laboring to plant Cross Community Church in the Savannah, GA, area. They are in partnership with the North American Mission Board (NAMB) and the Georgia Baptist Convention for this strategic work. Savannah is one of the fastest-growing cities in Georgia, and God's new work in this old city will directly advance the gospel as it combats the darkness that weighs in this city.

2024 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that the Connells help fulfill the Cross Community Church's mission to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ through the exposition of Scripture, make disciples by equipping the saints in intentional community, and serve others as Christ did for the glory of God alone. Pray for those living in the 31419 zip code: that the veil would be lifted from their eyes (2 Corinthians 3:12-18) and that the Lord of the harvest would send laborers into the field (Matthew 9:35-38). Please consider praying for those in the 31419 zip code from 3:14 to 3:19 each day.



KATHY GOULD
Christians in Alliance
Ukraine

Kathy has been a missionary to Ukraine since 1993 with a primary focus on ministry to children. She has worked with eight different churches over the years and established her own organization (ABC's of Life) to help equip churches to reach children and their parents.

2024 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that Kathy would be able to work with the church in Ukraine to help minister to the people who have been touched by the war so that they can show the light of Christ in the midst of such difficulties and spiritual darkness.

DENOMINATIONAL PARTNERS



The **International Mission Board (IMB)** is the international missionary sending agency of the Southern Baptist Convention. Southern Baptists send IMB missionaries to be steadfastly present and plant churches among those who have never heard the gospel — people in cities, people in hard-to-reach places, and people who are dispersed and displaced around the world.

2024 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that God would use First Baptist Church's partnership with the IMB to accomplish his mission to reach the nations. Pray for the 3,500+ IMB missionaries and their families as they work among the nations to bring the good news of the gospel and the witness of the local church to people and places where it does not exist.



The **North American Mission Board (NAMB)** is the domestic missionary sending agency of the Southern Baptist Convention. The purpose of NAMB is to work with churches, associations, and state conventions in mobilizing Southern Baptists as a missional force to impact North America with the gospel of Jesus Christ through evangelism and church planting.

2024 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray for the thousands of missionary church planters and chaplains across North America working with NAMB to reach new people even in the most challenging circumstances.



The **Florida Baptist Convention** is made up of 2,873 churches all over Florida that network together to impact the communities where they live and work. It allows churches to do things better because they are together and not just trying to make an impact by themselves. This network focuses on evangelism, church planting, doing missions locally and around the world, making disciples and revitalizing churches.

2024 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that the Florida Baptist Convention can push back the darkness of places where people need to know Jesus. We seek to do this by helping churches plant churches, reaching out to communities with the gospel of Jesus Christ, helping to train leaders, and assisting churches to make disciples.



First Coast Churches (formerly the Jacksonville Baptist Association) is a Southern Baptist network of 211 churches in Northeast Florida that exists to advance the gospel through church-to-church partnership. Their mission is cultivating partnerships that connect the mission force to the mission field every day. Their vision is that gospel ministry in the First Coast region of Florida would be easier to do together.

2024 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that God might bring spiritual awakening to the First Coast through the faithful praying and partnering of His body across Northeast Florida.

LOCAL PARTNERS



First Coast Women's Services is a not-for-profit organization that provides free-of-charge lab-grade pregnancy testing, limited ultrasounds, options counseling, and medical and community referrals. They are one of the leading ministries on the First Coast striving to end abortion in our community.

2024 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that God would give First Coast Women's Services wisdom and favor as they seek to end abortion in Northeast Florida in our lifetime.



One More Child has been privileged to provide services to vulnerable children and struggling families since their inception in 1904. They serve foster children, hungry children, trafficked children, single moms and struggling families—both locally and globally—providing for tangible needs and demonstrating the love of Christ.

2024 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray for their Jacksonville campus expansion as they seek to build a 30,000 square foot compassion center as well as homes for single moms and foster families to meet the growing needs of our community. Pray for their staff, the children and the families that will be served, as well as donors, churches, volunteers and community partners to come alongside them.



The mission of **Trinity Rescue Mission** is to change the lives of the people in the Jacksonville community by reducing homelessness. They accomplish this mission through various programs, including the Lifeline Program, Transitional Housing, the Women & Children Center, and the Freedom Farm.

2024 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that the Lord would continue to use Trinity Rescue Mission to care for the homeless community in Jacksonville through providing shelter, meals, connections to employment, and most importantly through ministering the good and life-transforming news of the gospel of Jesus Christ.



Sidewalk Ministries is a nonprofit outreach ministry aiming to serve children in various low-income, high-crime communities throughout Jacksonville. They use biblical principles to teach children and their parents a better way to live by conducting weekly Bible lessons, activities, games, singing praise and worship songs, and rewarding the children with candy and prizes. This ministry operates in an open outdoor space at each community to maximize its visibility, its impact, and to promote healthy outdoor activity among the children.

2024 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that mission-hearted leaders would be added to their team and that the Lord would give them increased wisdom, discernment and opportunity to introduce those they serve to the life-changing gospel of Jesus Christ.

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS



The Gideons International is an association of Christian business and professional men and their wives dedicated to telling people about Jesus through associating together for service, sharing personal testimony, and providing Bibles and New Testaments. While they are often recognized for their work with hotels, they also place and distribute Scriptures in strategic locations so they are available to those who want them, as well as to those who may not know they need them.

2024 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that the work of The Gideons International in taking the Bible across the world would result in thousands and thousands of people knowing God through the perfect testimony of his Word.



This mission of **Operation Christmas Child** is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Through this project, Samaritan's Purse partners with the local church worldwide to share the good news of Jesus Christ and make disciples of the nations. Millions of shoebox gifts are collected each year. This project delivers not only the joy of what, for many kids, is their first gift ever, but also gives them a tangible expression of God's love. Volunteers from local churches around the world partner with us to present the gospel of Jesus Christ at festive outreach events where children are surprised with these shoebox gifts.

2024 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that the gifts that children across the world receive through Operation Christmas Child would lead to these children receiving the best gift of all, eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Overseas Instruction in Counseling (OIC) partners with international local churches and global seminaries to provide training and biblical counseling for pastors and key ministry leaders. This local church training is happening in approximately 30 countries, and the academic training currently includes 15 seminaries around the world. This international ministry also involves translating their program curriculum as well as key biblical counseling resources into other languages. Additionally, OIC provides soul care for missionaries and disaster relief workers.

2024 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that the Lord would use OIC to grow all-of-life disciples of Jesus Christ across the world. Pray for the pastors who train other pastors in counseling and discipleship and for the churches that will be built up and strengthened as a result.



**Prayer requests directly
from the mission field.**

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