



*Advent*  
prayer guide

# HOW TO USE THIS PRAYER GUIDE...

Read the day's Scripture. Reflect on what the passage says about God's mission in the world and our part in it.

Read about the day's church, ministry or missionary and then pray for:

- Courage to do what God has called them to do
- Wisdom to do the Lord's work in the Lord's way
- Fruitfulness – that God would meet needs, save people and transform lives
- Protection from the work of the enemy – disunity, discouragement, fear, and sin

All of these ministries, church plants and missionaries are supported financially through Living Hope's mission budget or through LH360, which is our fundraising initiative for church planting ([www.lhchurch.com/lh360/](http://www.lhchurch.com/lh360/)). If you want further information and a contact is not listed, email Greg Jackson ([gjackson@lhchurch.com](mailto:gjackson@lhchurch.com)).

# Monday, December 4

*Psalm 10:17*

## Pray today for...

### **Living Hope:Vollintine Evergreen**

Vollintine Evergreen, Memphis

A small band of Living Hope families moved to Memphis' Vollintine Evergreen neighborhood over 7 years ago – 2 years later, a church was established that is still going strong. Pastor Justin Burkhead and his fellow elders leads a multi-ethnic, multi-socioeconomic congregation – a church that reflects God's heart for all people and demonstrates how the Gospel can bring people together. Another church gifted us a building in the neighborhood and much ministry takes place there that is a blessing to the entire city. Worship at 5pm Sunday; 815 N McLean Blvd, Memphis, 38107 For more information go to [www.lhve.org](http://www.lhve.org) or find opportunities to serve at [www.lhchurch.com](http://www.lhchurch.com) (click on "sign up to serve at VE").

# Tuesday, December 5

*Romans 15:1-13*

## Pray today for...

### **Hope House**

Collierville, TN

Hope House operates out of Collierville Mobile Home Park (558 Rowlett West). Director Lynn Clay organizes Bible Studies, tutoring, ESL classes and more for the park's mostly Hispanic residents. This ministry provides a great opportunity to connect with some of the nearest neighbors to our church building and make friends from a different culture.

For more information about how to connect and serve, contact Helen Carlson at [mhelenwc@gmail.com](mailto:mhelenwc@gmail.com).

# Wednesday, December 6

*James 1:19-27*

## Pray today for...

### **GFE Children's Home**

Eldoret, Kenya

Alan and Pam May moved to Kenya to start an orphanage 12 years ago. Members of Living Hope, they returned to the US and left the day-to-day running of the home to able, indigenous house parents.

From humble beginnings, GFE now houses 120 kids and teens who would otherwise be on the streets, now they are given a home, love and the Gospel. For more information, including an upcoming trip in July and opportunities to sponsor a child, contact Alan May [awmay1104@yahoo.com](mailto:awmay1104@yahoo.com).

# Thursday, December 7

*Romans 12*

## Pray today for...

### **Christ City Church DC**

Washington, DC

Former Living Hope Mission Pastor Matthew Watson and his wife Lisa left Memphis 4 years ago for DC. They helped plant a church that is thriving on the East Side of town, reaching young professionals with the Gospel and serving the city for God's glory. They seek to be a church that reflects the racial and economic diversity of our nation's capital, with nearly 40% of their congregation identifying as non-white. They want to make disciples from Capitol Hill professionals to the largely poor and working class Washingtonians. For more information go to [www.christcitydc.org](http://www.christcitydc.org).

# Friday, December 8

*1 Timothy 6:17*

## Pray today for...

### **Campus Outreach – University of Memphis**

By working to make life-on-life connections at the U of M, college students are coming to know Christ, mature in their relationship with Him, and share their lives and faith with others through evangelism and discipleship. Specifically, pray for Chase Presson, who works with students in the Greek system and Kevin Fukala, who works with African American students. For more information go to [www.comemphis.org/uofm](http://www.comemphis.org/uofm).

### **Global Friends – University of Memphis**

Global Friends is a ministry of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship for international college students. They are reaching students at the U of M from all over the world through caring relationships. They are sharing the Good News and adorning that message with their love. For more information go to [www.globalfriendsmemphis.com](http://www.globalfriendsmemphis.com). Specifically pray for Kevin Clark and contact him if interested in helping with events or hosting meals international students in your home ([clarkkevin0@gmail.com](mailto:clarkkevin0@gmail.com)).

# Saturday, December 9

*Romans 8:18-39*

## Pray today for...

### **The Common**

Beltline/Orange Mound, Memphis

Pastor Broderick Connesero came through Living Hope's pastoral residency program with a dream to plant a church in Memphis' Orange Mound neighborhood, where he had already been doing student ministry for years. The Common seeks to be a place where people can heal from past "church hurt" and discover what it means to live in Gospel-centered community. They also want to serve the people in their neighborhood, spotlighting the Good News through their good works.

Worship is Sundays at noon; Cherokee Elementary; 3061 Kimball Ave, Memphis, 38114. For more information contact Broderick ([bconnesero@lhchurch.com](mailto:bconnesero@lhchurch.com)).

# Monday, December 11

*Romans 13:8-10*

## Pray today for...

### **Memphis Family Connection Center**

Cordova, TN

MFCC provides quality professional care (therapy, training, parent mentors, training) for adoptive and foster families in the Memphis area. There is no other center like this in the country! Pray specifically for Living Hope members Matt and Laurel Smith. Matt is supported by LH to offer professional counseling to

families one day a week; Matt and Laurel, who have four adopted children of their own, regularly teach parenting classes at MFCC. For more information go to [www.memphisfamilycc.org](http://www.memphisfamilycc.org) or contact Laurel ([laurelasmith@comcast.net](mailto:laurelasmith@comcast.net)) for information about ways to serve.

# Tuesday, December 12

*John 3:16-17*

## Pray today for...

### **A Living Hope Family**

Frontiers – Marseille, France

A family from Living Hope (including their 4 kids) have been serving in Central Asia for the past 3 years. Now, they have moved to Marseille, France, to reach refugees with the Good News and plant churches that will impact cultures and countries that are hard to reach. They are serving with Frontiers, whose motto is, “With love and respect, inviting all Muslim peoples to follow Jesus.” Frontiers’ goal is to reach the over 1000 Muslim people groups who don’t know Jesus by the year 2025. The family from LH is currently learning French and making the difficult adjustment to a new culture, but they are extremely hopeful about the future of God’s work in Marseille.

Find out more at [www.frontiersusa.org](http://www.frontiersusa.org) or contact Greg Jackson ([gjackson@lhchurch.com](mailto:gjackson@lhchurch.com)) for information about ways to support these Living Hope missionaries.

# Wednesday, December 13

*1 John 4*

## Pray today for...

### **Grace City Church**

Riverdale area, Germantown

Pastors Brandon Brown and Stephen Johnson came through Living Hope's pastoral residency program and have teamed up to plant a church in Germantown. They seek to reach the many young families and internationals that are moving to their area. "We believe that through the work of the Holy Spirit and the help of many people we can bring the hope of the Savior to many people in the Germantown and East Memphis area." Currently meeting at Riverdale Elementary School; 7391 Neshoba Road, Germantown, 38138; Coffee and Community at 9:30am, worship at 10am Sunday. For more information go to [www.gracecity901.com](http://www.gracecity901.com).

# Thursday, December 14.

*James 2:14-26*

## Pray today for...

### **Liberty Transformation Church**

Iganga, Uganda

Living Hope's Henry and Lisa Hutton have traveled to Uganda often over the last decade, working with E3 Partners to plant churches and train pastors. Liberty Transformation Church (Pastor Ronald Kasirye) was one of the churches started through those efforts. This church is reaching a predominantly Muslim village and adding more Christ followers monthly; they are also actively pursuing church plants in neighboring villages. Pray for them as they face much opposition but joyfully see God at work.

# Friday, December 15.

*Titus 3:4-6*

## Pray today for...

### **A Living Hope Couple**

E3 Partners – Frankfurt, Germany

Living Hope members (a husband and wife team) have served all over the Muslim world and are now stationed in Germany, working with former Muslim refugees who have trusted Christ and are now making disciples and planting churches among their people. It's an amazing time in history; God has taken tragic circumstances and used them for good, as refugees are forced from their homes but moving to places where they can meet Jesus. Pray specifically for the courageous Muslim believers who are risking their lives every day to proclaim the Good News.

# Saturday, December 16.

*Psalm 36:7*

## Pray today for...

### **Silk Road Development**

Building lasting relationships with our Afghan friends and brothers.

Silk Road Development's purpose is to assist Afghans in making significant transformational changes for their country through purposeful training and development of individuals in all spheres of influence, which include arts, business, education, family, government, media and medical. A husband and wife team from Living Hope have worked tirelessly in Afghanistan over the last 15 years, promoting the Gospel through leadership training in some of the highest levels of government and developing the country's first hospice program. Pray for the this couple from Living Hope specifically, as they seek wisdom for their future work in this difficult but beautiful place.

For more information go to [www.silkroaddev.org](http://www.silkroaddev.org).

# Monday, December 18.

*Hebrews 12:1-3*

## Pray today for...

### **Vertical Connection and Lumina Churches - Queretaro, Mexico**

Vertical Connection and Lumina are two churches in Mexico's fastest growing city. They are reaching young people and seeing people come to faith, while always looking to plant more churches in Queretaro and throughout Mexico. Pastors Pablo Digilio and Alex Tarasiuk have developed a strong partnership with Living Hope to see the Gospel advance in Mexico. For more information go to [iglesiaconexionvertical.com](http://iglesiaconexionvertical.com).

### **Iglesia Esperanza Viva - Pedro Escobedo, Mexico**

Pastor Juan Perresquia and his wife Zulema returned from the states to Juan's hometown in Mexico to plant an evangelical church – the only one in the town of 60,000 people. They are seeing people trust Christ and grow in their faith while facing much resistance from the religious traditions in their town. Many Living Hope people have traveled to work with the Perresquia's and stayed connected with their ministry. For more information contact Justin Burkhead ([jburkhead@lhchurch.com](mailto:jburkhead@lhchurch.com)).

# Tuesday, December 19.

*Philippians 2*

## Pray today for...

### **River Trace Community Church**

River Trace Apartments, Bartlett

Pastor Isaias Uaene is a church planter and trainer of pastors from Mozambique. In the states getting a degree from Union University, he and his wife Quezia felt led to plant a church in the apartment complex where they live. It is possibly the most diverse area in our city, with people from Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America, living alongside white and black Memphians. They have a vision for a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic church that is already taking shape. Worship at 11am Sunday; 2165 E River Trace Dr, Memphis, 38134. Contact Isaias ([iuaene02@gmail.com](mailto:iuaene02@gmail.com)) for ways to support and get involved.

(see next page)

## **Covenant Hope Church**

Dubai, UAE

Brian Parks has done college ministry in Dubai for over a decade. This year he has planted a church in the central part of the city. Dubai is one of the world's most diverse cities, and this new church reflects that – with worshippers from numerous ethnicities and cultures coming together in Christ. And Covenant Hope is committed to reaching more and more with the Gospel – people who will potentially take the message of salvation to places that would be hard for us to reach. For more information go to [www.covhopedubai.com](http://www.covhopedubai.com).

# Wednesday, December 20.

*Psalm 27:6*

## Pray today for...

### **City Ministry Center – Vollintine Evergreen, Memphis**

6 years ago, McLean Baptist Church blessed Living Hope with the gift of their building on the corner of Jackson and McLean Blvd in Memphis. Our first church plant, Living Hope: Vollintine Evergreen operates out of the building, along with many other ministries and non-profits who are working for the Kingdom and the good of Memphis, including: Vollintine Evergreen Neighborhood School ([www.venschool.com](http://www.venschool.com)), Multi-National Ministries ([www.multinationalministries.com](http://www.multinationalministries.com)), and the Serve901/St.George's Bunkhouse ([www.serve901.org](http://www.serve901.org)).

### **Lincoln Apartments Ministry**

As an extension of the City Ministry Center, a unit has been obtained at nearby Lincoln Apartments to serve that community. Currently under renovation, in the near future there will be Bible Studies, tutoring, job training, and other classes occurring in this space.

*For more information on any of the work at the City Ministry Center, contact Justin Burkhead ([jb Burkhead@lhchurch.com](mailto:jb Burkhead@lhchurch.com)).*

# Thursday, December 21.

*Luke 4:18-19*

## Pray today for...

### **The Gaal House**

Memphis, TN

A recovering addict, Melvin Lewis felt called to help others struggling with addiction, so he began to approach addicts on the street and offer them help. This led to starting the Gaal House. By learning how to live again in an environment of support, counseling, structure and accountability, residents at the Gaal House are treated as individuals and each one's needs are addressed accordingly. This helps to insure continuity for life-long sobriety. Opportunities exist to lead Bible studies and mentor men. For more information go to [www.thegaalhouse.org](http://www.thegaalhouse.org) or contact Jamie Hill at [fivehills@mac.com](mailto:fivehills@mac.com).

# Friday, December 22.

*John 5:24*

## Pray today for...

### **Great Exchange Church**

Boulder, CO

From Missouri, Pastor Derek Barnett and his wife Sara moved to Boulder, CO, in 2015 to plant a church in a city that is very resistant to the Gospel. God is at work as young adults are coming to Christ monthly. They gather for worship in the heart of the University of Colorado campus. "We are a church that strives to, like the father of the prodigal son in Luke 15, give the place of highest honor to the people who are the farthest from God." For more information go to [www.greatexchange.cc](http://www.greatexchange.cc).

# Saturday, December 23.

*1 Peter 2:9*

## Pray today for...

### **Living Water International/Nicaragua**

Living Hope teams have traveled to Nicaragua every year for 10 years to dig fresh water wells in Nicaragua. These teams provide healthy water and hygiene education that saves lives. They also share the Good News of Christ – the Living Water. For more information go to [www.water.cc](http://www.water.cc) or contact Dave Moore at ([dave@davemoorecompanies.com](mailto:dave@davemoorecompanies.com)).

### **Cooperative Outreach India**

COI started in 1992 with the vision to share God's love with the people of North India. They train and equip people at the grass roots level for ministry, engaging in community development and training church planters from Muslim and Hindu backgrounds. They produce Christian television programming targeting the Muslim community of India. They also took up the cause of child sponsorship when Compassion International was forced out by the government. For more information go to [www.coindia.org](http://www.coindia.org) or contact David Lewis ([dlewis@lhchurch.com](mailto:dlewis@lhchurch.com)).





