

A Tragedy and a Triumph

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MARCH 2023

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James and Bonnie DeHart



Ellen Coon Last month our Commission To Every Nation missionary family suffered a painful loss when two of our long time missionaries, Jim and Bonnie DeHart, and Bonnie's sister, Ellen Coon, were killed in a plane crash. The shock wave it sent through our staff and missionary family reminded us again of the dangers all our missionaries face every day. One of the earliest missionaries, the apostle Paul, wrote of some of the dangers he faced in his day, and many are still very present today.

I have traveled on many long journeys. I have faced danger from rivers and from robbers. I have faced danger from my own people, as well as from the Gentiles. I have faced danger in the cities, in the deserts, and on the seas. And I have faced danger from men who claim to be believers but are not.

- 2 Corinthians 11:26

This tragic loss not only reminded us of the dangers of serving the Lord but, as we saw people, many of who didn't even know the DeHarts, rally to help and encourage the family, we were also reminded that none of us face these dangers alone – nor do we celebrate the victories alone.

Missions and the work of sharing the gospel is, and always has been, a team effort. The missionary/apostle Paul, also made it clear that in order for the world to hear the gospel, someone has to go, and someone has to send them. (Romans 10:14, 15)

Your financial investment in missions is clearly essential to that sending. But just as important is your friendship, support, words of encouragement, advocacy at home, in your church, and among your friends (a.k.a. just telling others about the missionaries you support and why you believe they should do the same).

In our daily Christian lives it is easy to forget that there is a world – millions in fact – who have never heard the name of Jesus, who have little or no access to His Word, a church, or even a Christian worker. You can be a voice, a spokesman for the gospel, for your missionary friends in your church, and among your friends. You can represent missions and encourage others to follow your example and "lay up treasure in heaven" by investing in missions. And you even know some great missionaries they can give to. The ones you believe in enough to invest in.

The Bible is clear, and we were reminded again this month that when one part of the family suffers, we all hurt with them. But it is also clear that when one is honored, we all share in the rejoicing. (1 Corinthians 12:26)

We rejoice in the triumph of these three, who now have "touched the face of God," and we continue to share the sorrow of their family, friends, and ministry partners who miss them so deeply. Thank you for joining us in this time of prayer for the family and for the fruition of the many seeds sown through the lives, deaths, and examples of these three modern day martyrs of the kingdom.



March 2023 Prayer Calendar

- **1 Taeko Bronner -** *USA*-Please pray for wisdom and strength to serve God as His tool to reach out to the International and Japanese community in Lancaster, PA.
- **2 Wendy Willmore** *Tanzania* She is currently doing serial short-term assignments in hope of discovering God's will for a new long-term assignment; please pray for discernment and provision.
- **3 Karry & Vinicio Lopez -** *Guatemala* Please pray for extra patience and wisdom as they start construction on the medical ministry center this year.
- **4 Catherine "Cat" Russell** USA Pray for wisdom for the people she serves, energy for the work, and time to get it all done.
- **5 5 STAR Global Ministry 5 STAR** Haiti Pray for safety for all of the staff and families they serve and for order and safety to be restored to Haiti!
- **6 Charles Smith** *Uganda* Please pray for God's guidance as he prays about new transport options for the prison ministry and funding for this.
- 7 Sheri Cordes *Guatemala* Please pray for funding because it is at an all-time low, and she needs to move someplace cheaper and decide if it's time to leave missions then.
- **8 Robert & Joany Wills -** *USA* Pray that they will be wise caretakers and have favor with the local authorities as they begin phase one of the building project for the Grace Boys Home.
- **9 Sarah Miles** *Uganda* -Please pray for the Holy Spirit to move in the small group's work, helping heal the wounds that bind them due to their trauma by working through their stories. May the Lord shed light in the darkness as redemption is restored and they become what they were called to be.
- **10 Chad & Jami Bader -** *Guatemala* In 2022, they planted two churches in the communities they serve in. Please pray for the young congregations that they'd grow in God's grace and love.
- **11 Michelle Clark -** *Malawi* Please pray that God will bless her by Powerfully Equipping the Minds of Special needs Children.
- **12 Dallas & Anna Lee Ward -** *USA* Pray that God will give divine wisdom, direction, and additional financial support to do whatever be His will in the ministry of Selah House in Wichita, KS.
- **13 Ben & Christi Byerly -** *France* Pray that they will be attuned to how the Spirit is leading each of the leaders they accompany and coach.
- **14 Sheldon & Kym Arensen** *Kenya* Pray for the Dorobo pastors and believers in Kenya to be a light and examples to others in their community who are still held in bondage by traditions and drunkenness.
- **15 Matt & Amy Baldwin -** *Thailand* Please pray for new strategies in making mature disciples and the raising up of church leaders.
- **16 Art & Lisa Camarena -** *Guatemala* Please pray for good physical, emotional, and spiritual health to continue as they serve the Lord.

- 17 Carl & Lisa Norton *Guatemala* Please pray for the continued health of the babies in their children's home.
- **18 Ars Vitalis Foundation Ars Vitalis -** *Spain -* "Pray for the production of the Musical Animal talk that aims at reaching people in Western countries and for the provision of human and financial resources."
- 19 Philip & Cindy Fisk Belgium Please pray that those who they teach and mentor will have a deeper understanding of their relationship with the lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 1:18-19 20 Jeremy & Melody Gonzalez Baja Mexico Please pray for the family's health and financial support and that both will improve this year.
- **21 Bob Hager** *USA* Please pray that God uses this ministry mightily to spread the Hope of Jesus—both near and afar.
- **22 Camden & Daniel Jordan-DiGilio** *Mexico* "Pray for God's provision to get the Aguas de Reposo (Still Waters) ministry ready to receive pastors and missionaries."
- **23 Valerie & Nicasio Martinez -** *Mexico* Please pray that the Quiatoni pastors and congregations would see how much can be learned by studying God's Word in their own language (Quiatoni Zapotec).
- **24 Rodney & Faith Unruh** *Kenya* Please pray for Rodney & Faith Unruh as they develop a ministry of respite care for missionaries in Africa, as well as work with reaching out to a sensitive under-reached community in Kenya.
- **25 Shawn & Natalie Sagert -** *Guatemala* Please pray for the funds and permit to continue their ministry center building project.
- **26 Joy Ruffner -** *Honduras* Please pray that she is able to see the people God has called her to work with the same way as He does. God's grace can change anyone.
- **27 Shannon & Jean-Pierre Magnan -** Canada Please pray for them that God continues to do His transforming work in the hearts of those who are part of Refuge 180 and also that He guides them to those He wants them to connect with this year for His Glory in our local community.
- **28 Brian & Dianalee Walrond** *Canada* They request prayer for God's anointing on their new ministry initiatives Come Alive tour, Give them Jesus curriculum, and Season 3 of The Deposit Podcast.
- **29 Daniel & Kathrene Song -** *Cambodia* Pray for their youngest daughter graduating from high school and transitioning to college in the USA.
- **30 Jonathan & Kara Asbun -** *Bolivia* Please pray for the people who live in the neighborhood of the new Genesis Cochabamba location and that they will be open and receptive to the love and salvation of Jesus, and that more people will come to know Christ through their upcoming neighborhood outreaches.
- **31 Sean & Jana Sosa -** *Canada* Please pray for the expansion that they want to see in their ministry as they reach out to families through Masquerade Ministries.