



JULY 2020

Prayers for Faith and Learning

This month we especially remember the leaders across all of Mennonite education and the heavy burden they bear: principals, heads of schools, presidents and administrators.

Prayer requests for JULY 5 – 11

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana: Give thanks for Nekeisha Alayna Alexis, M.A., AMBS's Intercultural Competence and Undoing Racism Coordinator, and the gifts and insights she brings in her role as a consultant to support inclusion and anti-oppression efforts of faith-based, nonprofit and grassroots organizations, businesses and individuals.

Bethel College, Newton, Kansas: Pray for Bethel College's transition in the vice president for business affairs office: for Allen Wedel, who retired June 30 after 11 years, and for Amy Ruetten, who took the position of interim VP for business and finance on July 1.

Lezha Academic Center, Lezha, Albania: Give thanks for protection as they serve in Albania where the health system is poor and where the COVID-19 cases are rising.

Mennonite Early Childhood Network: Pray that the leaders of programs for young children may reflect God's compassionate care. May they provide a safe, healthy environment filled with opportunities for each child to actively interact with Christ-like views of self, others and the world, nurturing soul, body and mind.

New Holland Early Childhood Center, New Holland, Pennsylvania: The Center recently reopened and has many new protocols due to the pandemic. Pray for wisdom for the administrators and board as they make decisions to keep the children safe. Pray for the teachers and staff as they provide care and education to the youngest children this summer, ages 6 weeks to 6th grade. Pray for safety for the staff and for the children and families of the Center during this pandemic.

SeBAH (Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano): More than 30 students are enrolled this trimester at the Hispanic Anabaptist Biblical Seminary, which is operated by MEA's Hispanic Ministries Education department. Pray for the professors and students, and for Marco Güete, the director of Hispanic Ministries for MEA.

JULY 12 – 18

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana: Pray for AMBS administrators who make up the “Return to Campus Team” as they discern what AMBS courses, lifelong learning offerings and campus life will look like in 2020–21 due to the coronavirus.

Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas: Pray for the members of Bethel College’s Fall 2020 Reopening Task Force as they work at developing and implementing the protocols and processes that will keep students, faculty, staff and the community safe and healthy in the coming months.

Eastern Mennonite Schools, Harrisonburg, Virginia: Pray for creative flexibility as school leaders develop plans to have all students on site this fall in safely distanced configurations in accordance with the governor’s guidelines.

Goshen (Indiana) College: Pray for college educators as they take part in Goshen College’s Course Development Institute.

IBA (Instituto Bíblico Anabautista): Pray for the IBA study center in Seguidores de Cristo Church, Sarasota, Florida, and its students who are studying the course “Peace and Justice in Jesus’ Teachings.” Pray for their tutor, Pastor Juan Rivera, that God’s wisdom and guidance will be with him as he teaches this trimester. May this ministry continue to be a blessing to the congregation and the community.

Lancaster (Pennsylvania) Mennonite Schools: Pray for a safe, relaxing and refreshing summer break for faculty and students, and for administration and staff as they work through the summer months. Pray that the more relaxed pace will inspire creative planning and preparation for the 2020-21 school year, especially as they plan for the return to school with new, necessary guidelines for COVID-19 precautions.

Lezha Academic Center, Lezha, Albania: Praise God for opening doors to serve with the Roma community in addition to providing quality Christian education for grades 1-12 in Lezha.

JULY 19 – 25

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana: Give thanks for the work of AMBS librarians Karl Stutzman, M.L.S., and Brandon Board, M.L.I.S., who have made library resources electronically accessible to all students and faculty in response to the pandemic.

Bethany Christian Schools, Goshen, Indiana: Pray for head of school Tim Lehman and the administrative team as they work at making the best decisions for the upcoming year in the midst of many unknowns.

Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas: Pray for Adam Akers, a long-time Bethel College employee in maintenance who recently became the new director of facilities, at a time when COVID-19 has changed job descriptions in previously unimagined ways.

Eastern Mennonite Schools, Harrisonburg, Virginia: Pray for safety as Eastern Mennonite School installs a rooftop solar array for renewable energy and learning opportunities.

Goshen (Indiana) College: Pray for summer camps that are happening at the college, both virtually and in-person with safety precautions.

Kraybill Mennonite School, Mount Joy, Pennsylvania: Pray for peace and patience, not only for our students, parents, faculty and staff, but for the world. May all people realize that nothing that happens is a surprise to God.

Lezha Academic Center, Lezha, Albania: Pray that God will provide all the tools needed to continue the operation of the school virtually, specifically online teachers and 30 Chromebooks.

JULY 26 – AUGUST 1

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana: Give thanks for the Institute of Mennonite Studies, AMBS's research agency, and pray for Jamie Pitts, Ph.D., Director; Andy Brubacher Kaethler, Ph.D., Associate Director; and David Cramer, Ph.D., Managing Editor, as they work to foster scholarship for the church.

Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas: Pray for Bethel College Athletic Director Tony Hoops and assistant AD Josh Booth. COVID-19 has created many new challenges for keeping student-athletes, coaches and fans safe and healthy. Also remember Megan Kershner as she steps into a new position at Bethel College, director of the Office of Career and Leadership Development.

Central Christian Schools, Kidron, Ohio: Please pray for the Leadership Team as they work with teachers and families over the summer to re-imagine education and minimize risk from COVID-19.

Eastern Mennonite Schools, Harrisonburg, Virginia: Pray for the new Racial Equity Working Group as they prepare to integrate more listening and learning about racial justice in the school's curriculum and life together.

Goshen (Indiana) College: Pray for the athletic administrators as they transition to interim roles and search for a permanent athletic director.

Lezha Academic Center, Lezha, Albania: Pray that God will provide all the funds needed to keep the Roma Relief Aid Project operating.

Mennonite Education Agency (MEA), is the education agency of Mennonite Church USA. These prayer requests, listed alphabetically, were gathered from across Mennonite education, from early childhood – grade 12, undergraduate and graduate schools, and MEA's Hispanic Ministries Education programs. By partnering with these schools and helping them flourish, MEA works to ***strengthen churches through education***. Thank you for joining us in these prayers for faith and learning. To subscribe to this monthly publication, please contact Jolene VonGunten, JoleneV@MennoniteEducation.org.

Phone: 574-642-3164

Toll-free: 1-866-866-2872

www.MennoniteEducation.org