



# IM NewsBeat

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2024

## YOUR PRAYERS MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

What a difference 12 months can make! In the last 12 months, our supporters have covered all of our IM mission fields in prayer. The Hotline prayer requests have gone out every week with more than **565** requests reaching over **2,400** supporters. Each time a missionary's name was lifted up in prayer, God heard and worked in the lives of people around the world to make Himself known.

We've put together a WMO-themed prayer guide for 2024 that outlines something specific you can pray for each month. You can journey with us as your prayers carry our missionaries through special events, send our ETEAM and CMP students to fields around the world, and help our partners reach even further into some of the darkest places around the world. Your prayers make a difference!

We look forward to what God is going to do in these next 12 months through your prayer efforts for IM and our ministry partners.

Download the 2024 prayer calendar at [www.iminc.org/digital-resources](http://www.iminc.org/digital-resources).



## MISSIONARIES APPOINTED TO TAKE GOOD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY TO ALL PEOPLE

Several missionaries were appointed during December's IM board meeting:

**Sam and Lauren Riggs** were approved for career status, after completing their internship in Spain. As they look toward their return to Spain, they are excited about the possibilities of working in their community to reach people for Christ.

**Madison Carnes**, a native of Wilson, North Carolina, was appointed and will join her fiancée, Bradley Mercer, where he serves at the University of Missouri after their marriage in April.

**Dennis and Mary Heath**, from Ardmore, Oklahoma, were appointed to return to work with IM after serving as affiliate missionaries in Germany from 1988-1994. In their new ministry, they will serve with the Bulgaria church-planting teams.

**Alejandro and Breanna Johnson** have been a part of the IM family ever since Alejandro grew up as a missionary kid in Spain. He and Breanna, from Muscle Shoals, Alabama, were appointed to serve in the Nantes area of France as they help develop a theological training program.

**Osam Sakamoto**, from Tokyo, Japan, was appointed to continue serving in the Hope Alive church, where he will work alongside his wife, **Emily Petty**. Osam comes to us with experience as the associate pastor at Hope Alive.

Read the full news release at <https://iminc.org/news/im-inc-news-release-missionaries-appointed-to-take-good-tidings-of-great-joy-to-all-people>.



# FAMILY HAPPENINGS

Although there were no missionaries present to coordinate, the **Alpedrete church in Spain** participated in Operation Christmas Child boxes in December.



**The Edgmon family** praises God for His blessings on the wedding of their daughter Emily to Nicolas Cruz on December 11, 2023. We appreciate your prayers for the newlyweds.



**Emily Petty** married **Osam Sakamoto** on December 15. We appreciate your prayers for the newly married couple.

**Sierra White**, IM missionary to Japan, graduated in December with a Master's degree in special education from Southern Nazarene University.



There were 12 baptisms in Sesia, Kenya, recently! We rejoice with **Eddy and Amanda Simmons** about the work God continues to do through Samburu believers. Even while the Simmons are Stateside, He continues to move in His people.



**Jacob Snow**, son of Nathan and Linda Snow, recently got engaged to **Ana Johnson**, daughter of Tim and Kristi Johnson.



**Jacob and Hailee Voltz** arrived in Bulgaria on December 14, 2023. Pray for them as they settle into the country and begin learning language and culture.



**The Carneys** were announced as fully funded to return to Japan. They will return to their field in mid-January.



**Hope Alive Church** in Japan celebrates its fifth anniversary in January!

**Keren Delgado** is celebrating the arrival of her visa! She departed for Spain on January 2 to begin her ministry in the area of Villanueva de la Torre.

In southern France, **Shane, Joy, and Jacob** led and participated in a community Christmas choir on December 3 and 10, 2023. Traditional English Christmas carols were sung, and the Good News was shared in both English and French to more than 700 people.





# WMO 2024 THEME ANNOUNCED



We are excited to introduce the 2024 World Missions Offering theme: **“Embracing the Legacy, Continuing the Mission.”** We will take our supporters on a journey back to when many IM missionaries pioneered different areas around the world. In addition to sharing stories from the past, we invite our supporters to continue the mission of our missionaries and partners as they reach further into new areas. As we each do our part by giving to the World Missions Offering, the Gospel can continue to go forth.

Learn more about the World Missions Offering at [www.iminc.org/wmo](http://www.iminc.org/wmo).

## NEW BULGARIAN IMPACT PROJECT AND URUGUAY PARTNERSHIP

We are excited to announce a new IMpact Project in Shumen, Bulgaria! Your gifts to this project will help expand the church where Josh Provow is serving. There is also a new partnership with Uruguay! You can learn more about each of these opportunities and partner with them by visiting our website or by **clicking on the country image below**.



Shumen  
Impact Project

Uruguay Partnership



## PRAYER FOCUS

- We are excited to kick off a monthly prayer focus correlating with our 2024 World Missions Offering theme. **January’s prayer focus** is to pray for missionaries as they begin new initiatives in ministry this year. Pray for clear direction as they use creative methods to reach out to people who need the Savior.
- **February’s prayer focus** is to pray for workers who minister in creative access areas to be able to show the love of Jesus to the people they come in contact with daily. Thank you for partnering in prayer with us!
- You can download the 2024 prayer calendar at [www.iminc.org/digital-resources](http://www.iminc.org/digital-resources).



# MEET YOUR MISSIONARIES

## Anthony and Lea Edgmon (Spain)

recently celebrated 25 years of ministry in the Madrid region of Spain. Over the course of these years, they have seen lives transformed by the power of the gospel and a church planted in a town where there was no previous gospel witness. They are encouraged by the



maturity they see in local believers and look forward to beginning another church plant soon. Your support is critical in making that happen. As Paul reminded the Corinthians, “He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness” (2 Corinthians 9:10).

To support the Edgmoms financially or subscribe to their newsletters, please visit [www.iminc.org/im-missionaries/anthony-and-lea-edgmon](http://www.iminc.org/im-missionaries/anthony-and-lea-edgmon).

## STATESIDE MISSIONARIES

Why not invite one of our missionaries who is in the States raising support to your church? They’d love to share about their ministry and how God is working around the world to fulfill the Great Commission. Visit [www.iminc.org/our-impact/im-missionaries/stateside-missionaries](http://www.iminc.org/our-impact/im-missionaries/stateside-missionaries) to view the full list of Stateside missionaries. They’d love to hear from you!

Visit [www.iminc.org](http://www.iminc.org)  
for the most up-to-date news.



Your partnership in the Gospel yields dividends around the world in lives changed and churches planted. If you would like to discuss ways to see that impact continue long-term, call 1-877-767-7736 for information on Planned Gifts or Estate Planning.