An Urgent Call to Prayer

U.S. Alliance President John Stumbo is calling the Alliance family to rise on behalf of our sisters and brothers around the world in a time of focused prayer.


You’ve seen the headlines. What you may not know is that The Alliance is in each of these areas. Years ago, the sovereign hand of God placed us in the very locations that now receive world attention. Because of the urgency of these situations, I’m asking the Alliance family to rise on behalf of our sisters and brothers around the world and set aside September 1–7 as a time of focused prayer for our churches and international workers who serve in these regions. In your churches, homes, and neighborhood Bible studies, in your public services and private times with God, please pray with us.

Detailed information and updated prayer requests are provided below. Thank you for being a family to whom I can turn at such a time as this.

Sincerely and prayerfully,

John Stumbo
President, U.S. Alliance
An Alliance partner church in the Middle East cares for Syrian refugees. U.S. Alliance global personnel act as agents of hope and peace in several Middle East countries, where the most volatile political conflicts currently are taking place. Through community outreaches and relationship building, they show the love of Jesus to disillusioned, hopeless people.

Also, where there is not a U.S. Alliance presence in Middle Eastern countries, national Alliance pastors and churches remain steadfast in their faith amid the violence to meet the spiritual and physical needs of the Christian diaspora.

- Pray for the Lord to intervene to bring an end to separate conflicts in the Middle East.
- Pray for protection of U.S. Alliance team members as well as national believers.
- Pray for Christian churches as they minister to those in need even amid their own suffering.
- Pray for Alliance international staff to have opportunities to extend compassion in meaningful ways alongside local believers.
- Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the people who live amid the violence.
- Pray for open hearts to receive the Living Word.
- Pray for lasting peace through the power of the gospel.

Amid the turmoil in Ferguson, Missouri, Alliance Pastor Mike Robinson of dEstiny Family Church and other clergy members around the city of St. Louis have been sharing Christ’s love with people on the streets. “One hundred clergy members go out every night to help keep the peace,” Mike says. “It’s amazing what God has done. The Church here is becoming more unified—it’s divine.”

A new ministry, Clergy United, has been birthed from this outreach. Clergy members check in at a tent manned by dEstiny believers before entering unstable neighborhoods. “Our church members give out water [or help in other ways],” says Mike. “All of them are on board.” Almost daily, people have received Christ. “I want the C&MA to have a part in this [ministry of reconciliation],” says Mike. “This is what Christ would do.”

- Pray for healing for the people of Ferguson, specifically those in the Canfield residential area, the site of the shooting. They are struggling in many areas.
- Pray for unity in love for the metropolitan St. Louis area.
- Pray for clarity for the newly formed Clergy United organization.
- Pray that dEstiny Family Church will be a catalyst for long-term change within the greater St. Louis area.
Hope Clinic is providing Ebola awareness and prevention training to villages in southern Guinea.

Alliance global teams minister the hope of Christ in West Africa—the epicenter of the 2014 Ebola outbreak. While the spread of Ebola remains a critical national concern, team members are taking every appropriate health precaution.

None of our workers have been infected by the Ebola virus; all are following the World Health Organization and Centers for Disease Control recommendations for travelers to Ebola-affected areas. A number also are engaged in strategic protocols to prevent the spread of the disease, sharing the love and compassion of Christ within a context of “panic and uncertainty” in West Africa, as one worker wrote recently.

As part of their response, at Hope Clinic, a Compassion and Mercy Associates (CAMA)—initiated ministry in southern Guinea, staff members are providing Ebola-awareness training classes five times a week in the town and in remote villages.

Through education and Ebola-awareness training, Alliance workers are also combating the spread of the epidemic in countries bordering Guinea, where no cases have yet been seen.

Since cross-border travel options have been restricted, and international airline services have been curtailed and become costly, U.S. Alliance teams in Guinea are obtaining travel documents and preparing for a temporary relocation to Mali in order to monitor developments and assess the overall situation from a less vulnerable location. A definite decision about such a move will be made in upcoming days. Meanwhile, the Malian border is the only border that remains open for overland travel.

- Pray that the outbreak will be contained and that God will heal those who are infected.
- Pray for workers to have wisdom in planning isolation protocols as well as peace in the midst of panic and uncertainty that has hampered efforts to halt the spread of the virus in West Africa.
- Pray for God’s provision of needed equipment for medical personnel to protect themselves against the virus and that there will be enough doctors and medications to treat those who fall ill.
- Pray for protection for Alliance and CAMA team members, their partners in ministry, and medical personnel who are working overtime to combat this disease.
- Also, pray for wisdom for those in The Alliance, CAMA, and Envision as they make decisions regarding travel to and from the region.
- Pray for people in Democratic Republic of Congo, where a different strain of the virus has been documented. Pray that the national church there will minister hope and salvation in the midst of this development.
Finally... PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH!!!

For the last few months at NIGHTWATCH, we have been praying every week for FIVE things for our congregation. I invite you now to join us in praying for these specific requests.

WORSHIP
Pray that we might be a worshiping church. And not just on Sunday mornings, but that we would be lovers of Jesus all week long. Genuinely passionate in our love for Him. And passionate in expressing that love for Him.

HOLINESS
Pray that we would be a church which is set apart from this world and unto God alone. And not in a legalistic sort of way, but that we would truly live with a single-minded focus on the things of the Kingdom. As such, we simply have no desire to participate any longer in anything that is of the Kingdom of darkness.

SALVATIONS
Pray that God would bring many to know Jesus Christ personally through this church. It is a great concern of mine that we continue to not see many adult conversions. Pray that God would stir our hearts to be actively building relationships with unbelievers and sharing our faith with them. And remember, it always starts with PRAYER!

LEADERSHIP
Pray for the current leadership of our church to grow spiritually and in their ability to lead. Pray too that God would raise up more leaders, especially men. We see God moving in some great ways the hearts of our men, but keep praying! Finally, pray that we discern how to develop an effective leadership development track.

UNITY
I believe that God has been doing some significant things in and through our church (and I believe He wants to do even more!) and the enemy does NOT want to see that happen. Pray that we would protected against the attacks of the enemy who would seek to “divide and conquer”. Specifically, pray for “soft hearts”, good communication, and humble attitudes to prevail.

Some Additional Prayer Requests

Youth Ministry Director
Pray for our new Youth Ministry Director, Brian Collison, as he begins on September 7th. Let’s seek to be a blessing to this young man in how we receive him and uphold him diligently in prayer as he has accepted the call to serve our youth and their families.

Possible Hispanic Ministry—Pray that God gives us wisdom and blesses our church as we seek to establish relationships with the Hispanic community in our area. Some specific ideas that we are considering are prayer walking/evangelism, a Hispanic soccer tournament, ESL, etc.

Prayer Box Ministry—As you may know, our church has about 18-20 prayer boxes out in the community inviting people to leave a prayer request for our church to pray for. Those who leave any contact information are then contacted to let them know that we are praying for them and asked if there is anything more we can do for them. Please pray for God to bring FRUIT through this important ministry!