

April 2024

- EURASIA -

Melissa Cribbs - Regional Mission Director

(Most information directly from missionaries own emails and in their own words)

Eurasia Region Information

Population: 2.782 billion

AG Constituents: 1.9 million

www.agwm.org/eurasia

99 out of a 100 do not know Jesus

AG Churches: 26,469

Unreached people groups: 5,360

AG Ministers 30,000

Missionaries: 640



But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus - the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God.

ALLINGER

Merritt & Heidi + 8 kids: Mac, Faith, Hope, Phin, Haddie, Jemimah, Hiram, and Ruby

SERVING IN: Ukraine

**They visited and shared at Trinity in August 2023*



UPDATE/INFO:

The Allinger's returned to the US at the beginning of the summer in 2023 for some much needed rest and to prepare for a longer time in the Ukraine. In November of 2023 they returned to Ukraine for another year and a half. The first week back was met with some health challenges. After some visits

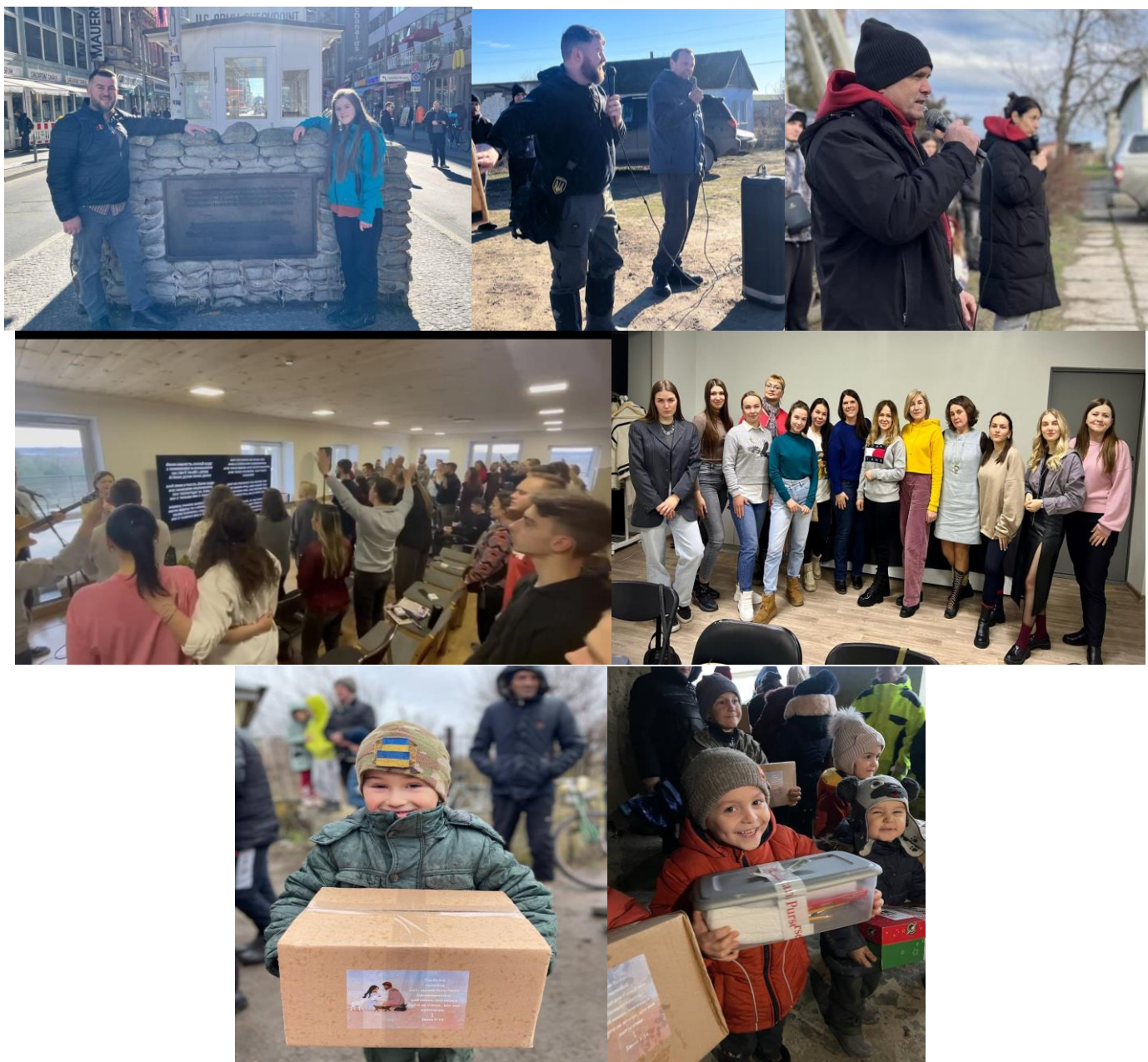
to the Doctors and help from their Ywam family, they were up and through the sickness. Merritt and the team went to Kherson (near the frontlines) and took Christmas gifts and aid to the villages in the outskirts of Kherson.

The New year started out quite traumatic as air alarms blared on January 2nd, people in Kyiv endured countless rocket and drone attacks! The Allinger's witness the resilience of the Ukrainian People. While looking for a rental, the first house shown to them was by the owner who is a wounded Ukraine soldier named Andri (he is still recovering). This became a chance to encourage this man to have faith in God. Andri's response was "where i have been there is no God". Andri had experienced some of the worst fighting in the war (the battle of Bakmut.) Andri continued to share that there was no chaplin or Sunday service for recovering soldiers. This caused the Allinger's to see a need that the military has for ministry. Later in the evening they met two mothers, Valya and Anna, whose husbands were fighting in the war along with Anna's 20 year old son. Soon, Anna's 17 year old son will go as well.

God is really using the Allinger's to reach the lost in the Ukraine and when you are stepping out the enemy starts his attacks. In January, Heidi ended up in the hospital with a kidney stone, Merritt had to have a root canal, and their Van needed repair! But God always comes through. Everyone and the van are up and fully restored!

The Allinger's went with the 99 and 1 team to the Kharkiv Region in February with 500 gifts for the children and food. They were able to share the Gospel and strengthen the new believers in 15 different villages! Heidi spoke to a group of military wives about the power of rejecting thoughts contrary to the word of God, and focusing on thoughts that bring life!

Merritt and his daughter recently took a trip to Berlin to see history and attend a gathering for DTS schools. As of a recent newsletter, Ukraine had sustained some of the worst air attacks of the war. The Allinger's continue to serve the villages. A quote from the Allinger's: "In the midst of overwhelming wickedness, I look on as Believers press hard into worship of the one who can save!. I watch as they pick themselves up off the floor of grief again and again, to lift their hands and voices on prayer, and cry out to a God they know hears them".



PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pray for the war to end and for the MOM's of Ukraine to find Jesus as their one true hope.
- Pray that God will open doors to reach the men and women of the military recovering in the hospitals.
- Pray for continued provision for the advancement of the Gospel.
- Pray for protection over the Allinger family, team members, and all serving in the Ukraine.
- Pray God would raise a standard against the enemy and revival will happen in Ukrainian churches.
- Pray for the Allinger's as they receive applications for students coming to attend the Discipleship Training School (DTS) this September. This will multiply ministers and missionaries in the Ukraine.
- Pray for God to bring the pieces together for this fall family DTS.
- Please pray as the Allinger's consider a longer commitment of almost 5 years to their base and to ministering to the Ukraine.
- Pray for the Salvation of souls and rescue for victims of this war.
- Pray for balance in ministry, family and spiritual life.

Missionary A

Amos & Angela + 2 kids: Andrew and Archie

SERVING IN: Middle East - Egypt. *Work with LiveDead.*

(sensitive country)

Names masked

UPDATE/INFO: Amos and Angela, after much prayer, have relocated from back to the states due to health problems, but they are not stopping missions. They are shifting to something new. They desire to keep going in their media business. Their media business reaches places that are hard to reach through the internet. They have seen much success. They also help Businesses as Missions (BAMs) get their brand out and get their website up. Continue to pray as God directs them.

As they wait for direction, they are still doing work to advance the kingdom. They launched a project which is an effort to advertise online to find seekers. The project organization has selected 10 countries with very large unreached populations to target. They fund ads and responder's salaries as well as partner with teams on the ground to see the inquiries answered and seekers disciplined. In less than a week and a half, the first ad has been on the screens of 258,000 people. 533 had their messages answered by a responder, and they are also leading 13 people in online Bible study!

Praise: From the missionaries: "Guys, God is moving and people want to know Jesus. Please don't let 'doom scrolling' or all the horror of the news steal this fact from you. Praise be to God!"

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Please continue to pray as they lead Egyptians through persecution, and dark circumstances.
- Pray for direction as they continue forward in their ministry.
- Continue prayers for a woman they ministered to and her children. She was muslim and came to Christ. She and her kids have been going through some very tough situations.
- Pray for doors to continue to open for the gospel to be heard.

Missionary B

Bill, Brandy, and Baby B

SERVING IN: Egypt

(sensitive country)

Names changed

UPDATE/INFO: Bill and Brandy felt the Lord directing them to relocate to serve in Sudan. They were very excited about this new direction especially as Sudan had just recently opened after nearly a decade of being closed to Christian workers. They were then shocked and heartbroken when they learned a few months later that brutal fighting broke out between two wings of the Sudanese military. At first they watched and prayed from afar, not sure if this would be temporary or escalate into a full out civil war. Their colleagues on the ground have been evacuated as fighting intensified. Food and water is scarce, gun fire rang through the streets, and millions fled for the borders.

The weeks turned to months and it became clear that they would not be serving in Sudan (at least not right now). But they kept moving in the direction God called them until He pointed them elsewhere. They decided to prioritize finding a location that would best prepare them to serve long term among the Sudanese. They wanted a place where they could learn Arabic (preferably the Sudanese dialect) and ensure a healthy team environment. They also needed a location suitable for a newly married couple with a young baby. With lots of prayers and fasting for direction, a location Egypt checked all the boxes! The city is close to the border of Sudan with a similar dialect and culture. The main people group are the Nubians, many of whom are from Sudan. There are no Live/Dead teams there, but they have an opportunity to join a team from another organization.

From Missionary B's: "We really see ourselves living and serving Jesus there. So, later this year, we will be moving to the southern city with a focus on the Sudanese! Our plan is to serve for two years and then we will reassess. Our dream is to move into Sudan in the future if possible. For now, we joyfully look forward to serving in Egypt!"

Prayer Requests

1. "Please pray for us as we move forward. We have a number of transitions ahead of us. We plan to come to the U.S. for a few months before settling in Egypt. We are asking for God to prepare us during this season so that we can faithfully and fruitfully serve Jesus there."
2. "We are adjusting to life as a family of three. Please pray for our new son, Baby B. By 9-months of age, he will have been on three continents! We are praying he will be a good traveler and that God's grace will be over him as we move around before arriving in Egypt."
3. Pray for the situation in Sudan. The war continues on and there seems to be no end in sight. The situation inside the country is grave. Please pray that the Lord will direct the steps of those staying and those leaving the country as refugees.

Missionary C

Calvin & Carrie + 3 kids: Claire, Conner, Christy

SERVING IN: North Caucasus, Russia

(sensitive country)

Names changed

UPDATE/INFO: Calvin and Carrie have been busy training muslim “background” leaders in Russia. A number of new believers are now gathering weekly with seekers to teach them to follow Jesus and help the believers reach those around them. This is a goal they have; that Jesus followers will produce more Jesus followers and they will be able to equip them to steward the coming harvest. The next step is to gather those who have responded to the training into a church planting team!

The C’s have seen many salvations, baptisms, healings, and demonic deliverances. They are happy to report the local families are multiplying in disciples! Josh states that the team led a whole family to the Lord and through this family 30 other locals came to know Jesus! This family also disciples 15 locals regularly. They are anticipating more among the local families.

From the C’s: “A few months ago we went sowing as a family (*going out to share the Gospel with anyone we can*). It was a disappointing time -- we only managed to talk to one Muslim girl and her grandmother briefly by sitting next to them on a park bench. Although we brought up God, they didn’t seem interested at all. But the girl wanted my (Carrie’s) contact info and stayed in touch from time to time. At one point, Calvin met the girl’s dad at their shop. Fast forward 4 months: a few weeks ago Calvin met with an old Muslim friend whom he hasn’t seen in a long time. **Unexpectedly, the father of the girl we met in the park came along to the meeting.** We learned this man, **is the son of one of the highest authorities in our region!** **For an hour Calvin answered his questions about Jesus, Christianity and the Bible.** He wants to continue to stay in touch. We know this is not a coincidence. **Please pray that Jesus will reveal himself to this man through dreams, and he and his entire family will find salvation in Christ.”**

A few months ago , one of the local partners said that they felt God was telling them to organize a multi-church gathering in the city. Right before Christmas they gathered with believers from multiple different small churches, The response was amazing! Gathering with other believers energized everyone, and a new spirit of unity arose. One Pastor shared how he had prayed asking God to renew his passion for ministry and his prayer was answered! Many who were there at the gathering expressed their desire to have a gathering on a regular basis. So now the gathering is monthly with the wider body of Christ for prayer and worship. They counted 12 different people groups among the 50 gathering! The C’s are asking prayer for increased spiritual openness and hunger for truth among the muslim unreached people groups in and around the city. Pray for direction and wisdom for them to be able to have conversations about the Gospel as they interact with muslims.

From the C’s: “A few years ago, an extended local (culturally nomadic and closed group) family in a small town in our region came to faith in Christ. But about a year ago, they backed away and began living partly for the world

again. This led the group to a place of desperation with one of the families torn apart by the husband's excessive drinking and the other family plagued by demonic paranoia.

“Early this year they called and begged for someone from our team of local believers that serves the them to come and help them. But every team member was either sick or out of town, and so the local family decided to cry out to Jesus on their own, and Jesus showed up! The fear and paranoia left. The love for God and joy in His presence returned. By the time we were able to go see them, this was a different family! Their resolve to die to the world and live for Jesus was evident.

“Over the last few months it has been a joy to visit this group; they've truly become the body of Christ: gathering multiple times a week for prayer, worship and time in the Word. Two of the granddaughters and the grandmother are asking to be water baptized as soon as the weather warms up.

“For a long time it seemed to us that this fruit had been lost. How beautiful to see how Jesus has kept them near this whole time! Previously they kept their faith to themselves, fearful of how their relatives would respond. Now they boldly share what God is doing in their lives. We're equipping them to make disciples and believe that soon new house churches will be planted through them.”

Calvin is celebrating multiple decades serving in Russia!

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Please pray that the multi church gatherings result in more bold proclamation of the Gospel and more decisions to follow Christ.
- Pray the work among the local continues. Since the C's have returned, their role in this ministry is now primarily coaching/consulting. **They are still praying to see disciples multiplied in this movement, which means they first need to see the locals making local disciples!** . Please continue to pray.
- Pray for church planting among the muslims in their home city.
- Pray as they train new workers in their new target city.
- Pray for the believers with muslim backgrounds who are in training to lead their families and others to Jesus and disciple them.
- Pray for favor for their business platform and their work/earning requirements to keep their visas.
- Pray for their children as they start in school.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance.

Smiley

Micha and Tayler + Ezra and Arlo (a new baby in May!!)

SERVING IN: Estonia

UPDATE/INFO: The Smiley's are settled in Estonia. They are excited to announce that a new baby boy will be joining them in May! Ezra is excited to become a big brother.

The Coffee lab is going strong and they are connecting with people. Micah states “it has been a central part of their ministry”. A large part of their business is to partner and collaborate with local businesses, but also the church at large. The Smiley's were



blessed with the opportunity to serve coffee at a youth festival, their local church, and a baptist church in the city of Viljandi. They continued to work regular shifts at Colab and have had a few events to expand their network of community including regular game nights, coffee cuppings and courses, and pop up shop features. Each of these gives them the chance to meet new people outside their church circle who would normally never interact with a Christian in their daily lives. In December, the Smiley's started a small group in their home of people they have met in Estonia. Of the 15 people, 8 of them have absolutely no church background. Micah states the people have studied the Bible for the first time in their lives. Praise God!! The Smiley's mission statement at the coffee shop is "cultivating community via coffee", and they have been busy doing just that from the game nights and getting to know the regulars. Micah not only continues to teach Pastors on staff as a part of his involvement in Focus church, but is also preaching once a month as well taken on responsibilities with discipleship and regular men's breakfast. Taylor, who is due to have their 2nd baby this month (baby Arlo), has dialed back some responsibilities but is working behind the scenes preparing meals weekly for Pattern group. She is also having discipleship meetings with two ladies from their Pattern group.

PRAISE: From the Smiley's: "Pattern Group has been a great way to connect with people that we have met at Colab. Eight people have studied the Bible for the first time, and they keep coming back! We've even had interest in hanging out together outside of our regular weekly meeting.

- "Micah's friend, Anton, who many of you have prayed for, is regularly plugged into a faith community (not ours, but it's ok) and is discussing Bible stories in his own small group he put together. He's come so far in his walk in faith!
- "Micah has had a few deeper friendships begin to grow with two Estonian guys, both of which have begun to involve deeper conversations. Continue to pray for Adam and Kristjan.
- "Our church, Focus Church, has been without our own space for about 5 years now. We are happy to announce that we now have a place to call our own. Pastor Kristin signed a lease this past month, and we will begin our move later this year.



PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pray for financial provision as the Smiley's dive into a new building project for Focus Church.
- Pray for Pattern Group; that non religious friends would continue to come hungry and curious to learn more about Jesus.
- Pray for an easy delivery for Taylor and Arlo.
- Pray for Colab specifically for the business to pick up.
- Pray for direction and favor with their coffee shop.
- Pray for their team leaders.

Missionary D

Doug and Darlene

SERVING IN: Central Asia

(sensitive country)

Names changed

UPDATE/INFO:

The D's have been stateside itinerating since earlier this year. They have been speaking in many churches here in Michigan about their heart for central Asia and their business project. Starting a business is a way they can share the gospel in a country that is restrictive (meaning they cannot come in with a religion visa). The business is a way for them to be there long term. There are many universities in the city they are moving to and many students live there. Doug and Darlene desire is to be able to share the Gospel with these students.

They were able to get their new passports and are now waiting on the visas. They will be returning to Central Asia soon. They just got fingerprinted for their visas! They are meeting with potential financial partners to raise support for the business project. Pray for wisdom and favor. Many of you have been praying with them that Jesus would send laborers to work alongside them. Jesus is starting to answer this prayer. They were introduced to a young lady who feels the call to Central Asia. She is working hard to learn the language and finish up some schooling. Doug and Darlene got to hear her heart and encouraged her to continue working toward getting to Central Asia.

From Doug: "Tonight Darlene was not feeling well. So we stayed at a hotel. On my way in, Jesus told me to pray for the worker. His name is Avail. He is from a part of India that I visited years ago. I asked him if he heard of Jesus. He said someone gave him a Bible two weeks ago! Jesus led me to share the Gospel with Avail. I told him to read John. Would you pray with me that Avail would find Jesus tonight!"

Doug shared that a local Christian Center youth raised over thousands dollars for their speed the light vehicle!

“Thank you so much for praying with us! Ideally, we would like a few more people to join us in working in Central Asia. Continue to pray that Jesus would send more workers.” - The D’s

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pray for areas that have had severe flooding. Thousands had to be evacuated.
- Pray that God would use the D’s as they speak at services, events, and one-on-ones to inspire others to work overseas in Central Eurasia and unreached places of the world.
- Pray for wisdom as they build their team.
- Pray for financial support for their business project.
- Pray for new monthly financial partners, and that they raise \$1000 in monthly support in this month.
- Pray for the veil to be torn off the eyes of the Central Asia people.

Missionary E

Ed & Emma

SERVING IN: Middle East/Arab Peninsula. *Reaching, Planting, Training, Serving. Work with LiveDead.*

(sensitive region)

Names changed

UPDATE/INFO: The E’s are now serving in North Africa. The local team is one of the Live Dead Arab World’s church planting teams. The team has twin goals of reaching out to the local community in the city and training/mobilizing new workers from Latin America for the Arab world. This is why they moved there to join the team. The team is operating a community center to reach the local community. The team offers Spanish literacy classes for local women and men, plus private tutoring classes for local children struggling to keep up in the Spanish school system.

The E’s have been busy training. They have done workshops on Bible story telling. They have been working through the bridges course from the project which gives six introductory lessons to Islam and how to share the message of hope with Muslims. They received a car from Speed the Light through the efforts of the youth in Indiana after a lot of delays and hurdles, PTL!

Ed shared a story of one of the mothers that frequently attends their meetings. She shared how she was touched by the message they taught on Ruth. She is a widow, losing her husband during the pandemic. Since the beginning of the year, one of the team members has been doing Bible studies with her starting with creation and the fall. Please pray for this woman along with the Muslim community, that Jesus will reveal himself to her as she is having a hard time accepting (as so many Muslims do) that Jesus is the son of God and that he died on the cross.

Earlier this year, a Brazilian couple visited. They served in Egypt for many years and then a few more years in Spanish countries. They now have Spanish citizenship. They have a desire to work with Muslims again, and so they are 98% sure they will be moving to the city initially for the experience before making a full commitment to the team. The E’s have another family who returned to the mainland to renew their residency, but feel God is calling them back long term. So God is adding to the team!

The E's will return to Brazil again for mobilization from April through July. They established some good contacts and need to follow up with them. Live Dead is also looking to bring a bunch of church leaders to the Arab world, and central Asia to see the training 'launch team' programs in Spanish that Live Dead is developing.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Please pray for fruit from their time and work: an increased vision for the Muslim and Arab world, mobilization of workers and fruitful partnership.
- Pray for the unreached people in the Arab world.
- Pray that doors will open and their vision will catch on for the Arab world.
- Pray for this women to gain understanding of what Jesus did on the cross
- Pray for the church leaders that are coming; that they will see the need in the muslim world and the opportunities that we are creating to equip and launch new workers to that part of the world.
- Pray that more will catch the vision for the unreached

ISRAEL and the MIDDLE EAST

Pray:

- Pray for the protection of Israel.
- Pray Israel's efforts to remove the threats are successful and that the Gaza war will end.
- Pray for the return of all hostages.
- Pray for strength and courage for the families that wait for their loved ones to be released.
- Pray for all who lost family and loved ones.
- Pray for Gaza, that aid and food will be able reach them
- Pray the people of Gaza will wake up to the reality their leadership doesn't care about them.
- Pray in the midst of the devastation, that they will see Jesus!
- Pray for peace in the Middle East and protection for Israel and the innocent.
- Pray our leaders and leaders around the world will not lose sight of who Israel is and the importance of Israel.
- Pray Israel will finally turn to the Messiah!
- Pray all of the Middle East will finally turn to Jesus!

