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October 2024 Prayer Letter

Dear Prayer and Fasting Partners,

I just re-read an interesting book by Greg Pruet, who is the President of Pioneer Bible Translators. The book is Extreme Prayer and talks about the power that prayer has when we ask our Father to do “immeasurably more than we can imagine”. The book is filled with examples of what this praying leader has seen through his ministry life and I would recommend it as a good resource for anyone who wants to lean into the gift of prayer. I am halfway through his second book about prayer Extraordinary Hearing, which is about listening to / for God’s voice. I want you to know that I appreciate your encouragement and participation in our ministry of prayer at Ignite. God has been incredibly faithful to us as we have been starting churches across Chicagoland and beyond. The blessings that continue to come to us are a direct result of people praying for us. I was advised last week that we did not receive the Nurturing Children grant from Lilly that we applied for, and while disappointed, I know that the Father has other things in mind for us at this time. Thank you for praying about all the things you do for our ministry.

Here are some things to lift up to our Father in October:

1. **Discover Chicago Prayer Mapping:** We are planning this event for Columbus Day, Oct. 14. We will be meeting at Engage Christian Church and then going to different neighborhoods in the city to pray and listen for what God wants us to learn. Prayers for this event are appreciated.
2. **Multipliers Pathway Invitation:** Ignite has been asked to participate in a training program for churches seeking to plant and multiply new churches. Led by Todd Wilson, the first session will take place in Raleigh, NC on Oct. 8-9. I will be attending this event and we look forward to learning about models and methods that can help Ignite into the future.
3. **Ignite Board Meeting, Oct. 18:** Our Board will meet in-person in Bourbonnais to discuss some important issues such as hiring a new administrative assistant, church planting plans for 2025 and looking toward the future organizationally. Prayer will be a part of this gathering and I know your prayers will help the Board as we plan ahead.
4. **Lilly Gathering in Indianapolis for Ignite Thriving Churches Oct 2 - 4:** This will be the first gathering for all the organizations who received the Thriving Churches grant from Lilly. Dave Rudin and I will be traveling to Indy to participate and learn.
5. **Midwest Minister’s Retreat, Oct 21-22:** Ignite plans to have a presence at this retreat. Please pray that God will give us opportunities for conversations with prospective planters and partners.

Thank you for praying for Ignite and the many opportunities God is giving us to learn and move forward in faith. October should be a great month of ministry! Love in Christ, Lance