

10

Countries

38

US
Missionaries

51

National
Missionaries

1

Great
Commissions

- Works of Evangelism
- Establishing Churches
- Equipping Nationals



JEFF DAVIS

Director, EMU International

★ ★ STRONGER TOGETHER ★ ★

I hold in my hands this morning souvenirs from forty years ago, a folded map, and tickets dated July 29 and 30, 1984, to events held in Los Angeles for the Games of the XXIII Olympiad. My father and uncle flew to California to witness the spectacle that is the modern Olympic games. My dad saved the tickets and I found them in a box last week. This got me thinking of the excitement that has been building since April 16, when on the eve before 100 days to go, the Olympic flame, a symbol of peace and hope, was lit. This year, the Olympics will be held in Paris, the home of EMU missionaries **Tim and Ruth Bixby**. When I visited France in December, I witnessed the excitement and anticipation as construction was taking place to accommodate the estimated 15 million visitors to Paris, including two million from abroad. The opening ceremonies will be held on Friday, July 26. Instead of being held in a traditional stadium, the ceremonies will take the form of a 4-mile-long floating procession down the Seine River. Live coverage of the ceremony begins on Friday, July 26, at noon EST.

In 1896, the inaugural modern Olympics unfolded in Athens, Greece, with 280 participants (all male) representing 13 nations, that competed in 43 events. Fast-forward to the 2024 Paris Olympics, where over 10,500 athletes from 206 countries will compete in 32 sports and 45 total disciplines within them. Interestingly, it wasn't until the VIII Games in Paris (one hundred years ago in 1924) that the Olympics truly soared as

an international sporting spectacle. The motto in Latin is "Citius, Altius, Fortius – Communiter" and in French: "Plus vite, Plus haut, Plus fort – Ensemble." When translated into English, it means, "Faster, Higher, Stronger – Together."

In the New Testament Epistles, we find rich athletic metaphors that encourage believers to live out their faith with the same dedication and discipline as an Olympic athlete. For example, *1 Corinthians 9:24-25*, *Philippians 3:13-14*, *Hebrews 12*, and *1 Corinthians 15:50-58*. These verses emphasize perseverance, discipline, and the pursuit of eternal rewards. Just as athletes train and compete with determination, Christians are called to run the race of faith with unwavering commitment. Certainly, we are to pass the baton to the next generation and let the flame of our light shine brightly. For those of us who know the Lord, we know that true peace and hope cannot be attained through an Olympic flame or athletic competition, but only through Jesus Christ.

It also must be said that the Olympic motto, "**Faster, Higher, Stronger – Together,**" applies to our task as Christians to take the gospel message to every tongue, tribe, and nation. We are truly stronger when we work together. On behalf of all of us here with EMU International, I want to thank you for being a part of our team.

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During the month of July, we have the privilege of hosting another one of EMU International's missionary families for a short-term trip. Missionaries Kornel and Tanja Crnković are traveling to the USA for a short furlough on July 8-August 19. Their travels will take them through New York City and then a weekend in Connecticut. They will also minister in Tennessee, Indiana, Ohio, Alabama, and South Carolina.

**KORNEL
TANJA
CRNKOVIC**

SCHEDULE of Services

14
JUL

NEWTOWN BIBLE CHURCH, NEWTOWN, CT
35 Sugar St, Newtown, CT - newtownbiblechurch.com

21
JUL

WATERMAN BAPTIST CHURCH, KINGMAN, IN
8560 IN-234, Kingman, IN - watermanbc.org

24
JUL

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH, GRAND RAPIDS, OH
14070 Bailey Rd, Grand Rapids, OH - bethanygr.org

28
JUL

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH, DOTHAN, AL
1812 Honeysuckle Rd, Dothan, AL - centralbaptistdothan.org

31
JUL

MORNINGSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH, GREENVILLE, SC
1115 Pelham Rd., Greenville, SC - morningside.org



We NEED PARTNERS

Name _____

Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

- Yes, I/We desire to partner with the Davis family
- I/We are committed to regularly pray for the Davis family
- As the Lord leads and enables, I/we desire to commit to support the Davis family as follows
- \$100/month \$75/month \$50/month \$25/month
- Other \$ _____/month One Time Gift \$ _____

Please make checks payable to EMU International and include Davis family on the memo line. Mail checks to EMU International, 209 Roberts Rd., Taylors, SC 29687



Prayer Corner

- Pray for God to grant wisdom as EMU International moves forward in the days ahead. We are praying that the Lord of the Harvest will send laborers into His harvest and we desire to be a part of His plan.
- Please make a note of the address change for our EMU Office mail:
- Please pray this month for the Bixbys and other Christians in France, that the Olympics will provide many gospel opportunities.
- Please pray for Croatian missionaries Kornel and Tanja Crnković, along with their two sons, Marko and Natanael, as I meet them on July 8 in New York City as they begin a six-week furlough to thank their partners and Lord willing add some much-needed financial support. They will be visiting churches and ministry friends in New York, Connecticut, South Carolina, Tennessee, Indiana, Ohio, Alabama, and Virginia. You can view their itinerary in this month's EMU newsletter. <https://emuinternational.org/newsletters/>
- Continue to pray for the Joshua Jensen family, the Farmer family, and Brooke Illsley as they travel this summer during furlough.
- Continue to pray for our Uruguayan nationals and the volunteers headed to Camp Emmanuel as they make final preparations for the "Rick's Work Trip," coming up next month.
- Many people don't realize that Joanna and I are supported like other missionaries and need churches and friends who will partner with us monthly. Please pray with us that God would raise an army of ministry partners who will help hold the rope for us by supporting us financially and through prayer.
- We are also praying about a new travel vehicle. God blessed us last year with a used van for us to drive around town. We need something more reliable though for my travels. Our 2011 Toyota Camry has been an excellent vehicle but requires major repairs and needs to be replaced.
- Continue to pray for healing for Joanna's hip. She has been told that she needs to have it replaced. She does not want to have surgery so she is trying some natural supplements and exercises.

Jeff's July Schedule

- 07 Two services at Grace Baptist Fellowship, Greenville, SC
- 08 Travel to NYC to meet the Crnkovic Family
- 11 Travel to Mississippi
- 14 Speak three services at Greenville Bible Church, MS
- 15 Travel home
- 21 Two services at New Life Baptist Church, Greer, SC
- 28 Missions Emphasis Sunday, Central Baptist Church, Dothan, Alabama