

DPG JAN-MAR

DEAR FRIENDS

In these months, the IFES family is preparing for IFES Global Giving Day. Last year, thanks to the vision and generosity of 430 supporters, staff, and students in 103 countries and territories, \$124,265 was raised for the formation of godly leaders. Praise God! A generous matching fund meant a total of over \$224,000 for leadership initiatives across IFES. Student leader training, staff training, mentoring programs, materials - investments which will bless our movements for years to come. All come from that generosity – and from your prayers in 2025. Testimonies from movements in difficult contexts finding joy in sharing what little they have with brothers and sisters around the world were as encouraging as the World Student Day testimonies in Praise & Prayer. As we prepare for Global Giving Day 2026, pray that even more people would stand together and make a gift, no matter how small, on April 16th to build stronger student ministry.

Kevin Van Horne,
Executive Director, IFES/USA

SOUTH PACIFIC

1/1 Praise God for new beginnings! Thank him for new students who joined a group in Adelaide last semester and pray for Pete Sorrenson, the new AFES Australia National Director, who starts this month.

1/2 Pray for a fledgling weekly small group with students in Tonga: “May trust continue to build so they can speak freely, pose their questions, and fully engage with the gospel.”

1/3 Give thanks for the way SIUCF Solomon Islands successfully hosted the regionwide student conference in September and pray that next month’s leadership training will bring refreshment and growth.

1/4 As PSFC Fiji staff, board members, and student leaders meet to plan the year, pray they will set visionary goals and Spirit-led targets.

1/5 Give thanks for a provincial government request to TSCF Papua New Guinea to run spiritual programs that will help strengthen law and order.

1/6 Pray for groups in TSCF New Zealand who are seeking to stay better connected with students on placements, and pray for this month’s Staff & Families camp (16-20th.)

EUROPE

1/7 "At my university, there are a lot of Muslim students. I speak with them every week. Please pray they'll be open to reading the Bible." Give thanks for "T" and pray for his outreach.

1/8 Pray for Marina, Eunice, and Marcos who recently joined GBU Spain's national student committee. They want to fully participate in university life and promote a daily rhythm of prayer in GBU.

1/9 Mischa at University College Dublin says many are open to spiritual ideas but peer pressure keeps them from exploring Christianity. Pray that God would soften hearts and overcome fears.

1/10 Thank God that students in CCX Ukraine could share their daily realities with other students at the European Student Festival last August. Pray that continued support and prayer will uplift them.

1/11 Pray for the European Staff Consultation starting tomorrow (until 16th) – a facilitated retreat for national movement staff to share, pray, strategize, and fellowship together.

1/12 Praise God that ChSA Poland has witnessed many more people coming to events in recent months.

INTERNATIONAL

1/13 Give thanks for all who participated in World Student Day – around 30,000 in 130+ countries. Ask that those who'd not prayed for other IFES movements before will continue interceding for the wider Fellowship.

1/14 Pray for the East Asia International Student Ministry consultation meeting in Thailand this week. May delegates leave with renewed vision and fresh tools to grow this ministry.

1/15 Thank God for a new issue of the IFES journal "Word & World" and pray that its explorations of church/parachurch ministry will promote biblical thinking, robust discussion, and wide collaboration.

1/16 The IFES website has new pages showcasing specific resources and support available to students, staff, and movements. Pray they will be well used.

1/17 Pray for staff in our International Services centers (Malaysia/UK/USA) as they steward gifts, communicate with supporters and movements, track ministry impact, and manage IT/HR services.

1/18 Ask God to bless those preparing and advocating for Global Giving Day (April 17th) – that their efforts will stimulate generous partnership among IFES movements, churches, and other networks.

PIONEERING

1/19 Give thanks for 25+ students from across the Caribbean taking part in a week-long pioneering mission project in Antigua. As it concludes today, pray for lasting fruit on the island.

1/20 Pray for the GNYF Vanuatu team launching ministry at the NUV Agriculture Campus on Santo Island.

1/21 "There are about 60 cities with universities, but we only have a presence in six. Please pray that this ministry can be developed in the others" – staff in a sensitive country in Eurasia.

1/22 Today is IFES Global Dedication Day: regional and office staff will meet online with participants from national movements to commit the year to God. Pray it will encourage those in pioneering contexts.

1/23 Pray for a UCU Colombia initiative in Cúcuta – that God will prepare the ground and lead the team to students who have a desire to share about Jesus.

1/24 Pray for the expansion of GBU DRC's mission into new territories in South Kivu province – for engagement among students and support for the work.

EAST ASIA

1/25 Thank God for a new discipleship booklet produced by a movement in a sensitive country. Pray for more men there to become staff workers to boost discipleship among male students.

1/26 Continue to pray for the situation in Hong Kong – someone in FCS says, "many people feel pain and powerlessness."

1/27 Give thanks for a three-month prayer training program run by KIVF South Korea: "Many who participated experienced prayer in various ways and realized its power".

1/28 Staff workers from across the region will gather in Malaysia today for a ministry consultation (through Saturday). Pray they will be strengthened by the sharing of the Word, testimonies, and best practice.

1/29 Pray for the Collegiate Day of Prayer in IVCF Philippines in February – "that believers on campuses will be rallied to pray for their schools, classmates, and faculty."

1/30 FCS Mongolia recently celebrated five years of ministry in its Khovd branch. Give thanks and pray it will continue to grow in a province where Tibetan Hinduism is dominant.

ENGLISH-, PORTUGUESE- & SPANISH-SPEAKING

1/31 Praise God that, despite ongoing armed violence in South Sudan, FOCUS groups from nine campuses united to pray on World Student Day.

2/1 Pray that “SCO students who are part of Student Representative Councils on campus will lead with integrity and courage, shining the light of Jesus.” – Vuvu, SCO South Africa

2/2 Give thanks for those who turned to Christ through GHAFES Ghana’s evangelism to less reached communities.

2/3 Pray for FOCUS Kenya student leaders – for wisdom to handle the growing number of students and the proliferation of other organizations on campus.

2/4 FOCUS Uganda is re-establishing ministry in Greater Masaka and Kigezi areas. Pray that those leading this work will be faithful and fruitful.

2/5 Thank God for growing ministry in GBU Cabo Verde and GBU Equatorial Guinea. Pray for them as they work towards IFES affiliation.

STRENGTHENING NATIONAL MOVEMENTS

2/6 Pray for Yohan Abeynaike as he helps students in South Asian IFES movements to love, study, live and share God’s Word.

2/7 Over coming weeks, InterVarsity Link (USA) will be recruiting graduates to serve with other IFES movements. Ask for many to hear God’s call and apply, discernment in interviews, and mutually beneficial ministry.

2/8 Ask that MENA Regional Support Groups for General Secretaries will offer mutual encouragement. And pray for safe travel for those attending from dangerous or difficult countries.

2/9 Pray for Kehinde Ojo and the Indigenous Support Development team as they promote financial sustainability by training, coaching, and mentoring key people in national movements.

2/10 “Forming a Christian Mind,” a conference for postgraduate students (IFES Europe & UCCF Great Britain), takes place in Cambridge next month. Pray it will renew confidence in the gospel.

SOUTH ASIA

2/11 Thank God for a growing FOCUS Sri Lanka group. Shamini asks, “please pray that God would provide a space closer to the university, and ask that we would be voices of hope on campus, where the truth is often silenced.”

2/12 Pray for staff who work with international students – that they may develop strong relationships with students from closed countries.

2/13 Give thanks for UESI India’s “family month” in January, an annual event to help graduates establish Christian homes. Pray that activities like reciting marriage vows, identifying each other’s gifts, and enriching family prayer times will enhance relationships.

2/14 Pray for Justin, back in Nepal after his optometry studies in East Asia, where he was an encouragement to IVCF Philippines. May his faith and experiences bring blessing to NBCBS.

2/15 Thank God for a Bible Quiz for 15+ year olds in Bangladesh – a collaboration between BSFB and OneHope South Asia – called “The Word of God in their Hearts.” Pray that young lives will be shaped by what they learn.

MENA

2/16 Praise God for 60 years of student ministry in Lebanon: “Pray for anchored faith and resilience as our students and graduates navigate life's challenges.”

2/17 As Ramadan gets underway, pray for an openness to the gospel among students and ask that those who may face spiritual heaviness at home will find rest under Christ's yoke.

2/18 Give thanks for recent training for student leaders in North African countries. Pray for their protection and their witness – that they can find creative ways to reach their peers despite restrictions.

2/19 Pray that God will raise up a generation who are not eager to emigrate. Pray for vision, courage, and God's provision so that graduates might choose to remain as salt and light amid the troubles their countries face.

2/20 Thank God for the 100 students who attended a national conference in a sensitive country despite an increasingly tense situation for religious minorities. Numerous students had life-changing encounters with the Word.

EURASIA

2/21 Thank God for providing international speakers for academic seminars during CSC Moldova mission weeks. Ask him to guide CSC as they seek new guests and strengthen ties with departments.

2/22 The CICI Armenia group in Yerevan is shifting from one weekly large group Bible study to several student-led small groups. Ask that this will offer a more personal experience and lead to growth.

2/23 At last year's regional training for student leaders, several testimonies mentioned prior thoughts of suicide. Pray that this hurting generation will find healing in Christ.

2/24 In a Central Asian country, pray for “one student who faithfully attends and participates in our group but is still deciding whether she is ready to follow Jesus.”

2/25 Pray for those serving students in Georgia – for ongoing ministry among local and international students despite challenges caused by recent legislation.

2/26 Thank God that some of the region's staff and students met in Central Asia to lead "discipleship on Monday," a weekend helping around 50 students explore how to live out their faith.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

2/27 Give thanks for the four student leaders who spearheaded the planning of last month's Caribbean Pioneering Initiative mission project. May they continue to grow in their gifts and service.

2/28 Beyond Europe and Eurasia's "Formación" summer conferences, spiritual formation for student leaders continues year-round in all regions and movements through projects and mentoring. Pray that such relationships will develop good habits and godly character.

3/1 Give thanks for the IFES Governance Development team, supporting national boards in their roles. Pray that the content on transitions from November's Forum will prove valuable for movements in coming months.

3/2 Pray for FES Singapore as they develop a new missions curriculum for their students – it "emphasizes dialogue and hospitality as a key means to understanding and engaging the modern campus."

3/3 Give thanks that 15 staff from 13 movements in Francophone Africa participated in last year's eight-week summer school. "The discussions and exchanges offered new perspectives on Christian leadership and pastoral care." - UGBM Madagascar

LATIN AMERICA

3/4 Thank God for a successful production of The Mark Drama by a GEU Guatemala team in Huehuetenango. Pray that those who watched will be inspired to learn more about Jesus.

3/5 Natalie says, "Our university has closed its doors to all CEC Panama activities on campus. Please pray that God will give us grace before the university administrators so that we might run Bible studies and outreach."

3/6 Give thanks for a recent breakfast dialogue series in CBU Uruguay. One discussion bravely addressed "campus mission amid diverse sexualities," with input from a youth pastor, a psychologist, and a missionary.

3/7 Ask God to strengthen CECE Ecuador student leaders at the Technical University of Ambato.

3/8 Pray for God's favor on a GBU Paraguay group at Asunción University. After posting an invitation to their cafeteria-based meeting on social media, some comments criticized religious activities on campus.

3/9 Despite ongoing tensions in Venezuela, praise God that students attended "Authentic," MUEVE's national conference, where they explored how to live well for Christ in all of life.

CARIBBEAN

3/10 Praise God for 35 years of IS/IVCF Belize and pray that the anniversary prayer breakfast, walkathon, schools rally, service, and banquet will leave students, graduates, and churches fully invested.

3/11 Pray for Jamaica, still recovering from Hurricane Melissa. Teisha asks us to "pray for peace, stability, and hope. And pray for good mental health, especially against the spirit of suicide."

3/12 Give thanks for the IS/IVCF Barbados "Pathway to Peace" rally on the Barbados Community College campus, where students were invited to consider Christ's forgiveness and grace.

3/13 Praise God that Descheny, GBEUH Haiti General Secretary, managed to attend IFES regional training – the first time he'd ever been abroad. When returning to Port-au-Prince, gang activities left him stranded in Cap-Haitien for over a week. He says, "I took advantage of this setback and laid the foundations for student ministry there."

3/14 Last year IS/IVCF Trinidad & Tobago's prayer ministry team hosted its first "Prayer and Paint" event. Thank God for his "undeniable presence" and the students, teachers, and supporters who attended.

EVANGELISM

3/15 Give thanks for outreach organized by campus groups in Australia and New Zealand during February's orientation weeks. Pray that seemingly random encounters will grow into life-changing friendships.

3/16 Ndoumba from GBU Niger asks us to pray for "the spreading of the gospel, especially at André Salifou University in Zinder."

3/17 Pray for Easter-related outreach across Europe – that the message of Christ's cross and resurrection will be clearly proclaimed and eagerly believed.

3/18 Pray with staff in a sensitive country in East Asia "for ministry to first years in various universities – that the Lord will grant them a heart that longs for God to bring many of their peers to him."

3/19 Students in PSFC Guam have just started a three-day "Bible & Life" retreat. Pray it will be instrumental in awakening commitment to Christ.

3/20 "Pray for our students to arise in boldness to share the gospel with their peers as there is a harvest that is ripe." - Samantha, ISCCF Saint Vincent and the Grenadines staff

NORTH AMERICA

3/21 Give thanks for the thousands of students who attended the Urbana missions conference in Arizona at the end of last year. Pray that those who felt God stirring them to a particular ministry will pursue that calling.

3/22 Pray for GBUC Canada as it navigates the implications of a recent report to provincial government entitled "Towards an even more consistent secularism in Quebec." Ask for bold wisdom and tenacious faith.

3/23 Pray for InterVarsity/USA's Black Campus Ministers get together, starting today (till the 26th) – for mutual encouragement, practical training, and discernment on reaching more students and campuses nationwide.

3/24 Ask the Lord to raise up student leaders for IVCF Canada at Mount Saint Vincent University and Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia.

3/25 Give thanks for the many ways that students in North America can explore mission and ministry during their summer break – from leading at IVCF Canada camps to joining InterVarsity/USA Link mission trips. As students begin planning vacations, may the Spirit draw them to these opportunities for service and growth.

FRANCOPHONE AFRICA

3/26 Praise God for the growth experienced in the GBUSS Senegal group at ESMT (Dakar) over the last two years. They ask for "an authentic and visible witness to the university community, motivated by a spirit of service."

3/27 Pray for GBUCI Côte d'Ivoire groups at the University of Abidjan as they seek to reach more Ivorian students who often find it difficult to join.

3/28 In GBEEG Guinea, Patrice says, "may God reveal himself to more Guinean students." Pray for life-changing encounters with Christ.

3/29 Give thanks for students in northern Benin who continue to meet despite terrorist threats. Pray for their witness and protection.

3/30 Mekilla in UJC Chad asks us to pray that, "God will inspire their student leaders with strategies that engage with issues on campus."

3/31 Thank God for Klaingar Ngarial and his impactful service in Francophone Africa as Regional Secretary. Pray for him and the region as he hands on the role this year.