

January 2026 Prayer

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

—Philippians 4:8

Nigeria—On January 18 in Kurmin Wali in Kaduna State, Fulani militia interrupted three different church services and abducted 167 people. Local authorities are unwilling to acknowledge that this has happened and are obscuring evidence, even warning locals about bringing this to the press. The terrorists continually kidnap members of the Christian community and then demand ransoms for their life. Although we praise God that elderly women and children were spared, please pray for God to deliver those held captive. Pray that the government of Central and Northern Nigeria would do all in its power to protect the innocent and to act justly. Ultimately, we pray for God to change the heart of the Fulani terrorists so they would stop attacking the rural communities of Nigeria. (*Source: Christian Solidarity Worldwide*)

Sudan—The Sudanese Armed Forces recently sent a drone above a school in Kumo, in the Nuba Mountains. This is the largest Christian community in the country and it lies close to the border with South Sudan. The drone dropped bombs on the school, killing 48 people, mostly children. This appeared to be a deliberate target although it was a non-combat zone. Pray for deep conviction in the hearts of the perpetrators who targeted and killed so many children. Pray for swift justice and for comfort for the community and family members of those who died in the bombing. Pray that the two year civil war and the decades-long hostility between the Muslim and Christian communities in the Nuba mountains would cease. And pray that God would shield these people from further attacks. (*Source: Christian Solidarity International*)

Mali—Pastor Enock fled his village with his family when it was attacked, and he now longs to return because of the great need for the Gospel. Many like him are displaced because of violence toward believers. Islamic militants target Christians, particularly pastors and those with Muslim backgrounds. They have destroyed churches, attacked villages, and looted homes. Please pray for this pastor to be able to continue his ministry. Pray that wherever he is, God will protect him and his family and provide safe opportunities to pastor the flock in Mali and share the Good News to many. Pray for peace in this region. (*Source: Open Doors*)

Democratic Republic of Congo—For decades of war between the military, the Hutus militia, and the Tutsis insurgents, rape has been continuously used as a weapon. Women and young girls have been targeted for years, but it is happening more and more often, and UNICEF reports that a child is raped there every 30 minutes. Most victims suffer from incontinence, continual severe pain, infections, and infertility. They are ostracized by the community and terrorized by the memories of their repeated torture. As this unspeakable terror escalates, please pray for God's swift intervention. Pray for His protective shield over these innocent girls and women. Pray that He would hide them and heal the victims. Pray that they would find comfort in the Good Shepherd and the Great Physician. Pray that the world would take notice and act. (*Source: Reuters*)

Somalia—Aweis was part of an underground church, and all but two of its members have been martyred. His own father told him that if he became a Christian he would be the one to kill him. It is illegal to convert from Islam to Christianity in Somalia, and this is one of the most dangerous places in the world to be a believer. The extremist group, Al Shabaab, aims to eradicate Christianity, and publicly

kills anyone suspected of being a Christian. Please pray for this extremely dangerous country where just being a Christian could result in death. Pray for the heart of the lost who would even kill their own children for turning to Christ. Pray for the gospel to miraculously spread widely through this country, even among the Al Shabaab members, that many would turn to Christ. Pray for safety for Aweis and others like him to be hidden and safe and able to fellowship. (Source: *Open Doors*)

United States—Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, Police Chief Mark Bruley says numerous Twin Cities officers of color have been stopped while off duty by ICE agents who demanded “paperwork” to prove legal status. Police Chief Bruley was joined by other police chiefs from the metropolitan area to confirm what they characterized as “not isolated incidents” across the region, describing unlawful stopping of individuals, agents with guns drawn ahead of any confrontation, phones being knocked out of hands, and the demanding of “paperwork” that no US citizen would have or be able to produce in order to avoid being detained. While in no way calling for the abolishing of ICE or indicating there should not be immigration enforcement, Bruley stated, “This isn’t just important because it happened to off-duty police officers...our officers know what the Constitution is, they know what right and wrong is, and they know when people are being targeted—and that’s what they were. If it is happening to our officers, it pains me to think of how many of our community members are falling victim to this every day. It has to stop.” One such community member is Nasra Ahmed, a 23-year-old Minnesota-born, US citizen who was violently detained in the parking lot of her St Paul apartment building. Video footage showed dozens of armed ICE agents forcing the 5-foot-4-inch, 112-pound woman to the ground after she gave them her ID, inflicting face and head injuries. Despite having no criminal record or other cause for detention other than the color of her skin, she was held in detention for two days without access to family or legal counsel. Her father could not locate her, was not informed of her whereabouts, and her phone was confiscated and has not been returned. Detained with her was a Native American woman whose similarly violent detention left bloody gashes on her legs. Pray that the rule of law will be restored and followed diligently and with integrity and that immigration enforcement will no longer be weaponized to punish states with Democratic governors. Pray for the protection of non-violent protesters exercising their legal right to peaceful protest in their own communities. Pray for the families of Alex Pretti and Renee Good, that they might be comforted in their grief and receive justice for their losses. Pray that truth in our country will be sought, known, and believed. (Sources: *KARE 11 News*; *Twin Cities Pioneer Press*).