

August 2025



Dear Prayer Warriors and Ministry Partners,

I am continuing to learn that life is always an adventure with the Lord! I am so excited to share with you the first of, I trust, many prayer letters that will come your way as you and others partner with me in the vital ministry God has given me. God has called me to go to the Netherlands to be a witness for Him to both the hearing and Deaf Dutch people. As a very brief explanation, I took two ASL (American Sign Language) classes in high school, eventually learning how few Deaf people know about Jesus, much less know Him as their Savior. For my last semester of college, I went to England, from which we traveled to the Netherlands twice for mission trips. God has melded these two burdens together in a wonderful way. If you would like to hear more about how that came to be, I would love to share the full story with you!

This past month has been a whirlwind. The best kind of whirlwind. I recently joined a mission agency, Baptist Mid-Missions or BMM. From July 7-17, I was in the Cleveland area of Ohio for what is called Candidate Seminar with BMM. The name "candidate" is used for those who are not yet officially appointed as missionaries but are almost there. The Lord truly knows best, and He provided the best group of people to be knit together in love, encouragement, plenty of laughter, and prayer. God knew who would be there together before anyone else. In the spring, a survey was sent out to current BMM missionaries and staff members asking what field they would like to see opened for missions. The number three field mentioned was the global Deaf community. Unbeknownst to them, God was preparing not only myself but also another single woman and a couple (of whom the husband is Deaf) in this candidate class to be burdened for Deaf ministry.

Another way God demonstrated His omniscience was through a conversation with a missionary to Japan. She had apparently been praying for someone to go to the Netherlands. I asked her when she started praying, and her answer blew my mind. It was right when I came back home from a teaching position in Texas after I had graduated Bible college. I was not in God's will at that point, but He kept pointing my heart back toward the land of Dutch people I had visited earlier that year. He wasn't obligated to give me any more confirmation, but I'm grateful that He

did. All along, He has been building my confidence in Him that He has ordained this path for my life, not me.

I was officially appointed as a missionary with BMM on July 14. The week after I returned home to Michigan from Ohio, my church had our VBS. I was able to share something about the Netherlands and/or Deaf people every night. Every night, they collected a missionary offering to give to me. The kids (and adults) showed incredible sacrifice and dedication; although it was a small VBS, they raised \$850. It humbled me. The best part of the week, however, was being able to lead two boys to Christ.

Since I have been home, I have also been working on my prayer card, website, display, and other materials to have ready for church meetings. I am grateful for my friend who took time out of her day to provide me with quality portraits. While in the midst of a waiting period for these materials, I decided to visit a local church on July 30 just to get acquainted. God had bigger plans. Before I left, I had an invitation from the pastor's wife to come back for their VBS the next week and for a ladies' meeting a few weeks later. Also, the pastor was out of town, so a guest preacher and his wife were there. They "happened" to be from a church in South Carolina, about 40 miles from where my college best friend's church is located. When the pastor returned for VBS, he told me he wanted me to come back for a meeting with the whole church. A life with God is never coincidental - He plans every step!

I am thrilled to start this new chapter of life. I know it won't be easy, but I know it will be possible with God's hand on it. Thank you for your prayers and support!

Praises

- God's protection on my life, physically and spiritually, to bring me to this point
- Safe travels to and from Ohio
- Meeting amazing new missionary candidates and appointees as well as seasoned missionaries
- Connections to churches through people at BMM's Family Conference
- God's breaking through in a major way in my extended family
- A wonderful accountability partner to keep me on track
- VBS outreach and mission sharing in two churches

Prayer Requests

- Follow-up with two boys that I led to Christ during VBS and another boy who had questions about baptism
- Connections with the right churches
- Prayer cards, website, display necessities can be ready soon
- Meeting scheduled with the church I visited for VBS

In Christ,
Abigail Lucero
BMM Appointee to the Netherlands
abigailtothenl.org
abigailtothenl@gmail.com
517-897-7303