



# STANDING WITH US IN PRAYER

Your role in the 2025 Baltic Sea Mission

Thank you for joining the Singing Men of Texas and Michael Gott International as a Prayer Partner for this Baltic Sea Mission. You play a vital role in this ministry, and the person who gave you this Prayer Guide is asking—and counting on—you to pray for them and the entire team.

#### Why Your Prayers Matter

The spiritual impact of this mission is greatly multiplied when you pray. In fact, you become one of the most important members of this mission team when you pray—believing that the goal of this mission, to clearly proclaim Christ as the only hope of forgiveness and eternal life, can only be accomplished through God's mighty power.

Great music and polished performances cannot save souls or change lives. Only God can.

#### The Need Is Great

This team will share Christ in some of the most under-evangelized nations of Europe. In many of the places we will visit, evangelicals make up less than 2% of the population. In some countries, Baptists number only in the hundreds. The need for the gospel is immense.

#### The Demands Are High

As you review the schedule, it's easy to see why your prayers for health and God's blessing are so greatly needed. Few missions have a more demanding pace, with almost no free time. Single-minded focus is required from all of us.

Therefore, please stand with us in prayer.

### How to Pray Each Day

Please begin now to pray for this mission. Many details are still being finalized here in Texas as well as across Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland. Pray for our leadership team, who have been working for months to ensure all preparations are in place.

**IMPORTANT:** Baltic time is 7–8 hours ahead of Central Time.

- Finland & the Baltic States: 8 hours later than Texas
- Sweden & Poland: 7 hours later than Texas

Most concerts are at 7:00 PM local time, which is 11:00 AM or noon in Texas. We encourage you to:

- Morning: Pray for that day's concert and ministry opportunities.
- Midday (concert hour): Pray as the gospel is being sung and preached.
- Evening: Pray for the next day's travel and ministry.

### How to Pray Each Day

Follow the mission and read daily prayer updates at:  ${\it smonct.wordpress.com}$ 

**SMOT-NC** is the choir and orchestra directed by Trent Blackley. **MGI** is Michael Gott International Evangelistic Ministries directed by Michael Gott.

# TRIP PARTICIPANTS

John Adams Danny Alford Phil Alford Gary Anthony Mike Barker Mark Beatty John Bell Liviu Berghian Bruce Berry Cindy Berry Trent Blackley Gary Bledsoe Michael Bridges Lvnn Christie Mike Claibourn Bill Clark Jim Clayman Steve Colburn Susan Colburn Larry Collins Eddie Cox Michael Cruz Karen Cruz Austin Daniel Larry Danks Mary Pat Danks Lee Deeds Albert Fllis Joe Estes Ron Ethridge Melany Ethridge Gary Etter

Susan Etter Paul Etter Andy Faught Bill Gammill Brad Giesecke Michael Gott Jan Gott Terry Green Andy Greer Sandy Greer Artur Grybek David Harrington Darrel Hathcock Chett Haynes Kevin Hoggard Michael Houston Sue Ellen Houston David Howard Kathy Howard Bill Howell Ralph Howell James Hudson Lori Hudson David Hunt Brian James Will James Janet James Steve James Glenn Jones Rief Kessler Mike Korzenewski Ihor Kudelin

Gerry Lewis Bohdan Linnyk Kelly Lowe Dan Lowe David Mace Larry Marx **Bob Mathews** Janis Mathews Steve Maxwell Stan Moore Mary Moore Phil Moore Kelly Moore Billy Moore Chad Morgan Walter Mullican Bruce Muskrat Nancy Muskrat Vova Ostopchuk Donnie Page Bill Palen **Amy Pannell** James Passman Wayne Patterson Steve Payne Ray Pittman Sherry Pittman Scott Rash Krissi Rhoades David Rickerson Sheryl Rickerson Randy Rives

Tammy Rives David Scherler Bill Sheldon Larry Shields Judy Shipp Michael Simmons Michael Slaughter Sam Spear Marta Spear Kent Spielmann Rob Stansell Todd Stearns Charles Stewart Rebecca Stewart Allan Taylor Derrel Thompson Illya Tkachuk Brandan Vaughn David Vinogradski Allison Ware **Bobby Watkins** Sharon Watkins Vic Watson J. K. Weger Jennifer Weger Larry Wesson Landry Wilson **Kevin Woolley** Juli Woolley

# **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**

#### **DEPARTURES FROM TEXAS**

#### Overview

Various departures from Texas will be flying east to Europe.

#### **How to Pray Today**

- Pray for the person who gave you this Prayer Guide.
- Ask God to cover the entire mission team with His protection and peace as travel begins.

#### **Prayer Timing Reminder**

Time zones matter for prayer:

- Finland and the Baltic States: 8 hours ahead of Texas.
- Sweden and Poland: 7 hours ahead of Texas.

#### **Prayer Timing Reminder**

Pray each morning in Texas for the concerts happening that evening overseas.



# TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

### **ARRIVAL IN STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN:**

#### Overview

Early morning transfers will take the team to their final flights into Stockholm. Pray that all instruments and personal bags will be transferred correctly and arrive on time with the group in Stockholm.

Buses will transfer the group to MS *Nordstjernen*, an Arctic Exploration Vessel where the choir and team will live, eat, and sleep for the duration of the tour. Please pray for them as they settle in and end the day with a brief time of prayer and praise. Ask God to refresh and prepare each of them for daily ministry that begins tomorrow.

# **How to Pray Today**

- Pray for safe, on-time arrivals for all team members and luggage.
- Pray for a smooth transition onto the ship and into their living spaces.
- · Pray for rest, renewal, and spiritual preparation for ministry.

Prayer Promise: Matthew 9:37-38



# WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

### **CONCERT #1 IN STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN:**

#### Overview

Each day begins with breakfast and a time of devotion in two groups (the ship does not have a hall large enough for everyone to attend at once). After a buffet lunch, the group transfers at 3:00~PM to City Church for Concert One at 6:00~PM (550~seats).

The ship departs at 10:00 PM for a 15-hour overnight journey across the Baltic Sea to Turku, Finland (181 nautical miles).

### **How to Pray Today**

- Pray that the church is filled with people who will say "yes" when the gospel is sung and preached.
- Pray for effective ministry and open hearts in Stockholm.
- Pray that many will hear and respond to the gospel.

Prayer Promise: Isaiah 55:11



# THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

# **CONCERT #2 IN TAMPERE, FINLAND:**

#### Overview

Morning arrival at Turku, Finland Harbor at 11:00 AM. After breakfast and devotional, the group will travel on buses 2 hours to Tampere's Pentecostal Church (900 seats). They will have a meal at the church and Concert Two at 7:00 PM. Afterward, they return by bus to the ship, arriving at 11:00 PM.

### **How to Pray Today**

- Pray that the church is filled with people who have never trusted Christ alone for forgiveness and new life.
- Pray for the team's strength and focus during a long day of travel and ministry
- Pray that song lyrics shown in each country's language prepare hearts to receive the message of Christ.

Prayer Promise: Psalm 2:8



# FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

### **CONCERT #3 IN TURKU, FINLAND:**

#### Overview

The ship remains overnight in Turku Harbor for this evening's Concert Three in Turku at St. Michael's Parish Church at 6:00 PM (over 1,000 seats). This historic city is home to 600,000 people.

#### **How to Pray Today**

- Pray for the presence of God to be evident in this historic church.
- Pray that many will hear and respond to the gospel.
- Pray for Trent Blackley as he directs the choir with energy day after day.
- Pray for the technical staff as they set up equipment in a new venue each day.

**Prayer Promise:** Deuteronomy 28:2–6



# SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

# **CONCERT #4 IN TALLINN, ESTONIA:**

#### Overview

The ship arrives in Tallinn, Estonia, after 15 hours on the Baltic. The port is near the ancient Oleviste Baptist Church (800 seats), where the choir presents Concert Four at 4:00 PM. The ship departs Tallinn at 8:00 PM, crossing the Baltic Sea for a 20-hour journey to Riga, Latvia (a 274 nautical mile trip).

### **How to Pray Today**

- Pray for smooth sailing and the health of the team.
- Pray that hundreds without Christ will attend, hear the gospel, and respond.
- Pray for protection from seasickness on the overnight journey.
- Pray for Michael Gott as he shares the message of Christ through a different interpreter in each country.

Prayer Promise: Psalm 107:29



# SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

#### **CONCERT #5 IN RIGA, LATVIA:**

#### Overview

The entire team worships on the ship on Sunday morning—a time of praise, prayer, and a biblical challenge—as MS *Nordstjernen* continues across the Baltic. Arrival in Port of Riga, Latvia is at 4:00 PM.

Concert Five in Riga is at 7:00 PM at Matthew Baptist Church (450 seats), the largest church in central Riga. The team will need God's help for stamina and protection from travel fatigue.

#### How to Pray Today

- Pray for a powerful time of worship on the ship that strengthens and unites the team.
- Pray for renewed energy and alertness after long travel.
- Pray that the concert is filled with people ready to hear and respond to the gospel.

Prayer Promise: Galatians 6:9

# **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**

# **CONCERT #6 IN LIEPĀJA, LATVIA:**

#### Overview

Travel to Liepāja will take 15 hours (179 nautical miles). The team will face the challenge of ministering in a nation experiencing a downturn in church attendance and the ongoing threat of Russian aggression.

The evangelistic concert will be at 7:00 PM in the famous Great Amber Hall (970 seats).

### **How to Pray Today**

- · Ask God to powerfully draw people to Christ during the concert.
- Pray for courage, clarity, and joy for the team in sharing the gospel.
- Pray for encouragement for local believers and churches.
- Pray for director Will James and the orchestra to bless the people who attend.

**Prayer Promise:** Psalm 96:1–4

# TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

# **CONCERT #7 IN KLAIPĖDA, LITHUANIA:**

#### Overview

The sailing will be only 60 miles but will take 6 hours on the Baltic, arriving in Klaipėda, Lithuania—a strongly Catholic nation with few evangelical churches. Baptists number only about 200 in this Baltic country.

The 7:00 PM evangelistic concert will be in the Michealsen Center at Lithuanian Christian College, which seats 800.

#### **How to Pray Today**

- Pray for a full audience with open hearts to the gospel.
- Pray for encouragement and boldness for the small evangelical community in Lithuania.
- Pray for God's Spirit to move in a powerful way.

Prayer Promise: Psalm 22:27-28



# WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

# **CONCERT #8 IN GDAŃSK, POLAND:**

#### Overview

Arrival in Gdańsk, Poland, follows a 10-hour voyage from Klaipėda. The final daily devotionals are held this morning (two per day due to seating limitations).

The team will briefly tour Gdańsk—one of Poland's largest cities and a beautiful Baltic port city—before Concert Eight at 7:00 PM at the renowned Baltic Philharmonic (more than 900 seats). Five Baptist churches unite to fill the hall with people.

### **How to Pray Today**

- Pray that God's presence fills the concert hall.
- Pray for unity among the local churches and effective follow-up after the concert.
- Pray that many will place their faith in Christ tonight.

Prayer Promise: Isaiah 58:9



# THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

### TRAVEL DAY TO WARSAW, POLAND:

#### Overview

Depart the ship by bus for Warsaw (4 hours, 210 miles). After checking into a centrally located hotel, the team will have a celebration gathering to vividly recall God's blessings on this mission.

### **How to Pray Today**

- Pray that all glory is given to God for what He has done through the music and messages on this mission.
- Pray for a sweet time of fellowship and worship as the team celebrates God's work.

Prayer Promise: John 12:32



# FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

#### **DEPARTURES FROM POLAND:**

#### Overview

Early-morning transfers to Chopin Airport in Warsaw for flights home, with afternoon and evening arrivals.

### **How to Pray Today**

- Pray for safe travels and smooth connections for all team members.
- Pray for lasting spiritual fruit in the lives of those who heard the gospel during the mission.
- Pray for rest, renewal, and continued ministry opportunities after the trip.





# THANK YOU for Standing With Us in Prayer

As this journey comes to an end, we want to express our deepest gratitude for your faithful prayers. You have walked alongside the Singing Men of Texas and Michael Gott International every step of the way—covering the team, the concerts, and the people of the Baltic nations in prayer.

While we have traveled thousands of miles, shared the gospel in multiple nations, and sung before countless people, none of this would have eternal impact without God's power working through prayer. Your role as a Prayer Partner has been essential.

#### How to Pray Going Forward

- Pray that every seed planted during this mission grows into strong, lasting faith.
- Pray for local churches and believers to be strengthened and encouraged.
- Pray for the team members to continue living on mission in their communities at home.
- Pray that God will open new doors for ministry in the Baltic nations and beyond.

### Final Encouragement

"Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen."

-Ephesians 3:20-21

