

Be In Prayer



- **Migrant Workers** – many countries rely on migrant workers to do much necessary work – often unskilled work or work that citizens do not like to do. Many of these workers find themselves in this situation because they are desperate to provide for their families who live in extreme poverty in places where there is no work or living wages. Many migrant workers have little if any say about working conditions and little or no recourse if they face abuse or dangerous conditions – not even the right to change jobs, or quit & return home. COVID has had a devastating effect on many migrant workers. For many their work disappeared. Many, who were working outside their home countries when the pandemic started, were not allowed to return home, or see their families due to fear they might carry COVID with them. Many, who work on ships, were not allowed to land anywhere due to the same fear and were stuck on ships for extended periods of time.
- **Victims of child labor** – many countries do not adequately regulate child labor. In many places, children are engaged in dangerous work; many are not able to attend school because they are put to work to help feed their families. Many unaccompanied children who come to the US to live with relatives or others end up as child laborers despite child labor laws that are on the books to protect them.
- **Victims of workplace violence** – around 2 million people are victims of workplace violence annually; about 85% of these incidents are robberies. In 2021 5,190 fatal workplace incidents took place. About 9% of these were 1 person intentionally harming another.
- **Turkey & Syria** – The recovery is ongoing even as aftershocks continue to bring unstable buildings down.
- **Refugees fleeing political crisis & violence** – At the end of 2021 there were 89.3 million people forcibly displaced (people forced out of their home countries). Of these, 27.1 million were refugees (half were under age 18). There were also 53.2 million internally displaced people, 4.6 million asylum seekers, & millions of people who are stateless (their countries will not grant them citizenship).
- **Ukraine where war continues** – attacks against Ukrainian civilians are ongoing. Russia is using both Russian forces & private troops against Ukraine. At least 30,000 Ukrainian civilians have died in the war.
- **Victims of Gun Violence** – Already this year, 7,076 people have died in gun violence (up 1,022 from last week) including 288 children (up 34 from last week). 5,260 people have been injured (up by 709 from last week) including 691 children (up 206 people from last week). 4,026 of the deaths are suicides (up 594 from last week). There have already been 95 mass shootings (up 14 from last week) this year. (Gun Violence Archive statistics). Do not forget, these statistics are not just print on paper. These numbers represent precious lives, loved ones lost; futures cut short, none of which can be replaced.
- **Greece** – head on train collision; dozens killed & more injured
- **Weather** – those dealing with tornados in Oklahoma & other weather issues including more winter storms in the west & storms in the south expected this week in the U.S.
- **The continuing COVID Pandemic** – COVID continues to be a serious issue. While vaccines & treatments have reduced COVID death rates, COVID continues to spread. (The number of new cases is increasing in some places while remaining flat in others.) Again, new COVID variants are circulating & causing concern.