

JULY 2020

PRAYER GUIDE

Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the one who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference. - Max Lucado

1 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

Lord, as our pastors make plans to safely move toward gathering in person, we ask you for guidance, strength, provision, and protection. As they consider the hard situations and decisions involved in the process, remind them of your love for their congregation. Help us all to make decisions that honor you.

2 CLEVELAND, OHIO

Although we are not able to gather in person, we celebrate that we can use technology to connect with Christ and one another. On Wednesday nights we meet for a video call Bible study. We praise God for the leaders who have volunteered to facilitate, and we ask you to join us in praying for wisdom and revelation throughout all the discussions.

3 GCI-AFRICA

We thank God for his guidance through the ongoing pandemic. As we minister together, the Spirit has shaped our understanding of the need to continue to provide spiritual nourishment to the church. Our regional and national leadership have worked hard with younger ministry workers and members who have contributed with their internet and social media skills to teach and preach the word of God.

4 PANDEMIC PRAYER

Merciful God, we join with you to pray for those who are suffering. May you provide those who are sick with the proper treatment and the comfort of your healing. We pray for the protection of caregivers, and for deliverance of us all from the impact of this disease and for the end of this pandemic.

5 PRAYER FOR UNITY

Lord, may the hate and rage of our world be replaced by the love and goodwill that comes by the power of the Holy Spirit. As we journey together through this fallen world, make us instruments of your peace.

6 MEDITATION MONDAY

Matthew 11:28 - When we battle the rush hour traffic and struggle to meet our deadlines, we end up too busy for rest, for family, and for real life in relationship. What burdens we carry! Our gentle, humble King calls us to lay down our burdens and receive his light burden in their place. What is it you are running away from? What are you blaming yourself for or holding against another? What are you trying so hard to achieve? Lay down all these burdens. Our rest in Christ, the unforced rhythms of grace, is the way of others-centered love. Prayerfully ask yourself now: Who else needs the word of grace that there is rest in Christ? Share it with them.



7 WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Last month we celebrated the joy of new life and the growth of our church family by blessing two babies. May God continue to surround his precious children with his love and protect them as they develop.

8 RICHARDSON, TEXAS

We are celebrating the Spirit's movement in our Children's Ministry. Each week, our youth gather for their own Zoom call to fellowship and learn more about Christ. We pray for the children's ministries across our fellowship. May they be a safe place and provide solace for our youngest members during these uncertain times.

9 KENOCKEE, MICHIGAN

Our congregation is now participating in a drive-in service each Sunday. What a joy to be physically present with one another in God's presence. Join us in praying for gospel fruit and good weather as we find ways to safely worship together.

10 CICERO, ILLINOIS

The 2020 graduates have needed to find innovated ways to commemorate the milestone of graduation. We hosted a Zoom graduation celebration in their honor to acknowledge the fruit of the efforts. May God continue to lead them as they enter the next season he has for each of them.

11 GCI MEMBERS

Jesus, we know you are the light shining into the darkness of our current times. Through the uncertainty and changes of the last months, we rest assured that you are present with us. Transform our fear to hope. May you fill us with a contagious hope to share your love with our neighbors.

12 GCI PASTORS

Pray for all of our pastors as they pursue the high calling of shepherding, disciplining, and living out the Great Commission!

13 MEDITATION MONDAY

Genesis 25:21 - In life, we often face disappointment when the things we want most don't come when or how we expect them to. Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, but nearly twenty years went by without them being able to have children. Then Isaac "prayed to the Lord on behalf of his wife" and God graciously enabled her to conceive. Is there someone close to you whose heart's desire has yet to be met? Have you prayed to God on their behalf? Keep praying as you wait. God does listen and answer, even though his timing and purposes may be different than what we prefer.



14 MONTREAL, CANADA

Join us in praying for our discipleship groups. May all who participate "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18).

15 ORR, MINNESOTA

Last month, during National EMS week, our church group had the opportunity to prepare and serve a dinner in honor of our first responders and EMTs, prior to their monthly meeting. The group was small and we were able to provide this service with precautions to the COVID-19 regulations. When we got to the fire hall to set up, many of the fire and ambulance crew were on a call to Crane Lake. When they returned, the smell of food was greatly appreciated.

16 BAGUIO, PHILIPPINES

Last month our congregation celebrated God's goodness and our congregation's anniversary. We praise the Lord for how he has worked in the lives of our members and community. We pray that the Spirit will continue to fill us with love and transform lives in our neighborhood.

17 TIPP CITY, OHIO

We are beginning a new study called Loving God and Others: The Heart of True Faith. Please pray for us as we launch this new small group through Zoom. May we create and cultivate a thriving, missional small group culture.

18 GCI NETHERLANDS

We are so grateful for our international leaders. Let us remember our co-laborers in the Netherlands today, and ask God to continue to transform their ministry.

"Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit," says the Lord of hosts."
- Zechariah 4:6

19 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

Jesus, may we be the very best expression of your love that we can be, and help us to be better positioned for making disciples alongside you.



20 MEDITATION MONDAY

Matthew 13:26 - Allowing weeds to grow unattended encourages them to spread and grow deeper roots. While removing those weeds, though, good plants may be disturbed, uprooted, or broken. In our world today, weeds of evil grow alongside the wheat stems of God's goodness and grace. Due to the presence of evil, we experience loss, disruption, brokenness, and pain. Through it, God continues to seek our best, providing the environment and resources needed to produce abundant fruit. What are some ways to participate with Christ in his efforts to grow abundant fruit, despite the evil that Satan seeks to cultivate?

21 KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

As seasoned believers and new believers continue to grow in grace and truth, we ask for new leaders to continue the mission and vision you have for GCI. We thank you for the next generation of leaders who are answering your call to participate. Please continue to equip and raise servant leaders to build up his Church.

22 KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

Last month, our pastor Terry McDonald and his wife Kizziah partnered with the local police department in prayer. Please join us in praying for our community and how to participate with Jesus in reflecting and building the kingdom.

23 GCI-HOME OFFICE

Holy Spirit, we ask that you guide our Superintendents from Asia, Australasia, and Latin America as they gather on a group video call. Grant them wisdom as they serve their regions.

24 GCI-HOME OFFICE

Triune God, we ask that you preside over the gathering of our Superintendents from Europe, Africa, and North America as they join a video call to collaborate in ministry.

25 GCI-USA

Lord, we pray your blessing over the international Virtual GCIgnite event scheduled throughout this week. We thank you that you call each generation into participation in your life and ministry, and we give special thanks today for this generation of young adult leaders.

26 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

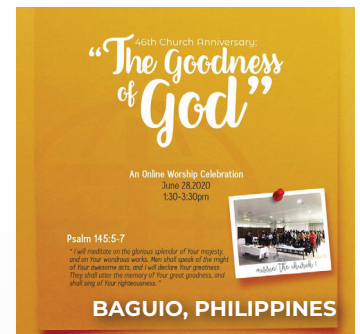
Gracious God, we thank you for the ministry teams in our congregations. We pray that you will continue to raise up team members who are faithful, available, teachable, and enthusiastic. Help us make space for new leaders and integrate them into unified and diverse teams.

27 MEDITATION MONDAY

Psalms 119:133 - When Solomon first became the king of Israel, he realized he was inadequate for the task. He told God, "I am but a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in," and he asked for God's wisdom. In later years, however, he abandoned the instruction given to him in the written covenant, and in the midst of great wealth and success, he wandered away from his simple dependency upon God. How is your connection with and need for the Living Word Jesus Christ? How may you spend some time today listening in the Spirit to his instruction and encouragement?

28 GCI NEPAL

We ask you to join us in praying for our church planter, Roshan Nepali, as COVID-19 has added some challenges. May the Spirit inspire and direct us to be an expression of his love in Nepal.



29 COLLEGE PARK, FLORIDA

The pandemic has provided us with another way to engage with our target community. Through local partnerships, we supply healthy family meals to local residents, focusing on those with job loss and on essential workers. Over the seven weeks of the program, we served over 50 families and prepared over 1400 individual meals.

30 GCI BOARD

Lord, we thank you for the service and wisdom of GCI board members. We pray over their gathering today as a time of blessing and inspiration that has a positive impact throughout our humble denomination.

31 GCI GHANA

We pray for our brothers and sisters in Ghana. May they be filled with your Spirit as they joyfully and boldly proclaim Jesus as Savior in their communities. "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:1-3

DOES YOUR CONGREGATION HAVE AN EVENT, CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER REQUEST, OR PRAISE REPORT YOU WOULD LIKE INCLUDED IN NEXT MONTH'S PRAYER GUIDE?

Please email info@gci.org with details and photos.