

AUGUST 2020 PRAYER GUIDE

I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. It doesn't change God. It changes me. - C.S. Lewis

1 CLEVELAND, OHIO FOOD BANK OUTREACH

Grace Communion Cleveland is still finding ways to be the church during this time. We received a "farm to family" grant. Individuals drive up in their cars and pick up a box or two of fresh produce. We are using this program as an opportunity to help those in the community, as well as in our congregation, who could use this gift at this time. The organizers are allowing our church to take as many boxes as we need. To God be the glory! He never stops working and we are trying our best to pay attention to the movement of his Holy Spirit.

2 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.



3 MEDITATION MONDAY

While being tempted in the desert in Matthew 4, Jesus quotes Deut. 8:3. He knew the human proclivity to try to sustain ourselves and find shortcuts to satisfying our desires. This verse reminds us of God's faithfulness. Just like the manna he provided to the Israelites, God can both sustain and satisfy us. Take a minute to reflect on the ways you are experiencing God's presence in your life. Is there a scripture you can pray in response? If you are looking for a starting point, the Psalms are full of prayers ranging from verses of thanksgiving and reminders of God's faithfulness, to cries for him to draw near once again. Taste and see today that he is good!

4 GCI-DEVELOPMENT

We are rejoicing over a successful virtual GC-Ignite. Young adults from all around GCI virtually gathered for fellowship, content sessions, and worship. Deeper conversations occurred in breakout sessions facilitated by young adults. Join us in praying for Holy Spirit infused synergy and the leadership of our young adults in their local congregations.

AUGUST 2020



5 HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA

We celebrate the opportunity to safely gather together in person at a local park. After worshipping virtually for months, we were able to fellowship together from a safe distance.

6 PIURA, PERU

Our local congregation is sharing God's provision with their neighbors through their Love Avenue with grocery baskets. Their tangible act of love has resulted in a vision for continued Love Avenue involvement.

7 CROSSWAY, PHILIPPINES

We are family amidst the pandemic. Every Friday we gather together for a virtual prayer meeting. We have a God who heals, provides, and comforts us.

8 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

Merciful God, we know many members of our GCI family have experienced loss in the past few months. We ask that you comfort all who are grieving. Cover them and give them rest.

9 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

This is the season where we develop our budgets for the upcoming year. Join us in thanking God for his provision and asking him for wisdom and discernment in the stewardship of finances as we share the gospel across the globe.

10 MEDITATION MONDAY

Matthew 3:17 - Before Jesus began his public ministry, he was baptized, establishing his identity as the Son beloved by the Father. We often try and create our identity through the things we do, have, and desire. The reality is, though, that we are made in God's image, so therefore we receive our identity from God rather than earning it. Our transformation through discipleship, the person we are becoming, is a gift from God. Rest in your relationship with the Father. Ask him to firmly root you in the truth that you are his dear child.



11 EUGENE, OREGON

Father, we thank you for David Borum and his answer to the call to serve in your body. We celebrate his ordination and pray that you give him wisdom, strength, and joy.

12 HYDERABAD, INDIA

We have been orienting a new Administration Team for our national ministry. Join us in praying for their transition. May they be filled with wisdom, energy, and a passion for serving.

13 GCI-KENYA

Jesus, we lift up to you our brothers and sisters in Kenya. Through their congregations, shine your light and love into the surrounding areas. Encourage them as they boldly share the hope we have in you. "Proclaim the message; persist in it whether convenient or not; rebuke, correct, and encourage with great patience and teaching." – 2 Timothy 4:2

14 CINCINNATI (WEST), OHIO

We are grateful to be able to serve our community. We have resumed our summer outreach of hosting a community yard sale and allowing neighbors to set up their own stalls to sell their goods. We pray that during the events, they will feel safe and welcomed in our church facility.

15 SURREY HILLS, OKLAHOMA

Today we are celebrating the groundbreaking and beginning of construction for our Ministry Training Center and church facility in Surrey Hills. Our hope is for the church to be a place of peace for neighbors to experience Christ love and for emerging leaders to be equipped at the Ministry Training Center.

16 GCI-YOUTH

As returning to school looks different than ever before, God, we pray for your protection and guidance for our children. May they experience your presence and see your hand working all for their good.

17 MEDITATION MONDAY

Acts 2:28 - Through Jesus, "the way of life" has been revealed. His resurrection gave us all victory over death. This verse not only celebrates his love for us poured out on the cross, but it reminds us of the promise of his presence with us in the here and now. In the chaotic times we are in with much confusion about what is next, this verse reminds us of God's faithfulness to us in the past and the hope that he is with us in the present moment. It is common to look to the gifts that God gives us as confirmation of his love, but we find such deeper satisfaction knowing that Jesus is the greatest gift. Take some time to thank him for his friendship and ask him to remind you of the joy of his presence.

18 PAMPANGA, PHILIPPINES

Last month we virtually celebrated our congregation's anniversary. Thank you, Lord, for the wonderful love that you have shown to us as a church. Your mercies, truth, and grace are always upon us. May we continue to honor and glorify you.

19 COLLEGE PARK, GEORGIA

We thank our great God for the opportunity to serve our community. We partnered with our local medical community to use our facility for COVID testing. Three hundred neighbors came through and were grateful for the ability to be tested.



20 GRACE COMMUNION SEMINARY

We are grateful that the Distance Education Accreditation Commission (DEAC) has renewed our accreditation for the next five years. Join us in asking God to continue to call up students to grow in grace and knowledge.

21 GCI-AUSTRALIA

Loving Father, we thank you for our fellowship in Australia. Continue to guide and direct their ministry as they keep in step with the lead of the Spirit.

"I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him."
- Ephesians 16-17

22 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.



HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA, USA

23 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

God, thank you for the way you have crafted our international fellowship. Thank you for your desire to see your love extend around the entire globe to each and every human being. Though we are far apart geographically, knit us closely together in your love as one community of believers.

24 MEDITATION MONDAY

II Corinthians 1:3-5 - Throughout the New Testament, God is referred to as the God of comfort. A comforter is a person who provides consolation, help, and support. Scripture often names the Holy Spirit as our comforter. Take the next two minutes to quiet yourself before the Lord. Ask the Holy Spirit to share words of comfort with you today.

25 GCI-USA

Our media team will be hosting planning meetings in Charlotte and brainstorming content for 2021, where we will develop content for the Faith Avenue. Please pray for creativity and discernment as we follow the lead of the Spirit.

26 DERBY, KANSAS

We are thankful for creative ways to connect with our community. Last month we coordinated a "Love Parade" to safely encourage and share hope with our neighbors.

27 GCI-UNITED KINGDOM

We are grateful for our members in the United Kingdom. Let us remember our co-laborers in the UK today and ask God to fill them with hope and guide their ministry.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope." Romans 15:13

28 SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

God, we are seeking a new location when we are able to gather again. Please continue to equip us to love the people you are calling us to love. We ask you to go before us to make the crooked places straight in finding a new home. Give us wisdom to make good decisions.



PAMPAGNA, PHILIPPINES

29 GCI-PASTORS

Gracious God, we thank you for our pastors who are leading our congregations through the pervasive uncertainty in 2020. We continue to pray that you will open the door for your Word, for the sharing of the hope we have in Christ.

30 EUGENE, OREGON

Our fellowship gathered together for an outdoor service. 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.

31 MEDITATION MONDAY

Isaiah 54:10 - God loves you with an everlasting love. There is no breaking point and we cannot use it up. We are loved by the one who created us, delights in us, and fills us in a way that nothing else can. However, we are often distracted by lesser things. This verse reminds us that God is better. Better than riches, better than fame, and better than any other pursuit – and we don't even need to chase him for his love. When everything else crumbles away, his love and compassion for you is unshakeable. Read over Isaiah 54 today and find comfort in God's never-ending love for you.

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.