

# FEBRUARY 2021 PRAYER GUIDE

Indeed, when God wants anything accomplished in His Kingdom, He moves men to pray. God is always the initiator. All effectual prayer was moving in the heart of God before ever it began to move in the heart of man. — Arthur Wallis

## 1 MEDITATION MONDAY

II Peter 2:9 - As the season of Easter Prep (Lent) approaches, there is an invitation for us to reflect deeper on repentance and what that means for each of us. The Greek word for repentance is metanoia. It means a “change of mind.” It is the turning away from the lies of the world and our old thinking patterns, looking towards God and the true reality of the unconditional love within the Trinity and our inclusion in that relationship. God has brought us all into himself, and, as a result, has united us to one another. How have you manipulated others with power and control or allowed others to manipulate you out of your need to earn their love and approval? Where have you shut down and focused on your fears, hurts, bitterness, and unforgiveness? Jesus, highlight for us our destructive thought patterns and show us how to replace those old negative thoughts with new Kingdom life beliefs.



## 2 GCI-FIJI

Fiji was spared the full brunt of tropical cyclone Yasa as it tracked more towards the east than expected. We are grateful for all the concern, prayers, and assistance that was given. Please continue to pray for the communities to be lifted in spirit in the coming days and weeks during the clean-up and rebuilding of homes for the impacted areas.

## 3 MIRAMAR, FLORIDA, USA

Join us in seeking the Lord as our congregation wraps up 21 days of fasting and prayer this week. “I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people, and His incomparably great power for us who believe.” - Ephesians 1:17-19a

## 4 GCI-CANADA

Pastors and leaders from across Canada will be coming together for CORE Groups sessions, which will review tools for leadership development, in the upcoming months. Join us in praying for a time of Christ-centered discussion and leadership development.

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## 5 GCI-AUSTRALIA

Young adults from across Australia will participate in GCIgnite online sessions for a time of bonding and Q&A with church leaders and pastors. May this be a time of personal and spiritual growth for everyone involved.

## 6 PANDEMIC PRAYER

Almighty God, we know everything is in your sovereign control. We ask that you keep this new coronavirus from continuing to spread. Give government officials the ability to safely handle people arriving from other countries. Holy Spirit, fill us with your wisdom to act in ways that keep us and our neighbors safe.

## 7 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

Eternal Father, you draw us together as one family. Bind us together by your Spirit and give us the love and grace to seek reconciliations. May we join you as people of peace building your kingdom in this hurting world.



## 8 MEDITATION MONDAY

Matthew 11: 28 - Typically, Lent (the time leading towards Easter) is an appeal for us to engage in self-reflection as we evaluate our current walk with God and consider ways to go deeper. Perhaps you may sense a desire to “return to God.” Although we are never separated from God, it can feel at times like we are. So how do we fix this? What is to be done? Here is Jesus’ answer: “Come to me and rest.” Returning to God simply means resting in the unconditional love of the Trinity and their complete acceptance, just as we are. Jesus invites you to crawl up into the Father’s lap and rest. No agendas, no timetables, no obligations – just peaceful rest. Let the Father’s song of love remind you that you are God’s beloved child; you always have been, and you always will be.

## 9 GCI- CARIBBEAN

Pastors and leaders from across the Caribbean have committed to participating in CORE Groups sessions to grow as leaders and team builders. Join us in asking God for his presence to be palpable during the group’s time together, and for there to be a shared vision about how to implement the leadership tools in their region.

## 10 SURREY HILLS, OKLAHOMA, USA

We are celebrating progress on the MTC building in Surrey Hills this month. They poured the concrete pad for the building and delivered some of the steel for the superstructure. All electrical and plumbing has been installed in the concrete pad. Join us in continuing to pray for the ministry that will occur in and through this space.

## 11 WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS, USA

Our Joy Team spread the Advent cheer through a devotional/crafts packet that was sent to all members. It contained activities to do each week to celebrate the themes of Advent. Along with special portions of our services, culminating on Christmas Eve, these pieces fit together to make the Advent season focused on Jesus and filled with hope.

## 12 JOLIET, ILLINOIS, USA

On the 2nd Sunday of Advent, after our worship service, we had a gift bag packing project. We are planning on once-a-month outreach activities like this, but initially focusing on the gospel work of the Pregnancy Resource Center in Joliet.



## 13 BIG SANDY, TEXAS, USA

We had a float in the Big Sandy Christmas parade and handed out 100 Ziploc bags along the route, containing a Christmas cookie and a packet of hot chocolate mix. The remaining 100 bags were shared with members who haven’t been attending due to the pandemic. This was great interaction with our neighbors and our home-bound members.

## 14 TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

Dear Father, we thank you for the fulfilment of your Word. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we behold Christ’s glory, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth (John 1:14). We thank you for your divine power that was seen here on earth. It is because of this that we can come together and celebrate you.

## 15 MEDITATION MONDAY

Philippians 2:12 - Salvation is God’s gift to us. It is not something that we have to work for. There isn’t anything that we can do to accomplish salvation. In fact, the only thing we ever did to affect our salvation was to kill Jesus. Working out our salvation is entirely different than working for our salvation, but our ongoing participation in Jesus by the “working out” of our salvation is essential. God has given us free will, and our daily choices really do matter. If you grew up believing that your righteousness was based on your own performance, then learning to trust in God’s love, goodness, and mercy may seem a bit fearful, yet the Lord beckons us to simply trust. Lord, we renounce any beliefs that require us to perform for our salvation, as we surrender our hearts to abide in your saving love and grace.

## 16 INTERNATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK

God of love, we thank you for the sacrament of marriage and how it reflects your commitment to us. We pray that you fill those who have entered this covenant with the strength to honor the promise they have made to each other, to love each other as Christ loves the church. We pray for your supernatural healing and joy to permeate these relationships.



## 17 ASH WEDNESDAY

As we prepare for the Easter season, we remember our need for a savior and pray: "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love. According to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me." Psalm 51:1-2;8-10

## 20 RICHARDSON, TEXAS, USA

Through this pandemic, our congregation continues to serve our neighbors through a food pantry. We pray that God will continue to meet their needs and provide the food they need to grow and thrive.

## 21 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

Jesus, as our congregations join with you in worship across the globe, we pray that the services will inspire and fill all who attend with hope. As we gather digitally or in smaller in-person groups, may we receive your truth to be sent out and share your love with our neighbors.

## 22 MEDITATION MONDAY

I Corinthians 1:9 - God's desire for us is to truly live out of our relationship with Jesus. How do we do this? By completely trusting God with our whole life. This requires us to let go of old paradigms and sincerely believe in God's love and goodness. It is only when we rest in our relationship with Jesus that we are able to participate in expressing God's heart in any given situation. When we learn to let go, our co-union with God allows his power to work in and through us. This was God's design for us from the beginning. We are created in the image of a God who shares only goodness, mercy, and love. We are invited to play, laugh, and have fun within that goodness, and splash as much as we can onto others. Lord, help us to cast off the shackles that we put on ourselves and remember who we were created to be.

## 24 CROSSWAY, PHILIPPINES

Join us in thanking God for the ways we are connecting during our virtual Wednesday night Bible Study. We pray for continued fellowship, discipleship, and deeper relationships with Christ that have flourished in our congregation and community.

## 25 STOYSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA, USA

Lord, we thank you for Bruce Metz and for his faithful service as a bi-vocational pastor. We celebrate the ways he has represented you as he retires and enters a new season. Bless this new beginning for Bruce.

## 26 STOYSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA, USA

We are grateful for Brad and Marlene Reed and their faithful service. We celebrate their new roles of Pastor and Associate Pastor. We pray blessings over their ministry. May they be granted quiet strength, unlimited love, and boundless compassion.

## 27 GCI-SOUTHEAST USA

Pastors and leaders from across the Southeastern region have started CORE Groups sessions to grow as leaders and team builders. Please lift up these sessions, that those who participate will grow in understanding of Christ, their identity in him, and how to respond in Christ-centered ways.

## 28 HYDERABAD, INDIA

In a training session via Zoom for team leaders of GCI India, Pastor Dan introduced the Support-Challenge Matrix that provides a window into the leadership culture of any organization. Such a culture creates challenges, so please pray for the support required to meet such challenges.

## 18 GCI-USA

The pandemic has put a pause to the Crossing Borders mission trips that have been ongoing since 2016. The team continues to share the gift of presence through digital communication, prayer, and support. A smaller group also served at a facility on the US side of the border. Join us in praying that the community will continue to feel God's love and presence while we serve from a physical distance.

## 19 WOODBINE, GEORGIA, USA

We are celebrating the ordination of Calvin Mitchell. We are delighted Calvin answered the Lord's call to serve. May the Lord bless his ministry.



LAKE MALAWI, MALAWI

## 23 GCI-MALAWI

Youth from around Malawi participated in a camp in December with the theme "Torch Bearers of the Gospel." Lord, seal in their hearts and minds the closeness they felt with you and one another during their time together, and help them to shine Christ's love and light in their neighborhoods.

**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](mailto:info@gci.org) with details and photos.**