

# AUGUST 2021 PRAYER GUIDE

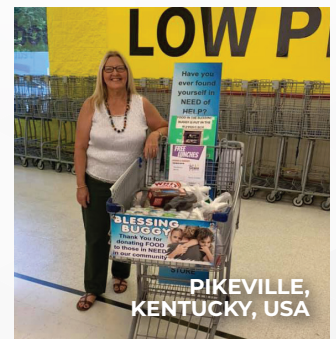
**“Prayer is awe, intimacy, struggle—yet the way to reality. There is nothing more important, or harder, or richer, or more life-altering. There is absolutely nothing so great as prayer.” — Timothy Keller**

## 1 PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, USA

We rejoice for the baptism that we celebrated last month. We pray that the new member of our church family will continue to grow in faith.

## 2 MEDITATION MONDAY

John 7:38 - Time is our most precious commodity. In our action-addicted world, few of us take the time to sit quietly in God's presence. However, when we do choose to be still with Jesus, blessings flow from his Spirit like streams of living water. Sometimes we get so accustomed to being thirsty in the wilderness of life that we forget we need water - a heavenly relief and comfort that only Jesus can give. Not only are we and everyone around us blessed by our focused time with Jesus, but he himself is also blessed. Try sitting in a comfortable position, breathe, and close your eyes for at least one minute. Give yourself permission to bask in the heavenly blessings graciously available to us in Christ Jesus.



## 3 GCI - SOUTH AFRICA

Father, in the name of Jesus, thank you for the move of the Holy Spirit across the length and breadth of South Africa. As the nation experiences unrest after recent events, we pray for you to restore peace. We lift up our members and pray for continued protection for them and their neighborhoods.

## 4 SURREY HILLS, OKLAHOMA, USA

Holy Spirit, we pray that you continue to move within our teams, congregation, and community. After our recent Team Rally event, we ask that you continue to help us to encourage and engage with one another, and equip and empower us in serving the people of our church and community.

## 5 JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA, USA

Lord, we thank you for the campers and staff who gathered at our neighborhood camp last month. We pray for the relationships that were developed. May all who entered camp come to know you in deeper ways and grow as brothers and sisters in Christ.

# AUGUST 2021



## 6 TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS

Our leadership teams are meeting this weekend for Healthy Church equipping meetings. We pray that in our time together, we will get to know Jesus more deeply and personally so that our faith, hope, and love for him will be nourished. May the Spirit move us forward and give us wisdom in building his church.

## 7 KENOCREE, MICHIGAN, USA

Our congregation is hosting a Sell Your Stuff community yard sale on our church property this week. We pray that our neighbors will experience our campus as a safe space and that the love of Christ will be evident to all.

## 8 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

Many of our congregations are looking for new facilities as we begin to regather. Join us in praying that God will lead us to new locations and that he will provide us with more than just a meeting place, but a space to minister to our neighbors.



DERBY, KANSAS, USA

## 9 MEDITATION MONDAY

Psalm 103:11 - We glorify God by delighting in him and enjoying our time with him, but how can we enjoy our time with someone we doubt loves us or cares about us? It grieves his Spirit when we forget to anchor our thoughts on his everlasting love for us personally. As David proclaimed, let all that we are praise the Lord and never forget to because he fills our life with good things. His goodness and love will pursue us all our days. Go outside and look up at the sky. Give thanks to God for his always and forever love for you. May this gratitude benefit you, and may that benefit impact all those around you.

## 10 GCI - FIJI

We are grateful for the leadership training our congregation is receiving based on the GiANT and GCI tools. We thank God for the different ways we reflect who he is, and we pray that our congregations will be lighthouses of good news in our neighborhoods.

"The training has given me an understanding of the importance of relationships...centered in Jesus and to be aware of the different voices." – Emily Boyd, participant

## 11 LINANGWE, BLANTYRE, MALAWI

A new GCI church has been born in Lirangwe, Blantyre. Pastor Nihaka from GCI Blantyre Congregation witnessed the event. It was a big event which was graced by the Village Headman of the area. Let's pray for the congregation to grow in numbers and in fruits of the Holy Spirit.

## 12 GCI - ASIA

We thank God for his provision for the past six months as COVID-19 continues to mutate. Cases in Asia remain high, causing countries like India, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Malaysia to go into strict lockdowns. We ask for continued protection and wisdom. Father, look with compassion on our whole spiritual family.

## 13 FRAZIER PARK, CALIFORNIA, USA

God, we thank you for this group of young adults that are gathering together for the West GC Next retreat. They desire to seek you, fellowship with one another, and discern the ways you have crafted them to participate in your ministry. We ask that you bless them with laughter, wisdom, and insight throughout the retreat and that you prepare the leaders and members of their churches to support them as they return with a renewed energy to participate in Jesus' ministry.

## 14 CINCINNATI, OHIO, USA

We are grateful to be able to serve our community through our community yard sale, 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 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

Please join us in praying for our leaders and members to have enthusiasm for serving our community and sharing the gospel with our neighbors, and that the Holy Spirit would equip us to share the source of our hope.

## 16 MEDITATION MONDAY

Isaiah 40:31- When the struggles of this life weigh us down, it can be tempting to think that God doesn't see our suffering or that maybe he has forgotten us. Praise God for his Word, which sheds his truth and light on all our troubles. Our God is the God of comfort and new strength. Our God is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth, and he never grows weak or weary. We must not be hard on ourselves when we grow tired on this journey of discipleship. May our broken vessels show the world where our true strength comes from. The next time you're feeling physically or emotionally frail, choose to thank God that his strength is made perfect in us during times of weakness.

## 17 KAKUMA REFUGEE CAMP, KENYA

The camp is set to close by June 30, 2022. There is high anxiety as the refugees are not sure what the future has in store for them. Please join us in praying for God to guide and provide for our members and all residents of the camp.

## 18 EAGLE ROCK, CALIFORNIA, USA

We praise God for the deepening of relationships that occurred during our church in the park. Please pray that we will continue to grow in our knowledge of Jesus and love for one another.

## 19 DENVER (NORTH), COLORADO, USA

We are grateful for Joan Horton and her faithful service. We celebrate her commissioning as Hope Avenue Champion and pray blessings over her ministry. May the Lord grant her quiet strength, unlimited love, and boundless compassion.

## 20 MANILA, 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.



# AUGUST 2021



## 21 LEMON GROVE, CALIFORNIA, USA

God, we are excited about our neighborhood engagement event that we are hosting today. Please continue to equip us to love the people you are calling us to love. May your joy and all the fruits of your Spirit be palpable to all who attend the event.

## 22 DERBY, KANSAS, USA

We celebrate our recent Love Avenue event in the park. We hosted a parade, provided games, and shared shaved ice treats. Join us in asking God for continued connections and ways to encourage our new neighbors.

## 23 MEDITATION MONDAY

Psalm 27:1 - There's nothing wrong with feeling afraid at times. After all, Jesus himself guaranteed his followers would experience difficulty in this world. He also commanded his followers to be strong and courageous because he overcame the troubles of the world. Each of us is in need of a Savior and a light for our path in life. Every day, Jesus invites us to remember that he is our light and salvation, our way, our truth, and our very life. Having courage as a Christian does not mean the absence of fear, but rather the assessment that Christ's saving presence is more important than the fear. What are you afraid of? Take some time to tell God your fears. He already knows them, so don't hold back. Remember that you are held in the arms of love!

## 24 GCI - MEDIA

Our media team will be hosting planning meetings in Charlotte and brainstorming Love Avenue content for 2022. Please pray for their creativity and discernment as we follow the lead of the Spirit.

## 25 SOUTH KANSAS CITY, KANSAS, USA

Loving Father, we thank you for the way you invite us into relationships. We pray for our new Game Night Connect Group. May your presence be evident as we grow in understanding and relationship with you and one another. Call out of us what is not of you and call us up into the good work you have for us to participate in ministry with you.

## 26 HOUSTON, TEXAS, USA

We are celebrating meeting in person through "house watch parties." These gatherings are occurring at the homes of those giving the sermon that week, and a participant leads us in worship. Please join us in praying for these small gatherings and for wisdom in following the lead of the Spirit as we seek to be the church in our neighborhoods.

## 27 BOGOTA, COLOMBIA

Lord, in you we see the beauty of community. Be present in our Community of Practice and MTC planning meetings over the next few days. Let our leadership team reflect your unity and be led by the Spirit to participate in building your kingdom.

## 28 COLUMBUS, OHIO, USA

Lord, we are thankful that you raise up each generation as members of your church body according to your good will. We thank you for this group of young adults gathering at the East GC Next Retreat and ask that you bless their time together to be full of your joy and wisdom. Ignite their gifting and passion to participate in your ministry and prepare their church communities to support them as they seek to serve you.

## 29 PIKEVILLE, KENTUCKY, USA

We are grateful for the \$10,000 we received for hygiene needs for the members of our neighborhood who frequent our community kitchen. Join us in praying that all who receive these gifts will see the goodness and provision of our loving God. Thank you for your support and prayers for our ministry and mission to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our community and abroad.



LIRANGWE, BLANTYRE, MALAWI

## 30 MEDITATION MONDAY

Philippians 4:8 - What do we think about daily? Do we fix our thoughts on anxiety and anger due to current events? Or do we fix our thoughts on the enduring character of God, who remains the same in every season? The quality of our thoughts determines the quality of our lives. May we turn our eyes upon Jesus and seek his face so that "the cares of this world will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace." Take a deep breath and ask God to help you be aware of where your thoughts are and to recenter them on Jesus and who you are because of who he is.

## 31 RICHARDSON, TEXAS

We are celebrating a successful Youth Formation Camp for our teens and young adults. It was a fun learning time for our youth as they learned about their identity in Jesus, being self-aware, and personality types. May our youth continue to grow in the knowledge and grace of our great God.

**DOES YOUR CHURCH HAVE AN EVENT, CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER REQUEST, OR PRAISE REPORT YOU WOULD LIKE INCLUDED IN NEXT MONTH'S PRAYER GUIDE OR OTHER GCI PUBLICATIONS?**

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