

# SEPTEMBER 2021 PRAYER GUIDE

**"We are the relationships that make us; we have our being in and through relationships that place us into reality, and therefore we are open ontologically to the possibility of encounter."  
— Andrew Root**

## 1 GRACE COMMUNION SEMINARY

Registration for GCS's fall semester is open. Lord, we give you thanks for the varied opportunities we have to learn and grow in faith. We pray for wisdom and strength for the students, teachers, and administrators. May they be equipped for the good works you have for each of them.

## 2 PERTH, AUSTRALIA

Our congregation celebrated our 55th anniversary. This marks many years of faithful service of our members and the faithfulness of our wonderful Father, Son and Holy Spirit working in and through his church. Paul's love and prayers for the church as expressed in his letter to the brethren in Ephesus are always an inspiration to read as he recognizes Jesus Christ as head of the body and the precious role or part each member has within it: "From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work" (Ephesians 4:16).

## 3 PRAYER FOR PEACE

God, we turn to you during this time when there is suffering in this world that we cannot comprehend. We lift up to you the people of Afghanistan and Haiti. Protect them under your wing and help them feel the comfort and peace that only comes from your powerful presence.



QUEENS, NY

## 4 PANDEMIC PRAYER

Loving God, your desire is for our wholeness. We hold in prayer the collective suffering of our world at this time. We grieve the pain and loss many are experiencing. May we be formed by your love and care for us and not by the fear and uncertainty that surrounds us. Extend your hand of mercy across our globe.

## 5 QUEENS, NEW YORK, USA

Our congregation joined with hundreds of volunteers in our Richmond Hill neighborhood in deliver thousands of backpacks to families in need. We will have our own Back to School event on the weekend of September 11-12, utilizing sound principles of inviting and effective follow-up engagement. Please join us in holding the youth of our neighborhood in prayer.

# SEPTEMBER 2021



## 6 MEDITATION MONDAY

James 2:5 - There are times when we may feel like we are poor orphans in this world, but the reality is that we have a loving heavenly Father who has our best interests in mind and is looking out for us. He is present with us in the midst of our circumstances through the Holy Spirit. When we recognize our lack, especially in the humility Jesus described as being poor in spirit, it is actually our ticket into the kingdom of God. We rest in Christ and his finished work, and we have all we need. Take a moment today to gratefully acknowledge your utter dependence upon God for everything.

## 7 BAGUIO, PHILIPPINES

We celebrate a successful emerging leadership retreat that ministered to seventeen participants through the theme "Shaped for His Purpose." Pray that these leaders will continue to grow deeper in relationship with Jesus and pursue the good work he has for each of them.



## 8 LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

We praise God for a successful celebration of our youth. We fellowshiped and had a fun-filled pool day.

## 9 KENOCKEE, MICHIGAN

We joyously celebrate the baptism of two of our youth.

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.  
3 John 1:4

## 10 TOLEDO, OHIO

Our ladies' group regathered in July for the first time and had a very good turnout. We praise God for a wonderful time of praise, fellowship, encouragement, and prayer together!

## 11 TYLER, TEXAS

We commemorated our congregation's anniversary this summer. We praise and thank God for his faithfulness to us.

## 12 GCI PASTORS

Lord, we thank you for our faithful pastors who serve you through our congregations. We pray for your love and the fruit of the Spirit to permeate their lives and ministry—that love, joy, peace, and patience will guide; that kindness and goodness will be companions; that faithfulness will be the motto, and that gentleness and self-control will be evident to all.

## 13 MEDITATION MONDAY

James 3:5-6 - The consequences of saying the wrong thing at the wrong time, no matter how simple the statement, can be deeply painful and last for a lifetime. However, it is equally true that a simple statement which speaks life into another person may be the catalyst for their spiritual transformation and healing. The difference lies in the source of our words. They can be drawn from a Christ-centered and Spirit-led heart, or drawn out of our brokenness and sin. Create a breath prayer you can say each time before you speak. Breathe in—"Lord, you are the living Word." Breathe out—"speak through me." Then let the Spirit speak.

## 14 KIBIRICHIA, KENYA

Our congregation honored the faithful service of pastor James Marete, who recently retired after over three decades of service. We thank God for the pastors who answer his call and enrich our lives with their ministry.

## 15 BIG SANDY, TEXAS, USA

We ask that you lift up our Connect Group that is going through The Chosen series together. May this be a time of discovery of who Jesus is and who we are in him.

## 16 ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, USA

We are filled with joy as we wrap up our new members' Connect Group. May our God, who makes all things work together for our good, bless the Word that was shared. May Father, Son, and Spirit continue to be glorified through the lives of our new members.



## 17 BATANGAS, PHILIPPINES

Our members shared the love of Christ with our neighbors through our "Faith Hope Love in a Pack" outreach. May this Spirit-led ministry thrive to bless them and other neighbors who are greatly affected by the pandemic. May they be assured and comforted that they have great friends out there who would stand with them in their daily struggles. We offer this endeavor to the Lord. We can be sure that he is delighted to see us participate in his ministry. Thank you so much, GCI family and friends, for your generous heart, fervent prayers, and the warm cheers when things get tough. In all these things, to God be all the glory!

## 18 TALLAPOOSA, GEORGIA, USA

Jesus, we rejoice in your presence in Rebecca Johnson's life and celebrate her ordination. Give Rebecca a deep faith, a bright and firm hope, and a burning love which will ever increase in the course of her ministry.

## 19 STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK, USA

As we celebrate the ninth anniversary of our congregation, we thank you, Jesus, for the joy you have given us through every prayer we have prayed, every song we have sung, and all we have learned. Please continue to guide us as we join you in building your kingdom.



# SEPTEMBER 2021



## 20 MEDITATION MONDAY

James 3:17 - In this fast-paced world, we may prefer being in the lead or going out first because we are in a hurry or because we believe we know best what needs to be done and how to do it right. However, as disciples of Christ, we are meant to be followers of Jesus and servants of one another. God's Spirit is one of humility, service, and mutual submission. The greater choice is to yield rather than to demand one's own way. What opportunities do you have today to yield to others? How will you allow others the freedom and blessings you would prefer for yourself?

## 21 SURREY HILLS, OKLAHOMA, USA

What a glorious sight it is to see neighbors loving neighbors! We are celebrating the success of our neighborhood block party and water balloon battle. Hundreds of Surrey neighbors lined up with about 13,000 water balloons and had a total blast. We were blown away by the number of children we had! May our neighbors continue to experience the love of Christ and see the Father's hand in their day-to-day life.

## 22 GCI-USA

Our Regional Directors are gathered for a retreat this week. We ask you, gracious God, to guide their time together. Lead their hearts on your path and translate their conversations into aligned and faithful responses to your will for our churches.

## 23 RICHARDSON, TEXAS, USA

Everlasting God, we thank you for the variety of ways we can connect with you and one another. We place our hybrid Connect Group, which meets both digitally and in person, in your hands. Help us be intentional about making a space to connect and learn from one another. Fill us with a genuine love and value for one another.

## 24 GCI-ASIA

It is such a joyous occasion to celebrate the twenty-seven baptisms that occurred across our region in July. Father, continue to encircle these new members with your love as they walk with you.

## 25 GCI

Merciful God, as we enter storm seasons in many regions across the globe, we ask for your protection and provision of our members. Please continue to be a refuge and provide for us as we go through this season.



## 26 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

In many of our congregation's re-gathering plans is a search for a new facility. Lord, we pray for an anointing over their searches. Provide a way forward and make your will clear. Help our churches to find locations where we can be of service to you and our neighbors.

## 27 BOGOTA, COLOMBIA

James 5:16 - When we have done what we shouldn't or we have hurt someone by our words or actions, our first instinct is often to hide or pretend it didn't happen. There are also times when sins committed against us are so horrific and evil that we bury them deeply in our hearts and never tell a soul. However, burying sin and abuse in such a way only enslaves us to guilt, shame, and suffering. We are encouraged instead to share our pain or sin with a safe person who will pray with us and offer us grace in Jesus. How safe of a person are you? Will you commit to offering healing prayer instead of adding guilt or shame?

## 28 KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, USA

We are excited at the launch of several Connect Groups. Our next step is to invite our neighbors to engage these groups for the sake of relational inclusion. The church is looking at this from a perspective of how fresh these ideas are, and that has fueled ideas for other groups. Please join us in asking God to prepare us to receive those that he will gather around us. May all who attend experience God's boundless love for the world.

## 29 GCI - LEADERSHIP COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

Lord, in you we see the beauty of community. Help our leadership teams around the world to reflect your unity and be led by the Spirit to participate in building your kingdom.

## 30 BIG SANDY, TEXAS, USA

We are grateful that our local school supports our church's Faith Avenue. They intentionally end athletic practice at 5:30pm so that youth can attend our weekly Connect Groups. We pray that by the power of the Holy Spirit, our local youth will build a deep and lasting relationship with Jesus.

**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.**