

December 8, 2023

A weekly guide of prayer concerns in the Faith Church family and ministry

“Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”). Matthew 1:20-23

This Week

Pastor Joey preaching on Advent: *Why the Incarnation?*

LOCAL MINISTRY & OUTREACH

Adults: Better Together newcomers class starting 11/26

Faith Kids: Christmas party between services Dec. 17

Student Ministry: Christmas Party Dec. 13

Local Outreach: Life2Life evangelism training groups

Elders: Jonathan Baker, Lee Christenson, Brian Clarke, Dennis Dawes, Terry Fleck, Scott Freeman

Deacons: Scott Beattie, Josh Horstman

Staff: Kendra Carter, Steve Eisinger, Jane Greuel

FAITH FAMILY

Janna Baker: surgery 11/30 to remove discs in neck and fuse vertebrae; pray for healing and pain relief

Amy Beattie: sister Kristy – recurring leukemia; starting chemo 11/30 in prep for stem cell transplant 12/7

Dan Breitwieser: surgery to repair elbow 11/28

Noah Breitwieser: wisdom for physicians and parents on treatment options for Duchenne MD

Pam Christenson: foot surgery 11/28 to relieve pain

Ruth Ann Gigax: Assisted Living at the Barrington

Tom Macy: right knee joint replacement 11/22

Brian Parker: MSA (Multiple System Atrophy); hospice care at his home in Kalamazoo

Jerry/Judy Parker: daily challenges with Judy’s care

Sylvia Scott: pancreatic & lung cancer; home after hospital stay for recurring breathing issues

Darlene Senisse: unresolved stomach pains with eating

Peg Shrum: recovery back surgery 11/6 to relieve pain

Bob Tansey: glad to be back at the Bickford; 90th birthday 12/8

Lew Truex: shoulder replacement rehab

Judith Waggoner: resting at home after hospital stay; congestive heart failure

Nancy Wooden: MDS, blood cancer; stem cell transplant 10/6, home in lengthy recovery; good blood counts, very fatigued; suppressed immune system.

Shirley Woolf: brother, Ron Harper, passed away on hospice care; funeral Dec 2 in Wentzville, MO

Chronic Health Concerns: Rosy Andrade (neuropathy), Lucy Breitwieser (mild CP affecting left leg), Noah Breitwieser (Duchenne MD), Ghasem Charmsazi, Betty Coleman (spinocerebellar ataxia), Robin Dawes (chronic pain/ neuropathy), Mary Garriott, Malinda Herke, Rich Jones (MDS), Sharon Kelly (ovarian cancer); Judy Parker; Leah Paterson; Fatemeh Saddigh (back pain)

Special Needs, Care Homes, Assisted Living:

Doris Craig, Frances Dawes (Brownsburg), Ethel Ewing (Maple Park, Westfield), Joe/Nell Fitzgerald (Stratford); Norm Hughey (Woodland Terrace), Phyllis Irwin, Jimmie Sue Lickliter (Hooverwood), Mattie Neff (Autumnwood Village), Audrey Pedersen (Hooverwood), Sherry Rose (Willow Springs), Bob Tansey (Bickford), Richard/Marge Upton (Allisonville Meadows), Kathy Valentine (Sunrise/Old Meridian), Elizabeth West

Military Service:

Fields Alexander, U. S. Marines, Camp Pendleton
Samuel Morford, U.S. Marines, Camp Lejeune, NC
Sam Sawada, Indiana Air Nat’l Guard, Ft. Wayne

OUR NATION & WORLD

Pray that officials will lead with wisdom and charity, and seek justice; that they faithfully serve in their offices; for the impact and witness of the Church in a culture of fear, division, anger, and violence; for a just peace and an end to hostility; that people might live in safety, especially in the Middle East and Ukraine; for the peace, safety, reconciliation, and healing of those scarred by war; for Christians caught in the middle of violence – for their hope and protection, and the Church’s witness and impact as nonviolent peacemakers.

GLOBAL OUTREACH

David & Karen Bradley (Jesus Film Project): Praise for 25 years of ministry! "The Animated Story of Jesus" premieres Dec. 2025 in 100 languages; pray for producers, directors, technicians, and animators.

Mark & Charlene Canada (MDE): Pray for new members & volunteers and for the refining of some processes.

David & Emily Cetola (Team): Reengagement in ministry after in U.S. trip this summer; outreach to local college students; possible move for Croce Via church.

Lee & Pam Christenson (Wycliffe): Direction for best ways to serve church and community; staffing needs, guidance, direction for Wycliffe Church Relations dept; retirement changes.

Joe & Kim Cluff (CMF, Kenya): Praise of 16 years of marriage; continued success for Kim, Sophia & Theo at school.

Marc & Stephanie Dodrill (YFC, Spain): Pray for support-raising in Spain so that YFC Spain can be self-supporting.

Mark & Alyssa Dunker (Reach Global): Praise for time with family/friends in U.S. through Dec. Praise for Alyssa training Congolese/Kenyan students in trauma healing, teaching Pastoral Counseling in Ethiopia; Mark finished teaching 2 courses, pray for students' hearts to be transformed in a culture of widespread academic cheating; pray for class prep for next semester.

Jacob & Becca Hash (Josiah Venture, Poland): Praise teammate Jonathan recovering well from heart transplant 9/21! Week-long outreach end of Nov. Pray for new believers and boldness of students to share the gospel. Wisdom for Jacob juggling many things this year.

Scott & Lisa Hicks (Barnabas International): Scott traveling to N. Africa for ministry (counseling, speaking, consulting). Lisa traveling to her sisters. Pray for safety and health; for Scott – wisdom, clarity, energy, safety; pray for people to whom Scott ministers.

Ruth Hubbard (InterVarsity): Nearing end of 4-month sabbatical, seeking a balance of rest and productivity; pray for adjustment to CPAP & sleep. Dad turning 95!

Cindy Irwin (TEAM): Praise for Afghans connecting her with other Afghan families; for classes at the Loft and the privilege of praying with students.

Doug & Darla Leatherman (Cru): Praise that students are leading spiritually on their sports teams. Pray for Joost (soccer) and Adam (football) who both reached

out to Doug wanting to meet with him and grow in their faith; hoping for 1,500 students at Winter Conference.

Lisa Meharry (Wycliffe): Praise for a great vacation & God's faithful provision! Pray for translation in Naskapi and other First Nation languages, for ability to fit a large work project "normal" tasks, wisdom to serve well, opportunities to love well at church & in neighborhood.

Tom & Julie Meiner (Jesus Film Project): Praise for chaplains spreading the gospel in war; for Ukrainian and Russian soldiers to find salvation; pray for finances needed to move to the next phase of animation project.

Tom & Kristi Miller (Cru City): Tom coaching people through their Ministry Partner Development, including 3 couples seeking to serve with Cru's military ministry.

Jeff & Peg Shrum (Wycliffe): Praise for good medical care for Peg. Pray for healing and pain relief for Peg's back; Jeff's family to be comforted during the holidays after the loss of his sister this year. Praise for the new tools & resources to translate/distribute God's Word!

Dave & Joy Skinner (OM, South Africa): Praise for 600+ people who distributed Greek NTs; pray for Greeks who received NTs to read and believe; local orthodox priests would encourage reading of NT; for follow up.

Mark Slaughter (InterVarsity): Pray for follow-up with Greek students who made commitments at Getaway.

Kathi Small (TEAM, Guatemala): Praise for a good oncology report! School year ends 12/2, working on content outlines for new courses for next school year.

Isaac & Jenn Stough (YFC, Spain): In the U.S. for 6 months, currently in Wheaton; grateful for a season of rest; pray for a balance of rest and being with people; for Loyal to sleep longer in the mornings.

Bill & Thelly Thomas (Cru): Praise for the 87,000 leaders Cru trained in 2022 who helped open 23,500 churches! Traveling to Philippines for Dec. w/family and friends.

KTS (Ukraine): Pray for finances for the school of Women's Leadership; for classes to run through the winter; for protection of students, grads, faculty, and staff; for peace, justice, safety, freedom, unity, and an end to war. Praise KTS and city have enough electricity; for the largest # of active students in KTS history: 774!

ABTS (Lebanon): Pray for peace & protection in the face of threats & violence along the border with Israel; for the Church to be agents of hope & peace