

December 22, 2023

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

“Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”

Luke 2:10-11

This Week

Pastor Jeff preaching, Advent week 4 (Luke 2:1-14):

Why Celebrate?

LOCAL MINISTRY & OUTREACH

Pray that worship, teaching & community will result in spiritual growth; pray for the Spirit’s empowerment for those who lead ministries; for our outreach

Faith Kids, FSM, FIEC: Rest, encouragement, refreshment in time off from leading ministry

Local Outreach: Gospel impact on guests, visitors & seekers in our Christmas services & serving our community with Cru Day of Outreach (Dec 30)

Worship: Hope & joy in our Christmas services

Elders: Larry Reed, Fred Rescorla, Jerry Risser, Nathan Roth

Deacons: Kent Carmer, Ed Stehno

Staff: Brittany Johnson, Kristen King, Claire Kingsley

FAITH FAMILY

Pray for healing, hope, and comfort in Christ; that difficulty would draw people closer to Jesus.

Janna Baker: recovering from neck surgery 11/30

Amy Beattie: sister Kristy – recurring leukemia; stem cell transplant 12/7

David Benschhoff: a procedure, TULSA (transurethral ultrasound ablation) to destroy prostate cancer tissue will be performed at Methodist Hospital on 12/22

Dan Breitwieser: surgery to repair elbow 11/28

Pam Christenson: foot surgery 11/28 to relieve pain

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

Darlene Senisse: unresolved stomach pains with eating

Peg Shrum: recovery from back surgery 11/6

Lew Truex: shoulder replacement rehab

Judith Waggoner: home from hospital; cardiac issues

Nancy Wooden: MDS, blood cancer; stem cell

transplant 10/6, home in lengthy recovery; good blood counts, very fatigued; suppressed immune system.

Chronic Health Concerns:

Pray for encouragement, faith, and perseverance.

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:

Pray that the Church will remember and care for those who are absent in body.

Doris Craig, Frances Dawes (Brownsburg), Ethel Ewing (Maple Park, Westfield), Joe/Nell Fitzgerald (Stratford); Norm Hughey (Woodland Terrace), Phyllis Irwin, Jimmye 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:

Pray for their protection, wisdom, and witness

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

Pray that God will open doors of ministry, blessing partnerships & friendships; that God's people will be led by the Spirit and recognize open-door opportunities; that God will remove barriers and lead people to hearts ready to receive his Word; for encouragement & endurance.

Randy & Valerie (YFC, Southeast Asia): Pray for those coming to Christ thru YFC in S Asia being attacked, homes and possessions destroyed; strength for Randy and other leaders to sustain the heavy workload. Praise for those sharing their faith and for new believers!

Mark & Charlene Canada (MDE): Pray for personnel and funds for the growth and development of MDE and the gospel witness it brings to people who need Jesus.

Lee & Pam Christenson (Wycliffe): Direction for serving church and community; staffing needs, guidance 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): Grateful to be in the U.S., and will be at Faith Church 12/17. Praise for strong financial support in December!

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 for being able to speak in local high schools and invite students to follow up events - 80 heard the Gospel, 7 came to youth group; Winter Camp in January, team of 4 from Faith Church going to support.

Scott & Lisa Hicks (Barnabas International): Praise for Scott's trip to Egypt to provide consultation, counseling, teaching and training! Pray for the many global workers he counsels via Zoom.

Ruth Hubbard (InterVarsity): One month of sabbatical left, thankful for "resetting" some things and for rest; experiencing better sleep. Praise for a church home, pray for making friends and finding ways to serve; dad (95) in hospital; peace of heart and mind.

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): 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): Coaching Cru City staff to follow their callings, Bible studies with ESL students. Praise that one Hindu student recently received Christ! Planning to take a short-term trip to Cuba in Feb.

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!

Mark Slaughter (InterVarsity): Pray for those who responded to the gospel this year and for the impact of mentoring young leaders. Strong giving in December!

Kathi Small (TEAM, Guatemala): Semester finished, now preparing for doctoral group meeting in Jan. & classes. Pray for Kathi's student, Silvia Mendoza, on a 2-month mission trip in Mexico - for safety and openness to what God is teaching her.

Isaac & Jenn Stough (YFC, Spain): In midst of 6-month furlough in U.S. Pray for wisdom balancing activities and sabbatical rest; for João to know God's grace/follow Jesus; Elena (recently baptized) to love Jesus/know He is always near; Raquel to have a job that aligns with her passions & calling.

KTS (Ukraine): Seminary not damaged by recent rocket attacks! Pray for protection of staff and campus, peace in Ukraine, for nearly 100 from KTS serving on the front line including Vitaliy Mariash; for wisdom on opening of branch campuses, for operational funds for seminary ministry in 2024; completion of shelter on campus.

ABTS (Lebanon): Pray for peace & protection in the increased threats & violence along the border with Israel; for the Church to be agents of hope & peace; for students and graduates serving in dangerous places