

## ...Engaging in the Spiritual Discipline of Seeking God through Prayer

*“You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29:13*

Thank you for committing to pray for our denomination as we prepare for this year's Annual Conference. Whether or not you plan to attend conference, your participation in these weeks of guided prayer is powerful and effective as we come together for the common purpose of proclaiming Christ and reclaiming passion.

We have noted four spiritual disciplines which we hope you will employ often as you use this calendar. We hope you will choose to engage frequently in these, and other prayer disciplines you have found meaningful, throughout these weeks of prayer. Your time will be well spent.

There are several days on the calendar where you will see a symbol encouraging all to participate on the same day in a particular discipline for the day. We realize that personal circumstances may make it difficult to follow through with the suggested activity. If that is the case we encourage you to find a day that is more possible for you.



**Fast...** Choose one day a week, or one meal on a regular basis, to focus on the consumption of spiritual food rather than physical. If fasting from all food is not an option for you, choose a fast from a particular food that will leave a void for you to fill with the nourishment of God. In addition to food, a 'fast' from all media is very effective, using that time to focus on feeding your mind with the things of God rather than the things of this world.



**Meditate on Scripture...**

Read the scripture several times, allowing silence between the readings for God to speak. What grabbed your attention in this passage? How are you hearing God speak to you? How are you called toward transformation?



**Worship...** Spend time in personal worship. Dedicate time during your day to focus on adoration and praise of God.



**Silence...** Spend intentional time in prolonged silence, even as you move from your private time of prayer through your day's commitments. That intentional silence keeps the door open even wider for God's voice to be heard in your Spirit

# Uniting in Prayer



*So if anyone is in Christ there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!  
2 Cor. 5:17*



*Continuing the work of Jesus.  
Peacefully. Simply. Together.*

<b>May 5-11 – Profess God’s Incarnation in Christ: Living Faith</b>	
<b>SUN – Read: Isaiah 42:1-9</b>	<b>Pray...</b> Praise God for being incarnate in Jesus Christ, and for providing for the living faith we can claim because of God’s immeasurable, divine, all-encompassing love.
<b>MON – Read: Isaiah 40:1-11; John 1:19-34</b>	<b>Pray...</b> that the Word of God, made manifest through the life of Christ Jesus, would be proclaimed, bringing peace and transformation to all. Pray for the boldness to proclaim it.
<b>TUES – Read: Hebrews 4:14-16; Romans 8:26-30</b>	<b>Pray...</b> Rejoice in the invitation to come to God’s throne of grace. Thank God for the gift of Jesus and the Holy Spirit, bringing us each into the privilege of priesthood. 
<b>WED – Read: John 16:25-33; 1 Peter 1:3-9</b>	<b>Pray...</b> that your congregation will experience and testify to a genuine faith that overcomes the trials and hardships of this world and for new ways your congregation can share that genuine faith with your community.
<b>THURS – Read: Matthew 16:13-20</b>	<b>Pray...</b> that the work of your district would be solidly founded on a confession of Christ and for unity around that primary confession of faith.
<b>FRI – Read: Hebrews 11:1-3,12:1-2</b>	<b>Pray...</b> for the CoB denomination to persevere in the faith, proclaiming incarnational presence, the heavy price paid by Jesus Christ on the cross, the miracle of the resurrection, and our eternal hope.
<b>SAT – Read: John 1:1-18</b>	<b>Pray...</b> that we embrace the opportunity to boldly share the story of our faith in Jesus, who embodied God’s unquenchable light, as well as the courage to give “grace upon grace” to all.

<b>May 12-18 – Self Examination through the Spirit: Willing Heart</b>	
<b>SUN – Read: Psalm 139:1-18</b>	<b>Pray...</b> for a renewed and deepening awareness that God knows you intimately and God’s Spirit is ever present. Things hidden from all are evident and known by God. 
<b>MON – Read: Psalm 139:23-24; Luke 18:9-14</b>	<b>Pray...</b> for a willing heart, open to be searched by God, and for a heart humble and ready to receive what is revealed.
<b>TUES – Read: John 12:23-26; Romans 12:1-2</b>	<b>Pray...</b> for insight. Have you loved/conformed to the world in ways that keep Christ’s transforming power from being seen in your life? In what ways is your life one of ongoing sacrifice and worship?
<b>WED – Read: Romans 12:3-8</b>	<b>Pray...</b> for insight. Where does your congregation need to be strengthened to be a well-tuned “body in Christ”? What part of the body are you? What is your role in that strengthening?
<b>THURS – Read: John 15:1-11; Galatians 5:22-23</b>	<b>Pray...</b> for the fruit of the Spirit to be evident in the life of your district and for strengthening in the areas where your district falls short.
<b>FRI – Read: Romans 12:9-21</b>	<b>Pray...</b> for insight. Where are you failing to demonstrate these attitudes in relation to the greater CoB community? Where do we as the CoB denomination need to experience transformation in relation to these attitudes?
<b>SAT – Read: Luke 5:1-11; 1 John 1:8-9</b>	<b>Pray...</b> that we might recognize our unworthiness to be in the presence of Christ’s holiness and that we allow Christ to restore that worthiness and accept the task he has called us to. 

<b>May 19-25 – Repentance: Turning from...Turning toward</b>	
<b>[SUN – Read: Jeremiah 18:1-8; Matthew 4:12-17</b>	<b>Pray...</b> Consider how, through scripture, God has consistently called us to turn FROM evil TO Kingdom living. Are you like clay, willing to be turned from things not of God to a life full of God’s holiness?
<b>MON – Read: Isaiah 64</b>	<b>Pray...</b> for insight around God’s call for repentance, wrapped in a perfectly powerful, merciful love. Can you trust that love, opening your heart to full and free repentance?
<b>TUES – Read: Proverbs 28:13; 1 John 1:5-10</b>	<b>Pray...</b> hearing God’s call for us to turn from darkness to light, seeking those areas in your life where darkness prevails. What steps will you take to turn and walk toward the light? 
<b>WED – Read: James 5:13-19</b>	<b>Pray...</b> for an atmosphere of authentic community, openness, and compassion in your congregation where confession and repentance to one another is a reality. Pray also for a strengthening of your congregational prayer ministry.
<b>THURS – Read: Philippians 2:1-11</b>	<b>Pray...</b> for a spirit of repentance in your district as you become emptied of all selfish ambition and strife, exalting Christ above all else. Pray also that together we have the mind of Christ.
<b>FRI – Read: Revelation 2:1-7</b>	<b>Pray...</b> that we, as a denomination, will enter a place of true repentance, turning from that which has taken us away from our first love, Jesus Christ and his call to discipleship.
<b>SAT – Read: Psalm 51</b>	<b>Pray...</b> to be in a place of humble repentance, asking God to create in you a clean heart, experiencing the joy of God’s salvation provided through Christ. Are you a consistent witness to others of this joy? 

<b>May 26-June 1 – Forgiveness: A Gift Received and Given</b>	
<b>SUN – Read: Psalm 103; Isaiah 1:18</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> Praise God for the blessing of mercy and forgiveness divinely demonstrated throughout scripture. Pray for an ever deepening understanding of God’s love and grace.	
<b>MON – Read: John 3:16-21; 1 John 1</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> that the light brought into the world through Christ’s work of redemption would eliminate the darkness in hearts, bringing all to know God’s forgiveness and new birth.	
<b>TUES – Read: Matthew 26:27-28; Ephesians 1:3-10</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> for insight. Have you accepted the gift of grace and forgiveness from God through Jesus Christ? Are you growing in understanding and gratitude for that forgiveness and redemption?	
<b>WED – Read: Matthew 6:9-15; 18:21-35</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> for relationships within your congregation where brokenness exists and forgiveness is not fully present. Pray for the willingness to forgive each other over and over.	
<b>THURS – Read: Ephesians 4:25-5:2</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> for insight. When in the life of your district has bitterness, anger, and malice torn us down? Pray that love, grace, and forgiveness will triumph over division, strife, and contempt, and that you will be part of building up the body of Christ.	
<b>FRI – Read: Luke 24:32,44-49; Acts 2:37-41</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> that as the CoB denomination, our hearts would burn for Christ and we would be “cut to the heart” with the truth of our need for forgiveness, bringing a fresh pouring of the Holy Spirit on us.	
<b>SAT – Read: 2 Chronicles 7:14; Colossians 3:1-17</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> that you are willing to don the garment of humility, laying aside your superiority and sense of ‘rightness’ so that you may forgive the “other” and live in the fullness in Christ.	

<b>June 2-8 – Reconciliation: God’s Miracle of Mending the Broken</b>	
<b>SUN – Read: Genesis 45:1-5; Luke 15:11-24</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> God calls us beyond forgiveness into reconciliation where we weep in sorrow for what is lost and in joy for restoration. Pray for God’s power to be evident in bringing both weeping and joy where brokenness is transformed by reconciliation.	
<b>MON – Read: Luke 23:35-43; Romans 5:6-11</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> with gratitude for the great sacrifice through which we have been reconciled through Christ, bringing us in full relationship with God.	
<b>TUES – Read: Matthew 5:23-26</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> for insight. Is there someone with whom you must reconcile in order to once again be able to offer your full self and substance to God? Pray for humility and courage to be reconciled.	
<b>WED – Read: Matthew 18:15-17</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> for authentic relationships of accountability in your congregation, where conflict is handled carefully, directly, and expediently so wholeness can be restored.	
<b>THURS – Read: Isaiah 61:1-4; Luke 4:16-21</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> that congregations in your district would join hands to passionately carry out this mission of Christ, to bring reconciling wholeness to the broken and oppressed.	
<b>FRI – Read: Ephesians 2:14-22</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> for peace and reconciliation through Christ to break down any walls of hostility in the CoB. How can you love all of the church well, especially those you understand least.	
<b>SAT – Read: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> that the compelling vision process will help us, a historic peace church, model the true Spirit-empowered ministry of reconciliation with one another and the world.	

<b>June 9-15 – Transformation: Releasing Old; Embracing New</b>	
<b>SUN – Read: Isaiah 58:4-12; Luke 18:9-14</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> Reflect on God’s nature as constant, calling us from pretentious piety as we engage in quarreling, “pointing fingers”, and permitting injustice. Will we become a “spring of water”?	
<b>MON – Read: John 4:7-26</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> with gratitude for the “living water” that, through Christ, transforms us from parched souls into well-watered, fruitful gardens. Pray this living water will transform this day for God’s purpose?	
<b>TUES – Read: Psalm 103:1-5; Romans 12:1-2</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> for insight. How do you conform to the world’s mold, preventing transformation into what God is calling you to do and be? Pray for a willing spirit and for renewal of your mind in Christ.	
<b>WED – Read: Philippians 1:3-11</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> that the transforming work of Christ would continue to grow in your congregation and that our love would overflow more and more, bringing many to Christ.	
<b>THURS – Read: Luke 9:28-36; 2 Cor 3:17-18</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> that we would be conformed to Christ’s image and transformed to his glory. Pray that your district together would reflect the glory of God through all your ministries and interactions.	
<b>FRI – Read: Ezekiel 36:26; Luke 5:35-39</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> that we be prepared to receive a “new garment” for our life together as the CoB and that hearts of stone will be as supple as new wineskins, ready to receive the new wine of the Spirit.	
<b>SAT – Read: Isaiah 43:18-21; 2 Corinthians 5:17-18</b>	
<b>Pray...</b> for insight to discern the new thing--the new creation of God’s hand. God is continually calling us to new work. Pray about how we can answer God’s call to join that new work.	

**June 16-22 – God’s Unity in Christ:  
Invited to Oneness**

**SUN – Read: John 1:1-5; John 3:16-21**  
**Pray...**Reflect on the oneness of God and Christ, and God’s plan to bring us into that oneness. Have you experienced rebirth into the glorious light of that oneness?

**MON – Read: John 17:1-11; Ephesians 2:13-22**  
**Pray...**Rejoice in the love and peace of God through Christ as we are drawn into this relationship of oneness. Pray that walls of hostility will be removed and we will be “built together” in unity with Christ.

**TUES – Read: Philippians 2:1-11**   
**Pray...**for insight. What may be keeping you from oneness with other believers in the Spirit and love of Christ? Pray for the mind of Christ to be present in you and for the receptive will to receive it.

**WED – Read: John 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11**  
**Pray...**that the gifts of all individuals in your congregation would be valued, knowing that the blessing of Christ each gift into abundance for the kingdom.

**THURS – Psalm 133; Ephesians 4:1-15**  
**Pray...**for unity in your district. Do you bring a spirit of humility, gentleness, patience, and peace to relationships within your district? How do you help bring the “oil” of unity to the church?

**FRI – Read: John 15:12-17; Romans 12:9-21**   
**Pray...**that genuine love, as called for by Christ, will be present in each of us as we strive to find unity as a denomination. Pray that you will grow in love and compassion where pride and vengeance lurk in your spirit.

**SAT – Read: John 17:20-26**  
**Pray...**that we in the CoB will join in the oneness lovingly created by God for us, so that “by the manner of our living” Christ is made known to the w

**June 23-29 – Missional Church:  
A Witness for the Reign of God**

**SUN – Read: Psalm 96:1-6; Matthew 28:16-20**  
**Pray...**Reflect on the call to declare God’s glory to all nations. Praise God for the clear mission given to us through Christ. Give thanks for the faithful presence of Christ in our lives.

**MON – Read: Micah 6:8; Matthew 22:36-40**  
**Pray...**for a heart that is prepared for mission... loving God and neighbor, walking humbly, embracing mercy, and acting justly. Pray for wisdom to love well.

**TUES – Read: Amos 5:21-24; Luke 18:18-29**  
**Pray...**for a greater sense of understanding about and conviction for how God is calling you to authentically give of yourself for the mission of Christ’s kingdom.

**WED – Read: Matthew 5:1-14**   
**Pray...**for your congregation to be salt and light in your community. Pray for the “be-attitude” of Christ to be evident to all who you touch.

**THURS – Read: Luke 4:16-21; Luke 9:1-6**  
**Pray...**for the ministerial leadership in your district. Pray for more individuals to be called. Pray for the name of someone you can encourage toward that calling and plan to speak with them.

**FRI – Read: Micah 6:8; Matthew 25:31-46**  
**Pray...**for a new passion to serve all as we would serve Jesus. Pray that our vision as a denomination would fulfill the Christ’s call to compassion and self-sacrifice, bringing hope in the face of the deep spiritual and physical needs around us.

**SAT – Read: Acts 1:6-11; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21**   
**Pray...**for the Holy Spirit to equip us to be ambassadors in the ministry of reconciliation, leading many to be reconciled to God, to one another, and to all of creation, bringing the peace of Christ to our broken world.

**June 30-July 6  
Annual Conference**

**SUN – Mark 10:41-45; Philippians 2:1-11**  
**Pray...**for the leadership of Annual Conference and all the individuals who arrive early to prepare for our week.

**MON – Colossians 1:3-14**  
**Pray...**for Standing Committee, the representatives from each district who meet to consider the work of the delegates as well as other matters that impact our life together.

**TUES – Isaiah 40:27-31**  
**Pray...**for the Compelling Vision Process Team as they make their final preparations for conversations with the delegate and nondelegate body.

**WED – Ephesians 4:1-6**   
**Pray...**for each Annual Conference participant, that God’s Spirit would be preparing each heart for the days to come. Proclaim Christ as love, reclaim passion for our oneness in him.

**THURS – John 15:1-11**  
**Pray...**Proclaim Christ as redeemer, reclaim passion for his redemption in every area of our lives. Pray that the work of our hands this week would be redeemed for God’s purpose.

**FRI – John 14:27; Matthew 5:9; James 3:13-18**  
**Pray...**Proclaim Christ as Peace, reclaim passion for his peace to reign in our relationships with one another. Pray for us to become a denomination that models the peace of Christ in miraculous ways.

**SAT – John 13:1-17**   
**Pray...**Proclaim Christ as servant, reclaim passion for serving one another and the world with humility and grace. Pray that we will go from this place with a new sense of hope and purpose, joined under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.