

PRAYER GUIDE

Friday, February 3 **PRAY FOR FOREST BAPTIST CHURCH**

- Pray for continued unity, spiritual renewal and growth.
- Pray that we would be a caring, hospitable, and welcoming church family.
- Pray for passionate, Spirit-driven pastors-elders, deacons, and ministry leaders.
- Pray for those in our church family that are struggling physically, emotionally, and spiritually.
- Pray for strong, healthy marriages and families.
- Pray that we as a church family would boldly share the gospel.
- Pray for the Spirit's leading in all our ministries – that people would come to faith in Christ and be disciplined well.
- Pray for our children to have eyes opened to the truth of the gospel.

Verse of the Day: praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, Ephesians 6:18

Remember: “I pray because I can’t help myself. I pray because I’m helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. It doesn’t change God. It changes me.” – C.S. Lewis

Saturday, February 4 **PRAY FOR PERSECUTED CHURCH**

- Pray that persecuted Christians will understand and find peace in the sufficiency of God’s grace, even in their weaknesses.
- Pray that in the midst of persecution, the church will be strengthened and continue to grow.
- Pray that these believers will have access to God’s Word.
- Pray that their persecutors will come to know Christ.
- Open Doors Canada publishes each month a prayer guide for the needs around the world.

Verse of the Day: but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:31

Remember: “Prayer is not preparation for the battle; prayer is the battle.”
– Brother Andrew



***... these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house
of prayer; their burnt offerings and their
sacrifices will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of
prayer for all peoples.” – Isaiah 56:7***

Fourteen Days of Prayer

January 22 – February 4, 2023

Why Fourteen Days of Prayer?

It is our conviction that prayer is fundamental to everything we do. If we aren't praying, we're just spinning our wheels in religious activity. We can do nothing without the power of God working in and through us, which is why we see the early church gathering often to pray. Jesus set the example for us in His own prayer life. And in Matthew 6 and Luke 11 we can find a model prayer He used to teach His disciples to pray.

While we read in Isaiah of God's desire for His house to be seen as a house of prayer, Matthew confirms this desire in a statement made in Matthew 21:13, He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you make it a den of robbers."

Sunday, January 22 **PRAY FOR A CLEAN HEART**

- Pray that the Holy Spirit would reveal sin in your life and that you would have a heart that seeks after holiness.
- Pray that we would be humble people before the Lord, that He would break any pride we have in our lives.
- Thank the Lord for new life through Jesus Christ.
- Pray for a renewed passion for the Lord and for a hunger and thirst for righteousness.

Verse of the Day: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Psalm 51:10

Remember: “Repentance must never be thought of as something we must do before we can come back to God. Repentance describes what coming to God is. You can’t turn towards God without turning from the things He is against.” — David Guzik

Monday, January 23 **PRAY FOR A HEART OF GRATITUDE**

- Thank the Lord for what He’s going to do in your heart and through these fourteen days of prayer.
- Thank the Lord for His grace and mercy in your life, and for setting you free through Christ’s work on the cross.
- Thank the Lord for those people who have impacted your life.
- Count your blessings and name them (literally, name them) one by one.

Verse of the Day: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name! Psalm 100:4

Remember: “We need to discover all over again that worship is natural to the Christian, as it was to the godly Israelites who wrote the psalms, and that the habit of celebrating the greatness and graciousness of God yields an endless flow of thankfulness, joy, and zeal.” –J.I. Packer

Tuesday, January 24 **PRAY FOR A LOVING HEART**

- Ask God to give you love, for your neighbours.
- Pray for a growing love for your spouse and your family.
- Pray for restoration in strained or broken relationships.
- Ask God how you can show self-sacrificial love to someone else this week (but only if you’re willing to follow His Spirit’s leading when He tells you).

Verses of the Day And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” Mark 12:30-31

Remember: “Is what I’m about to say kind? Is it true? Is it necessary?”

- Amy Carmichael

Tuesday, January 31 **PRAY FOR FOREST AND LAMBTON SHORES**

- Pray for FBC and other evangelical churches, that serve the area. For example, Pinery Baptist, Elim Bible Chapel and Forest Bible Chapel.
- Ask our Lord to soften hearts toward the Gospel message.
- Pray for opportunities to impact Forest and Lambton Shores with the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Pray for church family who volunteer in the community.

Verse of the Day: And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, Hebrews 10:24

Remember: “The life function of [the local church] is to love the God who created it – to care for others out of obedience to Christ, to heal those who hurt, to take away fear, to restore community, to belong to one another, to proclaim the Good News while living it out. The church is the invisible made visible.” -Charles Colson

Wednesday, February 1 **PRAY FOR NEWCOMERS TO CANADA**

- Ask God for a heart that truly cares for those who have recently chosen Canada as their new home.
- Pray for those who may be lonely in this new home.
- Ask God how you may help, to walk alongside them in this journey.
- Pray that they will be able to learn the new language and find employment.
- Ask God to raise up believers who will be willing to help these newcomers learn conversational English and to be a witness.

Verse of the Day: Beloved, it is a faithful thing you do in all your efforts for these brothers, strangers as they are, who testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on their journey in a manner worthy of God.

3 John 1:5

Remember: “First and foremost, every human being is made in the image of God. Christians must start here, and therefore may never write off or refuse to care about the plight of whole peoples on any basis,” – John Stonestreet

Thursday, February 2 **PRAY FOR OUR WORLD**

- Pray for peace in our world, for countries such as Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Columbia, Ethiopia, Libya, Mali, Myanmar, Russia, Somalia, Syria, Ukraine and Yemen. Plus, many other armed conflicts.
- Pray for our missionaries who have gone out into the world. Ask the Lord to make their ministries effective and pray for protection.
- Pray for the people they minister to, that God will draw many to Himself.

Verse of the Day: You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Isaiah 26:3

Remember: “If a commission by an earthly king is considered an honour, how can a commission by a Heavenly King be considered a sacrifice?”

- David Livingstone

Saturday, January 28 **PRAY FOR OUR COMMUNITY LEADERS**

- Pray for our local leaders, that God would give them wisdom and that they might have the boldness to do good not evil.

Mayor Doug Cook, Deputy Mayor Dan Sageman and Councillors, Glen Baillie, Dave Maguire, Lorie Scott, Ronn E Dodge, Scott Ferguson, Dave Marsh and Jeff Wilcox.

- Pray that they would be humble seeking to put others first.
- Pray for our local OPP officers and local volunteer fire services.

Verses of the Day: First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. 1 Timothy 2:1-2

Remember: Let me suggest, then, that we not complain about election results but instead begin praying for God's will to be done here on earth as it is being done in heaven. - Lifeway Research

Sunday, January 29 **PRAY FOR OUR PROVINCE AND COUNTRY**

- Pray for Prime Minister Trudeau, Premier Ford, and for our local representatives Lianne Rood, MP and Monte McNaughton, MPP
- Pray for wisdom as they make decisions.
- Pray for their salvation or
- Pray for boldness for Christians who serve in the government

Verses of the Day: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you. For kingship belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations. Psalm 22:27-28

Remember: "Jesus' kingdom absolutely does affect this world, over which He has declared total sovereignty, and in which He holds individuals and governments accountable for administering justice and punishing violence against the innocent (see Genesis 9:6)." - Abraham Kuyper

Monday, January 30 **PRAY FOR OUR SCHOOL CHILDREN**

- Pray that they will stand for what's right instead of what's easy but wrong.
- Give them enough success to be certain of Your love for them, enough favour to be aware of Your kindness, but enough humility to know that they can do nothing worthwhile without You.
- Give them the power to live in a way that honours You.
- Lord, inspire our children with meaningful life interests.

Verse of the Day: Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

Remember: "We must make sure our kids understand the Christian faith as more than a set of beliefs and behaviours. Instead, they need to know that a competing vision of life demands their deepest allegiance and grounds their identity." - John Stonestreet

Wednesday, January 25 **PRAY FOR A PURE HEART**

- As you pray and fast today, ask God to mould you into becoming more like Jesus in every way. Pray for pure and holy thoughts and desires.
- Ask God for a growing discontentment with your sinful desires, so that your heart would long for more of Christ.
- Pray that your life will be a living sacrifice to God.

Verses of the Day:

As a deer pants for flowing streams,
so pants my soul for you, O God.
My soul thirsts for God,
for the living God.

When shall I come and appear before God? Psalm 42:1-2

Remember: "You will never know Jesus Christ as a reality in your life until you know him as a necessity." - Alistair Begg

Thursday, January 26 **PRAY FOR UNITY**

- Pray that the Holy Spirit would allow our church to remain unified in our mission.
- Pray that we would be humble seeking to put others first.
- Pray that our love for one another would guide our decision-making.
- Pray specifically that actions of unity and love will be seen as a witness to the community we are called to serve.

Verse of the Day: Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. 2 Corinthians 13:11

Remember: "Within the church, it is possible for believers to possess a profound unity based on a shared commitment to Biblical truth, an intimate knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ, and a deep level of spiritual maturity." - John F. MacArthur Jr

Friday, January 27 **PRAY FOR A HEART FOR EVANGELISM**

- Pray for boldness to share your faith.
- Pray for our church family who have spouses and children that are not saved.
- Make a list of three people you can pray for this year.
- Pray for opportunities to speak into the lives of your neighbours, friends and relatives who need to know Jesus.
- Think of practical ways to express Jesus' love to others who are lost.

Verse of the Day: But in your hearts honour the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, 1 Peter 3:15

Remember: "We ought to be living as if Jesus died yesterday, rose this morning, and is coming back this afternoon." - Adrian Rogers

Morning Dedication

Almighty God, as I cross the threshold of this day I commit myself, soul, body, affairs, friends, to Your care. Watch over, keep, guide, direct, sanctify, bless me. Incline my heart to Your ways. Mould me wholly into the image of Jesus, as a potter forms clay. May my lips be a well-tuned harp to sound Your praise. Let those around see me living by Your Spirit, trampling the world underfoot, unconformed to lying vanities, transformed by a renewed mind, clad in the entire armour of God, shining as a never-dimmed light, showing holiness in all my doings. Let no evil this day soil my thoughts, words, hands. May I travel miry paths with a life pure from spot or stain. In needful transactions let my affection be in heaven, and my love soar upwards in flames of fire, my gaze fixed on unseen things, my eyes open to the emptiness, fragility, mockery of earth and its vanities. May I view all things in the mirror of eternity, waiting for the coming of my Lord, listening for the last trumpet call, hastening unto the new heaven and earth. Order this day all my communications according to Your wisdom, and to the gain of mutual good. Forbid that I should not be profited or made profitable. May I speak each word as if my last word and walk each step as my final one. If my life should end today, let this be my best day.

Open source: [The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers & Devotions](#), edited by Arthur Bennett.

How to Approach God in Prayer

But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

James 1:6-8

There is a kind of prayer that receives nothing from God.

It is the prayer of the doubter, the one who does not “ask in faith.” When James says we are to make our requests to God “with no doubting,” he’s not saying we must never have any uncertainty or confusion in our minds, ever. To doubt in the sense that James uses the term here is more than simply saying, “I am struggling to be certain about this” or “I know this to be true but sometimes I wonder”; it is a refusal to entrust ourselves to our Father’s care. It is to make a back-up plan that relies on our efforts even as we ask God for His intervention, or to ask for something that deep down we do not really want.

How to Approach God in Prayer (continued)

J.B. Phillips paraphrases this verse in a helpful way: “He must ask in sincere faith without secret doubts as to whether he really wants God’s help or not.” James is addressing the issue of divided loyalty, describing the doubter as one whose prayers and desires are clearly at odds with each other. This person comes before God and asks for things that he or she has no intention of doing, much as the great 5th-century theologian Augustine famously prayed prior to his conversion: “Lord, make me pure, but not yet.”

God knows when we are simply playing the game, using the language, and singing the song without any desire to match our lives to our words. He knows whether we really want His help or are reserving the right to do what we feel like doing if His wisdom doesn’t lead us in the direction we naturally desire. Faith says no to this kind of hypocrisy, which prays for wisdom but acts in foolishness. The faith James describes is therefore more than comprehension; it is an expression of trust and devotion.

Honesty lies at the heart of any genuine appeal, whether to an earthly father or our heavenly Father. When you come before God, you must “draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith” (Hebrews 10:22). With this kind of sincerity, you will make it clear in your own soul and to God that you are trusting Him to be faithful to His promises and that you are serious about acting on whatever wisdom He provides. In what area of your life are you particularly aware that you need God’s wisdom? Entrust yourself to your heavenly Father and be ready to follow His guidance, so that you will walk steady in your faith and joy, and not be tossed about by the wind.

“Copyright Truth For Life. Used with Permission. www.truthforlife.org.”

<https://truthforlife.org/devotionals/alistair-begg/3/29/2021/>

- Alistair Begg

“You cannot open the pages of the New Testament without realizing that one of the things that makes it so ‘new,’ in every way, is that here men and women call God ‘Father.’ This conviction, that we can speak of the Master of the universe in such intimate terms, lies at the heart of the Christian faith.”

— Sinclair Ferguson

Sunday School Teachers

Henderike Vanwieren
Jody Ferguson
Colby Ferguson
Marion Swain
Sylvia Burgin
Nora Gordon
Sam Gordon
Becky Gordon
Erin Gordon
Laura Campbell
Sue Kennedy
Lenore Cates

Adult Sunday School

Paul Montgomery
Frank Swoboda

Ministry Leaders

AiM -Crystal Lofgren
Community Closet -Marnie Montgomery
Family Life -Dave & Laura Campbell
Guest Workers -Graeme Wallace
Elders Joy Luncheon -Keith & Lynda Karr
Kids Club -Dave & Laura Campbell
Missions -Loring Swain
Men's Ministry -Jim Snyder
Neighbourlink -Bryon Sparling
Nursery -Beth Woods
VBS -Nora Gordon
Willing Hands -Hilda Cornell
Women's Ministry -June Dalgity
Youth Group -Bob & Morgan Menkveld

Elders

Paul Montgomery
Matt Ferguson
Paul Lofgren
Bryon Sparling
Frank Swoboda

Deacons

Keith Karr
Toby Burgin
Dave Campbell
Phil Campbell
John Ferwerda
Brian Lofgren

Staff

Pastor Mark and Sue Kennedy - Pastor of Pastoral Care and Outreach
Pastor Robert and Marjorie Leyland – Interim Pastor
Donna and Sandy Buuchanan – Church Secretary
Nadiia Serediuk – Building Care

Ephesians 3:14-21

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Missionaries

Baan, Jason & Erin and Cadi, Griffin, Akeelah, Keira, Evangeline
Saskatchewan, Canada Ethnos. Administration and curriculum development.

Dewberry, Ben & Alicia and Alex, Levi, Avery, Ethan, Jose, Sofia, Tao, Zion
Belize, Central America Foster Care, Family Preservation

El Palmar Baptist Church
Manta, Ecuador. Partner Church

Guest Worker's Ministry
Local outreach with Spanish-speaking migrant workers.

Lundeen, James & Jenneka and Zeb
Tanzania, Pioneer Bible Translators. Translation work for the Nyamwezi
people. Currently on furlough in Canada.

Montgomery, Nathan & Sarah and Hannah, Jasmine, Aliyah, Lauren
Kampala, Uganda, Mission Aviation Fellowship East DRC. Airplane
maintenance and involvement in a local church.

Schafer, Samuel & Bonita and Joshua, Caleb
Cologne, Germany, CrossWorld. Local outreach and ministry support.

Continue to remember Mike and Cindy Schmidt in their transition. They were
missionaries with the Christian Missionary Alliance.

2 Chronicles 14:11

And Asa cried to the Lord his God, "O Lord, there is none like you to help, between the mighty and the weak. Help us, O Lord our God, for we rely on you, and in your name we have come against this multitude. O Lord, you are our God; let not man prevail against you."

James 4:10

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Hannah's Prayer

1 Samuel 2

1 And Hannah prayed and said,

***"My heart exults in the Lord;
my horn is exalted in the Lord.
My mouth derides my enemies,
because I rejoice in your salvation.***

***2 "There is none holy like the Lord:
for there is none besides you;
there is no rock like our God.***

***3 Talk no more so very proudly,
let not arrogance come from your mouth;
for the Lord is a God of knowledge,
and by him actions are weighed.***

***4 The bows of the mighty are broken,
but the feeble bind on strength.***

***5 Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread,
but those who were hungry have ceased to hunger.
The barren has borne seven,
but she who has many children is forlorn.***

***6 The Lord kills and brings to life;
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.***

***7 The Lord makes poor and makes rich;
he brings low and he exalts.***

***8 He raises up the poor from the dust;
he lifts the needy from the ash heap
to make them sit with princes
and inherit a seat of honor.***

***For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's,
and on them he has set the world.***

***9 "He will guard the feet of his faithful ones,
but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness,
for not by might shall a man prevail.***

***10 The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces;
against them he will thunder in heaven.
The Lord will judge the ends of the earth;
he will give strength to his king
and exalt the horn of his anointed."***