

May 21, 2017

Prayer is one of the ways we communicate with God. It is conversation - talking together - listening together - with a generous, caring Friend.

Prayer conversation with God can be many things. It can be:

- praising God's great goodness,
- asking for a particular need to be answered,
- listening to God or listening for God's message or response,
- wrestling and questioning God about a problem we have,
- requesting God's wisdom or presence or healing or . . . ,
- questioning and challenging God,
- thanking God for life or blessings or . . . , and on.

Our congregation has a Prayer Chain Ministry that is praying for your prayer requests. You are invited to fill in the prayer request card on the back of the Welcome card, fill in your prayer request and either put it in the offering plate or give it directly to Pastor Wendee. Following worship, a member of the Prayer Ministry Team will collect the prayer requests, will give Pastor Wendee a list of all the requests and will email them to the Prayer Chain who will pray for your request through the week. Please be sure to check the box(es) designating how and where you want your prayer request(s) shared. Thank you for the privilege of allowing us to share in your life through prayer.

You are invited to pray for the following prayer requests:

- From Kathie S - Please pray for comfort and peace for my brother Tom who buried our father yesterday in Stephenson, MI.
- From Kathie S - Please pray for my husband Brian who lost his beloved Uncle Dan, who passed away on Friday from cancer. We will be attending his funeral in Chicago on Tuesday.
- From Kathie S - Prayers for those who spent Mother's Day alone this year and for those mothers whose children choose not to include them in their lives.
- From our conference office - The Rev. Thomas LaChapelle died Wednesday, May 10, 2017. Tom was a retired clergy member of the Wisconsin Conference who served at South Wayne-Woodford, Neillsville-Granton, Black River Falls-Trout Run, Waupun, Barron: First, and Durand.
- From Bonnie C – for her uncle George who is dealing with a cancer diagnosis
- From Joan K – for Val & Diana J, Diana's brother Tom passed away so shortly after their mom also passed away
- From Paula S – for neighbor Kevin who is fighting brain cancer
- From Irina S – Sarah who has been fighting cancer
- From our District Office: please pray for Brookfield: Peace UMC, their pastor Scott Walters, and their 226 members
- for our shut-ins: Dorothy S, Eileen S, Marilyn S, Gwen S, Louise L, Jean F, Dave and Jeanne H, Marge D, Pat S, Donna S, Eleanor P, Jean B
- Prayers of celebration for anniversaries, birthdays, and other special occasions

Luke 7:36-50

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

A Sinful Woman Forgiven

³⁶ One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. ³⁷ And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. ³⁸ She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment.

³⁹ Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner." ⁴⁰ Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "speak."

⁴¹ "A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?"

⁴³ Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus said to him, "You have judged rightly."

⁴⁴ Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. ⁴⁵ You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶ You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. ⁴⁷ Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little."

⁴⁸ Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." ⁴⁹ But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" ⁵⁰ And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."