

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.

Prayer is one of the ways we communicate with God.

It is conversation – talking together - listening together - with a generous, caring Friend.

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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 Jean B, who was entangled in a phone scam recently. Jean did not lose any money but did spend time and effort caught in the scam. She requested that we be vigilant that when someone calls and asks us to do things like drive to a store, purchase gift cards, give our bank account numbers, etc. that we think twice and hang up.
- From Andrew S, for all animals in our world.
- From Jen S, for all students returning to school. May all of them find caring, support, and friendship.
- For those affected by Hurricane Dorian.
- For those who are affected by the civil unrest in Hong Kong and the violence in Syria. May peace prevail.
- For the beginning of the Christian school year. May we encounter God's grace and love through studying the biblical text and sharing in Christian fellowship.
- For the church in its mission to share the good news.
- Shut-ins: Dorothy S, Eileen S, Gwen S, Earle D, Dave and Jeanne H, Pat and Rod S, Donna S, Walt M.
- Prayers of celebration for anniversaries, birthdays, and other special occasions.

***Please note: Prayer concerns have been generalized for privacy.**

September 8, 2019

1 Thessalonians 5:12-28 The Message (MSG)

The Way He Wants You to Live

¹²⁻¹³ And now, friends, we ask you to honor those leaders who work so hard for you, who have been given the responsibility of urging and guiding you along in your obedience. Overwhelm them with appreciation and love!

¹³⁻¹⁵ Get along among yourselves, each of you doing your part. Our counsel is that you warn the freeloaders to get a move on. Gently encourage the stragglers, and reach out for the exhausted, pulling them to their feet. Be patient with each person, attentive to individual needs. And be careful that when you get on each other's nerves you don't snap at each other. Look for the best in each other, and always do your best to bring it out.

¹⁶⁻¹⁸ Be cheerful no matter what; pray all the time; thank God no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live.

¹⁹⁻²² Don't suppress the Spirit, and don't stifle those who have a word from the Master. On the other hand, don't be gullible. Check out everything, and keep only what's good. Throw out anything tainted with evil.

²³⁻²⁴ May God himself, the God who makes everything holy and whole, make you holy and whole, put you together—spirit, soul, and body—and keep you fit for the coming of our Master, Jesus Christ. The One who called you is completely dependable. If he said it, he'll do it!

²⁵⁻²⁷ Friends, keep up your prayers for us. Greet all the followers of Jesus there with a holy embrace. And make sure this letter gets read to all the brothers and sisters. Don't leave anyone out.

²⁸ The amazing grace of Jesus Christ be with you!

Our Staff:

Nursery Attendant	Christina M
Preschool Director	Kara P
Altar Choir Director	Shelly S
Bell Choir Director	Shelly S
Choir Accompanist	Laurie S
Organist	Todd A
Administrative Assist.	
Custodian	Amy P
+Retired Pastor	Rev. Christal B
Pastor	Rev. Wendee Nitz

Assisting In Worship:

Liturgist	Rev. Christal B
Ushers	Joanne M
Greeters	Jerry & Christal B
Prelude Music	Debbie S
Counters	Jane E & Carole
Unlocking	Janet P
Refreshments	Brunch Potluck
Nursery Assistant	Emily S

Calendar:

Sunday – September 8 – Rally Day

9:00am	Worship
10:00am	Brunch
10:30 am	Sunday School

Monday – September 9

9:00 am	Preschool
6:30 pm	Trustees
7:00 pm	Staff Parish
7:00pm	AA

Tuesday – September 10

9:00 am	Preschool
1:00 pm	Living The Questions
6:30 pm	Building Community

Wednesday – September 11

9:00 am	Preschool
6:00 pm	Disciple Fast Track
7:30pm	Altar Choir

Thursday – September 12

9:00am	Preschool
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Friday – September 13

Saturday – September 14

Sunday – September 15

9:00am	Worship
10:00am	Fellowship
10:30 am	Christian Education

Volunteers Needed | There are a number of ways you can help. See the signup sheets in the Friendship Room to volunteer for Liturgist, Usher, Greeter, Refreshments, Our Harmony, etc.

Rides Needed to Church | Joanne M needs a ride to church on Sundays. If you can help please tell her to add you to her contact as needed list.

Cathedral Center | Joanne M is looking for a co-chair. We feed the homeless at Cathedral Center once a month April - October. Let her know if you would like to help.

Altar Choir | We welcome anyone who likes to praise God with singing and fellowship. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays in the sanctuary at 7:30 pm and go until 9:00 pm. If you have any questions, please contact Shelly. We are all excited to start a new season!

Bahamas Relief | Midwest Mission has been asked by our partner Food for the Poor to help in the disaster response to the Bahamas. Items outside of the normal we will be asking for are shovels, blankets, flashlights w/batteries, tarps, and first aid kits. Please have it to Winding Rivers UMC in New Lisbon by Sunday Sept 22nd. Winding Rivers UMC is located at N6774 Germantown Rd, New Lisbon, WI 53950. Is there anyone interested in coordinating such donations?

If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make the check payable to OCCUMC. The memo on the check should read: Advance #982450

for the Bahamas, for the US and it's territories (Florida) Advance #901670

Third Grade Bibles | **Sunday, September 15th 9:00am Worship** We will take special time to share the gift of the Word with our young ones. In addition to receiving a new Bible, our third graders will have the opportunity to learn about being an Acolyte as an integral part of our worship together.

Blessing of the Musicians | **Sunday, September 15th 9:00am Worship** As we conclude a summer of celebrating the *Hymns We Love to Sing*, we will join together to celebrate those who use their musical talents to lead us in worship. Whether young or old, with voice or instrument or computer, these talented musicians lift us up with their songs.

Drama Disciples Kickoff | **September 15th at noon** Anyone interested in finding out what Drama Disciples are all about and the current members are invited to a Potluck lunch at the home of Jerry and Christal Bindrich. Plans for the year will be discussed. RSVP to Christal B.

Thanks from the Apportionment Team | Russ P donated a lovely picnic table to the team. The table can be yours, for your patio or backyard, with a nice donation to the Apportionment Fund. Meanwhile the table is available for any Sunday School class or small group who has a messy project or a wish to sit outside and commune with nature. Russ' gift is out in the front yard under a maple tree. Thank you, Russ!

St Ben's | Your response to the need for plastic containers has surpassed our needs! We are not collecting plastic containers until further notice. Thank you. Pat P

Youth Meeting | **September 22nd after Sunday School** Parents and guardians will join their youth in preparing for next summer's Youth Mission Trip. Based on requests from last year, we will explore what a trip to Mountain T.O.P (Tennessee Outreach Project) would like and work to discern if we are called to this ministry site. If you or a youth you know are interested in participating next summer, please join us for discussion over pizza. Questions? Pastor Wendee.

