

NORTHERN LIGHTS

NORTHERN MICHIGAN DISTRICT
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

SEPTEMBER | 2020



THE CHURCH'S

Call to Prayer

"AMERICA IS IN TROUBLE. OUR COMMUNITIES ARE HURTING, OUR PEOPLE ARE DIVIDED, AND THERE'S FEAR AND UNCERTAINTY ALL AROUND US. LET'S JOIN TOGETHER AND DO THE MOST IMPORTANT THING: PRAY!"

FRANKLIN GRAHAM

You may already be aware of the upcoming Prayer March taking place in Washington DC on September 26, 2020. Some of you may even be planning to attend, but we all have the opportunity to join in prayer even from our own homes. When King David prayed for Israel, the Bible says, "the LORD heeded the prayers for the land" (2 Samuel 24:25). Please plan to set aside some time on this special day of prayer and along with many of our brothers and sisters in Christ raise your voice to God for the great needs in our land.

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"It is God's will through His wonderful grace, that the prayers of His saints should be one of the great principal means of carrying on the designs of Christ's kingdom in the world. When God has something very great to accomplish for His church, it is His will that there should precede it the extraordinary prayers of His people."

- Jonathan Edwards

Thoughts on Prayer

REV. ANN SALYER



How many times in 2020 have you heard the phrase: “these are unprecedented times”? It makes me think of Ecclesiastes 1:9b: “there is nothing new under the sun.” I do not doubt this scriptural truth but as I sat down to write, I quickly came up with an overwhelming list of firsts from today's perspective. I am not writing to depress anyone. The evening news does a great job of that. I am writing to encourage you. Peter wrote: “Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.”

(1 Peter 3:15)

When Jesus returned to heaven, he left us three great reasons for hope. (There are many more, but I want to remind us of these three.) First, He left us the Comforter - Holy Spirit to be our help and guide. Second, He left us the promise of His return. Anyone reading Matthew 24 probably believes we are in the beginning of ‘birth pains’ (Matthew 24:8). Third, He left us the power of prayer.

In the book *Purpose in Prayer*, E.M. Bounds wrote: “The more praying there is in the world the better the world will be, the mightier the forces against evil everywhere. Prayer in one phase of its operation, is a disinfectant and a preventive.” That sounds like exactly what is needed for such a time as this!

Jesus modeled for us the importance of prayer, daily going off on his own to speak to His Father in heaven. I believe His times in prayer renewed His strength and courage to face each day. We need that today.

Private prayer is important, but I also want to encourage you to consider starting or joining a prayer group. It is more difficult in these days of social distancing, but I have found many people out there who need someone to come alongside them in prayer, even if it is just for a season. Making people aware of your availability to pray with them may shine a light into their darkened world. When they first announced the lock downs in Michigan, I started a conference prayer call, and a core group of ladies are still meeting every evening to pray for world concerns. If you have any specific prayer needs you would like us to pray for, please feel free to message or text me.

Please mark your calendars to pray September 25-26 for The Return: National and Global Day of Prayer and Repentance and Franklin Graham's prayer march in Washington D.C., and continually remember to pray for our Missionaries, especially those in the 10-40 Window.

In closing, remember to: “Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

Rev. Ann Salyer is the Pastor of Escanaba Lighthouse Church of the Nazrene and the District Prayer Coordinator

"WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO FOR YOU?" MATT. 20:32

"Prayer is the key that unlocks all the storehouses of God's infinite grace and power. All that God is, and all that God has, is at the disposal of prayer."

R. A. Torrey



"CHRIST SOMETIMES DELAYS HIS HELP SO HE MAY TEST OUR FAITH AND ENERGIZE OUR PRAYERS. OUR BOAT MAY BE TOSSED BY THE WAVES WHILE HE CONTINUES TO SLEEP, BUT HE WILL AWAKE BEFORE IT SINKS. HE SLEEPS BUT HE NEVER OVERSLEEPS FOR HE IS NEVER TOO LATE."

- ALEXANDER MACLEREN

"Contrary to popular opinion, prayer is not primarily about getting what we want from God. It is about entering into God's plan for us. Prayer is not about getting a hold of God, it is about the Lord of the universe getting a hold of us."

- Sherry Harney

"No prayer is ever lost, or any prayer ever breathed in vain. There is no such thing as prayer unanswered or unnoticed by God, and some things we see as refusals or denials are simply delays."

- Horatius Bonar

"WE TEND TO USE PRAYER AS A LAST RESORT, BUT GOD WANTS IT TO BE OUR FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE. WE PRAY WHEN THERE'S NOTHING ELSE WE CAN DO, BUT GOD WANTS US TO PRAY BEFORE WE DO ANYTHING."

- OSWALD CHAMBERS

"We must begin to believe that God, in the mystery of prayer, has entrusted us with a force that can move the Heavenly world, and can bring it's power down to earth."

- Andrew Murray

"The answer to our prayer may be coming, although we may not discern its approach. A seed that is underground during winter, although hidden and seemingly dead and lost, is nevertheless taking root for a later spring and harvest."

- from Streams In The Desert

"God shapes the world by prayer. The more praying there is in the world the better the world will be, the mightier the forces against evil."

- E. M. Bounds

"Delayed answers to prayer are not only trials of faith; they also give us opportunities to honor God through our steadfast confidence in Him even when facing the apparent denial of our request."

- Charles Spurgeon

"To desire revival...and at the same time to neglect prayer and devotion is to wish one way and walk another."

- A. W. Tozer

"Don't ever hesitate to take to God whatever is on your heart, He already knows it anyway, but He doesn't want you to bear its pain or celebrate its joy alone."

- Billy Graham

THIS IS THE CONFIDENCE WHICH WE HAVE BEFORE HIM, THAT, IF WE ASK ANYTHING ACCORDING TO HIS WILL, HE HEARS US. I JOHN 5:14

A PRAYER FROM SCRIPTURE

(Matt. 6:9-10) **Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. (1 Pet. 5:6) We humble ourselves under Thy Mighty hand. (Matt.6:12) Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who wrong us, (1 Jn 1:9) and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (Heb. 10:22) cleanse our hearts from an evil conscience, and wash our bodies with pure water. (Col 3:16) Let Thy word dwell in us richly. (Col 1:9-10) Fill us with the knowledge of Thy will, in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, that we may live and conduct ourselves in a worthy manner fully pleasing, and being fruitful in every good work, ever increasing in our knowledge of Thee.**

(Eph 4:23) **May we be renewed in the spirit of our minds, (Col 3:12) clothed with tender mercies, kindness humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with and forgiving one another. (Eph 4:13) May we dwell together in the unity of the faith, (1 Thes 5:12) recognizing those who labor among us. (1 Cor 1:10) Give us grace to speak the same thing, with no divisions among us perfectly joined together in the mind and judgment of our Lord Jesus Christ; (Phil 1:27) standing fast in one spirit, striving together for the faith. (Heb 13:9) May we be not carried about with various and strange doctrines, (2 Tim 2:15) but studying to be approved of Thee, may we correctly proclaim the word of truth.**

(1 Cor 10:6-10) **Keep us from lust, and idolatry, and fornications, and haughtiness, and murmuring, (1 Tim 6:18) but make us rich in good works, ready to give and willing to share. (Eph 4:16) May we, Thy body, be knit and joined together, every part doing its share causing growth to the whole body (1 Pet 4:10) As each one has received a gift, let him minister it, (Phil 2:4) looking out for the interests of others. (1 Pet 1:22) Let us all fervently love one another with a pure heart. (1 Pet 4:7) Let us become serious and watchful in our prayers, (Eph 5:16) redeeming the time, for the days are evil. (Heb 12:1-2) May we patiently run the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith.**

(Col 3:2) **Lord Jesus, help us to set our affections on things above, not on things on earth. (Phil 3:14) Help us to press forward to the goal, the spiritual prize of God's high calling. (Eph 6:11) Girt about with the whole armor of God, cause us to stand against the evil day. (Acts 4:29, 31) Cause us to speak forth Thy Word with great boldness, that signs and wonders may be done in the name of Jesus Christ.**

(Matt 6:13) **Father, we seek Thy kingdom, Thy power, and Thy glory, (John 16:23) and we beseech this Thy grace in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen**



NMD Leadership Prayer Calendar

Pray also for me, that words may be given me so that I will boldly proclaim the mystery of the gospel. Eph. 6:19

1 <u>Alanson</u> Foster & Charlene Schmitt	2 <u>Beaverton</u> Martin & Mandy Hodge Lisa & Jimmy Burgess	3 <u>Big Rapids</u> Bob & Laura Lyons	4 <u>Boyne City</u> Bryan & Dorcas Cheever	5 <u>Buckley</u> Jim & Kathy Canfield
6 <u>Cadillac Cherry Grove</u>	7 <u>Cadillac Discovery</u> Dale & Marilyn Freed (supply)	8 <u>Cadillac First</u> Gil & Sarah Thibault	9 <u>Charlevoix</u> John & Lucy Carr	10 <u>Cheboygan</u> Jon & Wynne Schott
11 <u>Clare</u> Tim & Katie Fall Jeremy & Cari Gomez	12 <u>East Tawas</u> Jerry & Charlene Wallace	13 <u>Escanaba Lighthouse</u> Anne & Rod Salyer	14 <u>Frankfort</u> Bill & Gloria Borton	15 <u>Fremont</u> Ron & Genie VanSyckle
16 <u>Gaylord</u> Mark & Brenda Hoult Rob & Lyn Miner	17 <u>Gladwin</u> Mark & Brenda Boyce	18 <u>Harrison-Temple</u> Bill & Catherine Dyke	19 <u>Iron River</u> Tim & Lori Hall	20 <u>Kalkaska</u> Nancy & Leathel Grody (supply)
21 <u>Lake Ann - The Rock</u> Damon & Jamie Carpenter	22 <u>Mancelona</u> Dennis & Susan Burton	23 <u>Marquette Grace</u> Kevin & Rena Barrett	24 <u>Oscoda Huron Shores</u> Bill & Sue VanPatten (supply)	25 <u>Petoskey-Upper Room</u> Josh & Stefanie LaRoque
26 <u>Pickford New Horizons</u> Kory & Rhonda Heal	27 <u>Reed City</u> Chris & Linda DeMott Chris & Mallory DeMerell Joe & Molly Lee	28 <u>Traverse City</u> Rick & Jill Rice Don & Roberta Meiner	29 <u>Weidman</u> Matt & Michelle Gunderman	30 <u>District Superintendent</u> Dan & Jackie Gilmore
31 <u>USA/Canada Regional Director</u> Bob & Carol Broadbooks	<p>Please pray for these men and women who are faithfully serving our district. There are currently four churches that are in the process of calling a pastor - Cadillac Cherry Grove, Cadillac Discovery, Kalkaska, and Oscoda Huron Shores.</p>			



DISTRICT PERSONNEL

Rev. Daniel Gilmore, District Superintendent, 231.675.7787
danieltgilmore@gmail.com

Rev. Mark Houtt, District Secretary, 989.619.9138
mwhoutt@hotmail.com

Ms. Jan Crockett, District Treasurer, 231.883.6354
jan.crockettccntres@gmail.com

Mrs. Jackie Gilmore, Office Administrator, 231.675.7786
jackienmdnaz@gmail.com

Mrs. Jill Rice, NMI President, 231.947.4115
nmdoffice@nmdnaz.org

Rev. Gil Thibault, NYI President, 989.264.4753
gilfthibault@gmail.com

Rev. Brian Farmer, SDMI Chairman, 231.920.4810
briandavidfarmer45@gmail.com

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Rev. Chris DeMott
Rev. Tim Fall
Rev. Brian Farmer

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