



Pray For Us Calendar

These prayer requests were submitted by coworkers in the Lord's mission.

Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at lcms.org/prayforus or call 888-843-5267 to request a copy.

TEACHING THE FAITH — APRIL 1–15 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) believes education should address the whole person — body, mind and spirit — beginning in early childhood and continuing through adulthood. This month, the LCMS celebrates the many ways that God's children are instructed, encouraged and strengthened in the faith. By teaching the faith, we nurture the faithful and reach the lost.

Remember how God works to grow the faith of His people as you pray:

- 1.** *with thanksgiving for the gift of faith we received at Baptism.* Ask the Lord to continue to strengthen that faith — and the budding faith of our children — until we depart this life and are united with the Lord in heaven.
- 2.** *with thanksgiving for the Bible, the Book of Concord and the many teaching tools that God gives us,* that we might learn about Him and our life in Christ. Pray that God would instill in each of His followers a sincere desire and passion for seeking Him.
- 3.** *for Christian families,* that the Lord would send them the assistance and tools necessary to overcome every challenge — big or small — that might drive them apart.
- 4.** *for strong Christian marriages,* that husbands and wives would cling to each other despite life's challenges and raise their children to walk in the way of the Lord.
- 5.** *for Christian parents,* that they would make teaching the faith to their children a priority. Please pray that they would set aside time to worship together, talk about faith issues, study the Bible and have family devotions.
- 6.** *that family members would treat each other with kindness and patience,* so that each member might be built up in the family of God.
- 7.** *for our children and young people,* who face daily assaults on their Christian beliefs. Ask that God would strengthen and encourage them to stand firm while engaging others with the Gospel.
- 8.** *for our churches,* that they would provide useful education and programs to help equip people at every stage of life — teens, husbands and wives, parents, caretakers of aging parents and more.
- 9.** *that God would continue to provide faithful church workers to serve as role models and teach people about their identity as a baptized child of God.*
- 10.** *that church members would eagerly volunteer their time and talents to support the congregation's educational programs, such as vacation Bible school, holiday events and groups for young families.*
- 11.** *that LCMS members would eagerly participate in Bible studies, small-group discussions and private study so that they may grow in their faith every day.*
- 12.** *with thanksgiving for faithful parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers and other role models who help to "train up a child in the way he should go" (Ps. 22:6).*
- 13.** *for the Concordia University System and the Synod's two seminaries,* that the Lord would bless their work in training new generations of workers to serve the Church.
- 14.** *for the Synod's directors of Family Life Ministry,* that God would bless their efforts to support healthy relationships in the families of our congregations.
- 15.** *that we might have hearts that are willing and eager to serve the Lord in every way.*



Laurie Vogt helps her daughter follow along in the Lutheran Service Book during worship at Peace Lutheran Church in Sussex, Wis.

INVOLVEMENT IDEAS

- Find a helpful infographic — titled "The Family Altar" — about teaching the faith in the home in the March-April issue of *Lutherans Engage the World*. Visit lcms.org/lutheransengage to read the magazine online.
- Does your congregation pray for members of the military, honor veterans and seek to minister to people connected to the military? If so, you are already an Operation Barnabas congregation! Email lcmschaps@lcms.org to connect your congregation with the Operation Barnabas network.
- Visit lcms.org/armedforces to learn more about LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces, including how you can get involved with supporting U.S. servicemen and women.

MINISTRY TO THE ARMED FORCES — APRIL 16–30 Since the Civil War, LCMS pastors have served as military chaplains. Today, the Synod's Ministry to the Armed Forces (MAF) supports more than 160 active, Reserve, National Guard and Civil Air Patrol chaplains. MAF recruits, interviews and endorses all military chaplains and continues to support them throughout their entire careers. MAF also provides a network of care for our nation's military members, families and veterans through Operation Barnabas.

Remember God's work through LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces as you pray:

- 16.** *that God would bless and guide the work of Chaplain Craig Muehler, MAF director, and Chaplain Steven Hokana, MAF assistant director.*
- 17.** *for Chaplain Mike Moreno, project manager of Operation Barnabas. Ask God to guide his work to care for congregations, veterans and military families.*
- 18.** *for LCMS military chaplains serving on active duty for the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard. All of our military chaplains are pastors endorsed by the LCMS to serve in the chaplain corps of our nation's armed forces.*
- 19.** *for our LCMS Reserve and National Guard chaplains, especially those who have been mobilized stateside or overseas and taken from their parishes to extended active duty assignments. Pray for those deployed, their families and their home parishes.*
- 20.** *for those who suffer from battle stress and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Pray that God would bring healing and renewal to those who have served or who are currently serving.*
- 21.** *for increasing opportunities for LCMS chaplains to spread Christ's message of salvation, hope and restoration to those they serve.*
- 22.** *for all congregations that reach out to members of our military through Operation Barnabas, that they would uphold them in prayer as they help to meet their physical, psychological and spiritual needs through the training they have received and the Lord's provision.*
- 23.** *for Operation Barnabas, which is designed to meet the needs of congregations in the event their pastor/chaplain is mobilized. Operation Barnabas also seeks to assist veterans and military families during and after deployment.*
- 24.** *for all chaplains returning home, that they would receive a hero's welcome for their sacrifice to this country so that in freedom we can continue to openly worship the one true God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*
- 25.** *for all chaplains who are sick or have sick family members, that the Father of all mercies and the God of all comfort would look with favor upon them. As it pleases You, restore them to health or give them the grace to accept this tribulation with courage and hope.*
- 26.** *for all chaplains in harm's way, that You would not let their hearts despair nor their faith fail them, but sustain, guide and comfort them.*
- 27.** *for all members of the military who were disabled during their duty, that our heavenly Father would mercifully guide, aid and strengthen all those with physical disabilities, enabling them to find fulfillment in their lives and encouragement for all their endeavors.*
- 28.** *with thanksgiving to God for providing LCMS chaplains to serve members of the armed forces. Please pray that military chaplains would have every opportunity to share the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ with members of the military and anyone with whom they work and live.*
- 29.** *for all military chaplains upon their return, that they would be reunited with their families, find gainful employment and receive all the care they need to heal their minds, bodies and souls. Grant that they would always look to You, O Christ, as their rock and their redeemer.*
- 30.** *for those who minister to the armed forces, that by Your gracious working, they may honor Christ and advance the good of those committed to their care, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

MISSIONARY & PERSONNEL BIRTHDAYS

Download the prayer cards of missionaries and other personnel from lcms.org/prayercards.

- April 1** John Cima, Southeast Asia;
Joshua Gale, Peru
- April 2** Sarah Berta-Somogyi, Hungary
- April 9** Katie Ziegler, Dominican Republic
- April 10** Angela Sharp, Uruguay;
Shauen Trump, East Africa
- April 12** Gail Grieser, Macau;
Eric Stinnett, Ethiopia
- April 13** Benjamin Helge, Czech Republic
- April 14** Megan Kincaid, Hong Kong
- April 16** Melissa DeGroot, Philadelphia, Pa.
- April 18** Robert Ferrin, Hong Kong
- April 19** Valerie Stonebreaker, Togo
- April 23** Kendra McNatt, Germany
- April 26** Sarah Kanoy, Kenya
- April 27** Gretchen Weesner Aguilar, Asia;
Micah Wildauer, Togo
- April 28** Markie Burch, Peru;
Matthew Fick, Taiwan
- April 29** Elizabeth Meissner, Belize

MILITARY CHAPLAINS WITH BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL:

Chaplain Douglas Ochner, Fort Gordon, Ga., and Chaplain Matthew Mortenson, Fort Hood, Texas.



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