



# 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](http://lcms.org/prayforus) or call 888-843-5267 to request a copy.

**PRISON AND JAIL MINISTRY — JANUARY 1–15** In keeping with God's Word, pastors, deaconesses and laity in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) have been visiting the incarcerated and encouraging those who serve them for more than 100 years. To educate and support these volunteers, the LCMS has co-sponsored synodwide prison/jail ministry conferences and helped to produce several devotionals for prisoners.

*Remember God's work in the lives of the incarcerated as you pray:*

- 1.** for all those who are incarcerated during this holiday season, that they would make use of the opportunities available to them so that they might become more hopeful, productive and helpful both during their incarceration and upon their release.
- 2.** for the families and friends of inmates, that they might turn to Christ as their help and stay in time of need and that they might encourage their loved one to do the same.
- 3.** for the children of prisoners, that they might find good role models who will teach them about God's love and set them on the right path for their lives.
- 4.** with thanksgiving for those who write letters, visit, teach, donate Bibles and pray for prisoners and their families.
- 5.** with thanksgiving for all those who help and give instruction, aid and gifts to children who have an incarcerated parent.
- 6.** for all those who work in prisons and jails, that the Lord might keep them safe every day as they perform the duties of their jobs.
- 7.** for judges and all those in the court system, that they might make wise judgments with justice and mercy.
- 8.** for incarcerated unbelievers, that they would be brought to a repentant faith so that they may experience the true freedom that only Christ can give as they serve out their sentences.
- 9.** for all Christian prisoners, that their light would so shine amongst the lost, lonely, depressed and despairing that others would seek what they have so they, too, can live in peace and hope.
- 10.** for the victims of crimes, that they would live in Christ's love and forgiveness as they learn to love and forgive those who have hurt or harmed them.
- 11.** for prison chaplains, that they might be nourished in God's Word daily so they can continue to give those gifts that lead to life and salvation.
- 12.** for prison/jail volunteers, that they might find joy in bringing God's Word of hope and healing to those behind bars.
- 13.** for all who commit crimes due to hunger, hopelessness or addiction, that they might receive their daily bread, freedom from sin and the hope of eternal life that only Christ can give.
- 14.** for all parishioners, that they might be welcoming to ex-offenders seeking to worship the one, true God.
- 15.** for those returning home from prison, that they might find the necessary food, clothing, shelter, transportation, relationships and fruitful employment to meet their daily needs and help them stay on the straight and narrow with the help of God.



*A chaplain from Humanitri, an LCMS Recognized Service Organization in St. Louis, prays with prisoners.*

## INVOLVEMENT IDEAS

- In a world bent down and suffering under the darkness of death in all its forms, individual members of the LCMS are standing tall to talk about how they see the world through God-given, hope-filled eyes of life. Read their stories at [eyesoflife.org](http://eyesoflife.org).
- Do you know someone in prison, or are you interested in gaining insight into the day-to-day life of the incarcerated? Download *Prisoner's Reflections: Meditations for Prisoners*, a free devotional book specifically for those behind bars: [blogs.lcms.org/2016/meditations-for-prisoners](http://blogs.lcms.org/2016/meditations-for-prisoners).
- LCMS Life Ministry's Ultrasound Education Project brings the miracle and sanctity of human life into the middle-school and high-school classroom through the use of ultrasound technology. Visit [lcms.org/life](http://lcms.org/life) for information on how to order this free resource.

**LCMS LIFE MINISTRY — JANUARY 16–31** Through numerous domestic and international programs, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s (LCMS) Life Ministry supports and encourages life “in the image of God.” The ministry also coordinates the Synod’s presence at many pro-life events and carries the banner that all life is sacred.

*Remember God’s love for life as you pray:*

**16.** for all people, that they would choose life in accord with God’s will and by the power of His Spirit.

**17.** for parents at the birth of a child, that they would rejoice in their gift and look forward to the many blessings that lie ahead as they live with You as their center.

**18.** for all children, that they would be brought to the saving waters of Baptism and raised in the love, nurture and admonition of the Lord.

**19.** for LCMS Life Ministry, that it would continue to be our church’s voice and advocate for the sanctity of human life around the world.

**20.** for all women who have aborted their children, that they would repent and not lose hope, but turn to the Lord of life and receive His healing balm for their hurting souls.

**21.** for families that long for children, that God would give them patience and peace as they await His will.

**22.** that God would bless the work of Lutherans For Life, an LCMS Recognized Service Organization, as it seeks to equip Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices for life.

**23.** for the parents of a stillborn child, that they might put their trust in Your gracious mercy as they suffer through their sorrow and loss.

**24.** for the elderly, that they would be godly examples to the young as they are patient in their tribulations, joyful in their hope, firm in their faith and humble in all they say and do.

**25.** for the aged, that they would receive care, understanding and respect as their strength diminishes and their bodies fail.

**26.** for those near death, that they would receive Your mercy and not let the fear of death overcome them or destroy their faith and hope in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

**27.** for the National March for Life, taking place today in Washington, D.C. Please pray that all those who attend might be a powerful witness to the importance of standing up for those who cannot stand up for themselves.

**28.** for the 2017 LCMS Life Conference, which is taking place now in Arlington, Va. Pray that those in attendance would be equipped to speak up for life, and ask the Lord to give them safe travels home.

**29.** for our doctors and nurses, that they would make wise medical decisions for the patients under their care, upholding the sanctity of life even in the most difficult situations.

**30.** for maternity homes and crisis-pregnancy centers around the world, that God would provide the support they need to love and care for people in desperate circumstances.

**31.** for the Synod’s two maternity homes: A Place of Refuge Ministries in Milwaukee and Redeeming Life Maternity Home in Sanford, Fla. Ask the Lord to richly bless the work of these two ministries as they share the love of God with women and children in need.



*Resident and expectant mother Tiffany Busse nuzzles her son, Ezekiel Vela, during playtime at A Place of Refuge in Milwaukee.*

**MISSIONARY & PERSONNEL BIRTHDAYS**

Download the prayer cards of missionaries and other personnel from [lcms.org/prayercards](http://lcms.org/prayercards).

- Jan. 5** David Erber, Africa
- Jan. 8** Monta (Boom) Denow, Asia; Tom Going, Japan
- Jan. 12** Dennis Denow, Asia; David Lyon, Asia; Matthew Ruesch, Puerto Rico
- Jan. 13** Martin Dicke, Papua New Guinea
- Jan. 18** Charles Froh, Kenya
- Jan. 21** Cullen Duke, Peru; Robin McCoy, Thailand
- Jan. 24** Dale Kaster, Ghana
- Jan. 27** Mary Garetson, Hong Kong; Steven Mahlburg, Macau
- Jan. 29** Krista Trump, Africa
- Jan. 30** Peter Burfeind, Toledo, Ohio

**MILITARY CHAPLAINS WITH BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY:**

Chaplain Richard Malmstrom, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Md.; Chaplain Peter Mueller, Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md.; Chaplain John Thomson, Guam; Chaplain Lynn Wilson, Rapid City, S.D.; Chaplain Jason Dart, Key West, Fla.

