“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NRSV)

Prayer is at the heart of our relationship with God, with one another and with others. During this pandemic time, the need for prayer is even more apparent. These are some suggestions for your prayers and meditations during the third quarter and for the last two weeks of June. If possible, please include these in your bulletin on the date indicated and in your congregational newsletter. If you do not have a bulletin or newsletter, we ask that you post the list on your congregational bulletin board. Please draw attention to them during your worship services and prayer meetings.

A DISTRICT PRAYER CALENDAR

June 21, 2020 -
Pray for Gary L. Basham, who is retiring as the Director of Ministry Formation for the Virlina District on June 30. Let us pray that the wideness and breadth of God’s work might continue to challenge us to seek wider, greater and more creative fields of mission and ministry.

June 28, 2020 -
Pray for those who are suffering from the effects of COVID-19 and those who grieve the loss of friends and families during the pandemic. Let us pray that the healing power of the Great Physician and the comforting power of the Holy Spirit be manifest in a powerful way.

July 5, 2020 -
Pray for Raul and Lidia Gonzalez, who have served and continue to serve the Iglesia Cristiana Nueva Vida in Floyd County, Virginia for ten years as of June 1. Let us honor the commitment, dedication and work of those who have given themselves to the work of Christ and the church.

July 12, 2020 -
Pray for the scientists and researchers working to develop a vaccine for COVID-19. Let us pray for divine wisdom and knowledge to be given to those whose labor benefits us all.

July 19, 2020 -
Pray for Carlton R. Hodges, who began as pastor of the Red Hill Church of the Brethren in Roanoke County, Virginia on February 1. Let us pray that we will support, encourage and pray for those who undertake set-apart ministerial service.

July 26, 2020 -
Pray for those who suffer from the effects of systematic racism and societal inequities in their everyday experience. Let us examine our personal and congregational attitudes toward those who are of a different color or ethnicity and let us work to eradicate personal and societal attitudes that hinder justice for all.

August 2, 2020 -
Pray for the ministries of the World Hunger Auction which cannot be held this year due to pandemic concerns. Let us
pray that God might multiply the efforts to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and care for the imprisoned even in the midst of social distancing.

**August 9, 2020 -**
Pray for the ministry of Dewey V. Broyles and Rodger L. Boothe, who have served as the ministry team of the Spruce Run Church in Monroe County, West Virginia for 30 years as of June 8, as they continue to serve. Let us support, encourage and pray for our pastors and ministers.

**August 16, 2020 –**
Pray for Steve Lipinski, Manager of Brethren Foundation Operations for the Brethren Benefit Trust in Elgin, Illinois. Let us remember that every person who serves the Body of Christ is important, those parts which seem to be weaker are indispensable.

**August 23, 2020 -**
Pray for John P. Reed, Sr., a member of the Cloverdale Church of the Brethren in Botetourt County, Virginia, as he anticipates licensing to the Gospel Ministry in the near future. Let us pray that we will support, encourage and pray for those considering a life time of set-apart service.

**August 30, 2020 -**
Pray for the ministries of Michael L. Tabor, Jr., pastor of the Mount Joy Church in Botetourt County, Virginia, and Jeffery A. Wray, pastor of the Fairview Church in Franklin County, Virginia; both of whom has served their congregations for ten years as of June 1. Let us pray that the wideness and breadth of God’s work will challenge us to seek wider, greater and more creative fields of mission and ministry.

**September 6, 2020 -**
Pray for Stan Dueck, Director of Organizational Leadership for the Church of the Brethren. Let us give thanks for the commitment of those who serve in the ministry and mission of the church.

**September 13, 2020 -**
Pray for the Virlina District Board as it hopes to meet on September 19 at the Smith River Church in Patrick County, Virginia. Let us pray that every decision which affects the mission and ministry of the church, from the smallest to the greatest, be the subject and result of sincere prayer.

**September 20, 2020 -**
**Pray that peace might prevail** in our communities, our nation and our world, every day and especially on the International Day of Prayer for Peace on September 21. Let us manifest acts of healing, compassion and reconciliation each day with all whom we encounter.

**September 27, 2020 -**
Pray for Marcos and Suely Inhauser, National Co-Directors for Brazil, as they carry out the crucial responsibilities assigned to them. Let us give thanks to God for the work and witness which we accomplish together here and throughout the world.