



Equip, Empower, Engage... Connecting People to JESUS

The Great Sending Jubilee Year—2022

January Prayer Guide

Join us in daily prayer, and for our monthly Prayer Meeting—First Wednesday of the month, 10am Eastern Time on Zoom.

For the Prayer Meeting Zoom link, contact Rev. Peter Meier, pmeier@flgadistrict.org

Suggestion: Use the “10:02 Prayer” – set your phone or wrist alarm for 10:02 daily and use that time daily to pray for workers in the Lord’s Harvest Fields (see Luke 10:02).

God Speaks: Read Luke 4:18-21

Luke 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed, **19** to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.

“Jesus tells us that He was specifically sent by His Father to accomplish these great deeds. The verb Isaiah uses to express this is *apostello*, from which we get the word “apostle” or “sent one.” ...*Apostello* denotes an official sending, which includes the requisite authority needed to complete the specific assignment of mission. In this case, Jesus was sent by His Father not to condemn the world, but to save it (John 3:17).”

“As the poor, broken-hearted slaves to sin that we are, we need to hear His gracious words, which when applied personally, sound like this, ‘My Father anointed and sent Me to heal, forgive, release, and restore you.’ We also need to hear these words in the context of His missionary heart and mind: ‘And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to My voice. So there will be one flock, one Shepherd’ (John 10:16).

“His public announcement invites all who have ears to hear (Matthew 11:15) to be reconciled to His Father by grace through faith alone and simultaneously to join Him in the mission upon which His Father sent Him – to unite all things (and all people) in heaven and on earth in perfect shalom under our Messianic King.”

From *The Great Sending* (Study 4, “A Christ for All Peoples,” by Robert Newton)

MONDAY

ADORATION *Luke 4:18-19 / Isaiah 61:1-2*

*The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me
to preach good news to the poor.*

*He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to release the oppressed
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.*

CONFESSION

- + For a sense of entitlement to God's grace and mercies
- + For our inadequate recognition of and thanks for the gifts Jesus brings – freedom, sight, release, and the Lord's favor
- + For our failures to share the freedom and release from sin and its consequences that we ourselves enjoy
- + For our own forgetfulness when it comes to God's grace and daily mercies
- + For living as though we were not moment-by-moment recipients of the Lord's favor
- + For our lack of awareness of those around us who need to hear Jesus' message of Good News
- + For not noticing those who are on the margins, those who need the love and welcome of the Savior
- + For not living in daily awareness of our own anointing and sending as the Baptized
- + For eyes that are blinded to God's work around us, resulting in our lack of engagement in His mission
- + For lack of intentional fervent prayer for the Holy Spirit to raise up and send more workers into the Harvest
- + For failure to depend on God's strength, wisdom and creativity as we plan our outreach, as we develop relationships, and engage in the activities of our congregations
- + For half-hearted effort in our prayer life, slow response to God's Word, and failure to listen to the Spirit's prompting

THANKSGIVING

- + For freedom from sin and death, release from captivity to shame and guilt and oppression from darkness that Jesus brings
- + For God's invitation to partner with Him as "Sent Ones" to share this Good News with the world
- + For providing all the resources we need to carry out God's Great Sending
- + For the many opportunities every day to engage in spiritual conversations (pray that the Holy Spirit gives us the eyes to see those opportunities and the wisdom to speak for Him)
- + For fellow church members and disciples who want to grow as disciples – following Jesus, learning from Jesus, living and loving like Jesus, and being sent to make more disciples
- + For partnerships with other churches, neighborhood schools and organizations which allow us to live and proclaim the Gospel message in our communities
- + For our District leadership, for pastors and local church leaders who understand the purpose of the church and who take God's Great Sending seriously especially in these challenging times
- + For Florida-Georgia Prayer Partners and Intercessors; Pray that the number of praying partners grows!

TUESDAY

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

- + Against every spiritual stronghold and idol in our communities—Holy Spirit, give us discernment to recognize them and boldness to stand against them; that the enemy will not distract, confuse or turn us off course... ***especially in areas targeted for new starts or restarts:*** In GA – Clarkston, Macon, Tifton, Savannah, Valdosta, Swainsboro; In FL: Amelia Island/Yulee, Jacksonville, Nocatee, Rockledge, Orlando, The Villages, Clermont, Lake Nona, Four Corners, Port St. Lucie, S Florida – Ft. Lauderdale & Miami areas, Homestead/Florida City/Kendall, Miramar, Port Charlotte, Babcock Ranch, Lehigh Acres, Naples, Lakewood Ranch, Venice; and Prison Ministry.
- + That the Lord of All will protect pastors and church leaders from the Evil One’s temptations
- + That we will not give in to a “status quo” mentality, the desire to return to a more comfortable condition, rather than doing the hard work of moving forward in obedience in challenging times and situations
- + That children and teachers in our Lutheran schools will be the front-line advance of the Gospel in our communities – May they be “the Sent Ones” who proclaim the Good News of the Gospel in their homes and neighborhoods!
- + Against the lying spirit of powerlessness, hopelessness, confusion, discouragement and burnout for pastors, planters, and leaders; that we will instead learn to fight as effective warriors with Christ ahead, behind, beside us
- + Against every attack on pastors, church planters, missionaries, and their families – pray that they will have adequate exercise, sleep, and eat healthy, and that they will spend adequate time daily with Jesus
- + That we will not give in to lukewarmness in the practice of our faith life and witness; that we will not yield to Satan’s temptations to pull us away from time with the Lord in prayer and His Word
- + Pray for those missionaries, planters, pastors and leaders who battle with depression and self-doubt
- + That Satan will not destroy or weaken our witness, or restrict our evangelization activities.
- + That we are not drawn in to a world view that limits reality to what we can see with our five senses; that we are aware of the Evil One and his intentions and works, but that we are even more aware of the freedom from captivity which Jesus came to bring and the time of the Lord’s favor in which we live.
- + Against preoccupation with self and love of the world – rather that we may consecrate ourselves as living sacrifices to God and His mission
- + That God would use each of us as good stewards to provide everything needed for those on the front lines of mission work
- + For courage to stand with / to partner with those who desire to plant and multiply
- + That the coming of God’s Kingdom will always shape and move the work of the Church as it reclaims territory, both souls and soil, from the Evil One.
- + Pray to put on the whole armor of God, so that you can stand against the schemes of the devil... so that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having prepared everything, to take your stand (Ephesians 6:10ff).
- + Pray for protection against every form of the Enemy’s attacks – especially for President Walton and his staff, for Peter, Debbie, Victor, Scott and Mike, and for our fellow intercessors

WEDNESDAY

GREAT SENDING – DISTRICT MISSION & OUTREACH

We pray for Students and Campus Ministries:

- + **That parents and pastors** will encourage students to continue their walk with the Lord while on campus by connecting with our campus ministries and participating in small groups for discipleship
- + **That Campus Pastors' efforts** to connect with students will bear abundant fruit
- + **Live Ministries, UCF, Orlando – Outreach Minister DCE Kalli Wied**, pray for development of Vision, Plan, and Timeline which would give LIVE consistent space on/near UCF Campus as a place to bless students with gathering space, meeting needs, and providing a source of revenue.
- + **University Lutheran, FSU, Tallahassee – Pastor Jay Winters**, for new ideas re: Personal Evangelism Training for students in the coming semester; for favor with a new FSU President; for identification and recruitment of board members for The Brilliant podcast and connection point for students; for student discipleship triads as they move into Spring Semester.
- + **Christus Victor Campus Ministry, Athens GA – Pastor Greg Michael**, for preparations for the start of the new semester; for students and faculty as they rest following the Fall semester; that God would bless efforts to reach out to students who have participated but not regularly – that the might be welcomed and connected; and that students will realize that their identity in Christ penetrates every aspect of their life.
- + **Thrive Campus Ministry, Florida Gulf Coast University, Estero – Pastor John Roth**, for God's blessing on efforts to get people back into the habit of weekly in-person worship; for young people to prioritize worship; for financial health; for guidance and outcome of lease negotiations on their rented space; for Pastor John's challenging schedule and ministry/life balance; for musicians who have a passion for a small church reaching out to the community.
- + **University of North Georgia, Dahlonega GA – Pastor David Kruger**
- + **University of Florida, Gainesville FL – Pastor John Glover**

For Mission & Outreach Work

- + **Messiah Latino, Tampa; Hope, Plant City – Pastors John Cobos & Miguel Sanabria**
 - For continued blessing on their digital outreach using Facebook, Whatsapp, Zoom, Text messaging
 - Thanksgiving for the daily Biblical devotionals and the positive feedback from viewers which encourages continuation of this demanding but productive ministry
 - Praise for growing numbers of in-person worshipers and their fervent desire for Holy Communion
- + **Pelican Golden Gate, Naples – Pastor Mark Eisold**
 - Thanksgiving for recent baptisms
 - Praise that the community center and sanctuary are being used every day
 - Praise God for great relationships and tremendous support in the Hispanic community of SW Florida
- + **All Nations Mission, Grace Atlanta; Rev Adam Ellsworth, Rev. Dr. Jasson Kalugendo**
 - That God continues to bless opportunities for face-to-face community outreach, and for those who will participate
 - For the weekly worship and teaching taking place in Clarkston; thanksgiving for the eagerness of children involved in this ministry; thanksgiving for a wonderful Swahili Christmas Service at Grace
- + **Hope Lutheran of Orlando, Rev. Paul vonWerder**. Give thanks for development of The Great Sending Immersion and Worship materials and pray that they will have widespread use. Pray that God will use all these materials as powerful resources for church planting and discipleship training.
- + **St. John's Ocala**, give thanks with Rev. Jeff Shanks for God's blessing on their major Christmas season outreach, "Ocala Christmas Light Spectacular" – pray that God will continue to use this to connect people to Jesus through St. John's church and school.

For the Great Sending work of our Area Mission Facilitators: **Scott Gress** in Southeastern Florida, Region 5; **Mike Mast** in Southwestern Florida, Region 4, and **Victor Belton** in Georgia, Regions 1 & 2

THURSDAY

GREAT SENDING – DISTRICT MISSION & OUTREACH

- + Bring these locations to God’s throne, asking for clarity, discernment, and engagement – as new mission opportunities develop. Pray for every spiritual force of darkness to be overcome, that 2022 will be the Year of God’s favor in these locations, and that freedom in Christ will be proclaimed!
 - + **Tifton, GA** – Peace Lutheran Church, preparing and gathering resources for a re-start in this strategic mission field
 - + **Hmong group in Georgia** – Pray for wisdom and outreach action with the Hmong, a SE Asian people group immigrated from Laos and Cambodia, some of whom have settled in the area of Buford GA.
 - + **Macon** area, Darron & Valerie Counselman, together with Pr. Laird vanGorder of Holy Trinity, Macon and Pr. Andrew Howe, Mt. Calvary, Warner Robbins. Ask God to bless their efforts to reach new people through Sunday school and Bible Study.
 - + **Miramar** – Missionary Jeff Johnson and Miramar Lutheran’s Child Learning Center; give thanks for new families from the community and the learning center who have worshiped at church and pray for efforts to engage more children and families. Give thanks for a successful St. Nicholas event. Pray for a “cultural insider” from the community to be raised up as a new leader in the congregation and ask for seven new families from the community to connect with Jesus through the church.
 - + **The Villages, Trinity Summerfield** – Pr. Blair Clark; Pray for unity in mission planning, that the strategic purchase of land for a future site on the southernmost development of The Villages will bear kingdom fruit.
 - + **Jacksonville/Nocatee area** – for mission vision and development of God’s vision; pray for development of a church planting team to reach their neighbors through a new church plant.
 - + **Amelia Island / Yulee** – pray that God will raise up leadership to gather a group and start new work
 - + **Ft. Lauderdale/Miami** area – Pray that God will bless strategic mission planning for South Florida. Ask God to prepare the harvest field and to identify leaders. Pray that God will bless the vision for a new start in the Homestead/Florida City area.
 - + **Prison / Jail Ministry** – Dr. Tim Furnish, Woodstock GA; Rev. Jacob Roedsens, Lake Worth, FL
 - + **Babcock Ranch, Lakewood Ranch** - Mike & Debbie Mast & Will Murphey (Hope, Bonita Springs). Ask God to bless the growing group of disciples! Pray for the gatherings of women in the Word, for youth and for growing interest in regular gatherings.
 - + **Lake Nona** – pray for the Dinner Church that has developed; that God would prepare community members who may be persons of peace, that neighbors and friends will be blessed by this gathering
 - + **Port St. Lucie** – For Redeemer Stuart, and a dream to start new through children’s ministry
 - + **Clermont** – for God’s blessing on an innovative vision for community development, Indigo Villages, by Ms. Myrna Mojica from Woodlands Lutheran in Monteverde
 - + **Potential** new Brazilian, Spanish-speaking ministries – Where do you want these, Lord?
 - + **Ethiopian church plant** potentially in Orlando or perhaps in Ft. Lauderdale? Ask the Lord for wisdom for timing and location of a new start
- + Pray that outreach becomes the personal lifestyle of our congregations and people
- + Pray boldly that God will bless the vision of nearly 20% of our congregations (36 of them) who want to start some new type of faith community in the next 12-15 months
- + For your personal witness – for more opportunities, for boldness, for creativity, for caring relationships

GREAT SENDING – PEOPLE IN MISSION

- + *Join in the 10:02 prayer daily (Luke 10:2)* - Ask the Lord to raise up and send workers into His harvest fields.
- + That God will raise up more faithful pray-ers for the harvest in every congregation
- + For every-day disciples, that they may see and learn to love their personal mission fields, and so to engage as the priesthood of all believers
- + For every Christian person to understand Jesus' command to "GO" as an invitation to "Get Out" of their churches and comfortable places, going into their daily lives and communities to live and love and share the Good News of Jesus
- + For pastors to lead their congregations to see the mission opportunities to reach all nations in their neighborhoods.
- + Pray for opportunities to show God's mercy and favor to someone today.
- + Pray for our Lutheran school administrators, that together with pastors and teachers, they will lead people to embrace the witness our schools provide in their communities.
- + For the daily opportunities our Lutheran school teachers and staffs have to share the Story of God's love and forgiveness inside and outside their classrooms, and that they would effectively disciple children as those who are called and sent by God to share the Good News of Jesus with families and friends.
- + That each person in the FLGA District will be Jesus' instrument to bring healing, peace, and comfort to those who are fearful
- + For President Walton and the FLGA staff: Laura Zirbel, Jay Wendland, Jennifer Tanner, Peter Meier, Kathy Keene, Cindy Hammerstrom, Debbie Arrington, Meridith Swanson.
- + For the nominations process now underway, that God will use this process to raise up missional leaders for our District in the next triennium. Pray especially for the Holy Spirit to direct the nominations process for District President, Vice Presidents and Board members.
- + For our FLGA Area Mission Facilitators: Victor Belton (Georgia), Mike Mast (Southwest FL), and Scott Gress (Southeast FL)
- + Megan Miessler & Rick Armstrong, Lutheran Counseling Services; pray for those to whom they serve
- + Sheryl DeWitt and Deaconess Liz Borth, Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries, especially for their second maternity home newly opened in the Chicagoland area. Pray for the moms and babies who are blessed by this ministry.
- + Rev. Bob Scudieri, Mission Nation Publishing. Pray that God will bless the partnership of MNP and FLGA to research and produce materials which help congregations to gather the diverse harvest in their communities Pray also for the search for, and hiring of a new Operations manager in 2022.
- + Pastor Joseph Song, Stepping Stones Mission, for organization and development of New Life Village in Conyers GA.
- + Rev. Jay and Julie Das, training pastors in Pakistan
- + For Rev. Gustavo and Ruth Maita, LCMS Missionaries in Puerto Rico. Pray for the outreach classes starting in January; Thanksgiving for Hope, Plant City which sent large print Bibles to be used in English Classes.
- + For those in your own congregation who are actively engaged in outreach and evangelism; pray for those who lead outreach in your church and ask the Lord to bless their labors in His Harvest Fields
- + For those missionaries you/your congregation know and support in your Jerusalem... Judea... Samaria... Ends of the earth

FRIDAY

MISSIONS IN THE CHURCH AT LARGE

- + For the congregations of our 35 Districts of the LCMS that they will vigorously make disciples in their communities
- + That every congregation will have needed courage to truly be a “Sending” church, training and deploying God’s people on God’s mission
- + For the Presidents of our 35 LCMS Districts that they will be filled with mission zeal, inspiring and igniting a growing mission/evangelistic passion and focus within their districts
- + For the 35 Districts of the LCMS who are holding their conventions during these months of 2022, that as they plan and meet and vote, they will do so under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, with God’s mission foremost in their actions.
- + Pray that God will use these conventions to elect District Presidents and other leaders who are committed to the Great Sending
- + That every believer will feel a burden for the lost, will pray for open doors, open hearts, and boldness in witness and service
- + That pastors and church leaders will get adequate sleep and rest to keep physically, emotionally and socially healthy
- + That as pastors and leaders prepare themselves for Sunday worship, they will keep focused on God’s mission and His purpose for gathering and sending His Church
- + That God would provide hope and vision for churches who are struggling and facing decline, for those who are worried about how they will survive post-pandemic
- + Pray that God will give needed vision to think and plan for how the church will meet the deep spiritual needs of our communities and nation through starting new faith communities
- + That Christians all around the world will adopt a “wartime mentality” to sacrifice, endure hardship, and even to suffer for the sake of Kingdom Advance; that every denomination will mobilize to fulfill the Great Commission

FOR THE NATION

- + That as a nation, we would humble ourselves before the Lord and seek His forgiveness and mercy for our selfishness, our lack of self-control, for our desire to be our own gods; for a time of National re-awakening to the Gospel and our need for God
- + That God would guide and direct the leaders of our Nation and State; for President Joe Biden, for Georgia Governor Brian Kemp, for Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and their staffs, for National and State legislators, for the Supreme Court and all Judges, that they would make godly decisions for the common good
- + For protection for our military personnel and their families, especially those deployed in “hot spots” around the world
- + Continue to pray for peace and national unity, “One nation, under God”
- + For all military personnel, for police and firefighters as they serve and protect
- + For protection from dangerous weather, especially for those in cold-weather regions
- + That all people in our nation, beginning with our leaders, would respect life as a gift from God, seeking to protect all life from the unborn to the elderly and vulnerable

The Great Sending Jubilee—2022

God's Heart for the WORLD beating through YOU

Each month of 2022 features one of the 12 Mission Theses and a brief Great Sending teaching. These are taken from The Great Sending, Will Sohns, 2021. Tenth Power Publishing, Elgin, IL, 2021, www.thegreatsending.com. See the District Website (<https://flgadistrict.org/the-great-sending/>) for Great Sending Jubilee information and resources.

Thesis 1

We believe, teach, and confess that God's mission (the *Mission Dei*, which belongs to Him and His love for the world) centers in the person and work of our Lord Jesus Christ (John 3:16-17).

The Great Sending Catechism (Teaching)

From The Great Sending, pages 247-249

What is the *missio Dei*?

From the outset, ***mission*** must be distinguished from ***missions***. ***Mission*** refers to the *mission of God* (the *Missio Dei*), the *sending of God*, His *sending* nature and function to rescue the lost world. By contrast, ***missions*** refers to places, scope, activities, endeavors, needs, forms, or practices. *Mission* has historically been confused with foreign or domestic *missions*, which can encompass a subsidized congregation, a field or geographical area, a budget, an agency, physical buildings and even church planting.

Foreign *missions* and *missionaries* have been wrongly used as the “bullet” for giving, meeting a “mission budget” or motive for stewardship, thus confusing *missions* with *mission*. While *missions* may help facilitate the *Mission of God*, they are not in and of themselves the Mission of God.

Out of God's love for the fallen world and by His gracious initiative, God *sent* His Son, Jesus Christ to save the lost world that was incapable of saving itself. This is the *Missio Dei*, the *mission* rescue act of God. The *Missio Dei* centers on the *sending* of Jesus, who in turn *sends* believers into the world and who, together with the Father, *sent* the Holy Spirit to empower God's people to receive and proclaim the Gospel and participate in God's mission to save the lost.

The Gospel of Christ is centered in the *sending of God (Missio Dei)* for our salvation.

(To learn more about the *Missio Dei*, refer to the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's *A Theological Statement of Mission*, published by the Commission on Theology and Church Relations in 1991.)