

*Celebrating 75 Years of Mission*



**Our Mission Remains the Same...**  
**Living as Christ's Witnesses**

# September 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](mailto: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 Matthew 5:13-16.

**Matthew 5:14, “You are the light of the world...”**

Lets be brutally honest.

The thing that keeps me from sharing my faith or engaging in a disciple-making relationship is that I am selfish. It’s not that I don’t know what to say – honestly sometimes I just don’t want to get into a conversation.

We do not have more spiritual conversations because there aren’t enough people who need Christ. We do not have a Gospel emptied of its power. It’s not that the Spirit is no longer at work in believers prompting them to speak about Jesus. Ultimately, it comes to this – we just don’t want to reach out. At least not right now. It’s easier to stay to ourselves, to continue with the tasks at hand, to focus on our own lives and responsibilities. Even in our homes, we simply avoid spiritual conversations with our children, our spouse.

When was the last time you went out of your way to start a conversation with someone you don’t know? The reality is that there are people all around us who are truly looking for real friendships and longing for true connections.

The question is not, “Are people open and searching?” The question is “Am I willing to reach out?” The fact is that by virtue of my baptism, God has called me to go on mission with Jesus. He has placed me right where he wants me – in my own home, among my neighbors and friends, in my workplace or school – so I can shine His light to the people around me. I am purposefully sent and strategically placed to be an Along-Sider, a Difference-Maker.

- Am I willing to make a difference?
- Am I willing to linger at school or work to strike up a conversation with other parents, with co-workers?
- Am I willing to go deeper than surface talk with my neighbor?
- Am I willing to stop and pray with my friend or client who is struggling through a divorce?
- Am I willing to take a friend to lunch and care about her needs?
- Am I willing to intentionally pray that God would draw my neighbors to Christ? (See [www.blesseveryhome.com](http://www.blesseveryhome.com))
- Am I willing to take the time to make a list of people I care about who need God and then ask God to help me to be a light to them?
- Am I willing to put myself aside so God can use me to shine the light of the Gospel into their life?

*Lord Jesus, forgive my selfishness and let me be Your light shining in the lives of those around me! Amen.*

# MONDAY

## ADORATION *(Psalm 72:17-19)*

*May His name endure forever; as long as the sun shines,  
May His fame increase. May all nations be blessed by Him  
And call Him blessed.*

*Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who alone does wonders.  
Blessed be His glorious name forever; the whole earth is filled with His glory.  
Amen and amen.*

## CONFESSION

- + Forgive us for our selfishness that prevents us from sharing the light of the Gospel with others.
- + Forgive our focus on ourselves; that leads to ignoring opportunities to disciple our family members and friends in the ways of Jesus
- + Forgive us for our silence when it comes to speaking to others of God's awesome work in our lives
- + Forgive us for our lack of self-discipline in our devotional and prayer life
- + Forgive us for our failures to bring all our petitions, praises, and thanksgivings to Him in full expectation that He not only hears, but will answer us so that His mission will succeed and the Father will be glorified
- + Forgive us for every lost opportunity to share the Good News of the Savior
- + Forgive our blindness to opportunities to participate in the mission of God in our neighborhood and community, and even in our own family
- + Forgive our lack of courage to speak to others a timely word about the Savior and His love and compassion for them

## THANKSGIVING

- + For the 75 years of Mission in the Florida-Georgia District – “Our Mission Remains the Same—Living as Christ's Witnesses”
- + For Jesus' invitation to be the light of the world, shining in the dark places where we live and work and play.
- + For all who have registered for the September President's Equip Conference, that the Holy Spirit will prepare each one to learn and grow and live as Along-Siders.
- + For those in our lives who have modeled a life of discipleship for us
- + For those whom God has placed in our lives to whom we can become Along-Siders
- + For connecting us with people who are open to the Gospel's message, and that God would keep our eyes open daily for people with whom we can share the story of God's love in Jesus
- + For fellow disciples and church members who want to grow as disciples – following Jesus, learning from Jesus, living/loving like Jesus, and making more disciples.
- + For our District leadership, for pastors and local church leaders who understand the purpose of the Church – namely to make and multiply disciples – and who take God's mission seriously.
- + For the joy of knowing Jesus as our Savior, living as his forgiven, loved, restored ones
- + For Florida-Georgia Prayer Partners and Intercessors; Pray that the number of praying partners grows!

# TUESDAY

## SPIRITUAL WARFARE

+ That the Holy Spirit will open the hearts of (*name your friends, family members, co-workers*), to receive the Lord’s invitation to “come and see” God’s grace and mercy for themselves.

Names of those you know who need to be connected to Jesus (or grow in faith in Jesus)	
1.	6.
2.	7.
3.	8.
4.	9.
5.	10.

+ God, help me to build a caring relationship with (*name of your friend, family member, co-worker*). Help me become whatever kind of Christ-like servant they can identify with so that by all possible means they will be saved.

+ “Open Prayer” –

- Open Heavens – against the cosmic powers of this darkness, against spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places
- Open Pathways – for protection against all obstacles of the Evil One as we are going, making disciples
- Open Doors – that God will open doors for daily witness to His perfect power, mercy and grace
- Open Tongues & Hands – that God will use our mouths and hands to bless others in His name
- Open Minds – that the Holy Spirit will open the minds of others to receive our witness
- Open Hearts – that hearts will be prepared by the Holy Spirit, ready to receive the Good News of Jesus

+ Holy Spirit, give us discernment to recognize every spiritual stronghold and idol in our communities and boldness to stand against them, that the Enemy will not distract, confuse or turn us off course... **especially in these areas targeted for new starts or restarts:** In GA – Clarkston, East Point, Norcross, Milledgeville, Macon, Tifton, Savannah, Valdosta, Swainsboro; In FL: Amelia Island/Yulee, Jacksonville, Nocatee, Titusville, Rockledge, Orlando, Lake Nona, The Villages, Clermont, Harmony, Haines City, Four Corners/Davenport, Bartow, Port St. Lucie, Ft. Lauderdale & Miami areas, Homestead/Florida City/Kendall, Miramar, Port Charlotte, Babcock Ranch, Lehigh Acres, Lakewood Ranch, Venice, Naples; and Prison Ministry.

+ That we will not give in to lukewarmness in the practice of our faith and witness; that we stand firm in the face of Satan’s temptations to pull us away from time with the Lord in prayer and His Word

+ For deliverance against temptation and evil, for the addicted and despairing, for the tortured and oppressed, for those struggling with sin; pray that you might be the light of Jesus shining in their lives.

+ That the Holy Spirit will fill us with a white-hot passion to share the love of Jesus with our neighbors

+ That we may put on the whole armor of God, so that we can stand against the schemes of the devil... so that we are able to resist in the evil day, and having prepared everything, to take our stand (Ephesians 6:10ff).

+ That the Lord of All will protect pastors, teachers, church and school leaders from the Evil One’s temptations which would distract from the mission work to which they are called

+ That the Holy Spirit will protect and enrich the marriages and families of our leaders and church workers, so that the Evil One will not separate what God has joined together

+ 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, and beside us

+ Pray for protection against every form of the Enemy’s attacks – especially for President Rockey and his staff, for our FLGA Mission Team: Peter, Debbie, Victor, Scott and Mike – that their work may be a joy and not merely a job.

# WEDNESDAY

## DISTRICT MISSION & OUTREACH

### **We pray for Students and Campus Ministries:**

- + Christus Victor Campus Ministry, Athens GA – Pastor Greg Michael
- + Thrive Campus Ministry, Florida Gulf Coast University, Estero – Pastor John Roth
- + University Lutheran, FSU, and Florida A&M, Tallahassee – Pastor Jay Winters
- + Live Ministries, UCF, Orlando
- + University of North Georgia, Dahlonega GA – St. Peter Dahlonega
- + University of Florida, Gainesville FL – Pastor John Glover, First Gainesville
- + University of South Florida, Tampa; Univ of Tampa – Abby Moss, Messiah Tampa
- + University of Tampa – Pastor Dan Prugh, Holy Trinity, Tampa
- + **That God will move our congregations** to see their local campuses as their mission fields, and to support campus ministries as partners in ministry
- + **For parents and pastors to encourage students** to continue their walk with the Lord as they return to campus this fall
- + **For Student Leaders** as they make final preparations for campus ministry this schoolyear.
- + **For all dedicated staff and volunteers involved in campus ministry** , that God would energize them for their work and use them to plant seeds of faith that will continue to grow and flourish
- + **For parents of college students**, especially for those who have an empty nest for the first time.
- + **That young people would hunger for the certain truth of the Gospel** and not be deceived by the half-truths and lies of the Evil One.
- + Pray for our **Lutheran elementary and pre-schools**, as well as Early Childhood Centers, that God will bless their daily witness so that the Word of Christ will reach into families and communities through our Lutheran schools!
- + Pray for our **Early Childhood Centers** that introduce young families to Jesus. Pray that their witness to the littlest of God’s children and their families will bear much fruit.
- + Pray for our **Lutheran School Administrators, Teachers, Helpers and staff members** that they will shine with Holy-Spirit inspired love for every student. Especially pray for first year teachers that they start each day in the joy and strength of the Lord.
- + Pray that **Pastors** will see their role as an integral part of School ministry, and that they will model Jesus’ love for the children and fellow staff.
- + Pray that congregations will be good stewards of the many resources God gives, that these resources will be put to highest and best use for God’s mission.
- + From Campus Pastor John Roth, Thrive, Estero:
  - Pray that our student leadership, Grant, Jaden, Chad and Peter, will truly be models for others to follow and be blessed in their diligence and outreach for campus ministry. Pray that God especially blesses our efforts to reach freshmen and new students on campus.
  - Pray that the chaplaincy with the FGCU police will come to fruition, even more than it already has.
  - Pray that I have an opening with new FGCU President Timur to discuss more fully a partnership with FGCU about development of the District’s Estero property

# THURSDAY

## DISTRICT MISSION & OUTREACH

- + Pray for the President’s Equip Conference Planning Team, Speakers, Workshop Leaders and all who have a role as they prepare for this event under the theme, ***Living as Alongsiders: Disciples Making Disciple-Makers***, September 28-30. Ask God to use this as a catalyst to raise, multiply, and position each disciple for God’s mission in our FLGA District.
- + Ask the Lord to open eyes and hearts to the many opportunities for starting new ministries and outreach among the 60,000 new residents who move into Florida each month.
- + Pray that every congregation will see themselves as participants in planting the Church – starting something new, making new disciples, participating in the District-wide 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Thank Offering
- + Pray boldly that God will bless the vision of many congregations in the District who have opportunity to start new in the coming months.
- + **REV7:9 project**, the partnership of the District and Mission Nation Publishing, seeking to help congregations start new local ministry with neighbors of differing cultures. Pray for **Rev. Dr. Victor Belton**, Project Director, and for **these participating congregations and pastors**. Give thanks for steps being taken to initiate and strengthen inter-cultural ministries. Pray for every spiritual force of darkness to be overcome, that the eternal destiny of all redeemed by Christ will be proclaimed and received with eager joy.
  - Lord of Life, Stockbridge GA, Rev. Carl Morton
  - St. Paul, Peachtree City GA, Rev. Mark Dahn
  - Trinity, Savannah GA, Rev. Jeff Webb
  - Mt. Calvary, Warner Robins GA, Rev. Andrew Howe
  - Faith, Merrit Island FL, Rev. Andy Schermbeck
  - Christ, Lakeland FL, Rev. Chris Hazzard
  - Holy Trinity, Tampa, Rev. Dan Prugh
  - Good Shepherd, Gainesville GA, Rev. Dan Sparling
  - Bethlehem, Jacksonville FL, Rev. Dana Brones
  - Hope, Plant City FL Rev. Dean Pfeffer
  - Our Savior, Lake Worth FL, Rev. Jacob Roedsens
  - Our Savior, Plantation FL, Rev. Tony Durante
  - Christus Victor, Athens GA, Rev. Greg Michael
  - University Lutheran, Tallahassee FL, Rev. Jay Winters
  - Messiah, Tampa FL, Rev. Mark Adrian
  - Oak Road, Lilburn GA, Rev. Andrew Wrasman
  - Trinity, Rockledge FL, Rev. Ron Meyr
  - St. Paul, Weston FL, Rev. Scott Henze
  - St. Paul, Boca Raton FL, Rev. Steve Carretto
  - Grace, Naples FL, Rev. Keith Lingsch
  - The Pelican, Naples FL, Rev. Mark Eisold
  - Peace, Decatur GA, Rev. Terrell Davis
- + Ask the Lord of the Harvest to identify more such congregations who wish to start new ministry with neighbors of differing cultures. Particularly pray that our congregations will be open to reaching the 1.5 and 2<sup>nd</sup> generation of immigrant groups.
- + For Pastor Steve Hayden and **Lake Oconee Lutheran Church** (Lake Oconee, GA) as they develop the “Center for Hope” to provide Gospel ministry and care to the residents of Milledgeville, GA.
- + **Stepping Stone Mission/New Life Mission** in metro Atlanta, Rev. Joseph Song. Ask God to bless their efforts to feed and clothe homeless brothers and sisters, and to share the riches of Christ with them
- + For Pastor Matt Peeples and the **Kairos Network**. Pray that God will bless **The Missionary Pathway** training for everyday disciples, the **Monday Mission Insights** YouTube video shorts, and many other resources.
- + For Thank God for the **Lutheran Bible Translators** Board of Directors as they meet in Dallas, Sept 22-23. Pray for God’s blessing on their work, and the work of the LBT Staff so more local leaders around the world will be empowered and more language communities will have access to God’s Word.
- + For **everyday disciples**, that they may see and learn to love their personal mission fields, and so to engage as the priesthood of all believers. Ask God to show you who He is sending you to and to enable you to listen and to share the Good News.
- + Pray that the disciple-making efforts of everyday disciples and their congregations will function under Jesus’ authority and blessing.
- + That the Holy Spirit will bless each Christian person to effectively come alongside those whom God has placed in and around their world, making disciples who make disciple-makers.

# FRIDAY

## **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. Pray that God will raise up more faithful pray-ers for the harvest in every congregation, [flgadistrict.org/prayerpartner/](http://flgadistrict.org/prayerpartner/)
- + That **each person in the FLGA District** will see themselves as an Along-Sider, bringing Jesus' healing, peace, and comfort to those who are fearful or hurting in any way. Pray that the Holy Spirit will show each person someone whom they can disciple as a disciple-maker.
- + For **President James Rockey and the FLGA staff**: Laura Zirbel, Jennifer Tanner, Peter Meier, Jay Wendland, Kathy Keene, Cindy Hammerstrom, Debbie Arrington, Meridith Swanson. Give thanks for these servants and bless their ministry!
- + For our **Elected District Leaders**: Vice Presidents Victor Belton, Jay Winters, Charles Reich, David Brockhoff and Stephen Carretto, for District Secretary Greg Michael, for Circuit Visitors and members of the District Board of Directors, that they will bring wisdom and leadership to the mission of God in our District.
- + For our **FLGA Area Mission Facilitators**: Victor Belton (Georgia), Mike Mast (Southwest FL), and Scott Gress (Southeast FL)
- + **Pastor John & Yolima Cobos**, serving at Messiah Latino, Tampa and Hope, Plant City
- + **Pastor Miguel & Katherine Sanabria** reaching out to Spanish speakers at Immanuel Church and School in Brandon. Ask God to bless their multi-ethnic congregation initiative. Pray for Kat who is enrolled in the Deaconess program at the Center for Hispanic Studies
- + **Pastor Mark Eisold** at Pelican Golden Gate, Naples who is working with four Haitian Creole and Spanish ministries: **Pastor Charelus, Vicar Jean Jaques, Deacons Mendez and Sanchez**; Also **Pastor Andre Mezilus** and **Vicar Niclau Alcena**. Soon three deacons will be placed at local congregations to start new Hispanic ministries. Pray for **Pastor Orlando Ramirez** as he instructs his members in Biblical Lutheranism. Ask God to bless their deacon and deaconess training, music classes, English Classes, Immigrant assistance, and more.
- + For **Sheryl DeWitt** and **Deaconess Alex Schick**, Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries, especially for the second maternity home in East Dundee, IL and **Deaconess Lori Trinche**. Pray for the moms and babies who are blessed by this ministry.
- + **Megan Miessler & Rick Armstrong**, Lutheran Counseling Services; pray for those whom they serve
- + **Rev. Bill Schmidt**, Operation Barnabas Coordinator – a network of care for Military members, families, & veterans.
- + **Missionary Lophane Laurent**, Mission Haiti ([www.missionhaiti99.org](http://www.missionhaiti99.org)) Pray for much needed funds to continue the monthly food distribution program; Pray for safety and health-both physical and spiritual.
- + **Rev. Jay and Julie Das**, training pastors in Pakistan
- + **Rev. Gustavo and Ruth Maita**, LCMS Missionaries in Puerto Rico. Pray for continued good health, and blessings as their team prepares for the October FORO visits. Ask the Lord to raise up some people from FLGA District who would like to see this work for themselves and get their congregation/school involved.
- + **John List**, Lutheran Life Editor and Publisher, that our District magazine will bring encouragement, ideas and useful information to the people of our District and beyond.
- + That the eyes of **every believer** will be opened to the Harvest around them that is ripe, ready, diverse, and abundant!
- + For those **missionaries** you/your congregation know and support in your Jerusalem... Judea... Samaria... Ends of the earth; Pray that the Gospel will be made clear through missionaries serving in sensitive areas world-wide.



# SATURDAY/SUNDAY

## 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
- + That every believer will feel a burden for the lost, will pray for open doors, open hearts, and boldness in witness and service
- + That believers around the world will be observant and attentive to people around them, prompting them to pray and serve with Jesus’ love.
- + That pastors and church leaders will get adequate sleep and rest to keep physically, emotionally and socially healthy, caring for themselves as God’s instruments in His mission
- + That as pastors and leaders prepare for Sunday worship, they will keep focused on God’s mission and His purpose for gathering and sending His Church, and that the Holy Spirit will use them to proclaim the life-giving message of the Kingdom
- + That God would provide hope and vision for churches who are struggling and facing decline, showing them His purpose and their part in His vision of Revelation 7:9, “a multitude no one can count from every tribe, language, nation and people group.”
- + 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
- + 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 our seminaries (St. Louis & Fort Wayne) and our Concordia University System (Chicago IL, Seward NE, Mequon WI, Ann Arbor MI, St. Paul MN, Austin TX, Irvine CA) that Christian leaders would be prepared by the Holy Spirit using these schools for mighty use in God’s mission, whether as professional church workers or as everyday disciples who follow Jesus and serve others in His name
- + That there will be a mighty movement of prayer to be birthed in cities large and small throughout the world
- + Pray for persecuted believers around the world, especially in areas where persecution is being ramped up for pastors and Christian people.
- + That followers of Jesus will walk daily in the power of the Spirit, living and sharing the Good News

## FOR THE NATION

- + 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 will make godly decisions for the common good
- + 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
- + For God’s protection for our nation and its people, especially for protection of our military personnel and their families, for police and firefighters as they serve and protect our communities
- + That we may be wise stewards of the bounty and natural resources within our land
- + For our nation to withstand ungodly influences from within and without

# Six Mission Prayers for our 75<sup>th</sup> Year

Florida Georgia District, LCMS

## Our Mission Remains the Same – Living as Christ’s Witnesses

In this, the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of The Florida-Georgia District, we focus on prayer which is the first work of God’s people. God has invited us to pray, and we know that He delights to answer His people’s prayers. He invites us to “ask the Lord of the Harvest to send workers into His harvest field” and so we pray daily at 10:02 (Luke 10:2), calling on God to send workers – to prepare and send us! You are also invited to join boldly in the following prayers, making big requests of God that bring Him glory and advance His kingdom purposes.

**Consider using these two big prayer guides:** (1) **Your church directory.** Pray through the directory, one page each day, working through the list of members over and over again. (2) **Your church budget.** Use the budget as a guide because it shows how your congregation supports Gospel work and workers at home and abroad. Ask God to provide generously for His work to be accomplished and His name confessed and praised.

**Here are six petitions for yourself and for your church in our 75<sup>th</sup> Year:**

1. **A CULTURE OF EVANGELISM.** Pray that you and the members of your church will grow in having Gospel conversations with not-yet-believers. Encourage them to share those conversations for encouragement and prayer.
2. **A CULTURE OF DISCIPLESHIP.** Pray that you and each member will seek meaningful relationships with a few others for mutual edification through reading the Bible together, praying for one another, and speaking the Gospel into one another’s lives.
3. **MISSIONS: FIVE MILE RADIUS.** Pray that you and your church will make inroads to reach unchurched and unbelieving neighbors within a 5 mile radius of your church building. Pray for an outreach focus on your immediate neighborhood. Pray for specific events, people, schools, businesses, etc.
4. **MISSIONS: INTERNATIONAL.** Ask God to show you and your church specific fruitful Gospel partnerships for the spread of the Gospel. Pray for involvement with these missions as they reach people who you cannot personally reach with the Gospel.
5. **MISSIONS: RESOURCES.** Pray that the Lord will provide you personally, and your church, with all the necessary resources (financial, people, materials) needed to accomplish His mission, including reaching and surpassing your church’s and our District’s projected budget income for 2023.
6. **MISSIONS: HARVEST.** Pray that God will give you the blessing of seeing the fruit of your prayers, your evangelistic work and outreach over the next twelve months.

*Dear Lord God, give us Your grace and the encouragement of seeing Your work through us and through our District in 2023 because we are praying boldly, according to Your will, trusting in Your Spirit, for the salvation of those whom Jesus has purchased by His blood; In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!*