

St. Paul's  
Presbyterian Church  
**Prayer Reminder**  
January 2006

Many of us struggle to bring God into the busyness of our lives. Our hectic schedules can squeeze out our prayer time, and when we do pray, we may find it difficult to bring our activities to God as prayer topics. We might think that God can't possibly be interested in our work life, or in our housework, or our leisure time. Yet the God who is the Lord of all our lives, is interested in **everything** we do.

Brother Lawrence was a 17<sup>th</sup> century French monk who knew God's presence at all times. His writings, borne out of experience of the bustle of a monastery kitchen, have much to teach us today. *"God is everywhere, in all places, and there is no spot where we cannot draw near to Him, and hear Him speaking in our heart."* His central teaching is that we need to practice being aware of God's presence. *"Whoever practices God's presence will soon become spiritual."* He goes on to say...*"How can we be with Him, unless our thoughts are with Him? How can He be in our thoughts unless we form a holy habit of abiding in His presence, there asking for the grace we need each moment of our life?"* Paul writes: "Pray all the time, asking for what you need." (Ephesians 6:18)

**Sunday, January 1:**  
*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*  
*Jeremiah 29:11*

**Monday, January 2:**  
The *Board of Managers* holds its regular monthly meeting tonight. Give thanks to God for the wise stewardship the Board exercises each year.

**Tuesday, January 3:**  
Pray for Christians you know who are in the workforce that they may truly and devoutly serve the Lord in their chosen vocations.

**Wednesday, January 4:**  
Pray for the 10-day mission trip to Cuba (Jan. 5-15) by the *Presbyterian College student interns*. Pray that the medical supplies will be a blessing to those in need. Pray for *Ron Fischer* as he participates in this ministry.

**Thursday, January 5:**  
Praise the Lord for what He has done in our midst through the years. Pray that the *50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration* (May 5-7) will be Christ-centred and Christ-honouring and a blessing to all who attend.

**Friday, January 6**  
Pray that the Lord will hear the prayers of His people who are in any trouble, and that He will grant to everyone in distress grace, mercy

and His peace. Pray that the Lord will give wisdom and discernment to our *Pastoral Care Team* as it ministers to the needs of those who seek support and encouragement.

**Saturday, January 7:**  
Pray that all the teachers and their assistants who make up the *Christian Education Team* will be effective communicators of God's Word. Pray that the children, youth and adults who have not yet confessed faith in Christ will be encouraged to do so. Pray that those who know the Lord will not be afraid to confess Him.

**Sunday, January 8:**  
*Epiphany Sunday*  
The Christian life is a great mystery: far exceeding our understanding, but some things are clear enough. He appeared in a human body, was seen by angels. He was proclaimed among all kinds of peoples, believed in all over the world, taken up into heavenly glory. 1 Timothy 3:16 – The Message (Eugene Peterson)

**Monday, January 9:**  
Pray for those preparing Team/Committee submissions for the *2005 St. Paul's Annual Report*. Pray for the *Session* at its meeting tomorrow night to consider the financial recommendations of the Board regarding the proposed budget for 2006.

**Tuesday, January 10:**  
Pray for the Tuesday morning *Women's Bible Study* as it continues its study and discussion. The *Presbytery Pastoral Relations Committee* meets this afternoon at St. Paul's. Pray that the Spirit of God will guide the Committee in its discussions.

**Wednesday, January 11:**  
Pray that the *Search Committee* will find suitable candidates for leadership in the areas of ministry to our youth and the discipleship training.

**Thursday, January 12:**  
Praise the Lord for the leadership provided by the *Senior Choir* and the *Contemporary Worship Team* Sunday by Sunday.

**Friday, January 13:**  
Pray that the Lord will look with mercy on all whose increasing years bring them isolation, distress, or weakness. Pray that as their physical strength diminishes, their spiritual strength will increase with the assurance that nothing can separate them from the love of God that is in Jesus Christ.

**Saturday, January 14:**  
Praise God for the guarantee of religious freedom in Canada. Pray for Christians in other countries who are subjected to various forms of persecution for their faith.

**Sunday, January 15:**

Almighty God, in Your divine providence, you have appointed various orders in Your Church. Give grace to all who are called to any office and ministry for Your people. May Your servant, *Rev. Jack Archibald*, be given grace fresh daily to meet all pressing needs.

**Monday, January 16:**

Praise God for the ministry of the *Presbyterian College* and for the student interns mission in Cuba. Pray that the Lord will give *Ron Fischer* a burning heart for missions.

**Tuesday, January 17:**

Pray that the Lord would look with compassion upon those who have lost their health and freedom and have found a shelter in *The Mission*. The *Presbytery of Ottawa* holds its regular meeting at St. Paul's this evening. Pray that the members may exercise wisdom and discernment in their decisions.

**Wednesday, January 18:**

Praise God for our Office Administrator, *Frances Cartwright*, and for our Custodian, *Bob Hastings*. Both, in a cheerful way, give of their time willingly to see that the work is done.

**Thursday, January 19:**

Pray for the boys and girls who participate in the *Pioneer Clubs program* at St. Paul's. Pray for their leaders: *Eldon Frost* (Coordinator), *Janet Mabie* (Voyagers), *Wanda Mejia* and *Eleanor Hastings* (Pathfinders), *Lynn Arthur-Beirness* (Trailblazers) and their assistants.

**Friday, January 20:**

Pray for the *Small Groups* within the congregation. Pray that the number of *Small Groups* will increase this year. Pray for *Beverly Troup* who is the Coordinator. Praise the Lord for *Scott* and *Beth Hurd* and their leadership in the *Alpha Programs*.

**Saturday, January 21:**

Pray for *St. Paul's Missionaries*. They know life is a spiritual battle (Ephesians 6:10-12). They live in cultures where Satan has held uncontested sway for years, darkening people's minds so that the truth of God's Word cannot penetrate. Praying for them makes you a team player.

**Sunday, January 22: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.**

"Empower the church throughout the world in its life and witness. Break down the barriers that divide so that, united in Your truth and love, the church may confess Your name, share one baptism, sit together at one table, and serve You in one common ministry. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer."  
(The Worship Sourcebook)

**Monday, January 23:**

*Election 2006 Day*  
Lord, keep this nation under Your care. Help us select trustworthy leaders, contribute to wise decisions for the general welfare, and thus serve You faithfully in our generation to the honour of Your Holy name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Tuesday, January 24:**

The *Session* holds its regular meeting tonight. Pray that God's guidance will be evident in the decisions made. *Rev. Jack Archibald* will preach in the Presbyterian College Chapel tomorrow. Pray that God will speak through him as he ministers God's Word to the students.

**Wednesday, January 25:**

The *Gideon Ministry* seeks to provide copies of the Scriptures within this community to any and all who ask. Pray that the Lord will provide sufficient funds for them to accomplish their ministry.

**Thursday, January 26:**

"God loves a cheerful giver". Praise Him for the generosity of His people who have enabled the *Board* to meet its commitments.

**Friday, January 27:**

Pray for the *St. Paul's Outreach Team* as they bring the Gospel of Christ by word and life to the children living on Morrison Drive. Praise God for the work done by the *Social Action Team*.

**Saturday, January 28:**

Pray for ministers who have retired from full time service in Christian ministry, and who are still actively engaged in ministry, especially *Rev. Bill Duffy*, *Rev. Ted Stevens*, *Rev. Dr. Donald A. MacLeod* and *Rev. Bill Nesbitt*.

**Sunday, January 29:**

**Soupwich Sunday**

Praise God for the fellowship enjoyed at the Soupwich today and also for those who set up and clean up afterwards.

**Monday, January 30:**

Pray for those who travel (even to and from work) that God will surround them with His loving care; protect them from every danger and bring them in safety to their destination.

**Tuesday, January 31:**

Pray that the *Renewal Fellowship* may flourish and extend its influence across Canada. Pray also for the National Board as it prepares for its annual meeting in early March.

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Due Date for the February 2006  
Prayer Calendar is  
**Saturday, January 21, 2006.**

Emergency Prayer Chain Contact  
*Isobel Watson* (828-7605)  
until January 12<sup>th</sup>  
then  
*Irene Taylor* (228-7005)

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