Prayer Guide for the week of May 28, 2023

Sunday – Our Families, Congregation and Community

Pray this week for the congregations of Pinelands Presbyterian Church, Briarwood Presbyterian Church, and our own church who share in remembering the unique way each of our congregations were blessed by God through Harry Reeder's service as our pastor. Pray for comfort for Harry's wife, Cindy, their children, Ike Reeder, Jennifer Reeder Hay, and Abby Reeder Lieb, his sister, Beth Reeder Thomas, their families, friends, current and former staff members, fellow elders throughout the PCA, and the thousands of people who were blessed by Harry's dedication to sharing the gospel wherever God would use him. Pray that Harry's influence and example would be on display in our commitment as individuals and as churches to make Christ preeminent in all things.

Monday - Our Supported Workers of the Week: Vaughn and Joni Volious serving with Campus Outreach as Area Director in Columbia, SC

Pray for Elijah, a student who recently came to know Christ. Pray that he would embrace and own his new identity in Christ, and that the Lord would protect him from the evil one. Pray that his testimony would be the catalyst for others to come to faith who have been coming to the Bible study all semester. Pray for Vaughn as he has started seminary at Reformed Theological Seminary (RTS). Pray as he figures out how best to balance work, seminary, and home life in this season. Pray for their family as they continue raising support for Joni to return to staff to help train and develop our regional staff women. Pray that they would reach their goal by summertime, and she could fully start her role in the fall, if it's the Lord's will.

Tuesday – Our Essential Workers and First Responders

Continue to pray this week for the essential workers who serve as mentors, trainers, and instructors who teach by example both in the classroom and on the job. Pray for their wisdom in preparing trainees for the challenges they can expect. Pray for their willingness to adopt new techniques and train their students to welcome progress. Pray that God would draw these teachers close to himself and teach them to lean on him for all they need for all of life.

Wednesday – Our Elected Leaders and Public Servants

Pray this week for the President, the Speaker of the House, Congress, and their advisors to seek God's wisdom as they make decisions on federal spending and the federal budget. Pray for honest dialog, real concern about the impact of defaults or delays on individuals and businesses whose income is paid through government agencies. Pray for stewardship on the part of Congress in the management of taxes and fees. Pray for respectful spending and borrowing. Pray we would recognize our dependence on God for our daily bread, be joyful in thanksgiving for his bounty, and generous in caring for those who need our help.

Thursday – Our Fellow Believers in Danger & Unreached People Groups

Our Fellow Believers in Danger

Pray this week for Christians living in all parts of Israel where violence against Christians is on the increase with a rise in power and influence from the Israeli Settlement movement that has made Palestinian Christians increasing targets of persecution. Christians have lived in this part of the world for 2,000 years without the sort of significant hostility now aimed at them by militant Jews, including political and military leaders. Pray for a return to peace among these neighbors and for God's work in bringing his chosen people to true faith in Jesus the Messiah.

Unreached People Group - Western Baloch in Turkmenistan: The Baloch (pronounced, "bah-LOACH") people are originally from a mountainous region between India and Pakistan that was once highly populated and full of flowing rivers. Today, that land is a desert area and many Baloch people have migrated to other areas of the world, scattering over 1,344,800 Baloch population to the surrounding countries. Around 53,000 settled in Turkmenistan, and there is currently very little evangelistic work taking place among them. As Sunni Muslims, the Baloch people are not open to other beliefs, so please pray that their hearts would be receptive to hearing the gospel. The rate of illiteracy is very high, so pray for Christian literacy teachers to go to the Baloch people and teach them to read using the Bible. Pray for a movement of Christ among the Baloch people.

Friday – Our Local Ministry Partners:

Local Presbytery: Mount Carmel Presbyterian Church, Ellerbe, NC - Stated Supply Pastor James Watson

Local Ministry – Bright Blessings: Pray for the ministry of Bright Blessings, an organization dedicated to bringing joy, care and hope to homeless and impoverished children by mobilizing community volunteers of all ages. Pray that their volunteer base would continue to grow. Pray particularly for volunteers for the Adopt-A-Party ministry, as many shelters are welcoming back Bright Blessings after a long few years. They are currently in need of volunteers to provide dinner, cupcakes, to participate in a craft, etc. for children's birthday parties. Pray also for a current need for the ministry to collect stuffed animals. Pray for the staff of Bright Blessings to be encouraged and strengthened. Pray for the Lord to provide for their financial needs.

Saturday – Our Servant Leaders

Continue to pray this week for the teaching elders and ruling elders in the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) who will be delegates to our 50th General Assembly in Memphis, TN, June 12-16, 2023. Pray that awareness of the number of pastors and elders who have ended their active work through retirement or death recently would move younger men to step into the leadership roles that have been left vacant. Pray for a new unity in following the example of these proven leaders and building on their work. Pray that the celebration of fifty years as a growing denomination will be a source of gratitude for God's kindness to this point and a reminder that we must remain faithful to God's word, not the popular opinions of any faction within the denomination or among our critics. Pray that this year's General Assembly will be remembered for the way the Holy Spirit invaded debate, moved his children during worship, and mobilized believers to reach Memphis with personal invitations to reject the impersonators and come to meet the King of Kings.

Your pastors and staff are praying for you! Send your confidential prayer requests to prayer@christcovenant.org.