



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH *of*
CHATTANOOGA

A CITY-CENTER CHURCH
COMPELLED BY CHRIST'S LOVE
TO MAKE DISCIPLES IN OUR HOMES, CITY,
AND THE WORLD.

STRATEGIC
PRAYER
GUIDE

The purpose of First Presbyterian Church Chattanooga is to:

GLORIFY: Glorify the Triune God

EDIFY: Edify the church family for godly living

TESTIFY: Testify to the world about the gospel of Jesus Christ.

PRAISE GOD AND PRAY FOR

OUR HOMES & FAMILIES

OUR CHURCH

OUR COMMUNITY

OUR COUNTRY

AND FOR THE WORLD AT LARGE

Isaiah 59:1-2

Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save,
or his ear dull, that it cannot hear;
But your iniquities have made a separation
between you and your God,
and your sins have hidden his face from you,
so that he does not hear.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just
to forgive us our sins
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

James 5:16

Therefore, confess your sins to one another
and pray for one another, that you may be healed.
The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

This Prayer Guide prepared for First Presbyterian Church of Chattanooga,
by the Prayer Committee, Rodger Jenkins, Chairman.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE	PRAYER FOCUS
4	Meditations on Prayer
5	Our Church and Her People Families Singles Ministry
6	Older Generation Sick and Infirm Lay Leadership — Volunteers, Teachers & Officers
7	Congregational Care
8	Discipleship
9	Pastoral Staff Church Staff Media & Technology Staff Choir and Musicians
10	Children’s Ministries College Ministry
11	Middle & High School Ministry
12	2021 World Missions First Friends
13	Women’s Ministries Men’s Ministries Camp Vesper Point
14	Home Missions National Missions
15	Church Planting General Assembly
16	Session Diaconate
17	Secular Government Chattanooga
18	Worldwide Concerns
19	Revival Prayer
20	Meditations on Prayer

“Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;”

Isaiah 55:6

MEDITATIONS ON PRAYER

- Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.
- Matt 21:22 And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.
- Psalm 37:4 Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.
- Psalm 145:18-19 The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them
- Isaiah 65:24 Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear.
- Matt 6:6-8 But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.
- 1 Peter 3:7 Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.
- 1 John 3:21-22 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him.
- Psalm 40:1 I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry.
- Matt 7:7-8 Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.
- Hebrews 13:3 Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body.

PRAYER REQUESTS

OUR CHURCH AND HER PEOPLE

1. Pray that God would bless our church with a spirit of repentance and that we might be the chief repenters.
2. For God to work in our hearts so that we would rid our lives of those things that vie for God's place in our lives.
3. That we may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Ephesians 3:18-19
4. Pray that we would glorify God and enjoy Him forever.
5. Pray for our "wilderness children" who come from Christian homes but choose to live apart and have little or no relationship with God.

FAMILIES

1. That marriages and families would be strengthened in our church and community.
2. That fathers and mothers would make spending time with children a priority.
3. That God would enable parents to love and discipline children as He intends.
4. That God would protect our children's minds in a sexually perverse culture.
5. That our children would understand the gospel at an early age and seek a relationship with Christ.
6. That prayer with our children would be a priority & family devotions would be part of our homes. Deuteronomy 6:4-9
7. That our children would respect authority and "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." Ephesians 4:32.
8. That our children would make responsible decisions about friends and activities.
9. That individuals and families within our church would seize upon opportunities to reach out and minister to others, sharing the Love of Christ.

SINGLES MINISTRY

1. Pray for those trudging through the labyrinth of confusion and heartache associated with divorce, that they may fix their eyes upon Jesus and that they may know His leading and His comforting love.
2. For single parents to find those resources they need for themselves and their children, including some through our church.
3. For single people seeking significance to find their acceptance in Christ, even exemplifying Him in the marketplace.
4. For knowledge of those areas of life where Christ has not been pre-eminent, and that He would be ruler of all.
5. That we would learn to honor all of God's children, including those who do not draw our natural affection.

PRAYER REQUESTS

OLDER GENERATION

1. To be faithful to the end.
2. To stay in the Word and worship.
3. To have family and friends walk beside them.
4. To have the joy of ministry in prayer, teaching or mentoring.
5. To have a church that is aware of their needs and keeps in touch.
6. That God would be with shut-ins, encourage and strengthen them as some deal with loneliness, fear of aging and dying, discouragement, depression, relocation / living arrangements, loss of control / lack of faith, anger.
7. That they will be wonderful witnesses and examples of their trust in God.

SICK AND INFIRMED

1. That all among our church family who are bedridden or handicapped will be visited regularly by church staff and / or lay persons.
2. That the presence of God would be manifest to those who are sick, as well as to their families.
3. That miracles of healing would continue to be seen, and that God would get the glory.
4. That doctors, nurses and technicians would be blessed in their work, given insight and understanding, and that they would leave no stone unturned yet make no extra, unnecessary work.
5. That caretakers would be blessed in their work and not overwhelmed.

LAY LEADERSHIP — VOLUNTEERS, TEACHERS & OFFICERS

1. To be sold out to Jesus, with hearts patterned after God's own heart.
2. To be in the Word regularly, studying more and more deeply the mind, heart and will of God.
3. To be serious prayer warriors for their charges.
4. To be granted discernment, insight, wisdom and a spirit of unity, waiting upon the LORD.
5. To be properly balanced in their own family responsibilities, their work for the church, and their work in the marketplace.
6. That leaders would lead with humility, not seeking the place of honor, but seeking to serve rather than be served. Matt 20:25-28

PRAYER REQUESTS

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

1. That those who are serving **Bereavement Meals** would be a real blessing to those who have recently lost loved ones.
2. That the **Card-e-ology** volunteers would be energized through their co-workers' creativity and have a joyful time together.
3. That those who write and send **Cards** to Honor Roll/ Honored Friends and Seniors for birthdays, to new parents, new members, and those bereaved would have the gift of encouragement through the written word.
4. That those of the **Care and Concern Ministry** would be as blessed as those they visit who are home bound.
5. That there would be more volunteers to visit **Honor Roll** (homebound) members, especially for delivering Easter cakes and Christmas gifts, sending cards and making calls.
6. That those **Touching Lives for Christ** (TLC) would be continually refreshed by the gifting of meals to those who are ill, or who have had a baby or recently lost a loved one.
7. That the joy and excitement of new birth would well up in those who serve in the **New Babies Ministry**.
8. That the outreach team that serves our **Widows and Widowers** would be creative in planning luncheons and outings for those widowed, and be a real encouragement to them.
9. That the **Flower Ministry** would flourish with volunteers dividing the worship service bouquets into smaller arrangements for delivery to those in hospitals, nursing homes, etc., and for more small vases to recycle.
10. That the **Golf Cart Ministry** would get up and running again so those who need help getting from their cars to the church are assisted.
11. For IAWL, **It's A Wonderful Life**, for the Senior members of our church to be blessed with fun and encouraging special programs and fellowship over hot lunches as well as on field trips.
12. That the **Phone Prayer Chain** would have enough volunteers to pray for those with serious medical needs.
13. For the **Stephen Ministry** to recruit more volunteers for special training and confidential one-to-one Christian care to those weighed down with grief, loneliness, divorce, hospitalization, disability, job loss or other life difficulties.
14. For the Christian Women's 12 Step Program, **Beatitude Living**, as they deal with issues of perfectionism, control, codependency, eating disorders, or the addictions of family or friends.
15. That volunteers would join in the **Caregivers Support Group** to call, write, and/or visit caregivers.
16. That the **Griefshare Ministry** would be wonderful support for those working through the death of a family member or friend.

PRAYER REQUESTS

DISCIPLESHIP

1. Pray for the 14 different **Adult Sunday School Classes**, that all would rise into full activity and see spontaneous participation and growth.
1. Pray for the Monday morning **Women's Prayer Groups** to be blessed in their ministry.
2. For all those involved in **Women's Bible Studies**: Pray that planning for each year's studies would be guided by the Holy Spirit and would be effective in the lives of the women who attend.
3. For mentoring and prayer groups including **Square 1 and Titus 2**.
4. Please support through prayer the **Daily Hospital List** and the **E-prayer** ministry of up-to-the-minute prayer requests by e-mail. Pray for the strength and health of these saints.
5. That God would fuel a desire for a continuing **Small Groups** ministry such as **D Groups** and **Journey Groups** to arise spontaneously among men and women in our church.
6. That the **Greeters** who meet folks at the Douglas Street doors and in the Connector would be filled with enthusiasm.
7. **Building Spiritual Reproducers**: This workshop is for mature believers who want to see their outreach bear fruit, or more fruit. Pray for more participants to sign up and put the lessons into practice.
8. For the **Midweek Ministry** to get up and running again and for all the volunteers and staff to return for all the various ministries that add so much to the vitality of our church.
9. That those participating in the **Fathers' Ministry** would be a true encouragement to each other to build better relationships, accountability and stronger families.
10. That those working in the **History and Church Archives** section would be blessed with more volunteers, that members would bring new items for the collection, that the collection we have now would be preserved.
11. That more volunteers would chip in with the work of the **Church Library**.
12. That the **Life-on-Life Groups** would enrich and grow the discipleship training in their Journey Groups.
13. For the **Assimilation and New Members** ministry to effectively educate and edify newcomers in the Gospel as they introduce them to First Presbyterian Church.
14. That our church would continue to be hospitable to non-believers, repenting of any self-righteousness that would keep the lost away from our Shepherd.
15. Pray for an increase of personal evangelism in our church, that we would have a burning passion to share Christ with others.
16. That we would be a welcoming and receiving church in obedience to James 2:1-4 - "My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory..."

PRAYER REQUESTS

PASTORAL STAFF

1. For the unction of the Holy Spirit to attend our worship services.
2. For the power of the LORD in preaching.
3. For pastoral wisdom in applying Scripture for counseling.
4. For wisdom in staff leadership as they shepherd the business of the church.
5. For our pastors to be good listeners to the LORD as they seek to lead through the Spirit.
6. For pastors ministering to their own families as they have many demands for ministry to others.
7. For the personal spiritual growth of our pastoral staff, that their cups would continue to be filled to overflowing, knowing and experiencing the LORD they are sharing.

CHURCH STAFF

1. That all who work for our church are blessed in and by their work.
2. That communications be given that are clear and understandable.
3. That work would be accomplished effectively, without undue pressures.
4. That our staff would be truly appreciated by our members and pastors.
5. That the enthusiasm and love of our staff be contagious, caught by all around.

MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY STAFF

1. LIVESTREAM services, Vimeo Sunday School lessons and Zoom meetings: that the technical aspects would be mastered for good communications.
2. CHURCH WEBSITES: That our several websites would be reaching those who need to know about First Pres and its many ministries, including CVP and World Missions.
3. RADIO MINISTRY: That this ministry would see and hear of its harvest.
4. CD MINISTRY — God’s guidance in new directions and that the ministry may be a blessing to many.

CHOIR AND MUSICIANS

1. Pray that those choir members and instrumentalists would be healthy and resilient under the pressures of joyful performances.
2. Pray for consistent attendance at Choir rehearsals and performances.
3. For growth in various areas of the Music Ministry, including orchestral development, the Hand Bell Choir, etc...
4. For the Children’s Choir to find joy in that ministry, and for some to begin to realize their God-given talent.
5. Thanksgiving for all the talented singers and musicians we have.

PRAYER REQUESTS

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

1. For our Nursery Coordinators as they minister to all of our nursery children and their parents as the little children are brought to Jesus.
2. For our Children's Director as she organizes and leads ministry to all the children of the church from infants to fifth graders, working for all of them to See Jesus, Savor Jesus and Share Jesus.
3. That Sunday School teachers have time, desire, and passion to prepare lessons well and be committed to the work for which they have been called.
4. That the Sunday School students have a real desire to learn. Give them "soft" hearts that are ready and willing to receive teaching and the Spirit.
5. That the program materials would be exciting, engaging, have real depth and meaning for the lives they are meant to reach. That Holy Spirit would help Sunday School teachers relate the materials to the hearts of students.
6. That the Holy Spirit prepare the way for lessons to find "good soil," so that the Sunday School program helps win souls for Jesus.
7. That the Sunday School program be integrated with the mission and purpose of First Presbyterian Church. May it be a program that draws people to the worship of Jesus Christ and helps teach deeply the Word of Truth.
8. For the children of First Presbyterian Church to be filled with the wonder of Christ and His resurrection.
9. For the children memorizing Bible verses, that the Holy Spirit would use the verses to deepen their understanding of Christ and His redeeming love.
10. For parents as they actively shepherd the hearts of their children to realize that they are God's primary instruments for spiritual development.
11. For all the Sunday School teachers, volunteers and leaders to grow in their knowledge and love of the Lord Jesus and His Word.
12. For all of those who teach and lead children to help the children begin to see the Glory of God in scripture and in their lives.

COLLEGE MINISTRY

1. Pray for students who attend our church from both UTC and Covenant College to get to know some of our older folks who can disciple them in a Word based, relationship driven way.
1. That a vibrant outreach to college students would take hold and grow.
2. Pray for more of our members to reach out to students, especially to those far from home.
3. So many students tend to fall away from Biblical foundations as their faith is challenged in academic environments. Pray for our College Outreach to be firmly planted and flourishing.
4. For the ministries of RUF, CRU, The House, InterVarsity and Titus 2 Groups to flourish on the UTC Campus and Covenant College.

PRAYER REQUESTS

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

1. Pray that God would bless our youth leaders as they minister to the many middle and high schoolers.
2. As the gospel goes forth, that lives would be changed and students would grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
3. That during this pivotal point in their lives, students would take ownership of their faith and that they would be able to articulate clearly what they believe and explain how those beliefs connect with the rest of their lives.
4. That the Middle School Ministry of First Presbyterian would be a place where meaningful relationships are built and true community is encouraged.
5. For a love of and hunger for God's Word among our students.
6. For the leaders and volunteers, that they would be men and women who shepherd the students with integrity of heart and skillful hands, and that the Lord would enable them to love, serve and teach students in a way that glorifies God.
7. That the entire ministry be bathed in prayer, both privately and publicly.
8. For more volunteers in the Pray for Me ministry where 3 adult Prayer Champions from 3 different generations pray for one student for a year.
9. For small group leaders' ongoing preparation and ability to develop relationships with students quickly, so that they can be effective leaders.
10. For a high percentage of student participation in small groups.
11. For the small groups ministry to further God's kingdom among our students.
12. For leadership among parents, in that parents would deeply desire to get together and pray for their children.
13. For an atmosphere of godly parenting to permeate our church.
14. For fresh energy among our volunteers. Pray for both renewal among those God is calling to further service and discernment for those whom God is calling on elsewhere.
15. For those new volunteers who have come recently: pray for their adjustment and finding a niche among the youth where they (and their gifts) will thrive.
16. Pray that our student leaders would grow beyond the desire merely to make decisions for their peers and begin to have a heart for reaching the lost, the outcasts, and growing deeper in their own faith.
17. That our youth group will continue to grow in their heart for worship. Please pray that the Holy Spirit would move among our youth to want to worship the Lord.
18. That our students would want to be disciplined – particularly as we undertake the small group initiative.

PRAYER REQUESTS

WORLD MISSIONS

1. For World Missions, tasked with making disciples in the world—facilitated through the targeted selection and funding of missionaries, indigenous church planters, short-term teams, and projects that promote the establishment, growth, and maturation of indigenous-led churches and movements in strategic global cities.
2. For the career missionary families and indigenous church planters/church pastors supported by our church who impact over 260 cities in 55 countries with the gospel in Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, and Latin America.
3. For Global Connect, the series of seminars presented by World Missions partners.
4. For the preparations for the World Missions Conference usually scheduled for the fall of each year.
5. For more members to join the World Missions Committee; and for more volunteers to join the work of the Hattie McCallie Missionary Closet, the First Friends ministry to International Students, and the Prayer Team that meets each Wednesday at 4:30 pm.
6. For the World Missions staff, including the Executive Director, Executive Assistant and the World Missions Executive Committee as they lead and manage this ministry.
7. For the Lord to provide the funding needed for World Missions to support its mission partners and implement its vision of church planting movements in strategic global cities.
8. For continued wisdom in how to minister effectively and efficiently during our current global challenges and ever-changing world.

FIRST FRIENDS

1. Pray for young Christian leaders who would join in this vibrant ministry to students from around the world.
2. Pray that each of the international students attending UTC will have a Christian friend willing to be in contact with them five times a month.
3. For students to be fluent enough with the English language that they can succeed in their classwork and hear the truth of a loving Savior.
4. For students seeking to understand that eternal life is a free gift, not earned by works.
5. As new students come and need help with the emotional culture shock they experience, that the Lord will make caring folks available who will bring them to a confidence that they are welcomed, loved, and accepted.
6. Ask for the Lord to move in hearts, so that at least three people will join to intercede on Sunday mornings for these students. Spiritual battles are won here!

PRAYER REQUESTS

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

1. For newly elected officers, committee chairs and committee members.
2. For the Senior Adult Ministries. Keeping in touch with those home bound and in nursing homes.
3. Pray for all those involved in Mercy Ministries, Communication Ministries, Hospitality Ministries, and Special Events Ministries.
4. Pray for those involved in Prayer Ministry for our church and congregation, and for those involved with all aspects of missions where the women minister.
5. Thanksgiving for the work of the Nominating Committee and all those who have agreed to help in women's ministries for the next year.
6. Pray that all women in our church will know that they are valued, loved, and needed in ministry to our church, and that they enjoy sweet fellowship together, young and old, in unity.

MEN'S MINISTRIES

1. For more men to become involved in small groups.
2. That more men would seek opportunities to meet with other men in Bible Study and prayer.

CAMP VESPER POINT

1. Pray for our Camp Director and Year-Round Staff as well as success in recruiting Summer Staff.
2. That there would be an abundance of volunteers at camp work days.
3. Safety at camp.
4. Summer Staff – that God would prepare them for loving kids and sharing Christ.
5. A camp full of campers – that God would bring kids that need Him to camp and fill it.
6. Pray for an atmosphere of people serving others and thinking of the interests of others before themselves.
7. That God would draw kids to Himself in a way that it is obviously Him doing the work.
8. That Christian campers would be challenged to faithfully follow Christ more fully.
9. Pray for campers who don't know Christ, that they would come to follow Jesus.
10. Pray for year-round ministry of camp throughout retreat season.
11. Pray for CVP Ministry Team as we move forward with our long-range plan.
12. Pray for camp development and capital campaign.

PRAYER REQUESTS

HOME MISSIONS

1. **RAPHA** - a Diaconate led outreach, seeking to build relationships with our neighbors in need, offering three courses on Wednesday nights: Faith & Works; Faith & Finances; and Faith & Relationships, as well as a Sunday morning Bible 101 class. Pray for more volunteers to assist the Deacons.
2. **PRISON MINISTRIES**: for volunteers to faith-walk alongside incarcerated individuals, helping to address spiritual needs, discipleship, and facilitating their return to families, the Christian community and society; Metanoia, for volunteers with training to offer correspondence courses to prisoners; Walker State Prison, for more male volunteer mentors (80 to 90 on waiting list); Women's Prison Ministry at The Next Door (pre-release) on Moccasin Bend, for more women volunteers to mentor residents and join select group activities.
3. **CBMC** — For more dedicated volunteers to minister to men in the Chattanooga area. Pray that the Lord will provide another staff person for them.
4. **CHANNELS OF LOVE** — Channels provides Thanksgiving Food baskets to HIV/AIDS affected families as well as some weekly Bible studies.
5. **GOOD NEWS CLUB** - children's ministry in the Orchard Knob Elementary School, that the Child Evangelism Fellowship volunteers would be enough to help with the Prayer Team, The Club Team and the Snack Team.
6. **KID'S HOPE USA** - for volunteer mentors to reach disadvantaged students at Orchard Knob Elementary and for the time they spend each week with the students to be fruitful in the lives of their students.
7. For the **OUTREACH FUNDING** to finance programs to spread the gospel in East Tennessee and North Georgia.

NATIONAL MISSIONS

1. **SAMARITAN ROAD**: 1st Pres volunteers meet on Fridays at the Salvation Army on McCallie Ave. to provide music, devotion and breakfast for about 60 individuals. Pray for more workers of the harvest and that there would be an abundance of encouragement, friendship, sharing of the Gospel and prayer.
2. **SACRED ROAD MISSION TRIP**: Summer mission trip to Yakama, Washington, White Swan Indian Reservation to join our home mission team in sharing the love of Jesus by repairing homes, working with children in the Kids Club, adult Bible lessons and informal activities. Pray for volunteers and funds to keep this ministry active, hopefully on an annual basis.
3. **VOLUNTEERS IN MEDICINE**: Pray for God's blessing on coordination of more than 100 volunteers monthly, including doctors, nurses, lab techs and those doing clerical work with registrations, computer and phone work.

PRAYER REQUESTS

CHURCH PLANTING - Tennessee Valley Presbytery, Mission to N. America

As Paul said of his own church planting efforts, “I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth” (1 Cor. 3:6). Please pray God would bring us the right planters and places to start new churches. Pray also that we would see fruit from this ministry which can only be attributed to the surprising and powerful work of God’s Spirit.

1. Pray for the 7 existing church plants: Resurrection Presbyterian, Knoxville, TN; Grace Mission Church; Knoxville, TN; Restoration Southside, Chattanooga, TN; Lakeway Presbyterian, Morristown, TN; Grace and Peace, Ooltewah, TN; and the Mosaic Fellowship, Chattanooga, TN; and the Woodlands Gathering to find land along the I-27/111 Corridor.
2. For the next 5 church plants to start: Ringgold, GA; Tiftonia, TN; Powell, TN; Dunlap, TN; and Athens, TN
3. For hiring an Executive Director
4. Pray that our congregation will share a vision of our church as not simply a place to go for worship, but as a body of believers who are sent out for the proclamation of the Word; that missions at home, across America, and around the world would be a seamless expression of who we are as the Body of Christ.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. Pray for General Assembly that many commissioners will be in attendance.
2. Pray for the host committee and all of those making decisions about seminars, women and children’s events, and hotels.
3. Pray for the election of the Moderator for this assembly.
4. Pray for deliberation and debate of overtures submitted by presbyteries.
5. Pray for the meetings of the Committees of Commissioners.
6. Pray for the seminar speakers and those leading the worship services.
7. Pray for safety and health of the children and youth as well as the women participating in their events.
8. Pray for those taking care of children and youth.

PRAYER REQUESTS

SESSION (The Church's elected body of governing Elders)

Pray that the LORD would guide and direct the Elders as they lead and shepherd the flock at First Pres. That they would seek His wisdom in every decision they are called to make as overseers of those entrusted to their care, and that they would love them as the LORD loves His Church. That Jesus would reign supreme in everything they do as a Session, and that all of their actions would be to the Glory of our Great God. That they would be unified in their Kingdom work as Elders. That they would be ever-vigilant in praying over and for the congregation. That they would remain in keeping with the qualifications of their calling as found in the book of Timothy.

Pray for all the standing Committees, Ministry Teams and Commissions:

1. Advisory Committee
2. Camp Vesper Point Ministry
3. Communion Committee
4. Pastoral Care Committee
5. Prayer Committee
6. Nominating Committee
7. Scholarship Committee
8. Standing Judicial Commission
9. World Missions Committee

DIACONATE (an elected church office)

1. **BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE:** Concerned with the condition of Church facilities and property, its maintenance & general upkeep as well as responding to ministry needs for facility renovation or construction. Pray that this committee would serve the church's ministries through its facilities.
2. **COMMUNICATION:** Thank God for these talented Deacons, generous with their time, as they work with various media to get the message of Jesus and His people across to each other, to Chattanooga and beyond.
3. **BUDGET:** Pray for these dedicated men to have wisdom and foresight as they develop the annual operating budget, known as the Deacons' Budget, which is approved by the Finance Committee, the entire Diaconate, and Session before being presented to the Congregation.
4. **MERCY & COMPASSION:** Pray for this team to be blessed in their work with church members and walk-ins who feel overwhelmed by situations. For them as they work with neighborhood folks through the Rapha Ministry with a weekly meal and Scripture based educational classes on relationships, finances and work.

PRAYER REQUESTS

DIACONATE (continued)

1. **FINANCE:** All the financial activities of the church are overseen by this committee. Pray for their insight, understanding and wisdom.
2. **MINISTRY SUPPORT:** All available Deacons are requested to serve as ushers, not only for regular worship services, but for other special services throughout the year.
3. **SECURITY:** This team develops and implements security for our complex facility. Pray for wisdom in strategizing emergency measures in case of fire, medical incidents, disasters and other unplanned situations.
4. **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:** Pray for recruitment, vetting, nomination and training of new Deacons.

SECULAR GOVERNMENT

1. Pray for our local city, county, state and national leaders, elected and appointed, that they do the will of God.
2. For our President, for wisdom and that he would seek to serve God and man.
3. That prayer and worship remain a vital part of our public tradition.
4. For our policemen and firemen, and all first responders for safety and protection on the job, for keeping the peace.
5. For judges of civil and criminal courts, that they would reflect Biblical law.
6. For righteousness to reign, not deceit and disgrace.
7. For our men and women in harm's way, for their safety and success, and for their families.
8. For our country to be respected as a force of good in an evil world.

CHATTANOOGA

1. Pray that Chattanooga would become a city for God, a light upon a hill.
2. For the neighborhoods where people of our church reside, that there be active outreach for Christ.
3. For the crime rate to go down and the righteous to prosper.
4. For schools to open many doors to Bible education.
5. For businesses to be run by the Book, the Bible.
6. For churches to be living testimonies of the love of God, showing the way to Him and not standing in the way of revelation.
7. For parachurch organizations to thrive according to their Biblical witness.
8. For the poor and vulnerable to be ministered to properly by churches as much as or more than by the government.

WORLDWIDE CONCERNS

PERSECUTION - Pray for protection and boldness of those proclaiming the Gospel. For wisdom of pastors to know how to speak about the protests within their congregations and what positions to take. Some churches are splitting over disagreement about how strong the churches' position should be. That God would take captive the hearts of government people. That much fruit will be born out of the current persecution. Pray for healing and recovery for believers and unbelievers who are being beaten and imprisoned daily. Pray for release without torture, effective legal support and that the judges' hearts of stone will become hearts of flesh and that they will be merciful and just.

TERRORISM — Terrorist violence has taken a toll in Afghanistan, Iraq, Indonesia, Pakistan, Nigeria, Japan, Spain, the United States and elsewhere. No one is immune from attack. Pray that the terrorist plans would be thwarted and that God would lead those filled with hate to a saving knowledge of God through faith in Jesus Christ.

EVANGELISM — Pray for the safety of Christians sharing the Gospel with Muslims. Pray that Christians will withstand persecution and persevere in their ministry work, regardless of increase or decrease of terrorism or governmental oppression. Help new believers to understand that for believers, to live is Christ and to die is gain. Pray that Christians will embrace new converts as their own brothers and sisters.

MIDDLE EAST — The ancient enmity between Israelis and Arabs continues in modern times, just with more sophisticated weaponry. Killing between Israelis and Palestinians ebbs but then breaks out again in constant retribution. Pray for the Abraham Accords to take hold and spread to many nations. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem and the return of our Savior.

AFRICA — Violence, lack of education, a society of male dominance, moral indifference and a lack of medicine all contribute to pandemic. Additionally, tribal wars, slavery and hunger still plague many people groups. Pray for society to change as God changes hearts through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

CHINA — Many millions of Chinese are oppressed by their government. Outlawed Christian worship must be carried out in secret. Abortion is enforced through coercive laws. Free Chinese nationalists on Taiwan live under threat of war with the mainland Communist Republic. Massive numbers of Christians have been arrested and sent to work camps to build products for Chinese export. Pray for the continued advance of the Gospel in China and for the human rights of Chinese people.

REVIVAL PRAYER

Let us put our hearts and voices together to answer the call of God for us to call upon Him! You have read it in the Old Testament — God’s invitation, “Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.” (Jeremiah 33:3). You have even heard it from the lips of Jesus, “My house shall be called a house of prayer” (Matthew 21:13).

In challenging us to pray, reflect on the words of Robert Murray McCheyne: “I ought to spend the best hours of the day in communion with God. It is my noblest and most fruitful employment, and is not to be thrust into any corner.”

Only through repentance, salvation, and transformation through Christ will revival occur in our land. Pray that God would bring new life into the hearts of the lost in our city, nation, and world and would bring about revival in the hearts and minds of His people. With the decline of the influence of God’s Word and His law and the rise of secularism and materialism in our culture, many unbiblical and immoral practices are commonplace today: the practice of abortion, the redefining of gender and sexuality, and the rise of hatred and division along racial lines. Pray that God would strengthen His Church to stand for what He has declared to be right and to oppose what He has said is wrong and unjust. May we face the present darkness of this world with the light of the gospel as ministers of reconciliation and spark a new Great Awakening in this nation. “He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” Micah 6:8.

If you want to pray for revival in America and beyond, read Deuteronomy 28 to see what blessings obedience brings and what curses disobedience brings. Then read 2 Timothy 3:1-9. Read about Hezekiah’s revival in II Chronicles 29-30. Read Zephaniah 3:9-10, Isaiah 19:18-25, and Psalm 22:27-28.

You may also want to study relatively recent revivals. Visit YouTube videos of preaching on Revival by Vance Havner, J. Edwin Orr, Leonard Ravenhill and others including Billy Graham. Look up Evan Roberts of the 1904 Welsh Revival who reminded each audience to whom he spoke: God will pour out the fires of revival only when four things happen: 1) Public confession of Jesus Christ as Savior; 2) Confession of every known sin; 3) Forsaking of every doubtful activity; and 4) Prompt, complete obedience to the Spirit.

Also, read this excellent article on revival history by J. Edwin Orr:
<http://www.jedwinorr.com/resources/articles/prayandrevival.pdf>

II Chronicles 7:13-14

When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain,
or command the locust to devour the land,
or send pestilence among my people,
if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray
and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways,
then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin
and heal their land.

MEDITATIONS ON PRAYER

- Matt 18:19-20 Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”
- Mark 11:24 Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.
- Mark 11:25 And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.”
- Psalm 51:10-13 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.
- John 14:12-14 Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.
- John 15:7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.
- John 15:16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.
- John 16:23-24 In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.
- 1 Peter 4:7 The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.