

40 DAY PRAYER GUIDE

May God bless us with the fullness of His Presence as we, the body of Christ, join together in humble, fervent prayer. As we pray faithfully during this search process, may we be quick to remember and pray for those who currently serve us as pastors and ministering staff members. May we never fail to thank God for our church staff and their devoted service to our church family as we pray for them each day.

For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them. - Matthew 18:20

“What an extraordinary privilege united prayer is! What a potential power it has! Who can say what blessing might be gained, if in every church united, effective prayer were regarded as one of the chief purposes for which they are banded together; if in the universal Church the coming of the Kingdom and of the King Himself were really a matter of unceasing, united crying to God!”

Andrew Murray - With Christ In the School of Prayer

DAY

1

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 3:5-6

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for the church to wholeheartedly trust the Lord while searching for a pastor.
- Pray for the search committee to trust the Holy Spirit's leadership.
- Pray for the pastor God has chosen for us that he will also seek and trust the leading of the Holy Spirit

DAY

2

SCRIPTURE READING: REVELATION 2:1-7

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for the church to return to her first love, Jesus Christ.
- Pray for the church and search committee to hear the Spirit clearly throughout the pastor search process.
- Pray for our coming pastor(s) to desire to glorify Jesus Christ above all else in life.

DAY

3

SCRIPTURE READING: EPHESIANS 4:1-6

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for unity and peace in the church while searching for our pastor(s). Pray for a strong sense of unity among the search committee as they review and discuss potential pastoral candidates.
- Pray for our coming pastor(s) that their families will have unity concerning God's leading.

DAY

4

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 15:1-8

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for church members to continually abide in Christ and produce much fruit that glorifies the Father during any transition/interim period.
- Pray for search committee members to remain close to Christ and centered in his Word.
- Pray for the coming pastor(s) and family that they will each draw even closer to Christ as God prepares them for this calling.

DAY

5

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 15:9-15

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for church members to abide in the love of Christ and love one another with the love of Christ.
- Pray for God to bond the church and future pastor(s) together in love.

DAY

6

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 15:16-17

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for a season of fruitful ministry as the church prepares for her next pastor.
- Pray for the search committee to be blessed with answered prayers.
- Pray also, that the coming pastor and his family will be blessed as they seek to obey God's calling

DAY

7

SCRIPTURE READING: JEREMIAH 29:11-13

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for the search committee, the church body, our staff, and the coming pastor to hope in God and seek him wholeheartedly with the realization that he is in control of the church's future.

DAY

8

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 139:23-24

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for members of the search committee to have humble hearts before God that are pure and Christ-like as they work through the pastor search process.
- Ask God to reveal your heart to you. Ask Him to show you those areas He wishes to work in your life to make you more like Christ
- Pray for your future pastor, that his heart remain humble and pure before God.

DAY

9

SCRIPTURE READING: EPHESIANS 6:10-11

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray with the understanding that searching for a pastor is primarily a spiritual process, so spiritual warfare will be present.
- Pray for God's protection on the search committee, the church and our future pastor(s).

DAY
10

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 TIMOTHY 2:1-2

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for your future pastor(s) and family to be strengthened by the grace of Jesus Christ.
- Pray that your future pastor(s) will be a faithful disciple-maker.

DAY
11

SCRIPTURE READING: JAMES 1:5-8

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for the search committee to seek God's wisdom as they review resumes and prepare to contact potential pastoral candidates.
- Pray for church leaders and members to seek God's wisdom in the transition/interim.

DAY
12

SCRIPTURE READING: COLOSSIANS 1:9-12

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for your future pastor(s) and family to be certain of God's will to transition to a new field of ministry.
- Pray the Father will be glorified in the search process.

DAY

13

SCRIPTURE READING: ACTS 2:41-42

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for the church to reflect six elements of a healthy church both in the transition/interim period and when the new pastor(s) begins to serve.
- (worship, discipleship, ministry, fellowship, evangelism, and prayer)

DAY

14

SCRIPTURE READING: REVELATION 3:1-6

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for the church to be filled with life through the Holy Spirit. Pray for the church to be strengthened to carry out the vision of the Great Commission. Prayerfully read this passage and let God speak to your heart.
- Matt 28:16-20.

DAY
15

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 13:34-35

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for the search committee(s) and the church to be obedient to Christ's command to love one another.
- Pray the church's Christ-like love will be seen in our community and among our mission partners.

DAY
16

SCRIPTURE READING: EPHESIANS 3:20-21

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray the power of Christ would be known in and through the church and that all glory would be given to him throughout the pastor search process.

DAY
17

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 51:10-12

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for each member of the search committee to stay close to the Lord through hearts that are continually cleansed by him.
- Pray for both pastor(s) we seek to live humbly before God and keep hearts free of sin before the Lord.

DAY
18

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 TIMOTHY 4:1-5

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for your future pastor(s) to faithfully preach and teach the Word of God. Pray the Lord gives the church a hunger to know and follow his Word and enthusiasm to the Word preached by the new pastor. Pray for growing numbers of the church committed to discipleship and evangelism.

DAY
19

SCRIPTURE READING: HEBREWS 13:17

Prayer Prompts:

Pray for your future pastor(s) to faithfully shepherd the church and for members of the church to willingly and joyfully serve with their leadership.

DAY
20

SCRIPTURE READING: JOSHUA 1:9

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for each member of the search committee to have an overwhelming sense of God's presence and guidance as they work through the steps of the pastor search process.

DAY
21

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 2:2-6

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for your future pastor(s) to seek God's wisdom in every area of life and decision making.
- Pray for the search committee to be attentive to the Lord's wisdom.

DAY
22

SCRIPTURE READING: JAMES 4:1-12

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for church members to humble themselves before the Lord and seek his cleansing power and spiritual renewal in our congregation.
- Pray for the search committees to continually submit to God's will.

DAY
23

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 17:20-23

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for the church to be unified so that the world will be impacted with the gospel and the Father will be glorified.
- Pray for the search committees to be unified in their decision making.

DAY
24

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 TIMOTHY 2:15

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for a pastor who is able to rightly divide the Word of God.
- Pray for the search committees as they listen to sermons of potential pastoral candidates.

DAY
25

SCRIPTURE READING: JEREMIAH 33:3

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray that a burden for deep and urgent prayer permeates the church not only as we seek God's will for a pastor(s), but also as we seek God's direction for the church.

DAY
26

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 TIMOTHY 3:1-7

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for your next pastor(s) to be a person who exhibits Christ-like character both publicly and privately.
- Pray for your future pastors' family members in transition to new work and home.

DAY
27

SCRIPTURE READING: COLOSSIANS 3:12-17

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for our church to grow in love toward one another.
- Pray for unresolved conflict to be worked out and for reconciliation among any broken relationships in the church.

DAY
28

SCRIPTURE READING: EPHESIANS 1:15-23

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for our future pastor(s) to grow in the wisdom and knowledge of Christ.
- Pray for the church to look to Christ as the head of the body

DAY
29

SCRIPTURE READING: REVELATION 3:14-22

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for the church to fight against lukewarm spirituality.
- Pray church members repent of a lukewarm spirituality and become filled with a zeal for Jesus and his Kingdom work.

DAY
30

SCRIPTURE READING: HEBREWS 10:19-25

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for the church to be committed to biblical worship.
- Pray for the search committee to be confident that they are following God's will as they make decisions regarding future pastor(s).

DAY
31

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 PETER 5:1-4

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray that your future pastor(s) shepherds the church in a biblical and Christ-exalting manner.
- Pray for our future pastors' walk with Christ.

DAY
32

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 PETER 5:5-7

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for mutual respect and humility between the church and our future pastor(s).
- Pray for the church to follow the leadership of future pastor(s).

DAY
33

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 PETER 5:8-9

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for the search committee to remain humble before God and that they will not be anxious, but trust God's leadership.
- Pray that the church will stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

DAY
34

SCRIPTURE READING: EPHESIANS 5:15-16

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for the search committee to make wise use of their time during their meetings.
- Pray for the Lord to reveal His will to your future pastor(s).

DAY
35

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 55:6-9

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray that in times of discouragement, the search committee and the church will seek the Lord diligently and have confidence that he is at work bringing the church and future pastor(s) together.

DAY
36

SCRIPTURE READING: COLOSSIANS 1:24-29

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray that when the time comes to extend a call to each or our next pastors, God will make it unmistakably clear to the pastor and church.
- Pray for the Lord to work powerfully in the church to make disciples.

DAY
37

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 TIMOTHY 2:24-26

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for the search committee to discern if potential pastoral candidates possess the biblical qualities of a servant of the Lord.
- Pray for the church to affirm these qualities in their future pastor(s).

DAY
38

SCRIPTURE READING: GALATIANS 6:9

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for the search committee to not grow weary in their work. Pray that the search committee and the church will be able to see God's hand at work bringing us and our future pastor(s) together.

DAY
39

SCRIPTURE READING: PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray that Christ's attitude of humility and servanthood permeates both the search committee and the church during the pastor search process.

DAY
40

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 28:18-20

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for your church to be a Great Commission church that makes disciples.
- Pray that your future pastor(s) will be Great Commission – Great Commandment leaders.