



Wesleyan Covenant Association International Intercessors Network Prayer Guide July, 2024

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Theme: Moving Forward

Jesus Christ our Lord challenges us to follow him and to focus completely on him. Jesus says to us all in Luke 9:57-62:

57 As they were going along the road, someone said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' 58 And Jesus said to him, 'Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.' 59 To another he said, 'Follow me.' But he said, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my father.' 60 But Jesus said to him, 'Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.' 61 Another said, 'I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.' 62 Jesus said to him, 'No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God (Lk. 9:57-62, NRSV).

Have you ever looked back, or taken your eyes off of Jesus? Jesus tells us that following him and sharing his gospel of repentance, faith, and salvation takes precedent even over burying our own dead (Lk. 9:59-60, NRSV)! Jesus reminds us that proclaiming the kingdom of God is our ultimate mission and focus. Further, Jesus said, we might not even have time to say goodbye to our family, and we must follow him immediately! If we turn back and look at where we were, then we are of no use to the kingdom of God.

On May 1, 2022, the Global Methodist Church was birthed, but if many of us are honest we have looked back to where we used to be. If we are honest many of us have been distracted from where we used to be. Jesus tells us to not do this, but it is our human and fallen nature. I believe that I can speak for many of us about the hurt, loss, anger, frustration, and emotional drain of leaving our previous denomination.

Many of us still have many friends in our previous denomination and might have a decades long history in our last denomination. In addition to this, we also know that there are churches, pastors, and lay persons who are not happy remaining in our former denomination. Some might ask, "well how can we not look back?" It is very hard, and it would seem that some of us struggle with this.

I, for one, pray for the denomination that many of us left, and truly hope they are blessed by God. My hope and prayer for this the month of July, is that we can all enter

this reality even more. Let us pray for those still trying to exit to the Global Methodist Church, but at the same time do our best to be focused on what the Holy Spirit is doing in us, and through us in the GMC!

July 1-6: Being Real With Ourselves Before God:

Scripture: *Philippians 3:13-14:*

¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus (Phil. 3:13-14, NRSV).

Prayer and reflection questions for the week:

- Do I still hold resentment and anger towards my previous church denomination?
- Do I still have wounds and hurts in leaving my previous church denomination?
- Do I feel betrayed and lied to by my previous church denomination?
- Am I grateful to God every day to now be part of an Orthodox Wesleyan expression of the Christian faith in the GMC?
- Am I excited and blessed to see how local GMCs are growing, new GMCs being planted, and the GMC church growing all over the world?
- Are my feelings and thoughts about where I was hindering me from where I am now in the GMC?
- Do I truly want to follow Christ with all I am, and leave the past behind?

July 7-13: It is A New Day Church:

Scripture: *Isaiah 43:18-19:*

¹⁸ Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. ¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert (Isa. 43:18-19, NRSV).

Prayer and reflection questions for the week:

- Are we excited, hopeful, and joyful about what the Holy Spirit is doing in us and through us?
- Do we see new hope in our local GMC, and do we see new hope in the broader GMC?
- What excites us and energizes us about what God is doing in the GMC?
- Does it feel good to be part of a church denomination that is theologically unified?
- Can you imagine what the Holy Spirit will do in the coming weeks, months, and years?
- Are you praying for another Great Awakening, and do you believe that the people called Methodists can be used by God in a new and a powerful way?

July 14-20: The Convening General Conference Is Coming:

Scripture: Hebrews 13:7:

⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith (Heb. 13:7, NRSV).

Prayer and reflection questions for the week:

- Are we praying daily for our General Conference delegates and leaders who will be gathering from September 20-26th in San Jose, Costa Rica?
- Do we believe that our convening GMC General Conference will be Holy Spirit filled, and will result in a power new direction for the GMC?
- May we pray for the strength, vitality, and spiritual protection of our General Conference delegates and leaders.
- May we pray that by the end of our convening General Conference, we will see in a clear and powerful way how God is moving, and Holy Spirit is leading the GMC.
- Let us pray that countless souls will come to Christ, countless people will grow closer to Christ, and that countless lives would be changed through Christ.

July 21-31: Now Is The Time To Come Together:

Scripture: Galatians 2:20:

²⁰ and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me (Gal 2:20, NRSV).

Prayer and reflection questions for the week:

- Now is the time church! Now is the time friends! Not tomorrow, not next week, the time is now to be about the work of the gospel of Jesus Christ our Lord!
- May we pray: God use me, humble me, cleanse me, so that I might of service to you, through your church.
- May we pray: God use me to help building you kingdom, to increase my leadership capacity, to grow me in faith and sanctification.
- May we pray: we form stronger connections with other GMCs and other like-minded churches.
- May we pray: the Holy Spirit pour on us, through us, through our churches, through a world that desperately needs Christ.
- May we pray: we will remain strong and rooted in Christ, and may we worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly to the truth and hope of Jesus Christ!

Thank you for your ministry of prayer!

It is a great honor to be partners in ministry with you.