



Speaker:

Name and Role: Rev. Dale Shunk, Coordinator - WCA International Intercessory Prayer Network

Bio: The Rev. Dale Shunk is a retired elder in the Western Pennsylvania Conference of The United Methodist Church, and has since joined in the work of the Wesleyan Covenant Association and transferred to the GMC as a Senior Elder. He now leads the WCA's International Intercessory Prayer Network.

<https://wesleyancovenant.org/2022/09/12/why-pray-join-the-wcas-international-intercessory-prayer-network-by-rev-dale-shunk/>

PRAYER

Topic:

Rev. Carolyn Moore, Wesleyan Covenant Association and Global Methodist Church Pastor and Transitional Council Leader Global Council, writes: *“More than two years ago, we launched the International Intercessory Prayer Network, calling for intercessors to gather in every regional chapter. We now have intercessory groups all over the world, crying out for God to move among us. Every month, intercessors meet by Zoom to seek the Holy Spirit’s leading and listen for the voice of God as we discern the future of the Global Methodist Church.”*

The IIPN wants every church that finds themselves in the valley of decision and struggle at this moment to join in prayer with us. Rev. Shunk joins with us on our consultant team to guide you in that effort! Join us!

Contact: dale.shunk@gmail.com

Task Force Resources:

- **Acts 29 Blueprint for the House of Prayer: Engaging Your City Through Strategic Prayer (Teach Us to Pray Series) by Dr. Terry Teykl (Prayer Point Press 1999)**

[https://www.amazon.com/Acts-Blueprint-House-Prayer-Strategic/dp/B007RXCJV6/ref=sr_1_1?crid=1B58OQB4FT0UI&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.U9EM87wdY5qfrkVBtueFKA.N5OP7xfrIDvraob5ld9vAjOtl8r2okBIKy8qfZ2pmhs&dib_tag=se&keywords=Acts+29+Blueprint+for+the+House+of+Prayer%3A+Engaging+Your+City+Through+Strategic+Prayer+%28Teach+Us+to+Pray+Series%29+by+Dr.+Terry+Teykl+%28Prayer+Point+Press+1999%29&qid=1713314713&s=books&sprefix=acts+29+blueprint+for+the+house+of+prayer+engaging+your+city+through+strategic+prayer+teach+us+to+pray+series+by+dr.+terry+teykl+prayer+point+pre](https://www.amazon.com/Acts-Blueprint-House-Prayer-Strategic/dp/B007RXCJV6/ref=sr_1_1?crid=1B58OQB4FT0UI&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.U9EM87wdY5qfrkVBtueFKA.N5OP7xfrIDvraob5ld9vAjOtl8r2okBIKy8qfZ2pmhs&dib_tag=se&keywords=Acts+29+Blueprint+for+the+House+of+Prayer%3A+Engaging+Your+City+Through+Strategic+Prayer+%28Teach+Us+to+Pray+Series%29+by+Dr.+Terry+Teykl+%28Prayer+Point+Press+1999%29&qid=1713314713&s=books&sprefix=acts+29+blueprint+for+the+house+of+prayer+engaging+your+city+through+strategic+prayer+teach+us+to+pray+series+by+dr.+terry+teykl+prayer+point+press+1999+%2Cstripbooks%2C318&sr=1-1)

- **Global Prayer Digest Frontier Ventures:**

<http://www.globalprayerdigest.org/>

- **How to Pray: The Best of John Wesley on Prayer by John Wesley (Barbour Publishing 2008)**

https://www.amazon.com/How-Pray-Wesley-Prayer-VALUE/dp/1602600147/ref=sr_1_1?crid=3VUORZOY8VIZR&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.hN8Q0ayGw_11mdryL9ddU9fINn6NRuOIGY0vNG5NlpNG8W50Kqy0i8ggmXwcoqh9E5SCHI23spvMoEJmqgArZRFJYfPuWjVgycNWTQXpHubOJMHk0aEbwF7OeUfai4WPiiYMPFSPPyX4b1O2F-yZ1B64m-QG7exWi8jWx7DGhC8jgdgDUpVK2Edsg-X77FUqZuNAOyj6Z_V7xXfpG8yhNolqGFvKmBBdK_NqZcFSzZg.ZAva_Kif130Mq1gg-DiFQ8QJT29uEy4_PGhtwUzYmSw&dib_tag=se&keywords=How+to+Pray%3A+The+Best+of+John+Wesley+on+Prayer+by+John+Wesley+%28Barbour+Publishing+2008%29&qid=1713314814&s=books&prefix=how+to+pray+the+best+of+john+wesley+on+prayer+by+john+wesley+barbour+publishing+2008+%2Cstripbooks%2C152&sr=1-1

- **Operation World: The Definitive Prayer Guide to Every Nation by Jason Mandryk (IVP Books 2010)**

https://www.amazon.com/Operation-World-Definitive-Prayer-Nation/dp/0830857249/ref=sr_1_1?crid=31468R8E9FDQM&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.a-8ZZ301BDQqAZWfXGIWVUFxMq86kWskOuBcLDSXlgnQQ5ydPkYZE6fyJF5GtmfP9F5oKNC4j-xDPxQoH54jLykdjiMj5r-sUahJKeekJpVnOUnmqwuDP2VVJLJmEqaEoOMTFg-XVr2a9SugazO5Yz_QhDkILu06qcxrU5qnINfpjTzKwdsA-F7pwmiaZVu4x2RWT_Uy-3_2iquOyGvv8Xua9K8r_y3Y0QivuLDprSq.1G5i7oepgsIIzqK6XWwV0KScmsmiaiFMVDiGi4L1Q_8&dib_tag=se&keywords=Operation+World%3A+The+Definitive+Prayer+Guide+to+Every+Nation+by+Jason+Mandryk+%28IVP+Books+2010%29&qid=1713314857&s=books&prefix=operation+world+the+definitive+prayer+guide+to+every+nation+by+jason+mandryk+ivp+books+2010+%2Cstripbooks%2C159&sr=1-1

- **Prayer: How Praying Together Shapes the Church by John Onwuchekwa (Crossway 2019)**

https://www.amazon.com/Prayer-Praying-Together-Building-Churches-ebook/dp/B07BDKC419/ref=sr_1_1?crid=HUIITT34ZG0T&dib=eyJ2ljojMSJ9.xqwGI Zk1SKtFB6unS-yqfaod3O-ZCAWgOL3qW9XLA KCJLlrMx HSngwRTDoprYRC3YjqEYAoBFawP36 U1jzCCC WQ5h1ZfHcWrqEP-5X9WIQtuDWP2dye1es8B4Ydk5sga1ntq2n8QxB57B4sB0v4IGb43PiiwAGRwTSqY plxGngTPmgtCJuGbhAFxmlyWxymyxuC75kMFwctpXAU3W5NBZ9BdiO5tVMeoHX eJk11o.h7r1e0yqFr0pfUPaRTxNgLGNsAQU38tewvWLLOH kaU&dib tag=se&keywords=Prayer%3A+How+Praying+Together+Shapes+the+Church+by+John+Onw uchekwa+%28Crossway+2019%29&qid=1713314894&s=books&prefix=prayer+ho w+praying+together+shapes+the+church+by+john+onwuchekwa+crossway+2019 +%2Cstripbooks%2C154&sr=1-1

- **Prayer Revolution: Rebuilding Church and City Through Prayer by John Smed (Moody Publishers 2020)**

https://www.amazon.com/Prayer-Revolution-Rebuilding-Church-Through-ebook/dp/B07YTM1M3R/ref=sr_1_1?crid=FXQO3T9POLQL&dib=eyJ2ljojMSJ9.fPK GELD38 hf- 6ElyFuNA.xdtaJv-dsS0fyM9nGmuCZtqLYqMHNPbrzqZv2h1B3h4&dib tag=se&keywords=Prayer+Re volution%3A+Rebuilding+Church+and+City+Through+Prayer+by+John+Smed+% 28Moody+Publishers+2020%29&qid=1713314938&s=books&prefix=prayer+revol ution+rebuilding+church+and+city+through+prayer+by+john+smed+moody+publi shers+2020+%2Cstripbooks%2C165&sr=1-1

- **Praying God's Word: Breaking Free from Spiritual Strongholds by Beth Moore (B&H Books 2018)**

https://www.amazon.com/Praying-Gods-Word-Spiritual-Strongholds-ebook/dp/B00EZE8LA8/ref=sr_1_1?crid=3PQ2NRVZU2UYT&dib=eyJ2ljojMSJ9.b0 mJfztm2qrY80ivgbaheBjnIUu6Mp5t0kzIzI4vQsy28hamPQ19kQKXRLiM-VOMI0XJeq 4G0Gb0-Uml8Bq2T3CQj8Qet-YT720kLMc5n8.NBwPAcswmEOR teLuP-_mvjoc13fnLTQXQpuKHvq74&dib tag=se&keywords=Praying+God%27s+Word% 3A+Breaking+Free+from+Spiritual+Strongholds+by+Beth+Moore+%28B%26H+Bo oks+2018%29&qid=1713314979&s=books&prefix=praying+god%27s+word+brea king+free+from+spiritual+strongholds+by+beth+moore+b%26h+books+2018+%2 Cstripbooks%2C161&sr=1-1

- **Touch the World through Prayer by Wesley Duewel (Zondervan 1986)**

https://www.amazon.com/Touch-Through-Prayer-Wesley-Duewel/dp/0310362717/ref=sr_1_1?crid=EHULF3JBVPVZ&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.M162WX8Xkvtuj6caUhX1NQ.X_7AV8R8x7NR723jm1Xv_2aLJ3qx5no-OMm2glfiE08&dib_tag=se&keywords=Touch+the+World+through+Prayer+by+Wesley+Duewel+%28Zondervan+1986%29&qid=1713315023&s=books&sprefix=touch+the+world+through+prayer+by+wesley+duewel+zondervan+1986+%2Cstripbooks%2C158&sr=1-1

- **When God's People Pray by Jim Cymbala (Zondervan 2007)**

https://www.amazon.com/Participants-Sessions-Transforming-Zondervan-Paperback/dp/B00DWWCW5O/ref=sr_1_2?crid=2CHDUN64BZKEL&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.P7rL3mlyIBVmaqB0eMHplJzNU3nteqjoJjHJnFUW-0Qt38b_pJh7hryhExWYna-PhwX5tcySKWirdb1vSolTjKkPxI5uA7Ug5XfDRy73p0VLhSJ7hJs3RKO3KnMQKwcXYLxCqoQFA3u6l-pfIRKFA5LqE1RJYx4HfpAZpmW7rahKo4I8tlqQKKe7ye9fcKBBQ4VeSbb4Bjo31-y5aGUv_mlcNxGwYo1yO-FEWIUAYSo.686JPOJ-hSC0bQikBNOXNShNgar8q4JFu3WhM1ioJm8&dib_tag=se&keywords=When+God%E2%80%99s+People+Pray+by+Jim+Cymbala+%28Zondervan+2007%29&qid=1713315055&s=books&sprefix=when+god+s+people+pray+by+jim+cymbala+zondervan+2007+%2Cstripbooks%2C159&sr=1-2



WCA / GMC Prayer Resources
Suggested by Rev. Dale Shunk, Coordinator of
The WCA International Prayer Network
May 21, 2024
Our Goal: Every church a House of Prayer
(Mark 11:17)

"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people, for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness[©] and holiness. ³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior,⁴ who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth." (1 Tim. 2: 1-4)

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I want you to know that the one-hundred and fifteen international Intercessors of the Wesleyan Covenant Association and their local networks are available to you when you need prayer. We will guide you in developing a prayer ministry as we seek to honor our risen Lord Jesus Christ. You can contact us through the GMC and WCA Prayer Tabs on our websites. (www.globalmethodist.org/prayer) (www.wesleyan covenant.org/prayer) And if you feel led by the Holy Spirit to add you name to the WCA IIPN Third Monday monthly Zoom prayer meeting, contact me at dale.shunk@gmail.com and give me your name and email address. I will send you an invitation. You can also send you contact information to prayer@globalmethodist.org and learn about more opportunities to pray with he Body of Christ.

What is your definition of prayer?

Recently I asked Cathy Bihler, a long-time prayer partner this question. How important is prayer in the life of the Christian believer? Her answer was quick and emphatic. She immediately said, "**Prayer is everything!**" In this teaching I want to unpack what "everything" means.

Another definition of prayer from Dr. Johnathan Jording serving with ONE Mission: "**Prayer is opening up to God.**" He goes on to say that "**In the kingdom of God everything runs on prayer.**"

Of course there is the famous **John Wesley** definition of prayer. "God does nothing but in answer to prayer." This phrase is often quoted and is powerful. Here is the rest of the quote. "God does nothing but in answer to prayer. And even they who are converted to God, without praying for it themselves (which is exceedingly rare) were not without the prayers of others. Every new victory which a soul gains is the effect of a new life." **That's us!** The WCA IIPN intercessors are "the prayers of others." We seek God's presence, words of wisdom, Prophetic Words and worship the One True God which opens us up to the Holy Spirit to speak to us what is on God's heart.

Prophetic Words

One interesting part of our prayer time together is the sharing of Prophetic Words that the Spirit has given to us since our last time together. We know that God wants his children to hear what God is doing so that they will be praying for it to come into fruition and prepared to act in love. (Amos 3: 7 - 8 and Jer. 33: 3) This is part of walking in the Spirit of God and listening to his voice. We have had many Prophetic Words that have come through dreams and visions. These have informed us about the heart of God for the church and his mission for the church.

Seeking the Presence of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit



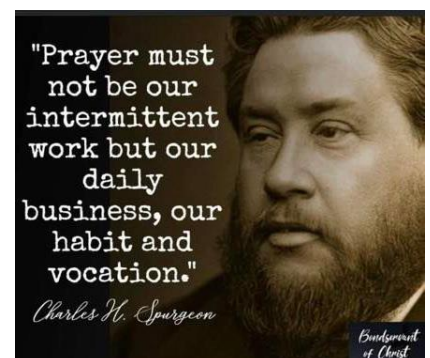
The picture to the left is one of my favorite pictures that I took during the Asbury Outpouring in February 2023. Wherever the presence of the Lord is, such as on the steps outside Hughes Auditorium people were seeking the Lord in prayer. Either people become repentant in the Presence of God, or we shout praise and thanksgiving! Either way people are praying.

Question: Why do we need to pray?

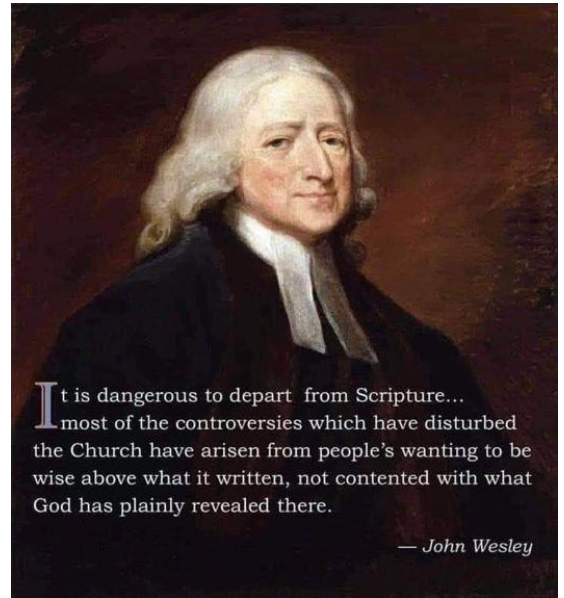
Answer: Because Jesus did! Always follow the lead of the Master. (Mark 1: 35-36) Jesus only did what his Father told him to do. (John 12: 49-50) We seek the presence of Jesus in the same way to know the love and will of God for our lives.

Basics on Prayer Find a quiet place to meet Jesus every day as his disciple. (Favorite chair at a table, lounge on the patio, a walking path or bench outside) Otherwise, go into a prayer closet or room and shut the door and keep distractions out. (Mt. 6: 6)

- 1.) Seek out corporate prayer opportunities with your local church and show up. Volunteer, yes volunteer, to participate and even lead such a group. The Holy Spirit will give you wisdom and the love to lead. Our WCA goal is that every GMC local church will be known as a "House of Prayer." (Mk. 11: 17) Laura Ballinger, the Chair of the Global Methodist Church Prayer steering Committee has been working on this goal for over a year. Click [here](#) for the prayer resources recommended by the GMC.
- 2.) Bow in repentant surrender to your Creator, Savior, and Lord. Unless you know Christ as your personal Master you will not be able to lead others to Christ.



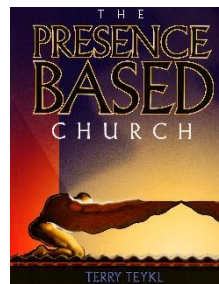
- 3.) **Read scripture.** Pick up your favorite translation of the Bible and a pen to write down what insights the Lord will show you and write them down. Or, you may prefer to listen to the Bible being read. Some suggestions are Faithcomesbyhearing.com. They has many choices that are either free or very affordable. The Wake-up Call by JD Walt through Seedbed.com is excellent. Go to Biblegateway.com. Check out Bible Discovery TV with Rod Hembree that teaches the Bible in a year.
- 4.) The **worship and praise** of Triune God is prayer. Sing your praise to God and play your favorite praise music during your time in prayer.
- 5.) Pray for the names and places that the Holy Spirit brings to your mind, which is a way to listen to the heart of God as he speaks to you. Follow a [WCA Prayer Guide](#) such as those written and posted on the WCA website. Lift the names and places on your own list or journal entry to the throne of God. God is listening. He most wants your love and worship from you.
- 6.) When a distracting thought comes and they always do, just rebuke it in the name of Jesus and continue where you left off. God is merciful.
- 7.) Be like Mary in John 11 who was honored by Jesus because she chose the “one thing” that pleased God by worshipping at the feet of Jesus. Martha was doing good and necessary things for her guests, but even that could have waited while she listened to the teaching of the Messiah. (Luke 10: 38-42)
- 8.) **Make room for prayer continually** in your own life and your effectiveness as a prayer leader in your local church increases also. What you sow you will reap. (Ezekiel 33:3 and 2 Cor. 8: 1-9)
- 9.) **Every disciple must “Bear fruit”** Do you remember reading in John 15 about God pruning the branches so they can bear more fruit? It is a continuous process. We continue to love and serve God the Father and our neighbors as ourselves. We continue to worship the True God and Savior as always and intercede for those yet to believe. We continue to fulfill the Great Commission of **Mt. 28: 16 – 20** and Great Command of **Mt 22: 34 - 40**. Pray for someone you know who has not trusted Jesus as their Lord and Savior. If you do not know anyone, then pray that the Holy Spirit leads you to them to establish a new friendship. Jesus came to seek and save the lost. We are to bear fruit. Go.
- 10.) Learn what it means to **“Fast and Pray.”** Fast a meal, fast an entire day or even three days as you wait patiently to listen for the voice of God speaking to you. Then obey what God says. Fasting primarily means fasting from food, because it a basic human need and causes us to rely on God and trust him for daily strength even more. Here is a good article on fasting provided by Rev. Leo Park a few years ago for the WCA IIPN called [“For such a time as this”](#) based on the Book of Ruth that you may find helpful.



- 11.) Have you ever thought about prayer as a **“Livestream”** from God the Father? Ivan Filby who is the new President and CEO of Seedbed, has written about his experiences of spiritual encounters with people in everyday life with life transforming results. Always listening and being aware of the voice of God gives Ivan a sense of being livestreamed into the Holy Spirit. His book is entitled “Livestream” and is available at Seedbed or Amazon.
- 12.) How about a **prayer walk**? Prayer walking is finding insight for prayer onsite. Prayer walk by yourself or with your prayer team through your church building and then to the community streets. Here [is one example of a prayer walk](#) for a church in Florida. Taylor-make your own walk.
- 13.) **The Korean Tungsung Kido** prayer practice is a valuable way to pray corporately. [Here is an explanation of the origin of this type of prayer meeting from a Korean pastor.](#)
- 14.) **Houses of Prayer Everywhere (HOPE)** that began in India is a ministry based on the Prayer-Care-Share Lifestyle making the believer a lighthouse in his or her community. I have used this book as a basis for sermons, small group studies and personal inspiration. (www.hopeministries.org)

There are lots of Prayer Ministries around the world today.

- 1.) Dr. Terry Teykl lists several Prayer Ministries in his book “The Presence Based Church.” This book and others are available at www.prayerpointpress.org. The Holy Spirit is raising-up 24/7 Prayer Networks around the world. Every Great Awakening in history was preceded by continuous earnest prayer.
- 2.) www.seedbed.com has many books and studies on prayer and group studies that a Prayer Leader could use to begin blessing those ready to go deeper in prayer. I would suggest “The Field Guide for Family Prayer” and “The Field Guide for Daily Prayer” that are companions to “Right Here-Right Now-Jesus: Moving from a prayer life to a life of prayer” by JD Walt which makes a great individual or group study.
- 3.) The workbook of living prayer by Dr. Maxie Dunnam is a valuable resource.
- 4.) You can check out all the Prayer Guides to get ideas and find illustrations to bless your local church prayer team. Go to www.wesleyancovenant.org/Prayer
- 5.) Rev. Sue Eaton, MidSouth GMC Elder and Conference Prayer Coordinator has many resources on prayer that are very practical. Email her for his list and ask any questions at sueeaton@bellsouth.net You may also contact me with any questions at 814-599-1506 cell or email me at dale.shunk@gmail.com.



For the awakening,
Rev. Dale Shunk, Senior GMC Elder

WCA IIPN survey of intercessory leaders

Compiled by Rev. Dale Shunk

July 2022

Question # 8: What book or resource on prayer has blessed you and motivated you the most to be an intercessor?

34 responses **34** Responses

| ID | Name | Responses |
|----|-----------|---|
| 1 | anonymous | I know this sounds trite but it really is the Bible :) |
| 2 | anonymous | IFA newsletter |
| 3 | anonymous | Intercessory Prayer by Dutch Sheets |
| 4 | anonymous | Pete Greig's - How To Pray: A Simple Guide for Normal People |
| 5 | anonymous | Pete Greig - How to Pray: A Simple Guide for Normal People |
| 6 | anonymous | The Bible and Pete Grieg's books |
| 7 | anonymous | Dale, except the majority suggests you change the time I wouldn't simply b/c we r use to that time. I like the 9pm starting time. I didn't think you meant to meet for 3 hours but meet some one to two hours in that timeframe. Question 4 is purely speculative as to how long we meet but one hour exact is probably too short or not long enough to include all things needed. I've always thought we needed an intro 5 to 10 minute exhortation, testimony or teaching to learn from one another. I would choose a different person every month to do that. The prophetic share time is essential. If there was anything missing In the past it was the ability to share personal requests. I would tell people to keep that to one minute and share via email if longer. Absolutely on guest speakers occasionally! Do what you need to include all persons around the earth! Thx 4 your taking the reigns! |
| 8 | anonymous | Daily Seedbed, Handbook of Intercessory Prayer, Psalms |
| 9 | anonymous | Francis MacNutt. The Healing Reawakening: Reclaiming Our Lost Inheritance |
| 10 | anonymous | The Presence-based Church by Dr. Terry Teykl |
| 11 | anonymous | Intercesory Prayer by Dutch Sheets |
| 12 | anonymous | Intercessory Prayer by Dutch Sheets |
| 13 | anonymous | Books by John Wesley & Derek Prince & Dutch Sheets |
| 14 | anonymous | Book of psalms in the Bible |
| 15 | anonymous | Church on Fire, Fred Harley, III, My answer to the days to pray above is based on the evening prayer times. I could do different days if it was in the morning or afternoon. |

| ID | Name | Responses |
|-----------|-------------|--|
| 16 | anonymous | Intercessory Prayer by Dutch Sheets |
| 17 | anonymous | Eddie Smith has some good material. |
| 18 | anonymous | Books by Pete Greig (founder of 24-7 Prayer Movement) |
| 19 | anonymous | 1 Thessalonians 5:17 |
| 20 | anonymous | Bible |
| 21 | anonymous | EM Bounds collection on Prayer |
| 22 | anonymous | Prayer Portions |
| 23 | anonymous | 60 Days of Prayer and Inspirational Guide to Praying with Purpose by Elaine Goddard |
| 24 | anonymous | Intercessory Prayer, by Dutch Sheets |
| 25 | anonymous | Prayer Connect Magazine |
| 26 | anonymous | Most recently: The Deeply Formed Life and Carolyn Moore's book on the Holy Spirit... Experiencing the Presence of God? |
| 27 | anonymous | The Bible |
| 28 | anonymous | Prayer: Finding The Heart's True Home by Richard J. Foster |
| 29 | anonymous | Brother Lawrence, The Practice of the Presence of God |
| 30 | anonymous | Sheets - Intercessory Prayer |
| 31 | anonymous | When God's people pray by JIM CYMBALA and Intercessory Prayer by DUTCH SHEETS |
| 32 | anonymous | I like the Global Prayer Guides from the Voice of the Martyrs |
| 33 | anonymous | The Bible and Richard Foster's book on prayer |
| 34 | anonymous | The Bible In both the Old and New Testament; (Hannah in 1 Samuel 1, King David especially in the Psalms, the Book of Nehemiah & Esther, Jesus' prayer time when He would seclude Himself from others in the evening after ministry, Jesus' priestly Prayer in Jon 17, Jesus in Gethsemane; and the Book of Acts when the Disciples were ever together praying) |

Tongsung Kido (A Unique Korean Prayer)

May 10, 2017 / By Pastor Yohang Chun, Oswego First UMC

Before I came to the United States from South Korea, to study, I had some concerns. One of them was, “How will I survive without Korean food? Can I live with only American food?”

Fortunately, since coming to the U.S., I have become well-adjusted to American food culture. However, as time passed, I missed Korean foods, like kimchi. So, my wife and I went to Korean markets, bought Korean food items, cooked them, and were able to enjoy Korean food.

In the same way that I adjusted to new food, I experienced the same process with my spiritual life in this country. Since I moved to the U.S., I have learned a lot of good and different things, not only from seminary, but also from several churches where I served. That is, I have been exposed to many good spiritual and church cultures and learned from them. Those experiences are amazing blessings to my ministry and me.

However, sometimes I miss some of the spiritual disciplines found in Korean churches. One of them is prayer life. Did you know that there is a unique form of prayer in Korean churches? Can you guess what this prayer is?

A unique and special Korean prayer style is called Tongsung Kido. Tongsung means, “cry out together loudly,” and Kido means, “pray.” So, Tongsung Kido means, “praying together out loud.” This unique form of Korean prayer is an important part of prayer life among the spirit-filled prayer life of Korean Christians. Personally, I think that Tongsung Kido has value as an example of a fervent and earnest way of crying out to God.

If you have a chance to visit a Korean church and see Tongsung Kido, even in public worship, you would be surprised. Some of you might think, “What is going on in this public worship service? Are they crazy? They are out of control! What makes them pray together loudly? Why don’t they pray silently?”

However, when you know about the history of the Korean church, as well as its current situation, you understand why Korean Christians have no choice but to pray in this unique style. According to Korean church historians, Tongsung Kido has a strong connection with the idea of Han, a term used to describe an experience unique to Korean people. Han is typically defined as an unresolved resentment or emotional pain that is carried by a person; it is a kind of internalized grudge. Han is frustrated hope, the collapsed feeling of pain, resentful bitterness, and the wounded heart.

In fact, it is better to understand Han among Koreans through a socio-historical contextual lens: Koreans have experienced many tough times throughout their history, such as the Japanese

colonization (1909-1945), the Korean War (1950-1953), and the institutionalized oppression caused by the military dictatorship(1961-1992). Because of these painful experiences, Koreans held Han in their hearts for a long time.

In these situations, Korean Christians prayed to God with their pains, sufferings, and broken hearts. They couldn't pray silently and quietly. Rather, their pains, tears, and bitterness mixed with Han made them cry out to God loudly: "Lord, please come to us! Listen to your children's outcry." Through this unique form of prayer, Korean Christians have poured out their pains, bitterness, and wounded hearts before the Lord and asked God to listen to their prayers.

Generally Tongsung Kido is performed as follows: during worship, usually at the time of special prayer request, the minister or the worship leader will call the congregation to pray in unison. The whole congregation joins together to pray aloud, individually at the same time. Sometimes, in the beginning of prayer, the congregation may shout, "Lord! Lord! Lord!" in unison, as a cooperative sign of engaging in prayer. Usually the congregation is given a specific amount of time to pray, with a common theme of petition. At the end of the time allotted, the minister's closing prayer finishes Tongsung Kido.

Tongsung Kido reminds me of the passionate prayer the Israelites put forth to God in their hopeless situation in Exodus 2:23b-25: "The Israelites groaned in their slavery and cried out, and their cry for help because of their slavery went up to God. God heard their groaning and he remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob. So God looked on the Israelites and was concerned about them."

I hope you now understand this Korean prayer practice, Tongsung Kido, better. If you have the chance to visit a Korean church, why not join in this unique form of prayer, and try some delicious Korean food?

Editor's Note: If you have a unique prayer practice in your culture, we'd love to hear about it. Send us a description of it to News@unyumc.org with "Prayer in my Culture" as the subject line.

Prayer is Everything!

By Rev. Dale Shunk, GMC Senior Elder

Introduction

Recently I asked Cathy Bihler, a long-time prayer partner this question. How important is prayer in the life of the Christian believer? Her answer was quick and emphatic. She immediately said, **“Prayer is everything!”** In this teaching I want to unpack what “everything” means.

A definition of prayer from Dr. Johnathan Jording, OMS Missionary: **“Prayer is opening up to God.”** He goes on to say that **“In the kingdom of God everything runs on prayer.”**

All the common definitions of prayer are descriptions of what opening up to God looks like, such as, talking, listening, praising and waiting before God.

Scriptures that spell out how prayer is everything.

- Exodus 33 Moses wouldn't move the Israel camp without the presence of God
- 1 Kings 9: 3 God says to Solomon that “My eyes and my heart will always be there.”
- Ps 1 Meditate on your Word day and night
- Ps 19 ?
- Ps 35: 12-14 “...When my prayers returned to me unanswered,...”
- Ps 109: 4 “In return for my friendship they accuse me, but I am a man of prayer.”
- Eph. 6: 18 “And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.” Book: Livestream by Ivan Filby.
- Col. 4:12 “Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured.”
- 2 Chron. 30: 27 “The priests and the Levites stood to bless the people, and God heard them, for their prayer reached heaven, his holy dwelling place.”
- Neh. 1: 6 “let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel. I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's family, have committed against you.”
- Is. 56: 7 “...these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.”
- Daniel 9: 3 “So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes.”
- Mt. 21: 22 “If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.”
- Acts 1: 14 “They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.”
- Act 2: 42 “They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”
- Acts 6: 4 “and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.”
- Acts 16: 13 “On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there.”
- Rom. 12: 12 “Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”
- Phil. 4: 6 “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”

- Col. 4: 2 “Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.”
- 1 Tim. 2: 1 “I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—”
- 1 Tim. § 4-6 “For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, 5 because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.”
- Heb. 5: 7 “During the days of Jesus’ life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.”
- James 5: 14-16 “Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise.”
- 1 Peter 3: 7 “Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.”
- Rev. 8: 4 “The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of God’s people, went up before God from the angel’s hand.”
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Out of these marvelous scriptures come several basic things about prayer.

- Prayer is eternal
- Prayer is a blessing
- Prayer is personal and corporate
- Prayer is available to any repentant soul because God has an eternal listening ear.

Book: ***Touch the world through prayer*** by Rev. Dr. Wesley Dewel

“Prayer is not the only thing you can do, but it is the greatest thing you must do.” Wesley Dewel

Prayer is getting to know the character of God the Father. Think of it as an auto mechanic using the tools in the tool work bench. As we pray we learn more about God’s nature just as a mechanic gets to know the uses of the tools at his disposal. Some tools are used a lot, but some only occasionally for the specific purpose it was made for. We become more efficient as a prayer intercessor and warrior as we spend time with our Lord in prayer.

The Practical Side of the Practice of prayer.

- Start anywhere by just talking to God. There is no judgement there, only pure eternal love for his created children.
- Choose a spot that can be a quiet or solitary prayer location like Jesus did in Mark 1: 35. You can create a “prayer room” that is quiet and where you can keep notes and a journal.
- Use a journal to log your prayer conversations with Jesus and the answers to prayer as you receive them.
- Be encouraged by reading the prayer practices of others in their books, blogs and articles.
- Have a hymnal or song book available to sing praises to God and at the same time express from a deeper level in your heart the joy you are experiencing in serving Jesus. The new hymnal by Seedbed called “My Great Redeemers Praise” is organized by the liturgical calendar year and by worship topics.

Pray with other believers who are passionate intercessors. You will learn a lot about the nature of God the Father and build wonderful spiritual relationships with people who pray from the heart to the heart of God himself.

Daily Meditation Guide to 3-Day Fasting and Prayer

By Rev. Leo Park

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

An International Call to Fasting, Worship & Prayer

Thursday, May 28, 6 pm EDT through Sunday, May 31, 6 pm EDT
culminating in

A SPIRIT-FILLED WORSHIP & PRAYER GATHERING: Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 6 pm EDT

Wesleyan Covenant Association International Intercessory Prayer Network 1

INTRODUCTION

The leadership team of the WCA International Intercessory Prayer Network has been seeking the Lord's guidance for our next steps in these current circumstances. These are the words He has given us, each one confirmed through scripture and received by multiple intercessors:

(1) The Lord calls us to a time of preparation, waiting expectantly for His Spirit to be poured out. After His Resurrection and before He ascended to His Father, Jesus instructed His disciples to

“wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days, you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.... But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses....” Acts 1:4-5, 7a (NIV)

We sense in our spirits that there is a call from the Lord for His Bride to spend 3 days in preparation, just as Esther fasted and called her Jewish people to fast and pray before she went to the king. After these 3 days, we are to put on the royal robes of our identity in Him, to boldly enter His throne room and to call on His justice and power for His people.

*“On the third day Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace, opposite the king's hall. The king was sitting on his royal throne inside the palace opposite the entrance to the palace. As soon as the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, **she won his favor and he held out to her the golden scepter that was in his hand.** Esther approached and touched the top of the scepter.” Esther 5:1-2 (NRSV)*

(2) The Holy Spirit will be poured out as new wine for the world. There is an increasing hunger among the followers of Jesus for Spirit-filled living, for greater power, freedom and authority. We strongly sense that the Lord wants to pour out new wine for the world through the new expression of the Methodist Church. A new wineskin has to be prepared first: new leadership raised up, and revival in the hearts of Jesus' followers. For the preparation of this new wineskin, the WCA International Intercessory Prayer Network plays a significant role. The Lord is bringing intercessors around the world together for such a time as this.

The **FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS** prayer event is our corporate response to these words from the Lord. What better day for the culmination of this event than the Day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit fell on the disciples and the Church was born in power and authority?

FOOD FAST OPTIONS

Thank you so much for your willingness to join the fast. Individuals who participate are encouraged to fast three days, from 6:00 p.m. EDT on Thursday, May 28 to 6:00 p.m. EDT on Sunday, May 31. We recommend a water fast; however, individuals should be wise and consider their own health conditions in choosing a fasting option.

Below is the five different kinds of food fast you can choose from. Based on your current health, you can also choose to do one day fast instead of three days. I hope this helps. Please be wise. Fasting is not about just abstaining from food...it is about a heart hungry for more of God. Your heart is what the Lord is more interested in. I pray that the Lord pours out His love into your heart overflowing as you do the fast. 2

Five Different Types of Food Fasts

There are five common categories of fasting food. **First, a regular fast** is one in which we go without food, drinking only water or liquids that have no calories. Common lengths for this fast are one day, three days, or one week. It occasionally is longer, sometimes twenty-one days or even forty days.

Second, a liquid fast is one in which we go without solid foods and drink only light liquids, such as fruit juices. Most people do not include milk shakes in this type of fast.

Third, an absolute fast, sometimes called an Esther fast, is one in which we abstain from all food and water. This fast lasts for one to three days. I encourage people to be cautious when going on an absolute fast and to never extend it beyond three days.

The fourth type of fast, a partial fast, sometimes called a Daniel fast, is one in which we abstain from tasty foods and eat only certain things, like vegetables or nuts. John Wesley often fasted on bread and water. Those with hypoglycemia or other medical conditions can engage in a partial fast by being creative. We also encourage people to embrace a media fast in which they abstain from media entertainment, excluding news.

Fifth, a Benedict Fast, established by Saint Benedict of Nursia, Italy (525 ad), is one in which we eat only one meal a day. Many monks in the monasteries of Europe lived this way for years and had strong bodies and even stronger spirits.

(Excerpt from "The Rewards of Fasting" by Mike Bickle, pp.78-79)

DAY ONE, Thursday, May 28, 6 pm EDT

Title: The Tale of Two Queens

Scripture Reading: Esther Chapter 1 and Chapter 2

Devotions: There are 4 figures, in the book of Esther, whom I want us to consider in our minds as we prepare ourselves for the 3 day fasting and prayer.

1. King Ahasuerus portrays Jesus Christ, the Bridegroom King;
2. Esther portrays us(church), the bride of Christ;
3. Hegai portrays the Holy Spirit who helps us(church) prepare to be the bride of Christ;
4. Haman portrays Devil who tries to cause us(church) not to become the bride of Christ.

As we meditate on the book of Esther, I want us to hear what the Lord is trying to speak to us, the body of Christ, for such a time as this. And as we try to listen to the voice of the Lord, I want us to ponder deeply what the Lord wants us, the body of Christ, to do for such a time as this.

I want to talk about two women, two queens. One woman, Queen Vashti, lost her queen position because she lost the king's heart. The other woman, Esther, gained her queen position because she gained the king's heart. King Ahasuerus called for Queen Vashti but she refused the king's command. Verse 12 says, "But Queen Vashti refused to come at the king's command delivered by the eunuchs. Then the king became very angry and his wrath burned within him." The Bible doesn't tell us why Queen Vashti refused the king's command, but we can easily guess that she didn't want to be shamed before the people. She had pride. She wasn't humble. She didn't think of pleasing the king; she, instead, only thought of pleasing herself. However, unfortunately, due to this incident, Vashti lost her queen position.

Esther only thought of pleasing the king. She wanted to gain the king's favor. Her only focus was what the king likes. In the movie "One Night with the King", Hegai brings all the candidates to the treasure room of the kingdom, and tells them to choose whatever they want for the one night with the king. If the king doesn't call them again then the treasure will be theirs. All the candidates rushed to the treasure. However, Esther stands still. Hegai asks Esther why she is not choosing the treasure. She says, "What jewel does the king like? With what jewel can I obtain the king's heart?" Hegai shows Esther a small jewel box, opens it, and gives a simple necklace to her. When her turn comes, she wears just the necklace and goes to the king. That night Esther obtained the king's heart and became Queen.

Chapter 2, verses 15 to 17 says, "15.Now when the turn of Esther....came to go in to the king, she did not request anything except what Hegai, the king's eunuch who was in charge of the women, advised. And Esther found favor in the eyes of all who saw her....17.The king loved Esther more than all the women, and she found

favor and kindness, with him more than all the virgins, so that he set the royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.”

As the king was looking for a new queen, the Lord is looking for someone like Esther—one who only thinks of pleasing the Lord, one who only thinks of gaining the Lord’s heart, one who asks the Holy Spirit how to find the king’s favor. The Lord is not looking for one who just works for Him; instead He is looking for one who wants Him. The Lord is looking for someone who will be His bride.

We have a choice. I pray that we choose to find the favor of our Bridegroom King, Jesus! Even though we become a fool before the people.

Scripture to Meditate: Esther 2:17 “The king loved Esther more than all the women, and she found favor and kindness with him more than all the virgins, so that he set the royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.”

DAY TWO, Friday, May 29, 6 pm EDT

Title: Bridal Intercessor

Scripture Reading: Esther Chapter 3 and Chapter 4

Devotions: Haman was promoted by the king Ahasuerus to be the second in position in the kingdom. The people of the land were commanded to bow down and pay homage to Haman. However, Mordecai neither bowed down nor paid homage. Haman was filled with rage and decided to kill not only Mordecai but also his people, Jews. Chapter 3, verse 6 says, “But he disdained to lay hands on Mordecai alone, for they had told him who the people of Mordecai were; therefore Haman sought to destroy all the Jews, the people of Mordecai, who were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus.” 4

Mordecai found out this plotting. Mordecai sent the words to Queen Esther. Chapter 4:8 says, “He also gave him a copy of the text of the edict which had been issued in Susa for their destruction, that he might show Esther and inform her, and to order her to go in to the king to implore his favor and to plead with him for her people.” What Mordecai asked Esther was to become an intercessor and go to the king and intercede for the Jews to save their lives. However, there was a problem. The king hasn’t summoned Esther to come to the king for thirty days. The law was that if anyone comes to the king to the inner court who is not summoned, the person will be put to death, unless the king holds out to the person the golden scepter.

Mordecai told Esther in verse 13 and 14, “13....Do not imagine that you in the king’s palace can escape any more than all the Jews. 14. For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father’s house will perish. And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?” Esther responded in verse 16, “Go, assemble all the Jews who are found in Susa, and fast for me; do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I will go in to the king, which is not according to the law; and if I perish, I perish.”

Intercessory prayer is not just about praying for others, for church, or for nation. Intercessory prayer is the prayer an intercessor prays. Let me say again, “Intercessory prayer is the prayer an intercessor prays.” In intercession, what is most important is not about intercessory prayers, instead, it is about the intercessor. The most powerful intercession is the Bridal Intercession. True intercession is not a warfare, instead, it is a bridal banquet for the Bridegroom King. “Inter” means “between.” “Cede” means “to go.” So, intercede means “to go between.” An intercessor is the one who goes between God and people, between heaven and earth. The dictionary definition of intercede is “to intervene between parties with a view to reconciling differences.”

I believe that Esther is the best biblical type or model for an intercessor because she is the type of the bride of Christ. The reason that the king wanted to give her anything she asked for was because she was a beautiful bride of the king and the king was so pleased with what she did for him.

The Lord is looking for an intercessor for the Wesleyan Covenant Association. Who knows whether you have not attained the call for such a time as this? As Esther prepared herself in fasting before she approached the king, we will prepare ourselves in fasting before we approach the Bridegroom King Jesus.

Scripture to Meditate: Esther 4:14 “For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father’s house will perish. And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?”

DAY THREE, Saturday, May 30, 6 pm EDT

Title: The Call of the Scepter

Scripture Reading: Esther Chapter 5, Chapter 6 and Chapter 7 5

Devotions: Esther’s original Hebrew name is Hadassah. Esther is the new name given by Mordecai. New name means new identity, new mission and new authority. The Lord is giving a new name to us(church), for such a time as this, with new identity, new mission and new authority. Esther, in Persian origin, means “star”.

Revelation 1:16-20 says, “16.In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength. 17.When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, “Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, 18.and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades. 19.Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things 20.As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands; the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.”

Esther portrays the new body of Christ, new church, the new type of the bride of Christ. The Holy Spirit is preparing a new bride of Christ, out of The United Methodist Church, to present her before the Bridegroom King, Jesus Christ. This new traditional Methodist denomination is the new bride to whom the Lord wants to stretch out His golden scepter. The golden scepter means the favor of the King. The new bride will win the favor of the King Jesus.

The Lord is looking for His bride to whom He stretches out His golden scepter. The new bride has to be ready to go into the inner court room and touch the scepter. This is our new identity—the beautiful and pure bride of Christ. Our new mission is to win the favor of the Bridegroom King to make a petition to save the church. Esther is not an ordinary queen. Esther is a queen with authority. She is beautiful and pure and yet she is not weak; she is like a general of the army of the bride of Christ. The king has given her the authority. It is the king’s authority. If someone tries to harm her the king will not allow it. Haman made a mistake. He thought he could destroy Esther, he could win over Esther. But He didn’t know that behind her there is the king standing. He forgot that Esther is not an ordinary woman, but the Queen!

Chapter 7:7-10 says, “7.The king arose in his anger from drinking wine and went into the palace garden; but Haman stayed to beg for his life from Queen Esther, for he saw that harm had been determined against him by the king 8.Now when the king returned from the palace garden into the place where they were drinking wine, Haman was falling on the couch where Esther was. Then the king said, “Will he even assault the queen with me in the house?” As the word went out of the king’s mouth, they covered Haman’s face...10.So they hanged Haman on the gallows which he had prepared for Mordecai, and the king’s anger subsided.”

We sense in our spirits that there is a call from the Lord, the Bridegroom King! That is the call of the golden scepter! The Lord has stretched out His golden scepter. The Lord is looking for His bride who will boldly enter into His inner court and touch the scepter to win His favor. There is the call from the heavenly throne room, “Who wants to win My favor?” “For Such A Time As This” gathering is our corporate response to His call saying, “We do!”

Scripture to Meditate: Esther 5:1-2 “1.Now it came about on the third day that Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king’s palace in front of the king’s rooms, and the king was sitting on his royal throne in the throne room, opposite the entrance to the palace 2.When the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, she obtained favor in his sight; and the king extended to Esther the golden scepter which was in his hand. So Esther came near and touched the top of the scepter