

ESUMC

PRAYER VIGIL

Originally Held Friday – Sunday,

FEBRUARY 9-11, 2018



Prayers for Unity in the Body of Christ at ESUMC

Welcome to this very special time of prayer for ESUMC. Our heart's desire is that this will be a very meaningful time for you as you lift the requests we have listed and those on your own heart before the Lord. We encourage you to use your Bible, this booklet, a Hymnal or any other book you may have available to assist you in this special time.

It is also our suggestion that if you desire, you will use the **ACTS** model of prayer (**A**doration, **C**onfession, **T**hanksgiving, **S**upplication). I have included some aids for that method.

Adoration: Focus on God, who He is, what He does, how He interacts with us. Using Scripture can be very helpful. (Some could be **Psalms 100; 107:21-22; 28:6-7; 103: 1-6,8-13; 145:8-10; 113; 111:1-4; 33:1-12; 36:5-10; 18:1-2; 106:1-2, 48; 1 Chronicles 16:23-29)**

Confession: Following your time of praise, God may reveal some areas of your life that are not pleasing to Him. 1) Name the sin, agree with God that it is sin. 2) Repent of the sins. 3) Thank God for His forgiveness. 4) Ask to be filled and controlled by the Holy Spirit. 5) By faith, thank Him that He has forgiven and filled you based on His promises. (1 John 1:9; Psalms **66:18-19; 34:17-18; 51; 38:18; 130:3-5; Mark 11:25; Heb.10:16-23; James 4:8-10; Romans 8:2-4)**

Thanksgiving: Thank God for how He has answered our prayers in the past and in the future. (Psalms 50:23; 111:1; 100:4-5; 1 Chron. 16:8-12; Eph.5:20; Phil.4:6; Col. 3:17)

Supplication: Intercession on behalf of our church and others. Praying specific Scriptures for people or situations can be very helpful and help us pray in one accord with the will of God. (Eph.6:18; Jas. 5:16b-18; Heb.4:16; 1 Tim.2:1-8)

WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT

1. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

Chorus: And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
And they'll know we are Christians by our love.

2. We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
And we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride.

Chorus:

3. We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand.
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand.
And together we'll spread the News that God is in our land.

Chorus:

THE BOND OF LOVE

1. We are one in the bond of love;
We are one in the bond of love.
We have joined our spirit with the Spirit of God;
We are one in the bond of love.
2. Let us sing now, every one;
Let us feel His love begun.
Let us join our hands that the world will know
We are one in the bond of love.

BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS

1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.
2. Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

REQUESTS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP & EVANGELISM TEAM

- Unity for the body of Christ at ESUMC
- As many churches are declining in membership, may ESUMC grow as we seek to serve the Lord in East Stroudsburg
- Establish an effective Communication/Publicity team to foster this growth
- May the entire church develop an attitude of hospitality
- Guidance as we seek to fulfill our mission and vision statements
- Guidance as to how we can be a community hub now

PRAYERS FOR THE SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT

- That the Holy Spirit would guide our leaders to truly be His voice to us that day, sharing inspirational words from our Lord.
- Good weather so that all are able to attend.
- Wonderful Christian fellowship, increasing our love for each other.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

- Inspiration for Rev. Amy Banka as she prepares for our May 5th, 2018, Retreat.
- God's presence with each of our trainees to help them complete the training classes.
- God's direction in each caring relationship.
- Stephen Ministers be vessels used by God to bring about His cure in the lives of their care receivers.

SPR – PRAYERS FOR OUR STAFF

- The staff will maintain focus on what he/she is to do daily, free from distraction.
- Godly discernment and wisdom for staff. (Jas.1:5; Eph.1:16-17)
- The staff would daily put on the full Armor of God, using it to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Ask that they will stand their ground, putting on the sturdy belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. For shoes, pray that they will put on the peace that comes from the Good News, so that they will be fully prepared. Ask the Lord to arm them with faith as their shield to stop the fiery arrows of the enemy. Pray that they will put on their helmet of salvation, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. (Eph.6:13-17)
- Times of rest and refreshment
- Intimacy with God -time for personal prayer and Bible Study
- For the families of the staff – that God will protect the families and help the staff balance family and work
- Ministry effectiveness – staff will see fruit of their labor
- Obedience to God – staff will obey God's word and promptings of the Holy Spirit
- Leadership – that staff will not grow weary in their leadership roles, but will lead with God-given energy

DISCIPLESHIP TEAM

- Discern new ways to grow others in Christ
- Find new ways to reach others "where they are"
- Development and availability of small groups
- Formation of new Bible studies
- Developing and training of new small group and Bible study leaders
- Support for our Communications Team in finding effective and creative ways to advertise and keep members connected
- Development of a strong Children's Discipleship Program
- Fostering a culture that values learning the Bible
- Opportunities to grow in our faith through questioning and discussion in safe social environments.

MINISTRY PLACEMENT AND STEWARDSHIP TEAM

- For us to give with a grateful and joyful heart in response to God's goodness and love. Giving to God is an act of faith as we trust Him not only for our daily provision, but for our future as well. Let us experience the Joy of giving that begins when we cheerfully give of our Time, Talents and Resources to God.
- Blessings to individuals and our church as we obediently exercise the gifts He has provided us.
- That God will work through us to complete His plan for our church, community, and country.
- That the leaders of our church, laity and staff, seek God's direction in all that we do.

GENERAL UNITY

- Consensus about the use and stewardship of the Kistler Bequest.
- Clarity about direction and future of ESUMC
- Discernment about an additional Worship service
- Unity between generations, both through the two styles of worship and throughout our teams and groups
- Unconditional love and support for the marginalized in our community whose needs are being met by ESUMC
- REVIVAL!!!!!!!!!!!! That we be vessels of God's Spirit in the community and reaching outside our area as folks see our striving for holiness and love for each other.

PROMISES TO CLAIM

Matthew 18:19-20 (NASB) *"Again, I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven. For where two or three have gathered in My name, there I am in their midst."*

Matthew 21:22 *"And whatever you ask for in prayer, having faith and believing, you will receive."*

Luke 1:37 *"For with God nothing is ever impossible and no word from God shall be without power or impossible of fulfillment."*

John 14:13-14 *"And I Myself will grant whatever you may ask in My name so that the Father may be glorified and extolled through the Son. Yes, I will grant whatever you shall ask in My name."*

John 15:7 *"If you live in Me (abide vitally united to Me) and My words remain in you and continue to live in your hearts, ask whatever you will and it shall be done for you."*

John 16:24 *"Up to this time, you have not asked a single thing in My name, but now ask and keep on asking and you will receive, so that your joy may be full and complete."*

James 1:5-7 *"But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea driven and tossed by the wind."*

Psalms 84:11 *"For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord gives grace and glory; no good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly."*

1 John 3:21-23 *"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 the things that are pleasing in His sight. And this is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us."*

2 Chron. 7:14 *"If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray, and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."*