

My 2024 COMMITMENT

- **Pray at least twice a week using the Life Support Prayer Calendar.** We encourage at least once in the hearing of other Christians.
- **Encourage other individuals in your congregation to join in the Life Support Prayer ministry.** Notify PPL of those who are interested in making the commitment.
- **Encourage public prayers by the church for the efforts to protect preborn children** and for the care of their mothers and families.
- As you are led, **renew your commitment** annually.

PPL is so grateful for your prayers!

We know that the seasons of your life change. If you are unable to continue your commitment to PPL's prayer team, please contact us and we will remove you from these mailings. *Please note our new address!*



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LIFE SUPPORT PRAYER CALENDAR

JULY | AUGUST
2024 | VOL. 36 | NO. 2



COLOSSIANS 3:1-3, 9b-10

"If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ... seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator."

SOUNDS OF LIFE

By Rev. Craig Kephart, PPL Board Member

On another in a string of sad days, with a pall of acrid smoke still hanging in the New York City air, volunteer Julie Woodley stood amid the twisted rubble at the base of World Trade Center Building Two. It was Fall 2001, and Julie watched intently as rescue workers called for complete silence. "It was both a beautiful and bittersweet thing to watch," she says in her book, *A Wildflower Grows in Brooklyn* (Eugene, OR: Resource Publications -- Wipf and Stock, 2013, p. 55).

Julie had been posted a block away from Ground Zero to serve food and drink for police, firefighters, and rescue workers. But on this particular day their helper group was escorted in, closer to the wreckage. There she found herself stationed between the ridiculous and the sublime: handing out donated soft drinks and McDonald's fast-food hamburgers to the very skilled professionals who were going about the most serious and significant of life-seeking and, hopefully, life-saving work. "I remember standing there transfixed," she wrote, "as workers gathered near a place where they hoped for a sign of life. They listened for any kind of sound – knocking on metal, moans or groans, yelling – anything that meant someone was still alive."

Disasters, accident scenes, and hospital waiting rooms are where we get down to serious praying. Right? Love moves us to invest the energy and passion – almost instinctively – to cry out to Almighty God for mercy, protection, and provision.

That is what PPL asks you to do, please. Listen for sounds of life. And call upon the God of Hope.

Tragic stories abound in our culture, accounts of lives cut short, personhood devalued, and violence seeming to rule the day. Yet while pro-life nurses, physicians, and hospital staff champion life in their medical workplaces, while learned and experienced counselors offer Biblical wisdom for expectant parents, and while caring Christian sisters and brothers nurture orphaned children, attend to people with disabilities, and assist the frail elderly, please let the love of God in Christ Jesus inspire you to cry out daily for more signs of life ... and for more heroes to be raised up.

The May-June Life Support Prayer Calendar prayer prompts are authored by Carla van Eyk, PPL Executive Director. Some prompts have been condensed to fit, but are in the original wording on PPL's Life Support Prayer Calendar web page that is updated weekly.

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JULY

July 7 - 13:

- *We bless You, God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for You have blessed us by seating us with Christ in the heavenly places at Your right hand (Ephesians 1:3, 2:6).*
- Keep us amazed, Holy Spirit, that we have such intimate access to the Maker of all things, both visible and invisible, and to the One who holds the hearts of kings in His hands; make us bold in our requests

July 14 - 20:

- *Heavenly Father, we bless You for choosing us in Christ before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before You, a people for Your own possession, zealous for good deeds (Ephesians 1:4, Titus 2:14).*
- Holy Spirit, reveal your will - both deeds for us to do and prayers for those of others. Grant us wisdom and power to fulfill it.*

July 21 - 27:

- *Holy God, we praise You for lavishing upon us the riches of your grace, for in love You predestined us to adoption as children through Jesus Christ to yourself, according to the kind intention of Your will (Ephesians 1:4-6).*
- Father, guide us, your adopted children, to open our hearts and homes to children needing families. Uproot the spirit of scarcity, shatter greed, and make us Your generous family.*

May 26 - June 1:

- *Father God, we thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit, who "testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. ... heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory" (Romans 8:16-17).**
- Thank You for redeeming my soul, Lord! Help me to desire your will in suffering if I may glorify you. May I be a witness to you in life and death.*

June 2 - 8:

- *We know that in Christ we have a great High Priest who sympathizes with our weaknesses yet enables us by the Holy Spirit to live obedient lives by faith (Hebrews 4:14-15; Hebrews 11).* (see over)

AUGUST

June 2 - 8: (cont.)

- Lord, for our sins against the vulnerable who are disabled, aged, trafficked, orphaned, or preborn created in your image, intercede with mercy and healing (**Habakkuk 3:2**).*

June 9 - 15:

- *Thank you, Risen Lord, that "we all, unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. ... " (2 Corinthians 3:18).**
- Forgive us, Father, for neglecting the forgotten. Make us instruments of your love, offering refuge, comfort, and biblical encouragement to those in need, or to be their Christ-like advocate in affliction.*

June 16 - 22:

- *"As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed ... " (Psalm 103:13-14). How comforting to know that your Word says that "you will take great delight in me ... you will rejoice over me with singing!" (Zephaniah 3:17).*
- Guide all children entrusted to our care to fear you and walk in your ways. Teach them by your Word and our surrendered lives. "The righteous shall live by their faith" (**Habakkuk 2:4**).*

June 23 - 29:

- *We praise you as our exalted Messiah, High and Lifted up! Praise the Lord, Oh my soul, and all my inmost being, praise his Holy name! Amen!*
- Sovereign God, guide us to serve our communities, work with leaders for good, and find unity in Christ (**Ephesians 2:19**). Revive our hearts to seek you."

June 30 - July 6:

- *Praise the Lord that we serve a resurrected King and are being renewed daily. "Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ... Put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. ..." (Colossians 3:1, 10).*
- Holy Spirit, help your believers to forgive the spiritual abuses of authorities and to fix their eyes on Jesus, the Author and Finisher of their faith. "For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (**Habakkuk 2:14**).

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