



PENN CENTRAL CONFERENCE



Empowering churches to proclaim the reconciling love of Christ.



A Message from PCC

May 04, 2022

Dear Beloved of God,

As I was contemplating and praying about what I can offer for this week's epistle, I wondered how I could, as we approach Mother's Day this Sunday, honor all mothering ones and their children, keeping in my mind and deep within my heart that experiences, joys, pains, and struggles are as varied and rich on this day as on most holidays of the year.

As I prayed, I recalled a litany that we prayed every year when I pastored my last church. The litany was a healing balm to many in our congregation. I pray that it is a healing balm even now. I offer this litany as a gift to each of you:

Prayer: for Mothering Ones and their children

One: O God, on this day set aside to honor and remember mothers, we give you thanks for all our mothering ones. We thank you for birth moms, adopted moms, stepmoms, and foster moms. We thank you for older sisters, aunts, grandmothers, friends, and teachers. We thank you for all the women who have held us and fed us; who have cared for us when we need comfort and have challenged us when we get too comfortable. And as we give you thanks for them, we pray for each and every one.

All: Hear our prayer, O God, for all of our mothering ones.

One: We pray for moms whose children are grown.

All: We pray for new moms experiencing changes they could not predict.

Contact us!

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Prayers for Penn Central Conference

Ephesians 6:18 (NLT)

Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

This week, we pray for each other as we continue to live into God's calling...

Incarnation UCC, Newport

Elias UCC, Newmanstown

St. Paul's (Millbach) UCC, Newmanstown

Trinity UCC, Palmyra



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One: We pray for pregnant women who will soon be moms.

All: We pray for moms who face the demands of single parenthood.

One: We pray for moms who are raising their children in poverty.

All: We pray for stepmoms.

One: We pray for moms who are separated or estranged from their children.

All: We pray for moms in relationships and marriages that are in crisis or are abusive.

One: We pray for moms who have lost children.

All: We pray for moms who aborted their children.

One: We pray for moms who gave up their children for adoption.

All: We pray for adoptive moms.

One: We pray for women who desperately want, or wanted, to be moms.

All: We pray for all women who have assumed a mom's role in a child's life.

One: As we pray for our mothering ones, we also pray for their children.

All: We pray for those who are grieving the loss of their moms through death or distance.

One: We pray for those whose relationship with their moms is problematic or who experience or experienced abuse or neglect from their moms.

All: For all these mothering ones, for all of their children; we pray that your hand of blessing, healing, comfort, and courage be upon them.

One: We end our prayer by speaking aloud the names of the mothering ones in our lives who have nurtured us and guided us. And all God's people say:

All: Amen.

Deep blessing to each and all,

Marisa

Rev. Dr. Marisa Laviola

Associate Conference Minister

Penn Central Conference

Ways to Support the People of Ukraine

Please see the two links below for some specific information about ways we can assist those in Ukraine. The Global Ministries staff at the national UCC setting has worked diligently to make connections with mission partners in the area and there are several opportunities for giving as well as joining in prayer.

<https://www.ucc.org/global-h-o-p-e/ukraine-emergency-appeal/>

PCC's 60th Annual Meeting

"Mission In Focus"

"See, the former things have come to pass and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them." - Isaiah 42:9

Opening Plenary: 6:30PM, June 6, 2022

Workshops: 6:30PM, June 7-9, 2022

Business & Worship: 9:00AM, June 11, 2022

<https://penncentralconference.regfox.com/penn-central-conference-annual-meeting-2022>

HC Spirit Week - What's in a Name?

"Naming and Claiming Who God Made Us to Be"

Saturday, August 6 through Friday, August 12

Camp Mt. Luther

<https://penncentralconference.regfox.com/hc-spirit-week>