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Prayer Chain Requests

Prayer Chain Requests are listed by month, in reverse chronological order of their publication in the emailed Prayer Chain. If you have updates to any of these requests, please email upc@upcaustin.org.
Prayer requests will be automatically removed after approximately sixty days, though they may be retained or re-listed when requested.
(November 12, 2026)

November

Suzi Parker, who is in Seton Main after a fall on Tuesday. Suzi is sitting up and entirely herself, but will be in recovery for a while after suffering a couple of broken bones.

Please pray for Karen Miller's son, **James, his wife Andrea, and Andrea's family** following the passing of Andrea's beloved father, Joel Lerner. Joel was a wonderful father and grandfather, and he passed away after a three-year battle with cancer. Joel's funeral service will be held on December 12 in Durham, NC.

Chris Bradford, he has his 6-month check-in at MD Anderson tomorrow. **Update**: Chris Bradford, got a great report at MD Anderson! He goes back in one year!

October

Please keep **Rachel Chao, Nick, and Luna** in your thoughts and prayers, as they are expecting the arrival of their second child this week.

Jennifer Bradford's mom **Kaye Smith**, who is hospitalized with another infection. She is experiencing significant pain. Please pray for her comfort, healing, and for the infections to resolve.

Please pray for the recovery of **Karen Miller**, who recently fell and broke her right arm.

September

Please pray for Lorraine Haricombe's son-in-law, **Hermann Unglert**, who is living with Parkinson's disease, and for Lorraine's daughter, **Heidi Weilbach**. Pray for God's grace to sustain them through every challenge they're facing.

The family of longtime UPC member **Gary Reynolds**, who died yesterday, about a week after a seizure-related fall and brain injury. Gary has been suffering from neurological complications for several years; this fall precipitated heightened seizure activity in his final days.

Please pray for Gary's wife Sharyn, longtime member of the UPC family, along with their sons and extended family, as they navigate this time of grief and celebration. In Sharyn's own words: "As far as I can tell this was a good death, in that he lived a long and meaningful life, he knew how much he was loved and up to just a few moments before the terminal event, he was able to express that he was not in pain."

In the coming weeks, UPC will be planning a service of witness to the resurrection to give thanks for Gary's life. We will communicate those details once they are firm. In the meantime, we put our faith in the promise of Jesus Christ, victorious even over the grave.

Families who have lost a Service Member in Iran or Venezuela. Karen Miller asks that we especially remember those who may not be receiving the federal support normally offered to families involved in

congressionally authorized wars.

Julia Wynn's uncle, **Gary Brickler**, who has been facing complications in Folsom, CA, after 3 years of care for stage 4 prostate cancer. Please pray that his medical team in the Folsom area can offer solutions soon.

Karen Miller asks for prayers for the Sailors serving aboard aircraft carriers during the Iran war, as well as for their families who anxiously await their safe return.

August

Brad and Kathleen Turpin's first grand-daughter **Caroline Ruth Turpin**, who was born August 29 at 9:48 pm to her parents Joshua and Brittany Turpin. 7lbs 5oz, 20" long. She's doing fine, as is Brittany!

Jennifer Bradford's mom, **Kaye Smith**, who is having significant health issues and is in the hospital. Please also pray for Chris' mom, **Marilyn Bradford**, who has Covid. She has pulmonary fibrosis, which makes Covid more serious for her.

The family of Jessie Hsu's friend, **Virginia Bennett Griebenaw,** who died Monday after a few years of battling breast cancer, which eventually metastasized to her lungs. She leaves behind her husband, Dan, and two young boys, Bennett and Ellis. Jessie's and Virginia's families go back many years to the little country church in Beatrice, Nebraska. Jessie's aunt and uncle were Virginia's baptismal sponsors.

Lydia and Craig Deat's granddaughter, **Alithea**, who experienced a setback in her recovery from the liver transplant she underwent last February. This weekend, she developed an intestinal blockage, which required surgery early today. Alithea will remain in the hospital this week, and the surgeon indicated that she might need additional surgery in the future.

Prayers of thanksgiving: On Tuesday, August 11th, Mary and Michael Dodd celebrate their 42nd wedding anniversary.

Prayers of thanksgiving: On Friday, August 14th, Lynn and Bob celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. Lynn and Bob met in the UPC college group and were married in the seminary chapel by Roland Purdue and Buddy Summers.

The family of Kendal Gladish's Mother **Clara Lou Hegamaster** Woellner, who died on Thursday, August 6th in Toledo, Ohio, days before her 96th Birthday. Prayers of gratitude are welcome for this faithful Mother, Grandmother and Great-Grandmother. All her life she was an active member and leader in Presbyterian and Episcopal congregations in Ohio and Florida. She lived a long and fruitful life.