

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS



December 17, 2017

*Please use the gold prayer request cards in the pew racks;
place in the offering plate.*

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Great God, you have been generous and marvelously kind. Give us such wonder, love, and gratitude that we may sing praises to you and joyfully honor your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Advent:

Eternal God, as you led your people in ages past, you direct our journey into the future. We give you thanks that you came to us in Jesus Christ, and we eagerly await his coming again that his rule may be complete and your righteousness reign over all the world. Then we will feast at his royal banquet, and sing his praises with the choirs of heaven.

By your Spirit, open our eyes to the generosity of your hand, and nurture our souls in all spiritual gifts. Fill us with gratitude overflowing that we may share life and love in praise to you, God of all the ages, in the gracious name of Jesus Christ, your Son, by the power of your Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

For those who mourn

O merciful God, you teach us in your Holy Word that you do not willingly afflict or grieve your children. Look with pity on the sorrows of those who mourn, for whom we pray. Remember them, O lord, in mercy. Strengthen them in patience, comfort them with the memory of your goodness, let your presence shine on them, and give them peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The family of Glenna Simpson, who died December 3; grandmother of Michelle Habibnia
The family of Barbara Watson, who died peacefully November 29; mother of Bee Moorhead
The family of Cloyd Oscar Dodd , who died November 11; father of Michael Dodd
The family of Linda Evans, November 9; committal December 9, 2:00 p.m., Mo-Ranch
The family of Michael "Ted" McCloskey, who died October 29; nephew of Melinda Wofford
The family of Chris VanderSlice, who died October 29; nephew-in-law of Joyce Inman
The family of Margaret Travis, who died October 26; friend of Elaine Wagner

For those recovering from or facing surgery

Mighty and merciful God, you sent Jesus Christ to heal broken lives. We praise you that today you send healing in doctors and nurses, and bless us with technology in medicine. We claim your promise of wholeness as we pray for those who are ill in body or mind, who long for your healing touch. Make the weak strong, the sick healthy, the broken whole., and confirm those who serve them as agents of your love. Then all shall be renewed in vigor to point to the risen Christ, who conquered death that we might live eternally. Amen.

Those who trust in the Lord for help
will find their strength renewed.
They will rise on wings like eagles;
they will run and not get weary;
They will walk and not grow weak.

Isaiah 40:31

Laura Grice, daughter of Karen & Neal Grice
Shannon Matthews
Cousin of Susie Cook; friend of Karen Miller
Betty Mallard, friend of Karen Miller
Bob Ott, friend of Karen Miller
Travis Turner, great-nephew of Ann Winkle
Glen Tandy, friend of Susan Berlin
Steven Scher, friend of Karen Miller
Charlotte Cooper, friend of Karen Miller
Bonnie Wildman, aunt of Jennifer Bradley
Jacob Pilcher, friend of Janis Reinken
Jamie Keller, daughter-in-law of Carol Keller

Alex Busby, heart transplant
David Phillips
Karen Cappolino
Mary Cognetti
Jim Budd
Ricardo Medrano
Frances Trahan
Anita Clemons

For the sick

O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers, mercifully hear our prayers and grant to your servants the help of your power, that their sickness may be turned into health and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Laura Davidson Fowell, friend of Karen Miller
Ben Johnston-Krase, former associate pastor at UPC
The cousin and family of Suxie Cook; friend of Karen Miller
Kaye Berry, former UPC member, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer
Griffin Perkins, friend of Ben Bradford
Ted Pitzer, who suffered a stroke at 32; friend of Amy Praskac
Bill Turpin, husband of Delilah Turpin, father of Brad Turpin
Mike Hetherington, wife Charlotte, sons Christopher & Charlie; friends of Karen Miller
Mother and brother of Stephanie Morris
Nancy Bazaz, niece of Helen Bardagjy

For the sick

Courtney Long, daughter of Marie Werkenthin Long, under hospice care
Bob, friend of Elaine Wagner
Dorothy Adkins, mother of Rosca Toulouse; grandmother of Amy Toulouse
Pat Tucker, mother of Donna Linn
Hank Bass
Fred Perella, father of Claire Baxter
Mike Maynard, friend of Liz Wright and Scott Kelley
Andy Kates, friend of Alex Pappas
Kaye Smith, mother of Jennifer Bradford
The Rev. Dr. Albert Aymer, father of Margaret Aymer Oget
Sharon Bayer
Jeanne Janson, major health issues following Hurricane Harvey
Dick Cassidy, friend of Karen Miller
Jim & Elizabeth Zorn, parents of Becky Lott
Hall Kelly, friend of Karen Miller
Waylon Wimberly, cousin of Suzanne Freeman
David Reynolds, friend of Shannon Middleton
JC Stromberger, brother of Karen Miller
Aletha Keelen, mother of Nancy Lewis
Marilyn Bradford, mother-in-law of Jennifer Bradford
Laurie McConnell, niece of Katherine Ray
Russell Luigs, father of Susan Thompson
Suanne Roueche, friend of many at UPC
Kane P., friend of Maureen & Andy Carlson
Dan Marshall, friend of Jim & Katherine Ray
Chris, friend of Nancy Barnes
Susie Gearhart, mother of Rob Gearhart
Norma, mother of Paul Hooker
Kristen, Amanda Utter's aunt
Marquita Wooley, friend of Karen Miller
Ellen Kinney, Diane Eddison's sister

For those in harm's way

The world is yours, mighty God, and all people live by your faithfulness. Watch over those who are traveling, who drive or fly, or speed through space. May they be careful, but not afraid, and safely reach their destinations. Wherever we wander in your spacious world, teach us that we never journey beyond your loving care, revealed in Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen

All family and friends affected by the ravages of wild fires in California
John Roberts, brother-in-law of Jessie Hsu, deployed to South Korea

For those awaiting a birth & new parents

Mighty God, by your love we are given children through the miracle of birth. May we greet each new son and daughter with joy, and surround them all with faith, so they may know who you are and want to be your disciples. Never let us neglect children, but help us to enjoy them, showing them the welcome you have shown us all; through Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen

Claire & Mark Baxter, due January 2018
Abigail Martin & Jason Blalock, Georgia Rio Morales Blalock, born 09-10-17
Erik & Andrea Wofford, Luke Daniel, born 08-07-17
Jessie & Josh Hsu, Josiah Hao-Yu, born 07-14-17
Elyse Fort & Ian Jacques, Maya Elizabeth, born 07-07-17
Piper Madison & Daniel Betts, Harvey Nash Betts Madison, born 05-17-17
Emily & Travis Givens, Elizabeth Anne, born 04-11-17
Sarah & Byron French, Charles Simeon, born 11-14-16

For continued prayers

Almighty and everlasting God, you are the comfort of the sad and strength to those who suffer. Let the prayers of your children who are in any trouble rise to you. To everyone in distress, grant mercy, grant relief, grant refreshment; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Alex, brother of a friend of Meg McReynolds
Topher Wynn
Matthew Roe, Allison Phillips's brother-in-law
The Padilla family in Reynosa, Mexico
Catherine, Nancy Barnes' Goddaughter
Rebecca Kieschnick, friend of Katherine Ray
Sam, Pat Mayne's brother
Leo Lopez & family

The Laney family
The Abell family
Kathie McNutt
Hildur Satre Brees

Riki Graves
James Quick
Roy Craig
Susan Berlin
Margaret Richardson

Barbara Engstrom
Margery McKee
Lillian Kirkpatrick
Alice Meriwether

For inquirers / candidates under care

God of prophets and apostles, you have chosen leaders to train your people in the way of Jesus Christ. We thank you that in our day you are still claiming men and women for special work within the church. As these have dedicated themselves to you, let us pledge ourselves to them, so that, surrounded by affection and hope, they may grow in wisdom, mature in love, and become a faithful worker, approved by Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Eric Peterson, Ezequiel Herrera

We pray for those searching for work

Gracious God, we remember before you those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work. Guide the people of this land so to use our wealth and resources that all persons may find suitable and fulfilling employment and receive just payment for their labor; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

If you'd like to be part of UPC's Prayer Chain, please email the church office:
upc@upcaustin.org

You will receive emails asking you specifically to pray
for people who have requested prayer support.