

23 Third Sunday After Epiphany

Almighty God, grant your wisdom and love upon the people of Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia, that they may live in peace and harmony.

24 Pray for the People of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Bellevue, Wash., as their Earthkeeping Ministry helps with their area's food crisis.

25 Conversion of Paul

Ask God to help the members of the ELCA to bring the light of the risen Christ to others, that their lives might be transformed as was St. Paul's on the road to Damascus.

26 Thank God for the more than 18 years of service of Judy Perry, who most recently assisted in medical work among mothers and infants in the People's Republic of China, and engaged in health worker training with Evergreen Foundation. Pray for all medical workers and those who care for the ill and suffering throughout Asia.

27 Commemoration of Victims of the Holocaust
Lift up ELCA's Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations staff and others participating in The Jewish-Christian National Dialogue Table, that understanding between Lutherans and Jews will continue to grow.

28 Pray for Elizabeth McHan in Jerusalem, as she assists Bishop Munib Younan of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land as his communications assistant.

29 Lift up in prayer St Cloud State Lutheran Campus Ministry and University Lutheran Church of the Epiphany, St. Cloud, Minn., an open and

caring community, and also all campus ministries, struggling in these economic rough times.

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Merciful God, we give you thanks for the diversity of ministry among the churches in Ireland and the United Kingdom. We pray for the continued companion relationship between the Lutheran Church in Great Britain and the ELCA Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod.

31 Give thanks for Dr Mark and Linda Nygard as they serve within the Evangelical Synod of the Nile. Mark serves as the coordinator of graduate studies at the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Cairo and Linda has been working in the seminary library.

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PRAYER VENTURES

JANUARY 2011

Prayer petitions for Sundays follow the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Prayer Cycle and can be incorporated into the prayers at weekly worship. Weekday entries are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the church. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.

1 Pray for the Rev. Stanley N. Olson as he begins his new position as president of Wartburg Seminary.

2 Second Sunday of Christmas

Merciful God, we remember with hope the gift of peace. Grant your peace upon Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, that the power of your love may be known.

3 Give thanks for Epiphany Lutheran & Episcopal Church, Marina, Calif., an inclusive community, grounded in the Gospel and compassion of Jesus Christ and committed to making a difference in our world.

4 Pray for the Rev. Fred and Diaconal Minister Gloria Strickert as they serve the English-speaking Redeemer Congregation in Jerusalem and assist Bishop Younan with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. Their congregational ministry provides a needed

sanctuary for many working for justice and peace in the difficult situation of occupation and oppression.

5 Lift up in prayer the leaders of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod as they have agreed to pray daily for the mission of the synod and its ministries at the same time every day.

6 Epiphany of Our Lord

Gracious and merciful God, during this most hectic of seasons you revealed the gift of your son Jesus the Christ to all of the nations with the epiphany of the Christ child. We pray during this season for all children, and the ministries of ELCA congregations that feed, educate and house them.

7 Thank God for Epiphany Lutheran Church, Suwanee, Ga., which serves the children of Haiti, partnering with the Haitian Timoun Foundation to create a future of hope, sustainability and dignity.

8 Praise God for Erin Odgers. Ask God to bless her time and ministry as an English as a Second Language teacher for the St. Andrew's Refugee Services in Cairo, Egypt, where she works to empower Sudanese and other refugees.

9 Baptism of Our Lord

Transforming God, we remember with joy the baptism of Christ Jesus, your Son. Call your children of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Yemen, Iran and Iraq into your embrace that they may be immersed in your life-giving Holy Spirit.

10 Remember in prayer Barbara and Pastor John LeMond as they serve within the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hong Kong. John teaches

world religions at Lutheran Theological Seminary, Hong Kong, and coordinates interfaith programs with the Tao Fang Shan Centre.

11 Pray for the staff and ministries of the ELCA churchwide office as they experience a time of transition into the ELCA redesign.

12 Keep in your prayers today ELCA missionary Robin Strickler who serves in Rwanda, working in education development. Started by Rwandan refugees returning from the genocide of 1994, the Lutheran Church of Rwanda focuses on training leaders and is building a secondary school and a women's center.

13 Give thanks for Epiphany Lutheran Church, Toledo, Ohio, whose youth group for 6th through 12th grade students provides activities for both junior and senior high groups include outings, retreats, service projects, camping, etc.

14 Pray for Jane and Pastor Ted Zimmerman in their ministry in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hong Kong. Ted teaches New Testament at Lutheran Theological Seminary and assists with pastoral leadership of a congregation.

15 Thank God for Epiphany Lutheran Church, Dale City, Va., and its preschool and high school students, who serve meals at the Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center and provide needed school supplies for the children residing there.

16 Second Sunday After Epiphany

Lord, who through a vision to your servant John of Patmos revealed yourself amid the seven churches of Asia, encouraging, reproving and challenging

those first Christian communities; continue to walk with today's churches in Cyprus, Greece and Turkey.

17 Pray for New Hope Lutheran Church, Jamaica, New York, as they are in the final stages of their building project.

18 Confession of Peter

As the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins, pray for Lutheran-Roman Catholic Dialogue participants -- inheritors of the churches of Peter and Paul -- as they address the churches' differences and similarities.

19 Give thanks for the continued ministry of Drs. Helmut and Rotraut Diefenthal, who spend 10 months a year at Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center in Moshi, Tanzania, and for the companion relationships that exist between ELCA synods and dioceses of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

20 Pray for the Youth Ministry Network as it gathers for its annual conference January 21-24 in Kansas City.

21 Lift up Paul and Stephanie Schick in Cairo. Paul serves as an intern at St. Andrew's United Congregation and the St. Andrew's Refugee Services ministry, working mostly with refugees from Sudan.

22 Pray for Jodi Hanson and the leaders of the Western Mission Network's annual consultation that convenes January 21-23 at the Spirit in the Desert Conference Center, Carefree, Ariz.