



Daily prayers:

Mon., August 25 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Pray for all returning and new students today, the first day of fall semester classes at Bluffton University. Also pray for the faculty and staff so that the whole campus may experience discovery, community, respect and service on the journey as members of God's universal kingdom.

Tue., August 26 – Eastern Mennonite University and Seminary, Harrisonburg, Va.

Pray for the EMU campus community this week; they will gather for Opening Convocation tomorrow morning.

Wed., August 27 – Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.

Pray for the instructors and the faculty/staff examiners for Bethel College's senior capstone course, "Basic Issues of Faith and Life," as they spend a day together working with the texts and preparing for the year.

Thu., August 28 – Christopher Dock Mennonite High School, Lansdale, Pa.

CDMHS ninth graders will participate in a retreat to get acquainted and begin building community as a class. Pray that they will listen to and share with each other openly as they begin making friendships that may last a lifetime.

Fri., August 29 – Instituto Bíblico Anabautista (IBA)

The annual IBA Students Retreat is taking place this weekend in Spring City, Tenn. Students will lead worship, give brief devotionals, and participate in recreation and fellowship. Interactive instruction will be given by Rafael Barahona, MEA Associate Director, on the theme, "Relaciones Interpersonales" (Interpersonal Relationships).

Sat., August 30 – Goshen (Ind.) College

Pray for new students and their families as they arrive on the Goshen College campus today and begin orientation weekend. Pray that a sense of Spirit-led community will form and grow among the class of 2012.

WEEK OF AUGUST 31

Suggested bulletin announcement for August 31:

Philadelphia Mennonite High School and Shalom Christian Academy will host the Regional Mennonite High School Music Festival in April 2009. Please pray for both schools as they prepare for this event. This is the first time the concert will be held in Philadelphia.

Mennonite Education Agency, the Mennonite Church USA agency that works with school-based education, brings you prayer requests from our preschools, elementary and secondary schools, colleges and universities, seminaries, and various programs that work to strengthen the church through education. If you are interested in receiving a free subscription to Prayers for Faith and Learning, e-mail or call Mennonite Education Agency. *Thank you for joining us in these prayers for faith and learning.*

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AUGUST 2008 PRAYERS FOR FAITH AND LEARNING

WEEK OF AUGUST 1-2

Daily prayers:

Fri., August 1 – Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.

Pray and thank God for this year's Bethel College graduates as a number of them prepare to enter service assignments in North America and around the world.

Sat., August 2 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Pray for Ernie Hess as he retires from Lancaster Mennonite School to take an MCC assignment in Ethiopia.

WEEK OF AUGUST 3-9

Suggested bulletin announcement for August 3:

Pray for the Goshen College students, who have just returned from Study-Service Terms in Peru, Senegal and Nicaragua, as they reflect on the joys and challenges of living and serving in a different culture.

Daily prayers:

Mon., August 4 – Christopher Dock Mennonite High School, Lansdale, Pa.

Pray for CDMHS faculty and administrators as they plan and prepare for a new school year. Pray that they will have love and compassion for the students and that their witness will encourage Christ's love and discipleship to the students.

Tue., August 5 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Pray for J. Richard Thomas, superintendent of Lancaster Mennonite Schools, as he gives leadership to the school program.

Wed., August 6 – Philadelphia (Pa.) Mennonite High School

Pray for Philadelphia Mennonite High School—the only Mennonite high school in a major urban area—as they prepare for their tenth anniversary celebration in October.

Thu., August 7 – Mennonite University Faculty Conference, Harrisonburg, Va.

Pray for those participating in the Mennonite University Faculty Conference, today through Saturday. The theme of the conference, hosted by EMU, is "Creation, Christ and the Classroom" and focuses on John 1:1-18. The keynote speakers are Willard Swartley, Professor Emeritus of New Testament at AMBS, and Doug Graber Neufeld, Associate Professor of Biology at EMU.

Fri., August 8 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Pray for new Bluffton University students and their parents attending student orientation sessions in preparation for the transition experience to higher education.

Sat., August 9 – Goshen (Ind.) College

Pray for learning and insight for the 21 Goshen College students exploring vocation through the summer's Service Inquiry, Ministry Inquiry and Camping Inquiry programs.

WEEK OF AUGUST 10-16

Suggested bulletin announcement for August 10:

Pray for MEA staff and the planning committee as they prepare for the 2009 Education Leaders Gathering (ELG), a meeting of board members of Mennonite educational institutions and other Mennonite organizations, churchwide leaders, and representatives from Mennonite conferences. Pray that God will lead as they plan and organize the event that will take place January 29-February 1.

Daily prayers:

Sun., August 10 – Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.

Pray for Bethel College admissions and student life staff as they plan the opening weekend for new students and parents, and the Week of Welcome for all students.

Mon., August 11 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Pray for the newly-formed Mennonite Sports Organization of LMS.

Tue., August 12 – Eastern Mennonite University and Seminary, Harrisonburg, Va.

Pray for administrators, faculty and staff of EMU and EMS as they gather for the Faculty/Staff Conference tomorrow and Thursday. Ask God to instill in these people wisdom, creativity and a deep sense of purpose.

Wed., August 13 – Hesston (Kan.) College

Hesston College faculty and staff meet today in preparation for the start of another school year. Pray for them as they focus on the theme of diversity and multiculturalism. Ask God to bless their efforts to make all students of various races, cultures, and religions feel welcome on this Christ-centered campus.

Thu., August 14 – Bethany Christian Schools, Goshen, Ind.

Pray for BCS' students and faculty as school begins today and for families of prospective students as they make last-minute decisions regarding Christian education. Pray that students may experience God's nudge during the learning process, grow in understanding and commitment to Christ, and develop their gifts for Christian service.

Fri., August 15 – Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Ask God to be present with student leaders in the EMU residence halls, multicultural services and campus ministries as they engage in leadership training and program planning today through August 19.

Sat., August 16 – Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.

Pray for Bethel College's institutional communications staff as they work to prepare materials for the beginning of the academic year.

WEEK OF AUGUST 17-23

Suggested bulletin announcement for August 17:

New faculty begin at Christopher Dock Mennonite High School tomorrow. Pray that they will bring energy to the classroom and school as they prepare lessons. Pray for strength as they meet students for the first time.

Daily prayers:

Sun., August 17 – Goshen (Ind.) College

Pray for wisdom and energy for Goshen College faculty and staff as they prepare for the beginning of a new school year and the return of students to campus next week.

Mon., August 18 – Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind.

Tomorrow is the first of three colloquy sessions involving several AMBS professors and ten new pastors. Pray that the pastors will find affirmation and new insights.

Tue., August 19 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Pray for the students and staff of LMS as they return to four campuses tomorrow for a new year. Pray for teachers as they prepare and for students to be ready to learn.

Wed., August 20 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Remember Bluffton University first-year students, their families, campus staff and faculty in your prayers. New student fall welcome and move-in day is August 22.

Thu., August 21 – Bethany Christian Schools, Goshen, Ind.

Pray for BCS high school students who will participate in grade-level activities tomorrow during Day Away. Pray for the beginning of friendships with new students.

Fri., August 22 – Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind.

AMBS faculty and staff gather today to begin the school year. Ask God to bless their work and to bring students safely to campus for a new year of learning.

Sat., August 23 – Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Harrisonburg, Va.

Thank God for faithfulness in bringing new students to EMS yesterday as they gathered for New Student Orientation. Ask God to give them a sense of calm and presence as they begin their educational experience.

WEEK OF AUGUST 24-30

Suggested bulletin announcement for August 24:

Pray that freshmen will feel at home in Hesston College's Christ-centered community, will build meaningful relationships, and will apply themselves to studies. Remember the parents as they separate from their young adult. Ask God to bless the efforts of faculty and staff as fall semester classes start tomorrow.