

Daily prayers:

Sun., December 21 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Lancaster Mennonite High School will hold their Christmas concert today. Pray for students and faculty as they prepare and present the program.

Mon., December 22 – Mennonite Early Childhood Network, Goshen, Ind.

Pray that during this Advent season, we may be open to a deepening understanding of the belief systems of other cultures and religions, including those whose worship seems strange. Pray for wisdom as we share the good news of the coming of the Prince of Peace with others.

Tue., December 23 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Remember Bluffton University students, faculty and staff who are unable to connect with family and friends during the holiday season.

Thu., December 25

Thank God for the individuals, congregations and conferences who support Mennonite education through financial contributions, support for students, and ongoing prayer—a gift that strengthens Mennonite Church USA.

WEEK OF DECEMBER 28-31

Suggested bulletin announcement for December 28: Pray for prospective students, whether young or middle-aged, who are considering the possibility of attending Hesston College in the spring semester which begins January 6. Ask God to give them direction as they seek to determine next steps in their lives. Pray that college admissions counselors who are in contact with these prospective students will help them in their discernment process.

Daily prayers:

Sun., December 28 – Instituto Bíblico Anabautista, MEA

Pray for the IBA students of the three study centers in Puerto Rico who are studying “Book of Acts” or “Introduction to the Bible” this trimester. Pray that these courses bless them and encourage them to continue learning about God’s word. Pray that God’s wisdom and patience be with the volunteer tutors—Angel Rivera, Enrique Ortiz, José E Jimenez and Samuel Lassus. Pray that through IBA, God forms new future leaders for the Mennonite Church in Puerto Rico.

Mon., December 29 – Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Invite God’s spirit to grant wisdom to the EMU faculty and staff as they prepare to receive, teach and mentor students throughout spring semester.

Wed., December 31

Pray for individuals, families, and Mennonite organizations and institutions that are experiencing financial challenges due to the U.S. economy.



DECEMBER 2008 PRAYERS FOR FAITH AND LEARNING

WEEK OF DECEMBER 1-6

Daily prayers:

Mon., December 1 – Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Ask God to bless and guide the students who are graduating from EMU this semester.

Tue., December 2 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Remember the Bluffton University campus and area community during the Christmas Choral Festival Forum today as they remember and celebrate the gift of grace and hope in Christ.

ALSO Tue., December 2 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Pray for students of the New Danville and Kraybill campuses of Lancaster Mennonite School as they prepare for programs on Friday, December 12, that celebrate the birth of our Savior.

Wed., December 3 – Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.

Pray for the Bethel College community gathering for the Advent chapel service this morning.

Thu., December 4 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Today, Lancaster Mennonite High School seniors will travel to Washington, D.C., for their two-day class trip. Pray for them as they interact with the Mennonite Central Committee’s Washington Office personnel. Pray also for safety as the students travel in the city.

Fri., December 5 – Goshen (Ind.) College

The Festival of Carols begins at Goshen College this evening, an Advent concert involving many students and faculty that is offered to the community each year. Pray for all those who perform and attend, that the joy of Christmas will fill their hearts and renew their spirits. Give thanks for the gift of music and all the ways it is shared this time of year.

Sat., December 6 – Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind.

The AMBS Spiritual Guidance Seminar meets today for one of five sessions during the school year. Pray that participants will gain insights in how to help others see God at work in their lives.

WEEK OF DECEMBER 7-13

Suggested bulletin announcement for December 7: Pray for international students at all the Mennonite educational institutions during this month as they face final exams and the holiday season away from their families and homes. Ask God to be near to them, to comfort them and to give them peace.

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.*

Mennonite Education Agency
Toll-free: 866-TO-MC-USA (866-866-2872)
E-mail: info@MennoniteEducation.org Web: www.MennoniteEducation.org

Daily prayers:

Sun., December 7 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Pray for the musicians and the audience as a Bluffton University campus and community choir presents the century old tradition of Handel's Messiah today.

Mon., December 8 – Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.

Pray for prospective students and their parents making a campus visit to Bethel College today.

ALSO Mon., December 8 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Remember Bluffton University students and faculty in prayer as semester final exams begin today and continue through Friday, December 12.

Tue., December 9 – Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Pray for guidance and support for a healthy transition of the undergraduate students who recently returned to the EMU campus from their semester in Morocco and Spain.

Wed., December 10 – Goshen (Ind.) College

Pray that Goshen College students, who begin final exams today, will recognize the progress in learning, insight and personal development that the fall semester has brought them. Thank God for the nurture of the professors who guided their learning experiences.

Thu., December 11 – Bethany Christian Schools, Goshen, Ind.

Pray for Bethany Christian Schools musicians as they share their musical gifts with the community at their annual Christmas concerts, today and Tuesday, December 16.

ALSO Thu., December 11 – Belleville (Pa.) Mennonite School

Please pray for students at Belleville Mennonite School as they lead the school community in celebrating the birth of Jesus through the elementary Christmas musical scheduled for today and the middle school/high school Christmas concert on Sunday.

Fri., December 12 – Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.

Thank God for the gift of music shared by Bethel College students, especially members of the jazz ensembles who will give a concert this evening.

WEEK OF DECEMBER 14-20

Suggested bulletin announcement for December 14: The Christmas Fund Drive is a very important part of Eastern Mennonite School's operating budget. Pray for students as they think of creative ways to raise money themselves and as they contact faithful donors.

Daily prayers:

Sun., December 14 – Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.

Pray for God's presence with and protection for Bethel College students and faculty during the upcoming week of semester exams and travel home for the Christmas break.

Mon., December 15 – Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Ask God to grant rest and refreshment for the faculty and students of EMU as they take a break from academic studies and the rigors of the classroom.

ALSO Mon., December 15 – Hesston (Kan.) College

Pray for Hesston College students who are taking final exams, today through Wednesday. Ask God to give them clear and understanding minds as they study and take tests. Pray that the professors will seek God's wisdom and understanding as they grade these exams.

Tue., December 16 – Eastern Mennonite School, Harrisonburg, Va.

Pray for Eastern Mennonite School musicians as they share their musical gifts during their annual Christmas concerts today and Thursday. Pray that Jesus will truly be honored!

ALSO Tue., December 16 – Bethany Christian Schools, Goshen, Ind.

Pray for Bethany Christian High School students as they take semester final exams the rest of the week—that they may be rested, relaxed, and prepared to do their best.

Wed., December 17– Bluffton (Ohio) University and Goshen (Ind.) College

The women's basketball teams from Goshen College and Bluffton College play each other this evening in Bluffton. Pray for the safe travel of the Goshen College team and good fellowship between the sister teams and their fans as they compete.

ALSO Wed., December 17 – Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Harrisonburg, Va.

Pray for the faculty of EMS during their retreat today and tomorrow. May they come to one mind as they discern direction for curricular changes for seminary studies.

Thu., December 18 – Hesston (Kan.) College

Remember Hesston College students who are going home after completing the fall semester. Ask God for safe travels and meaningful, relaxing times with family and friends. Pray for international students who are unable to travel to their home countries during the holidays. May they experience the joy and peace of Christmas as they spend the holidays with host families in the Hesston area.

ALSO Thu., December 18 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

The middle school students of the Locust Grove, Kraybill and Lancaster campuses of Lancaster Mennonite School will present their Christmas concert today. Pray for all involved as they praise God for the gift of his Son.

Fri., December 19 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Pray for Bluffton University students, faculty and staff during the holiday break as they reconnect with family and friends. Pray for discoveries and insights while resting for the journey ahead. May there be a sense of understanding and celebration of the gift of hope and grace in recognizing Christ's birth and a call to live that grace and hope in the world.

Sat., December 20 – Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.

Pray for international students at Bethel College, many of whom are far from their families and unable to return home during the Christmas break.

WEEK OF DECEMBER 21-27

Suggested bulletin announcement for December 21: Praise God for the new academic center at the Lancaster Campus of Lancaster Mennonite School which is being dedicated today. Pray for students, administration and faculty as this "green" facility provides not only a place to teach but a place where students can learn how to care for God's creation.