

Daily prayers:

Sun., January 25 – Education Leaders Gathering

Pray for conference and churchwide leaders, administrators, and board members who will travel from all over the U.S. this week to Pittsburgh, Pa., for the Education Leaders Gathering, January 29-February 1. Pray for safe travel and that this conference will be a blessing to participants.

Mon., January 26 – Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Pray for the faculty of EMU as they meet this morning in faculty assembly that God will grant them wisdom and discernment for decision-making.

ALSO Mon., January 26 – Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.

Pray for Bethel College seniors in the capstone course Basic Issues of Faith and Life as they take their oral exams and write their final papers.

Tue., January 27 – Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Thank God for the openness of resource persons, faculty, staff and students as they continue conversations about “embodying sexual wholeness in a broken world” at EMU this week.

ALSO Tue., January 27 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Remember the 16 Northern Ireland cross-cultural participants as they share with the Bluffton University campus community during a forum presentation today.

ALSO Tue., January 27 – Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind.

During Pastors Week at AMBS, ask God to give the presenter, Diana Butler Bass, and participants new insights into how congregations can share growth, hope and vitality.

Wed., January 28 – Leaders of Mennonite educational institutions

Remember the educational leaders meeting in Pittsburgh, Pa., today before the Education Leaders Gathering: Bethany Christian Schools Board, Bluffton University Board Executive Committee, Canadian Association of Mennonite Schools administrators, EMU Board, Goshen College Board, Hesston College Board, Lancaster Mennonite School Executive Board and MEA Board. Ask God to give wisdom, discernment and courage as these groups determine direction.

Thu., January 29 – Goshen (Ind.) College

Pastors from the community and around the U.S. will gather at Goshen College this evening for the annual Pastors Dinner and Dialogue. Pray for the students, faculty and pastors who gather for worship and to discuss faith formation in young adults.

ALSO Thu., January 29 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Pray for Bluffton University campus ministry intern Scott Schomberg and chapel participants as Scott brings the chapel message and the chapel worship team guides the worship time today.

Sat., January 31 – Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Ask God to guide and direct EMU Board of Directors who are going to Israel/Palestine under the leadership of Professor of Bible and Religion Patty Shelly.



JANUARY 2009 PRAYERS FOR FAITH AND LEARNING

WEEK OF JANUARY 1-3

Daily prayers:

Thu., January 1 – Mennonite education

Pray for MEA, the educational institutions of Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Schools Council during this new year.

Fri., January 2 – Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.

Pray for Bethel College athletes and coaches who are traveling for a tournament at the end of Christmas break.

Sat., January 3 – Philadelphia (Pa.) Mennonite High School

Pray for Dr. Mark Garis, the chair of Philadelphia Mennonite High School Board, who is recovering well from a brain tumor.

WEEK OF JANUARY 4-10

Suggested bulletin announcement for January 4: Pray for Randy Christopher and Kimberly Mendendorp who are leading the preparations to open a new urban middle/high school, The Peace and Justice Academy, in the fall of 2009 in Pasadena, Calif.

Daily prayers:

Sun., January 4 – Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Pray for the students who are beginning their studies at EMU this semester. May they have a sense of well-being and hope for the future.

Mon., January 5 – Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.

Pray for all Bethel College students and faculty who will be traveling out of state or out of the country for the January interterm through Jan. 29, especially those going to Israel/Palestine under the leadership of Professor of Bible and Religion Patty Shelly.

ALSO Mon., January 5 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Please pray for students in grades 2-8 who are taking achievement tests this week at LMS. Pray that students will be rested and well-nourished for this important testing period.

Tue., January 6 – Goshen (Ind.) College

A group of Goshen College students departs today for a Study Service Term in Peru. Pray for the health and safety of the students, as well as their openness to a new place, language and culture. Give thanks for their host families and their willingness to share the students' journey.

ALSO Tue., January 6 – Hesston (Kan.) College

Remember Hesston College students as spring semester classes begin today. Ask God to bless their studies and their social interaction on campus. May they also grow in their spiritual lives. Pray for new students as they adjust to academic challenges and make new friends.

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
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Wed., Jan. 7 – Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va., & Goshen (Ind.) College

Ask God to speak through Interim Provost Lee Snyder as she addresses the EMU campus community this morning in Opening Convocation at EMU. A new semester begins at Goshen College today. Pray for faculty and students, that they will feel hope and energy for the learning and tasks ahead. Pray for safety for those still making their way back to campus.

Thu., January 8 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Pray for campus pastor Tig Intagliata today and Bluffton University chapel participants for the first service of the new semester. The message is “The Word became flesh” from John 1:10-18.

Fri., January 9 – Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Invite God’s Spirit to move in the midst of EMU student leaders in campus ministries and campus pastors as they gather for a leadership and mentoring retreat this weekend.

Sat., January 10 – Belleville (Pa.) Mennonite School

Please pray for Belleville Mennonite School administration, finance committee, and the board as they make preparations for 2009-2010.

WEEK OF JANUARY 11-17

Suggested bulletin announcement for January 11: Give thanks to the Lord for the Instituto Biblico Anabautista (IBA) and pray that this program continues to be a blessing in 2009 by training new leaders for the Hispanic Mennonite congregations. Pray for the 32 volunteer tutors who have been serving in study centers in the U.S., Puerto Rico and Canada in 2008. Pray that God will fill them with wisdom, patience and lots of energy and that they may continue to be important instruments for this ministry in their local congregations in the new year.

Daily prayers:

Sun., January 11 – Philadelphia (Pa.) Mennonite High School

Pray that God will provide wisdom to the board members, faculty and administrators of Philadelphia Mennonite High School during these tough economic times.

Mon., January 12 – Belleville (Pa.) Mennonite School

Please pray for Belleville Mennonite School students as they complete first semester projects and exams.

Tue., January 13 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Remember the Pathways speaker and 2007 alumna, Anna Roeschley, as she speaks to the Bluffton University campus community today about her work in the Women’s Alliance for Theology, Ethics and Ritual in Washington, D.C.

Wed., January 14 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Pray for guidance for the Executive Board of Lancaster Mennonite School as they meet today. Pray that they will make wise decisions in these critical financial times.

Thu., January 15 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Eighth-grade orientation will take place today at LMS. Pray for students from the Locust Grove, Kraybill and New Danville campuses as they prepare to enter a new school next year.

Fri., January 16 – Hesston (Kan.) College

High school students interested in attending Hesston College are invited to visit campus, attend classes in their areas of interest, and experience dorm and community life during Prospective Student Visit Days, January 15-17. Pray that God will speak to these visiting students about his plans for their lives and what college to attend.

WEEK OF JANUARY 18-24

Suggested bulletin announcement for January 18: Students and faculty will welcome the local community to the Goshen College campus for an annual day of events in celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr., Day. Give thanks for those who attend the events, and pray for the college’s continuing work at fostering diversity and anti-racism.

Daily prayers:

Sun., January 18 – Mennonite Early Childhood Network, Goshen, Ind.

Change is possible. Faith communities are invited to be agents of change through the service of worship, educational programs, and congregational and community activities. Pray that communities of faith will renew and live out their moral responsibility to care for, protect, and advocate for all young children.

Mon., January 19 – Bethel College, North Newton, Kan., and Bluffton (Ohio) University

Pray for the Martin Luther King, Jr., activities at Mennonite educational institutions today. Pray for the Bluffton University campus community and guest Dr. George Cummings, pastor of Emami Temple in San Francisco, Calif., who will focus on “Race relations after the Obama election” along with various opportunities for interaction and discussion during the day. Thank God for the gifts of Bethel College students and faculty who will plan and lead the annual community service celebrating the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Tue., January 20 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Please pray that the Lancaster Mennonite School Staff Development Day today will be a valuable time of evaluation of practices related to educational methods and curriculum.

Wed., January 21 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Remember Minister in Residence guest Cyneatha Millsaps of Community Mennonite Church in Markham, Ill., and the Bluffton University campus community as they connect to build understanding of each of Bluffton missions and ministry in God’s universal kingdom. Pastor Millsaps will be on campus January 20-22 and will bring the chapel message tomorrow.

Thu., January 22 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Lancaster Mennonite School will hold a Prospective Student Day today on all four campuses. Please pray that the youth who visit and attend classes will consider enrolling at LMS.

Fri., January 23 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Please pray for students as they prepare the winter drama, *Play On*, to be performed January 22-24, on the Lancaster campus of Lancaster Mennonite School.

Sat., January 24 – Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind.

Give thanks for June Alliman Yoder, professor of communication and preaching at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, as she retires from teaching. Thank God for the many contributions she has made to the church and to preparing pastors.

WEEK OF JANUARY 25-31

Suggested bulletin announcement for January 25: Pray for Bethany Christian High School students and faculty this coming week that all may be encouraged in their spiritual journeys and have their spirits refreshed during the annual Spiritual Life Week. High School Career and Faith Week will also be held this coming week at Lancaster Mennonite School. Speakers will share personal stories of how God has worked in their career choices and invite students to integrate their faith into their career choices.