

# Prayer Requests December

## Friday, December 1

**Central Christian School, Kidron, Ohio:** Pray for good health, jolly spirits, and warm hearts as our High School Varsity Singers ensemble will be hosting a Christmas Madrigal Feast tomorrow.

Dock Mennonite Academy's Early Childhood – Grade 8 campus, Lansdale, Pa.: Please pray for our school today as our EC8 campus participates in our annual Christmas Benefit Concert. Be with each student participating in the concert, sharing their musical talents, and helping us to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

**Goshen (Ind.) College:** Pray for Goshen College students who are participating in the annual Festival of Carols this week.

Hesston (Kan.) College: Please keep the Hesston College campus community in your prayers as they walk with employees whose jobs have been directly impacted by recent organizational restructuring linked to budget sustainability and the continued shift toward a four-year education model. We ask for a special sense of God's comfort to be present in their lives, as well as the presence of new opportunities and open doors.

## Saturday, December 2

**Dock Mennonite Academy, Lansdale, Pa.:** Please pray for our middle school students as they participate in the local community parade today. May they spread the word of Jesus throughout the community.

Hesston (Kan.) College: Please pray for Hesston College students and faculty who are involved in the fall performing arts production of "A Christmas Carol." Pray for energy and focus on these long yet rewarding days. We also want to give thanks for the many gifts that are present within the faculty, staff, and students involved. ...more for Dec. 2 →

**Quakertown (Pa.) Christian School:** Join in prayer and rejoicing as we celebrate our Homecoming with athletic and alumni events throughout the day. Our alumni are the bedrock of our history, and we give thanks that they are members of our family.

## Sunday, December 3

**Bluffton (Ohio) University:** Please pray for Bluffton students as they complete their last week of regular classes for the fall semester, begin finals, and return home for Christmas. May their minds be sharp and their travels safe.

## Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.:

Please pray for the EMU community as we continue to grapple with the sudden death of first-year student and softball player Sara Monger. Please pray especially for Sara's family and friends.

## **Monday, December 4**

**Eastern Mennonite School, Harrisonburg, Va.:** We pray for a successful Christmas concert season. The Middle School instrumental concert is tomorrow, Dec 5., the Elementary School music concert is Dec. 7., and the High School instrumental concert is Dec. 12.

## **Rockway Mennonite Collegiate, Kitchener, Ont.:**

The Music Department of Rockway Mennonite Collegiate would appreciate prayers as students and teachers prepare for and perform their annual Christmas Concert on Tuesday, December 5. Students have been working hard this fall to learn repertoire that challenges them as budding musicians but, more importantly, that enables them to inspire us to celebrate the season of Advent and the birth of Christ through their music-making.

**Western Christian School, Salem, Ore.:** Pray for Ethan, a High School junior who was just diagnosed with an aggressive cancer that has already spread throughout his body.

#### **Tuesday, December 5**

**Dock Mennonite Academy, Lansdale, Pa.:** Please pray for the start of winter sports programs on both campuses.

**Hillcrest Academy, Kalona, Iowa:** Pray for wisdom and clarity as the operating board and administration lead the school forward, continuing to add middle school grades.

**Shalom Christian Academy, Chambersburg, Pa.:** Shalom is beginning a strategic planning process. Pray that we will have clarity and wisdom as we work at this.

## Wednesday, December 6

**Dock Mennonite Academy, Lansdale, Pa.:** Please pray for chapels to be meaningful for student faith formation and for community building on both Dock campuses.

**Goshen (Ind.) College:** Pray for Goshen College students who are taking their final exams.

**The City School, Philadelphia, Pa.:** Please pray for rejuvenation for our teachers and that they will find rest in the midst of the work God has called them to do.

# **Thursday, December 7**

**Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.:** Pray for staff and students of Bethel College Academy of Performing Arts as they cooperate with Newton Dance Connections to bring The Nutcracker to Bethel's stage Dec. 8-10.

**Quakertown (Pa.) Christian School:** We welcome the Birth of our Savior with our elementary Christmas Concert. We pray for calm hearts and minds as we celebrate the meaning of Christmas.

## Shalom Christian Academy, Chambersburg, Pa.:

Pray for Christmas events and programs that students will know the joy of the season. Pray for faculty and staff who plan and coordinate these.

#### Friday, December 8

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind.: Semester One courses end today at AMBS. Give thanks with students and professors for the learning, personal and spiritual growth, and community building that have taken place during this term.

**Bethany Christian Schools, Goshen, Ind.:** Pray that Bethany students will be granted health and the ability to perform their best after the many weeks of practice for our all-school Christmas Gala, Room in the Circle.

**Dock Mennonite Academy's Early Childhood – Grade 8 campus, Lansdale, Pa.:** Please pray for our youngest community members, the Early Childhood department as they share an evening event with their parents tonight.

# Kraybill Mennonite School, Mount Joy, Pa.:

Tonight is our Middle School Project Night. Please pray for our students as they work in groups to share their projects, which are created as part of our Middle School Humanities class.

#### Saturday, December 9

**Central Christian School, Kidron, Ohio:** Please pray for our elementary school students who are working together to collect items and money for a Christmas service project.

**Goshen (Ind.) College:** Pray for Goshen College basketball players as they compete this month.

MEA's Instituto Bíblico Anabautista (IBA – Anabaptist Bible Institute: Pray for Marco Güete, Director of IBA who will be leading the workshop: "The Journey of the Bible Towards the Spanish Language" and the orientation of the new IBA students on Dec. 2 at Iglesia Menonita Piedra Viva, Elkhart, Ind. Pray for safe travel for Marco and as he teaches this weekend. Pray for the new students and the participants in the workshop. May this course be a source of learning and of many blessings to the participants and their community.

#### Sunday, December 10

**Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.:** Remember the Bethel College community this evening during the annual Advent service, Lighting of the Green, the first since the death of service co-founder Patty Shelly.

**Bluffton (Ohio) University:** Please pray for the students, faculty, staff, and community members who are coming together today to perform "Messiah" at Bluffton University. May those in attendance witness the love of God through the beautiful scripture, lyrics, and music performed at this annual event.

# MEA's Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano (SeBAH – Hispanic Anabaptist Bíblical Seminary):

We ask for prayer for Professor Patricia Urueña and the students of the Hispanic Anabaptist Biblical Seminary (SeBAH). At the end of the month, they will be ending the course "Theory and Practice of Pastoral Leadership." May God give them energy and wisdom as they wrap up this class and the students work on their final assignments.

#### Monday, December 11

**Dock Mennonite Academy, Lansdale, Pa.:** Please pray for faculty energy and wellness on both campuses.

**Hesston (Kan.) College:** Please pray for students, faculty, and staff as they prepare for finals week. Pray students can finish the fall semester strong, have the confidence they need in the face of test anxieties, and safe travels as many head home for the holiday season. We also give thanks for the opportunities presented over the fall semester to learn and grow as individuals and as a community.

Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School: Lancaster Mennonite School students will be presenting Christmas concerts this week. Pray that all students will perform to the best of their ability, that everyone will be calm, and that students, faculty, and those attending the concerts will feel the presence of God as they celebrate the joy of the birth of Christ.

#### **Tuesday, December 12**

Hillcrest Academy, Kalona, Iowa: We are thankful for our alumni and how they continue to support our school and be part of our community through events like Alumni Night (December 15) and Midnight Madness (Christmas Night).

Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School: Remember the students and coaches involved in the winter sports teams at Lancaster Mennonite School. Pray for good health and safety as they compete and give them the courage to treat teammates and opponents alike with respect and dignity.

## Wednesday, December 13

**Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind.:** Please pray for students who are pursuing theological studies at AMBS — whether through

graduate-level programs or lifelong learning offerings. Give thanks for how God is equipping them for ministry.

**Kraybill Mennonite School, Mount Joy, Pa.:** Our elementary Christmas program is tomorrow, December 14, and the middle school Christmas program is on Tuesday, December 19. We are thankful for our excellent music teachers and pray that these evenings will be a time of praising God for the gift of God's Son at Christmas.

## **Thursday, December 14**

**Freeman (S.D.) Academy:** Please pray for our annual Yuletide celebration on December 14 and 15.

**Hesston (Kan.) College:** Please pray for our students, faculty, and staff during Christmas break. Pray they have time to rest and rejuvenate before the start of the spring semester. We also pray for any new students joining the campus community for the first time in January.

**Quakertown (Pa.) Christian School:** Our Middle and High School students give praise to our newborn King as we celebrate the Christmas Season with our older students sharing their gifts.

## Friday, December 15

**Eastern Mennonite School, Harrisonburg, Va.:** We pray for success as we continue our annual Christmas fund drive throughout December.

**Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.:** Please pray for a successful wrap of the semester, a joyous Christmas, and a restful and rejuvenating winter break.

**The City School, Philadelphia, Pa.:** Please pray for our principals as the lead each campus.

#### Saturday, December 16

**Freeman (S.D.) Academy:** We are in severe need of a kindergarten teacher and a development director. We also need more daycare workers. Please pray for these challenges, that God will send the people will need for these key roles.

**Western Christian School, Salem, Ore.:** Pray that we will be able to hire a new and high-quality Middle School English teacher.

## **Sunday, December 17**

**Bluffton (Ohio) University:** Please pray for Bluffton's winter athletes competing in basketball, indoor track and field swimming, and diving. May they be safe and healthy while strengthening their teamwork and leadership skills.

**Western Christian School, Salem, Ore.:** Pray for our new staff to feel welcomed and loved by our school community.

#### **Monday, December 18**

**Central Christian School, Kidron, Ohio:** We are so thankful for our over 2,000 alumni. Please pray for our alumni night on December 19.

**The City School, Philadelphia, Pa.:** Please pray for financial aid support to see students flourish at our school.

# **Tuesday, December 19**

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind.: Please pray for AMBS's Development Team members as they connect with people to support AMBS's mission of educating and preparing Christian leaders. Join us in giving thanks for donors who generously respond to this call.

**Bethany Christian Schools, Goshen, Ind.:** Pray that the faculty, staff, and students have a restful and peaceful Christmas break, Dec. 20-Jan. 3.

## Wednesday, December 20

Mennonite Early Childhood Network: Especially during this season focusing on the birth of Jesus, pray that those who interact with young children may liberate care (identified by Carol Garboden Murray). Liberating empathetic, joyful, understanding, and loving care is vital for the social/emotional health of the young, and their mental health as well. Pray as adults share Jesus' birth, His message and example in liberating ways, children will receive hope in these stressful times.

## **Thursday, December 21**

**Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.:** The "longest night" in the Western Hemisphere is a time to pray for students at Bethel College and everywhere who might be far from families and loved ones during the holiday season.

## **Rockway Mennonite Collegiate, Kitchener, Ont.:**

The fall has been a very busy one for students, staff, and faculty at Rockway Mennonite Collegiate.

December 22 marks the last day of school before the much-anticipated Christmas Break. We pray not only for the safety of our school community through the holidays, but also that all may get the opportunity to rest, relax, and reflect on what the Christmas season means to them.

**The City School, Philadelphia, Pa.:** Pray for shalom over the city of Philadelphia - 2 Chronicles 7:14.

#### Friday, December 22

**Eastern Mennonite School, Harrisonburg, Va.:** We pray for health, safety, and fellowship during the Christmas break.

**Kraybill Mennonite School, Mount Joy, Pa.:** Our Christmas break is December 22-January 1. Please pray for our students, families, and staff, for a wonderful celebration of the birth of Jesus and enjoyable time spent with friends and family.

## Saturday, December 23

Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School: Pray that all Lancaster Mennonite School students, faculty, and staff can relax and enjoy the Christmas break. Remember those who will be traveling and pray that this Christmas season is a safe and meaningful time for all with family and friends. Also pray that those who may feel loss at this time of year will find support and comfort from others.

## **Sunday, December 24**

Mennonite Early Childhood Network: Pray that God will grant us the wisdom to teach our children the difference between needs and wants. Help us fill their hearts with what really counts, the love and grace of his Son, Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate.

## **Monday, December 25**

**Quakertown (Pa.) Christian School:** Quakertown Christian wishes you all Peace on Earth as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

#### **Tuesday, December 26**

**Hinkletown Mennonite School, Ephrata, Pa.:** Like many schools, HMS is experiencing a shortage of bus drivers this school year. Please pray that some new drivers will step forward and fill this need so we can keep our bus fleet running at full capacity.

#### Wednesday, December 27

**Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.:** Pray for Bethel College men's and women's basketball players and coaches as they return to campus to prepare for games on Dec. 30 and 31 and early in the new year.

#### **Thursday, December 28**

**Western Christian School, Salem, Ore.:** Pray that our spiritual renewal week last month had a great impact on our students and staff.

#### Friday, December 29

Hinkletown Mennonite School, Ephrata, Pa.: Pray for the school's Finance Committee as they carefully review tuition rates and make decisions for next school year. We are thankful for God's provisions and for blessing our Mennonite Schools with strong community financial support.

#### Saturday, December 30

## Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart,

**Ind.:** Give thanks for AMBS's 2,500+ alumni (those who have completed 12 or more credit hours of study) and for the ways in which they are applying their seminary learnings and making a difference across the world.

## Sunday, December 31

Hillcrest Academy, Kalona, Iowa: Pray for our student athletes playing basketball. During the winter season, as they practice, compete, and travel, pray for the health and safety of our teams and coaches, for spectators coming onto our campus, and for our fans.

Mennonite Education Agency (MEA) is the education agency of Mennonite Church USA. Thank you for joining us in prayer. These prayer requests were gathered from across all levels of Mennonite education, from early childhood programs, primary and secondary schools, undergraduate schools, graduate schools, seminaries, and MEA's Hispanic Ministries programs. By partnering with these schools and educational programs and helping them flourish, MEA works to strengthen MC USA through education. To subscribe to this monthly publication, please contact JoleneV@MennoniteEducation.org or 574.343.1310. www.MennoniteEducation.org