

Prayer Celebrations and Concerns

January 5-11, 2025

New this week: George Douma, Covenant member; Mary Fontaine, Covenant member; Tom Fontaine, son of Mary Fontaine.

Covenant members: Marion Peterson; Helen Madsen.

Covenant friends & extended family: Ryan & Sara and their unborn baby, relatives of Heidi Hastings; Kevin O'Brien, son-in-law of Craig & Sherry Anderson; Brian Courtney, father-in-law of Laura Courtney; Harmon Gundersen, father of Judy Gundersen; The O'Dowd family, friends of Greg & Melissa Hinz; Mike Whitley, father of Michael Whitley; Brenda Campbell, friend of Nancy Gunder; Harold & Lenore Sydnor, parents-in-law of Ann Sydnor; Curt & Kathy Spilburg, brother and sister-in-law of Jim Spilburg.

Covenant family & friends mourning the death of: Betty Matthews, Covenant member; Don Peterson, Covenant member; Emelyn Shier, aunt of Eric Wendorff; Judith Whitley Overstreet, aunt of Michael & Jackie Whitley and great-aunt of Xander, Bergen, and Quinn; Don Misch, father-in-law of Marilyn Krichko; Marilyn Weyburn, sister-in-law of Marybeth Friske.

Your continuing prayers are appreciated for: Don Schalch; Jack & Joannie Carter; Tom Schuster, Evelyn McMillan; Sandi Thompson-Royer, Covenant friend; Troy Griswold, nephew of Lori Voss; Sarah Day; Mark Middleton; Sally Nesser; Bill Wood; Brenda Moten; Pat Thielbar; John Wedberg; Barb Larsen; Cindy Blewett; Nancy McCulley; Larry Larsen; Patty West; Bill Lawrence; Russ McMillan; Virgil Landry; Margaret Hickman; Joseph Hack; The people of Ukraine; Gina Fritz; Eve Casta; Jan Schaefer, sister-in-law of Bob and Nan Schaefer; Jodi Steidl; Tim Wade, father of Janna Doney; Charlene Duranceau, sister of Jan Schuster; Betty Matthews; Jane Stark; Bonnie Cameron, cousin of Jan Minardi; Robert Hill, father of Melissa Hardy; Jorge Asencion, Covenant friend; Gary Van Ess and John Van Ess, brothers of Vicki Alexander.

World Mission: Betsey and Eric Moe PC(USA); Bernie and Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta PC(USA) in Indonesia; Jed and Jenny Koball PC(USA) in Peru; Shelvis and Nancy Smith-Mather PC(USA) in South Sudan; Medical Benevolence Foundation in Haiti; Eric Miller in Kenya.

Our elected leaders: President Biden, Rep. Pocan, Sen. Johnson, Sen. Baldwin, Gov. Evers, and Mayor Rhodes-Conway.

Birthdays

Gary Bertram, Cheyenne Brink, Brad Brown, Winfred Byrd, Cole Byrd, Maxine Knetter, Riley Larget (1/6); Adam Schmidt, Lina Pudelwitts, Linda McNeel (1/7); Finny Smeeding, Robert Strand (1/8); Mike Houston, Jess Scholten (1/9); Sherry Hershberger, Cindy Blewett (1/10); Judy Von Bergen, Rayea Durand (1/11)

Names will ordinarily stay on the prayer list for five weeks. If you would like to remain on the list longer, please contact the church office at 608-233-6297, Pastor Charlie Berthoud, Pastor Megan Berry, Pastor Jess Scholten, or Melissa Hinz, Minister of Music and Pastoral Care. You may also email us at info@covenantmadison.org.

A Prayer for Epiphany
from Joyce Rupp's book, *Out of the Ordinary*

On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother;
and they knelt down and paid him homage.

Then, opening their treasure chests,
they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

(Matthew 2:11)

Radiant One, every day is an epiphany in which I, too, can pay you homage. Every day I can kneel before you and open the treasure chest of my life. In there, I find unending gifts of every kind to offer you. Every day I bring my gratitude for you, my desire to grow more loving, my longing to be true. Every day I reach into that treasure chest and offer my trust that you are near, my hope for all you promise, my belief in what is unseen. Every day I offer my desire to live justly, my commitment to be generous, my struggle to be whole.

Divine Light, I give these gifts and so much more. The treasure chest is boundless. Each time I reach within, I see you smiling at my gesture; for you, great Giver of Gifts, have placed each treasure there. You greet my gift with welcoming pleasure when it returns back home to you.

Bestower of Gifts, thank you for all that my treasure chest of life holds. I will look daily for my persistent star of recognition. May it stand boldly over the house of my heart where you dwell, so that I will be aware of your presence and pause to give you homage. Amen.