

**April 2024 Flowers and Fields**

Let's use some Springtime imagery to enhance our prayer times together this month. Flowers, budding trees, green grass... in my part of the world these things are welcomed with fresh enthusiasm every year about this time. Winter is gone, behold! The new has come! Pray on!

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**1 April Fools Day?** Do you like playing pranks on your friends? Do this instead: Tell them you are praying for them today, no foolin'! See how they react! 😊

**For the next few days keep Luke 12:22-24 handy.**

**2 Trust vs. Anxiety: Pray for our pastors and other leaders as they follow Jesus in their work.** v.22, "And he said to his disciples, 'Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on.'"

**3 Faith vs. Discouragement: Our church planters can be challenged by hard work and (seemingly) few "results."**

v.24, "Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds!"

**Pray for our current Church Planters for a few days.**

**4 Kristian & Mary Anderson, Boston, MA**

**5 Carl & Emily Juhl, Lincoln, ND**

**6 Bob & Melonie Schultz, Regina, SK**

**7 SUNDAY: Isaiah 40:8, "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."** May the Word of God, even Christ himself, be proclaimed boldly from CLB pulpits around our nation and the world!

**More Church Planters!**

**8 Harold & Joyce Rust, Red Deer, AB**

**9 Nick and Brittany Olson, New Prague, MN**

**10 Jason & Heidi Lang, LeSueur/New Prague, MN**

**11 Jason & Savanna Rogness, Parker, CO**

**Matthew 14:19, "Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds." What a privilege to share the bread of life with others!**

**Be in prayer for the following:**

**12 The CLB/Canada** holds their annual convention starting today and through the

14<sup>th</sup>. Pray for their gathering, unity as they continue to follow Jesus on his mission.

**13 Your congregation's** Sunday School and Bible Study leaders. Name them if you can.

**14 SUNDAY: Our Lutheran Brethren Seminary** in Fergus Falls, MN; for students and faculty. May all sit at the feet of Jesus to hear from him.

**15 Pray for the new "Rooted" discipleship ministry** being established as a "gap year" for young adults. This is a venture of the CLB and Tuscarora Inn & Conference Center. Rev. Roger Viksnes, Director.

**16 Parable of THE Planter: Matt. 13:3-9** v.3b-4, "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them." The CLB Theological Council meets 4/16-17.

**17 v.5-6, "Other seeds fell on rocky ground,** where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose, they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away." Jesus, make us to be fruitful receivers of your Word.

**18 v.7, "Other seeds fell among thorns,** and the thorns grew up and choked them." The CLB Council of Directors meets today and tomorrow. Pray for our leaders for clear vision and understanding of our mission.





**19 v.8, “Other seeds fell on good soil** and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.” Our prayer Lord: for all to receive your Word and grow freely in it.

**20 v.9, “He who has ears, let him hear.”** Open our eyes, Lord. Open our ears, Lord. Open our lives, Lord. Speak, Lord, your servants are listening.

**21 SUNDAY: Psalm 92:12-13a,** “The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. They are planted in the house of the Lord.” Jesus, our righteousness is in you alone. Grant us faith to worship you in truth as we gather.

**22 Ecclesiastes 3:1-2,** “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted.” Pray for people who Jesus is calling into his kingdom.

**23 Luke 13:6,** “And he told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none.’” Lord, guard our hearts; keep them faithful and faith filled. We pray for our kids today. Jesus, watch over them.

**24 1 Corinthians 3:6,** “I [Paul] planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.” Give God the glory for our salvation *and* for his calling to go into the world with the Good News of the gospel. It’s his idea!

**25 John 20:15b,** “Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.’” Jesus is, in fact, the *ultimate gardener*. Lord, guide us to new “gardens” for church planting and other ministry.

**26 Ezekiel 17:5** “Then he took of the seed of the land and planted it in fertile soil. He placed it beside abundant waters.” God knows how to “grow us.” Lord, plant us where you want us to be!

**27 Ezekiel 17:6,** “He set it like a willow twig, and it sprouted... and its roots remained where it stood. So it became a vine and produced branches and put out boughs.” Lord, grow us to be the servants you want us to be! “Thy will be done!”

**28 SUNDAY:** As we gather today, pray for your elder board, pastor(s) and teachers.

**29 Isaiah 55:12,** “For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.” Jesus, make us joyful!

**30 Revelation 21:6,** “And he said to me... To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment.” It’s free! Lord, create in us a spirit to freely share what you have given to us, at home and around the world.

