

Prayer Needs

Pray this week:

- for the **COVID-19 pandemic**. The number of cases continues to grow. In the U.S., more young people are getting sick now along with older people. The number of cases triggered by large gatherings continues to be a significant factor in the increase. Re-imposed restrictions in parts of Europe, as they deal with an apparent 'second wave' of the virus.
- for **those dealing with storms, fires, flooding, earthquakes, & other disasters**. The U.S. hurricane & fire seasons continue setting records. The **fires burning in South America** are causing major rain forest damage that will have devastating environmental affects locally & worldwide.
- for people living with the violent conflict in the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region "following an attack by Azerbaijan's military forces—which has already resulted in dozens of casualties including civilians, & which risks provoking a wider armed conflict. Turkey & Syrian fighters are a part of the conflict. **The Armenian population** there is under attack. In 1917-1921, help to the Armenians, who were under attack then too, was the first Brethren relief effort. 1,500,000 Armenians were killed then by the Turks in what is known as the Armenian Genocide.
- **for all those who are refugees**. The current administration has cut the number of refugees it will allow into the country every year. Only 15,000 are to be given a safe haven for next year. This is an historic low. The average number per year was 95,000 before the current administration. "At a time of unprecedented global need, [this] decision to further cut the refugee admissions ceiling is a complete abdication of our humanitarian & moral duty," said John L. McCullough, president & CEO of Church World Service—an ecumenical partner organization of the Church of the Brethren. This decision will cause great hardship & even death for thousands.
- for Iglesia de los Hermanos "Una Luz en las Naciones" (the **Church of the Brethren in Spain**, "A Light to the Nations"). There are some 70 members. Of them, 33 have tested positive for COVID-19 & 13 more have symptoms & are waiting for test results. At least one member, a pastor, has died.
- for **all who suffer**; from the ugliness of racism & brutality; from the dehumanizing nature of fear; or from the consuming & destructive power of hate.
- for **everyone** caught up in the fear, frustration, anger, sense of helplessness, or destructive allure of the powers that are working to divide us into warring camps instead of seeking to bring us together so we can all use our varied gifts & thoughts to address the issues that confront us all for the good of everyone.



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