

## This Week's Prayer List

When we pray for the people in need in our world, we are praying for peace. Peace is not just the absence of war, it is Shalom – living in harmony with each other and with God's creation. Shalom means health, safety, tranquility, wholeness, and rest – the welfare and prosperity of all. Praying for the needs of others is an important first step in loving people as God calls us to. Next steps include using our time, talents, and resources to help others when disaster strikes, offering comfort in times of need, and working for change when the suffering of others comes from discrimination, persecution, exploitation, or abuse. When shalom does not exist for everyone, no one is fully at peace!

### Pray for:

- **The number of COVID cases is climbing fast again. It is also hitting poor countries harder now.** Remember people who do not have access to medical care or vaccines. Remember those who are at great risk because they have not been vaccinated. Remember health care workers who are again being overwhelmed in many places.
- **Flooding in Europe & Asia– Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland, China & India.** Urban flooding in China trapped many people in subway tunnels. The death toll there continues to climb as flooding continues. Flooding has caused landslides in India.
- **From Spain to Turkey** – people are dealing with massive wildfires in which lives have been lost
- **People in Lebanon;** the country is in chaos because of years of government corruption. Many people are now homeless refugees in their own country because they have lost everything.
- **Flooding & fires in western states.** This fire season is already unprecedented. Only the coming of the rainy season may stop the largest fires. Other areas have had excessive rain & flooding.
- **People dealing with excessive heat.** Arctic ice is also melting at an unprecedented rate. On July 27<sup>th</sup> Greenland lost enough ice to cover the state of Florida in 2 inches of water.
- **The people of Afghanistan** – as they face the task of self-government.
- **Places where political corruption & drastic economic inequality led to unrest & violence** – continue to remember South Africa & other countries around the world, from Colombia to Thailand where desperation is growing among the people.
- **People without the freedom to voice their views, raise issues or voice objections when they disagree with their leaders.** Pray too that people remember free speech is not a license to engage in hate speech that promotes discrimination or violence.
- **Refugees** – their struggles are even more difficult because of COVID
- **Nigeria, Haiti & other countries where kidnapping for ransom** continues to be a daily threat.

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