



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

# Pray For Us Calendar

## TEACHING THE FAITH — APRIL 1-15

This month, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod celebrates the many ways that God’s children are instructed, encouraged and strengthened in the faith. By teaching the faith, we nurture the faithful and reach the lost.

*Remember how God works to strengthen the faith of His people as you pray:*

- 1.** *with thanksgiving for the gift of faith received at Baptism.* Ask the Lord to continue to strengthen that faith — and the budding faith of our children — until we depart this life and are united with the Lord.
- 2.** *with thanksgiving to God for the gift of His holy and inspired Word, the Sacred Scriptures; and for the Book of Concord and the many teaching aids that help us understand that Word aright and rejoice in its consolation.*

- 3.** *for Christian families, that the Lord would provide the assistance and tools necessary to overcome every challenge — big or small — that might drive them apart.*

- 4.** *for strong Christian marriages, that husbands and wives would cling to each other in the Lord, despite life’s challenges, and raise their children to walk in the way of the Lord.*

- 5.** *for Christian parents, that they would make teaching the faith to their children a priority. Pray that they set aside time to worship together, talk about faith issues, study the Bible and have family devotions.*

- 6.** *that family members would treat each other with kindness and patience, so that each member might be built up in the family of God.*

- 7.** *for our children and young people, who face daily assaults on their Christian beliefs, that God would strengthen and encourage them to stand firm while sharing the Gospel.*

- 8.** *for our churches, that they would provide useful education and programs to help equip people at every stage of life — teens, husbands and wives, parents, caretakers of aging parents and more.*

- 9.** *that God would continue to provide faithful church workers to serve as role models and teach people about their identity as a baptized child of God.*

- 10.** *that church members would eagerly volunteer their time and talents to support the congregation’s educational programs, such as vacation Bible school, Sunday school and groups for young families.*

- 11.** *that LCMS members would eagerly participate in Bible studies, small-group discussions and private study.*

- 12.** *with thanksgiving for faithful parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers and other role models who help to “train up a child in the way he should go” (Prov. 22:6).*

- 13.** *for the Concordia University System and the Synod’s two seminaries, that the Lord would bless their work in training new generations of workers to serve the Church.*

- 14.** *for the Synod’s directors of Family Life Ministry, that God would bless their efforts to support healthy relationships in the families of our congregations.*

- 15.** *that we might have hearts that are willing and eager to serve the Lord in every way.*

## MINISTRY TO THE ARMED FORCES — APRIL 16-30

Since the Civil War, LCMS pastors have served as military chaplains. Today, the Synod's Ministry to the Armed Forces (MAF) supports active duty, reserves, National Guard and Civil Air Patrol chaplains. MAF recruits, interviews and endorses all military chaplains and supports them throughout their careers. MAF also provides a network of care for our nation's military members, families and veterans through Operation Barnabas.

*Remember God's work through LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces (MAF) as you pray:*

**16.** *that God would bless and guide the work of the MAF director and assistant director.*

**17.** *for the President of the United States. Ask God to guide our commander in chief to lead with wisdom for the protection of the innocent against evil.*

**18.** *for LCMS military chaplains serving on active duty for the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard.*

**19.** *for our LCMS Reserve and National Guard chaplains, especially those who have been mobilized stateside or overseas and taken from their parishes to extended active duty assignments, for those deployed, their families and their home parishes.*

**20.** *for Operation Barnabas, which is designed to meet the needs of congregations in the event their pastor/chaplain is mobilized. Operation Barnabas also seeks to assist veterans and military families during and after deployment.*

**21.** *for all congregations that reach out to members of our military through Operation Barnabas, that they would uphold them in prayer as they help to meet their physical, psychological and spiritual needs through the training they have received and the Lord's provision.*

**22.** *for increasing opportunities for LCMS chaplains to spread Christ's message of salvation, hope and restoration to those they serve.*

**23.** *for all chaplains returning home, that they would receive a hero's welcome for their*

sacrifice to this country so that in freedom we can continue to openly worship the one true God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**24.** *for those who suffer from battle stress and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Pray that God would bring healing and renewal to those who have served or who are currently serving.*

**25.** *for all chaplains who are sick or have sick family members, that the Father of all mercies and the God of all comfort would look with favor upon them, and as it pleases Him, restore them to health or give them the grace to accept this tribulation with courage and hope.*

**26.** *for all chaplains in harm's way, that God would not let their hearts despair nor their faith fail them, but sustain, guide and comfort them.*

**27.** *for all members of the military who were disabled during their duty, that our heavenly Father would mercifully guide, aid and strengthen all*

those with physical disabilities, enabling them to find fulfillment in their lives and encouragement for all their endeavors.

**28.** *with thanksgiving to God for providing LCMS chaplains to serve members of the armed forces. Please pray that military chaplains would have every opportunity to share the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ with members of the military and anyone with whom they work and live.*

**29.** *for all military chaplains upon their return, that they would be reunited with their families, find gainful employment and receive all the care they need to heal their minds, bodies and souls. Grant that they would always look to Christ as their rock and their redeemer.*

**30.** *for those who minister to the armed forces, that by God's gracious working, they may honor Christ and advance the good of those committed to their care, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

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