



MISSION INTERN PROGRAM 2020

MISSION INTERN PROGRAM: 2020 Prayer Resource

Earlier this spring, nearly two dozen young adults came together for their training as Mission Interns in preparation for serving in missional settings all around the state for the whole of the summer. Online instead of in-person for the first time, it was at once wildly different while entirely the same. As with so much of ministry this year, the methods have shifted while the purpose has remained.

As an exercise during their training, we invited each intern to write a prayer to share with one another and all of you. These prayers have been compiled in this booklet (print and fold it in half to make it into a true book!) as a resource for the church everywhere. At breaks throughout this year's virtual Annual Conference, you might stand or walk while reading a prayer aloud. Or you might consider using the prayers as a part of your congregation's worship services!

With all our interns now serving at their individual sites, we hope you'll start with us by praying a prayer written *by* a mission intern *for* the mission interns. With Sam, serving at Utica UMC, we pray:

Dear God, holy of holies,
please watch over all of the interns this summer
as they embrace the challenges of change.
Let every intern face this challenge head on
and overcome it to show your glory.
Amen

Amen, indeed! May it be so for this year's interns and for all of us, everywhere.

Thank you praying with us.
~ *The Mission Intern Board*

A PRAYER OF LOVE & FORGIVENESS:

Amanda, serving at Lincoln Road

Dear God:

You who has forgiven our sins,
You who has given us unconditional love.

Please watch over those who have been harmed by bigotry, hatred,
racism, and violence.

Let the world see them through Your eyes so that we can live in a
better world modeled by Your love for us.

Amen.

A PRAYER OF CREATION & KINGDOM:

Carter, serving at Caledonia UMC

Almighty God,

You created the heavens and the earth, and all the creatures upon it,
and us in your image. You have blessed us with the beauty of your
creation.

Please be with us through good situations and bad and help us be at
ease that through your grace you have a plan and we are safe in your
hands.

We strive to see your kingdom on Earth, but we need your guidance
and presence to lead us on the path to shalom.

Amen

A PRAYER OF CREATION & CARETAKING:

Caitlin, serving at Utica UMC

Father God

Creator of the heavens and the earth
and all the creatures that roam its surface

May we be good stewards of your creation and take care of this
wonderful planet you have given us

Acting with kindness and empathy toward all those who inhabit it
So that we may have a peaceful and harmonious existence
And live our lives the way you intended

Amen

A PRAYER FOR WEARY HEARTS:

Emily, serving at Motown Mission

Mother God,

who holds our weary hearts
when we cannot bear to hold them ourselves,

take our burdens of pain, of anger, of exhaustion, of grief, of fear,
so that we can live to the fullest, serve without walls,
understand with clarity, and love with no boundaries.

In your caring nature we pray,
Amen

A PRAYER FOR EQUALITY:

Natalie, serving at Utica UMC

Merciful God who loves each of us as his own,
please help us to learn to love one another despite our differences.

Guide us towards a world where equality is a reality,
rather than a dream.

Too many people today seem to forget
that we are created the same under You,
so please help to remind us of that.

Amen.

A PRAYER SETTING THE STAGE FOR LIFE:

Jacinta, Motown Mission

Oh Creative Lord,

You are the director of the greatest drama,
the greatest love story of all time:
Where you save the whole of mankind.

I am just a back-ground worker, I just help set the stage,
So that hearts can be moved by your great act

Help me to remember why I am setting the stage,
and who it's for.

Please put your autograph here:
Amen

A PRAYER FOR CONTINUING ON:

Riley, serving at West Branch

God Almighty
the one who died so we could live eternally with him.

We ask that you be with us
and keep us safe throughout the unknown.

So we can continue your work as disciples.

In all your honor and glory
Amen.

A PRAYER FOR LIVING IN LIGHT & LOVE:

Mariah, serving at Lincoln Road

Dear God,

I thank you for creating this life
full of beautiful creatures
and for giving us your love.

May you always shine light
on those who are in need
and protect them from harms way.

May you help guide us to understand
the lives of those among us
and help us live through your love.

Amen.

A PRAYER OF WANDERING:

Danielle, serving at West Branch

Dear Jesus,

I'm not worthy of your love,
but please keep me on the right path.

Even though I wander, I still wish to do your will.

Thank you for your grace and mercy,
as you forgive my every falter.

Amen

A PRAYER FOR LIVING & STANDING UP:

Drew, serving at Kalamazoo First UMC

Dear God,

you gave this universe life
and the power to live out our lives
the way we choose
with your guidance.

Though we stumble
you are always there
to catch us when we fall.

Help us to get back up
and stand together
as one people.

A PRAYER FOR HELP ON THE STREETS:

Sofia, serving at Cass Community Social Services

Dear God,

you do not discriminate,
your love belongs to all.

Help those who are in the streets,
fighting for their lives.

They are searching for someone to listen,
please be that for them.

Help me to help them.

Amen.

A PRAYER FOR TIMES OF CRISIS:

Allexus, serving at God's Country Cooperative Parish

Lord our Father,

You have provided us with so many amazing experiences
and created important relationships so that we feel supported.

Please help me to settle my anxiety in these times of crisis.

For in your power there will be a resolution.

Amen

A PRAYER OF GOD'S LOVE:

Miriam, serving at Centro Familiar Cristiano

Loving God,

Who created us your children,
each one in perfect love.

May your love be seen through these difficult times.

That your light and love reflected in the details of your creation.

Amen.

A PRAYER FOR GROWTH & THANKS:

Jesse, serving at West Branch

Dear God,

Thank you for the challenges and opportunities
that you put in place of our lives,
allowing us to grow together
working as one.

As we go day to day
please help guide us on our path to gratefulness
while we bask in your almighty creation
you have given us.

Amen

A PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL HUNGER:

Dayton, serving at God's Country Cooperative Parish

Dear God,

You that has provided for all of eternity,

In times of spiritual hunger,
may you continue to be fruitful
and fill our souls with your spirit
as you have filled our stomachs with food

When our souls are empty,
it becomes easy to fall into temptation and remorse.
Without your support we give into our sinful nature.

Please continue to look upon us with love,
as a father looks upon his unruly son,

Amen.
