



UMW Prayer Calendar
Pray for the Children as they return to school during COVID-19
August 2020

Hello friends,

At the last Blue River District Officer's meeting, discussions were held regarding the development of a prayer guide to use as children return to school during this time of the corona virus pandemic. At all times, but especially now, we need to hold school children in prayer. There is power in prayer!

Below is a month's worth of prayer ideas. You can use them in any order. (You might notice the first few are written as if children were returning to the school buildings. The later ones work for children at school and/or at home.)

Remember, the Holy Spirit intercedes for us and God knows our heart even if you can't find the words to pray. Approach Him in an attitude of prayer, use the prayer starters below and ask Him to help you to pray for the children.

- Pray for kids and families as they prepare/gather supplies for school, praying that they have the finances to get their supplies, or are recipients of generously donated supplies for kids.
- Pray for the family routine adjustment; getting enough sleep, getting up on time so they don't have to hurry which creates stress. Pray that the child might experience joy in going/returning to school.
- Pray for parents' hearts as they send their kids off to school in these uncertain times; that they can turn their fears and anxiety over to God.
- Pray that kids understand what social distancing is, and how to do it without feeling afraid or embarrassed.
- Pray for children as they make new friends at school; guide them in their relationship building skills.
- Pray for the child who fell behind in their lessons last year and/or over the summer and needs help "catching up."
- Pray for children whose stomach hurts because of separation anxiety, worry, or fear of bullies.
- Pray for children who have anxiety over the school lunch.
- Pray that children will like their mask, will use it in the right way, and that it feels comfortable.
- Pray for children who have homework to complete.
- Pray for children who are forgetful, asking God to help them remember what they are supposed to do today.
- Pray for children who are afraid of the unknown.
- Pray that children may have inquiring minds today.
- Pray that children might find joy and wonder in their lessons today.
- Pray for protection and safety for our children.
- Pray that children know that Jesus loves them.

- Pray for children so they can discern right from wrong, keeping their eyes and ears away from wickedness.
- Pray for the child who knows Jesus. Pray Psalm 119:11 over them.
- Pray that children can be children; play, laugh, learn, and enjoy life without worry.
- Pray for children to pay attention and listen; that distractions may be removed.
- Pray that children will be kind to one another and to their family members.
- Pray for protection for our children; there are many social and peer pressures among school aged children. Also pray for protection from the corona virus.
- Pray that children have courage and confidence in their developing skills; i.e. academic skills, communication skills, and social skills.
- Pray that our children know that Jesus is their friend.
- Pray that children remember to use the word thank you and have grateful hearts.
- Pray that God will clothe our children with “compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.” Colossians 3:12
- Pray that children feel free to express their thoughts and ideas.
- Pray that our children will enjoy their school lessons today.
- Pray the Serenity Prayer for our children: “God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference.”
- Pray that children know they are loved and cherished for who they are.
- Pray that our children can be filled with hope.

While you’re at it, here are some prayer ideas to use as you pray for the teachers:

1. Pray that the technology that is needed will work today.
2. Pray for health and safety of our teachers at school, at home, and on the road.
3. Pray for patience and wisdom for teachers as they make plans to help each individual child, especially those who need to catch up.
4. Pray for teachers experiencing the challenge of developing multiple delivery methods for the same lesson plan: in-person, remote, and live videos.
5. Pray for coping skills for teachers, as they teach wearing masks.
6. Pray for teachers as they adjust to more cleaning responsibilities.
7. Pray that teachers feel creative and confident as they adjust to new ways of teaching.
8. Pray for renewed daily stamina for our teachers.
9. Pray that teachers feel appreciated.
10. Pray for teachers as they deal with angry, frustrated, and challenging parents.