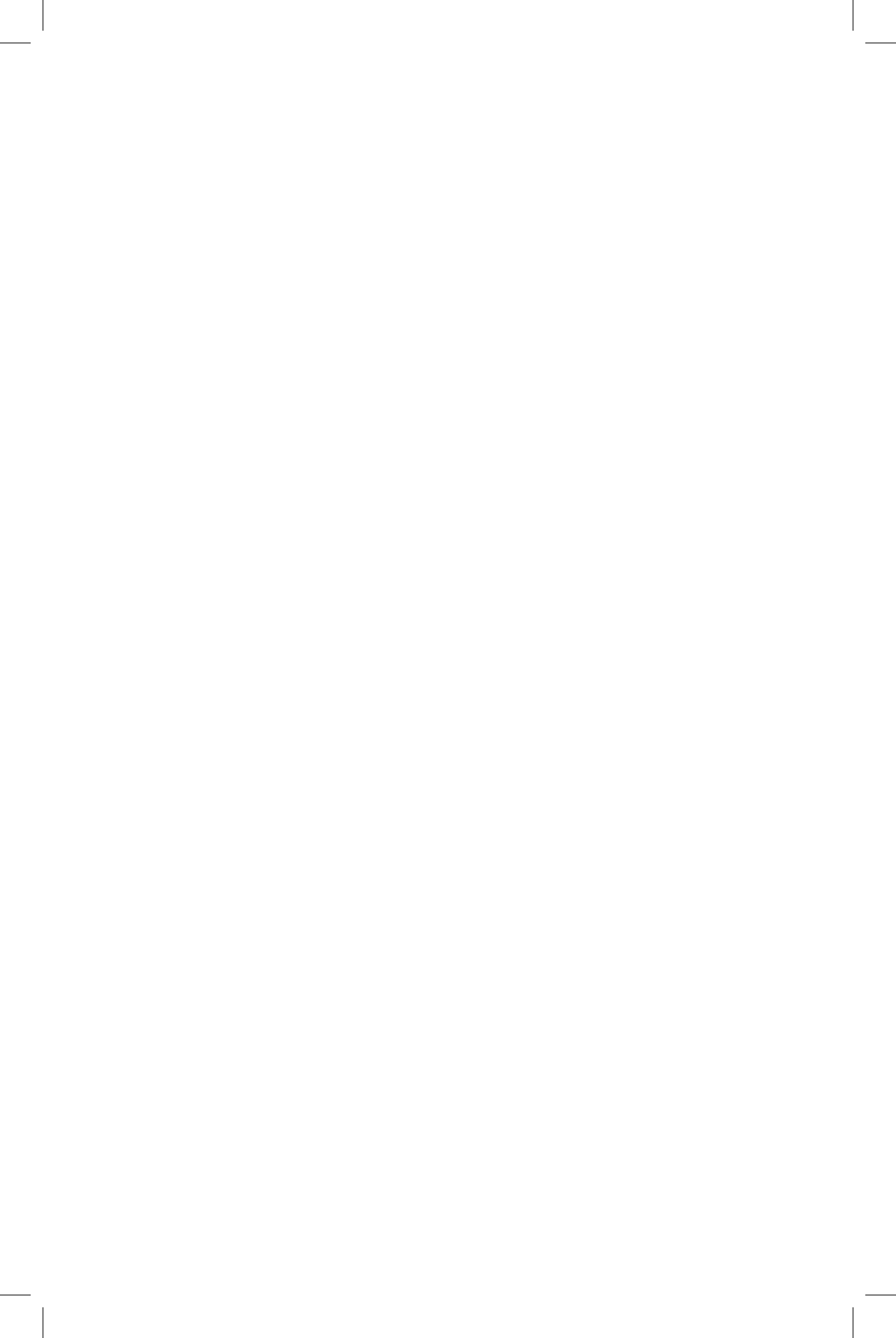




PRAYER

21 DAYS



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Welcome to 21 Days of Prayer

The objective for this guide is to assist you, the church, in praying for wisdom and discernment in the selection of the Pastor Search Team, to receive God's clear leadership in identifying our next pastor, and to keep our search unified and focused on its mission.

For someone to enter into a meaningful season of prayer, intentionality and preparation are required. As you begin these 21 Days of Prayer, consider the following:

- Plan when you will pray (create time to spend with God).
- Plan how you will fast (e.g., what type of food or media fast to undertake and when).
- Read the scriptures that are included, and pray them in agreement with God's revealed will.
- Consider journaling in the provided spaces. It is a fantastic way to capture what you are learning, what God may be saying to you, and what challenges you might be facing (Don't forget to record any answers to prayer along the way too!).

Day One

Read Gal. 5:22-23; Heb. 11:6; Matt. 6:33;
John 1

PRAY

1. Ask the Lord to raise up men and women to serve on the Pastor Search Team who walk closely with Him, display the fruit of the Spirit, and live lives marked by Christlike integrity, wisdom, humility, and self-control.
2. Pray for the church to wholeheartedly trust the Lord while searching for a pastor.
3. Pray for the church to keep Christ first.

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Day Two

Read Heb. 4:12; Eph. 4:3; Mark 6:34;

John 2

PRAY

1. Pray that God will lead the church to nominate members who have a clear understanding of the biblical qualifications for pastoral leadership and will be able to evaluate candidates according to Scripture.
2. Ask the Lord to aid the church in maintaining unity and focus as we search for our next pastor.
3. Praise God for our pastor's leadership, and pray that he will make godly decisions. Pray that he will lead with a shepherd's heart and that he will always speak the truth in love.

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Day Three

Read 1 Chron. 16:11; Rom. 8:25; John 15:9;

John 3

PRAY

1. Ask God to lead us to nominate members who are committed to seeking His will through prayer, careful listening to His direction, and dependence on His wisdom throughout the process.
2. Ask the Lord to enable the church to be patient through the process of seeking a new pastor.
3. Pray for church members to abide in the love of Christ and love one another with the love of Christ.

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Day Four

Read Luke 22:42; Ps. 9:10; Josh. 1:9;

John 4

PRAY

1. Pray that God would place individuals on the team who are willing to set aside personal opinions, preferences, and agendas in order to pursue what is best for the church and most honoring to Christ.
2. Pray for the future search team to remain humble before God and that they will not be anxious, but trust God's leadership.
3. Pray for Pastor Chuck to be strengthened and sense the presence of God.

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Day Five

Read Acts 2:42; John 15:16; Phil. 1:9-10;

John 5

PRAY

1. Pray for Pastor Search Team nominees who are deeply invested in the life of the church, faithful in worship, active in Connect Groups and ministry, and committed to the spiritual health and unity of our congregation.
2. Ask the Lord for a season of fruitful ministry for the church during this season.
3. Pray for the deacons to have wisdom and discernment as they review the nominees.

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Day Six

Read Col. 3:23; Acts 2:46-47; Ps. 46:10;

John 6

PRAY

1. Pray that those nominated will approach this assignment with seriousness, faithfulness, and a desire to faithfully steward the trust and responsibility given to them.
2. Ask God for the church to reflect the six elements of a healthy church (worship, discipleship, ministry, fellowship, evangelism, and prayer) during this season.
3. Pray for Pastor Chuck's personal walk with God — that his soul and spirit will be nourished and strengthened in his quiet time with God.

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Day Seven

Read Eph. 3:20-21; 1 Tim. 3:1-2; Ps. 100:2;

John 7

PRAY

1. Pray that the power of Christ would be known in and through the church and that all glory would be given to Him throughout the pastor search process.
2. Pray for the future search team to discern if potential pastoral candidates possess the biblical qualities of a servant of the Lord.
3. Pray that Pastor Chuck will serve the Lord with gladness and encourage the congregation to worship God with a joyful, surrendered spirit.

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Day Eight

Read James 4:10; Prov. 2:2-3; Jer. 29:11;

John 8

PRAY

1. Pray for church members to humble themselves before the Lord and seek His purification so that revival may come.
2. Pray for your future pastor to seek God's wisdom in every area of his life and decision making.
3. Pray that in times of discouragement, the future search team will seek the Lord diligently and have confidence that He is at work bringing the church and the future pastor together.

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Day Nine

Read Col. 1:9; Ps. 51:10; Col. 1:28;

John 9

PRAY

1. Pray for God to fill the deacons with knowledge of His will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding and to equip them with strength.
2. Pray for members of the future Pastor Search Team to be close to Christ.
3. Pray that your pastor will continue to be courageous in proclaiming Christ from the pulpit and that he will be confident in the use of God's Word. Ask God to help him preach with insight, transparency, and humility.

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Day Ten

Read Gal. 6:9; Matt. 18:19; Amos 3:7;
John 10

PRAY

1. Pray for the deacons to not grow weary in their work of discerning nominees for the Pastor Search Team.
2. Ask for powerful Spirit-led unity within our church.
3. Pray that the new pastor will have a clear vision for how to minister to our church and the surrounding community.

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Day Eleven

Read 1 Sam. 16:7; Prov. 3:13-14; Phil. 4:13;

John 11

PRAY

1. Pray for God's clear direction in how nominations are examined. Ask God to bring the right person to the attention of the deacons.
2. Ask for the future Pastor Search Team to have wisdom and discernment as to the unique pastoral characteristics and traits most needed for our church.
3. Pray for Pastor Chuck to be renewed with energy.

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Day Twelve

Read Prov. 2:6, Phil. 4:6-7; Ps. 16:11;

John 12

PRAY

1. Ask God to raise up nominees with wisdom, leadership experience, good judgment, and the ability to help guide this process faithfully and effectively.
2. Pray for the church to be diligent in prayer.
3. Pray for each deacon to have an overwhelming sense of God's presence and guidance as they work through the steps of the pastor search process.

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Day Thirteen

Read Jer. 29:13; James 4:7-8; Col. 2:6;

John 13

PRAY

1. Pray for the church to seek the Lord diligently and have confidence that He is at work in the formation of the Pastor Search Team.
2. Pray for the future search team to continually submit to God's will.
3. Pray for a fresh divine anointing on your pastor's ministry. Pray that God's work will be powerfully evident both in his personal life and the spiritual life of the congregation.

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Day Fourteen

Read Eccles. 7:8; Rom. 12:10-13; 1 Cor. 2:16;
John 14

PRAY

1. Pray for the deacons to have patience and work on God's timeline as they screen the nominees.
2. Pray that God would prepare our next pastor to always have great zeal and passion for serving the Lord in his ministry.
3. Pray for Pastor Chuck to maintain the mind of Christ.

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Day Fifteen

Read John 17:20-21; Eph. 5:18; Phil. 4:7;

John 15

PRAY

1. Pray for the church to be unified so that the world will be impacted with the gospel and the Father will be glorified.
2. Pray for our church to be filled with the Holy Spirit.
3. Pray that God would protect the new pastor's heart as he prepares to leave his current ministry and move to a new ministry. Pray that the stresses of moving, meeting new people, maintaining relationships, etc., would not interfere with his need to continually develop his relationship with God. Pray that God would give him and his family peace, knowing they are in the will of God.

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Day Seventeen

Read Matt. 6:10; Prov. 3:5; Eph. 1:17;

John 17

PRAY

1. Pray that the church will nominate members who seek God's will for the church above their own desires.
2. Pray for the future search team to trust the Holy Spirit's leadership.
3. Pray for your future pastor to grow in the wisdom and knowledge of Christ.

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Day Eighteen

Read Eph. 5:15-16; Eccles. 4:9-10; 2 Thess. 3:3;
John 18

PRAY

1. Pray for the future search team to make wise use of their time during their meetings.
2. Ask the Lord to build a Pastor Search Team that works well together, listens respectfully, communicates clearly, and seeks unity under the leadership of the Holy Spirit.
3. Ask God to protect Pastor Chuck from the evil plots of Satan.

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Day Nineteen

Read Col. 3:14; 1 Cor. 14:33; Rom. 12:2;

John 19

PRAY

1. Pray for the church to grow in love toward one another.
2. Pray for the future Pastor Search Team to have God's wisdom and clarity in the communication they have with each prospective pastor.
3. Pray that God, in His divine timing, will make His calling unmistakably clear to the church and our future pastor.

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Day Twenty

Read Ps. 133:1; Heb. 5:14; Eph. 5:25-27;

John 20

PRAY

1. Pray that there would be no division among the deacons.
2. Pray for the future Pastor Search Team as they listen to the sermons of potential pastoral candidates.
3. Pray that God would give our next pastor a love for our church and strength to leave his current position. Pray that God would make His will known to him and his family.

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Day Twenty–One

Read Eph. 6:10-12; Rev. 3:15-16; Num. 6:24-26;
John 21

PRAY

1. Pray for a powerful hedge of protection around the church as we nominate potential Pastor Search Team members.
2. Pray that church members would repent of any lukewarm spirituality and be filled with a zeal for Jesus and His kingdom work.
3. Pray for your future pastor's family as they transition to a new ministry.

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