

## A BACK-TO-SCHOOL LITANY

*Let someone read Luke 2:41-52.*

**Leader:** As we begin a new school year, it is good to remember that God has given us the ability to learn many things.

**All:** Learning is a gift from God.

**Leader:** The Bible says that Jesus learned and studied, just as we do.

**All:** Jesus grew in wisdom.

**Leader:** We ask God's blessing on this new school year, that it may be a time when we appreciate and fully use God's gift of learning.

**All:** We ask God to bless our schools and teachers.

**Leader:** We ask God to bless our classmates.

**All:** We ask God to bless our principals, counselors, and librarians.

**Leader:** We ask God to bless those who prepare our lunches, those who drive us to school, and those who keep our schools clean.

**All:** We give thanks to God for books and computers and all the things that help us learn.

**Leader:** We give thanks to God for the gift of learning.

**Prayer:** Loving God, sometimes a new school year seems exciting or scary or both. Sometimes school is great, and sometimes it is hard. But we know that whether we are excited or scared, you are with us. We know that whether school is great or hard, you are with us. We thank you for always being with us. Help us to remember to show our thanks for your gift of learning by doing our best every day. Amen.

*Pockets, a devotional magazine for children published by The Upper Room, provides Family Litanies on its website [www.upperroom.org/pockets/](http://www.upperroom.org/pockets/). This litany can be used as part of a formal church service, a small group gathering, or family worship.*

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# Back to School Prayers



"And let us consider how we may  
spur one another on toward love  
and good deeds."  
Hebrews 10:24

**August 2007**

# Back to School Prayers • August 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 God, bless all institutions of learning and every teacher and student as they start a new school year. Proverbs 22:6	2 God, we pray that every child have the opportunity for a quality education. Galatians 6:10	3 God, bless our United Methodist colleges and universities and everyone who passes through their halls. Matthew 6:21	4 God, we thank you for the teachers, counselors, bus drivers and school staff who care for our children. 2 Chronicles 15:7
5 God, give students at schools everywhere open minds and create in them a life-long love of learning. Psalm 32:8	6 God, we say a special prayer for children entering kindergarten. Be with them as they learn and grow and play. Joshua 1:9	7 God, help the children in our church schools grow in their love for Christ while expanding their minds. Matthew 22:37-38	8 God, help our principals and school administrators make decisions that are thoughtful and wise. Proverbs 3:5-6	9 God, guide the decisions of legislators as they make laws affecting school systems. Proverbs 16:9	10 God, make our schools safe places with nurturing environments. Luke 8:8	11 God, teach us to raise children who show genuine respect to their teachers. Exodus 4:12
12 God, be present with families and individuals that have been affected by school violence. Isaiah 66:13	13 God, let this be the year that we see an end to violence in our schools. Romans 13:10	14 God, we lift up the members of our Commission on Higher Education and Campus Ministry. Romans 10:15	15 God, teach my church how to be supportive of our students away at college and welcoming to students in our area. Hebrews 13:2	16 God, thank you for the scholarships that aid United Methodist students who are pursuing higher education. 2 Corinthians 9:12	17 God, bring vitality to our Wesley Foundations, Wesley Fellowships and other campus ministries. Ephesians 6:7	18 God, thank you for the people who have invested in Africa's future through Africa University. Exodus 3:5
19 God, open doors for seminary students and others you have called to ordained ministry. Proverbs 2:6	20 God, enable our United Methodist seminaries to prepare a new generation of Christian leaders. Isaiah 49:6	21 God, be present with our clergy as they continue their education through classes and workshops. Psalm 119:7	22 God, thank you for the schools I attended and for the friendships and memories that I formed. 2 Corinthians 4:18	23 God, show me opportunities to support the schools in my community. Genesis 21:19	24 God, offer insight to students so that they might understand difficult topics and subjects. Psalm 119:18	25 God, may those who teach our children be filled with love and compassion. Matthew 18:5
26 God, show teachers how to guide challenging students with determination and goodwill. Colossians 3:15	27 God, be a source of encouragement when studies are difficult and we are tempted to give up. Job 12:7	28 God, from the littlest of learners up to the oldest among us, thank you for our capacity to learn from one another. Hebrews 10:24	29 God, may all institutions of learning be places of new discoveries and sound education. Psalm 90:12	30 God, help me to use wisely all the knowledge I have gained in this life and most importantly to use it to glorify you. Ephesians 5:8	31 God, we thank you for sending your son to be our ultimate teacher. Help me to live my life according to his lessons. 1 John 5:20	 www.ngumc.org