

## CARING FOR OLDER ADULTS IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

As grandparents are important in the lives of children, so are older adults important to our church family. The following books by Richard H. Gentzler, Jr., Director of the General Board of Discipleship's Center on Aging & Older-Adult Ministries, provide ideas, study guides and resources for being in ministry with older adults.

***Adult Ministries: Guidelines for Leading Your Congregation***

(Abingdon Press, 2004)

A "how-to" guide that provides practical ideas and models for adult ministry (including older-adult ministry) in congregational settings.

***Designing an Older Adult Ministry***

(Discipleship Resources, 1999)

A "how-to" book and an informative resource for organizing and sustaining an intentional ministry by, with, and for older adults.

***Forty-Sixty: A Study for Midlife Adults Who Want to Make a Difference***

(Discipleship Resources, 2001)

A small-group study book for Baby Boomers and midlife adults who are personally confronting the many issues of aging.

***The Graying of the Church: A Leader's Guide to Older Adult Ministry in The United Methodist Church***

(Discipleship Resources, Nashville, TN, 2004)

Valuable information about aging in our society and in the church and what resources are available.

***Rock of Ages: A Worship and Songbook for Retirement Living***

(Discipleship Resources, Nashville, TN, 2002)

A large-print worship and songbook for older adults.



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North Georgia Conference  
Information Office

# Prayers for Families



"I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also."


2 Timothy 1:5

## May 2007



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 God, bless my family. Guide us to serve you and support one another. 1 John 1:7	2 God, direct me through the challenges of being a good parent and a good child. Hebrews 4:16	3 God, may my family's home be filled with laughter and happiness. Psalm 100:1	4 God, grant patience to those persons who care for family members with Alzheimer's. Galatians 5:22	5 God, I pray that aging parents never feel cast aside by their children and families, but grow old knowing they are appreciated. Matthew 28:20
6 God, be present in the lives of the staff who care for our parents, our friends, and our church members in assisted living homes. Psalm 91:11	7 God, enlighten us on what we must do to raise children who are kind and responsible. Proverbs 22:6	8 God, grant wisdom and patience to parents of teenagers. Ecclesiastes 7:8	9 God, give me the ability to tolerate the hard times and difficult circumstances my family faces. Psalm 37:39	10 God, strengthen families waiting to adopt a child. Help others to show them understanding and sensitivity. Ephesians 1:5	11 God, help brothers and sisters show respect for each other and to respond to each other with love. Ephesians 4:32	12 God, we pray for all the families who are apart in times of war. Psalm 94:22
13 God, support my church's ministries with older adults. May we be generous to these valuable programs. Matthew 28:20	14 God, I am grateful for the insight, devotion and sincere love of grandparents. Isaiah 2:3	15 God, my church congregation is part of the family of God. Open our hearts to each other. John 1:12	16 God, be especially present in the homes of step-families so that they feel a strong sense of togetherness. 1 John 4:12	17 God, we pray for those families who live with disappointments, frustrations and hurts. Psalm 27:14	18 God, help me overlook my parents' imperfections and appreciate them for who they are. Colossians 3:20	19 God, support adult children who struggle to adjust to their role as caretaker of their parents. Philippians 4:6
20 God, let us learn the example of a mother's patient, unconditional love from Mary, the mother of Jesus. Luke 1:38	21 God, each person I encounter is someone's precious child. Help me to treat them as such. Colossians 3:13	22 God, enable my family to make time to pray together so that we may deepen our commitment to you and to each other. Psalm 91:15	23 God, guide parents on how best to nurture their children's independence. Psalm 48:14	24 God, thank you for the individuals who become foster parents. Teach my community how to support them. Psalm 32:8	25 God, we pray for all children to have a safe and loving home in which they may learn about your love. 1John 4:10	26 God, in a world that feels out of control, my family finds comfort and consistency by serving you. Joshua 24:15
27 God, strengthen my church's ministry with college students so we can be their family away from home. Psalm 121:7-8	28 God, be a steady presence in the lives of shut-ins. They are an important part of our church family. Isaiah 43:4	29 God, help me sense the love of my parents and grandparents who prayed for me, even before I was born. 2 Timothy 1:5	30 God, provide my family with an opportunity to reach out to another family in need. John 15:12	31 God, thank you for my parents. Teach me how I can honor them today. Luke 18:20		 www.ngumc.org