

## SHALOM: Christian Disciples Transforming the World Through Health and Wholeness

The beautiful meaning of the word *shalom* is sometimes underappreciated. Its usage can become limited to its basic definitions. From Israel's Jewish population to far stretches of the world, the definition of *shalom* is commonly associated with the word *peace*, or the absence of struggle or war. While this is certainly a correct way to use the word, the power of *shalom* runs much deeper.

Throughout the Bible, *shalom* has a complex set of meanings. It refers to: a satisfying rest and good health; a healthy harmony and balance; an authentic wholeness. When used this way, *shalom* is much more than a word we use for peace. It is a strong and idyllic way to relate to others and to ourselves. It is something we do. *Shalom* is helping our brothers and sisters who do not have enough or whose needs are not met. Once we have tried, or are trying, to right these wrongs through bringing others into abundance, we can say we are coming to *shalom*.

We are called to bring *shalom* to the world, and we as United Methodist Christians are doing this every day! Thousands of nets have been sent to save lives from malaria in Africa; contributions have been made to support retired clergy in the Central Conferences; countless trips have been taken to clean and restore coastal towns and cities after hurricanes.

Let's celebrate the ways we continue to promote individual and communal health and wholeness. With God as our foundation, let us continue to bring ourselves and others to *shalom*.  
—Tim McDaniel



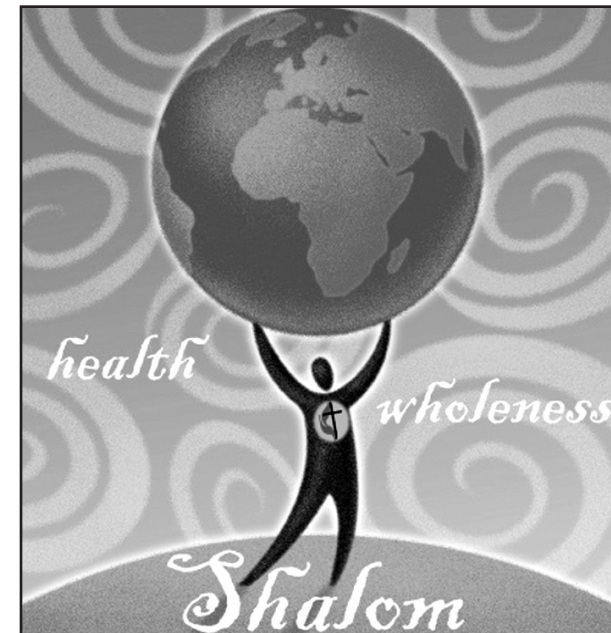
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# Health & Wholeness



"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

—Galatians 6:2

## Prayers for June 2009

# Prayers for Health and Wholeness • June 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 God, we pray for you to heal every one of us and make us whole. James 5:16	2 God, teach us to balance the physical, mental, spiritual, and financial facets of our lives. John 10:10	3 God, show me new ways to lift up and love my neighbors. John 3:17	4 God, help us to become whole by bearing each other's burdens and exercising justice toward one another. Galatians 6:2	5 God, strengthen my weaknesses and guide me to fulfill your calling on my life. Romans 8:26	6 God, grant me the ability to forgive others as you have forgiven me. Jeremiah 29:11
7 God, help us to feel the power of your peace even in the midst of pain and suffering. Isaiah 26:12	8 God, may the work of our church move us closer to an end to poverty and racism. Philippians 1:6	9 God, help us put a stop to people dying from preventable diseases. Matthew 6:8	10 God, I pray for that through your grace, I can support the health and wholeness of others. Isaiah 41:10	11 God, we pray that your Holy Spirit will be at work through the ministries of our church. 1 Thessalonians 5:19	12 God, grant safe travel to missionaries, aid organizations, and health care providers around the world. Psalm 91:9-10	13 God, open our eyes to the need around us and bring a greater awareness to the work that must be done. 1 John 3:18
14 God, in the midst of struggle, remind us to look to you for wholeness, comfort, love and a peace that passes all understanding. Philippians 4:67	15 God, be our strength and guidance and vision for the church and for all the United Methodist Conferences. Deuteronomy 4:29	16 God, make the way for holy listening, holy conversations, and holy conferencing. 1 Peter 1:15-16	17 God, may all we do be rooted and grounded in love. Philippians 2:1	18 God, bring a fresh sense of hope to the children of Africa. Lamentations 3:21-22	19 God, we pray for long-term solutions to provide security in retirement for dedicated church leaders around the world. Ephesians 3:20-21	20 God, may each of us have the opportunity to experience the joy of bringing others to Jesus Christ. Luke 11:13
21 God, remind us that care for others is an important expression of our Christian stewardship. Colossians 3:17	22 God, may my ministry be marked with generosity, sacrifice and faithfulness in action. Mark 11:3	23 God, sustain and encourage church leaders in areas of conflict and countries at war. Psalm 37:34	24 God, teach me to develop habits that protect my spiritual health. Matthew 6:13	25 God, open my eyes to opportunities for renewal and restoration. 2 Corinthians 5:17	26 God, thank you for inspiring solutions to complex problems. Isaiah 30:21	27 God, show us how to support and love and care for those who are grieving. Matthew 19:26
28 God, make me sensitive and responsive to the needs of my family, friends, and church members. Psalm 34:14	29 God, we pray for salvation, peace, wholeness, health and holiness in the world. Psalm 104:31, 33	30 God, with you as our foundation, let us continue to bring ourselves and others to <i>shalom</i> . 2 Peter 3:18				