



CULTIVATE A CULTURE OF CALL

Would you like to encourage members of your church to listen for God's call to ordained ministry? Try these tips to create a "culture of call."

- Observe a "Call Sunday" where you highlight God's call to ordained ministry.
- Identify exceptional youth and invite them to explore ordained ministry.
- Create a display board with information about United Methodist loans and scholarships. Include Ministerial Education Fund information.
- Ask Sunday Schools and small groups to do a session on vocation.
- Offer a class taught by the senior pastor using the "Christian as Minister" resource available through Cokesbury.
- Have clergy at your church share personal stories of their call to ordained ministry.
- If your church has had members enter the ordained ministry, compile those stories for publication in the newsletter or in a booklet distributed during worship.

For more resources, visit www.ngumc.org/CultureOfCall or check out the web site of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry at www.ExploreCalling.org.

Prayers for Clergy



"Dear brothers and sisters, honor those who are your leaders in the Lord's work. They work hard among you and give you spiritual guidance."

—1 Thessalonians 5:12 (NLT)



Prayers for Clergy • October 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 God, thank you for the clergy who answer your call to ministry and work so hard for the good of your kingdom. 1 Thessalonians 5:12	2 God, we pray for the spiritual, emotional, and physical well-being of our pastors. Psalm 143:8	3 God, we ask that you bless pastors' families. Give our married clergy time and energy to be a supportive spouse and parent. Psalm 107:1
4 God, give strength and peace to clergy whom we often expect to remain steady under the most difficult circumstances. Colossians 2:6 -7	5 God, grant wisdom to pastors as they prepare to lead their churches in stewardship campaigns. Luke 16:2	6 God, give insight to our clergy so that they can share the gospel with a variety of people. Matthew 4:19-20	7 God, fill pastors with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness and self-control. Galatians 5:22-23	8 God, raise up prayer teams who will pray diligently for clergy and their families. Romans 12:5	9 God, help clergy find quiet times of rest and renewal. Matthew 14:23	10 God, reinforce in our pastors the importance of self-care, health, and exercise. Isaiah 43:1
11 God, help our clergy to be instruments of healing in churches, neighborhoods, cities, nations and the world. Galatians 6:9	12 God, give insight to parsonage committees so that they can best accommodate the needs of parsonage families. Colossians 3:17	13 God, reveal new ways that clergy can approach familiar scripture and Bible lessons. Proverbs 2:6	14 God, equip pastors to do the work of evangelists and to carry out the ministry to which they are called. John 17:23	15 God, allow clergy to set the example that Jesus did not come to be served, but to serve. Matthew 25:39-40	16 God, bless pastors with a spirit of perseverance when facing difficult tasks and new challenges. Philippians 4:13	17 God, give clergy the courage to open the floodgates of justice. 2 Corinthians 5:20
18 God, enable pastors to find the right words at the right time. Colossians 3:15-16	19 God, we pray for the board of ordained ministry as they review and decide the credentials of future clergy. Hebrews 12:28	20 God, we pray for provisional members who are in training and writing papers. Psalm 119:18	21 God, teach us to encourage and support clergy in first-time appointments. Deuteronomy 31:6	22 God, help children of pastors to find good Christian mentors. Mark 10:14	23 God, be with clergy and their families as they move. Help them integrate into new communities. Joshua 1:9	24 God, show our congregation new ways to express appreciation to our church staff. John 15:12
25 God, thank you for clergy who serve with a willing heart, a joyful spirit and continued faithfulness. Genesis 12:2	26 God, as you call clergy to start new congregations make them brave, enthusiastic, and resilient. Psalm 31:16	27 God, we pray that retired clergy find new ways to be in ministry as well as familiar opportunities to use their experience. Philippians 1:6	28 God, guide pastors in the path of righteousness. May goodness and mercy follow them. 1 Corinthians 1:30	29 God, grant clergy the ability to listen and understand as well as speak clearly and communicate. James 1:19	30 God, through your grace allow clergy to develop a greater vision for the church. Isaiah 43:19	31 God, help each of us, clergy or laity, to serve one another with whatever gift you have given us. 1 Peter 4:10