

ZIMBABWE

- Pray for our country leaders and for good health pray that the Lord grant them wisdom to build a new nation and a heart for the people
- May their families to be protected.
- Raise around them Nehemiahs of this day; rebuilders of what has long been broken and renewal of minds in leadership.
- Pray for economic growth.
- Pray for a lifting of economic sanctions against Zimbabwe.
- Pray for innovation and wisdom in many sectors.
- Pray for wisdom and innovation to solve Zimbabwe's financial crisis.
- Pray for an establishment of new industries.
- Pray against the spirit of poverty.
- Pray for rain and wisdom for the agricultural sector.
- Pray for success in the plans to revive old industries and factories.
- Pray for the preservation of lives against disease outbreaks and medical drugs shortages.
- Pray for industrial strikes in the health sector to end.
- Pray for an improvement in health service delivery.
- Thanksgiving for the peace across Zimbabwe.
- Pray that God's Word may find way into more and more homes and transform the nation.
- Pray that the government handle protests with grace.
- Pray for the church to raise men women after His own heart and raise the church as a vehicle of hope and of change in the nation.
- Pray that Zimbabwe becomes a nation of producers.
- Pray for wisdom to build wealth for generations to come.
- Pray for foresight to build not only for ourselves but for our children, a better nation.
- Pray for church leaders that their lives be preserved and good health.
- Pray for the will of God to prevail in Zimbabwe.
- Pray for unity in the Church.
- Pray for an awareness and growth of an entrepreneurial culture among the youth.
- Pray that sanity and wisdom prevail in the marketplace. Pray for economic reforms.

CHURCH FAMILY

- ... Pray for Sihle Nyashanu's father who is not well.
- ... George and Hildah Mahachi give thanks to God on the birth of their granddaughter Macayla Magasu, daughter to Jeff & Rachel Magasu.
- ... Loreen Zireva has not been well please pray for complete healing.
- ... Pray for those who have lost relatives: Lincoln Mandengu lost his grandmother and Gilbert Chimbodza his grandfather.
- ... Pray for the God's protection this festive period.

- ... Pray for many families who have no food supplies.
- ... Bus fares have shot up those going to work cannot afford the new prices. Petrol is now the very expensive and also difficult to get it is a challenge for ordinary worker. Please pray.
- ... Pray for an end to the economic and social instability, and for the wellbeing of the people caught up in the midst of this crisis.

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH FAMILY PRAYER FELLOWSHIP DECEMBER 6TH 2019

A Prayer of Thanksgiving taken from Ephesians 1

Blessed are You, God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for You have blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ!

Thank You that You have chosen us in Christ from before the foundation of the world, in order that we will be holy and blameless before You. Also You have predestined us unto adoption through Jesus Christ to Yourself and You did this in accordance with Your kind purpose and for the praise of Your glorious grace. Father, this grace has been lavished on us in Your Son.

You have also revealed to us the mystery of Your will, Your wonderful plan of reorganising and framing the world again with Your Son Jesus as the organising principle, the overriding authority. And You will do this, not only on earth, but also in heaven. You have also promised us an inheritance for You have chosen to bless us in the light of Your great purpose and will. And You have given us Your Spirit, Your guarantee in the present of the blessings to come in the future. And You have done this and are continuing to do all this, to the praise of Your own, great glory. Amen

CONFESSION

Hear our prayer, O Lord; Let our cry come to You, for our days pass away like smoke, and our bones like a furnace. Our hearts are smitten like grass, and withered. O God, we are often in pain, often in uncertainty, often in fear. It often seems as though good times have passed us by. Many times, we feel alone, and life seems a hopeless struggle.

Hear our prayer, O Lord; let our cry come to You. Like dry leaves in autumn, our lives seem scattered, and blown about. Fragile and withered,

we are like a lonely bird on the house top. Everyone else has flown away, and we are left alone.

But You, O Lord are enthroned forever. Have pity on your people, You are our God, and You rule, in all time and over all things. Hear us as we cry to You, in the name of Christ, Your everlasting and eternal Son!

To Him and to You, be the glory forever and forever. Amen

PERSECUTED CHURCH

- **Bangladesh** – Pray for Open Doors new training centre that this will be a place where the Church can be strengthened and equipped to be salt and light for Jesus Christ.
- **India** – Pray for Pastor Vinay, whose church service was stopped by a group of extremists. Pray for his protection and the believers he leads, as well as for courage for them to persevere despite the persecution. Pray for bridge schools being established to provide Christian children with extra support in their education and that they will help Christian children learn and grow in confidence.
- **Laos** – Sua* has been visiting churches to encourage and pray with believers during his visits believers share about the struggles they encounter. Pray for God's wisdom.
- **Tunisia** – Pray for unity amongst church leaders in Tunisia. Pray that the churches will stand together amidst the already tense situations due to outside pressures.
- **Indonesia** – Pray for the Standing Strong Through the Storm Seminar for Bible college students, which teaches a biblical view of persecution and how believers should respond when they are persecuted.
- **Maldives** – Pray that believers will find safe ways to meet together to study God's Word.
- **Nepal** – Pray that God would help and protect the Open Doors team so that that can conduct seminars, even in the face of rising security concerns.
- **Vietnam** – After Vuong became a Christian, he lost his job and faced harassment and violence from his community. Eventually, due to the persecution, he was forced to flee his home with his wife and children. Pray that the Lord will continue to provide for him so he can feed his family.
- **Eritrea** – A series of mass arrests last year left over 200 Christians in prison, most of them women. Prisoners here are kept in terrible conditions and forced to do long hours of manual labour. Pray that God will strengthen them

with all power so that they may have great endurance and patience (Colossians 1:11).

- **Algeria** – Church leaders are making a huge effort to serve their church members as well as reaching out to isolated believers. Pray for strength for the pastors and leaders as they expose themselves to pressure and persecution during a time of political unrest.
- **Brunei** – The believers face challenges in living out their faith for Christ. The many Islamic laws have been squeezing the Church which makes the advancement of the gospel very difficult. Pray that God will release His Church to be a blessing.
- **Malaysia** – Pray that God will speak to young people through biblical training. Pray that many young people would grow strong in their faith, and lead many to know Jesus.
- **Uzbekistan** – “The persecution is growing day by day. Pray that with God's help pastors like Oleg will be able to withstand the pressure, and that God will bless them.
- **Kazakhstan** – Pastor Maxim Maximov, his wife Larisa, and Pastor Sergei Zaikin were all falsely accused and have received prison sentences with confiscation of property. Two buildings in the centre of Almaty that belong to the church were also confiscated. Please pray for them and for their congregation members.
- **Sri Lanka** – With Christmas approaching, please pray for the families who have lost loved ones during the Easter Sunday bombings.. May they continue to find rest in Jesus, the Prince of Peace. – Jegan lost his five-year-old daughter and his wife in the Sri Lankan bombing earlier this year. Pray that he will find his way back and that God will continue to comfort him as he mourns.
- **Pakistan** – Pray for healing and restoration for Asia Bibi and her family as they spend Christmas in freedom for the first time since her release from prison.
- **China** – Pray for believers from Muslim backgrounds in the region who are targets of racial prejudice and government control. Pray Isaiah 35:4
- **China** – Remember our brothers and sisters in the Middle East.
- **East Africa** – Winnie 12, says her Christian mom told her to dress like a Muslim, because it is dangerous to be a Christian in the area where they live. It makes her feel confused. Pray that the Lord will be at work in her life and bring comfort and clarity.

- **Tajikistan** – Pray for Pastor Bahrom who was imprisoned for three years in 2017 on charges of ‘religious extremism’. He is not allowed any visitors except his wife, Gulnora. Pray for an opportunity for her to visit him over the Christmas period.
- **East Africa** – Pray for a believer from a Muslim Somali group. Since coming to Christ, she has faced severe pressure from her family and community to renounce her faith in Christ. Pray that she will receive God’s protection and have opportunities to share her faith.
- **North Korea** – Christmas Eve in North Korea is a celebration of the birthday of the late Kim Jong-Suk. – grandmother of leader Kim Jong-Un. Open Doors is aiding these believers with Bibles and Christian literature. Ask God to protect Christmas celebrations taking place in countries where meeting publicly to worship Jesus can make them a target.
- **India** – As attacks on Christians and churches have become more common, Christmas celebrations have been low key. Ask God to protect those celebrating Christmas this year, whether in secret or in the open, and pray that the joy of the Lord will fill their hearts.
- **Central Asia** – Pray for Sara, a believer from Central Asia. She and her children came to faith at a rehabilitation centre, run by support from Open Doors, where she recovered from an alcohol addiction. May the Lord continue to strengthen the faith of Sara and her children.
- **Ivory Coast** – Tabitha, faces death threats from her family because she has become a Christian. Please pray for her faith to grow and for the Lord’s provision for her. Pray for the salvation of her persecutors.
- **Niger** – Rose 35, lost her husband last year, and has since become a Christian. Her husband’s family, with whom she lives, told her she and her three children are not welcome there anymore as she has brought shame to the family. She has now found refuge with the local pastor’s family. Pray for His provision for them all and that this will be a time of spiritual growth for Rose.
- **Kenya** – When Wario came to faith, he got involved in evangelism. Last year his house was torched by villagers because of his evangelizing. Pray that the Lord will bless him as he courageously continues his ministry work.

We give thanks to the Lord for the year that has gone by and look forward to the New Year. May those serving the Lord in nations where there is persecution be strengthened.

CHILDREN

Children face so many challenges in life. They are vulnerable and dependent, and easily influenced. We need to pray for God’s protection. They are also open to the Lord’s call, and we must take the opportunity while they are still young, to call them to Christ and to pray. As they grow older, there are so many temptations, and these days, sexual impurity is a huge challenge. Peer pressure is very strong and ungodly influences come powerfully through school and social interaction. As our children grow older, they continue to have needs, for education, for employment, for marriage. Some of them have traveled away from us, to study or work, and are away from our influence.

Psalm 127:3,4

OTHER CHURCHES

All local churches are part of the universal church. We are all bound to one another in Christ, there is only one body and one Spirit, and one Lord and one God and Father of all. Though churches may be different from us, they are beloved by Christ. We must seek to both pray for and support other churches in whatever way the Lord directs. Many of our BUZ churches struggle with many issues, false teaching, financial insecurity, leadership challenges, and so on. Our BUZ Pastors are often discouraged with the difficulties of their situations. We must pray and support them as members of our body. **2 Corinthians 8:1-2**

Baptist Union of Zimbabwe

- Pray for the Lord’s provision and for the BUZ’s purpose.
- Pray for the Executive Committee meetings for the Lord to lead their discussion.
- Our staff is working under very difficult financial conditions. Pray for the Lord’s provision.

YOUNG PEOPLE

How challenging life is as a young adult in this world. Many are the pressures, and stresses and temptations to sin abound. Holiness is hated in the world, and purity is mocked. Many of our young people long to be in employment, but cannot find it. Pray that they will be hard working, even in a voluntary position, God tells us to work, not only when we get paid. Pray for relationships that would be God-fearing and God-honouring. Pray also that those of us who are older, will be loving, kind, concerned, committed, helpful to our young people. **Proverbs 7:1-5**

COUNTRIES AT WAR

Jesus is the Prince of Peace. And He will one day bring peace. But until then, the world is at war constantly. Satan seeks to kill and steal and destroy and he will do all he can to keep human beings fighting with each other. War is not God's will for His world. Let us pray for governments to come to peace, but even more, for the spread of the kingdom of God so that one day the world will truly be at peace under the rule of the King of all Kings.

Psalm 24:1

CBC FAMILY

Being a member of a local church is a great blessing and a huge responsibility. We are never called to just sit and watch, church membership is not a spectator event. We are joined to one another and must act and pray in the reality of that. Many of our members are struggling, we have lots of single moms, many are unemployed, fathers are tempted to anger and spouses to unfaithfulness. We have many ministries in need of helpers and too many who are not helping. **1 Corinthians 12:26**

FAMILIES

God has always worked through families throughout the passage of human history. Families are vital and Satan will attack families in as many ways as possible. He will try and sow discord between husband and wife, he will tempt to sexual unfaithfulness, he will make men too busy to see the needs of their wives and children, and he will make children resentful of their parents. He will try and bore children with repeated hearings of the gospel, he will try and make men stop sacrificing themselves for their wives and he will try and make wives rebellious and disrespectful to their husbands. **Psalm 128:1-3**

PEOPLE STRUGGLING

Jesus said that in this world, we will have troubles. And for all of us, we know that to be true. But He also said that He will be with us in trouble, He will comfort us in trouble and He will use trouble to purify us and to honour Himself. Pray for those who are struggling. And bear one another's burdens in prayer. **James 1:3-4**

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

God has given the church men and women to lead and such a responsibility is not only a delightful one, it is a daunting one. Elders must be shepherds

after God's heart, wise and kind, unselfish and pure, patient and forgiving. They must give an account to God for their eldering. Deacons are to be servants like Jesus, serving other peoples needs, giving time and energy and attention, sacrificing themselves, making wise and discerning decisions. Leaders in ministries are given a stewardship, they are managers of God's affairs in various contexts and must be exemplary and responsible. Leadership is a great calling, a great challenge and a huge responsibility.

Hebrews 13:17

UNSAVED

Do we have the Father's heart for the unsaved? Will we weep with Jesus over the sin of Jerusalem, refusing to accept her King? Do we care about the millions of people living around us, in our very city, who are facing a Christless eternity, shut off from God and from all that is good? Will we reach out? God has spoken to us as a church about evangelism, about reaching out, about sharing the gospel. Will you be a part? Unless the Spirit of God opens eyes, no one will be saved. Unless Christ blesses our preaching and sharing, we simply speak words. We need God to work through us to draw people to Himself. **Matthew 11:28-30**