

Prayer Petition: #6

Prayer for High School Youth

Reflections of the Heart:

As Youth enter into their high school years, they are beginning to mingle qualities of childhood with adulthood. Youth begin to transition from stages of total dependency on their parents and caregivers for their decisions, to making decisions for themselves. During their adolescent years, every decision our youth make is significant in the establishment of their future goals.

Scriptural Prayer:

Who is God except You Lord? Lord You are our solid rock. Father, You arm us with strength, and make our way perfect. God, You make us as surefooted as a deer, enabling us to stand on mountain heights. Lord You train our hands for battle; and strengthen our arm to draw a bronze bow. Lord, You have given us Your shield of victory and Your right hand supports us. Father, Your help has made us great. You have made a wide path for our feet to keep them from slipping. Father, we thank You for the high school youth of Windsor Village UMC. Thank You, for guiding our youth as they make decisions. Thank You for helping our youth to establish their goals. Thank You for blessing our youth and surrounding them with your shield of victory. Thank You Lord, for protecting and supporting them.

Father, we confess that our youth will remember You as their Creator in the days of their youth. Father we declare that You will teach our youth and they will enjoy great peace. Lord, we decree that our youth will keep themselves pure, and therefore be a special utensil for Your honorable use. We confess their lives will be clean, and ready for You to use for every good work. We expect them to run from anything that stimulates youthful lusts. We declare that they will pursue righteous living, faithfulness, love and peace. Father, we expect they will enjoy the companionship of those who call on You with pure hearts. Father, we decree our youth will think clearly and exercise self-control. We confess they will live as Your obedient children, and not slip into ways of living to satisfy their own desires. Lord, we expect that wherever our youth go and whatever they do, they will be blessed. Lord we expect You to work in our youth, giving them the desire and the power to do what pleases You.

Holy Spirit, show me how I can pray specifically for the high school students in my community:

Father, bless our youth with godly friends who will encourage them to make godly decisions. Give our Youth a positive and resilient temperament. Help them to value involvement in organized religious activities and have positive peer group activities. Help them to be socially competent and exhibit a healthy sense of self. Give them optimism for the future with high expectations. Heal relationships between parents and our youth that have been wounded. Give parents wisdom as they diligently teach their youth Your Word without provocation. Help parents to love their children unconditionally, especially when our youth make mistakes. Father, help our youth to not defile themselves with the ways of the world through homosexuality, fornication, lying, stealing, drug use, alcohol and other worldly things. Father, help our youth to make the right choices so that their futures will be secure.

Father, forgive our youth for disrespecting their parents, teachers, and elders. Forgive them for not obeying the instructions of their parents. Forgive them for using profanity, viewing movies and books of pornography, surfing inappropriate internet websites, not studying, fornication, gossiping, ridiculing others, having depressive and suicidal thoughts, experimenting with drugs and alcohol, giving into media influence and peer pressure, rebellion and not representing the Kingdom of God at school. Forgive those parents who do not train their Youth in Your ways. Forgive parents for provoking their Youth to anger by falsely accusing them or ridiculing them. Forgive parents for not spending enough time with their youth and for putting other things ahead of them. Forgive our parents and youth for not representing the Kingdom of God in their homes. Lord, forgive us as a community of believers, for not being supportive of our parents and Youth; for it takes a village to raise a child. Lord, remind our parents and youth to forgive one another and other people and help them to be quick to forgive.

Help our youth to not yield to temptation; but deliver them from all evil.

Lord, You are worthy to receive glory, honor and power. You created all things; by Your will they exist and were created. To You, the only wise God, be the glory, majesty, dominion and power both now and forever. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture Reference for the Written Text: Psalm 18:31-36, Ecclesiastes 12:1, 2 Timothy 2: 21-22, 1 Peter 13-14, Deuteronomy 28:6, Philippians 2:13

Prayer Petition: #7

Prayer for College Students

Reflections of the Heart:

The benefits that a college or vocational education affords are priceless. It is a blessing for students to have high expectations in their endeavors to further their educational needs. So we praise God for excellence in academic achievement, and a solid foundation for family and Christian values.

Scriptural Prayer:

Heavenly Father, We praise You. Blessed be Your Name now and forever. Lord, we praise You from the east to the west. You are high above the nations; Your glory is higher than the heavens. Lord, who can compare to You? You look down on heaven and on earth. Thank You, Father for our college and/or vocational students. Thank You for helping them with their studies and blessing them with favor in the classroom. Thank You for blessing them with scholarships, financial aid and employment. Lord, we are grateful for our students that seek to position themselves for gainful employment in the market place. Lord we bless Your wonderful Name.

Father, we confess that as our college and vocational students accept You as their Lord that You will continue to follow them. We expect Your roots to grow down into them so that their lives will be built on You. We declare the faith of our college and vocational students will grow and they will be thankful. We confess our students will not let anyone capture them with empty philosophies and high sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from spiritual powers of this world rather than from You. Lord, we expect our college and vocational students to get wisdom, which is the wisest thing they can do. We declare that whatever else they do, they will develop good judgment. Lord, we expect our students to present themselves to You as a living and holy sacrifice on their campuses. We declare that they will not copy the behavior and customs of the world, but they will be transformed into new people by changing the way they think. We expect them to learn to know Your will for their lives which is good and pleasing and perfect. Lord, we confess that they will put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within them and will not defile themselves with the ways of the world through sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. We confess our students will not be greedy and worship the things of the world. Like Jesus, we declare that our students will increase in wisdom and stature and they have favor with You, their teachers, and school administrators. We confess that they will stay focused on their studies as if they were working for You.

List the people you know who are continuing their education. Now begin to pray for their success academically and for the demonstration of Christian values in their lives:

Holy Spirit, increase the wisdom and understanding of our students as they pursue their fields of study. Please open internship opportunities that will allow them to obtain hands-on experience in their respective career choices. Remind them that You are the source and beginning of all knowledge. Please help our students to be a light in their environment. Holy Spirit, please continue to open financial doors for those persons who pay tuition. Help each student to find scholarships, grants, and other financial aid that will in turn reduce school expenses. Lord, encourage those who are struggling and want to give up. Help each of them to complete their studies with a zero dropout rate. Father, bless our Students to get to class early, to stay awake and to pay attention. Help our Students to exemplify behaviors on their campuses that will positively impact their success. Lord, bless each of our students to care for themselves, physically, socially and emotionally in order to obtain great academic achievement.

Father, forgive those who have not been diligent in their studies. Forgive them for not trusting You to provide all their needs. Forgive our students for getting involved with people and activities that do not represent Your goodness. Gracious God, forgive our students for viewing their college experiences as “freedom” from their parents and structure, and for not having any accountability in line with the Christian values they have been taught. Please forgive them for following the desires of their sinful nature including: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, envy, drunkenness, wild parties and other sins like these. Father, forgive those who pay tuition for trying to do everything by themselves instead of trusting You. Lord, remind them of people they need to forgive and help them to be quick to forgive.

Help them to yield not to temptation; but deliver them from the evil one.

All glory to You alone God who is our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord. All glory, majesty, power and authority are yours before all time, in the present and beyond. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture References for the Written Text: Psalm 113:1-6, Colossians 2:6-8, Proverbs 4:7, Romans 12:1-2, Colossians 3:5, Luke 2:52, Colossians 3:23, Galatians 5: 19-21, Jude 1:25

Today, I will trust God to:

Prayer Petition: #8

Prayer for Children with Special Needs

Reflections of the Heart:

Children are a gift from God. When children are born with developmental disabilities, exhibit behavior problems, or experience mental or emotional distress families struggle in this belief. Parents and caregivers, who walk in Agape love, can experience the power and guidance from God to meet the challenges in rearing children with special needs.

Scriptural Prayer:

Lord we Praise You! Lord, it is good to sing Your praises. You heal the brokenhearted and bandage their wounds. Lord, You count the stars and call them all by name. Lord, You are great. Your power is absolute. Your understanding is beyond comprehension. Every created thing shall praise You! You issued Your command, and they came into being. Lord, You are our God. We will praise You. You are our God, we will exalt You. We give You thanks for You are good. Your faithful love endures forever. Thank You for beginning a good work in the lives of our children and youth with special needs and completing it until the day of Christ Jesus. Thank You for blessing each child to be strong, healthy and vibrant. Thank You, Father, for protecting our children when they are away from us. Thank you for giving each parent and caregiver a peace that surpasses all understanding. Thank You, God for sanctifying us completely in our spirit, soul, and body.

Father, we declare that You made all the delicate, inner parts of each child's body at WVUMC and knitted them together while they were in their mother's womb. Thank You for making them so wonderfully complex. Your workmanship is marvelous. Lord, Your Word declares that You watched them as they were being formed in utter seclusion, and were woven together in the dark of the womb. Lord, You saw them before they were born. Everyday of their life is recorded in Your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. Lord, how precious are Your thoughts about each special needs child; they cannot be numbered. Lord, we expect that You will be close to each parent and caregiver of a special needs child. Your Word declares that You are close to the broken hearted and rescue those whose spirits are crushed. Lord we decree that Your Words of Wisdom will comfort each parent and caregiver. Lord, we declare that Your Spirit is able to advise and teach each parent on how to meet the needs of their children.

Write down the names of those children you know who have special needs. Now ask the Holy Spirit how you can be a blessing to that child and that family:

Holy Spirit, please help each child and youth to walk in the blessings that the Father has laid before them. Encourage those children who experience special needs that include developmental delays, ADD/ADHD, Autism, discipline, health and learning concerns; children with low self esteem, nighttime problems and children with physical, mental and emotional problems. Bless them to be emotionally healthy. Lord, please continue to meet all of their basic needs including food, shelter, clothing, encouragement and love. We pray that You will help these children and their parents and caregivers to walk in the wisdom, knowledge, skill, and courage they will need to have good success in their lives. Lord, help these children, youth and their parents and caregivers who are struggling to grow in Your grace and knowledge. Help us as parents to be godly models who are patient, encouraging, and nurturing. For those parents who are struggling with raising a special needs child, Holy Spirit, please help them to see their child the way the Father sees them. Please lead them to a support group who will help them to process their fears, anger and frustrations. Father, please rescue the children who are being abused. Expose secrets that are detrimental to their well-being so that they can receive help. Please protect them from the dangers of life. Please send mature Christian adults to model the Christian faith and to affirm and encourage the children, youth and their parents and caregivers. Bless our children, youth and their parents and caregivers with Your joy, love and peace. Remind them that the Holy Spirit has empowered them to live according to Your Word. Father, please help me to commit more of my time to mentoring and volunteering with the children and youth at WVUMC who have special needs.

Father, forgive us as a community of believers for not being more sensitive to the special needs of our children, youth and their parents and caregivers. Forgive the sins of the parents who have children and youth whose emotional and instrumental needs are not being met. Lord, forgive parents and caregivers for not obeying Your Word, exemplifying your Word in their lives and for not showing Agape love towards their special needs children. Forgive them for not

spending quality and quantity time with their children and youth. Forgive parents for looking to the world to meet the needs of their children and youth and not trusting You. Forgive them for not always modeling before their children and youth a life of integrity, love and faith. Father, please forgive those parents who are angry at You and their children and help them to process that anger. Lord, keep reminding them of those persons they need to forgive; and help them to be quick to forgive.

Help them to not yield to temptation; but deliver them from the evil one.

Great are You Lord and most worthy of praise! You are to be feared above all gods. The gods of other nations are mere idols, but You made the heavens. Honor and majesty surround You; strength and joy fill Your dwelling. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture References for the Written Text: Psalm 147:1-6, Psalm 148:5, Psalm 118:28-29, Psalm 139:13-17, Psalm 34:18, Isaiah 50:4, Matthew 6:13, 1 Chronicles 16:25-27

Today, I will trust God to:

Prayer Petition: #9

Prayer for Our Young Adults

Reflections of the Heart:

You've spent your life teaching, training and protecting your child (ren). Now it's time to "give them wings". For many parents, the shift from being the primary influence in a child's life to releasing them into adulthood isn't easy. By exemplifying Christian principles, parents can enjoy this new role while offering love, guidance and insight only a parent can provide.

Scriptural Prayer:

Father, we praise You! Young men and young women, old men and children; Lord, let all praise your Name. Lord, Your Name is very great. Your glory towers over the earth and heaven. You made Your people strong, honoring Your faithful ones, those that are close to You. Heavenly Father, Your faithful love never ends. Your mercies never cease. Great is Your faithfulness Your mercies are new each morning. Lord, You are our inheritance, therefore we will hope in You. Thank You Lord for blessing our parents to see their children reach adulthood. Thank You for blessing them with the ability to pass on Christian values to their children. Thank You for giving our young adults a rightful inheritance to the abundant life through Christ. Thank You for all parents, caregivers, god-parents and leaders who have positively impacted the life of each young adult and have offered unconditional love, prayer and encouragement.

Father, as our youth transition into adulthood, we declare that they will seek Your Kingdom above all else and live righteously so that they will obtain everything from You that they need. We declare that the parents of Windsor Village have brought up their children with discipline and instruction that comes from You Lord. Because of this upbringing, we proclaim that the young adults of Windsor Village will be mighty in the land. By faith, we declare that Your Word will be a lamp to guide their feet and a light for their paths. We confess that they will refuse to walk on any evil path so that they will remain obedient to Your Word. They will not turn away from Your regulations because they have been taught well. Your Words will be sweet to their taste, even sweeter than honey. Your commandments will give them understanding and they will hate every false way of life. As our young adults enter college or the workforce, we declare that they will not follow the advice of the wicked, stand around with sinners or join in with mockers. Their delight shall be in Your law; and they will meditate on it day and night. Then they will be like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves will never wither and they will prosper in all that they do. By faith, we declare that our young adults will not be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. They will not be influenced when people try to trick them with lies that are so clever that they sound like the truth. Instead, our young adults will speak the truth in love, growing in every way, more and more like Christ.

List those young adults that you know, now declare God's promises over their lives:

Holy Spirit, we ask You to bless our young adults physically, emotionally, relationally and spiritually. Please meet all their basic needs including food, shelter and clothing. We pray that You will bless them with all the wisdom, knowledge, skill, and courage they will need to have good success in their lives. Bless them to maintain a healthy relationship with their parents, friends and family. Help them to be concerned about their long-term goals and not be lazy, easily distracted or complacent. Help our parents to avoid the temptation to give unsolicited advice. Give our parents patience and wisdom when giving correction to their adult children.

Forgive our young adults when their actions and behavior have disappointed You or their parents. Forgive those who have rejected the moral, social and spiritual wisdom they have been taught and live a life that is not according to Your Word. Forgive those young adults who put culture over Christ once they get out on their own. Forgive those parents who refuse to let their child go. Forgive the sins of those parents whose adult children's emotional and instrumental needs were not met. Forgive them for not spending quality and quantity time with their children and exhibiting a life of integrity, love and faith. Lord, keep reminding them of those persons they need to forgive; and help them to be quick to forgive.

Help them to not yield to temptation; but deliver them from the evil one.

God, all honor and glory belongs to you forever and ever. Lord, you are the eternal King, the unseen one who never dies. You alone are God. In Jesus' Name, Amen

Scripture References for the Written Text: Psalm 148:12-14, Lamentations 3:22-24, Matthew 6:33, Ephesians 6:3, Psalm 119:101-105, Psalm 1:1-3, Ephesians 4:14-15, Matthew 6:13, 1 Timothy 1:17

Today, I will trust God to:

Prayer Petition: #10

Prayer for Grandchildren

Reflections of the Heart:

Grandchildren are one of the rewards of growing older. What a joy to pray to God for grandchildren. Grandparents have a unique opportunity to love and support their grandchildren and to leave a lasting spiritual heritage and to help their grandchildren to discover their dreams, be motivated to pursue them and to trust God to provide for their resources.

Scriptural Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we will praise You with all of our hearts; we will tell of all the marvelous things You have done for us. We will sing praises to Your Name! Your majestic Name fills the earth! Your glory is higher than the heavens. You have taught children and infants to tell of Your strength, silencing Your enemies and all who oppose You. Father, we thank you for our grandchildren. Thank You for blessing the families of Windsor Village with a holy posterity. Thank You for each child who is born into our Church Family.

Gracious Father, we declare that our grandchildren are a gift and a reward from You. We confess that our grandchildren are the crowning glory of the aged. We proclaim that just as Jacob blessed his grandchildren along with his children; so the grandparents of Windsor Village will pronounce blessings upon their grandchildren. We declare that each grandparent will work diligently and leave an inheritance to their grandchildren. By faith, we proclaim that each grandparent will teach their grandchildren to fear You, Lord, as long as they live. As they obey Your decrees and commands, they will enjoy a long life. We pledge to teach our grandchildren to love You, the Lord, with all of their heart, souls and strength. We will instruct them on how to commit themselves wholeheartedly to Your commands. We will repeatedly rehearse Your Word in the presence of our grandchildren. We will talk about them when we are at home and when we are on the road, when we are going to bed and when we are getting up.

List each of your grandchildren. Now ask the Holy Spirit for guidance in proclaiming a blessing upon each of them:

Holy Spirit, we ask You to help us to foster close, holy relationships between our grandparents and their grandchildren. Please be with those grandparents who have been thrust into the role of parenting their grandchildren. As these grandparents raise their grandchildren, please continue to meet their financial and emotional needs. Please surround them with a support network so that they will not grow weary. Please help our grandparents to walk in love, patience and understanding with their grandchildren. Lord, continue to bless those grandparents to be physically fit to endure the challenges that result from parenting their grandchildren. Please help each of our grandparents to eat well and exercise so that they will live to enjoy their grandchildren. Father, please help me to commit more of my time to mentoring and volunteering or being a “surrogate grandparent” to a child and/or youth in need at WVUMC.

Father, please forgive our grandchildren for any sins they have committed against You. Forgive those grandchildren who are disrespectful towards their elders. Forgive those parents who have left the responsibility for caring for their children to their parents. Forgive the grandparents who are critical and condescending towards their children and their parenting style. Forgive those grandparents who have become resentful because they are now caring for their grandchildren. Lord, keep reminding them of those persons they need to forgive; and help them to be quick to forgive.

Help our grandparents and grandchildren to not yield to temptation; but deliver them from the evil one.

Lord, Your Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom. You rule throughout all generations. Lord, You are King! You are robed in majesty and armed with strength. The world stands firm and cannot be shaken. Lord, Your throne has stood from time immemorial. You are from the everlasting past. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

Scripture References for the Written Text: Psalm 9:1-2, Psalm 8:1-2, Psalm 127:3, Proverb 17:6, Genesis 48:12-16, Proverb 13:22, Deuteronomy 6:6-7, Psalm 128:6, Matthew 6:13, Psalm 93:1-2

Today, I will trust God to:
