



**WASHINGTON  
HEIGHTS**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

# 31-DAY PRAYER GUIDE

## Pastoral Search 2024

Dear Washington Heights Family,

Thank you for committing to pray. As your pastoral search committee, we covet your prayers. We have the joyful opportunity to seek God's face together and ask for His wisdom and direction during this very important time in our church.

We thank you for your support as we embark upon this task. We do not take the responsibility lightly. We appreciate your desire to join with us in prayer as we begin the process of searching for our new senior pastor.

As we commit together to bring these various requests to the Lord, we desire to come to Him with pure and clean hearts. James 5:16 reminds us that *"The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."* So, before we approach God's throne, let us join together, search our hearts, and confess our sins. *"Search me, O God, . . . and see if there is any wicked way in me."* Psalm 139:23-24

Above all, we seek God's will for Washington Heights. We desire to come to our Father in one accord. As we use this prayer guide each day, we can pray with one heart for our church, the search committee, the search process and our future pastor.

The names of the committee are listed below. Please pray for each member. Pray together in your various small groups and pray together as families. Involve your children and allow them to see the power of prayer throughout this process.

In Christ's Love,

**YOUR SEARCH COMMITTEE**

John and Barbara Burkhard  
Paul and Julie DeLange  
Gerry and Misti Grimson  
Justin and Grace Hoppe

Tim and Amanda Kwast  
Phil and Becky LaCasse  
David and Marlene Williams

## **Prayers for the Search Committee**

1. Pray for unity and oneness in Spirit within the committee. (Romans 15:5-6)
2. Pray for spiritual purity within the committee. (Psalm 139:23-24)
3. Pray for the fullness of the Holy Spirit in each committee member. (John 14:25-26)
4. Pray for the committee to be filled with the knowledge of God's will for our church. (Colossians 1:9,10)
5. Pray that each member of the committee has a spirit of humility seeking only what is best for our church above any personal desires. (Philippians 2:1-4)
6. Pray for a hedge of protection around the committee from Satan's attacks. (Ephesians 6:11-12)
7. Pray for the committee to have God's wisdom concerning the character and leadership traits our church needs in a pastor. (James 1:5)
8. Pray for the committee to have the Spirit's guidance in our communication to candidates. Pray that all questions and expectations be shared with the utmost clarity. (Proverbs 16 :23)
9. Pray for the committee to have God's guidance in the selection and presentation of the future pastor to the church. Pray for unity between the committee and the congregation. (I Corinthians 1:10)
10. Pray for the committee to persevere and trust God's perfect timing in the search process. (Psalm 27:14)

## **Prayers for the Congregation:**

11. Pray for the church body to desire personal cleansing and confession of sin renewing the joy of our salvation. (Psalm 51:10-12, Matt 5:8)
12. Pray for the Lord's protection for our church family as we seek His wisdom. (Proverbs 2:11)
13. Ask the Lord to direct us and make us pliable in His hands. Pray that our church family will be open to the new thing God is doing at WHBC. (I Samuel 16:7, Hebrews 13:20-21)
14. Pray for love and unity among our church body during this process. Pray that this is a testimony to others that we are Jesus' disciples. (John 13:34,35; John 17:21)
15. Pray for the hearts of our church body to be willing to submit to the new pastor and to accept him and his family with love. (I Thessalonians 5:12-13)
16. Pray for our church family to continue to serve faithfully with joy in our present ministries, remembering our service is to the Lord. (Romans 12:11, Ephesians 6:7, Galatians 6:9-10)
17. Pray for the church to have patience as we seek God and draw near to Him during this time of waiting. (Psalm 27:14, James 4:7-8)
18. Pray for submissive spirits one to another. Pray that we can set aside our individual expectations and agendas and consider others before ourselves. (Ephesians 5:21)
19. Ask God for grace, joy, and peace while we trust His purposes in the search process. (Psalm 16:11, Proverbs 3:5,6)
20. Ask the Lord to give our church family endurance as we continue to serve, give, worship and wait. (Hebrews 12:1, Colossians 3:23)

## **Prayers for the Next Pastor:**

21. Pray that the Lord will again bring WHBC a pastor who has a passion for God's Word and the courage to boldly proclaim God's truth. (II Timothy 4:1-5, Ephesians 6:19-20)
22. Pray that the Lord will begin leading him and preparing him for this next ministry in his life. (Psalm 32:8)
23. Pray that the call of God to consider the senior pastor position at WHBC will be absolutely clear to the pastoral candidate and his family. (Romans 12:2, Psalm 25:4-5)
24. Pray for those who counsel him as he senses this call. Pray that the Lord will grant the counselors wisdom and a desire for God's will for all. (James 1:5, Proverbs 15:22)
25. Pray that the Lord will prepare the path of transition for our congregation and staff, the new pastor and his family, and his current church family. Pray that we would all put our trust in the Lord for the result and not in ourselves. (Luke 12:22-31, Psalm 23, Deuteronomy 31:8)
26. Pray for Pastor Kisner and Wendy and our staff as they continue to serve us during this time of transition and as they face this period of change in their lives as well. (I Thessalonians 5:12-13)
27. Pray for clarity in all communication between the search committee, the candidates, their references, our church family, and the staff. Pray that we each choose to believe the best of each other in all our communication. (Matthew 5:37, I Corinthians 13:4-7, Romans 12:10)
28. Pray for a man with vision. Pray, also, that the Lord will bring a man who discerns between the true needs of our church and individual agendas. (Proverbs 29:18, Philippians 1:9-10)
29. Pray for a godly man with balance of character; for example, humble and courageous. (II Peter 1:5-8, I Timothy 3:2-7)

30. Pray for the church where our future pastor is currently serving as they will soon begin a similar process. (Galatians 6:2)
31. Pray for the Lord's purposes to be fulfilled in the life of the man whom God desires to serve at WHBC as senior pastor and in the life of our church. (Colossians 3:12-17)

Please use this guide, each month, throughout the entire search process. Begin with number one on the first day of each month and continue through the month, praying for one request each day.

Ephesians 6:18 "And pray in Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people."

*Adapted from a prayer plan from the Lower Baptist Church, Lenoir, NC*