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praying in the space between

Call to Prayer

The leadership of Carmel is calling the Carmel Family to a special season of prayer October 7 through October 27, the day before Alex Kennedy preaches his first sermon at Carmel as our Senior Pastor. We want to cover the time before his arrival in prayer - 24 hours a day for 21 days. We will have concerts of prayer on Wednesday nights when the Carmel Family will come together to pray, and we ask individuals, families and small groups to pray around the clock during this time. We encourage you to sign up to pray during a specific hour either online at carmelbaptist.org, or on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space.

In Jeremiah 33:3 God says to His people, "Call to Me and I will answer you and show you great and unsearchable things which you do not know." God desires to hear from His people; likewise, He desires that we hear from Him. True biblical prayer is spending time with God. Our prayers during this period should reflect a dependency and expectancy: revealing our growing dependency upon God and an expectancy that God will hear and respond to our prayers in a mighty way.

The intent of this Prayer Guide is to suggest some specific prayer needs for our pastor and our church. We encourage you to plan for times of prayer alone, with family and with others.

- Commit yourself, your family, Sunday Bible Study Community, or small group to one of the prayer hours
- Utilize a family meal time to offer a prayer
- Pray as the family travels in the car
- You need not pray for the whole hour, but commit to pray during the hour you select

Prayers for Pastor Alex, Christy, and Family

- As they say goodbye to their church and friends in Texas, pray that God will comfort them and given them an assurance that Christ's work will continue there even as they leave. Acts 1:8
- Pray that their move to Charlotte will be smooth and free of stress and that God will go before them and make their path straight. Proverbs 3:5-6
- Pray that God will give Pastor Alex His vision and plans for Carmel and that God's vision will be clear to Alex and to the people of Carmel. Jeremiah 29:11-13
- Pray that God will bless Christy as she begins her service at Carmel in the ministries which God has given to her. Proverbs 31
- Pray for their children Joy, Anna Grace, Zach, and Lexi, as they all deal with changes in their lives. Pray that Anna Grace and Lexi will quickly make new friends here and that Joy and Zach will adjust well to their family being in a new location. Pray that Alex's mother, Janie Isley, will quickly acclimate to life in a new city and find her place of service at Carmel. Romans 8:28

Prayers for Kingsland Baptist Church

- Pray that God will continue to bless our brothers and sisters in Christ at Kingsland as they search for a new pastor. Ephesians 4:4
- Pray for their search process and that God will call His man to be their new pastor in His timing. Philippians 4:19
- Pray that they will continue to produce good fruit for God's Kingdom during their period of transition. Philippians 1:6, Philippians 2:13
- Pray that God will empower their staff and leadership to provide wise and strong leadership as they search for the new pastor that God will provide for them in His time. Romans 8:28

Prayers for Carmel

- Pray that the days ahead will be a time when we truly love one another more than ever before. Ephesians 4:2
- Pray for a spirit of unity and the bond of peace, that we may be perfectly one in Christ. Ephesians 4:3, John 17:20-23

Pray that this will be a time when we faithfully pray for each other. Philippians 1:27

- Pray for the Carmel Family to receive a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit and God's power so that this may be a time of repentance, renewal and revival at Carmel. Acts 3:19-20
- Pray this will be a time that Carmel seeks His Kingdom and His righteousness, that we may have a renewed passion for Jesus and that our love for Him would grow deeper and more complete. Matthew 6:33.

- Pray that we will not be deceived into believing that anything the world has to offer is sweeter than Jesus. Psalm 85:6; Psalm 145:4-6; Habakkuk 3:2; Ephesians 5:18
- Pray that we will truly be a people of prayer who hunger for the presence of God. Psalm 42:1-2

Pray that we will be a people who believe in the power of prayer. James 5:16; Psalm 16:8

- Pray that we will understand and accept there will be changes with the coming of our new pastor. Proverbs 3:5-6
- Pray that we not forget that we were sent by Jesus to be His witnesses to the world. John 20:21
- Pray that we will be committed more than ever to sharing the Gospel in our neighborhoods, in our city, and throughout the world. Matthew 28:19; Acts 1:8

Pray that we will have a servant's heart serving Jesus by serving others. Matthew 25:37-40

Pray that we will truly be the Body of Christ delighting and pleasing Him. John 13:12-15; Matthew 25:31-40.

Pray that we will press on with the ministries of God at Carmel. Philippians 3:14

Pray that we will receive Pastor Alex, Christy and their family with love, and may we have unity in spirit with them as we strive together for the sake of the Gospel. John 13:35

Prayers for Our Pastoral Staff

- Pray that our staff will not be distracted by the prospect of change that will come with our new pastor, but will be guided by extraordinary wisdom and understanding seeing the coming change as an opportunity from God to grow and expand their ministries. Hebrews 12:1-2, Isaiah 26:3
- Pray that they will know that God desires for them to be in the center of His will. Romans 8:28; Ephesians 4:1
- Pray that God will bless our staff and their families and provide for them all that they need. Philippians 4:19; Psalms 23:1
- Pray that our staff will welcome Alex, Christy, and their family with loving hearts, being fully committed to working together, depending solely on the power of Christ. John 15:5; Ephesians 4:3-6

"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."

Ephesians 3:20-21