

# PRAYING *together*

## May 2025 Prayer Guide

This guide is an opportunity for us to join together in prayer, asking God to move among and within us and those for whom we pray. It is not to limit our prayers, but rather to focus them together in specific ways, alongside the personal requests we each offer for the lost and other intercessory requests, and how the Spirit moves us each to pray.

Monday-Saturday, you will see a prayer point for Pastor David or his wife, Amanda; a Scripture for prayer for everyone at Salem as well as for yourself; a Salem ministry, event, or supported missionary; and an external focus such as a ministry outside of Salem or governmental leaders. Sundays are structured a bit differently with less prayer points.

### Thursday, May 1

- Pastor David: Blessing – Numbers 6:24-26
- Salem & Self: Romans 15:13
- Pray for the Praying Together initiative at Salem, that God will guide leadership in providing opportunities for the church to pray together, and that He will strengthen each person's desire to pray with the Lord's heart for our church, fellow believers, and the world.
- As people gather together today to participate in the National Day of Prayer, may we join with them in prayers for our nation and its leaders, and that God would stir in the hearts of His people a zeal for spreading the true gospel of Christ, to be His faithful witnesses as we love those around us.

### Friday, May 2

- Amanda Trump: A tranquil heart – Proverbs 14:30
- Salem & Self: Hebrews 13:20-21
- • Paul and Sonya Gale, supported missionaries in Brazil: Pray for the couples groups Paul and Sonya lead at a local church, that the couples will be eager to apply what they learn about Biblical marriage and relationships, and that their marriages and families would be strengthened. Pray also for Paul and Sonya's marriage as they serve, that God would continue to connect their hearts and strengthen them in unity and love.
- NC Baptists prayer focus for May: The Asia-Pacific Rim is vibrant and diverse. It is also a land of vast spiritual darkness, as over 2 billion of the region's 2.3 billion population live without knowledge of Jesus, and many countries require churches to remain underground. Pray that the church in the Asia-Pacific Rim will share the good news with clarity and confidence, and that these unreached peoples would know the deep peace and joy that comes from a right relationship with God through Christ.

### Saturday, May 3

- Pastor David: Sensitivity to the Spirit's leading – Galatians 5:25
- Salem & Self: Psalm 119:1-3
- Pray for the SCA Fundraiser Yard Sale planned for today, that it would be a successful and encouraging event, creating connections with the community and providing for our school.
- Persecuted believers and others in Myanmar: Many thousands are homeless, injured, and grieving after the March 28 earthquake. The ongoing civil war has caused issues with receiving aid as some attacks have continued. Pray for a ceasefire to be held and for protection of believers and others, and that many who are seeking to recover from this event will find comfort and salvation in Christ. Pray that aid will reach those in need, and for strength for individuals and organizations including Samaritan's Purse as they provide basic needs and emergency care.

### Sunday, May 4

- Pastor David: Insight – 1 Corinthians 2:12-13
- Salem & Self: Romans 10:13-15
- Pray that the Lord will raise up missionaries among us, and that each of us will be surrendered, eager, and joyful in sharing the gospel with those around us, whether in Surry County or across the world.

### Monday, May 5

- Pastor David: Deep satisfaction in the Lord – Psalm 63:5-7
- Salem & Self: Psalm 119:27-28
- Pray for strength and grace for the SCA staff and teachers as they finish the school year, and that God will give clarity and provision of those He would have serve in the open positions for next year.
- U.S. Supreme Court: John G. Roberts, Jr. (Chief Justice), Clarence Thomas, Samuel A. Alito, Jr., Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan, Neil M. Gorsuch, Brett M. Kavanaugh, Amy Coney Barrett, and Ketanji Brown Jackson.

## Tuesday, May 6

- Pastor David: Love – 1 Peter 4:8
- Salem & Self: Psalm 119:34-36
- Pray for the Missions Team, that God will move mightily and open doors for community involvement, and that groups would show favor toward them and welcome involvement in the community.
- Jacob & Jessica Dahl, NAMB church planters in Seattle, WA: Recent surveys point to Seattle as the nation's least-reached metro area. Jacob and Jessica also believe college campuses to be among the least-reached and most-strategic mission fields. Through groups meeting on the University of Washington campus, as well as a variety of community outreach efforts, the church meets people where they are with the hope of the gospel and tangible acts of love. Pray that those they reach for Christ will grow in maturity and faithfulness.



## Wednesday, May 7

- Pastor David: Effective ministry – Psalm 90:17
- Salem & Self: Psalm 107:1-2
- Pray that God will raise up workers and volunteers for the upcoming True North VBS on June 8-12, as preparations are made for this important outreach to our community.
- Pray for the millions of victims caught in human trafficking around the world and in the United States, that God would strengthen authorities and organizations to identify and rescue victims as well as implement justice on those holding them captive or profiting from slavery.

## Thursday, May 8

- Pastor David: Encouragement – 1 Thessalonians 5:11
- Salem & Self: Psalm 107:8-9
- Pray for Pastor Russ Billo and his family, that God would strengthen Russ and Leah's marriage with joy, that God would draw their children to Himself, and that He will faithfully give wisdom and provide every need.
- Persecuted believers in Pakistan: Christians live in constant fear of blasphemy accusations and violent threats. Many are vulnerable to being trapped in bonded labor. Christian girls are increasingly abducted, abused, and forced to convert to Islam. Pray that God will change the hearts and minds of decision-makers regarding blasphemy laws and for God to protect Christian women in Pakistan who can be forced into marriage. Pray that Christians will be strengthened, encouraged, and provided for. "We are in a spiritual battle...So we will be Christ, even to our enemies. We will show them that our faith is stronger than their hate."

## Friday, May 9

- Amanda Trump: Faith – Hebrews 11:1
- Salem & Self: Psalm 108:3-4
- Pray for PLOW 127, supported mission work in Uganda: Continue to pray for the in-country director, John Opio, and for the pastors that Ira and Susan Galloway have trained in Karamojoa, that God will provide strength and practical support as they minister and share the gospel. Pray that Ira and Susan will have clarity on how God wants them to lead the many people in Karamojoa who depend on them.
- Pray for the leaders in our military, that they will make wise and righteous decisions based on Biblical principles rather than personal career gain.



## Saturday, May 10

- Pastor David: Love for God's presence and people – Psalm 26:8
- Salem & Self: Psalm 130:5-6
- Pray for the worship ministry at Salem, that the focus in each service would always be directed to the Lord and the truths in His Word, strengthening each person in the act and attitude of wholeheartedly giving ourselves to God – heart, soul, mind and strength.
- Today, the NC Baptist Association is holding a one-day training called Revitalize NC Start Here, to equip pastors and leaders with key resources and training to bring their churches back to a place of health and growth. Pray for openness and eagerness in the leaders and their congregations in how God wants to use this to strengthen NC churches to make disciples and impact their communities with the gospel.

## Sunday, May 11

- Pastor David: Wisdom – Proverbs 2:6-7
- Salem & Self: Proverbs 31:30-31
- Pray that God will strengthen Christian women to fear the Lord and walk joyfully in wisdom, strength, and grace.

## Monday, May 12

- Pastor David: To be a model of good works – Titus 2:7-8

- Salem & Self: Titus 2:11-13
- Pray for the SCA School Board, for wisdom and confidence in the Lord's leading for each decision: Scott Hudson, Zack Blevins, May Hambrick, Bev Hembree, Trena Schumaker, Pam Snow, and Gregg Swaim.
- Dobson Mayor Ricky Draughn and Board of Commissioners Wayne Atkins, Todd Dockery, Robin Testerman Beeson, Amy Whitaker, and Walter White

### **Tuesday, May 13**

- Pastor David: His children's spiritual faithfulness – 3 John 1:4
- Salem & Self: Titus 3:1-2
- Pray that the Word of God would speed ahead and be honored in our community, and that we as ambassadors for Christ will be faithful and loving witnesses to those around us.
- Jacob and Julie Stanley\*, IMB Missionaries in the Asia-Pacific Rim: Over the past two years, Jacob and Julie have partnered with local believers to stage a dramatic presentation of Jesus' miracles, death, and resurrection in public spaces. Through God's provision of many opened doors, they have seen unity in local churches, believers gain experience sharing the gospel, and opportunities to plant seeds of truth among those who have never heard. Pray that God will continue to use this to reach the lost, and that He will strengthen the Stanleys and local believers as they share the gospel. (\*names changed)

### **Wednesday, May 14**

- Pastor David: Trust – Psalm 25:10
- Salem & Self: Ephesians 1:16-17
- With the AWANA awards program tonight, pray that God will bless the children who have worked so hard in committing His Word to their hearts. Praise the Lord for this successful ministry and for the hard and diligent work of the AWANA leaders, and the commitment of Craig and Nicole Boyette.
- Pray for human trafficking survivors who are rescued, that God will connect them to Christian ministries that will provide effective care where they can find healing, salvation in Christ, and new life in Him.

### **Thursday, May 15**

- Pastor David: Heart of forgiveness – Matthew 18:21-22
- Salem & Self: Ephesians 1:18-20
- Pray for the leaders in our student ministry, that they would draw near to the Lord and experience Him drawing near to them in their personal spiritual walk: Russ and Leah Billo, Jon and April Wood, Jake and Ashley Bryant, Barry Woodring, Greg and Melissa Easter, Garrett and Rebecca Oliver, Erik and Peyton Chelgren, Ladonna Sheaffer, Abigail Gerber, and Pete Gordon.
- Pray for godly wisdom and faithfulness in the leadership and faculty of the seminaries in the Southern Baptist Convention, and for protection from the corruption of the world as they seek to prepare future ministry leaders.

### **Friday, May 16**

- Amanda Trump: Care for her husband – Proverbs 31:11-12
- Salem & Self: Ephesians 2:8-10
- Transformation 1040, supported mission work in India: Pray for this ministry's work as they pour themselves out to reach people with the gospel who are living in 45,103 villages in northern India. A primary focus in this is to train and equip local church planters to start house churches and shepherd and disciple new believers. Pray that God will move local believers to start churches and that they will be well-prepared through the six month training program provided through Transformation 1040.
- Pray for the families of military service members, that they would look to the Lord for the strength and peace that only He can give, and that God would comfort the spouses who are separated due to military jobs and would keep these marriages strong.



### **Saturday, May 17**

- Pastor David: Love and care for his wife – Ephesians 5:25-28
- Salem & Self: Ephesians 3:16-19
- Prayer for the worship choir at Salem, that they would be faithful to declare God's praise and truth in song as a powerful weapon in spiritual warfare for the worship of God and the building up of the church.
- Persecuted believers in Iran: After serving 3-years in prison, an Iranian believer said, "Believers should be with each other....Maybe [the Intelligence Service will] come, and they will arrest us. But it's better than to be like this. We want to have worship. We want to have prayer. We have to be together and pray with each other. This is exactly what we found we needed." Pray for secret churches, that God will protect these networks of underground

believers and give them a spirit of wisdom and courage. Pray for the mental and physical wellbeing of Christian prisoners. As the Church in Iran grows, pray that God will bless this multiplication and allow it to safely progress.

### **Sunday, May 18**

- Pastor David: Strength – Psalm 18:31-32
- Salem & Self: Psalm 119:17-18
- Pray that God's Spirit would enlighten the hearts and minds of believers to behold His truth and wondrous things in His Law, that we all may be faithful to live and keep His Word and wise to discern deception and falsehood.

### **Monday, May 19**

- Pastor David: Determination – 1 Corinthians 9:26-27
- Salem & Self: Proverbs 4:23-24
- Pray for students at SCA as they come to the end of the year, that God will give them clarity in memory and understanding of what they have learned and that He would impress His truth and love in their hearts.
- Those serving in the NC Offices of Attorney General (Jeff Jackson), Auditor (Dave Boliek), Commissioner of Agriculture (Steve Troxler), and Commissioner of Insurance (Mike Causey)

### **Tuesday, May 20**

- Pastor David: Passion in ministry – Colossians 1:28-29
- Salem & Self: Proverbs 4:25-27
- Pray for the benevolence ministry at Salem, that God would give discernment and compassion in making decisions and allocating resources.



- Trevor and Olivia Doles, NAMB church planters in Miami, Florida: Faith Church meets at a YMCA, which allows opportunities to engage with a community that has a high percentage of unchurched residents. Many are coming to faith after being hurt in other church contexts and have been out of church for years. They struggle with intense feelings of guilt. Trevor points to one woman who recently came to faith in Christ after discovering that Jesus would forgive all her sins, a truth she struggled to believe before hearing and responding to the gospel. Pray that God would build a healthy culture of evangelism and discipleship at Faith Church.

### **Wednesday, May 21**

- Pastor David: Contentment – Philippians 4:12-13
- Salem & Self: Proverbs 9:10
- Pray for the VBS volunteers as they prepare decorations, crafts, and the various lessons.
- Pray for Christian organizations who provide shelter and restoration care to trafficking survivors, that God would provide resources, open needed doors, show favor in the eyes of those in government positions, and provide the staffing and volunteers needed to show love and share truth with the women, men, and children in their care. Pray that God will raise up more ministries to provide this safe refuge and the truth of Jesus Christ.

### **Thursday, May 22**

- Pastor David: Healthy thoughts – Philippians 4:8
- Salem & Self: Isaiah 58:9-11
- Pray for the students in our student ministry, that their relationship with God would continually strengthen and they would delight to study His Word daily, finding His truth to be their foundation and Jesus to be their treasure.
- Until February 2024, there were no known believers among the Wagheri, a Hindu group of 1,500 people in India. A Wagheri man was searching for his family's daily meal when he met a Christian who shared the gospel. "I thought Jesus was only for other people," he replied. The Christian shared that Jesus came to save the Wagheri too, and as God worked in this man's life, he put his faith in Christ and was baptized. Since then, God has provided the needs of his family, and several Wagheri in other villages have also chosen to follow Christ. Praise God for His movement in this people group, and ask Him to continue to draw the Wagheri to Christ.

### **Friday, May 23**

- Amanda Trump: Eternal Focus – 2 Corinthians 4:17-18
- Salem & Self: Psalm 9:9-10
- Greg and Anne Parker, supported missionaries in Brazil: Pray for the 50 teenagers from 4 different river villages who came to a retreat at the beginning of the year, sharing testimonies of God's transformation in their lives. Greg and Anne see many of them as potential leaders for the village churches. Several of them plan to start attending the floating seminary this year. Pray that these young people can stay firm in their walk with the Lord and that He will continue to raise up leaders in all generations for His church.
- Pray that God would help all military personnel to see Him working in their daily lives and that He is with them, whether they are in the field, at home, or abroad.



### **Saturday, May 24**

- Pastor David: Faithfulness in prayer – Colossians 4:2
- Salem & Self: Ephesians 4:22-24
- Pray for the members of the praise band, that God would guard their hearts to be wholly focused on His praise and honor as they lead in worship, and that they would be authentic and pure-hearted in their role.
- Persecuted believers in Afghanistan: Islamic law has been increasingly enforced since the Taliban took power. There is no safe place in Afghanistan for Christians. House churches remain deeply underground, Christians live under relentless pressure, and the discovery of their faith can lead to abuse and death at the hands of both family and government. Pray that God will protect secret believers who must hide their faith, and that those in prison will be protected and released. “In the difficult Taliban regime, we face challenges, but with strong faith we persevere.”

### **Sunday, May 25**

- Pastor David: Boldness – Matthew 10:27
- Salem & Self: Ephesians 4:25-27
- Pray that the thought of being God’s child with God as our Father would prompt and control the worship, prayers, and perspective of His people throughout our days.

### **Monday, May 26**

- Pastor David: Personal spiritual growth – Romans 8:29
- Salem & Self: Ephesians 4:29-30
- Pray for the families of SCA students. Pray for God to move within these families to develop healthy relationships and love for each other, and that Christ would become central to every home. Pray for God’s protection over these families over the summer and that He would prepare the students for the upcoming school year.
- Pray that God will give comfort and peace to the families, friends, and fellow service members who have lost loved ones in the military. Pray that God will protect the legacies of these families and will draw them to Christ.

### **Tuesday, May 27**

- Pastor David: Patience to wait upon the Lord – Psalm 27:13-14
- Salem & Self: Ephesians 4:31-32
- Pray for those in the benevolence ministry, that they will not grow weary and God will bless them in their work.
- Pray for the European Congress on Evangelism taking place in Berlin May 27-30. It will be a gathering of 1000 European leaders from 57 nations, and Christian speakers will focus on the theme of Romans 1:16—being unashamed of the gospel of Christ—to encourage believers to reignite the church with a passion for proclamation evangelism. Pray that many leaders will prioritize this opportunity to be together to advance God’s kingdom, and that the church in Europe will rise up with fresh confidence and strength to spread the gospel.

### **Wednesday, May 28**

- Pastor David: Faithfulness to lead – 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12
- Salem & Self: Ephesians 5:1-2
- Pray for our financial leadership, that God will give wisdom as they seek His will in best applying the resources He provides for the ministry of His church.
  - Maurice and Coretta Gaiter, NAMB church planters in Chicago, IL: After serving alongside local pastors for 25 years, the Gaiters started Empowerment Community Church where Maurice grew up, in one of Chicago’s toughest neighborhoods where crime is high and desperate people often lack enough food. Maurice knows whatever need, question, or lack people have, the answer is always Jesus, and they have seen addicts get clean, marriages repaired, and negative-focused people get remade into Christian disciples. Each month members visit homes in the neighborhood, distribute food, and share the gospel through their “We see You Campaign.” Pray that God will keep them safe as they serve the community and bring many to Christ.



### **Thursday, May 29**

- Pastor David: Evident fruit in ministry – 1 Thessalonians 2:13
- Salem & Self: Ephesians 5:3-4
- Pray for the relationships among the students at Salem, that they would be strong, healthy, and honoring to the Lord, and that each student would demonstrate and experience kindness, belonging, and brotherly love.
- Pray for Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Secretary of the Treasury Scott Bessent, Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth, Attorney General Pam Bondi, and Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum.

### **Friday, May 30**

- Amanda Trump: Hope in the Lord – Proverbs 4:18
- Salem & Self: Ephesians 5:8-11



- Matt and Anabella Parker, supported missionaries in Ecuador: The Parkers are raising funds to purchase 300 more solar-powered MP3 players for a newly accessible river community. This would allow increased reach of the gospel through the Christian radio station in Quito, which focuses on quality programming for evangelism and discipleship of those in river communities. Praise God for the opportunity to reach this new community and pray for His provision of the needed funds.

- Pray for military service members, that the Lord would keep them from being desensitized to violence, while keeping them strengthened through battles. Only the Lord can provide such a balance.

### **Saturday, May 31**

- Pastor David: Deliverance from worry – 1 Peter 5:7
- Salem & Self: Ephesians 5:15-17
- Pray for the production team involved in the worship ministry, that God would protect the technical elements for practice and services, and that He will give wisdom as they address challenges with grace and perseverance. Pray for their encouragement from the Lord and the church, and that they will do all things for God's glory.
- Persecuted believers in India: Anti-conversion laws make it illegal for Christians to tell others about Christ, up to a lifetime in prison. Hindu extremists use extensive violence to "cleanse" the nation of other religions. Ask God to give our Indian brothers and sisters His courage, boldness, and peace despite the uncertainty they face. Pray for those who are unjustly imprisoned, that they will know the true freedom of Christ and be filled with the joy of belonging to Him. From a church leader in India: "Though I was attacked twice, still I can feel God's protection in my life. I was attacked, yet was not crushed."