July Prayer Calendar

The past few days have been difficult ones. Recently, I learned of the death of an amazing woman, nurse, and colleague. She was a flight nurse whose helicopter crashed as the medical team on board were returning to home base. Both my friend and the pilot were killed. In the days that have followed, I have read so many posts and listened as her family has shared on local media about her love for her family, her community, and this profession.



I am reminded of the fragility of life and the "if" statements that can go

unanswered when we experience trauma. It is a human response. Mary and Martha did the same following the death of their brother Lazarus. "If you had been here..." (John 11: 21 and 32, NIV).

I am also reminded of deep truth when we face seasons of frustration, pain, and loss. We are not alone. We can run to the One who made us and who hears our questions. Jesus weeps with us. We also have the privilege of supporting each other and being present in those difficult times. I have received so many messages of support from people across the country. It has been a sweet comfort.

It is a joy and a privilege to be able to hear your stories and to pray for you. You are not alone. Your prayers for us also mean so very much. Thank you for supporting the work and ministry of Nurses Christian Fellowship.

Christy Secor DNP, RN, CDWF Professional Ministries Director / Nurses Christian Fellowship

- July 1 We pray for the protection of nurses across the country who face challenges and difficult work environments. We also want to remember those who have given their life in the service of their profession. Our hearts are heavy following the recent death of a flight nurse from Minnesota. May God pour out His peace and comfort to those who are grieving.
- July 2 Pray for a smooth transition for Tim Lin from Nurses Christian Fellowship to Regional Director and for Jen Wojtysiak's transition to Student Ministries Director. We are excited to have Jen's experience and passion for students in this work!
- July 3 We praise God for the tremendous response we received from nurses who became members or renewed through our May membership special. Pray that our members would be supported and encouraged through NCF and that our membership would continue to grow.
- July 4 In the midst of our celebrations for our nation's birth, pray for our nation to seek and lift up righteousness that comes only from God (Proverbs 14:34, NIV). May our

- hearts also break and be moved for what grieves Him. Pray for wisdom, discernment, and clear thinking that honors God for our local, state, and national leaders.
- July 5 The July/Sept issue of the *Journal of Christian Nursing* is now out. We ask for increases in readership with the *JCN* and for God to use the content to stimulate and empower nurses to emulate Christ and have his wisdom in providing spiritual care.
- July 6 We ask Jesus to care for the <u>nurse in the UK</u> who lost her job after offering what was ruled as inappropriate spiritual care. Ask the Holy Spirit to speak to her, teach her, and provide for her family; pray that God uses this case to help nurses worldwide learn and use best practices in spiritual care.
- July 7 Pray for and seek connections with new countries in the Caribbean and North America (CANA) region for the development and support of Christian nurses through Nurses Christian Fellowship International.
- July 8 We praise God for the team building that occurred during our June *JCN* retreat. May we continue the team building started there and build on that work as we seek God's wisdom and guidance in our strategic thinking about new and fresh directions for the journal and delegate projects to our team members.
- July 9 We praise God for the beginning of a new professional nurse group in the Greater Boston area. These nurses are a part of the MGH Institute for Health Professionals and need 12 participants to be recognized as an official group. Pray for opportunities to connect with other nurses and for God to draw the 12 that are needed to be members of this group.
- July 10 We thank God for his provision for NCF in the 2018-19 fiscal year that ended June 30. We ask Jesus to continue to provide for NCF in every way in 2019-20.
- July 11 Pray for our faith community nurses who serve in our communities, as chaplains, and in the government. May God continue to guide, build, and bless the work they do.
- July 12 Pray for students and faculty to have a restful and restorative summer. Pray they would connect with the Lord in deep and meaningful ways.
- July 13 Pray for God to continue to move and provide clear direction for nurses across the country who are praying about beginning an NCF group in their area. Pray also for Christy Secor, NCF's Professional Ministries Director, as she listens to nurses share their stories. Just in one week, there were conversations with nurses from La Crosse, WI; Rochester, MN; Worcester, MA; Little Rock, AR; and Cleveland, OH along with others who are exploring options for possible groups. Pray for God to open doors and provide other nurses to come alongside and be a part of the leadership teams of these possible groups.
- July 14 We praise God for the Caribbean and North America (CANA) regional conference that was held earlier in the year in Haiti. We ask for prayer for the growth of NCF among nurses and students across Haiti where the CANA conference was held.
- July 15 Pray for the new NCF Leadership Team made up of these 5 women: National Director, Student Ministries Director, Professional Ministries Director, JCN Senior Editor, and Marketing & Communications Manager. Ask God to give the team his great vision for NCF and help them work together well as they lead this ministry.
- July 16 Ask the Holy Spirit to use the recently released *Journal of Christian Nursing* article, <u>Conquering the Craving: Treatment to Curb Alcohol Use Disorder</u> to guide nurses to help many individuals struggling with alcohol abuse.

- July 17 Pray the new design for our website would be a blessing to the ministry and that God would continue to provide technical solutions.
- July 18 Pray for faith community nurses across the country to submit presentations for the 2020 Westberg Symposium Caring for the Human Spirit Conference. Pray as this group of nurses continues to make plans for a successful event.
- July 19 Pray for the leadership teams of our professional nurse groups facing challenges in meeting and leading their groups. Some need more support within their leadership team, others have a growing number of commitments making a meeting more difficult, and there are individuals who are also working through personal / professional life events. Pray for encouragement, renewal, wisdom, and discernment for each of them.
- July 20 Ask God to bring new reviewers and authors to write for the *Journal of Christian Nursing*. Pray God will effectively use the *JCN* editorial team to mentor and nurture new authors.
- July 21 Pray for wisdom and God's leading to select a Next Generation contact person
 who will serve on NCF International Regional Committees. This individual would have a
 coordinating role for working with students and young nurses / midwives within that
 region.
- July 22 Pray for student leaders to grow in vision for the nursing students on their campus over the summer. Pray they would be moved to take risks within their spheres of influence.
- July 23 Life is all about transitions. We praise God for the commitment and dedication of our Fresno, California professional nurse group and its leaders. This group will be closing for now, but God has opened new doors for working with nursing students in the area. Pray for God to also raise up nurses in this area who are open to leading a professional nurse group.
- July 24 Pray that more NCF student groups will begin on campuses this fall, and for more professional nurse groups to start in communities around the United States.
- July 25 Pray for wisdom and discernment for nurses facing decisions about career changes as well as pursuing advanced education opportunities. May God give them wisdom and discernment as well as courage to take that next step.
- July 26 Pray for the NCF Marketing & Communications team as we meet July 26-28 to hear God's leading for moving student, nurse, and our *JCN* ministry forward.
- July 27 Pray we would draw close to God in our need rather than trying to do things in our own strength. Pray also for self-compassion and that we would give ourselves permission to care for ourselves. Pray for joy in the midst of the challenges and trials we face.
- July 28 Ask the Holy Spirit to draw more nursing students, nurses, and nurse educators to personal faith in Jesus Christ; pray for open conversations between Christians and those God is drawing to himself.
- July 29 Pray for wisdom and connections for the nurses who are a part of the Nurses Christian Fellowship International (NCFI) Planning Committee who are meeting throughout the summer for the 2020 NCFI World Congress. The needs are both great and small but will contribute to making this a successful event visas need to be approved by other countries, speakers for workshops are being evaluating, menus are being planned, and items that will make the participants' stay more comfortable are being gathered.

- July 30 Pray for *JCN* authors and potential authors to hear the Holy Spirit's nudging and write what is on God's heart to share through the *Journal of Christian Nursing*.
- July 31 Pray for incoming freshman as they prepare to transition to college and the new opportunities and challenges they will face