

- “Then your light shall break forth like the morning, your healing shall spring forth speedily, and your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and He will say, ‘Here I am’” (Isaiah 58:8-9).



# prayer sundays

FIVE PRAYER OUTLINES



- January 25
- April 26
- August 30
- December 20
- January 10



“**Seek** first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness,” as Jesus urged in Matthew 6:33.

**Thousands of students’** have been impacted in significant ways through the last 45 years of Wesleyan Youth Conventions. On December 28-31, 2009 the youth convention, Love Mercy, is centered around challenging students experience a heart change for God and live out Micah 6:8. It is imperative that students not journey into this experience alone, but with the support of their families and local congregations.

**The following outline** provides a way for your church to spend five Sundays, over the course of the 2009 year, to spend a few minutes in corporate prayer for the students of your church and the Love Mercy youth conventions. A monthly prayer calendar is available at [www.myWYcon.com](http://www.myWYcon.com). Feel free to adapt the outline as you see fit and make it your own!

### Prayer Sunday 1: Jan. 25th

**Overview:** The senior/lead pastor challenges the church to commit to prayer for their students over the 2009 year, and then leads the congregation in prayer.

**Time Allotted:** 3-4 minutes

**Presenter:** Senior or Lead Pastor

**Announcement:** Eleven months from now The Wesleyan Church will be hosting area youth conventions in Baltimore, Denver, Charlotte and Louisville. Thousands of teenagers will gather to hear from God and worship Him. I want to challenge the church to make a commitment to pray for our students over the next eleven months and to support them as they prepare practically and spiritually for this life-changing experience. We are going to take time in our services to pray for the youth convention five times between now and January 10, 2010. To show our commitment to pray for and support our youth over the next eleven months – let’s stand and pray for them together (at this time, pastor prays for students).

**Prayer:** by senior or lead pastor

### Prayer Sunday 2: April 26th

**Overview:** A testimony from a student or adult impacted by a youth convention is followed by a time of congregational prayer led by the youth pastor/leader.

**Time Allotted:** 4 minutes

**Presenter:** Youth Pastor/Leader

**People Involved:** Testimony from a Student Leader or church member who has been impacted by a previous Youth Convention (1-2 minute testimony)

**Announcement:** (following the testimony) Having heard this story, it is without doubt that Wesleyan Youth Conventions can play a critical role in the lives of our students as well. In fact, we believe that God is already working in the hearts and lives of our students, preparing them for this December’s youth convention – just eight months from now. Let’s pray together...

**Sample Prayer:** by youth pastor/leader

(A sample prayer from the Common Book of Prayer - adapt as necessary)

Ever living God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope, of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever...

God our Father, you see your youth growing up in an unsteady and confusing world: Show them that your ways give more life than the ways of the world, and that following you is better than chasing after selfish goals. Help them to take failure, not as a measure of their worth, but as a chance for a new start. Give them strength to hold their faith in you, and to keep alive their joy in your creation; Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of our youth: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we continue to pray for them, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ, and may they become ‘fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ’, ... Amen.



### Prayer Sunday 3: August 30th

**Overview:** The senior/lead pastor challenges the church to commit to prayer for their students over the 2009 year, and then leads the congregation in prayer.

**Time Allotted:** 3-4 minutes

**Presenter:** Senior or Lead Pastor

**Announcement:** Four months from now The Wesleyan Church will be hosting area youth conventions in Baltimore, Denver, Charlotte and Louisville. Today we will pray for those being called to ministry, the future leaders of each church, and for compassion ministries throughout the world. To show our commitment to pray for and support our youth – let’s stand and pray for them together (at this time, pastor prays).

**Prayer:** by senior or lead pastor

### Prayer Sunday 4: December 20th

**Overview:** A congregational prayer led by an intercessor in your church.

**Time Allotted:** 3-4 minutes

**Presenter:** A Church leader who practices intercession and has the gift of faith (perhaps a person who is a ‘prayer warrior’).

**Announcement:** Our church has committed itself to praying for our students in order to see God work in their lives at the youth convention, Love Mercy, coming up in the next 10 days. Let’s take a few minutes this morning to intercede on their behalf as a body.

**Sample Prayer:** by youth pastor/leader

(A sample prayer from the Common Book of Prayer - adapt as necessary)

O Almighty God, who pours out on all those who desire the spirit of grace and of supplication: Deliver us, when we draw near to thee, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship thee in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God, who has promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in Christ’s name: We mercifully ask you to incline your ear to us who have now given our prayers and supplications to thee; and grant that those things which we have faithfully asked according to thy will, may effectually be obtained, to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of your glory;

May you be with our youth during their time at the Love Mercy Youth Convention, and as we have faithfully committed to lift them and the Convention up to you, committing ourselves to prayer and intercession, may your Spirit move through each of their lives, and may your kingdom come, and your will be done, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Prayer Sunday 5: January 10th Celebrate!

**Overview:** This is an opportunity for the congregation to **celebrate** the Lord’s work in student’s lives. The youth pastor/leader interviews two or more students impacted by their experience at Love Mercy. The senior/lead pastor closes the time in congregational prayer.

**Time Allotted:** 7 minutes

**Presenter:** Youth Pastor/Leader

**People Involved:** Two or more students who attended and were impacted by Love Mercy.

**Announcement:** Over this last year we have been praying for our students and their time at the Love Mercy Youth Convention. God is moving in the lives of our students, and they are continuing to become fully devoted followers of Christ. (if your church is having an extended testimony time on a Sunday evening or at a youth meeting, feel free to invite the congregation to this time).

**Prayer:** (by the Senior or Lead Pastor) In closing, have the congregation stand to their feet in honor of the students and youth staff. The Senior Pastor prays over the students and youth group, and the church’s continued involvement in their spiritual development.

### Call & Write Often!

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Spiritual Formation: [www.headhearthand.com](http://www.headhearthand.com)