# Pray with our partners

A LENT EVENT GUIDE









Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving.

COLOSSIANS 4:2 (NRSV)

# Uniting our voices with all those who cry out to God

We asked our church partners from around the world how we can support them in prayer over the season of Lent.

Their responses allow us to pray in solidarity, but also to learn about their struggles and what they long to see in their communities.

When we join our hearts in prayer, their hopes become our hopes.

We remember all those who are suffering in our world.

And what we can do about it together.

Through this journey, we hope you feel more connected to the global body of Christ and how God is moving through it.

Thank you for praying with us.

# 22 February Zimbabwe

Dear Almighty and ever-living God, we invite you to be in our midst on earth. We are your people and we submit ourselves completely to you during this Lent. We dedicate this time to reach out to fellow human beings who are less privileged, vulnerable and marginalised so that they may experience abundant life and God-given dignity.

#### TARIRO WASHAYA

Program Manager with Methodist Relief & Development Agency of the Methodist Church in Zimbabwe



Help us O God in the coming year to be able to have even more of an impact to others and the environment. Make us instruments of your peace, channels of your blessings and responsible for your vocation towards this universe of your creation.

REV. NYOMAN AGUSTINUS Bishop, Protestant Christian Church in Bali

# 24 February Papua New Guinea

Please pray for purpose among our young people; that God would intervene in their lives and challenges they face, and that we would have peace and respect for one another.

#### KIM ALLEN

Youth leader, United Church of Papua New Guinea



# 25 February Maluku, Indonesia

We ask for prayer support for all efforts to reduce the impact of environmental damage in Maluku and North Maluku. Widespread and massive abuse of the natural environment has had an impact on the integrity of human life and the natural world. Several of our congregations have been affected by these activities.

REV. ELIFAS MASPAITELA Moderator, Protestant Church in Maluku

# 26 February Fiji

Heavenly Father, thank You that no problem we face in our life, church fellowship, local community, or nation, is too difficult for You and that You are the God of the impossible.

#### **REV. DR TEVITA NAWADRA**

Methodist Church in Fiji, Chair of the Regional Ecumenical Community

# 27 February India

Pray for peace and hope for those who are suffering, and a world full of love and compassion.

RT. REV. SAMEER ISAAC KHIMLA Bishop, Diocese of Durgapur, Church of North India

# 28 February Timor-Leste

My prayer is that every Sunday the children will come to church; that all people can participate and contribute to our communities, and that we can help young people with skills and opportunities in education, communication and employment.

REV. DOMINGGUS ALVES

Moderator, Protestant Church in Timor-Leste

#### 1 March Sri Lanka

People with disabilities are one of the most marginalised and vulnerable minorities in Sri Lankan society. Our prayer is that the 'self-help' groups we've formed will become independent and include themselves in wider society confidently. Let us pray God breaks all barriers towards building up an inclusive community without misunderstandings and misconception regarding disabilities in our country.

REV. SAMUEL GNANARAJAH
Deaf Link Coordinator, Methodist Church in Sri Lanka



## 2 March Tuvalu

Pray for the impacts of disaster and climate change. Tuvalu is more vulnerable and requires holistic support. Pray our church will be equipped with the wisdom to make meaningful and lasting change.

REV. TAUALO PENIVAO General Secretary, Congregational Christian Church of Tuvalu

### 3 March West Timor, Indonesia

God Almighty, creator of heaven and earth, help us, the people of East Nusa Tenggara who are affected by the global crisis. Rising fuel prices cause inflation, making it more difficult for poor families to live a decent life.

#### REV MERY KOLIMON

Moderator, Evangelical Christian Church in Timor



### 4 March Vanuatu

Heavenly Father and Mother of Wisdom, thank you for allowing us the ability to think, see, hear, talk, smell, feel and use our common sense, to be able to live life to its fullness. Help us build our lives with your wisdom according to your plan and purpose. Help us to be filled with humility and love in order to reconcile and stay close to you always.

#### REV. LEINAMAU MANRONGOANA

One of the first women to be ordained as a minister of the Presbyterian Church in Vanuatu

### 5 March Bali, Indonesia

Towards the end of the year, there were many natural disasters around us. Floods, landslides, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions. God, give us the strength to survive the threat of future disasters. Enable us to be able to adapt to climate change and maintain our environment. We believe only by Your help can we go through every struggle.

#### PIPIT PURWADI

MBM Foundation, Protestant Christian Church in Bali

### 6 March Solomon Islands

Pray for countries in the Pacific affected by disasters, and the work of the church's gender equality, safe churches and disaster resilience programs to expand into rural communities where they are most needed.

#### JOY JINO

Program Manager, Solomon Islands Christian Association

### 7 March Tonga

I ask that you pray for the addictions affecting our youth and the fight against them. Drugs and pornography are tearing families apart and no one is willing to talk about it. Please pray with us.

#### SEMISI KAUFUSI

Young leader in the Free Wesleyan Church in Tonga

# 8 March Kiribati

Dear God who is our Mother and Father, we pray for all those who had been calling out for help in many ways to be heard and assisted according to their needs. We pray that we may be used as channels of your peace where violence is experienced.

#### **REV BERENIKE BIKO**

Minister, Kiribati Uniting Church and Lecturer, Tangintebu Theological College



### 9 March The Pacific

Dear God, you're not seen, but you're present and felt. You see our dark sides, you hear pains and sufferings. Grant us courage and the wisdom to stand up for those who are down and lend a voice to those who cannot speak and are deliberately being silenced. Assure us, all the time when we do justice, You have a place for us when our days here are finished.

#### **ANARETA APOLE**

Just and Safe Pacific Communities for Women and Men, Pacific Conference of Churches

#### 10 March India

We pray for the upcoming Diocesan Council meeting where the leaders may formulate policies for the Glory of God and for a peaceful process of a planned division of the Diocese.

SANJAY KHALING Coordinator, Diocese of Eastern Himalayas

### 11 March Kiribati

Pray that we can take the message of Gender Equality Theology to all the outer islands of Kiribati. Rates of violence are too high, and people need to choose a more peaceful way.

BAIRENGA KIRABUKE Project Officer, Kiribati Uniting Church

### 12 March Samoa

Pray for the youth of American Samoa, issues of suicide, drugs and crime.

MESALINA

Women's Fellowship, Methodist Church of Samoa

### 13 March Solomon Islands

Please pray over the strategic and program direction of the United Church in the Solomon Islands in the next 5 to 10 years, and for God's guidance and discernment for the church to move towards economic strength and resilience.

# REV DR CLIFF BIRD Theologian, United Church in the Solomon Islands



### 14 March Tuvalu

Pray that as the sea levels rise, we can find a way to stay in our land, our tradition and our culture. If we join together and put our faith in God, we will succeed.

TETAVAA NAMOTO Young member of the Congregational Christian Church of Tuvalu

### 15 March West Papua, Indonesia

Please pray for safety in my work and all those working for peace with justice. And pray that people will stay loyal to what they believe in, doing what is right and looking out for one another.

#### MARIA KOMBOY

Human rights researcher and member of the Evangelical Christian Church in Tanah Papua



# 16 March Fiji

Almighty God, help us today in with our desire to eliminate violence in our midst. We know that you are a loving God and within that love there is no violence. Let us today be your instrument of love and peace to others and may we imitate Christ by having the same mindset in humility by serving and putting others first before ourselves.

REV. NOA TURAGANIVALU Gender Equality Theology Champion, Methodist Church in Fiji

### 17 March Maluku, Indonesia

We ask for prayer support for a just democracy to get fair and equitable treatment for the people of Maluku and North Maluku in regional policies and national development initiatives, especially in rural, isolated areas in the interior and mountains that have not been touched by development.

REV. ELIFAS MASPAITELA Moderator, Protestant Church in Maluku

### 18 March Kiribati

Pray that the people of Kiribati understand that climate change is real and is increasingly affecting their lives so that we can better fight for climate justice.

# REMWATIA NOKITE Young member of Kiribati Uniting Church

### 19 March West Timor, Indonesia

Dear Father in heaven, God of life and justice, we ask You, please grant us steadfastness and peace so that we can continue to fight for Your Kingdom in a world that is plagued by violence.

REV HENDRIANA TAKA LOGO
Justice and Peace Unit, Evangelical Christian Church in Timor

### 20 March Fiji

Lord, we thank thee for your love that continues to remind us that women are equal with men. Give us courage to realise our faults and help us to recognise each other as equals in God's creation. May our families, churches and communities realize the value of women and put a stop to violence. May we continue to say No to violence against women for the sake of our children. In Jesus' name

#### **REV GERALDINE VAREA**

Methodist Church in Fiji and UnitingWorld-supported PhD scholar at the Pacific Theological College



### 21 March Solomon Islands

Pray with us for the transitions of leadership in the Solomon Islands and the Pacific. We pray that through this transition, our women can be recognised as leaders in government and in the church.

#### SALLY KURA

Project Officer, United Church in Solomon Islands

# 22 March Fiji

I pray that the church should be the voice of God to the people; that we would be loyal and strong enough to stand up for what is just, what is good and what is right; that we stand against anything that dehumanises God's creation.

REV DR SEMISI TURAGAVOU General Secretary, Methodist Church in Fiji



Guide us Lord to do the right things according to the teaching of Jesus. Let us be a vessel of peace and condemn the evil of violence. May the power of your healing reconcile our hearts with God, and that unite us to your heart. You called us out of silence to speak out for peace, love, and mercy. We pray that women's voices may be heard for reconciliation and peace. May we live the promise of the victorious return of Christ, our Lord.

#### **REV IKANI TOLU**

Free Wesleyan Church in Tonga, General Secretary of Tonga National Council of Churches

### 24 March Samoa

God of grace and mercy, the God to whom all hearts are opened, and thoughts revealed, we surrender to you all victims and survivors of all forms of violence. We remember the innocent children who are either victims or witness to such cruelties. May you protect them and restore trust and love within their hearts. Transform all of us through your Holy Spirit. And may we continue to love one another as you have loved us.

DR MERCY MALIKO
Theologian, Methodist Church of Samoa



### 25 March Vanuatu

Please pray over those taking part in the Theology of Disaster Resilience in a Changing Climate program. Pray that the program will empower them to implement new knowledge into local schools and churches.

PASTOR BEN WARI TONGI
Theological Coordinator, Vanuatu Christian Council

### 26 March Solomon Islands

Grant us a willing spirit to act and serve justly for the common good of the whole of humanity. Help us to discern where there is need to address and attend to for the good of your people and for your own glory. Give us a willing spirit to serve you and your people.

#### REV ARMSTRONG PITAKAJI United Church in the Solomon Islands,

United Church in the Solomon Islands, Chair of Solomon Islands Christian Association Board



### 27 March The Pacific

We pray for peace around the world. We pray that our Pacific church leaders would stand up to address climate change, drug abuse and violence against women and children.

#### **REV. SIERA BIRD**

Just and Safe Pacific Communities for Women and Men, Pacific Conference of Churches

### 28 March Zimbabwe

Lord, grant us the wisdom we need to lead the church faithfully through your guidance. Give us a broad and caring heart. Let the lonely find friends in us. Let the desperate find hope.

#### TARIRO WASHAYA

Program Manager with Methodist Relief & Development Agency of the Methodist Church in Zimbabwe



### 29 March Fiji

Pray for God's intervention in the different areas of leadership: political, cultural and social. Pray also for divine empowerment to carry on with the task at hand, letting God's will be done in Fiji and beyond.

#### **REV TOMASI JALE**

Disaster Resilience Theology champion, Methodist Church in Fiji

### 30 March India

Please join us in prayer for peace and harmony following the attacks on Christian Community in Amritsar and Punjab.

MOST REV DR P K SAMANTAROY Bishop, Diocese of Amritsar, Church of North India



### 31 March The Pacific

Please pray for international climate negotiations, eroding coastal lines, communities displaced by climate change, and safety and dignity for all creation.

FRANCES NAMOUMOU
Programs Manager, Pacific Conference of Churches

## 1 April Solomon Islands

Pray for our leaders in the Solomon Islands. They play a big role in the country right now and have huge challenges to overcome. Climate change, governance and youth are key issues we are praying for.

RAYMOND TALASIVO
Youth Leader, United Church in the Solomon Islands



# 2 April Fiji

Pray for God's protection over the world from disasters.

REV. NOA TURAGANIVALU Gender Equality Theology Champion, Methodist Church in Fiji

# 3 April Timor-Leste

Please pray for us and continue to work with us so that one day Timor-Leste can be independent in terms of finances, human resources and other things that we need

#### JULIO DA COSTA

Program Manager, Protestant Church in Timor-Leste



## 4 April West Papua, Indonesia

Please pray for the staff of P3W in Papua. We have a huge mission field and many challenges to overcome, especially for the empowerment and economic development of women. Pray we can keep a fire and spirit about our work after a challenging time (COVID-19).

#### LISA MANDIBODIBO

P3W Women's Empowerment and Development Centre, an agency of the Evangelical Christian Church in Tanah Papua

# 5 April Sri Lanka

God of grace and mercy, the God to whom all hearts are opened, and thoughts revealed, we surrender to you all victims and survivors of all forms of violence. We remember the innocent children who are either victims or witness to such cruelties. May you protect them and restore trust and love within their hearts. Transform all of us through your Holy Spirit. And may we continue to love one another as you have loved us.

REV. SAMUEL GNANARAJAH Deaf Link Coordinator, Methodist Church in Sri Lanka

6 April Bali, Indonesia

(a blessing for us in Australia)

Our prayers are for partners, especially the Uniting Church who always try to assist us in sharing programs. God bless and be with all members of the church and community in Australia who put their hearts in your work on this island of Bali... May God use UCA as a tool in your hands for the glory of your name.

REV. NYOMAN AGUSTINUS Bishop, Protestant Christian Church in Bali

# Thank you for praying with us!

We hope you join us in making a difference alongside our partners this Lent.

Find out how at

www.lentevent.com.au



#### Acknowledgements

Thank you to our partners and friends who generously submitted prayers and prayer requests. A special thank you to the Pacific Conference of Churches for allowing us to republish several members prayers.

> For longer versions of prayers, visit www.lentevent.com.au







