

# **WAVE OF PRAYER**

**15th -17<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**Rebuilding Hope and Confidence**

## **Opening Prayer**

Keep us, good Lord. Under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress.

Sustain and support the anxious and fearful. And lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort, knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Amen**

## **Malawi**

*We give thanks that the Covid-19 virus is not spreading widely and that people are responding to the wearing of masks and washing hands where water is available. We pray for all schools and their efforts to teach hygiene with limited resources. We also pray that girls will not be forced to leave school early in order to marry. We pray for the families that have suffered bereavement due to the increase in suicide (up 57% since the start of the pandemic)*

*We give thanks for the Malawi Government and World Health Organisation's project to give the malaria vaccine to all children under 3 years.*

*We also give thanks that 6 out of 12 newly appointed judges are women and note that 5 judges of Malawi's High Court, who, in February nullified the country's presidential elections, are winners of this year's prestigious Chatham House award.*

John 14:27+28

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you "I am going away and I am coming to you". If you love me you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I.

## **Prayer**

**Heavenly Father we thank you for our fellowship with each other in and through the family of your church.**

**We pray that you will continue to pour your Holy Spirit on us in Malawi and Birmingham, and enable us to grow in holiness and love.**

**Support, sustain and help us to share each others' needs and blessings, joys and sorrows, to reach out to those who know not of your love made known in Jesus.**

**We ask this in the name of Him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.**

***Seychelles (Indian Ocean) President: Mrs Priscilla Julie***

*MU members have not been able to meet often and work as they would have liked. They continue their prayer meeting with mothers whose children are using drugs. Pray for the new government and that they may develop a strategy to deal with drugs, alcohol and corruption.*

Romans 15:13 "May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace we you trust in Him, that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

**Prayer**

**Loving Father, we hope in your word; we trust in your plans for a future where we will thrive in showing love to those we seek to serve. Gracious God, giver of hope which sustains our lives. We thank you. Amen.**

***Bukedi (Uganda) President: Sister Dorothy Otim CDC Betty Nesihwe Taata***

*Positive Parenting was launched on October 7<sup>th</sup> 2020 from the Archbishop's Palace Gardens in Namirembe (Kampala) because of social distancing. During the coronavirus pandemic schools and churches were closed. Pray for children affected by conflicts in homes especially due to limited food and other supplies.*

Isaiah 40:31-32 "Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint".

**Prayer**

**Living God, we thank you that we can put our hands in yours, and walk where you will lead us, confident that, though all else may fail, you will not, though heaven and earth pass away, your words will endure forever. Amen.**

**Enugu (Nigeria) President: Mrs Joyce Chukwuma**

*We give thanks that solar panels are being fixed for rural electrification for schools and hospitals Please pray for victims of rape, defilement, and gender based violence which affects children, young girls and women. We pray also for victims of kidnapping, banditry and killing by rogue herdsmen.*

Jeremiah29:11 “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

**Prayer**

**So we come in faith, with joyful hearts and in glad thanksgiving, to offer our worship, and to dedicate our lives once more to your service. Receive our praise in the name of Christ. Amen.**

**Marathwada (North India) President: not known**

*50 years since the Church of North India was founded. It incorporates several denominations. Members usually join fellow Christian women in encouraging discussion, mentorship and Bible study .Strict lockdown during the pandemic has led to great suffering in communities. Pray as members help to provide hygiene kits and other items.*

Psalm 62:5 “I will find my rest in God alone. He is the one who gives me hope.”

**Prayer**

**In our anxiety, fear and uncertainty, when hearts are heavy with the load we bear, and there is no one to turn to but you; yours is the peace that calms, the peace that comforts, the peace that gives us strength to carry on. In our anxiety, fear and uncertainty we turn to you. Amen.**

**Birmingham President: Deirdre Moll**

*During the coronavirus pandemic we have not been able to take part in prison work, hospital chaplaincy work, collecting toiletries for Women’s Aid and knit and natter groups.However many items for premature babies and muffs for dementia sufferers have been knitted and are ready for distribution. Some*

*Christmas cards have been signed for use in the prisons. We pray that we continue to support one another through difficult times.*

1Peter 1:3 "Praise is to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

#### **Prayer**

**God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation. In their loneliness be their consolation; in their anxiety be their hope, in their darkness be their light; through him who suffered alone on the cross, but reigns with you in glory. Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen**

Hebrews 4:16 "Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need".

#### **MU Prayer**

**Loving Lord, we thank You for Your love so freely given to us all. We pray for families around the world.**

**Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as we seek to share your love through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life.**

**Empowered by Your Spirit may we be united in prayer and worship and in love and service reach out as your hands across the world.**

**In Jesus name. Amen.**