



# 21 for 2021

PRAYER GUIDE



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you for using this 21 for 2021 Prayer Guide. It has been put together as a resource for the West Highland family to use during these unusual and challenging days we live in. The province wide lockdown means that we cannot meet in our Worship and Ministry Centre to pray with each other as we have done in the past during SEEK WEEK but this doesn't mean that we can't be connected and linked together in prayer.

As your pastor I am calling you to join me for 21 days (January 11-31) of concerted prayer together that we might see God move in powerful ways in our church, our city and country. COVID-19 is having a devastating effect on people's physical and mental health. Even if we have not been ill with this virus there is no doubt that we have felt its adverse effects in many ways. The devastating economic effects for many people and families is far reaching. People's livelihoods are at stake. People are cut off from their loved ones. The health care system is being overwhelmed.

Whatever our personal views on this crisis we are all in agreement that we need God's intervention. This is the reason for this call to prayer. I know that as believers we all pray on a regular basis. Prayer is part of who we are as Christ-followers. But I am asking that for the next 21 days we make prayer our top priority. It is time to devote ourselves to prayer.

This prayer guide is a tool, I hope a helpful resource, that will give you ideas about the items and areas we need to focus our praying on for these 21 days. I am sure as you use it the Spirit will also lead you in prayer for other things and persons that this guide does not mention. The important thing is that we set aside the time needed for ourselves and families to pray. Feel free to also connect with others in the church family to pray using Zoom or other venues. Over the course of these 21 days I will be sending other communiques to you concerning prayer.

In our memorization of Psalm 46 we have come across this phrase "Nations are in uproar." This is certainly a fitting description of

our world today. This past week, events in our neighbour to the south serve as a powerful reminder of the uproar that is prevalent all around the world. Jesus' words, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven" (Luke 21:10, 11) sound like the things we are hearing daily on newscasts. All of these things reinforce the need for us to seek the Lord in prayer.

May these next 21 days bring special blessing to you and your families. I look forward to the day when we will all meet together again to praise our great God and Saviour.

John Mahaffey  
Lead Pastor and Ministry Team Leader

## 21 PRAYER POINTS FOR THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

1. Those who have contracted COVID-19—healing, recovery, protection.
2. Those who have lost their jobs and are facing financial hardships—provision.
3. Businesses and industries that are facing layoffs and possible closure.
4. Frontline healthcare workers—safety and protection from COVID-19, help, strength, freedom from fear, courage, support, clear-mindedness, mental health, peace, their families.
5. Our vulnerable populations—the elderly and those with weakened immune systems and other health concerns to be protected.
6. Parents and families who face challenges and difficult situations related to work, child care, education, etc.
7. Premier Doug Ford, Christine Elliot, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and other members of the provincial government’s team addressing COVID-19—wisdom, strength, courage, guidance.
8. Our federal government—Prime Minister Trudeau and his team and their efforts to assist Canadians in need will be successful.
9. Our federal, provincial, and municipal leaders—they will see their need of God’s help, their hearts will turn to God and they will give him glory.
10. The success of all government and medical efforts to bring an end to COVID-19.
11. A renewal of government leaders and elected officials to lead by example and the restoration of the public’s faith and trust in them.
12. Pastor John’s invitation to Premier Ford to bring greetings to West Highland and allow us to pray for him in a public worship service—that he will say yes and we will have an opportunity to thank him and his government for their leadership.

- 13.** The lifting of restrictions and restoring of our economy.
- 14.** The opening of churches and other places of worship in Ontario and across Canada.
- 15.** Once public worship is restored for biblically faithful, Gospel preaching churches to experience growth.
- 16.** God to use this pandemic to awaken people to their need of repentance and faith and for many to come to Christ.
- 17.** Those with mental health challenges who feel isolated, anxious and helpless—provision and support.
- 18.** People needing regular medical care and surgeries—the health care system will not be overwhelmed so that these procedures will not be disrupted or postponed.
- 19.** Missionaries around the world, especially in areas with high rates of infection—provision, safety, fruitfulness in ministry and witness.
- 20.** Pastors and church leaders across Canada who are struggling with leading their churches and maintaining the churches health, focus, and unity.
- 21.** Christians in healthcare, government and public service to maintain a vibrant Gospel witness and be empowered by the Spirit.

## OUR ELDERS TEAM AND ELDERS COUNCIL

*Pray for our Elders and their families to be kept by the power of God, to be led not into temptation but delivered from the evil one. Pray also they will be endowed with wisdom from above and led by the Spirit in all their discussions and decisions for the strengthening of the church and the advance of the Gospel through West Highland.*

### **BOARD MEMBERS:**

Ed Brink (Janice) - Treasurer  
Tom Budge (Gail)  
Joel Ferreira (Becky)  
Paul Gerics (Leah)  
Rob Kapteyn (Lynda)  
John Maheu (Rhonda)  
Phil Seagrove (Stephanie) - Chair  
David Stairs (Katrina)  
Calvin Voortman (Debbie)

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Paul Dahmer (Heather)  
Burt Hamilton (Janet)  
Tom Misener (Veronica)  
Andrew Smith (Nadine)  
Jeff Thiessen (Brenda)

## OUR PASTORS AND MINISTRY TEAM

*Pray for our Ministry Team, their spouses and families, that they will enjoy good health, be protected from the evil one, exalt Christ in their lives, persevere in prayer, be faithful in witness, encourage God's people, and minister in the power of the Holy Spirit.*

John Mahaffey (Andrea) - *Lead Pastor and Ministry Team Leader*  
Kris Ullman (Dawn) - *Executive Pastor*  
Lee Brubacher (Cheryl) - *Worship Ministries Pastor*  
Jakob Koch (Lori) - *Family Ministries Pastor*  
Chris Kovac (Darci) - *Outreach Ministries Pastor*  
Jamie Strickland (Vanessa) - *Discipleship Ministries Pastor*  
Ken Ingram (Leslie) - *Care Ministries Pastor*  
Kevin Ricafort (Michaela) - *Student Ministries Pastor*  
Kim Beaman (Ross) - *Children's Ministries Director*  
Vicki Jaster (Robbie) - *Integration Director*  
Sue Montgomery (Scott) - *Prayer Counselling Director*

# OUR DEACONS COUNCIL

*Pray for the 33 deacons who have been appointed to serve with our Pastors and Ministry Team members in the five Ministry Divisions of our church. Pray they will know joy and fruitfulness in their service as they serve alongside our pastors and assist them in practical ways.*

## **Administration**

Joe Pouget – Kitchen and Café

## **Discipleship**

Patti Benallick – Care Ministry  
Brian Cooke – Stephen Ministry  
Kurt Davis – Life Groups  
Dorrett James – Refugee Support  
Glen Kuik – Builders  
Nancy Lowe - Welcome Centre  
Bradley Lyall - Greeters  
Jim McCrory – Builders  
Helio Nichele - Life Groups  
Paul Stimers – Prayer Counseling  
Linda Ward – Stephen Ministry  
Sharon Weir – Integration

## **Family Ministries**

Herman Brodhagen - Seniors  
Mary Lynn Brodhagen - Seniors  
Leah Gerics - Women's Ministries  
Bonnie Konowalchuk - Seniors  
Darci Kovac - Women's Ministries  
John McFarland – Family  
Lindsay McFarland – Family  
Sarah Miller – Young Adults  
Zach Miller - Young Adults  
Stephanie Seagrove - Youth Ministries  
Rick Thompson - Men's Ministries  
Katie Wouters - STAR Kids  
Richard Wouters - Children's Broadcasting

## **Outreach**

Sarah Barham – Missions  
Val Pouget – Adopt a School  
Carolyn Sheppard – ESL

## **Worship**

Graham Lowe – Media

Bruce Robinson – Drama

Ken Robinson - Broadcast

Brenda Thiessen – Choir/Orchestra

## **21 PRAYER POINTS FOR OUR CHURCH'S MINISTRIES & OUTREACHES**

1. Our focus on disciple making and the development of a disciple making culture would flourish throughout all of the church's ministries and we will see a multiplication of small groups, disciple making pods, leaders, and discipling of others.

2. We will not lose sight of the expanding community that surrounds our ministry and worship centre. Our parish is growing with new housing, young families relocating to Hamilton from places like Toronto, new immigrants and new Canadians living within our Jerusalem. Pray for a thrust of effective witness to reach our Jerusalem with the Gospel

3. TREC class with Dr. Michael Haykin which begins Sunday, January 10. "Being Baptist—Our Heritage and Identity" will teach us the biblical convictions and historical experiences that have characterized our movement and the unique impact we have had on the expansion of Christianity since the days of the Puritans. Pray the impact of this teaching will be powerful in our lives and inspire us to godly living and witness.

4. All of our care ministries focused on the bereaved, the ill, the lonely, and the struggling will flourish even though we are locked down at present.

5. Prayer Counselling sessions to continue unimpeded in spite of restrictions so that those needing help will find the healing they need and will begin a new path of discipleship and sanctification.

6. Our STAR Kids leaders as they continue to minister to children through the Sunday broadcast. Pray also for the full restoration of mid-week, summer, and Sunday in person ministry to children at West Highland.

**7.** Our Youth Ministries will flourish online and our young people to grow spiritually and share the gospel fervently within their circles of influence.

**8.** Our Sunday broadcast team to be encouraged by the blessing they are to the whole church family by their labours to help us worship together and hear God's Word preached. Pray that throughout 2021 we will see more people joining us online on Sundays.

**9.** Our Worship Leaders and Teams to also be encouraged by the service they provide us. Pray they will find joy in serving on Sundays and have the stamina to continue as they face an empty auditorium each Sunday.

**10.** Those who were baptized and became members of West Highland in 2020 to be strengthened in their walk with the Lord and find their places of fellowship and ministry in the church while it is more complicated to do so during the lockdown. Pray also for others who are now considering baptism and/or making West Highland their home.

**11.** Developing plans for summer ministry at the church which will include summer internships, camps for kids and young people, and a summer preaching series. Pray for creativity and ingenuity as well as the end to the pandemic so that these ministries can flourish.

**12.** The King's Garden and Community Gardens. Praise God these ministries continued in 2020! We need to pray they will continue in 2021 with an expanded team of committed people and more people from our community being blessed.

**13.** Life Groups will be able to foster ongoing fellowship and ministry among their members. Pray also for the start-up of other small groups to encourage connectivity and create a healthy climate of disciple making and outreach.

**14.** An exceling in the grace of giving throughout 2021. This past year was encouraging as our core stepped up and maintained faithful stewardship. Pray this will continue and expand in 2021.

**15.** The establishment of all the needed repeater stations throughout Quebec so that Galcom's radio ministry will be able to reach the whole province with good Gospel preaching and Bible teaching. Pray the church in Quebec will grow as many are reached with the Gospel. Praise God for the almost \$50,000 given through West Highland—that's 10 repeater stations!

**16.** The church's administrative staff as they continue to assist our Pastors and Ministry Directors and assist the church in many practical ways.

**17.** The restoration of outreaches through which we have seen much fruit in recent years—Alpha, Mandarin translation, Adopt-A-School, weekly visitation of people new to West Highland, etc.

**18.** Ministries to seniors, women and men to build bridges between our church and surrounding communities and neighbourhoods.

**19.** The multiplying of prayer initiatives and meetings throughout the church. Pray this will happen during the 21 Days of Prayer and continue throughout the year—that God would give us a greater thirst to seek him and his hand of blessing upon our lives and church and city.

**20.** God's enabling to help us make every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace and that our fellowship and communion with each other will result in greater expressions of love and greater experiences of the joy of the Holy Spirit—to the glory of God!

**21.** The Ministry Team and Elders as this year they focus on Beyond 20/20—the development of a new vision and ministry plan for the coming years.



MAKING  
**THE WORD**  
FULLY KNOWN

West Highland is a member of  
the Fellowship of Evangelical  
Baptist Churches in Canada

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