



2008 General Conference

Prayer Guide

<i>Date</i>	<i>Scripture</i>	<i>GC Events</i>	<i>Prayer Focus</i>
Tuesday, April 22, 2008	Psalm 121:8 The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forever more.	Many delegates are traveling today, others will be arriving tomorrow. Pre-GC caucus meetings and preparations.	Safe travel, no travel problems--especially for the international delegates. There have been some snags in setting up hotel rooms and transportation so pray for God to work out all the logistical details.
Wednesday, April 23, 2008	Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with your whole heart.	The rest of the delegates will arrive today. A variety of pre-conference briefings will be held. Opening worship and plenary session to set rules/organization. Pray especially for new delegates and those who speak languages other than English as they learn to navigate the complicated process.	This Scripture is theme verse for GC. God does have a good plan for the UMC! To enter into those plans we must wholeheartedly seek HIS will. Pray for all of the delegates to seek God's will above all else. Cry out to God for revival in the UMC. May God's will be done in Fort Worth as it is in heaven.
Thursday, April 24, 2008	John 13:34 So now I'm giving you a new commandment. Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.	Bishop, Laity & Young people's address. Legislative Committees begin. (The 1500+ petitions and resolutions are divided between 13 committees. They debate these issues and send legislation to the whole body. Many of the petitions/resolutions are on divisive issues.)	Jesus said that the world would know we are Christians by our love. GC has not been known for love. Instead it has been known for bitter angry debate. Pray for all of the delegates to love one another with Christ's love. Pray for delegates to treat each other with gentleness and respect.
Friday, April 25, 2008	Ephesians 1:17 I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Glory, may give to you a Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation...	Nominations for University Senate and Judicial Council in the 9:20 am CDST session. Please bathe in prayer! Legislative Committees continue.	Delegates need the kind of wisdom God gave to Solomon. The issues are complicated and divisive. Pray for delegates to hear God's voice clearly. Pray for God's will to be done.
Saturday, April 26, 2008	Philippians 2:3-5 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or vain conceit...let this mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." (Read all of Philippians 2:1-11.)	Task force for study of the Episcopacy Legislative Committees continue.	The church should be different from the world. Unfortunately GC can devolve into the same kind of raw politics used by the world. Pray that delegates operate out of Christ-like humility and obedience to God's will instead of personal ambition and vain conceit.
Sunday, April 27, 2008	Isaiah 40:29-31 He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak...even youths grow tired...but 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 faint.	Legislative Committees continue.	In the past GC took Sunday as Sabbath. This time off has been eliminated due to cost. (The schedule change saved over \$1 million.) So delegates are going non stop from at least 7 am to 11 pm for 10 days. Pray for God to give them physical stamina and emotional strength.
Monday, April 28, 2008	Psalm 119:34 Give me wisdom that may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.	Conference shifts to Plenary (all together) sessions. Judicial Council elections in 9:20 am CDST session. Please bathe in prayer! (session). Note: Judicial Council is the UMCs supreme court. They end up hearing cases on the most controversial issues in our denomination. These elections will have a big impact on the future of the UMC.	Pray for men and women of great wisdom and integrity to be elected to serve on the Judicial Council. We need individuals who will rightly apply our church law and decide cases fairly and justly. The Judicial Council elections may be the most contentious vote of the year. Caucuses on both ends of the theological spectrum are heavily lobbying. So pray for God's peace to reign!

Tuesday, April 29, 2008	2 Corinthians 5:14-15 For Christ's love compels us because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and rose again.	Plenary Session Continues	In Plenary session the conference will debate and vote on the most controversial petitions and resolutions. Pray that all delegates and observers may die to self and live for Christ alone. Pray that nothing will be done or said except out of love for Christ.
Wednesday, April 30, 2008	Ephesians 3:16 I pray that from His glorious unlimited resources He will empower you with inner strength through His Spirit. (Read all of Ephesians 3:16-19)	Plenary Session Continues	Ask God to strengthen the delegates by the power of the Holy Spirit. Pray for delegates to know how wide, how long, how high and how deep is the love of Christ. Pray for God's will to be done in all legislation.
Thursday, May 01, 2008	Colossians 1:9-12 We...do not cease to pray for you and to ask that you be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding that you may have a walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work... May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience and joy, giving thanks to the Father...	Plenary Session Continues	As the delegates continue slogging through controversial issues and financial decisions pray that all that they do will be fully pleasing to God and that the decisions made at this General Conference will lead to fruitfulness in local churches.
Friday, May 02, 2008	Galatians 6:9 "So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up."	Plenary Session Continues Adjournment	The conference is almost over. Many delegates will be worn down by the hectic pace, lack of sleep and the emotional toll of disagreements. Pray against physical and emotional weariness.
Saturday, May 03, 2008	Mark 16:15 And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole of creation."	Delegates return to their homes all over the world.	Pray for safe travel and for delegates to have time for rest and refreshment when they arrive home. Ask God to use the UMC in a mighty way to make disciples for the transformation of the world.

For information about key issues and petitions that are coming to General Conference you can go to www.gc2008.umc.org this website will also post news about votes.