



January 2023

Dear Friends,

Thank you for lifting up the youth at Indiana United Methodist Children's Home in prayer. The Bible tells us about the power of prayer. Philippians 4:6 says, "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

*For privacy reasons, we have changed the names in each prayer...but God knows exactly who they are and what they need!*

*Heavenly Father:* As we begin another year, please bless the youth at Indiana United Methodist Children's Home. Let their lives be filled with Your kind spirit. Let them spread joy and positivity wherever they go. May peace and goodness follow in all their days ahead. Teach them to become more like You. Let them remember, You are in everything they see and do. Thank You for being our Protector and Savior. In Your Name we pray, *Amen*.

*Dear Lord:* We celebrate with Clair as she has been accepted to a four- year college. She has a new sense of hope for the future. Please surround Clair with good role models as she makes important decisions about her future. Thank You for Your infinite power over our lives, Lord. Your blessings and sacrifices help make our lives much more meaningful. *Amen*.

*Dear God:* Thank You, Lord, for showing our youth the importance of volunteering and serving the 'least of these'. Last month, several of our youth served meals to people in need. Thank You for giving them the will power and insight to help others that are hungry and in distress. Instill in them the importance of good stewardship for we know You will show them the way, Lord! In Your name we pray, *Amen*

*Almighty God:* We pray for Dawn as her family goes through sad times. She is very close to her aunt and two of her aunt's children recently passed away. Dawn worries about the well-being of her entire family as they grieve. We know that life has trials and tribulations, Lord, but we trust in You to give Dawn the courage to live each day knowing that there is life everlasting. In Your Name we pray, *Amen*.

*Heavenly Father:* We pray for our Family Teachers. They have a fulfilling job but some days are difficult. We pray for their strength as they help our youth heal from years of abuse. We also pray for the physical and mental health of our Family Teachers as they do the work You called them to do. Thank you for your daily presence, Lord. *Amen*.

DID YOU KNOW.....

Jan. 18-25 marks the [Week of Prayer for Christian Unity](#). This annual observance, sponsored jointly by the World Council of Churches and the Pontifical Council for Christian Unity since 1968, invites all Christians everywhere to remember one another in prayer and strengthen the bonds of love and mutual mission we share in Jesus Christ.

While the observance is commonly referred to as a Week of Prayer, it lasts eight full days. The number eight is important in the Christian understanding of salvation history. The resurrection of Jesus on Sunday marks that day as the "eighth day of creation" and the first of the new creation. Many baptismal pools and fonts have eight sides because in baptism we are buried with Christ in his death and raised with him to walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4). The eight days of prayer across all our churches reflects our confidence in our Risen Lord to make us one.

The theme of the observance for 2023 is "Do good; seek justice" (Isaiah 1:17).