

Perhimpunan Doa Methodist 2014
卫理公会全国祷告大会 2014
Methodist Prayer Convention 2014
மெதடிஸ்ட் ஜெப மாநாடு 2014
Gempuru Besai Besampi Methodist 2014

AUGUST – MONTH OF FASTING & PRAYER
PRAYER GUIDE

Prayer Preparations are required for The Prayer Convention to be truly meaningful. We appeal to all Methodist Family Members in all Annual Conferences all across Malaysia to Fast and Pray for 7 days from August 1st to 7th to make heart preparations for MPC 2014. Here is a Prayer Guide for your use.



Scripture quotations otherwise stated are from the New International Version 1984. Prepared by the MPC Prayer Team. For internal circulation only. A major reference material in the preparation of this prayer guide is *Prepare The Way for REVIVAL* by Ian Malins.

Prayer Resources may be obtained from www.methodistprayerconv.com and www.methodistchurch.org.my

Message from Bishop Ong Hwai Teik...

Let me now share what the Lord has laid on my heart as we, together in the Methodist Family began pursuing being “A Church after God’s Own Heart” since last year. [Many Methodist members, leaders, and intercessors resonated with this theme, as we felt the same conviction from the Holy Spirit]. In this context, I had felt the Spirit laying upon my own heart the following issues that came from four sets of words which I now share for the prayerful consideration, discernment and response of our Methodist Family:

- **“Encultured blockages”**- to sincerely and intentionally seek the Holy Spirit concerning things that grieve the heart of our Father that we no longer notice, because it has “become a part of us”/ our daily faith community culture. I was awakened to this recently when in the midst of our Task Force set up by the GCEC to look into ministry among our indigenous communities – that we need to conduct our meetings more in the language that our indigenous brethren can understand - which is not English!
- **“Communal identity as the Church in Malaysia”** – that the season is now here for the total Church in Malaysia to genuinely, authentically and demonstrably show our unity as the body of Christ in this land. We, in the Methodist Church in Malaysia, do this by having the will, sincerity and taking “do-able” steps to transcend ethnic, denominational, geographical, monetary divisions and differences etc – among God’s people in this land who are not like us.
- **“Suffering cleanses and authenticates”** – that trials, tribulations and persecutions will define us as true believers, followers and disciples of Christ. We are continuing to feel the escalation of the beginnings of birth pangs. These “labour pains” are inflicted upon us by those opposed to Christ and His Church in this land, but when responded to rightly, will herald the birth of a holy, authentic and powerful life of witness of the Church in Malaysia.
- **“Disentangle the eternal from the temporal”** – that the Church of God was conceived from eternity to be a cosmic witness “that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places.” [Eph 3:10]. Let us never put our ultimate hope in temporal powers, parties, personalities and politics. Instead, we are to be salt and light that actively engage the world, society and state, for God’s greater purpose and glory.

Let us come together at the **MPC 2014** to seek God further for the reality of the Methodist Church in Malaysia to become “A Church after God’s Own Heart”. Let us prepare ourselves, as we make it a priority to personally spend time with God “privately” each day in an intimate relationship with our Father.

May He through the Holy Spirit so grant His people called Methodists a desire to seek Him, and anointing us with “faith that move mountains”; faith that comes when like the Lord Jesus we offer to our Father the time to deepen our private and personal relationship with Him. Then we shall collectively and communally become the Lord’s “mountain movers” of our time and generation, no matter how huge the mountains appear to be in this land and the regions beyond.

PRAYER POINTS FOR THE MPC 2014

As we look forward to the MPC 2014, let us pray that by the gracious and powerful work of the Holy Spirit that...

1. Our Methodist Family will be increasingly set free from **“Encultured blockages”** especially in the area of prayer...from lack of spiritual appetite and zeal... from scepticism... misplaced priorities... discouragement and disappointment... that we will want to come together to seek God in this gathering.
2. Our Methodist Family, as we gather together, will receive a greater empowerment and a deeper desire to resolutely do our part to demonstrate unity with all other believers in this nation in actualising **“Communal identity as the Church in Malaysia”**.
3. Our Methodist Family will be willing, for the glory of our Father, to endure hardship, persecution and tribulation as **“Suffering cleanses and authenticates”** us as God’s cosmic witnesses in turbulent times in this nation.
4. Our Methodist Family will always know how to **“Disentangle the eternal from the temporal”**- and live in obedience to Ephesians 3:10 – in our individual as well as community life as God’s people called Methodists in Malaysia.



AN INTRODUCTION

What is MPC?

The Methodist Prayer Convention (“MPC”) is the platform to gather the total Methodist Family in Malaysia together to pray, as we humble ourselves to seek God’s face, reminding God’s people called Methodists – the necessity of prayer. The MPC takes place once every 4 years.

History of MPC

1st MPC 31/8 - 2/9/2007 @ Sunway Convention Centre, Selangor

Theme: “One in Christ through Prayer”

2nd MPC 29/4 – 1/5/2011 @ Sibu, Sarawak

Theme: “Spreading Scriptural Holiness, Transforming the Nation”

3rd MPC 2014

Theme: A Church after God’s Own Heart

29 – 30/8/2014 (Fri-Sat) @ Sunway Convention Centre, Petaling Jaya, Selangor

31/8/2014 (Sun) Combine Holy Communion Celebration Service @ Stadium Putra, Bukit Jalil

Why MPC III?

The church is facing unprecedented challenges in the life of our nation. While we are concerned with many issues and happenings, God is concerned with the condition of the church and He is calling the church to return to Him. *How can we be a Church after God’s Own Heart?* We need to humble ourselves in uniting our hearts & voices to seek God in prayer, and to corporately pursue Him with the entire Methodist Family in Malaysia. We seek the Lord to become the transformed people who know His heart, and will do His sovereign will for this generation in our land.

Theme of MPC III: A Church After God’s Own Heart

Plenary 1: The Person, Presence & Power of the Holy Spirit

Speaker : Rev. Dr. Stephen Seamands

Plenary 2: Ultimate, Absolute & Holy Discipleship in Daily Life, especially Market Place

Speaker : Rev. Dr. Joshua Ting

Plenary 3: Humbling Ourselves in Seeking God’s Face: Posture of Prayer

Speaker : Rev. Dr. Stephen Seamands

Workshop 1: Open Heaven Worship: Encounters of God in Worship

Speakers : (English) Rev. Dr. Stephen Seamands

(Chinese) Rev. Jerry Coleman

(Tamil) Rev. Jerry Coleman

(BM) Ps. Simon Petrus Markus

Workshop 2: Praying and Relating to All our Malaysian Neighbours

Speakers : (English) Mr. Eugene Yapp

(Chinese) Rev. Dr. Joshua Ting

(Tamil) Mr. Tan Kong Beng

(BM) Ps. Alfred Tais

Celebration Service Speaker: Rev. Dr. Stephen Seamands

METHODIST PRAYER CONVENTION 2014

A GUIDE TO FASTING

WHAT IS FASTING?

Generally, it means abstaining from drink and/food for a period undertaken in a spiritual context often for specific reasons. This could be practiced individually or corporately.

WHAT IS TRUE FASTING?

It's about opening ourselves to God's work & purposes. It expresses humility, repentance, self-discipline, and absolute dependence on God. It involves giving ourselves, prayer, intercessions and seeking guidance from God. Isa. 58:5-12; Mt. 6:16-18 are helpful for us to understand what God regards as true fasting.

WHAT IS THE GOAL OF FASTING?

To repent from our sins, turn from our wicked ways, and with sensitised spiritual senses seek His face so that our communion with God will be deepened, and the Lord's will be done.

WHAT MAKES FOR EFFECTIVE & MEANINGFUL FASTING?

- The attitude & focus of our heart will determine the degree of breakthrough & desired outcomes experienced.
- Hence, we need to sincerely examine our hearts, submit and (re)align our heart & mind with God's, allow Him to work in us without reserve, so that His will become our will.
- Only then are we free to offer genuine prayers for His Kingdom to come and His will to be done on earth - in our lives, our families, our churches and every arena of society.
- True fasting would be evidenced by fruits of change in our habits & lifestyle, which will demonstrate kingdom values and principles in words and deeds that glorify God as Lord in our daily lives.

TYPES OF FAST

Do feel free to undertake the type of fast as God leads you:

- Total Fast: Partaking only of water and liquids, abstaining from solid food
- One Meal Fast: Sacrificing one meal a day
- Daniel Fast: Abstaining from meat, eating only fruits and vegetables
Note: Abstention from "distractions & addictions" such as the television, newspapers, computer games, movies, the Internet/Facebook is strongly encouraged during fasting.

INCLUDE OTHERS IN YOUR FAST

- Family Fast: To build family altars, agree to fast and pray as a family. Decide on the type of fast that family members are comfortable with. For Family Devotion Time: gather to read the Word and pray according to the prayer theme/focus/purpose.
- Cell Group Fast: Fast together as a group by agreeing on a specific fast. You may schedule a specific time each day for cell members to synchronize prayers as they fast.
- Church Fast: Encourage members in your church to fast together on a specific day/week.
- Mobile/Skype Fast: Commit to pray with someone by keeping a daily prayer appointment by phone. Agree on a specific time and call each other up to pray.

References: H.A.G. Belben. "Fasting" in New Bible Dictionary

Ryken, Leland ; Wilhoit, Jim ; Longman, Tremper. Dictionary of Biblical Imagery.

NECF 40-day Fast and Pray for the nation 2013

A Wake-Up Call

Scripture Text: Daniel 6, Esther 4:13-16

In the days of John Wesley, corruption, darkness and depression was over the land of England. But the LORD used his servant and the people called Methodist to turn England around and also evangelise much of America. Today, in Malaysia, things seem not to be moving for the better. In fact, our circumstances may be very similar to Daniel 6 where political opponents used the law to suppress what was originally not unlawful and not harmful (Daniel, though an exile, was totally loyal. He was contributing to the good of the Persian Empire, worshipping his God, praying to his God three times a day and that was made his crime!) This small group of accusers did not have the wellbeing of the empire nor of the people in mind. They just did it for their own political advancement, with cheating and misrepresentation to King Darius, manipulating the law to achieve their selfish goals. But Daniel’s devotion to the LORD, his *consistent & persistent worship & prayer*, his *excellent works and flawless service* to the foreign king, the people and the empire; was used by the LORD Himself to ultimately exalt His own name in all the land!

Historically, the LORD has used the Methodist Church in the nation building of Malaysia. The Church has made significant contributions in the areas of education, social welfare, development of cities (e.g. Sibü & Sitiawan), etc. There is a role played by the Methodist Church defined by the LORD as part of the Church in Malaysia. You and I are blessed to be members of the Methodist Family. Every one of us counts (1 Cor 12:12-27). Will we accept our calling and positioning by the Head in His Body and come into full function? As Mordecai spoke to Esther, “and who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?” May the Holy Spirit help each and every one of us to give the same response as Esther, “Go, gather... and hold a fast... Then I will go... and if I perish, I perish.” (Esther 4:13-16)

Prayer Guide:

1. Pray to the LORD to help me see the big picture: Malaysia, the Malaysian Church, the Methodist Church, my local church and me
2. Ask the LORD to show me my role and my function specifically
3. Ask for grace and help from to Holy Spirit to do my part
4. Ask the LORD to help the Methodist Church to play our part in our nation – as a Church after God’s own Heart

God's Way is NOT men's way

Scripture Text: Isaiah 55: 8-9, 2 Chronicles 7:13-15

We are all familiar with the passage from 2 Chronicles chapter 7, but do we really follow and obey, believing that it will happen?

¹³When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command the locust to devour the land, or send pestilence among my people, ¹⁴if my people who are called by my name

(a) humble themselves,

(b) and pray

(c) and seek my face

(d) and turn from their wicked ways,

then I (God)

(a) will hear from heaven

(b) and will forgive their sin

(c) and heal their land

(2 Chronicles 7: 13-14)

The condition of the nation is deteriorating; even physical conditions are not conducive and another MAS jetliner tragedy took place! Who can make a difference? The legislative, judiciary or executive? The government, economists or socialists? Or is it the people called by God? The LORD called us, we are His people, we are the people called Methodists. Will I take responsibility for the healing of my nation? The formula is that if we would do four things, the LORD will do three things in the healing of our land.

Prayer Guide:

1. Pray for the Holy Spirit's conviction that I knowing that I am a citizen of Malaysia, called by God's name, my obedience to God's Word actually determines the future of my nation.
2. Ask the Holy Spirit to open my eyes to see God's solution to the distresses.
3. Pray that corporately the church will see this and start to function as the people called by His name.
4. Pray for genuine repentance & prayer & intercession to arise, following 2 Chron 7:14.

Dealing with Pride

Scripture Text: Isaiah 66:1-2, 1 Peter 5: 5-6

Pride is the main obstacle to revival. We often think that we can manage and do things our own way. We do not seek God’s Will nor depend on His Holy Spirit.

How can we humble ourselves?

- (a) 2 Chron 7:14 we humble ourselves by praying and seeking God’s face.
- (b) Psalms 51:16-17 we humble ourselves by coming before God with a contrite heart
- (c) James 5:16 we humble ourselves by confessing our faults to one another
- (d) Matt 6:14-15 we humble ourselves by being willing to forgive
- (e) John13:3-5 we humble ourselves by serving one another

The answer to pride is brokenness. May we realize that all things come from God and we are undeserving of all that God has done for us. Yet, He loved us and chose to use us. There is nothing for us to brag about.

Prayer Guide:

1. Ask the Holy Spirit to search your heart and reveal areas in which you are proud and run on auto-pilot mode instead of always asking the Holy Spirit’s help.
2. Ask the Father to fill you with His Holy Spirit and that the Holy Spirit will give you the mind of Christ. Humbly confess your needs/weaknesses to the LORD and ask the LORD to change your heart and to create in you a pure heart after Him.
3. Ask for forgiveness on behalf of the church, if we are operating in our own way.
4. Ask the Holy Spirit to help lead the church – pastors, leaders, members to honour one another, humbly serving one another, humbly following the way of the LORD, doing the 5 things above.

Dependence & Desperation for His Presence

Scripture Text: Psalms 84:1-2,10; Jeremiah 29:12-14a

2 Chron 7:14 If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and *pray* and *seek my face*... Prayer shows our dependence on God. But only prayers in accordance to God’s Will are answered. James 4:2b-3, Mark 14:36. We need to learn to get close to God’s Heart and download from Him and then pray in accordance to His Heart and surely, His will shall be done on earth– this calls for **listening prayers**.

Do we have a desperation that we want to see His face? Put it another way, do we long to be in His presence (Ps 27:4, 84:1-2, 10)? Intimacy, being close to His Heart, knowing His Will; loving what He loves (righteousness, justice, mercy), hating what He hates (injustice, corruption & oppression); hungering for His presence is one of the keys to revival – where the manifest presence of the LORD becomes a reality!

“A passion for God’s presence begins in the place of prayer.” Ian Malins, *Prepare The Way for Revival*. Let there be Passionate Praying, Persistent Praying, Persuasive Praying (taking God’s promises and praying them back to Him) and Penitent Praying (deep sorrow over sin). Individual or corporate or inter-denominational, let us pray until 2 Chron 7:14 takes place in our nation, where God comes to heal our land and dwell in our midst!

Prayer Points:

1. Pray for the Holy Spirit’s conviction, if we are on auto-pilot mode doing things our own way. If we are doing this, let us ask for forgiveness from the Lord, repent and return to a life style of dependence on Him.
2. Ask for the Spirit of the fear of the Lord to fill us that we will tremble at His Word and be convicted to pay the price to let God have His way
3. Pray for the Spirit of Intercession to awaken us to the great need to get down on our knees to pray
4. Pray for the above at church level

Corporate & Identificational Repentance

Scripture Text: 1 Peter 4:17, Ezekiel 22:29-31

Some sins are individual, but others are corporate. Corporate sins require corporate repentance. As a Church, the people called by God’s name, are we the ones who stand in the way so that God’s blessings have not come upon our land and transformation of society is yet to take place?

Three main areas to examine ourselves:

- (a) Have we fallen short in our relationship with Christ (as Head)?
- (b) Have we fallen short in our relationships within the Body (as members)?
- (c) Have we fallen short in our relationship with the world & nature?

When we meet corporately in small groups or prayer gatherings, let us pray prayers of confession: dead traditions, prayerlessness, disunity, lack of love & concern, apathy towards the lost... And ask the Holy Spirit to help us change our hearts and our behavior!

Many of us yearn for transformation & healing of our nation, **Identificational Repentance** also comes into play; that is the willingness to join yourself to a group of people and to be counted as one of them, to confess their sins as if they are yours (though you are not personally responsible for those sins) and ask for the Lord’s forgiveness. Daniel’s prayer in Dan 9: 4-19 is a good example of identificational repentance and it was effective.

Prayer Guide:

1. Take two pieces of paper, on one piece write down the characteristics of a church after God’s own heart, on another write down the condition of your church/the church in Malaysia. Look at the differences and start to repent before the LORD. Do this in a small group/prayer gathering or meet up with one or two other Christians.
2. Look at the happenings in our country, ask the Holy Spirit to fill you with love, and then identify with the shortcoming or blindness of other groups, repent on their behalf and ask for mercy from the LORD. It is good that you spend time to think about this and then meet up with other Christians for the confession & prayer.
3. On a personal level, confess to the LORD that you have not paid attention to the above and have been occupied mainly with your own things in the past.

God will Forgive & Heal

Scripture Text: 2 Chronicles 7: 13-15

¹³When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command the locust to devour the land, or send pestilence among my people, ¹⁴if my people who are called by my name

(a) humble themselves,

(b) and pray

(c) and seek my face

(d) and turn from their wicked ways,

then I (God)

(a) will hear from heaven

(b) and will forgive their sin

(c) and heal their land.

Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place.

It is the LORD's desire to hear our prayers and to forgive our sins and to heal our land. Nothing is too hard for HIM. Even a nation can be birthed in a day (Isaiah 66:8). This nation is the Son's inheritance (Psalms 2:8). HE is the Head of the Church and HE wants to take His rightful place (Eph 5:23). HE keeps knocking at the door of our hearts wanting to have intimacy with each and every one of us (Rev 3:20). But would we do it God's way and not our way? That we will keep humbling ourselves and depend on Him. Will we make time to pray to seek His face, to become a God Hunter? Will we keep repenting for ourselves, our church, our community and nation? We have heard of great testimonies of how God has transformed nations, how the very soil of the land was healed with vegetation that was supposed to grow in that land finally sprouting because of God's healing touch!. River and water was healed. How prisons were closed and people started living in such harmony that society was blessed! Wait a minute; did this not occur during John Wesley's days? Are we not the people called Methodist now having Malaysia as our parish? And has not Malaysia a mandate to prepare the way for the return of the KING of Glory? Look not elsewhere, *it is Time and it is You!* Your decision will make a difference. Come to MPC3 with expectation. Keep praying for MPC3 and prepare yourself and your church/fellowship with prayers.

No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived

What God has prepared for those who love Him (1 Corinthians 2:9)

His intent was that now, *through the church*, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms (Ephesians 3:10)

Prayer Guide:

1. Make a decision that you want to be counted for the glorious hope of seeing the Kingdom of God established right where you are. Ask for grace and help from the Holy Spirit that you are able to pay the price and to persevere until there's breakthrough.
2. Make a decision that you want to keep practicing 2 Chron 7:14, not only on your own but also with a committed group.
3. Express your faith to God that you truly believe that HE is a faithful God, a mighty God, a loving God, He is sure to perform His Word and promises!
4. Declare the changes that you long to see at personal, corporate/church level and at community or national level. Give thanks to God!



3 DAYS “FAST & PRAY” MATERIALS FOR VARIOUS ANNUAL CONFERENCES

<i>Date</i>	<i>Fast And Pray Schedule</i>
1 Aug 08-10 (Fri-Sun)	Sengoi Mission Conference (PMSM) churches
2 Aug 11-13 (Mon-Wed)	Sarawak Iban Annual Conference (SIAC) churches
3 Aug 14-16 (Thr-Sat)	Chinese Annual Conference (CAC) churches
4 Aug 17-19 (Sun-Tue)	Sabah Provisional Annual Conference (SPAC) churches
5 Aug 20-22 (Wed-Fri)	Trinity Annual Conference (TRAC) churches
6 Aug 23-25 (Sat-Mon)	Sarawak Chinese Annual Conference (SCAC) churches
7 Aug 26-28 (Tue-Thr)	Tamil Annual Conference (TAC) churches

Contacts

1. Chinese Annual Conference 华人年议会
<http://www.methodist.org.my/>
2. Tamil Annual Conference
<http://tacmethodist.org/>
3. Trinity Annual Conference
<http://www.trac.org.my/>
4. Sarawak Chinese Annual Conference 砂拉越华人年议会
<http://www.sarawakmethodist.org/>
5. Sarawak Iban Annual Conference
<http://www.sarawakibanmethodist.org/>
6. Sabah Provisional Annual Conference 沙巴临时年议会
<http://www.sabahmethodist.org/>
7. Persidangan Misi Sengoi (Sengoi Mission Conference)
<http://www.cornerstone.com.my/methodistchurch/index.cfm?&menuid=30>

Day 1

MPC3 – A Springboard for Revival

Scripture Text: 2 Chronicles 34: 14-33

When we pray to God what is it that we really want? We want the manifest presence of God to be a reality among us. We want God's glory to cover our nation as the water covers the sea. We want God to rule and reign – righteousness, justice, mercy & love, harmony and prosperity and everyone living in equality (Satu Malaysia). We need a Revival in our Land! Revival will only come when we follow God's order and God's way. We believe that it is in the kairos timing of Father God that He has led us to have MPC3 in 2014. In the light of what's taking place in the country, this is a trumpet call to wake up the Methodist Church in Malaysia so that we would repent and return to the LORD. It is a clarion call for us to fervently seek His face, know His way and be a Church after His Own Heart! All the prayer preparations are a journey, a process to prepare the way for the LORD to land in MPC3. Every step and every person counts. We expect His Presence to change us forever more! MPC3 will be a New Beginning for all of us....

We want Revival. God has some set principles. First of all: **Revival is Re-Bible.**

'I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; you have exalted your word above all your name.' Psalm 138:2 NRSV

But this is the one to whom I will look, to the humble and contrite in spirit, who trembles at my word. Isaiah 66:2b NRSV

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. Matthew 24:35

When we survey the Old Testament, we see that the public reading of the law of God played such an important role in the revival of His people, e.g. Ezra read the Law (Neh 8:1-12), Josiah heard the Law (2 Chron 34:14-33)... John Wesley called the Methodists, "the people of One Book". O, how we have fallen short...!

Prayer Guide:

1. Repent on behalf of our churches, for our carelessness towards His Word. We can be so busy with many things that we do not spend quality time studying His Word. Pray for pastors, leaders, church members and families.
2. Jesus said, "The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and they are life." (John 6:63b). Paul said in II Cor 3:6 'He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant – not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.' Pray for the ministry of the Word to be Spirit led and Spirit filled (John 14:26, 16:13).
3. Pray the Word of God, make declarations using the Word of God. Do it by FAITH, believing that God will see to the fulfillment of His Word and promises (Jer 1: 11-12). [*Heb 4:2 For indeed the good news came to us just as to them; but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened*]

Day 2

Building a Dwelling Place for the LORD

Scripture Text: John 17: 20-23

Revival is having the manifest presence of the LORD among us as a reality. How do we welcome the Presence of God to dwell among us and not just have His visitations at certain gatherings or occasions?

The answer is **Love & Unity**.

Imagine you have a good friend, to whose house you can always go to have meals and even to stay overnight. But this time when the door is opened, you smell explosives! Husband and wife seem to be fighting, there are tears in the children's eyes. Would you linger for dinner and then stay overnight? Or would you find the quickest way to create an excuse to leave the house?

This is us, Christians, the Church of Jesus Christ. We are divided along racial, language and cultural lines. We gather according to different denominations, churches or organizations; we are easily separated by different theological views and ministry practices. We also try to outdo each other saying we are the best in... Do we expect Father God to be comfortable dwelling among us (we will be fighting whose house He should stay in!)? It is only when we come to that place of loving one another as Christ has loved us (Joh13:34-35), honouring one another and esteeming the other as more important than ourselves (Phil 2:3-5) when we are dead to our own agenda and plans and ambitions and all of us only embrace God's Heart and God's Way, will HE find a dwelling place among us and manifest His presence. Then all in the land will be filled with awe and come running to HIM!

Prayer Guide:

1. Confess before God our disunity and inward looking mindset and various selfish acts. Ask for forgiveness on how we grieve our Father, Saviour (who is the Head of the Church) & The Holy Spirit.
2. Pray for conviction and help of the Holy Spirit for our repentance to result in change in behavior. Ask the Holy Spirit to show us specific actions that we should take now.
3. ACTION: whether it is within the diverse family members (different local churches, annual conferences) of the Methodist Church or with different churches that are in your area, seek to perform acts of reconciliation. E.g. making phone calls, going for tea, sending a warm email... do something today to demonstrate your willingness to strive for unity & love, to welcome the dwelling of the KING!

Revival, Transformation, Reformation

Scripture Text: 1 Peter 1:1-9

There is a song: “This is the day of the latter rain of promise, promise to bless all the people of the Lord...” When we read the Book of Acts and all that was taking place, we know that it was the Holy Spirit that Jesus asked the Father to send that made all the difference. So, is the presence of The Holy Spirit still in our lives? Why is the power of the Holy Spirit not manifesting through us to turn the world the right side up? Societies are deteriorating around us. There are roughly two billion Christians on the face of the earth today but why do the major problems of sin, poverty, and disease still plague the planet?¹

Revival occurs when God pours out deep conviction of sin, souls are swept into the Kingdom, miracles occur daily, and the power of the LORD saturates the hearts and souls of Christians. Transformation of that community or city or nation then takes place because lives are transformed. But reformation means an amendment or repair of what is corrupt, the institutionalization of God’s will on how we govern and how we do business; our education, media and entertainment, society & family structure following God’s ordained order and organization. If a nation is transformed without being reformed, it will soon fall back into its original state of decay².

Jesus came to establish His Father’s Kingdom on earth (Matt 1:17, 12:28). You and I are the means by which this is established (Gen 1:26-28). It is our prayer that MPC3 will be the channel that God will use to awaken each one of us to our God given-role for such a time as this. Let’s not be short sighted and be contented with just feeling the presence of the LORD in prayer or worship. We are heading towards Rev 11:15

“The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign forever and ever.”

Prayer Guide:

1. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you the mind of Christ. Lift your eyes away from yourself or your local church and look to what the LORD is doing. From the Garden of Eden to the New Jerusalem, HE seeks to tabernacle among men. And HE is advancing His Kingdom through the Church and you make up the Church. Open your heart to download His Heart. Be determined that you and your church together with other Christians and other Churches shall accomplish His Heart’s desires, that heaven shall take place on earth even here and now.

Be still and allow the Holy Spirit to communicate with you. **IMPORTANT:** Take a pen to write down what the LORD impresses upon you for further prayer and action.

2. Pray that MPC3 truly becomes a channel in God’s Hand to help the Methodist Church to understand His Heart, to embrace His Heart and to accomplish His Heart’s Desire here and now in our nation, wherever we are placed and in whatever ministry we are entrusted with.

¹The Reformation Manifesto by Cindy Jacobs

²-ditto-