

not consider how our consumption of resources and our careless disposal of “trash” impacts the beauty of God’s Creation. Consider your own practices – recycling, paper bags not plastic, reusing paper and cardboard. How are you helping the environment?

PRAYER: Dear God, help me to not be a consumer, but a conservator, who appreciates this planet. Amen.

ACTION: Buy products that use less packaging that becomes trash.

Saturday, July 12, 2025 (by Lisa Trigg)

Psalms 25:1-10 <https://tinyurl.com/yusnj8cm>

PONDER: The phrase “the paths of the Lord” stand out for me in this passage, and my thoughts are turning to the many hiking trails I have enjoyed. Some go around quarry pits and give a great view of the water and scrubby woods. Other paths lead through the mountains and are a challenge of endurance and courage. Another favorite path runs beside a stream and comes with its own symphony of water rushing, birds singing and fish splashing. These are paths that God has created for our enjoyment. Following a new path with an unknown destination can be both exciting and intimidating. Being a leader for those embarking on a new path is also where we can serve others. As you go through today, consider the many paths before you, and others, and how your presence impacts the world around you.

PRAYER: Dear God, show me the paths to harmony, justice and truth through your love. Amen.

ACTION: Create a path challenge to share with friends – maybe a scavenger hunt with clues. Be sure to include some images of angels.

Daily Prayer Meditations are a project of Gobin Memorial UMC, Beech Grove UMC, and Brick Chapel UMC in Greencastle, Indiana; Fillmore UMC in Fillmore, Indiana; Rosedale UMC in Rosedale, Indiana; and Grace UMC in Franklin, Indiana.



DAILY PRAYER MEDITATIONS

July 7 to July 12, 2025

Monday, July 7, 2025 (by Marilyn Culler)

Acts 19:21-27 <https://tinyurl.com/55wtfjkk>

PONDER: The goddess Artemis mentioned in this passage was local to Ephesus, and her temple there was considered one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Even though worship of this goddess brought notoriety and money to Ephesus, greed and idolatry could not outshine the word of Jesus being shared by Paul and the other apostles. The things of earth are temporal. It’s easy to get caught up in shiny objects we can see and covet, and forget the power of the One we cannot see but is with us always.

PRAYER: God my Source and my All, thank you for the light of Jesus that shines through the ages and the Holy Spirit that empowers me to keep going. Amen.

ACTION: “Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace.” (*Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus*, Helen H. Lemmel)

Tuesday, July 8, 2025 (by Ashlee Vitz)

Acts 19:28-41 <https://tinyurl.com/85y6up7w>

PONDER: When the crowd erupts in chaos and confusion, the authorities appeal to reason and order. This moment reminds us that fear often drives people to reject change. The gospel isn't a threat to peace—it's a threat to the false peace that masks inequality. Real peace involves truth. Our calling is to be calm voices of compassion, even in the uproar.

PRAYER: God of calm in the storm, when fear drives people to shout and resist, help us to be your peacemakers. Let us speak truth with clarity and love. Amen.

ACTION: When conflict arises today—big or small—pause before you respond. Choose a response rooted in peace and truth.

Wednesday, July 9, 2025 (by Marilyn Culler)

Luke 10:13-16 <https://tinyurl.com/ceaj693t>

PONDER: "Whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me," said Jesus. What does it mean for our lives to reject Jesus – and God? We're surrounded by a lot of systems: governments, work regulations, Christian denominations, family etiquette. The bigger questions for our lives is this: "Is it Christlike, or not?" Christ is with us always, and somethings that nudge, that sick feeling in the pit of our stomach, that uneasiness, is the Spirit telling us "No, this is not okay." When we say "no" to that which is not Christlike, we say "yes" to God. And that "yes" makes all the difference in our lives.

PRAYER: God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, thank you for accepting me as your project to bring love and hope and beauty to a world that sometimes runs away from you and sometimes runs toward you. Hear my prayer and use me to heal Your world. Amen.

ACTION: Say "yes" to Christ today – praise God, invite mercy, listen for instructions. You are not alone.

Thursday, July 10 (by Teddy Shuck)

James 2:14-26 <https://tinyurl.com/3f2hdf94>

PONDER: James raises a good point for us all to think about. Generally, we associate with people who are like us. People who enjoy the same things we do. I know I have very good friends who play the same music, read the same kind of books, respect what I might say even though they might not understand or believe it, but they respect my right to say it. I listen to them as well because I care. They also share my faith. They also serve to help me use my faith as God wants. Helping others physically as well as just thinking I should. They challenge me to put my love for others to work, not just talk about it. Smiling as a passerby is good, helping at a program at church with children. Visitation is also good and needed. Faith put in action is using my faith to act for something God points to do.

PRAYER: Lord, show me the right path; point out the road for me to follow. Psalm 25

ACTION: Lord, help me use this prayer. Allow me to use the Holy Spirit to breathe the breath of God into my prayers.

Friday, July 11, 2025 (by Lisa Trigg)

Psalm 84 <https://tinyurl.com/vcbrzfmh>

PONDER: Early mornings in summer time are one of the best times to experience and celebrate God's Creation, I think. The chirping birds start sounding off excitedly even before dawn breaks. In this Psalm celebrating Creation as the home of God, "the swallow has found herself a nest where she can lay her young beside your altars." Taking care of the Earth and the resources we have available is so important. I remember a television commercial when I was a child that showed a noble indigenous person standing in a lonely place watching trash accumulating in a dump. A slow tear trickled down the person's cheek. It seems people do