

# PRAYER WEEK 2024

Sunday, January 21, 2024



## Dear Members & Friends,

Each new year we seek a stronger grip on our use of prayer with our annual **Prayer Week** which begins with a sermon from God's Word. This year **Rev. Ben O'Toole** will preach to us from **Philippians 1:9-11** —

*"And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, [10] so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, [11] filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God."*



**Ben O'Toole** is Pastor of Windsor Baptist Church in Downingtown, PA, southwest of Philadelphia. He came

to Christ through the ministry of *Young Life* at age 17. He met his wife Rebecca in college and they now have five children — Ben Jr., Tim, Iain, Paige and Aggie. Before pastoral ministry at Windsor, Ben worked for the Navigators, and then attended seminary at Gordon-Conwell. He is also an instructor with the *Simeon Trust*, and led the workshop at CPCC in 2018, where he and Pastor Bissett met. They've since become friends and led a *Simeon Trust* workshop together in Indianapolis in early 2023.

Pastor O'Toole will also teach a special session of our **Adult Sunday School Class** on the topic of **Prayer** in the Fireside Room, taking time to answer your questions on prayer.

**Sunday night** Pastor Bissett will lead our annual **"Concert of Prayer"** at **6:00 PM** — reading Scriptures and then lead several brief "segments" or "movements" of prayer, orchestrated around various themes.

**Monday & Wednesday** we have evening prayer meetings. These will begin with a brief devotional message from God's Word, then our requests are shared, and conversational

praying begins. (*Note: praying aloud is our practice, but it is never required of anyone attending any meeting*).

May the Lord again open our eyes to the power, privilege and potential of prayer at CPCC throughout our **"Prayer Week 2024."**

Yours by divine mercy,

*Pastor Daniel Bissett*

## Prayer Week events:

- † Sunday, 6:00 PM — **Concert of Prayer** in the Fireside Room
- † Monday, 7:00 PM — **Pray** at the **Bissett's** (14 Par del Rio, C.P.)
- † Wednesday, **10:00 AM** — **Pray** at **CPCC**
- † Wednesday, 7:00 PM — **Pray** at **CPCC & Zoom** \*(the link will be distributed by email).
- † Saturday, **10:00 AM** our annual **"Prayer Breakfast / Brunch"** in the Fireside Room at CPCC

## Prayer Week History

### Preachers & Scriptures —

1996, Rev. David Bissett, John 14:13-14  
1997, Pastor Joel Rischel, Psalm 81:10  
1998, Rev. David Green, Psalm 123  
1999, Rev. Mark Janke  
2000, Rev. Cecil Siriwardene, Ps. 62:8  
2001, Rev. Ron Baines, Malachi 1:11  
2002, Dr. Don Kistler, Jude 20–21  
2003, Pastor Steve Graham  
2004, Rev. Dan Erickson, Isaiah 65:24  
2005, Rev. Mark Bell, Psalm 145:18  
2006, Rev. Tyrone Lynch, Ps 60:11–12  
2007, Rev. Robert E. Davis, Ps. 69:13  
2008, Rev. Sam Owen, Matthew 6:6  
2009, Rev. Jim Hale, James 1:17  
2010, Rev. David J. Bissett, Luke 10:2  
2011, Pastor Steve Graham, Isa. 56:7  
2012, Dr. Craig Troxel, Jeremiah 29:12  
2013, Rev. John VanMeerbeke, Rom 12:12  
2014, Rev. David J. Bissett, Ezek. 36:37  
2015, Rev. David J. Bissett, Psalm 63  
2016, Rev. Brent Nelson, Rev. 8:1-5  
2017, Pastor Ken Prater, John 12:27-28  
2018, Pastor Ed Reed, Acts 4:31  
2019, Dr. Andrew Smith, Eph. 3:14-21  
2020, Rev. Neal Patel, James 5:13-18  
2021, Rev. Matthew Mierski, Col. 4:2-6  
2022, Rev. Stephen Unthank, Luke 18:1-8  
2023, Rev. Dr. Drew Grumbles, Isaiah 64:7



*Prayer is a sincere, sensible, affectionate pouring out of the soul to God, through Christ, in the strength and assistance of the Spirit, for such things as God has promised. — John Bunyan*

*Prayer as it comes from the saint is weak and languid; but when the arrow of a saint's prayer is put into the bow of Christ's intercession it pierces the throne of grace.  
— Thomas Watson*

*Prayer is the sweat of the soul.  
— Martin Luther*

*Neglect of private prayer is the locust which devours the strength of the church.  
— Charles H. Spurgeon*

### A Prayer for the New Year

(From *THE VALLEY OF VISION*, 1975)

#### O LORD,

*Length of days does not profit me — except  
the days be passed in Thy presence,  
in thy service, to Thy glory.*

*Give me a grace that  
precedes, follows, guides, sustains,  
sanctifies, aids every hour, that I may not  
be one moment apart from Thee,*

*but may rely on Thy Spirit to supply every  
thought, speak in every word,  
direct every step, prosper every work,  
build up every mote of faith, and give me  
a desire to show forth Thy praise;  
testify Thy love, advance Thy kingdom.*

*I launch my boat on the unknown waters of  
this year, with Thee, O Father, as my  
harbor, Thee, O Son, at my helm,  
Thee O Holy Spirit, filling my sails.*

*Guide me to heaven with my loins girt, my  
lamp burning, my ear open to Thy calls,  
my heart full of love, my soul free.*

*Give me Thy grace to sanctify me,  
Thy comforts to cheer,  
Thy wisdom to teach,  
Thy right hand to guide,  
Thy counsel to instruct,  
Thy law to judge,  
Thy presence to stabilize.*

*May Thy fear be my awe,  
Thy triumphs my joy. Amen*



#### CLIFTON PARK COMMUNITY CHURCH

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### Colossians 4:2–6

*[2] Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. [3] At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— [4] that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.*

*[5] Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. [6] Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person. (ESV)*