



Praying Together for Laura Wilder Elementary

Our congregation is a community partner with Laura Wilder Elementary School, located directly northwest of our church at 2300 South Lyndale. Laura Wilder is the home attendance school for about 525 students, some living in our immediate neighborhood, and others bussed a distance to school.

This year, due to Covid-19 restrictions, we will have limited personal interaction with Laura Wilder students and staff (at least for the first quarter), but we will continue to support them with prayers, funds for school supplies, and other requests that may come to our attention after the school year begins.

One special way we are supporting Laura Wilder this year is by hosting a Prayer Walk around the school. The Walk will take place on Wednesday, August 26 at 7:00 p.m. and continue every Wednesday through the month of September. Here is some information you might find helpful.

WHAT IS A PRAYER WALK?

A prayer walk is a process of praying on location or near a specific place. Prayer walking is a form of intercessory prayer. By praying “on-site with insight,” we are asking the Holy Spirit to reveal to us ways in which we can best support our partner school. As you participate in a prayer walk, you invite the Spirit of God to accompany you, guiding your steps and thoughts to focus directly on the needs of others. You are opening yourself to see members of the Laura Wilder community with God’s eyes and heart.

Our prayer walk will roughly surround the school boundaries, 31st Street to the south, Lyndale to the west, Oak Street to the north, and Jefferson to the east. However, feel free to begin in the Asbury parking lot, just a block from the school. You can walk alone, with a partner, or with a group from Asbury (please wear a mask and practice physical distancing). Your prayers may directly address God regarding the specific challenges of Covid-19, but you should also be attentive, allowing God’s Spirit to help you see specific needs about which you should pray. As you complete your walk, discuss, or make notes of anything God’s Spirit revealed to you during your walk. If there are needs about which you believe the entire congregation should pray, please share them with the office.

IS A PRAYER WALK BIBLICAL?

While there is no specific place in scripture that mentions “prayer walking,” God’s people were often on the move. Consider the story in Luke 24 about how Jesus walked along with two “strangers” on the road to Emmaus. Other scriptures assure us that God will guide us always (Isaiah 58:11) and lead us in straight paths (Proverbs 4:11). Many other portions of scripture simply encourage us to pray at all times (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; 2 Thessalonians 1:11, and Philippians 4:6). Other scriptures encourage us to have transformed minds (Romans 12:2)—and we gain this transformed mindset in prayer.

PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS FOR LAURA WILDER

O Lord, open our eyes to your Presence; Open our minds to your Grace; Open our lips to share your Praises; Open our hearts to your Love; Open our lives to your Healing; And be found among us always. Amen.

With each step I take, may I be ever more aware of how you want me to live, love, and pray today. Amen.

God, our Mother and Father, we come to you as children. Be with us as we learn to see one another with new eyes, hear one another with new hearts, and treat one another in ways that reflect your love always. Amen.

Lord, every child comes into this world with the message that you do not despair of humankind. Help each person who enters this school to know that you, the God of second chances, never despairs of him or her. Amen.

There are times when even to live is an act of bravery. Help students, staff, families, and others to enter school this day with courage and confidence. Amen