GLOBAL PRAYER PARTNERSHIP FOR
WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT

31 PRAYERS
SPECIAL EDITION
WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH
Our Mission:
We are uniting together during Women’s History Month for 31 days of intercessory prayer to address the plight of vulnerable and exploited women around the world.

Our Goal:
As we begin this amazing journey, we invite our partners to join us in this powerful global initiative by inviting family, friends, and church members to help us amplify our impact by standing in the gap for Women’s Empowerment. Throughout the month of March, we will be privileged to share the hurts, the struggles, and the burdens of women we may never meet face-to-face, but together our petitions have the power to touch the very heart of God on behalf of our sisters. As you read the prayers written by the 31 contributors from our national and international family during your time of meditation, we hope that you will be inspired and provoked to action on behalf of those who are most vulnerable in our world.

This is what the Lord Almighty says, “Consider now! Call for the wailing women to come; send for the most skillful of them. Let them come quickly and wail over us.” (Jeremiah 9:17-18 NIV)

Our Network:
We are calling on our Lott Carey family to help us surpass our goal of 2,000 partners interceding for 31-Days Global Prayer. To register for this Global Movement visit: www.lottcarey.org/women-in-service.

To join us for our Conference Call Kick-off Celebration—Noon, Saturday March 1, 2014—register online or simply join the call by dialing 213-416-1560 (access code: 847092282).

By Rev. Dawn M. Sanders
Director of Missional Programs
Lott Carey, Washington, D.C.

Lott Carey Herald/March 2014
Greetings, Lott Carey Family: This is the second year that Lott Carey Women In Service Everywhere has declared a Month of Prayer in March, which is also Women’s History Month. Prayer is essential in the life of a Christian. Prayer helps us to grow in our relationship with God. Prayer sustains us, keeps us going, and gives us strength. There is power in prayer.

The Bible tells us, Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7 NIV)

Jesus prayed and taught his disciples how to pray: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. (Matthew 6:9-13 KJV)

These scriptures remind us that everyone should pray about everything. This month, international and intergenerational women will pray together. Women around the world will present their prayers and petitions to God every day for 31 consecutive days.

I heard one of the most beautiful sounds ever during a recent mission trip to Haiti—a group of women praying aloud at the same time. My faith tells me God heard every individual prayer. March 2014 will be a month of intentional, deliberate, and purposeful prayer with and for vulnerable and at-risk women.

I encourage you to enlist your family, friends, and congregations to pray with you during this month of planned prayer. I know that a powerful God will hear our prayers.

By Mrs. Debra G. Garner
President
Lott Carey Women In Service Everywhere

Women’s History Month calls special attention to the historic and contemporary contributions of women around the world. Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States observe Women’s History Month during March, when the Lott Carey network also urges women to lead their families and their churches in a month of prayer focused on women’s challenges—globally.

As women lead our homes and households of Christ in prayer, we can witness history being rewritten and the hand of God moving.

This edition of the Lott Carey Herald collects prayers offered by women from different generations and different geographies. While styles and perspectives differ, there are common themes for this edition. Women authored all the prayers in this special issue. Each understands the plight of poverty, exploitation, and oppression that women face around the world. And all believe that God hears our prayers and responds to our needs.

The 2014 Month of Prayer also includes and opportunity to give a special offering to support our ministries for women’s empowerment. This year, we invite you to make a special sacrifice by donating $31, $310 or $3,100 by March 31st. You can make your pledge online at www.LottCarey.org/women-in-service or use the attached envelope located inside this issue.

Your financial gifts will provide:
• Education scholarships for Liberian girls determined to combat childhood marriage with self-determination;
• Support for Ethiopian women who attend the university but are threatened by sexual violence and exploitation;
• Training for women preparing for ministry in South Africa and Zimbabwe; and
• Skills training for women in Jamaica so that they can find gainful employment to provide for their families.

Your monetary offerings will “put feet on our prayers.” As you pray the prayers of our sisters from around the world, I hope you will hear the voice of the Spirit and answer.

Let us pray,
David Emmanuel Goatley
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Lott Carey, Washington, D.C.

The Transforming and Healing Power of Prayer
‘Thy Will Be Done’ Places Our Burdens on the Master

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Share your special prayer for women in need of a blessing . . .

Facebook.com/groups/LottCarey
Twitter.com/LottCarey
YouTube.com/LottCareyTV
Snail Mail: Lott Carey, 220 I Street, N.E., Suite 220, Washington, D.C. 20002
Bible Reading: Psalm 65

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for the women and children of Australia. We ask in the name of Jesus that you would touch the women and children of Australia and protect them from the violence of domestic abuse and pedophilia. Give them the strength and courage to speak out. We pray that women and children will no longer suffer at the hands of those that propagate these heinous crimes and those that seek to help in covering it up. Set a fence of protection around them and envelop them in your love and give them comfort.

We pray an urgent prayer Lord that you take the devastation of those who have been hurt and make a resilient, beautiful life from the ashes of their lives. Show the women that they are strong and that there is love around them. Show the children that they are spotless, unmarked, whole and blameless in your sight.

Let their spirit, body and soul be healed. Bring laughter, joy, hope, peace, and life back into their hearts. We offer a prayer of healing, a prayer for the dignity of our sisters who face:

• Domestic violence;
• Rape; and
• Child welfare.

Thank you Lord for watching over the women and children of Australia. Thank you Lord for their salvation, for their peace and their prosperity. This we pray in the mighty name of Jesus, Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Set aside time today to invite others to join us in 31 days of intercessory prayer.

By Tracy Wright
Sydney, Australia
Special Prayer: Human Trafficking

March 2

‘God, we seek your favor to rescue your people from this darkness and set them free’

Bible Reading: Isaiah 49:8-13

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, today we lift up women around the world who are forced into commercial sex trade against their will. Father, we petition you on their behalf, that you would guide them and protect them.

Lord, you have given us a history of hope. We seek your strength for liberating the afflicted ones and courage to confront, in love and mercy, those who profit from our sisters’ exploitation. God we seek your favor to rescue your people from this darkness and set them free.

Lord, we pray that you:
• Give us insight to build awareness of human trafficking to eradicate this modern-day slavery;
• Give us the needed influence with lawmakers to intensify laws and provide additional support sevices for survivors;
• Give us understanding of the need to prosecute offenders to the fullest extent of the law; and
• Give us wisdom to create safe havens for those who have been abused.

Holy Father, restore the mental, physical, financial and spiritual well-being of your daughters. Convict us of our apathy and protect them by the power of your name. Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Research human trafficking to learn how to become an advocate in eradicating this practice.

By Min. Brenda Troy
New Salem Missionary Baptist Church
Columbus, Ohio
Bible Reading: Psalm 91

Prayer: O God of all creation, we come to you today with thanksgiving in our hearts. Canada is the world's Garden of Eden. Most of us have shelter and sufficient food to eat. Most of us are loved, cherished and have the means of making a living. But there are some who seek refuge but do not find it. Today we remember those who find living here difficult through no fault of their own. Help us to remember that we are your hands on this planet. We ask you to help us deliver them from the fowler's snare and find a place for them under your wings.

Thank you Heavenly Father for the women of Canada. Guide them and keep them under your protection. Thank you Father for their salvation, their peace and prosperity in Jesus name.

Lord we pray for:
• The aboriginal men, women and children who have had a miserable history in Canadian society and seek a better way of life;
• New immigrants and refugees finding their way; and
• Those with mental illness who are homeless.

Thank you Lord for giving your angels charge over us to keep us in all our ways. Thank you Lord for protecting the women who live in danger everyday. Thank you Lord for answering when they call, keeping them from trouble, honoring them with long life, and showing them your salvation. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Ask the Lord to help you identify a way to help vulnerable women in your community.

By Prabha Ellis
Central United Church
Stratford, Ontario
Bible Reading: Romans 8:35-39

Prayer: Heavenly Father, we are calling on your name on behalf of the women of China. Father, we plead for your protection for women living in conditions that violate their human rights. Father, we ask that you would touch the heart of every woman of China with your love. Protect them and their unborn babies from brutality and crime.

Lord, the women of China stand in the need of a love that surpasses all understanding, that will bring healing to those who have been forced to exterminate the lives of female children—born and unborn. Father, you know the weight that the women carry daily. We cry out to you to lift their burdens, build up their spirits and give them courage.

Father God, your word tells us that all things are possible in your name. We ask in your name that the “One Child Policy” in China and the barbaric attacks on mothers come to an end. Touch the hearts of those in the government. Help them see the error of their ways. Help them turn from their wicked ways. Help them to seek life over death, love over pain, and forgiveness over hatred.

Today, we lift up the following concerns on behalf of the women of China:
• Forced Abortions—the One Child Policy;
• Female Suicide—the highest in the world;
• “Gendercide”—the elimination of females; and
• The silent suffering of mothers.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Research China’s One Child Policy so you can better understand how to pray for the families impacted.

By Missionary Marilyn Franklin
Macedonia Baptist Church
Waldorf, Maryland
Prayer: Almighty Father, We thank you for your Presence with every woman of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Lord, we ask that you would make your name known afresh in the places that have been called desolate, within the cities that have been called the “rape capital of the world” and to the many women and children who have experienced the devastation of violence, enslavement and division. Please quell the destructive lust for power and bring goodwill where there is war. Lord, cleanse and renew the prosperity of your peace. Restore righteousness to build up your people. Bring provision where the rich resources of the land have been mismanaged, leaving some of the poorest in the world vulnerable. Bless women everywhere with a vision of your righteousness and the living joy of your salvation.

Empower women of the Democratic Republic of Congo and women everywhere to intercede for your divine intervention. Empower women to advocate for their human rights and their honor as your precious daughters. Empower women to move in your passion for justice.

Lord, may the cries and tears of our sisters never be forgotten until the prayers of your people and promises of your Spirit are fulfilled in this place.

Today, we seek your powerful presence to:
• Remove the physical, sexual and emotional violence and enslavement against women and children;
• Break the power of government and local corruption; and
• Eliminate the lust for war.

Loving God, thank you for the testimonies of peace, restoration, and healing. We thank you for the protection of our sisters in Jesus’ name, Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Set aside time today to encourage someone in need.

By Rev. Robin Kay Monk
First Missionary Baptist Church-Moore Street
Fayetteville, North Carolina
Bible Reading: Psalm 20

Prayer: Dear God, please give the women in Ethiopia skilled and good doctors. Please keep the women safe when they are in trouble. We ask that they will be treated right and will be respected. We ask that you will change the minds of those who want to harm them. Thank you Lord for keeping the women safe and taking care of them. We pray that you will continue to take care of them. Please give the Ethiopian women the food they need to survive and be healthy. We pray that you would let them have the freedom and voice that they should have. When the women of Ethiopia have victory we will give you the praise and celebrate their victory.

We pray for health care, safety, legal freedom, dignity, respect, nutrition, survival skills and free speech for the women and girls in Ethiopia.

Thank you Lord for meeting every need and keeping the women of Ethiopia. Thank you for their peace and joy. Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Share a word of support with someone who is struggling to overcome a personal hardship.

By Salem Destiny Gaines
Age 10
Canaan Christian Church
Louisville, Kentucky
Bible Reading: Isaiah 9:1-7

Prayer: Father, we come to you on behalf of our sisters in Ghana. We ask that you will protect them from all hurt, harm and danger. We trust that you will strengthen this country that has suffered many disasters only you can heal. We pray that even as some situations appear futile, that every Ghanaian woman be reassured that you are a Wonderful Counselor, a Mighty God, an Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace, and you will reward those who seek thy face.

Today, we pray for:
- Women and girls in poverty;
- Lack of health care;
- Female genital mutilation;
- Gender-based violence; and
- HIV/AIDS.

Where there is weakness, give them strength; where there is doubt give them wisdom. Continue to direct their paths to gain a closer walk with you. In your mighty name, Jesus, we praise and thank you in advance. Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Set aside time today to share your testimony with someone who needs reassurance of God’s love.

By Min. Joan Cousins
Hosack Street Baptist Church
Columbus, Ohio

Lott Carey Herald/March 2014
Bible Reading: Micah 7:7-8

Prayer: Gracious Heavenly Father, we come giving thanks for your continuous grace, mercy, and unmerited love. We praise you for who you are—the Gift of Life through Salvation—and we praise you for who you are to us—Lord, Savior and Friend. Lord, we know you as a prayer-answering God, so we will look to you for our salvation; we lift up the concerns of our sisters in Grenada who are experiencing hardships, vulnerabilities and much despair.

Lord, we ask you to protect every woman from gender-based crimes. Bless our Grenadian sisters with employment, equal opportunity and improved wages so they can better support their families. We pray for access to better education, health care, housing and social equality. Lord, where there is hunger, feed them till they want no more. Lord, where there is darkness, let your Glory shine.

Emmanuel, remind our sisters of your promise—that you will never forsake them. Let the women of Grenada feel and experience your hope, love, peace and joy of living. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Today I will help someone feel better by listening to them and praying with them.

By Debra D. Prioleau
Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
Charlotte, North Carolina
Special Prayer: War and Famine
March 9

Bible Reading: Ezekiel 34:22-31

Prayer: God, who met Hagar and Ishmael in the wilderness, we approach you on behalf of women and girls impacted by war and famine. As Rachel wept for her children, we cry out to you on behalf of our sisters and daughters devastated by war and famine around the world. We pray that your soothing balm will heal the scars of spiritual, emotional and physical trauma and abuse.

We pray for those who live in fear of death, suffering and torture. We pray for divine protection from every evil attack. We claim your promise to protect them in the time of trouble and deliver them from those who rape, rob, and kill with impunity.

We pray for relief from malnutrition and hunger. We pray for access to food and clean water. God who sends rain in due season, send the latter rain of bounty and blessing to our sisters who suffer from hunger and malnutrition. Honor your word and do not forsake the righteous.

Today, we lift up these special concerns:
• War amputees, widows, abandoned and orphaned children
• Special protection for women and children through humanitarian laws, refugee laws, and human rights legislation;
• Rape as a weapon of war;
• Forced marriage, abduction and human trafficking; and
• Access to health care and life-saving medicine.

Open the ears of the faithful and raise up people of faith to hear the cries of the vulnerable and voiceless. Touch our hearts to share our resources to support them in their hour of desperate need. We pray this in the strong and powerful name of Jesus. Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Learn, invest, or advocate for an initiative that addresses the impact of war and famine on the livelihood of women.

Dr. Gina M. Stewart
Pastor
Christ Missionary Baptist Church
Memphis, Tennessee

Lott Carey Herald/March 2014
‘Provide victory when their backs are against the wall’

Bible Reading: Psalm 57

Prayer: Almighty God and Eternal Father, the Creator and Sustainer of this universe, we come to you in the matchless name of Jesus Christ our Risen Lord and Saviour, the one who sees, knows and understands all our struggles and trials.

Father we bring before your throne of grace the women of Guyana—women of every race, color, class and creed, we lift them up before you and ask that you break the chains of oppression, depression, gender-based violence, poverty, injustice, and every form of bondage, sin and sickness from the lives of our women.

We pray O God, that by your mighty power and through the blood of your son Jesus Christ, that you will restore hope in times of hopelessness, that you will provide your mercies and your richness in their times of need; that you provide strength in times of weakness, and victory when their backs are against the walls. Help them see that in Christ we are overcomers.

We pray for a special blessing to be released on the women in Guyana who are:
- Suffering from domestic violence;
- Single parents with meager income and starving children;
- Suffering from mental illness and various forms of ailments; and
- Homeless and without the support of families member.

Father, we ask that even in these difficult circumstances that they will know your love, mercy and pardon. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Set aside time today to thank a person the Lord used to help you through a difficult time in your life.

By Min. Candy Chance Grenado
Youth Minister,
Guyana Missionary Baptist Church,
Lott Carey
Calvary Baptist Church, Beterverwagting,
East Coast Demerara, Guyana

Lott Carey Herald/March 2014
March 11

HAITI

‘Father, the women of Haiti pledge their allegiance to you for you are the great High Priest’

Bible Reading: Revelation 7:13-17

Prayer: Dear most loving God, we bless you for the opportunity to serve you in Haiti. We also lift up those who do not follow You, but we know someday they will be drawn to you. Father, the women of Haiti pledge their allegiance to you for you are the great High Priest who entered into the holy of holies to make their lives what they are today and what they will be tomorrow. They are still dealing with unstable ways of living, but you are in control. You are the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. There is nothing that can slip pass your understanding and presence. Strengthen their hopes, Lord, and revive their shattered dreams.

Father, we ask you to help the women of Haiti deal with these issues:

• Illegal abortion;
• Gender-based violence; and
• Incest, rape, and illiteracy.

Thank you for blessing us. Thank you for helping us spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, and mentally. This we pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Identify a way to serve women/girls who are discouraged.

By Loulouse Alcimé-Macajoux
Agape Baptist Church
Limbé, Haiti
Prayer: Heavenly Father, we cry to you on behalf of the marginalized and vulnerable women and girls in India, in the villages, towns and tribal areas, where empowerment is still a distant dream. There exists a wide gap between the reality of the status of women in the country and the goals enunciated in the constitution, legislation and policies.

Women are still under-represented in governance and the decision-making process. We continue to be exploited economically, socially and sexually. Nutrition, health care, and education are withheld or provided grudgingly to daughters. Because girls are not valued, they are at risk of being aborted or killed soon after birth. We pray, O Lord, for justice and deliverance from the apathy our women struggle against every day. We pray for organizations like the National Commission for Women set up by the Government of India, that it be effective in speaking up for your beloved children.

Break the chains of hopelessness and fear that hold our women and girls back from fulfilling the purpose for which they have been created, according to Your Word. We know that India is precious in Your sight, Holy Father. We pray for a mighty moving of Your Spirit so that there is a transformation in the attitudes and conduct of our leaders and among people in all sections of society. We praise You O Lord, You have done mighty things for us and covered us under Your wings. All honor and glory be Yours forever. Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Research how you can support victims of gender-based violence.

By Esther Mani
Principal
Somerville School
Vasundhara Enclave
New Delhi, India
Prayer: Our God, our beginning and our fulfillment, the words of your ancient prophets reach us and encourage us to dream a world in which the nations are established in justice and people live far from oppression.

We acknowledge that our cultures and our social systems are yet too often deeply rooted in injustice on an interpersonal level and on economic and social structures.

Today, we pray that justice and freedom from oppression become a reality for women living in Italy.

We acknowledge Italy is still a dominant culture that perpetrates gender stereotypes that encourage and legitimize the control, the use, the abuse and the commodification of women’s bodies and of women’s lives.

Today, we pray for the women that in Italy are victims of sexual violence; domestic violence; feminicide at the hands of men that consider them their properties.

We acknowledge that in a time of profound economic crisis and the increase of unemployment, women in general, and immigrant women in particular, are the first to pay the price of exclusion and exploitation.

Today, we pray for the women that in Italy lose their jobs; receive lower salaries compared to their male counterparts; suffer racketeering and discriminatory treatments in the workplace; are denied their maternity rights and the possibility to be mothers and workers.

Our God, our beginning and our fulfillment, allow us as disciples of Jesus, women and men, to be examples of a renewed humanity that embodies your will in just and loving relationships. Sustain us with the power of your Spirit that we may actively cooperate for the coming true of your social prophecies. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Find a woman facing discrimination or oppression to befriend and support on a journey toward empowerment.
"We pray for mothers who struggle to make ends meet with little or no resources"
Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, we come before you as women of Kenya with thanksgiving in our hearts and gratitude for what you have done for us. Today, we humble ourselves before you knowing that you are our Lord and Savior, we know that without you we cannot make it, and we thank you for your faithfulness.

Eeh Jehovah kwanda (Oh Lord our Father), you know and understand the challenges and the struggles of our women, especially those who are oppressed and denied their rights, the poor in the society who struggle to make ends meet, the weak, the widows who look unto you for help and justice. Father remember them, bless them, guide them, may you fight for them, protect them, and help them succeed in life.

We pray for:
• Orphans and widows;
• Those with HIV/AIDS;
• The jobless and illiterate; and
• Victims of gender-based and domestic abuse.

Your word says that we are all equal before your eyes and we should love one another as sisters and brothers. Help them so they will know that you are involved in their struggles. Give Kenya’s women courage and the power to fight on. We honor you and we worship you for all this, trusting and believing it will be done in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Share a word of encouragement with someone in need today.

By Eunice Koech
Lott Carey Baptist Ministries of Kenya
Kericho, Kenya
Bible Reading: Psalm 147:1-3

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you for being the True and Living God who loves His people. We thank you for the lives of all women. We thank you for creating them for your purpose and for your glory. We ask you, in the name of Jesus, to touch the lives of women who are tormented from the viciousness of domestic and gender-based violence.

Your gentle touch, your tender voice, your compassionate heart is needed for every woman who is victimized. Send your Spirit to restore what has been lost. Heal those who are wounded and mend the brokenhearted.

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear the cries of our sisters and take away all fear, shame and despair. Bring hope to the hopeless, strength to the weak, and faith to the faithless. We ask for your protection and power to cover them. We ask for justice and peace. We ask, in the name of Jesus, that the wickedness of the enemy cease. Bring conviction to the oppressors and all those who bring destruction and do evil in your sight.

Today, we lift up women who are victims of:

• Incest and Rape;
• Physical Mutilation; and
• Illiteracy and Financial Distress.

We thank you for being a God who hears the cry of your people. We believe you are able to bring peace, restoration, and healing. Restore their minds and bodies and place them in safe places to dwell. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Identify a place of service to benefit victims of abuse.

By Rev. Amanda L. Haines
Baptist World Alliance Youth Department President
McKeesport, Pennsylvania
Bible Reading: Jeremiah 31:10-17

Prayer: Eternal Merciful God, you are a God of peace, love and unity. We thank you for the women of Liberia. We implore you to bring unity among Liberian women. Bring unity through the Holy Spirit and make us whole.

Thank you for sparing the lives of victims of rape, gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and abuse. Grant them a forgiving heart towards those who have trespassed against them. We pray for strength, wisdom and understanding among the women of Liberia to enable us to continue to stand up for what is right.

Thank you for President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. Protect and grant her understanding to continue to lead this nation in peace. Please continue to guide those who defend and promote our rights, as we grow in your love.

Lord, we lift up the following concerns:
- Teenage pregnancy;
- Rape, sexual exploitation and abuse;
- Girls education; and
- Gender-based violence.

In Kpelle, one of the Liberian tribes, we say, Yala se “ye neni-ga menima meaning, “thank God for women.” Please grant the women of Liberia health, blessings and happiness in all things great and small. Most of all, we pray for your loving care.

Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Encourage someone today seeking to return to school or thinking of dropping out.

By Muriel Craigwell
Education Major
Stella Maris Polytechnic
Brewerville, Liberia

Lott Carey Herald/March 2014

‘Please continue to guide those who defend and promote our rights, as we grow in your love’
Prayer: Our Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of life that you have given to each woman of this country. God of the Universe, we humbly come before you in the Mighty name of Jesus Christ to pray for healing and restoration of all women of Malawi who are victims of rape, incest, and domestic violence and arranged child marriages.

We call upon your name, O God of mercy, for we know that your grace is sufficient. Give ear to our cry and reach the very depths of pains and sorrows of these women. Heal their bodies and souls. Let them feel your love.

Dear Father, give them strength to endure, for you are the Lord who gives hope where hope is lost. Bring renewed spirit, put a shield of protection around them so that no harm and evil will come to them. Defeat the evildoers. Let them be defeated by their own devices.

Father, we also wish to thank you for our young Malawian sisters. Give them big dreams and show them that through you all things are possible. We pray for those who have the power to help protect the rights of these women. Let their tongues speak your words, Lord, and their feet move in the direction you command.

We pray for these issues:
• Protection from infectious disease;
• Living/working conditions;
• Child laborers and orphans; and
• Gender inequality.

Lord, you are King of Kings and we can do nothing without you. We’re seeking, knocking, and asking that your transforming power take hold. This we pray in the mighty name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Today, I will seek an opportunity to bless someone who is unemployed.

By Mrs. Aleney Mpata
African Baptist Assembly
Malawi
‘We ask that you help our women remain rooted in the Lord Jesus and in His Word as they fight evil’

Bible Reading: Psalm 68:18-20

Prayer: Dear Father, thank you for the women of Mozambique. Thank you for giving them encouragement to live under difficult circumstances in their homes as well as in their society. We ask you to protect them, give them wisdom to cater to their families and themselves.

We ask that you would break every chain that would hinder the progress of the women of our nation. Lord, empower advocates to stand in the gap to defend the defenseless, and break the chains of the oppressors. We ask that you help our women remain rooted in the Lord Jesus and in His Word as they fight evil. Deliver them, Oh Lord, from all their oppressors.

Today, we lift up the following concerns on behalf of the women of Mozambique:
• Severe domestic violence;
• Illiteracy, arranged marriages for girls too young to marry, lack of economic opportunities; and
• Rape.

Thank you Lord for watching over the women of Mozambique. Thank you for their salvation, for their peace, and their prosperity in the mighty name of Jesus, Amen!

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Today I will encourage a young woman to dream of a better life through faith in Christ.

By Celina Vicente Muriane Quembo
Women Union of Baptist Convention of Mozambique
Beira, Mozambique
Bible Reading: Matthew 9:35-36

Prayer: Heavenly Father, we thank you for the precious gift of salvation through your son, Jesus Christ. Thank you for the privilege to come boldly to the throne of grace. We confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed and ask your forgiveness. Have mercy upon us righteous Father and forgive our offenses.

Abba Father, we come in the name of Jesus on behalf of the plight of the harassed and helpless women in Niger. You said you would give rest to all who are weary and heavy burdened. We trust in your Word and know that you are the King of compassion and healed every kind of sickness and disease throughout Galilee.

Sovereign God, we pray that conditions will improve for the women and girls in Niger, especially those faced with maternal mortality, malnourished children, disease, and widespread abuse and discrimination. Lord, grant Niger women favor by easing their daily distress. Ease hardships caused by poverty, lack of education and limited training. Provide access to antibiotics, vaccines, and insecticidal nets to help alleviate communicable disease, pneumonia and malaria. Protect women and girls from emotional, physical and sexual abuses. Shelter girls from child marriages, end the injustice endured by many widows. Send workers and resources to Niger to make the harvest plentiful.

We thank you for your goodness and the wonderful works of your hands. Father, you are the Lord God Almighty, and we declare their healing in Jesus’ name, Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Set aside time to encourage someone who is grieving today.

By Antoinette W. Winslow
Salem Missionary Baptist Church
Brooklyn, New York

Lott Carey Herald/March 2014
Prayer: Eternal and everlasting Father, we worship and adore your holy name. We exalt you above kingdoms, thrones, and nations. We declare that your steadfast love never ceases and that your mercies are new every morning.

We lift in prayer the nation of Nigeria and her women, asking that the Holy Ghost spread your love in their hearts. Help them to realize that a wise woman builds her home.

Father, grant them the ability to take up child training and nurturing in a godly manner, knowing that their children are the leaders of tomorrow.

We come in the name of Jesus against demons of darkness that cause our children to destroy and kill themselves and bring grief to our women. Lord, help our women to make Godly decisions of wisdom and understanding.

Grant comfort, healing and provision to those suffering from HIV/AIDS, cancer, kidney diseases and other ailments. Lord, direct those who are needy to self-sufficiency for their own good and the benefit of their families and communities. Father, I know you will answer, so it is in the name of Jesus I pray, Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Today I will sacrifice_______________________ to bless a woman in need.

By Lillian Ebong
Lott Carey Baptist Churches Nigeria
Uyo Akwa Ibom, Nigeria
‘Comfort the languishing spirits of those women who have suffered great devastation’

**Bible Reading:** Isaiah 61:4-9

**Prayer:** Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for the women of the Philippines.

In view of your mercy, we pray that you comfort the languishing spirits of those women who have suffered great devastation, loss of their loved ones, and shelters caused by Typhoon Yolanda. Build them up. We ask that this calamity pave a way for the victims and for all the women of the Philippines suffering from sickness, poverty, and injustice. Help them seek your salvation through Jesus Christ, your Son, so that they will be known as your seed and worthy of your blessings.

**Today, we lift up the following concerns:**
- Spiritual regeneration through Jesus Christ;
- Rebuilding the lives of typhoon victims; and
- Wisdom of government leaders who need to address the medical, housing and food needs of those suffering.

Thank you, Lord, for being in control of everything. I claim victory in the name of Jesus for the salvation, deliverance, and favor upon the women of the Philippines.

Sa Dios ang himaya! (To God be the glory!)

**Personal Spiritual Challenge:** Identify an organization/group supporting victims of natural disaster where you can serve or support.

**Lott Carey Herald/March 2014**

By Raquel Loquias
Charity Baptist Church International Ministries
Davao City, Philippines
Bible Reading: Matthew 12:15-21

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, we come before your throne of grace, love and mercy praying for the millions of women and girls who are impacted by the devastation and stigma associated with HIV/AIDS. We stand in the gap for those who are vulnerable in their communities and villages. We ask boldly that you hear our petition for healing, for protection from sexual violence. We pray that nations will hear your voice and take a stand to help our sisters who are suffering and living with HIV/AIDS. We pray that medical facilities, personnel, housing, and effective drug regimens be available for those in need. We pray for anointed, strong advocates who will speak out. Father, we pray for justice and healing, for those who are brokenhearted, oppressed and alone. We pray for education about HIV/AIDS to be shared and understood in our communities and villages.

Today, we lift up the following concerns:

• Pregnant women and girls living with HIV/AIDS;
• The high incidence rate of HIV/AIDS globally; and
• The stigma attached to women and girls living with HIV/AIDS.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that one day there will be a cure and that you will continue to hear our prayer. We thank you in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Set aside time today to encourage a woman or girl experiencing a health challenge.

By Dr. Dale L. Johnson
Executive Director
The Helen Project International, Inc.
Esmont, Virginia

Lott Carey Herald/March 2014
Bible Reading: Jeremiah 30:17-22

Prayer: Our Father, Almighty God, Creator, Sustainer and Provider we give you glory, honor and praise. We come in gratitude for the many blessings you have already given us. Please be merciful to our Russian sisters burdened by discrimination, unequal pay because of their gender, harassment and other hardships. You are a God of justice, mercy and compassion. We ask for their safety as they go throughout their daily occupations.

We pray for the many widows whose husbands were addicted to alcohol and died as a result.

Our Father, help each woman to accept and know Jesus Christ as her personal Savior and to walk in a personal relationship with Him, for without you, we can do nothing.

We lift up the following concerns:

• Workplace discrimination against women, especially those of childbearing-age;
• Sexual harassment and rape;
• Economic hardships that drive women into prostitution; and
• The need for a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Father, bless your people in Russia. Heal these women. Give them not only wisdom, understanding, courage and strength help themselves, but help them to bear one another’s burdens. God, your love is everlasting and flows from the depths of eternity. Russia’s women shall be your people and you will be their God. This we pray in Jesus’ name, Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Share a gift of compassion with a woman who is jobless or on a fixed income.

By Mary L. Howerton
North New Hope Baptist Church
Danville, Virginia
Bible Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9

Prayer: Dear God, our prayer is that every person in our country encounter the Savior of this world in 2014. We pray that this year will be the greatest salvation year of all times. We pray that God will raise up women in our country and churches to be great leaders. We pray that God will use us to go out and spread the gospel of Christ, so that all will understand the word of God.

Lord, in these last days we pray that you will be with those who are suffering:
• Homeless women;
• Women sick with HIV/AIDS;
• Women addicted to drug and those in recovery; and
• Women experiencing abuse of every kind at the hands of those who are stronger.

We pray that in their suffering they will find You Lord. Open the eyes of the blind, deliver those in bondage and all who are in darkness. Set our sisters free, Lord, and give them the power to be strong and stay free. We pray, in Jesus’ name, that your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Identify a woman who is burdened and ask if she would like you to be her prayer partner.

By Naeesha Williams
Home of Hope/Enon Tabernacle Western Cape
Cape Town, South Africa
Prayer: Spirit of the Living God . . . fall fresh on me. Give us a renewed Spirit, a Spirit to know that it’s not about us, but about you, Lord. We pray for those who know you and those who seek to know you. We pray this day for the women of Somalia.

Bless them, Lord, as they labor under oppression.
Bless them, Lord, as they labor at the hands of indifference.
Bless them, Lord, as they labor against modern-day slavery.

Oh, Father, may we encourage all our sisters today. Help us to hold on to the hope we have as believers in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Help us to think of ways to encourage others to love and to do good deeds. May we encourage those who are serving You in their churches. May we encourage all our Christian friends to hope and trust in You.

Today, we lift up these concerns:
• Gender-based violence;
• Sex trafficking;
• Expanded education and vocational training; and
• Wars that ravage the people and country.

Thank you, Lord, for protecting those who live without a permanent place of safety. Rescue those in danger, who are destitute, and afflicted in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Set aside time to volunteer at a local homeless program in your area.

‘Rescue those in danger, who are destitute and afflicted’

By Ida Finney
Covenant United Church of Christ
South Holland, Illinois
Bible Reading: Isaiah 49:18-26

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, as we look around our world today we realize that there are some who suffer more than others. Today, we pray for our suffering sisters in Sudan.

We pray for their equality, respect and dignity. We pray that they would be given the opportunity to go to school, to work, and to own their own property. Father, we pray that they would no longer have to endure forced marriages. We pray for improved medical care, food and clean water.

Today, we lift up these concerns:
• Domestic violence;
• Forced marriages and marriage by abduction;
• Inadequate medical facilities; and
• Human Rights’ violations.

We stand with our Sudanese sisters today believing that you have heard our humble cry. There is nothing that is impossible with you Lord so we declare it done. We pray this prayer in the powerful name of Jesus. Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Research an issue facing women or girls that you can support.

By Pastor Earlene Coleman
Bethlehem Baptist Church
McKeesport, Pennsylvania

Lott Carey Herald/March 2014
Bible Reading: Psalm 72:12-14

Prayer: Gracious God, our Heavenly Father, we are in awe of how you spoke and the wonders of the world came into existence. We recognize that we are fearfully and wonderfully made in your image. We thank you for continuing to speak to us through the power of your Holy Spirit. We approach your throne of grace to intercede for the women of Turkey. We pray about the circumstances surrounding our sisters to diminish their existence. You have told us that everyone is precious in your sight.

Many of the women are living in poverty because of gender discrimination in education and the workplace. Illiteracy is prevalent among rural women. They are caught up in crimes committed within their family. Lord, send your Holy Spirit to lead, guide, protect, and direct their efforts to change.

Have mercy, O God, on those who may be in a position to block the human rights of these women. Give us the strength to continue believing in the power of prayer for the women of Turkey. Your Word declares that the poor, the needy, and the ones with no helper will have a Mighty Deliverer.

In the spirit of compassion, we lift up these concerns:
- Gender discrimination in education and the workplace;
- Domestic violence, forced marriages, and honor killings; and
- Inadequate representation in decision-making positions.

Lord, bless the government of Turkey, its economic structure, and its people. In the mighty name of Jesus, we pray this prayer of faith and count it done. Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Commit time to learn and pray about a specific international concern impacting women or girls.
Bible Reading: Matthew 5:1-12

Prayer: Holy Father, we come in the blessed name of Jesus to worship You for who You are; and to praise You for giving us access to Your throne of grace where we can obtain mercy in times of need. Our prayers rise to You for the women and girls of Uganda for their need is great.

Their families are fractured and they face oppression, extreme poverty, cruelty, forced child marriages, female genital mutilation, brutal domestic violence, inadequate health care, and brutal domestic violence. Some husbands force their wives to work the land and relinquish the money. Too many women are intimidated, bowed down, broken, and beaten by a dehumanizing social system that denies them basic human rights. We pray for their deliverance.

We pray that You will stretch out Your hand of mercy and grace, and execute justice for the oppressed, the tortured, and the abused women and girls in Uganda. Please Father, let Your Love abound toward them, and give them a bold faith in You and Your power to deliver them.

We pray that you will deliver them from the spirit of intimidation, and give them a faith that will not shrink when oppressed by every foe. Let Your Word walk among them. Let Your Spirit empower them. We thank you in advance, in the name of Jesus, our Lord, Savior, and Soon-coming King. Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Share a word of encouragement with someone who has been discouraged by past abuse or a hurtful circumstance.

By Dr. Minnie Washington
St. Timothy’s Christian Baptist Church
Baltimore, Maryland

‘Let Your Word walk among them; let Your Spirit empower them’
Bible Reading: Hebrews 13:3

Prayer: Our Father and our God, Creator of heaven and earth, thank you for the women of the United States of America. Thank you for caring about everything that concerns us—our families, our finances and our fears. Lord, help us to be more obedient to your word in every area of our life.

Help us to remember the women among us who face adversity, unemployment, and violence. Help us to comfort and encourage those who suffer daily, as if we ourselves are suffering. Help us, as women of faith, bear each other’s burdens.

Lord, help us be more faithful, diligent, generous, and spiritually strong. Forgive us for the times we did nothing when we could have helped a sister in need.

Today, we lift up the following concerns:
• Gender-based and domestic violence;
• Unemployment, healthcare and childcare;
• Homelessness and drug addiction; and
• Financial difficulties.

Thank you, Lord, for meeting our needs and working out every situation for your glory. We trust you as a faithful God. Thank you for your grace, mercy and everlasting love for us. This we pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Ask the Lord to give you an opportunity to help a woman in crisis in your community.

By Debra G. Garner
Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
Charlotte, North Carolina
President, Women In Service Everywhere (W.I.S.E.)
Lott Carey

Lott Carey Herald/March 2014
Bible Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Prayer: Father, in the mighty name of Jesus, we cry out to you on behalf of your daughters and the people of Zimbabwe. We declare this nation to be a place where your Spirit dwells. We lift up the matriarchs of this land and declare the time has come for their victory.

We lift up those who carry the daily burden of poverty, starvation, and abuse. We cry out on behalf of our sisters who are at the mercy of predators. For the women and girls who are lured out of Zimbabwe to South Africa, China, Egypt, and Zambia with phony job offers and scholarship promises that result in domestic servitude or commercial and sexual exploitation.

We pray for the women and children abducted from Malawi, Zambia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo who are transported through Zimbabwe for human trafficking. Lord, we pray that you would cut off the routes of slavery and bring freedom to every captive. We call on you as El Shaddai, God Almighty, to break the grip of this demonic enterprise and deliver our sisters from the pit of death.

Today, we pray for:
• Economic instability;
• Health disparities; and
• Marriage by abduction, kidnappings and human trafficking.

Lord, Zimbabwe is one of the poorest countries in Africa and in the world. We ask that you release the wealth of this nation and restore your people to their rightful place. Thank you Lord for breaking the stronghold of poverty. Thank you Lord for breaking the yoke of oppression. We declare victory for our sisters and liberation for every victim. In the all-sufficient name of Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

Personal Spiritual Challenge: Today, I commit to stand up for women’s empowerment by __________________________.

By Rev. Dawn M. Sanders
Metropolitan Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.
Director of Missional Programs, Lott Carey

‘We declare victory for our sisters and liberation for every victim’
Resources

**Trafficking**
Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking
http://bit.ly/1b9F2JF

*Best Practice Toolkit for Working with Domestic Violence Survivors with Criminal Histories*
http://bit.ly/1cZY1nq

*Against Violence & Abuse*
http://bit.ly/1aI18bq

**War/Famine**
http://bit.ly/1gjPO4

*Women and girls are key to food security*
http://bit.ly/1cMH22N

*Food Fights: Reconsidering Famine and War in the Horn of Africa*
http://bit.ly/1dNF2vP

*A Portal on Women, Peace and Security*

**Domestic Violence**
Global Protection Cluster: Gender-Based Violence
http://bit.ly/1F8AxA2

*Managing Gender-Based Violence Programs in Emergencies*
http://bit.ly/1bGnsdY

*Addressing Gender-Based Violence through USAID’s Health Programs: A Guide for Health Sector Program Officers*
http://bit.ly/1jsh6Ao

*Engaging Traditional Leaders in the Prevention of HIV and Gender-Based Violence Toolkit*
http://bit.ly/1bClgnmv

**HIV/AIDS**
Mobilizing Religious Communities to Respond to Gender-Based Violence and HIV: A Training Manual
http://bit.ly/1cMq2km

*A Call to Act: Engaging Religious Leaders and Communities in Addressing Gender-Based Violence and HIV*
http://bit.ly/19cKmW

*The Black Church & HIV*
http://bit.ly/1f5Wvhu

*Unifying Social Work and Faith-based Communities in Combating Stigma*
http://bit.ly/1gh9At

*HIV/AIDS Ministry Toolkit*
http://bit.ly/1cMLPRY

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**SPECIAL EDITION**

**WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH**

Lott Carey Herald/March 2014
HOW DOES LOTT CAREY SEE THE WORLD?

As a global community in need of God’s Transforming Love.
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27—29 March 2014
Columbia, South Carolina

60th Annual Youth Seminar
Service, Learning, Worship, Fellowship
20—26 June 2014

117th Annual Session
11—15 August 2014
Galt House Hotel
Louisville, Kentucky

Short-Term Mission to South Africa
Women In Service Everywhere
1—11 April 2014

Short-Term Mission to Jamaica
12—19 July 2014
Young Adult Emerging Leaders
and Bridge Builders