

PRAYERS FOR FEBRUARY

Diversity and Anti-Racism by Lynne Wenz

Dear God, thanks for teaching us that favoritism is a sin, and that we are all one in union with Jesus Christ. Lord, grant us recognition that racism still exists in order that we'll be able to help end it. Help us to know and to understand other races so that our hearts will accept them. We pray for a change of spirit in our families, churches, communities and the world to accept diversity. May this help lead to world peace.

Amen

For Costa Rica, Our Sister Synod

Loving God, we raise before you the needs of our sister synod, Costa Rica. Our brothers and sisters there are like long lost relatives we have never met. But this month, dear Lord, by your grace some of us will meet some of them face to face. Please bless our dear SWO President, Susie Lail, and our other sisters and brothers in Christ who are the delegation representing North Carolina Synod and traveling together to Costa Rica. Bless all those in Costa Rica whom they will meet. Make their meetings joyful and productive. May they greet one another in your name, and may they celebrate together the wonderful union that is ours in Christ Jesus. May they enjoy fellowship from which we all can learn how we can work together to better serve you and your church. May we learn how to celebrate both our unity and diversity, both wondrous gifts of your infinite love. In Jesus' name we pray, AMEN.

For Youth by Judy Keyes

Most Holy Lord God, when our children lose their way forgive us, the people to whom you have entrusted them, for not providing the guidance they need. Some wear clothing that sends the wrong message; they listen to music that promotes promiscuity, violence and the use of others for personal pleasure. Lord, open our eyes and help us to take and reclaim our responsibility to our youth. Only you can lead the way to change. Give us compassion, concern, care and love for others. May your light shine through us into the darkness of this world so that our youth can see the way to you and to a more wholesome view of themselves and others. In Christ's holy name we pray. Amen