# Prayers to print – January 2017

*Any of the following prayers can be copied and pasted into your bulletins, newsletters, e-mails, etc. to encourage members to pray for their synod’s ministry work.*

**January 1***WELS* – Lord God, as we look back at 2016, we thank you for guiding and blessing this church body. You have blessed Martin Luther College with the largest entry class in 12 years. You have given us growth in campus ministry and missions efforts. You granted success to the International Youth Rally, the effort to eliminate our synod’s debt, and the organizing of our historical archives. Bless our celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. May we continue in the Christ-centered focus encouraged by Martin Luther so that more people may be saved. Amen.

**January 8***Commission on Inter-Church Relations* – Lord Jesus Christ, you gave us the commission to “Go and make disciples of all nations.” How thankful we are to you for the opportunity to reach out to people in different countries all over Africa. People in Liberia, Kenya, Ethiopia, Sudan, and central Africa are all hearing the good news from Lutheran pastors. New partners in the ministry are being brought into biblical harmony with us. Thank you, Holy Spirit, for your work and these wonderful blessings. Amen.

**January 15***Our Shepherd, Cornville, Ariz.* – Lord, often you want us to struggle in order to bring out greater blessings. That is true whenever a new church is started. The 84 people who are members of Our Shepherd, Cornville, Ariz., ~~in the middle of the desert,~~ are finding that out. They have gathered out of a love for you. They have struggled to find a place to worship. They have left their comfort zone to knock of doors for your kingdom. Bless these efforts, dear Lord, and give them a zeal to continue to reach out so more souls are brought into your kingdom. Amen.

**January 22***Asia Lutheran Seminary* – Dear Lord, you have promised that your seed, the Word, will not return empty. We see evidence of that with the graduation of six men from Asia Lutheran Seminary in Hong Kong who are from locations other than Hong Kong. These graduates have either started or greatly aided nine congregations already. Now, give success to these new pastors as they reach out in difficult situations. May the whole world hear and heed your Word. Amen.

**January 29***Military Services* – Holy Spirit, only you can bring lasting peace to our world. Because of sin, we rely on our military as your vehicles to help keep order in this imperfect world. Give them your consolation and encouragement so that their families stay strong and firmly rooted in the Word and sacraments. Give us new ways to reach out to those wounded in body or soul. Amen.