



**NATIONAL PRAYER  
TEAM**

**(NPT) REPORT**

APRIL 2024

**IMAGINE**

PREPARED FOR THE 2024 FREE METHODIST CHURCH IN CANADA  
GENERAL CONFERENCE | APRIL 25-28 - TORONTO, ON

# National Prayer Team

Report to General Conference 2024

## Team:

Ken Roth (Lead), Bishop Cliff Fletcher, Ron Bartolo, Linda Dixon, Bernie McGale, Elizabeth Gunter (new member) and Andrew Dexter (just stepped down after serving for 7 years)

## NPT Mandate:

Equipping the FMCIC churches to become functioning houses of prayer. We believe a church is becoming a “house of prayer” when a significant number of God’s people pray privately and corporately seeking the kingdom of God in such an intimate way that the Lord’s Presence, unity, power and gifts operate effectively, leading to peace, divine healing, deliverance, wisdom, guidance, provision, and ultimately spiritual growth through conversion and ongoing sanctification.

## Encouraging Signs of Becoming a Functioning House of Prayer: **“If my people will humble themselves and pray...” (2 Chron. 7:14)**

Increased Participation in Corporate Prayer: National online prayer meetings continued monthly with an



average participation of 30 people. At the beginning of 2023 Bishop Cliff called for a week of prayer and fasting nationwide. A daily, online prayer time began then and has continued for over a year! It is now called “Prayer for Revival At Noon Eastern”(P4R) and has included over 120 participants, with an average of 20 people per day. We have also added a French-English bilingual meeting with a translator on the second Friday of each month.

*The Holy Spirit is present during these meetings and all who attend are greatly encouraged.*

Special Seasons and Emergencies for Prayer: We have worked with Bishop Cliff to initiate special seasons of prayer for our family of churches. These times and resources have drawn many individuals and churches to engage in more prayer. We also called for special prayer for forest fire emergencies 2 different years and believe we saw God answer our prayers.

Phone Survey of all our Pastors and Churches: Recently, our team has reached out to every lead pastor and/or church with a prayer survey. We learned that many are taking steps to grow their churches in prayer and engage in prayer with the FMCIC. We informed those who were not aware of the resources available and were able to pray with many of them for their current needs. They really appreciated the personal contact, encouragement/accountability, and prayer for and with them. *One pastor thanked the NPT for elevating the importance of prayer and keeping it in the forefront.*

Prayer Leading Up to and During General Conference: During our regular prayer meetings we have been pressing into God for the election of a bishop and for General Conference. During GC, with the help of our Ministry Center, we have enlisted every member of conference to be on a 15-minute prayer roster to pray for this important time. There are also 7 prayer stations set up in the Prayer Room to help us pray for the

# National Prayer Team

## Report to General Conference 2024

ministries and decisions of the FMCIC. Early morning prayer meetings during the conference were also arranged.

*We have heard of many faith-building testimonies from simple displays of God's kindness to miraculous healings. If we turn to Him, listen to His voice, and obey His teachings, we will continue to see Him move.*

### **Training and Resources: "Lord, teach us to pray..." (Lu.11:1)**

Intercessory Prayer Groups: We now have 4 Intercessory Prayer Groups that meet monthly to specifically pray for needs in the FMCIC. These groups also provide training for those who participate in them. We are seeing those with the gift of intercession are feeling valued and finding opportunities to build up the Body of Christ. Recently our Director of Church Health asked the intercessor groups to cover an important retreat he had with the Coaches and Network Leaders. *Those who participate in these groups and our P4R times report more consistent and satisfying devotional lives, improved relationships, and greater awareness of and connection to the FMCIC nationally.*

House of Prayer Cohorts: Two very practical training opportunities for our Prayer Point People were held over the past year. Twelve important topics around personal and corporate prayer were covered. *Those who participated in them said they have seen their churches deepen and expand the prayer initiatives in their churches as a result.*

Whatever You Ask: These video interviews share personal answers to prayer and are encouraging others. *They have been used as resources for sermons, Bible studies, small groups and discipleship classes.*

Monthly House of Prayer Updates, Webpage, Facebook Page: A monthly newsletter is distributed via email to the pastors, delegates, Prayer Point People and any interested pray-ers. It is designed to provide inspiration, resources, opportunities, and prayer points to help us grow together in prayer. *Prayer is how we can stay in one Spirit, lifting one another up in unity.* Both the FMCIC website and social media posts continue to highlight resources, upcoming events, and provide examples of how a person can become more connected in the prayer ministry of the FMCIC.

### **A Dream and Plans for the Future: "...Your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it'..." (Is.30:21)**

Without prayer, there will be no renewal. Our dream is that every pastor and church will grow in prayer, individually & corporately, regularly participating in these times of nationwide prayer until there is a great swell of prayer going up before the Lord prompting a fresh outpouring of His Spirit upon us. Just as it takes

# National Prayer Team

## Report to General Conference 2024

many hands to raise a barn, it takes many people agreeing together with the Holy Spirit to build the FMCIC into a house of prayer that will impact our communities, Canada, & all nations.

- Helping every pastor to develop his/her own prayer life and that of his/her church as part of FMCIC.
- Helping every church to have a Prayer Point Person & team to develop a strategy to grow in prayer.
- Increased participation in our corporate times of prayer that will create a culture of prayer among us.
- Equip our next generation as an important part of the FMCIC in becoming a house of prayer.
- That our leadership will encourage each of the groups they work with become saturated in prayer.
- That the FMCIC will be known for its strong prayer life and influence other churches accordingly.
- That we will have many testimonies of answers to prayer to share with others.

