

Compassion **MINISTRIES OFFERING**

BCMD

WEEK OF PRAYER GUIDE
September 13–20, 2026

**“WE WANT TO BE A
CONVENTION WHO
SEES AND CARES FOR
THE VULNERABLE AND
MARGINALIZED.”**

Every year, churches across the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware unite during this week to pray for the compassion ministries supported by the Compassion Ministries Offering (CMO) — and to consider how the Lord may lead them to give. This guide walks through eight days of prayer: one day for the whole vision, one for each of our five compassion ministry focus areas, one for the leaders who carry this work, and a closing day of response.

Use this guide individually, as a family, in a small group, or from the pulpit. Each day includes a short scripture passage, a brief reflection connecting it to a real need in our churches, and specific prayer points

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Each day stands on its own — read the scripture aloud, sit with the reflection for a moment, then pray through the points listed. If you’re leading this in a church service or small group, the reflection can double as a short devotional intro.

Scripture quotations in this guide are from the King James Version (public domain). If your church prints from the CSB, ESV, or NIV, please re-key these passages from your preferred translation before publishing — wording below should be verified against a pew Bible prior to print.



DAY 1 • SUNDAY — SEPTEMBER 13

A CONVENTION THAT SEES

He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Micah 6:8

Before we pray for any specific ministry this week, we start with the calling underneath all of them. God has never been ambiguous about what He asks of His people: justice, mercy, and humility. The Compassion Ministries Offering exists because 400+ churches across Maryland and Delaware have said yes to that calling — choosing to see the vulnerable and marginalized in their communities rather than look past them.

PRAY FOR...

- Thank God for the churches across MD/DE already doing this work quietly, without recognition.
- Ask God to open the eyes of every church in our convention to the needs right in front of them.
- Pray for unity across our 11 associations as we give toward this shared vision.
- Pray that this week of prayer would shape hearts, not just raise funds.

DAY 2 • MONDAY — SEPTEMBER 14

DISASTER RELIEF

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalms 46:1

Storms, floods, and disasters don't ask permission before they upend a community. BCM/D Ready exists to make sure our churches are ready to respond — to prepare before disaster strikes, connect with each other and with local authorities, and respond with practical help and the hope of the gospel when the moment comes.

PRAY FOR...

- Pray for BCM/D Ready volunteers being trained and certified this year.
- Pray for safety and endurance for every team that deploys to a disaster site.
- Pray that churches not yet involved in disaster relief would step forward to train.
- Pray for the families and communities in MD/DE currently recovering from a disaster or hardship.

DAY 3 • TUESDAY — SEPTEMBER 15

ABUSE PREVENTION

Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

Isaiah 1:17

Protecting the vulnerable starts long before a crisis — it starts with churches building the right safeguards, training, and pathways so that abuse has nowhere to hide. This is some of the least visible compassion ministry work we fund, and some of the most important.

PRAY FOR...

- Pray for wisdom for every church implementing abuse prevention policies and training.
- Pray for survivors of abuse in our churches — for healing, safety, and being believed.
- Pray for the leaders developing and teaching these prevention pathways across the convention.
- Ask God to make every BCM/D church a place where the vulnerable are safe.

DAY 4 • WEDNESDAY — SEPTEMBER 16

DISABILITY MINISTRY — EVERYONE BELONGS

And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.

1 Corinthians 12:26-27

A church that truly believes this passage doesn't just tolerate people with disabilities — it builds ministry around the conviction that everyone belongs. Camps, VBS training, and Disability Sunday all exist to help churches put this scripture into practice rather than just preach it.

PRAY FOR...

- Pray for the families served by Everyone Belongs Camp and similar ministries.
- Pray for churches preparing VBS and children's ministry training to be more inclusive.
- Pray for individuals with disabilities in our churches to feel fully seen and fully belonging.
- Pray for the volunteers and staff who lead this ministry with patience and joy.

DAY 5 • THURSDAY — SEPTEMBER 17

EVANGELISM

How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Romans 10:14-15

Compassion ministry and evangelism are not two separate things — caring for someone's body and sharing the hope of the gospel with them go hand in hand.

Across our associations, evangelism leaders gather regularly to be equipped and encouraged to keep sharing the gospel near and far.

PRAY FOR...

- Pray for boldness for every evangelism leader meeting across our 11 associations this year.
- Pray for open doors for the gospel in the communities our compassion ministries serve.
- Pray for the people in MD/DE who have never heard the gospel clearly presented.
- Pray that compassion ministry would always be paired with gospel proclamation, not separate from it.

DAY 6 • FRIDAY — SEPTEMBER 18

POVERTY ASSISTANCE

But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

1 John 3:17-18

Food ministries and poverty assistance grants exist because love that stays in the realm of words isn't the love the Bible describes. Churches across MD/DE run food pantries, meal programs, and other ministries to the marginalized — and the CMO helps fund and strengthen that work.

PRAY FOR...

- Pray for the churches running food ministries and pantries across MD/DE.
- Pray for provision for families in our communities facing food insecurity right now.
- Pray for wisdom in how poverty assistance grants are distributed and used.
- Pray that our giving would be matched by genuine, hands-on love for our neighbors.

DAY 7 • SATURDAY — SEPTEMBER 19

OUR PASTORS AND MINISTRY LEADERS

And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Galatians 6:9

Every ministry we've prayed for this week is carried by real people — pastors, ministry leaders, and volunteers who often serve the vulnerable on top of their already-full plates. Compassion ministry is exhausting work when it's done right, and the people doing it need our prayers as much as our churches need their leadership.

PRAY FOR...

- Pray for endurance and joy for pastors and leaders carrying compassion ministry in their churches.
- Pray against burnout, discouragement, and compassion fatigue.
- Pray for the BCM/D staff who coordinate and resource these five ministry areas.
- Pray for the raising up of new leaders and volunteers to share the load.

DAY 8 • SUNDAY — SEPTEMBER 20

A GENEROUS RESPONSE

But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

We close this week of prayer the way scripture closes the case for generosity — not with pressure, but with an invitation. Every dollar given through the Compassion Ministries Offering goes directly back into BCM/D churches to start, sustain, and strengthen the ministries we've prayed over this week.

PRAY FOR...

- Ask God how He is leading your household or church to give this year.
- Pray for a spirit of cheerful, willing generosity across the convention.
- Pray that CMO gifts this year would multiply into real, visible care for the vulnerable in MD/DE.
- Thank God in advance for what He will do through this offering.

HOW TO GIVE

Churches can give to the Compassion Ministries Offering at any time during the year. Gifts given during the Week of Prayer (September 13-20) are especially encouraged, but the need — and the opportunity to give — continues year-round.

For questions about the CMO or how funds are used, contact Tom Stolle at the BCM/D office.