

# SECOND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT LAY ORGANIZATION

## BRO. KENNETH WOODS, SEDLO CHAPLAIN



## CHAPLAIN'S PRAYER

### JANUARY 2026

Carol Davenport, Chaplain, Western North Carolina Conference

#### A Prayer for the 2026 New Year

God of wisdom and truth, as we stand at the threshold of this new year, we pause to reflect on all that has come before and all that lies ahead. In your goodness, You have guided us through a challenging year, and we are grateful for the help we received during times of illness, loss, confusion, and stress. We thank You for those who have compassionately served the needs of others.

Over the past year, we have experienced both joy and sorrow. There were moments when we felt safe and moments when we were challenged. Time seemed to fly by in some instances and linger in others. Through it all, we are reminded of Your constant presence. We remember that we are never alone and that nothing can separate us from Your love.

As we enter this new year, we ask for grace and courage to live faithfully in a world that is far from perfect. Help us to remember the promise of Your realm, unfolding around and within us. Grant us the strength to move forward with a faithful heart, despite the challenges that will test us and threaten to weaken our resolve.

We know that in our confusion, we may sometimes speak untruths or act in ways that bring us shame. Our judgments may falter, and our minds may err. In seeking light, we may find ourselves lost in darkness, mistaking our own understanding for Yours and facing the consequences of our decisions. Yet, even as we stumble and fall, we pray that our spirits remain free and open, so that You may redeem our moments according to our deepest needs.

Father God, grant us the quiet assurance of Your love and presence. Guide us so that we may journey through the coming year with a heart full of faith. We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus the Christ, the One we love and the One who loves us best.

Amen.