

January/February 2018 Prayer Points for the Kingwood, Humble, Atascocita Area

Beginning Our Third Year - Praying Together . . .

The 1 Church Initiative began in our area of Humble, Kingwood, Atascocita in January 2016. We were inspired by our friends in Whatcom County, Washington State, (Bellingham), where they have been praying together for ten years. They just completed a new video called The Whatcom Story 2.

You may want to watch this video as you prepare your heart to take your time of prayer this month. Here's a link to view it: <http://www.lowpc.org/whatcomstory/>

Jason Hubbard from Whatcom County shared a challenge God gave him in prayer. He felt God speak to him to, "Ask Me to tell you what I want you to ask Me, so I can answer what you ask Me." Does God want us to ask Him what to pray? To be effective, prayer requires listening. What is on God's heart? How can we align our hearts with His? What does He want us to "pray back" to Him? What might God do as we listen, asking Him what to pray in each of area of our community, and then praying in agreement, with Him and with His Word, every hour of every day. That's the goal of the 1 Church Initiative!

Praise Reports! God at Work!

- We prayed last time for Terry Wright, founder of Lifetime Pregnancy Care Center and a member of our Family Strategic Team. She was awaiting a potential heart transplant. Terry received a new heart and has continued to amaze the doctors with her speedy recovery.
- God continues sending teams from all over the country to help our community recover. Teams of college students are planning to come during their break in March. Praise God!
- We've been praying for Buddy the Prayer Bear, KSBJ's new prayer mascot to inspire children to make prayer a top priority. He's now become a reality and will be a part of KSBJ events across the city. Welcome Buddy!
- Our local business community was able to establish a Disaster Response Fund and distributed \$1.6 million dollars through our church network, assisting local families and businesses impacted by Harvey.



Prayer Points for our Strategic Teams / Spheres in our area:

Arts, Entertainment and Media:

- Pray that Buddy will inspire children to pray. Pray that we will understand the potential of children as full partners in God's mission. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." (Matthew 19:14)
- Prayer is better "caught" than "taught." Pray for the effective use of media in our area to help individuals and churches grow in prayer as they "see" it in action. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

Business and the Market Place:

About 2/3rd of the businesses flooded by Harvey have reopened or are planning to reopen soon.

- Pray for God to strengthen all of our local business leaders with perseverance, hope and favor.

- Pray for God to bring new businesses and employment opportunities to our community.
- Let's thank God for the businesses that stepped up, providing resources through local churches to meet the needs of many families and other businesses. But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ's triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere. (2 Corinthians 2:14)

Church:

- Jesus prayed for His Church to be One - with Him and with each other. As we begin this new year, let's ask God to help us to identify tangible steps to become the answer to Jesus' prayer. I in them and you in me - so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. (John 17:23)
- Pray for God to empower the Church in our area to grow in our passion to bring others to Christ. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

Healthcare:

- Because of the disruption of Harvey, local healthcare workers are caring for many patients under unusual stresses every day. Pray for God's strength, wisdom, hope and compassion to fill these workers so that they can share that same hope with those they serve. May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)
- Pray for God to raise up a strong Healthcare Strategic Team to identify prayer points for our local 1 Church Initiative. Pray for God to call and bring this team together. Ask the Lord of harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. (Matthew 9:38)

Education:

Families of students affected by Harvey have made progress but many don't have money to finish repairs on their homes. When gift cards and children's gifts were given to needy families at some of our local schools this Christmas, it was a very emotional time with lots of tears and thankful hearts.

- Pray that the local churches/school partnership would find new and creative ways to serve the families of students most impacted by Harvey. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in various forms. (1 Peter 4:10)
- Pray for the completion of our video project that "captures the story" of our local church/school partnership - so that others can "see" what is possible and be "inspired" to step up.

Family:

- In the wake of Harvey, many families have reached a critical point. Pray for God to restore husbands and wives in their commitment and love for one another. Love one another. (John 13:34)
- Pray for the Church in our area to find new ways to serve the many families who are still in a recovery stage in our community. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. (Ephesians 6:2)

Government:

Praying for leadership in our area:

- With the announced retirement of Congressman Ted Poe, pray for God's choice for our community. Pray for a representative with the commitment and skills to help rebuild our community and to develop effective plans to protect our area from future flooding.
- Pray for wisdom for the Mayor and City Council of Humble as they select a new City Manager. I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all

people - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

Missions - Local and Global:

The 1 Church Initiative has spread to more than 140 churches in 5 communities across Greater Houston.

- Pray for 20 new churches to join our local 1 Church Initiative "canopy of prayer."
- Pray for the 1 Church Initiative to spread to all 40+ communities across Greater Houston.
- Pray for the 1 Church Initiative to spread across Indonesia and other nations. For my house will be called *a house of prayer for all nations. (Isaiah 56:7)*