

FEB 25-26, 2023



Pray with Us!

Help us cover Church in the City weekend in prayer by incorporating this guide into your prayer time this week.

MONDAY: HOUSTON FOOD BANK AND KIDS' MEALS

In collaboration with a network of more than 1,600 community partners including pantries, schools, and multi-service centers the **Houston Food Bank** helps thousands of individuals each week through innovative programming and services. In 2022, the HFB provided 8.5 million meals to kids and teens through programs that address childhood hunger.

Kids' Meals works to end childhood hunger by delivering free, healthy meals, year-round, to the doorsteps of Houston's hungriest preschool-aged children. Additionally, they connect families to more than 50 vital community organizations and resources to help them break out of the poverty cycle.

Give us today our daily bread. -Matthew 6:11 NIV

Prayer Points:

- Houston Food Bank and Kids' Meals
- for those assembling meals
- for those delivering meals
- for those receiving meals
- CITC weekend Kids' Meals goal of 20,000 sandwiches
- for children who would not otherwise have nutritious food today
- for us to all have a heart for those who live in hunger

Pray: Father, we acknowledge that hunger is a very real problem in the world, in our country, and in Houston. We who have food do not take it for granted, but pray to be part of the solution for those who live in hunger. Please bless all at the Houston Food Bank and Kids' Meals who prepare meals for those who are hungry, as well as our MDPC participants on Saturday and Sunday. May we rise up to meet the needs of the hungry. Bless the gift of food and those who eat it.

TUESDAY: PARTNER PROJECTS

Supporting teachers, staff, and students at **partner schools**, the **Fuente Food Pantry**, and other street **outreach teams** serving the homeless and under-served.

But God will never forget the needy; the hope of the afflicted will never perish. -Psalm 9:18 NIV

Prayer Points:

- Partner Projects
- for new ways to assist the teachers and staff at our partner schools

- for our volunteers who mentor students as well as the students being mentored
- for those packing beans and rice for the Fuente Food Pantry
- for all who depend upon the food pantry
- for all who are homeless and have lost hope
- for the addicted, handicapped, sick, and poverty-stricken who live on Houston's streets

Pray: Lord, even the youngest of us can work toward helping the needy. Thank You for these planned projects that will feed hungry children and their families, support struggling parents, and offer a hand to those who do not have homes. These are Your people and You have called us to join You in bridging the gap that lies between us and the poor. Give us hearts that reach out in love.

WEDNESDAY: SANTA MARIA HOSTEL

Santa Maria Hostel is one of Texas' largest multi-site residential and outpatient substance use disorder treatment centers for women, and one of a very few to offer a full continuum of services for women who are pregnant or parenting. They partner with more than 130 organizations to provide a full spectrum of care and support to women in recovery.

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor... to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. -Isaiah 61:1, 3 NIV

Prayer Points:

- Santa Maria Hostel
- for those painting, cleaning, and beautifying the property
- for creating and beautifying safe spaces for rest and recovery
- for those leading and participating in arts and crafts projects
- for those cuddling babies
- for the residents to fight and win their battles with addiction
- for the care and treatment of moms who are there with their children

Pray: Father, You have granted that Santa Maria Hostel be a place of healing and hope. As MDPC volunteers beautify the campus and create safe spaces for rest and recovery, use these areas to encourage those who face what may seem insurmountable, that they will not live in discouragement, but know the hope that is renewed by Christ's love.

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THURSDAY: SPRINGSPIRIT

SpringSpirit provides safe pathways for under-served youth to realize life opportunities through sports, education, and mentoring programs based on Christian principles. Located in north Spring Branch, they offer a variety of recreational and competitive sport opportunities, reading intervention, and large and small group Bible teaching.

Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it. -Proverbs 22:6 NIV

Prayer Points:

- SpringSpirit
- for volunteers who are improving the playground, ball pit, and baseball fields, repairing paths and picking up trash
- for all who daily work there, teaching and supporting under-served youth
- for the Light of Christ to shine through to the youth who are participating in sports activities, reading intervention, and Bible studies

Pray: Father, we know the youth of our world are close to Your heart, for they are Your future Kingdom-builders. As our volunteers work to beautify and repair the campus, we pray that the transformation of lives will be a result of this work. We pray that the love of Christ will be shown without fail to the youth who need this special place of hope.

FRIDAY: CITY PRAYER WALK

Praying at City Center/Town & Country, Buffalo Bayou Park near Downtown Houston, and Memorial City Mall

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. -Romans 12:12 NIV

Prayer Points:

- for each area listed as a prayer site
- for a revival of truth and hope in the dark places of our city
- for peace and the eradication of trafficking and violence
- for all who live on the streets in these locations

Pray: Lord, we pray for our city. You have given us so much - we open our hands that You might use our abundance. Let us carry Your banner through Houston and around the world. Where there is need, show us how to meet it. Where there is hurt, show us the path to healing. Where there is despair, help us to boldly offer the only true hope - Your unending love. Our hearts cry out to You - Your Kingdom come; Your will be done!

SATURDAY: AT-HOME PROJECTS

Socks of Hope, Letters to Campers at Stoney Creek Ranch, Care Packages for College Students, Letters to Global Missionary Partners, Key Rings for Gracewood Welcome Home Kits

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. -Romans 15:5-6 NIV

Prayer Points:

- At-Home Projects
- for the volunteers completing these projects of love, that they might see ways to incorporate opportunities like these into their own lives
- for all those receiving Socks of Love
- for encouragement for the Stoney Creek Ranch campers
- for encouragement to college students from Boys and Girls Country
- for MDPC Global Missionary Partners and the good work they are doing in Your Name
- for the Gracewood Welcome Home Kit recipients

Pray: Today, Father, we pray for these volunteers who bring Your light to those needing encouragement. Through letters and care packages and practical gifts, let Your love reach through these projects. Thank You that, by Your grace, we can all take part in serving You by serving others. Jesus, be our loving guide.

SUNDAY: CHURCH IN THE CITY IS HERE!

This is the day which the Lord has made; Let's rejoice and be glad in it. -Psalm 118:24 NASB

Scripture Reading: When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

Ephesians 3:14-19 NLT