

Prayer is at the core of our lives as Christians who serve others – it’s an impactful way for us to love God and love others. In prayer, we find a spacious place for opening our hearts to our ever-listening, loving Father. Never doubt that He hears your prayers – He accepts them as a fragrant offering.

God has chosen you to pray at this very specific time – this is the important work He’s prepared in advance for you to do this very day. Know that you join others from MDPC who are participating in this Church in the City Sunday by taking these service projects before the Lord.

Jesus says, “Where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them” (Matt. 18:20). I believe He is in our presence as we gather our hearts together today in prayer.

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity homes are cost-effective, energy-efficient, and durable. The walls the volunteers are building will complete homes and the playhouses will support kids' healthy relational and cognitive development - "play is the work of a child," as it's said! Habitat items often go to families of active-duty military or veterans.

CITC Goal: build 2 walls and 3 playhouses

...but blessed is the one who is kind to the needy.
~ Prov. 14:21 NIV

Allow the Spirit to lead you in prayer for:

- **Habitat for Humanity** – their vision of homes for the needy; their process of choosing the recipients; meeting the need of volunteer hours to complete houses
- **Volunteers** – safety as they work; fellowship as they build together; showing the love of God to all volunteers working on the projects; chances to talk about spiritual things with those around them
- **Recipients** – that they will be good caretakers of their homes; that they will embrace opportunities to talk about how God is taking care of them now; that they will put their trust in God to take care of them in the future

For every house has a builder, but the one who built everything is God.
~ Heb. 3:4 NLT

Kids' Meals

Kids' Meals works to end childhood hunger by delivering free, healthy meals, year-round to the door-steps of Houston's hungriest preschool-aged children. In 2020, Kids' Meals averaged over 5,500 meals (sandwich, shelf-stable fruit item, water), delivered each day to Houston preschoolers living in poverty.

Goal: make 11,000 sandwiches

*He gives food to every living thing.
His faithful love endures forever.
~ Ps. 136:25 NIV*

Allow the Spirit to lead you in prayer for:

- **Kids' Meals** – their vision of feeding hungry preschool children; involvement of more churches and volunteers to help throughout the year; that they are able to meet the need of every hungry child
- **Volunteers** – that they will pray for the children as they work; for fellowship as they make sandwiches; for opportunities to speak with those around them about spiritual things; that they feel a partnership with God in this project; that they have interest in being further involved in Kids' Meals or other programs of feeding the hungry
- **Recipients** – that the children will know the love of God through the blessing of full stomachs; that God will provide ways for parents to feed their children; that these families will have opportunities to move out of poverty and help others to do the same

*The Lord lifts up those who are weighed down.
The Lord loves the godly.
~ Ps. 146:7 NLT*

The Outreach Project Meal Packing

Meals are distributed to several MDPC food pantry partners. These meals are long-lasting, shelf-stable, and fortified with vitamins, minerals, and protein.

Goal: pack 40,000 meals

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?...’ The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”

~ Matt. 25:37, 40 NIV

Allow the Spirit to lead you in prayer for:

- **Food Pantry Partners** – for their vision of food for the hungry and additional programs they offer; for sufficient donations; for volunteers to meet the needs of these communities throughout the year
- **Volunteers** – that they will pray for the families who will receive the food; that they will pack meals with the expectation of God doing great things through this work; for fellowship as they work together; for chances to have spiritual conversations with those around them; for interest in being involved further in MDPC’s food pantry opportunities
- **Recipients** – that their visits to the food pantry will be opportunities to be fed in body and spirit; that these families will have opportunities to move out of poverty; for opportunities to give back to their communities

*Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker,
but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.*

~ Prov. 14:31 NIV

Rebuilding Together Houston

RTH is the only local ministry working on non-disaster home repair/restoration for people with low or fixed income. MDPC volunteers will tackle the Rebuilding Together Houston project with plenty of paintbrushes in their arsenal to revitalize an East Houston home. This project will take 4 different teams working a shift each over two days.

Goal: help to restore and paint one home in Houston's East End

*By wisdom a house is built,
and through understanding it is established;
through knowledge its rooms are filled
with rare and beautiful treasures.
~ Prov. 24:3-4 NIV*

Allow the Spirit to lead you in prayer for:

- **Rebuilding Together Houston** – for their vision of home repair and restoration for the needy; for their process of selecting recipients and projects; for sufficient volunteers and materials to help
- **Volunteers** – having opportunities to be supportive of these residents in need of caring hearts; for joy in the painting project; that they will pray for the recipient as they work; for fellowship as they paint; for conversations with those around them about spiritual things
- **Recipients** – to see how God is providing for their needs; to know their identity in God's love, shown through the care of our MDPC volunteers; for assistance with other needs they might have

*Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing
debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has
fulfilled the law.
~ Rom. 13:8 NIV*

School Partner Projects

These projects are designed for our youngest CITC participants or for those with limited mobility. This project includes assembling Spring Break family meal packs for students and packing STARR testing snack bags to provide both encouragement and nourishment on test days.

Goal: support over 1,000 teachers, staff, and students by creating and assembling items to support students, teachers, and staff at area Title 1 schools

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.
~ Col. 3:12 NIV

Allow the Spirit to lead you in prayer for:

- **School Partner Projects** – for their vision of providing food for students over Spring Break as well as snacks for test days; for their ability to meet the needs of students, teachers and staff; for their volunteers and donations
- **Volunteers** – contagious enthusiasm as they pack; that MDPC children volunteering will see God's love in action and want to be more involved in MDPC outreach; that those with limited mobility will feel their vital importance in God's work; for the chance to have conversations about spiritual things
- **Recipients** – that these children will feel loved through the gift of food; that teachers and staff will feel appreciated in the important role they play in these children's lives; that parents will want to be involved in their children's schools

The Lord lifts up those who are weighed down.
The Lord loves the godly.
~ Ps. 146:8 NLT