

The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.  
James 5:16



Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper." Jeremiah 29:7

## Prayer Bulletin April 2021

**"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans." Romans 8:26**

*As we come before God in our weakness, it is so comforting to know that The Spirit gets our heart, understands what our concerns are aligns them with God's heart and intercedes for us in groans. As we are all coming out of the COVID and there is still much uncertainty about exactly what to pray for, let's come in our weakness, do our best to express our hearts and concerns and trust that The Spirit is in this with us and that God will work as we do our best to pour out our hearts and share what is on our minds.*

### Leadership

#### Pastors

- Pray for wisdom and strength for our pastors as they are in the process of discerning what this next season of leading their congregations will look like as COVID seems to be easing up a bit.
- Pray that each Pastor hears the voice of the Holy Spirit as they read, study and lead. That they follow His lead and have the courage and faith to do what he is asking of them.
- Pray for the Pastors and pastoral leaders as they work with their staff and lay leaders. Pray that God will give them disciple making wisdom as they build into their teams.
- Pray for our pastor's who don't have a building to meet in, to be able to find favor with building owners and to discover where God is wanting them to meet up at this time.
- Pray for our first in person pastors lunch in over year that is coming up May 12<sup>th</sup> for God to stir our pastors to attend in a park and for the Holy Spirit to work in our time together.

#### City Officials

- Continue to pray for our city civic leaders: New Mayor John Stephens, City Manager Lori Ann Farrell Harrison, Assistant City Manager Susan Price and the city council. May God give them continued wisdom to lead this city for the betterment and blessing of all who live here:
  - Loren Gameros - Jeff Harlan
  - Don Harper - Arlis Reynolds
  - Andrea Mar - Manuel Chavez
- Chief of Police Bryan Glass and his department,
  - Pray for police Chaplains: Mike Dekker, Dave Brooks, Jeff Lee
- Fire Chief Dan Stefano and his whole department – May they protect and serve their communities well, with truth and justice and compassion.
  - Fire Dept Chaplain Josh Harrison.
- Stacy Bowler – Homeless Arena - Pray for her as she leads the city efforts on neighborhood improvement and homelessness.

#### Business Leaders

- Pray for businesses and small business leaders in the city. Pray for them to be favored and protected and given the ability to continue to support themselves and make a living. Pray for their businesses to flourish and prosper during this season. Pray that any losses they have incurred would be reversed. Pray that business leaders would be so blessed that they would be able to employ many in the city, thus reversing any unemployment trends here.
- We speak life and health and healing over the economy of Costa Mesa, in Jesus' name! We pray for the city's businesses to flourish and prosper!
- Pray for the businesses related to the live entertainment, like the performing arts center, concerts anything with gatherings that have not been able to do anything this last year. Pray they will be encouraged as things start to reopen and will have wisdom in how to move forward.
- Pray for the chamber of commerce as they have lost a lot of members this year and are trying to figure out how to encourage businesses in the community.

- Pray that on Love Costa Mesa Day in May we can find some projects that would help and encourage our small, struggling, privately owned businesses.

**Prayer:** - Please pray for the Lord to raise up a new Prayer Initiative Director who can step in and take the Prayer Initiative to the next level and also help us inspire prayer strategy in/for other cities.

- Pray for Pastor Josh Harrison with Canopy Church, and Pastor David White from New Song Worship Center that God gives them the wisdom and guidance they need as they begin helping to direct and to shape the prayer culture in our city and among our churches.
- Pray for God to unite intercessors and prayer warriors in our city
- Pray for God to raise up a strong team of leaders from various churches across our city to continue to walk out and establish a Spirit lead prayer strategy for our city.
- Pray for God to stir a hunger for more of Him among His people
- Pray for wisdom in planning the National Day of Prayer event on May 6<sup>th</sup>

**Neighborhoods:** - Pray for Reina Cuthill as she continues to grow in her new, part time role as Director of our Neighboring Initiative and is leading the charge for Love Costa Mesa Day on May 15<sup>th</sup> as well as Love Irvine Day on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

- Pray for the planning committee of Love Costa Mesa who come from various churches to work well together in the process of pulling this event together.
- Pray for God to raise up projects and project leaders for Love Costa Mesa Day
- Pray for sponsors for Love Costa Mesa Day
- Pray for our team of intentional neighbors throughout Costa Mesa to grow in their relationships with one another, grow in number and grow in their ability to impact their neighborhoods.
- Pray for Pastor Eric Wayman as he brings leadership to Reina as she walks out her mission here in Costa Mesa.
- Pray for Reina to be able to develop a strong “Neighboring Initiative Team” to lead neighboring efforts throughout the city.

**Education** - Pray for Terrilee Stevenson as she has now stepped full time into the role of Director of the Education Initiative.

- Pray for Pastor Andrew Brownback from The Crossing Church, Pastor Drew Ross from Christ Lutheran Church, and Pastor Chris Kretzu from Southhills Church that the Lord would bless them with new and fresh vision to take the Education Initiative to a new level in 2021.
- Praise God for the team that Terrilee is seeing come together to lead in the Education Initiative.
- Pray for God to raise up more “School Champions” from within our church connections at the schools to really help establish a more robust community engagement in our schools from the entire community.
- Praise God for some strong leaders rising up to begin the tutor training program. Pray for God to grow and multiply this first run at it with more volunteers, students and impact.
- Pray for the Educators appreciation week May 4-8 that all 1,400 will feel cared for through gift boxes
- Pray for favor with School District Leadership and the ability to establish and MOU with them to implement the School Connect, C.A.F.E. model as we move forward.

**Homelessness** – Pray for John Begin as he leads the charge on homelessness and works with leaders from various parts of the city.

- The Costa Mesa 70 bed homeless shelter is on schedule to open this month Pray for John as he meets with city Pastors to discuss how the city churches will be involved in this new facility and how it will be run.
- Pray for Pastor Dave Gundlach from Grace Fellowship Church, and Pastor Ben Applebee from Watermark OC that the Lord would lead and guide them as they move forward in 2021 with a bigger role of speaking into the Homeless Initiative.
- Pray for John as he continues to lead the charge for the city on follow up with our homeless friends who are now in housing, for wisdom in how encourage them and favor in establishing “Housing Support Teams” from our churches to help encourage these folks in their newfound scenarios.
- Pray for more volunteers at the Check In Center to be trained to know how to move the Laundry and Shower Trailers around. It helps when more than one person is trained so that things run smoothly.
- Pray for wisdom in the development of the CIT program this year and for God to raise up some strong leaders and resources to help take it to the next level. (this is a transitional work program)

**Trellis:** - Please pray for Ian Stevenson and our operations team as they strive to be good stewards and leverage what God has given.

- Thank God for the Loving Our City Celebration and the ongoing support of churches, donors, sponsors, volunteers and leaders.
- Pray for several grants that we have applied for, that if it is God’s will we will receive them.

- Pray for the “City Catalyst” cohort we have started with 6 cities represented, for wisdom & favor.
- Pray for the Trellis Team to continue to grow and develop as a team and as catalysts who can continue to stimulate, facilitate and lead in collaborative work in our city and beyond.