



PrayUSA Toolkit



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How to Use This Toolkit



How to Use This Toolkit

- This Toolkit has been developed for government and community leaders and citizen activists to take an active, strategic role in calling the nation to prayer.
- This Toolkit provides you with a menu of opportunities for simple, yet highly strategic actions that individuals or groups can take to make an impact for faith in America.
- In addition to the opportunities for promoting prayer, this Toolkit provides the supplemental resources needed to achieve each opportunity as needed – step-by-step instructions, talking points, legal support, Model Prayer Policies, and more.
- Meaningful action is led first by prayer. Pray daily for God’s wisdom, protection, and strategy.

“The best strategies for faith impact are those which can be made clear, understandable, doable, and capable of being implemented by the acts of a single individual.”

Congressman Randy Forbes
NSC and CPCF President



Background



Prayer in America



CLICK HERE for a brief video of the PrayUSA initiative

- George Washington issued the first presidential call to prayer on October 3, 1789. He wrote, “It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor.”
- There have been over 130 presidential calls to prayer.
- In 1952, Congress passed and President Harry Truman signed a law making the National Day of Prayer an annual event.
- Congress opens every session in prayer, as do legislative bodies at all levels of government across the country.
- Courts across our nation have ruled repeatedly that legislative prayer is constitutionally permissible.



Additional Resources:

1. [History of Prayer in America](#)
2. [The Truth about the Separation of Church and State](#)
3. [History of Church in the U.S. Capitol](#)




Faith Impact Opportunities




PrayUSA Impact Opportunities

Click the links below to move directly to the impact opportunity on the following pages:

Host a PrayUSA Sunday at your church.




Form a 219 Prayer Group.
Prayer for our nation and our leaders.



Protect Prayer in Your Local Government (Hospitable Environment)
Establish an Official Policy
Protecting Prayer.



Protect Prayer in Your Local Government (Hostile Environment)
Congressional Prayer Book



National Prayer Shield



What is PrayUSA?

A Strategic Call to Prayer and Action



CLICK HERE for a brief message from actress Roma Downey

What is PrayUSA?

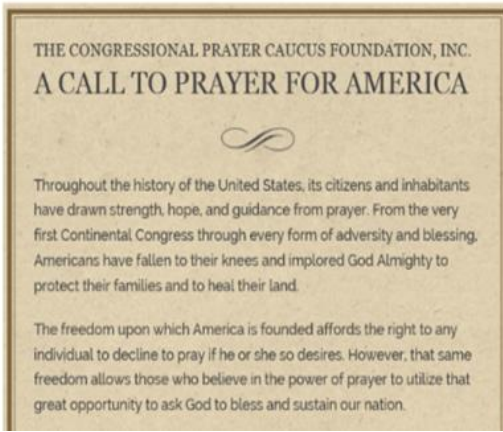
PrayUSA is a nationwide prayer initiative that is uniting government leaders, pastors, and everyday Americans in unceasing prayer for our country. Over a thousand government leaders are passionately calling on God's people to unify with one heart and one voice to pray and take action for the United States and our nation's leaders.

Origins of PrayUSA

- Birthed on March 7, 2015 at the historic LIFFT America Religious Liberty Summit in Charlotte, North Carolina, convened by the Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation.
- 16 members of Congress and 36 state legislators – representing 25 states – gathered to coordinate a tactical strategy to effectively challenge the growing anti-faith movement in our country.
- Each government leader who was present signed a Call to Prayer for America Proclamation. Since then, more than a thousand government leaders and over a hundred and fifty thousand citizens have already answered the call and signed a Call to Prayer for America Proclamation. [CLICK HERE](#) for a partial list of government leaders who have signed the Call to Prayer Proclamation.

What is a PrayUSA Sunday?

- A PrayUSA Sunday is a 6-20 minute ceremony uniting legislators, pastors, and citizens in their commitment to unceasing prayer for our nation. The event culminates with the signing of the Call to Prayer for America Proclamation.



How can I host a PrayUSA Sunday?

- 1) Invite a government leader(s) to participate in a PrayUSA Sunday and schedule the event. If no government leader will be participating, you can still have a signing ceremony at your church or in your region.
- 2) Review and finalize the Agenda/Script. Sample Agendas for [full](#) and [abbreviated](#) ceremonies are available.
- 3) Determine who will participate in the ceremony, including who will read the Proclamation (Government leader, pastor, or other guest), and who will invite the congregation to sign the Proclamation.
- 4) Download and print the Proclamation(s), or order complimentary copies online at www.prayusa.com/the-proclamation/. Each Proclamation can accommodate about 50 signatures. The Proclamation(s) will be mailed to you in a tube with pre-addressed, pre-paid return postage.
- 5) Promote the event in advance, on social media, in church bulletins, and more. The [PrayUSA website](#) has templates of flyers, bulletins, and more available.
- 6) Test the PrayUSA video in advance to ensure it plays correctly for the service. Video located here: <https://youtu.be/Aqfjz5DyD2g>. Call 757-546-2190 if there are any issues.
- 7) Return the signed Proclamation(s) in the tube using the pre-addressed, pre-paid postage.
- 8) Continue to Promote the event afterwards. Ex.) posting pictures and details to the church Facebook page. Use the Hashtag: **#PrayUSA**. Upload any pictures/videos to the Dropbox link provided [HERE](#) or send them via email to Help@NationalStrategicCenter.com.





Form a 219 Prayer Group

Room 219 is a strategic prayer initiative uniting churches, families, and communities in prayer for our nation and our elected leaders. These groups are committed to praying for our country strategically and consistently - on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis.

In 2002, Congressman Randy Forbes from Virginia gathered a small group of members of Congress to pray for God to heal our nation. This bipartisan, bicameral group, called the Congressional Prayer Caucus, has grown to nearly 100 members and continues to meet weekly to pray and strategize in Room 219 of the United States Capitol.

On November 18, 2005, dozens of these same members of Congress stood on the steps of our nation’s Capitol and issued a formal "Call to Prayer for America" – a call to "pray without ceasing" for God to heal our land.

Heeding that call, nearly 10,000 groups have formed as 219 Prayer Groups, or committed to adding “219 Prayer” (prayer for our nation and our leaders) to their existing prayer meetings.

Form a 219 Prayer Group:

- Weekly Prayer Updates are sent out each Monday with various prayer points from around the nation. You can either form a prayer group within your church, business, or community to join others across the nation in prayer or add the 219 Prayer component to a group with whom you are already praying.

****Sign Up for Weekly Prayer Updates here!** <https://cpcfoundation.com/sign-up/>



Protect Prayer in Your Local Government (Hospitable Environment)

Establish a Prayer Policy:

- 1) Print out the applicable model prayer policy.
- 2) Present the Model Policy and Talking Points to a like-minded City Council and/or School Board Member via an in-person meeting or email and ask if they will add it to their next meeting's agenda for consideration. If you cannot identify a like-minded Member, email your request for Consideration (along with the supporting documents) to the City Clerk and/or the Clerk of the School Board and request they be distributed to all Council/Board Members for consideration.
- 3) If the Council/Board opts to add the policy to the agenda for a vote, plan to attend the council meeting where the vote will occur.
- 4) If allowed, plan to have some people willing to speak in support of the policy. Be sure to check in advance for any applicable rules and deadlines that might apply to speaking at the meeting such as signing up before the meeting begins.
- 5) Review the talking points provided [HERE](#) and share them with others who are speaking.
- 6) Encourage other supporters to attend as well even if they don't speak – the outward show of support will be noticed and considered.



Model Prayer Policies:

- 1) [Policy on Public Prayer at Municipal Meetings, Events, and Other Gatherings](#)
- 2) [Policy on Public Prayer at School Board Meetings](#)
- 3) [Policy on Public Prayer at School-Related Events and Gatherings](#)



Protect Prayer in Your Local Government (Hostile Environment)

Keep prayer in your local government even when your elected officials try to remove it, with the added benefit of reinforcing the legality of legislative prayer.

Sign Up to Speak:

- 1) Ascertain the date and time of your next City Council or School Board meeting.
- 2) Contact them to determine the policies and procedures regarding citizens speaking at their next meeting. (Ex. When do I need to sign up by? How do I sign up? How long do I have to speak? What time should I arrive? How should I address them prior to speaking?)
- 3) Download the [“Prayers in Congress”](#) Resource Book.
- 4) Click on the month of the meeting and scroll to the specific date. Print the prayer for that day.
- 5) On the day of the meeting, arrive on time with your notes and be sure to speak clearly and project so that everyone can hear you.
- 6) Once it is your turn to speak, address the Mayor/Chairman and the body as a whole. Then, begin, “On this day in *(blank year)* the following prayer was prayed on the floor of the United States Congress.” Upon finishing, thank the board for their time.
- 7) Encourage other supporters to attend as well even if they don’t speak – the outward show of support will be noticed and considered.



National Prayer Shield

The National Prayer Shield, a division of PrayUSA, was launched to increase prayer for the personal needs of our elected officials.

1. Lawmakers may submit prayer requests directly through the [National Prayer Shield webform](#). The CPCF will review the content and privacy of the request, then consolidate into a weekly email to be sent to a national network of prayer partners. In addition, prayers will be posted on the [National Prayer Shield webpage](#) on the PrayUSA website for ongoing access.
2. Determine who your state and federal legislators are.
3. Create a bookmark or other reminder to faithfully pray for your legislators as well as the Congressional and State Prayer Caucus members (you may also want to include other government leaders such as the President, Governor, Mayor, Justices).
4. Send the lawmakers that you are praying for notes of encouragement.
5. Invite friends and family to join you in praying for their legislators.



****Some states have officially formed State Prayer Shields. Connect with your State Director [HERE](#) to see if you can connect with the hundreds already praying for lawmakers in your state.**



National Strategic Center



Building a Culture of Strategy

The National Strategic Center utilizes a large network of leaders and strategists to help build and sustain a *Culture of Strategy* among the Faith Community.



- ➔ Providing the teaching, training, and usage of the best *Strategic Principles* for leaders on multiple levels and across multiple domains.
- ➔ Fostering strategic dialogues across all spheres of culture.
- ➔ Collecting the strategic ideas and refining them into *Strategies* that can be distributed through a network which empowers groups and individuals to take action.
- ➔ Giving voice to the values behind the strategies. Creating a true flow of strategic ideas between the grassroots and our nation's best strategists.

And you are part of it!

- ➔ Receive action-oriented, step-by-step toolkits to implement the strategies crafted by our nation's top strategists. [Available HERE](#)
- ➔ Offer ideas and input on certain issues or challenges affecting faith in your area.
- ➔ Upload videos of conversations, presentations, or public behavior that are hostile to faith.
- ➔ Report successes that you have had in defending faith so that other Strategic Action Centers can replicate your successes across the nation.
- ➔ Receive trainings and resources on how to think, act, and communicate strategically.



Resource List



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Resource List

1. [History of Prayer in America](#)
2. [The Truth about the Separation of Church and State](#)
3. [History of Church in the U.S. Capitol](#)
4. [Full PrayUSA Sunday Agenda](#)
5. [Abbreviated PrayUSA Sunday Agenda](#)
6. [Dropbox Link for Picture Uploads](#)
7. [Talking Points for Model Prayer Policies](#)
8. [Policy on Public Prayer at Municipal Meetings, Events, and Other Gatherings](#)
9. [Policy on Public Prayer at School Board Meetings](#)
10. [Policy on Public Prayer at School-Related Events and Gatherings](#)
11. [“Prayers in Congress” Resource Book](#)
12. [Other Faith Impact Toolkits](#)



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[Click here](#) to tell us about your successes!

[Click here](#) for more ideas and Faith Impact Opportunities!

For more information, contact

(757) 546-2190

Help@NationalStrategicCenter.com

www.CPCFoundation.com/NSC

