

# PRAYER GUIDE

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 2 4

*"If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land." **2 Chronicles 7:14***

## Our City

*"You, Lord, hear the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry, defending the fatherless and the oppressed, so that mere earthly mortals will never again strike terror." **Psalm 10:17-18***

- Pray against crime and violence in Memphis, for the welfare of our city (Jer. 29:7), the victims and perpetrators.
- Pray wisdom and discernment for the teachers in our schools as they invest in our children.
- Pray for our city leadership: Shelby County Mayor, Lee Harris, Mayor Paul Young, our City Council, Memphis Police Chief Cerelyn Davis, District Attorney Steve Mulroy, and others.
- Pray for our city infrastructure and those who make decisions related to power, water and transportation
- Pray for strengthening of the family unit and for marriages in our city; that children would be loved and cared for in safe and nurturing home environments (Eph. 5:25)

## Neighbors in South Memphis, Students & Graduates

*"Show me your ways, LORD, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long." **Psalm 25:4-5***

- Pray for the students in the first Work Life class of 2024 as they learn about themselves, God's good design for work, and a Father who loves them.
- Pray that Advance Memphis graduates and staff would grow in their ability to respond to stress and/or conflict in the workplace.
- Pray for physical, emotional and spiritual healing from traumatic experiences that affect our ability to maintain stable employment (and so many other areas of life). Pray that we all might seek the one, true healer of our souls—Jesus.
- Pray that our neighbors and graduates who struggle with addiction would be delivered from drug and alcohol abuse.
- Pray for our graduates who are not working. Pray against individual roadblocks such as access to childcare and reliable transportation, illness, the effects of trauma, and disincentives to the God-given dignity of working.

## Advance Memphis

*"Be confident of this, that He who began a good work in you, will carry it to completion till the day of Jesus Christ."* **Philippians 1:6**

- Pray that more of our neighbors in South Memphis would hear about our programming and desire to participate and engage in life change.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit would move and participants would respond to the Gospel.
- Pray for staff to develop more personal means of engaging believing participants through Bible readings, prayer, and encouragement to be involved in a local church community.
- Pray that the different departments within Advance Memphis would provide consistency and clarity in our training as we focus on the holistic development of participants.
- Pray for Faith & Finances participants and their ongoing pursuit of financial stewardship so that the trickle-effect might impact future generations.
- Pray for new business partners for Advance Memphis Fulfillment & Distribution Services to provide work for our graduates through more outsourcing opportunities in our warehouses.
- Pray that our instructors would have wisdom and grace as they lead and teach class.
- Pray for our volunteers as they work with students and build long-term relationships.
- Pray for our staff as we welcome neighbors and students into our doors, that we would love them well and be the hands and feet of Christ.
- Pray that our addiction recovery group (Overcoming Through Christ) would continue to grow and be a source of encouragement to our neighbors as they pursue sobriety.

## The Local church

*"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles."* **Act 2:42-43**

- Pray that the Holy Spirit would strengthen believer's commitment to the local Church and that He would add "...to their number daily those who were being saved" as His people gather in authentic worship and fellowship. (Acts 2:42-47)
- Pray that God would continue using the local church to bring about justice for the oppressed and care for the marginalized in our city. (Isaiah 58)
- Pray for the leaders of the church, that they would be encouraged and strengthened as they shepherd their flocks.