

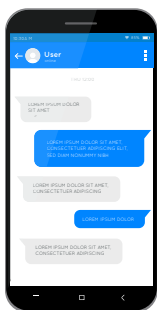
A world map is centered in the background, rendered in a dark teal color. The entire background is overlaid with a fine, light teal grid pattern. The word "Missions" is written in a large, white, cursive script font, centered over the map.

Missions

DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING

Wednesday, January 29, 2020

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE THROUGH FAITHFUL PARTICIPATION IN GOD'S MISSION OF REDEMPTIVE RESTORATION IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS AND AMONG THE NATIONS.



SIGN UP FOR OUR MISSION 938 TEXT PRAYER UPDATES

by emailing your number to LindsayS@fpcsat.org You will receive up to 3 updates a week, designed to empower your prayerful participation in God's mission, as we pray together to the Lord of the harvest, for the harvest, and for laborers of the harvest.

PRAYER & FAST FAQ

Why pray and fast?

We are humbling ourselves before the Lord to seek Lord's wisdom, provision, and power for local and global mission in and through First Presbyterian Church. We desire to revive our HERITAGE of mission, renew our gospel HOPE for participation in God's mission, and have the gospel change our HEARTS as we corporately pray for mercy for faithful participation in God's mission of redemptive restoration.

Where will we pray?

You can pray wherever is easiest for you (in your home, office, classroom, car, etc.) but we encourage you to join your FPC family in prayer any time from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

in the Geneva Room. This prayer guide is to empower your prayers wherever the Lord leads you to pray!!

How will we pray and fast?

Fasting is an opportunity to respond to God's grace as God's people through humbling ourselves before the Lord, prioritizing our hunger for the Kingdom of God over the hungers of our lives and culture. Jesus said "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness..." (Matthew 5:6) and "Seek first the Kingdom of God..." (Matthew 6:33) Our prayer and fasting will orient our hungers toward righteousness as we focus on petitioning the Lord for His Kingdom to come

and His will to be done in in our neighborhoods and among the nations as it is in Heaven. We will do this by abstaining for 24 hours from something we hunger for more than the kingdom of God: food, email, social media, news or whatever the Lord leads you to fast from. When we experience hunger for our personal and cultural priorities, we will petition the King for His Kingdom to come and replace our normal hunger and priorities with a hunger for the King and Kingdom priorities as we petition for His mercy.

We hope you will commit to fast for 24 hours, praying often, and we encourage you to join us in THE FPC GENEVA ROOM for corporate prayer between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM if you are able.

What does God's Word have to say about fasting?

Here are a few appropriate examples:

- Jesus offers both an expectation and reward for prayer and fasting in Matthew 6:5-18.
- Through history, God's people have been impacted by the devastation of the city and culture of where they lived. God's people have turned to

God through fasting and prayer to petition the Lord for mercy, wisdom, provision, and direction for participating in His work, moving from ruin to restoration. See especially Nehemiah 1:3-4 and Ezra 9:4-5.

- Prayer and fasting plays a key role in a city turning to the Lord as revealed through the story of Jonah.
- God's people mourned the state of the world by fasting (Esther 4:3) as the Lord was raising up someone who would lead "at such a time as this" (Esther 4:14-17). We will mourn the state of our world and make ourselves available for "such a time as this!"
- The early Church fasted and prayer for mission: Acts 13:23
- Anna worshipped the Lord in fasting: Luke 2:37
- The prophet Isaiah speaks of true fasting the Lord desires from his people and the healing arising from the Lord in Isaiah 58:5-12. May God's grace work God's priorities into our lives as HIS congregation!

LET US PRAY!

OPENING PRAYER from PSALM 96 (In Unison)

Lord, we pray the earth will sing a new song of your salvation and that your glory will be declared among all peoples, in every neighborhood and among all nations. You are great, greatly to be praised, and to be feared above all other gods. The gods of the world are worthless and powerless but YOU made the heavens. Splendor and Majesty belong to you alone, oh God. May all the families of the earth ascribe to the Lord glory and honor, trusting Him for strength. May all peoples worship the Lord, trembling before His holiness as they proclaim, "The Lord reigns!" Let the nations be glad, the earth rejoice, and all people declare, "The Lord reigns! The Lord is King!" AMEN

CORPORATE PRAYER- RESTORATION IN THE MIDST OF DEVASTATION:

Structured after Nehemiah's prayer in Nehemiah 1:4-11 after he heard of the destruction of the city of Jerusalem.

- **Begin in worship by focusing on the character of God:** Spend time focusing your hearts through worshipping the Lord for His character, thanking Him for who He is, how you have seen His character through His work, and for the beauty/majesty of His character. NAME ALOUD the attributes of God in worshipful prayer and adoration.
- **Confession to God:** When we focus on God's goodness, love, holiness, light, justice, and righteousness, we see our need to confess our sins, both personally and corporately. We not only fall short of His glory but we are totally unable to hit the mark of His design for our lives! Take time to confess your sins personally, and to confess the sins of our church (and the Church in the world). Note how Nehemiah states the consequences of his sin and the sin of God's people. The love of God is unconditional for His people, based on His faithfulness and not our own, so be bold in the gospel through being honest with your need and the need for our Church to receive the steadfast love of the Lord; His grace, mercy, and forgiveness displayed in His covenant love!

- **Call on the Covenant promises of God:** Ask the Lord to make real His covenant promises for you, our church, city, and the countries of the world. Pray for His grace to flow in the streets of our neighborhoods to the nations of the world. Ask for His mercy to flow through us, His Spirit to blow through us, and His love to show through all His people do in His name!

SPECIFIC PRAYERS

For participation in God's mission of redemptive restoration in our church, neighborhoods, and nations (a guide, not a script... follow the Spirit's lead!):

THE CITY

- Pray for wisdom for our Mayor, city council, and civic leaders and for shalom through their leadership.
- Pray for San Antonio Schools - safety for students, teachers, and staff as well as God honoring, character building, required literature in public schools and private schools.
- Pray for parents and mentors to pour into children to raise up a generation of youth who want to follow Jesus in a real way. Specifically for mentors at Healy Murphy and Washington Elementary.
- Pray for marriages in San Antonio to be strengthened by Jesus and His design for marriage.
- Pray for "Decade of the Family," a city transformation movement officially launching on Monday, February 24.
- Pray for care and ministry to divorced people that they might know Jesus, His redemption, and His love.
- Pray for the church in the city to be educated, equipped, and empowered to love and serve the mentally ill, homeless, and addicted in our city.
- Pray for more prayer warriors in the churches in San Antonio.
- Pray for unity in the body of Christ within San Antonio - may Christ's Body build Christ's kingdom in unity!
- Pray for churches to plant churches, that everyone in San Antonio can be reached with the gospel!

GLOBAL

- Please pray for our February 8-9 FPC Global Mission weekend. We will welcome new partners as we celebrate our opportunity for our congregation to be educated and empowered for Global Missions!
- Pray for more long-term missionaries in the field – partnering with a mission agency that puts Jesus first and understands the culture of the people being served.
- Pray for a growing awareness in our congregation of God’s work across nations and cultures in our city and among the nations as we are deepened in desire to participate in God’s global mission.
- Pray for our 2019 Mission Trips to the Yucatan, Dominican Republic, Indonesia, Alaska, and others! Please pray we cultivate rich partnerships with mutual participation.
- Pray for the global Church to have a faithful response to the refugee crisis and for individuals and families fleeing conflict, desperate poverty, and violence for asylum.
- PRAY FOR ALL OF OUR GLOBAL MINISTRY PARTNERS, especially those serving in dangerous areas:
 - Agape, Russia
 - The Antioch Partners
 - Ashraf Abdou, YWAM Spain
 - Chris and Francelia McReynolds, Mexico
 - Cristina Inchaustegui, AMO DR
 - Food for the Hungry
 - The Harpers, AIM Philippines
 - IJM, DR
 - The Blaines, SAMS USA Cambodia
 - Pastor Lian Thang, CRI Myanmar
 - Mission India
 - The Outreach Foundation, Middle East
 - Pars Theological Centre
 - Proyecto Amistad, Mexico
 - Russian Speaking Reformed Partnership, Poland
 - RPC Haiti
 - The Johnsons, YWAM Hungary
 - Partnership in Western Asia
 - Vets With A Mission, Vietnam
 - World Renew
 - World Vision, Malawi
 - YPM, Mexico
 - Mission South Partnerships

- Pray for particular protection for new followers of Jesus in the Muslim world who pay a price for their decision to accept Christ into their lives as well as for other Christians suffering persecution around the world.
- Pray for evidence that changed hearts among individual believers begin to bear fruit in changed cultures.
- Pray for the unreached people groups across the world. Pray for more laborers with pioneer hearts to share the gospel with these people, and for multiplication movements within them.
- Pray for wisdom among our GMC and LMC committee members and Spirit power in our congregation.

LOCAL

- Pray for the Kingdom Restoration Lab (KRL), a collaborative partnership with various ministry partners seeking to more holistically and more faithfully love our neighbors- SAHope, Any Woman Can, FBI/ Church in the Streets, CAM, and others
- Pray for the FPC FPC L.O.V.E. initiative-everyone has a role in the church as we Love Orphans Via Everyone! Pray specifically for foster families, families seeking adoption, and volunteers working with GrandFamilies.
- Pray for the SA Marriage Initiative and Decade of the Family!
- Pray for more of our FPC family to serve and love our neighbors through serving weekly through our Monday Night Community Bible Study with FBI, monthly at Loaves and Fishes, or daily with the KRL.
- Pray for neglected, abused, and unloved teen moms in our neighborhood will see the unconditional love of Christ through their Young Lives mentors. Also for FPC to serve schools in our neighborhood and their children, especially Healy Murphy and Washington Elementary. May the Lord raise up laborers!
- Pray that our poor and homeless neighbors will be served, cared for, and feel the love of Christ through partners such as Haven for Hope, CAM, SA Christian Dental Clinic, Chrysalis Ministry, FBI, and others.

- PRAY FOR ALL OF OUR LOCAL MINISTRY PARTNERS:
 - Any Woman Can
 - CAM
 - Chrysalis Ministries
 - Faith Based Institute
 - Habitat for Humanity
 - Haven for Hope
 - KRL
 - Life Skills for Living
 - Loaves and Fishes & Monday Night Community Bible Study
 - FPC L.O.V.E. Initiative
 - GrandFamilies
 - Mission Road Ministries
 - Morningside Ministries
 - NAMI
 - Pay It Forward
 - The Porch
 - PCHAS
 - SA Christian Hope Resource Center
 - SA Christian Dental Clinic
 - SA Heals
 - SA Marriage Initiative
 - SAMM
 - Servant Partners
 - South Texas Alliance for Orphans
 - Young Life SA Central

- Pray that churches will learn how to care for the 1 in 5 families in our city that have someone with a mental illness through our partner, NAMI, and the Pathways to Hope Conference.
- Pray for our FPC family to love and serve our downtown neighbors faithfully.
- Pray for revival of FPC and the Church in San Antonio, that we may Love the Lord and our neighbors faithfully.
- Pray for our FPC family to deepen relationships with our ministry partners in San Antonio through empowering their ministries, caring for them, and serving with them.

MISSION 709 CELEBRATION

Please join us in celebrating God's faithfulness in accomplishing our goals for Mission 709. By His grace we had over 725 from our FPC family touch over 10,000 lives through mission participation in our neighborhoods and among the nations! To God be the Glory!