



## **PRAY!**

The very first thing to do is pray. Seek the Lord as to what and how He would have you act and organize. Consider fasting as well. Ask your church to pray with you.

### **Determine Your Event Size and Type**

**How big will it be?** Successful prayer events come in many sizes. You could encourage church's small groups to hold their own prayer meetings. This takes advantage of your existing network of small groups. You could host an intermediate size meeting in a classroom at the church. Or you could involve the entire church, the broader community or use online video conferencing to engage people from across the country.

You can consider peoples' response to similar events in the past and let that be your guide. Or you can brainstorm with staff on ways to take this prayer event to a whole new level.

**How long will it last?** You can host a prayer service like you would a worship service, with a formal program and fixed time. Or you can host an open house and invite people to come and pray throughout the day as they feel led.

### **Recruit Your Team**

Consider who can help you organize this event. If you're holding the event in the sanctuary, treat it like a worship service and recruit the same team that brings Sunday mornings to life. If it's a smaller meeting, consider involving small group leaders, Sunday school teachers, or other volunteers. Be sure to include My Faith Votes Action Partners, if any attend your church. They are highly motivated and extremely helpful.

If you are taking your event online, be sure to include your IT experts to help with technology. You'll also need help spreading the word—especially if you're planning a community-wide event—so include people skilled at marketing and social media.

### **Review Your Pre-event Checklist**

As you prepare for your event, here are some things to consider:

1. Choose the location and get the necessary approvals
2. Set start and end times for your event
3. Determine the agenda/programming
4. Determine how people will register/sign up, if applicable
5. [Download the customizable Prayer Event PowerPoint slide](#) from My Faith Votes and use it to announce your prayer event during regular worship services.

6. Place an announcement in the bulletin
7. Announce it on the church website
8. Announce it on the church's social media platforms and ask church members to share it on theirs
9. If you were hosting a community-wide event, contact local media and ask them to tell their audience
10. Announce it on the church marquee
11. Send an invitation email to your list
12. Supply invitations to church members that they can hand out to neighbors or coworkers
13. Download and print copies of [My Faith Votes' Posture of Prayer Guide](#) and hand them out to attendees. or share the link in an email and ask people to print their own
14. Order any supplies you may need like candles, etc.

### **Review Day-of-Event Checklist**

To ensure things run smoothly the day of the event, here are some things to consider.

1. Make sure your team arrives early to set up
2. Begin by praying over your event
3. Consider providing water and snacks for your volunteers
4. Hand out prayer guides to guests
5. Expand your impact beyond the event by taking lots of photos and posting them to social media. Remember to tag @MyFaithVotes and use the hashtags #NationalDayofPrayer and #MyFaithVotes

### **After the Event**

It is important to follow through when your event is over. Please consider the following.

1. Thank those who participated
2. Document and save your plans so you can use them in the future
3. Thank God for the impact of your prayers