



Information and Frequently Asked Questions

***Please take a moment to
read over***

History of the House of Prayer

1000 BC ~ TABERNACLE OF DAVID

King David set up a tent on Mount Zion when He returned the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem (*1 Chronicles 15:1*). Within this tent he instituted a new order of worship that was unlike anything which preceded it. From the tribe of Levi, David appointed thousands of singers and musicians who ministered day and night to the Lord. This continued for thirty-three years (*1 Chronicles 16:37, 23:5, 25:6-7; 2 Samuel 5:5*).

AD 400 ~ ALEXANDER AKIMETES AND THE SLEEPLESS ONES

In Constantinople, Alexander established *laus perennis*, or perpetual praise, with about three hundred and fifty monks. His aim was to fulfill Paul's exhortation in 1 Thessalonians 5: 17. This became the founding monastery of the order of the Acoemetae (literally, "the sleepless ones"). The houses were divided into six choirs rotating throughout the day, each new choir relieving the one before, continuing uninterrupted twenty-four hours a day. The lasting impact of the Acoematae has been their worship and their contribution to church liturgy.

AD 558 ~ BANGOR AND COMGALL

At Bangor, Ireland, Comgall instituted a rigid monastic rule of incessant prayer and fasting. Far from turning people away, this ascetic rule attracted thousands. When Comgall died in 602, the annals report that 3000 monks looked to him for guidance. Bangor Mor, "the great Bangor" (to distinguish it from its British contemporaries), became the greatest monastic school in Ulster. It was also one of the three leading lights of Celtic Christianity; the others being Iona and Bangor on the Dee.

AD 1727 ~ COUNT ZINZENDORF AND THE MORAVIANS

Within two weeks of an unusual outpouring of the Holy Spirit, twenty-four men and twomen covenanted to pray "hourly intercessions," thus praying every hour around the clock. The community was committed to see that "the fire must be kept burning on the altar continuously; it must not go out" (*Leviticus 6:13*). This prayer meeting would go nonstop for the next one hundred years, and is seen by many as the spiritual power behind the impact that the Moravians had on the world.

AD 1973 ~ PRAYER MOUNTAIN

In 1973, Paul Yonggi Cho established a Prayer Mountain with day and night prayer which began attracting over a million visitors per year. Cho had a commitment to continuous prayer, to faith and to establishing small discipleship cells in his church. Perhaps as a result, Cho's church rapidly expanded to become the largest church congregation on the globe, with membership well over a half a million.

AD 1999 ~ INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF PRAYER IN KANSAS CITY

On September 19, 1999, they began their own prayer and worship meeting that has since continued twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. They function as a missions base with over one thousand staff members and students raising their own support. Central to the missions base is their prayer room which runs in two-hour shifts, each being led by full teams of young adult musicians and singers.

House of Prayer F.A.Q

Q: Where is the concept of the house of prayer found in the Bible?

The phrase “house of prayer” is drawn from Isaiah 56:7, where it is used twice. “...These foreigners I will bring to My holy mountain and give them joy in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on My altar; for My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.”

Jesus refers to this verse when casting the money changers from the temple, as recorded in Mark 11:17. “Then He taught, saying to them, ‘Is it not written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations’? But you have made it a ‘den of thieves.’”

The heart of the house of prayer is perhaps best captured by David's heart cry in Psalm 27:4 “One thing I have desired of the Lord, that will I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in His temple.”

King David actually established one example of a house of prayer, known as the tabernacle of David. While referred to in many parts of the Bible, the best description of this biblical house of prayer is found in 1 Chronicles 16:1-37.

Q: Is a certain prayer format important?

It is important for the house of prayer to be organized, so there is no confusion for leaders and participants. While we lean heavy on the example of IHOP-KC in Kansas City Missouri. We will express worship and intercession from the heart of God and our hearts for Alaska.

Q: What do I do as a “Participant”?

Our desire at the house of prayer is that every one who comes will feel free to express them selves to God in worship and prayer with out a set of rules or feeling like they have to follow a set tradition.

For example: One person may wish to sing the song that the worship team may be singing at the time. At the same time another person may wish to sit in their chair and read their bible, while another one is drawing a prophetic picture. Some people may wish to express themselves by dancing while others may lay down on the floor or sit in a chair quietly, it's really endless the opportunity you have to touch the heart of God and to be touched in your heart by God by having the freedom to seek him in your own way.

You see, we are not “leading worship” as you may be used to on a typical church service, instead we are together worshipping the Lord. The band on the stage responsibility's is not to lead you in worship but instead they are simply worshipping and you get to join in.

Q: Will there be “open mic” for prayer?

No, but there will be a prayer leader and at certain times there will be a chance for people to come to the microphone and pray . There will be clear instruction on how this is done so there will be no confusion for you.

Q: What type of music and prayer will there be?

For now, there will be “modern” worship both upbeat, slow songs and

spontaneous song. The prayer will also be both upbeat and at times intense but also quiet and soft. Of course we are not locked down to one style and we will always try and go as the Lord leads us. When we have more people to help with worship times through out the week as we grow then there will be different styles of worship music as there will be different personalities leading worship. We plan on from 6:00 – 8:00 having intercessory type worship and prayer. From 8:00 – 9:00 having ministry/worship with the word, where you will have a chance to get some ministry and a time where you can focus in on reading your bible if you wish. The worship team will continue to sing some scripture and prophetically sing as they feel lead.

Q: What if I can't make it at 6:00 PM or if I need to leave early?

Pastor Ed and the church staff's desire is, that you know beyond any doubt that you are free to come and go as you desire. There is no guilt or condemnation for showing up after the 6:00 PM start time or leaving early.

Q: Will there be an offering taken?

Yes, but it will not be like we typically receive on Sunday morning. There will be an offering box in the back of the room for Offering. This box will be there the whole service and we are encouraging people that at any time they feel led that they can go and put in there offering. Our desire is that you could feel free in your giving and not have guilt, condemnation or pressure to give. We hope this format will give you the opportunity to give with purpose and enjoyment. You may want to give simply because you like or believe in what is happening, or maybe something strikes a cord in your heart while you are there and you want to sow into that and so you give. This offering box will be available for you to give from 6:00 – 9:00 PM.

Q: Will there be any sort of children's ministry or childcare?

Childcare will be offered for children ages birth through 7. Ages birth through 3 will be in the nursery on the main level near the bathrooms. Ages 5 through 7 will be downstairs.

Children that are eight and older are encouraged to participate in the evening. We believe children receive the same Holy Spirit as adults, not a "Junior Holy Spirit."

Childcare will open at 5.45pm. We ask that parents pick up their children no later than 9pm.

Q: Is there other times of prayer scheduled?

In the future we are planning on utilizing the House of Prayer located at the North Campus more and more. For now though, you are welcome to go in and prayer any time you'd like. The door is opened with a combination lock, which is 5732 (the last four digits of the church phone number).

