

# BUILDING BRIDGES ACTIVITIES:

## DAY 1, PART 1- It begins with Prayer:

Let's talk about WHY pray for Michigan and America?

God is sovereign and nothing comes as a surprise to Him. Whether we face fluctuating economics, threats from abroad, unrest at home, global pandemics, or other troubling circumstances, our Heavenly Father is not caught unaware. Through prayer, we are able to tap into His wisdom, strength, protection, and peace. He stands ready to respond to our needs when we humbly ask for divine intervention in the affairs of men.

As we pray for our nation, whose pledge of allegiance recounts that we are "one nation under God," and whose currency states that it is "in God we trust," we want Americans to encounter the God who rules over their country. "He who forms the mountains, creates the wind, and reveals His thoughts to man, He who turns dawn to darkness, and treads the high places of the earth—the LORD God Almighty is His name." —Amos 4:13 NIV

He is the One who gave us the promise in **2 Chronicles 7:14**: "If my people, who are called by My name, will 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 will heal their land." As we humbly and diligently seek Him, we'll be changed, and we'll see transformation in America through prayer!

**HOW to pray for America –**

**By starting with prayers for the basic institutions of the Family and the Church...**

**\*\* LET'S STOP EVERYTHING ELSE GOING ON, QUIET OUR HEARTS BEFORE THE LORD, AND PAUSE RIGHT NOW TO PRAY: \*\***

**For FAMILIES** - *"If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand."* (Mark 3:25)

- A return to traditional family values, esteeming the things which are important to God - things like faith, family, freedom, life, and truth (Job 22:21-22)
- A return to the biblical mandate for parents to train their children at home in the fear of the Lord, instead of delegating the responsibility to others (Proverbs 22:6)
- The re-establishment of strong, healthy relationships between parents and children (Malachi 4:5-6)
- Unity and love in individual families, causing them to reach out to serve and offer hospitality; (Rom 12:9-13); Pray for eyes to see those who need some help and encouragement

**For THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL AND YOUR LOCAL CHURCH BODY**

*"His intent was that now, through the Church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms."* (Ephesians 3:10)

- There would be **revival** in the Church as individual hearts are changed and renewed with great zeal and commitment to the mission and purpose of Jesus Christ (Matt 22:37)- resulting in a noticeable impact on our culture, including our government
- A holy **fear of the Lord** released in the heart of God's people (Proverbs 9:10)
- **Integrity**—that God's people look and act differently from the world (I Peter 2:11; 1 Cor. 13:6)
- A return to the absolutes of God's **Word** (Psalm 1:1-3)
- **Unity** with and among churches that reveal God's love to the world (John 17:23)

# DAY 1, PART 2- Taking Action:

1. Begin by reading this letter about “Building Bridges” to get some idea what what we’re thinking: (PDF from Patti Sailor) [ <https://michn.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Day-Under-the-Dome-Building-Bridges-letter.pdf> ]
2. Take some time to click on these links and read about ministries in Michigan, outside of the local church, who are also working and praying for the strengthening of families and churches, that our culture may be impacted for Christ! Discover what these organizations are about, what they are doing, how you can connect, serve, pray for, and further their good work: (Note this list is not intended to be exhaustive... just some ideas to get you started in your search, and to encourage you that you are not alone! If you know of others we should add to our resource list, please send them our way!)

- **Michigan Christian Homeschool Network - MICHN** - <https://michn.org/register/annual-membership/>
- **Citizens for Traditional Values (CTV)** - <http://www.ctvmichigan.org/im-new-here/>
- **Michigan Family Forum** - <http://www.michiganfamily.org/index.php/about/>
- **Salt and Light Global/ Great Lakes Justice Center** - <https://www.slgwitness.com/>
- **Michigan Capitol House of Prayer** - <http://michop.org/>
- **Right to Life of Michigan** - <https://rtl.org/>

## Organizations geared for students:

- **Protect Life MI** (<https://www.protectlifemi.org/>)
- **SSI/LEAD:** <https://ssionline.org/> (James Muffett)
- **TeenPact:** <https://teenpact.com/states/mi/>
- **HSLDA’s Generation Joshua:** <https://generationjoshua.org/>
- **Patriot Academy:** <https://www.patriotacademy.com/> (Rick Green)
- **Wallbuilders:** <https://wallbuilders.com/> (David Barton)
- **Worldview Academy:** <https://worldview.org/>
- **Summit Ministries:** <https://www.summit.org/>
- **Institute on the Constitution:** <https://theamericanview.com/> (Jake MacAulay)
- **Patriot Week:** <https://www.patriotweek.org/> (Judge Michael Warren)

3. **Write and send notes of encouragement to someone in leadership at your church or other ministry** (and/or to someone in your extended or immediate family)... Your building of bridges should start with reaching out and connecting to those closest to you and to those in roles of leadership and authority over us at all levels. Let’s start by letting pastors or other church leaders and family members know that you’re thankful for them (hopefully you started with your Mom yesterday on Mother’s Day!), that you’re praying for them, and seeking to find out if there is anything specific you can do to help or serve them. I’m sure your words of encouragement will be a big blessing!