

*"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest." -- Matthew 11:28*

## **Prayer Service For Wholeness Holiday Inn, Urbana, Illinois**

A group of us have been meeting and praying together for many months regarding a community prayer event. God has placed it on our hearts to hold what we are calling a "Prayer for Wholeness" event for Champaign-Urbana. We believe that God brings healing to people in a variety of ways, including physically, psychologically, emotionally, and spiritually. God continues to bring this wholeness to our communities through the workings of the Holy Spirit in us and through us. Simply put, we are planning to hold this Prayer Service on November 11th at 6:30 p.m. The Holiday Inn is located at 1001 Killarney in Urbana (near Lincoln Avenue and Interstate 74).

We will have teams of Pray-ers to pray for those who need healing in some way. Champaign County Christian Health Center, Faith Prayers, New Covenant Fellowship, New Horizons Methodist Church, Provena Covenant Medical Center, St. John's Catholic Chapel, Restoration Urban Ministries and Vineyard are sponsoring this event.

Our vision is to have the Christian community coming together to pray for wholeness for people in the Champaign Urbana area. As a result, we want to hold it in a multi denominational or non denominational setting rather than at a specific church.

### **How do we see how God heals?**

We are not proponents of "faith healing" – where you are essentially guaranteed healing if your faith is strong enough (and if it isn't, that reflects poorly on your faith). Our goal is not to whip up emotions but rather to make a space where God will enter in with his love and compassion for people. We are trying to make a place where heaven and earth will meet. We believe that if we do that, God will step in with wholeness for the people of Champaign-Urbana in the places they need it most. We believe that for God all people matter, no exceptions, ever! We have understood that the Bible recorded many different ways that resulted in healing for people. These included Elisha lying on top of a person, going to a certain pool to dip, spitting on some mud and then placing it on eyes, rebuking a fever etc. We believe that God has raised up the many different churches in the Champaign-Urbana community to meet the needs of the diverse population in this community. We want this Prayer Service to value the diversity of churches and the unity that is in Christ.

### **What will this prayer service look like? How will it be conducted?**

The event will be held in a low-key manner; setting the stage for the worship, testimonies and then praying for wholeness for those that come. During the prayer time, we will have our teams of Pray-ers from the churches in different parts of the gym. Each church's team will consist of people who desire to pray for wholeness for people and who have prayed within their churches for people. They will pray as they are accustomed to praying, but each group will be respectful of the people they're praying for and the people around them. It will be everyday believing Christians who have been part of the Christian community of Champaign-Urbana praying for those in need in our own community.

### **Why do you want to hold such an event?**

First, to glorify God; second, to bring blessings to His people and with that to bring God's healing breakthrough to Champaign-Urbana.