

## Our Vision

Our vision is to co-labor with Jesus to bring more wholeness into our community in a way that shows the Unity that is in Christ and the Diversity that is the Body of Christ. We have had two Breakthrough for Wholeness prayer services in Champaign-Urbana. On those two nights when pray-ers from different churches came together to pray for people just like themselves, God broke in with refreshment and his wholeness. The community saw charismatics, Protestants, Catholics, and non-denominational Christians come together to pray for each other. Medical communities joined with church communities to pray for those who needed wholeness in ways that the medical communities or churches could not provide by themselves. African-Americans, Hispanics, Asians, and Caucasians joined together to pray for each other. In these small beginnings, we experienced the unity that is in Christ as well as comfortableness with our diversity.

But God does not stand still. As we are now praying and listening for what is next, it seems that this is only the beginning of what God has in his heart. Across Champaign-Urbana, prophetic voices have said that we should establish "healing prayer rooms." As we pray for God's next steps for us, it seems it is not yet the time to start a healing prayer room. Instead it seems important to set up "a small thing"—a once-a-month, 24-hour, time to pray for Breakthrough for Wholeness in/for the Champaign-Urbana community: With pairs of pray-ers praying for an hour—over a total of 24 hours. We envision following the practice already begun with the previous two November prayer services—different churches joining together to pray for God to break into our community with his wholeness.

The tapestry to be woven here will reflect the hearts of the many pray-ers who are asking God to break into this community with his wholeness and freedom. For some, breakthrough will be feeding those who are hungry; for others it is healing the sick; and still others comforting the widows and orphans; and so forth. This tapestry of prayer will become a wonderful picture of Breakthrough. It will be rich, with a variety of diverse hues and colors, reflecting our God.—Who draws us to the unity that is in Christ while enjoying each of us in all our differences.

Our calling—given nearly 2000 years ago to heal the sick, to set the captives free—is still ALIVE and ACTIVE. God has told us to pray for the laborers because they are few. He is asking, "Whom shall I send?" Our hearts' cry is, "We will go, but not unless you go before us." We hear him answer that we should be strong and courageous and must not despise the day of small things. And his answer comforts and strengthens our lame legs so that we are ready to walk forward again. It is our hope and prayer that others will want to join with us in praying for God to break in with his wholeness in Champaign-Urbana—to be watchers on the walls. It is our belief that real Breakthrough (as Jesus said to his disciples when he healed the child they could not), requires prayer (and fasting).