



INSPIRE

To inspire Arkansas Baptists as we

Intercede, Network, Submit ideas, Praise, Inform, share Resources, and Encourage each other through prayer.

January Prayer Workshop to Precede Evangelism Conference

You will not want to miss this year's Prayer Workshop, an annual event that precedes the Statewide Conference on Evangelism and Church Health. Both events will be held at Geyer Springs First Baptist Church in Little Rock.

We are pleased to announce that Bill Elliff will be leading this year's workshop. Those who attended last year's workshop received a copy of his book, *The Presence Centered Church*.

Elliff is Senior Teaching Pastor at The Summit Church in North Little Rock and is Pastor/Church Director for OneCry. His passion is for spiritual revival and methodological renewal in the church for the glory of God.

Please pre-register at absc.org/prayerworkshop or click on the graphic below to connect to the website. Check in begins at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, January 29 in the upstairs auditorium. The program will begin at 9:30 a.m.

**PRAYER
WORKSHOP**

JANUARY 29, 2018
9:30–11:30 A.M.
PRECEDES THE EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

GUEST SPEAKER: BILL ELLIFF



In both the history of our faith and our nation, God's people saw Him work when they sought Him in prayer. It is incredible to see how God has stirred your hearts as Arkansas Baptist pastors to pray for revival and spiritual awakening. This movement is foundational to our ministry together, and we at the ABSC are praying that you will see that same passion ignited in your congregations.

Recently, God has blessed all of us as Arkansas Baptists with a unique opportunity. Dr. Ronnie Floyd, Senior Pastor of Cross Church, was named President of the National Day of Prayer. In an unprecedented fashion, Arkansas Baptist churches are now presented with a direct connection to this prayer movement that will take place around the nation on May 3, 2018. We can join Dr. Floyd, together as a family of ABSC churches, and lead our country to pray for revival.

Many of you participate in National Day of Prayer events in your local communities, but often these events are designed specifically for ministers. For Arkansas Baptist pastors, this is an appointed moment to motivate your church people to participate in the National Day of Prayer in a new and fresh way. Maybe this means planning a prayer event with your church for the first time. Please begin to pray for a vision so that your congregation will recognize and seize this opportunity.

More information will be provided by the ABSC in coming days about how to design and register a Day of Prayer event. Please contact us if you have questions. Let's not miss this window—that God has given all of us—to see a passion for revival move into the hearts of all Arkansas Baptists!

Greg Addison, Associate Executive Director

Senior Prayer Force Note from Don Moore

I am so thankful for an opportunity to greet you once again before the close of the year and at Christmas time. Our awareness of your faithful prayers while Nita and I have been going through 28 months of grueling events with cancer have been a major source of encouragement to us. While this has taken us off the road, it has not taken you out of our hearts. We thank you and would appreciate your continued prayers. A Pet Scan this week will let us know the status of her recovery. **We pray for you and yours to enjoy bountiful spiritual blessings during the holidays and into the new year.**

Obviously, the need for us to press on in prayer for Revival and Awakening is greater than ever. Please do not tire of such pleadings with God. Let me encourage you with words from a book I have recently read.

“In case you didn’t realize it, right now we are living in the middle of one of the most massive prayer movements in history. Around the world there are an estimated two hundred and ten million Christians who are praying for revival every day. Twenty million of these believe their primary calling in the body of Christ is to pray for revival. There are also over ten million prayer groups in which people are praying for a coming world revival every time they meet.” These facts are from David Bryant’s book, *The Hope At Hand*. Another book I have read and encourage you to read early next year is, *God On Fire, Encountering the Manifest Presence of Christ* written by Fred Hartley III

I still believe Senior Adults are the key to revival and awakening in America. Remember, there are more of us, we have more understanding, we have more time, and we bear responsibility for where we are and what we will become as the people of God. A lot of repentance and a lot of crying out to God should be heard coming from our section of His Church. Amen?



[Click here](#) then scroll down the page to watch videos and find articles designed to inspire Arkansas Baptists to pray, to give and to go.

is a strategy for sharing the stories of how your Cooperative Program is at work in Arkansas and around the world.

Praying In The Midst of Senseless Tragedies

By Sandra Higley and Lani Hinkle. Originally appeared in Pray! Magazine, Issue 15, 1999.

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When we hear about yet another random act of violence, our first response is usually to pray away the pain or pray that this will never happen again. But how can we pray beyond the fear and shock, beyond the most obvious needs, for the issues of the Kingdom?

Hopefully, some of the following points will be a springboard for your prayers in the wake of tragedies that defy human understanding and are becoming more and more frequent.

Praise

Though it is difficult, start with praise. Focus on God's character.

- Praise God that He is sovereign, that He has ultimate control over it all, and that nothing takes Him by surprise (Is. 45:5-7).

Petition/Intercession

- Ask God to use this situation to bring unprecedented spiritual openness to people affected by the tragedy, and ask Him to show His face to them.
- Ask God to bless the ministry that will be thrust upon the church(es) or community affected by the tragedy. Ask Him to empower them with a powerful witness when they are called upon to speak about or reflect on the situation.
- Ask God to stand against the enemy's attempts to make families experience unresolved anger or guilt over the loss of loved ones.
- Ask God to focus the minds of public officials on the need for prayer and to provide people who will continue to pray for the situation.
- Ask God to equip leaders who will be called upon to mentor and minister to people in the aftermath of tragedy (Heb. 13:20-21).
- Ask God—for yourself and others—for a passion and love for Christ that drives out fear (1 Jn. 4:18).

Thanksgiving

- Thank God that the enemy has made a tactical error since persecution/trial has always strengthened the Church, and that God will use for good what Satan has intended for harm (Gen. 50:20-21).
- Thank God for the people who will be drawn to seek God's face because the overwhelming nature of the tragedy leaves them nowhere else to turn (Jon. 2:1-9).
- Thank God for a vivid reminder of your own mortality and vulnerability, asking Him to prepare your heart and spirit for a faithful response when you are faced with tragedy personally.
- In the case of martyrs: thank God for the blood of martyred victims, whose number will reveal God's ultimate glory (see Rev. 6:9).

You are encouraged to forward INSPIRE to anyone in your church who is interested in prayer. This is a ministry of the Cooperative Program and the Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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