

# ***Be Strong and Courageous!***

## ***Back to School Prayer Vigil***

Tuesday, 8.1.23

12 noon and 7 p.m.

### ***Welcome***

#### ***Scripture and Opening Prayer***

*“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”* Joshua 1:9 (NIV)

#### ***Prayer Focuses***

***\*Family and Relationships, Wisdom and Guidance, Health and Healing, Grieving: (Marriages, Parents, Grandparents, Foster Parents, Single Parents, Separation, and Divorce, Communication, Jobs and Finances, Covid, Cancer, Diabetes, High Blood Pressure, Loss of Loved Ones, Loss of Jobs, Fear of the Future)***

*“I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul will make its boast in the LORD; The humble will hear it and rejoice. O magnify the LORD with me, And let us exalt His name together. I sought the LORD, and He answered me, And delivered me from all my fears. The righteous cry, and the LORD hears And delivers them out of all their troubles. The LORD is near to the brokenhearted And saves those who are crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, But the LORD delivers him out of them all. He keeps all his bones, Not one of them is broken. Evil shall slay the wicked, And those who hate the righteous will be condemned. The LORD redeems the soul of His servants, And none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.”* Psalm 34:1-4; 16b-22

Please pray for:

- Strong marriages
- Support for parents, grandparents, foster parents, and single parents
- Support during separation and divorce
- All who are sick and shut in, dealing with long term illnesses, dealing with terminal illnesses
- All who are grieving from any type of loss

***\*Decision Makers for Education (Public, Private, Charter, Homeschool): (Boards of Education, Superintendents, Principals, Assistant Principals, Administrators, Athletic Directors, Presidents, Chancellors, Deans, Assistant Deans, and all decision makers)***

*“Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.” Surely he will save you from the fowler’s snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked.”* Psalm 91:1-8

Please pray our ***Decision Makers for Education*** will:

- Lead with fidelity
- Lead with integrity
- Make decisions equitable for those they serve
- Be considerate of others

Please pray for their:

- Health (mental, physical, spiritual)

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- Families
- Protection
- Vision to lead in their respective sphere of influence

**\*Supporting Staff:** *Professors, Counselors, Nurses, Teachers, Homeschooling Parents, Coaches, Peace Officers/Security, Librarians, Paraprofessionals, Cafeteria Workers, Custodians, Crossing Guards, Bus Drivers, and all supporting staff)*

*“If you say, “The LORD is my refuge,” and you make the Most High your dwelling, no harm will overtake you, no disaster will come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. You will tread on the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent. “Because he loves me,” says the LORD, “I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.””*

Psalm 91:9-16

Please pray our **Supporting Staff** will:

- Have a heart for those they serve
- Plan and prepare, but leave room to serve and care
- Make a positive impact in the lives of their students
- Be considerate of others

Please pray for their:

- Health (mental, physical, spiritual, financial)
- Families
- Protection
- Endurance to finish strong when it gets difficult

**\*Students/Student Athletes:** *(Pre-school, Elementary School, Middle/Jr. High School, High School, Homeschool, College)*

*“I lift up my eyes to the mountains— where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip—he who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The LORD watches over you— the LORD is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. The LORD will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life; the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.”* Psalm 121:1-8

Please pray our **Students/Student Athletes** will:

- Be blessed with good educators
- Have a desire to learn and grow
- Have the necessary tools to learn and grow
- Be considerate of others

Please pray for their:

- Health (mental, physical, spiritual, financial)
- Families
- Protection
- Focus on the task in front of them

***Closing Prayer and Remarks***