

Praying for Midterms

An IFA Prayer Guide for the 2018 Midterm Elections



Campaign with prayer.

Join **Intercessors for America** in praying for the primary season in our nation—for candidates on all sides, for the donors and directors, the mobilizers and the movers. Pray for integrity and transparency in the election process. Pray for godly candidates to run for office and that they would be well-funded. **Ask for direction from God on how you can be a part of the civic process.**

There are **twelve key House races** in our nation, in which retirements, weak incumbents, or a huge field of primary candidates warrant critical intercession. These key races may affect the balance of power in Congress. Please join us in praying for these highlighted districts—even if you don't live there.

Overall, pray that God would be honored in our elections and that Christians would not only pray, but also participate in elections.



Who's donating?

Who's mobilizing voters?

Why primaries matter.

How can we pray?

A better candidate starts in the primaries—and with prayer.

"Hold your nose and vote." "Vote for the lesser of the two evils." You've heard them both when neither of the candidates running for office are worthy of your vote. How can we see better candidates on our November ballots—whether for school board or for Senator? **The answer is primaries.** This process begins well before many ads appear on media and signs appear in yards. The primaries are the first public voter-vetting process for determining the slate for elections. Doesn't it make sense for prayer—and civic action—to begin **before** the primary stage? As we look toward the midterm elections, begin praying for your local and state elections now. Pray for **all** the candidates. Pray for donors. Pray for the people who mobilize voters. By being proactive with our prayer (and any [Intercessory Activism](#) we engage in), we will elect more godly leaders because we have been praying for them from the time they began their race. **Use this prayer guide to pray** for the groups of people who determine the candidates we see on Election Day. As you are praying, jot down what you sense the Lord directs about how you personally can participate in prayer and civic action for your area. For more ideas, download IFA's **Intercessory Activism prayer guide** [here](#).

Prayer Journal Notes



Pray for the groups mobilizing Conservatives.

As Conservatives mobilize voters and action on issues and elections, churches have lagged behind in voter involvement, perhaps due in large part to fear of promoting involvement in politics from the pulpit.

- Pray for integrity of mobilization efforts
- Pray for Christians to become involved in civic affairs
- Pray for kingdom values to gain traction



American Values

Gary Bauer has been a catalyst of action and voter information in several groups through the years. Today, he leads [American Values](#), a group dedicated to helping citizens voice their values, protecting “Family, Faith and Freedom.”



Liberty Action Counsel

Mat Staver is founder and leader of [Liberty Counsel](#) and [Liberty Action Counsel](#) which provide voter education and mobilization and also provide training, education, and representation of pastors and churches.



CultureImpact.org

[CultureImpact.org](#), an offshoot of the Family Research Council, led by **Tony Perkins**, specializes in mobilizing “in-house

leadership for congregational response to the moral and social issues” facing communities and our nation.



Hispanic Action Network

[HAN](#) reaches out to the Hispanic community to engage them in acting out their faith through voting and civic

involvement. “Engage, educate and equip” the Church to stand for biblical truth, is the goal of HAN, led by Executive Director **Mark Gonzales**.



My Faith Votes

Sealy Yates leads this organization of “think, pray, vote” focus. With honorary chairman Governor **Mike**

Huckabee, and a host of other endorsements, [My Faith Votes](#) has gained traction through the 2016 campaign, running a great number of voter turnout-focused ads on a variety of media.



Family Policy Alliance

Formerly known as Citizen Link, [Family Policy Alliance](#) is under the umbrella of **Focus on the Family**,

headed by **Paul Weber**.



Faith and Freedom Coalition

Ralph Reed has organized a new Conservative mobilization organization, [Faith and Freedom Coalition](#) which

seeks to help people of faith become more effective citizens.



Champion the Vote

A component of United in Purpose, led by **Bill Dallas**, [Champion the Vote](#) works with a network of independent, like-minded organizations, “bringing

the Biblical worldview to the forefront of American life and politics.”



AFA Action

Tim Wildmon leads AFA Action as a part of the American Family Association ministry. [AFA Action](#) provides election voter

guides and legislation action alerts.



Pray for the groups mobilizing Progressives.

Voter mobilization groups are plentiful on the Progressive side of politics. With a “ground game” that is strong in much of the country, these groups walk the neighborhoods, knock on doors, hold rallies, and phone potential voters to canvas for votes.

- Pray for integrity of mobilization efforts
- Pray for Christians to become involved in civic affairs
- Pray for kingdom values to gain traction



Organizing for Action

This mobilization network was the outgrowth of the **Obama for America Presidential campaign**, (the original OFA). It has an estimated 1.8 million participants with chapters across the nation. **Katie Hogan** serves as the Executive Director. Organizing for Action began on 2017 at the moment President Obama became a private citizen. OFA is headquartered in Chicago.



MoveOn.org

A 3.3 million member group that originally centered around online activity has become a force to move people into political engagement and move voters to [action](#). (MoveOn.org also has a separate political action committee.) [Anna Galland](#) is the Executive Director. In the 2008 election, it is reported that MoveOn.org contributed over \$58 million in the effort to elect Barack Obama.



Indivisible

This network of 5,800 local groups work in concert to affect progressive change through political mobilization of volunteers. Husband and wife [Ezra Levin and Leah Greenberg](#) co-direct the organization. The Indivisible Project is fiscally sponsored by Tides. Their goal is opposing the Trump Presidency and any candidate who is aligned with Trump policies.



America Votes

This coalition is the largest voter mobilization group in the nation. Their goal is to increase voter participation, registration, and education. [Greg Speed](#) is the President.



Rock the Vote

Engaging youth in the political process is the goal of Rock the Vote. This organization conducts various voter mobilization events, all featuring entertainment and musical celebrities. [Carolyn DeWitt](#) serves as President of Rock the Vote.



Voter Participation Center

Unmarried women, people of color, and young people are the targeted groups of this voter mobilization organization founded and led by [Page Gardner](#). The group was formerly known as **Women’s Voices, Women Vote**.

Find out more about Intercessory Activism [here](#).

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Funding groups, PACS, and key donors behind the Conservative movement.

Pray for each group by name, including leaders, that they would have the fear of the Lord as they invest their great wealth in candidates and races.

- Pray they would operate with integrity and with upright leadership
- Pray these groups would fund honorable candidates and seek godly solutions for our nation
- Pray for unity in purpose and wise spending

Top 10 Conservative PACS by Contributions in 2016

Figures provided by Center for Responsive Politics

Senate Leadership Fund Steven Law, CEO	\$86 million
National Republican Congressional Committee Rep. Steve Stivers, Chairman	\$73.6 million
National Rifle Association Wayne LaPierre, President	\$54.4 million
Congressional Leadership Fund Corry Bliss, Executive Director	\$40.1 million
National Republican Senatorial Committee Sen. Cory Gardner, Chairman	\$32.8 million
Freedom Partners Action Fund Mark Holden, Chairman	\$29.7 million
U.S. Chamber of Commerce Tom Donahue, CEO/President	\$29.1 million
Great America PAC Ed Rollins, Co-Chairman	\$23.6 million
Club for Growth David McIntosh, President	\$23.4 million
Rebuilding America Now Thomas Barrack, Jr., Founder	\$21.2 million

Two of the largest foundations funding Conservative political causes

Pray that these funds would be used to honor biblical values.

National Christian Foundation

The [National Christian Foundation](#) funds many of the politically-active civic organizations and ministries on the Conservative side, such as Family Research Council, and the American Family Association. It is a donor-advised foundation. **Chris Holdorf** is the CEO of NCF.

The Thirteen Foundation

The Thirteen Foundation funds organizations that uphold biblical values, such as Heritage Foundation, American Majority, Liberty Counsel, and others. With assets of over \$78 million, the foundation is headed by founder and trustee **Farris Wilks**.

Find out more about **Intercessory Activism** [here](#).

The eyes of the Lord are in every place,
keeping watch on the evil and the good.

-Proverbs 15:3 NKJV



- **Pray** that these major donor families would see their wealth as seed to be sown.
- **Pray** that they would desire to increase God's Kingdom with the financial blessings they have. May they be godly and righteous in earning and giving their wealth.

Pray for 'The Big 8'

The Top Eight Conservative Donor Families and Their Political Donation Muscle



Sheldon Adelson
\$77.9m



Robert Mercer
\$22.6m



John Joe Ricketts
\$14.4m



Diane Hendricks
\$13m



Richard Uihlein
\$19.6m



Ronnie Cameron
\$13.3m



Warren Stephens
\$12m



Bernard Marcus
\$11.6m

"I put my money where my beliefs are."

-Richard Uihlein

Pray God's Word over these donors and funding groups.

Deuteronomy 28:12

The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands.

Matthew 6:33

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Proverbs 3:9

Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops . . .

Prayer Journal Notes



Funding groups, PACs, and key donors behind the Progressive movement.

A **PAC**, or **Political Action Committee**, exists to raise and distribute funds for elections—not only to elect specific candidates, but also to actively defeat specific candidates or legislation. These organizations operate outside the candidate’s campaign.

- Pray for integrity and godly values in these PACs and the people who operate them
- Pray for each one by name that they would have the fear of the Lord as they invest their great wealth in candidates and races

Top 10 Progressive PACS by Contributions in 2016

Figures provided by Center for Responsive Politics

Priorities USA/Priorities USA Action Guy Cecil, Director	\$133.4 million
Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee Senator Chris Van Hollen, Chairman	\$103.8 million
Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee Ben Ray Lujan, Chairman	\$80.4 million
Senate Majority PAC J.B. Poersch, President	\$75.4 million
House Majority PAC Alixandria Lapp, President	\$47.5 million
EMILY’s List Stephanie Schriock, President	\$33.2 million
Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Mary Kay Henry, President	\$24.5 million
NextGen Climate Action Tom Steyer, Founder	\$22.9 million
League of Conservation Voters Gene Karpinski, President	\$19.9 million
Amer. Fed. Of State, County & Munic. Empl. (AFSCME) Lee Saunders, President	\$15.2 million

Three of the largest foundations funding liberal political causes

Pray that these funds would be used to honor biblical values.

Ford Foundation, the fifth wealthiest charitable foundation in the world, with assets of \$12.51 billion, has a massive footprint. Under the leadership of **Darren Walker**, Ford Foundation funds charities such as the ACLU and People for the American Way.

Open Society Foundations (OSF), is a behemoth of funding progressive charities, founded in 1993 by **George Soros** with nearly \$25 billion in assets. Second only to the Gates Foundation in assets, Open Society Foundations pours funding into groups such as Planned Parenthood, Center for American Progress, ACT, SEIU and many more.

TIDES Foundation and TIDES Center has a focus on funding and assisting “change makers” for equality and human rights such as **Indivisible**, [Planned Parenthood](#) and other abortion organizations are a recipient of TIDES money. **Kriss Dieglmeier** is the CEO of [TIDES](#) Foundation.

He who trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like foliage.

-Proverbs 11:28 NKJV

- **Pray** that these major donor families would see their wealth as seed to be sown
- **Pray** that they would desire to increase God's Kingdom with the financial blessings they have. May they be godly and righteous in earning and giving wealth

Pray for 'The Big 8'

The Top Eight Progressive Donor Families and Their Political Donation Muscle



Thomas Steyer
\$89.7m



Fred Eychaner
\$35.3m



Dustin Moskovitz
\$24m



George Soros
\$20.6m



Donald Sussman
\$39.2m



James & Marilyn
Simons \$25m



Michael Bloomberg
\$23.7m



J.B. & M.K. Pritzker
\$18.9m

“I do think there are certain times we should infringe on your freedom.”

—Michael Bloomberg

Prayer Journal Notes

Pray God's Word over these donors and funding groups.

Matthew 6:21

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

1 Timothy 6:10

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

Ecclesiastes 7:12

Wisdom is a shelter as money is a shelter, but the advantage of knowledge is this: Wisdom preserves those who have it.

Find out more about Intercessory Activism [here.](#)



Twelve Critical Primary Races for Intercession

Pray for godly candidates to emerge from these primaries and to appear on the ballot in the general election.

Arizona 6th District

Primary - August 28, 2018

Primary Candidates:

Garrick McFadden (D)
Anita Malik (D)
Heather Ross (D)
John Williamson (D)
Gustavo Ortega (D)
David Schweikert (R—Incumbent)

California 4th District

Primary - June 5, 2018

Primary Candidates:

Regina Bateson (D)
Roza Calderon (D)
Jessica Morse (D)
Tom McClintock (R—Incumbent)
Steven Castellano (R)

Florida 6th District

Primary - August 28, 2018

Primary Candidates:

Robert Coffman (D)
Nancy Soderberg (D)
Fred Costello (R)
Jimmy Johns (R)
Jeremy Kelly (R)
Michael Waltz (R)
John Ward (R)

Iowa 1st District

Primary - June 5, 2018

Primary Candidates:

Abby Finkenauer (D)
Thomas Heckroth (D)
George Ramsey (D)
Courtney Rowe (D)
Rod Blum (R—Incumbent)
Henry Gaff (Green Party)

New Mexico 2nd District

Primary - June 5, 2018

Primary Candidates:

David Alcon (D)
Madeleine Hildebrandt (D)
Xochitl Torres Small (D)
Gavin Clarkson (R)
Clayburn Griffin (R)
Yvette Herrell (R)
Monty Newman (R)
Jack Volpato (R)

Nevada 3rd District

Primary - June 12, 2018

Primary Candidates:

Richard Hart (D)
Susie Lee (D)
Jack Love (D)
Guy Pinjuv (D)
Steve Schiffman (D)
Michael Weiss (D)
Eddie Hamilton (R)
Scott Hammond (R)
Stephanie Jones (R)
David McKeon (R)
Michelle Mortensen (R)
Victoria Seaman (R)

South Carolina 1st District

Primary - June 12, 2018

Primary Candidates:

Joe Cunningham (D)
Toby Smith (D)
Mark Sanford (R—Incumbent)
Katie Arrington (R)

Virginia 6th District

(GOP candidate selected—May 19)

Primary - June 12, 2018

Primary Candidates:

Sergio Coppola (D)
Jennifer Lewis (D)
Peter Volosin (D)
Ben Cline (R)
Cynthia Dunbar (R)
Mike Desjadan (R)
Chaz Haywood (R)
Ed Justo (R)
Kathryn Lewis (R)
Elliot Pope (R)
Douglas Wright (R)

Washington 8th District

Primary - August 7, 2018

Primary Candidates:

Poga Ahn (D)
Thomas Cramer (D)
Shannon Hader (D)
Robert Hunziker (D)
Brian Kostenko (D)
Brayden Olson (D)
Jason Ritterer (D)
Kim Schrier (D)
Dino Rossi (R)
Bill Grassie (I)

West Virginia 2nd District

Primary - May 8, 2018

Primary Candidates:

Aaron Scheinberg (D)
Talley Sergent (D)
Alexander Mooney (R—Incumbent)

Source: [Ballotpedia](#)

Find out who's running for office in *your* area [here](#).

Find out more about Intercessory Activism [here](#).





Thirteen Critical Senate Races for Intercession

In 2018, there are 33 seats up for election in the Senate—currently held by 23 Democrats, 8 Republicans, and 2 Independents. The following races are considered “battleground” or “elections to watch,” because they may affect the balance of power in the Senate. Pray for godly

candidates to be chosen in these primaries for the ballot in the general election. Due to space limitations, we have listed only the leading contenders in these primary races. Source: [Ballotpedia](#)

Arizona

Primary Date—August 28, 2018
Jeff Flake—outgoing

Primary Candidates:

Kelli Ward (R)
Martha McSally (R)
Kyrsten Sinema (D)

Florida

Primary Date—August 28, 2018
Bill Nelson (D—Incumbent)

Primary Candidates:

Expected to run: Rick Scott (R)

Indiana

Primary Date—May 8, 2018
Joe Donnelly (D—Incumbent)

Primary Candidates:

Todd Rokrita (R)
Luke Messer (R)

Maine

Primary Date—June 12, 2018
Angus King (I—Incumbent)

Primary Candidate:

Eric Brakey (R)

Michigan

Primary Date—August 7, 2018
Debbie Stabenow (D—Incumbent)

Primary Candidates:

John James (R)
Sandy Pensler (R)

Missouri

Primary Date—August 7, 2018
Clare McCaskill (D—Incumbent)

Primary Candidates:

Angelica Earl (D)
Josh Hawley (R)
Courtland Sykes (R)

Montana

Primary Date—June 5, 2018
Jon Tester (D—Incumbent)

Primary Candidates:

Troy Downing (R)
Russell C. Fagg (R)
Matt Rosendale (R)

Nevada

Primary Date—June 12, 2018
Dean Heller (R—Incumbent)

Primary Candidates:

Jacky Rosen (D)

North Dakota

Primary Date—June 12, 2018
Heidi Heitkamp (D—Incumbent)

Primary Candidate:

Kevin Cramer (R)

Ohio

Primary Date—May 8, 2018
Sherrod Brown (D—Incumbent)

Primary Candidates:

Mike Gibbons (R)
Jim Renacci (R)

Pennsylvania

Primary Date—May 15, 2018
Bob Casey, Jr. (D—Incumbent)

Primary Candidates:

Paul Addis (R)
Lou Barletta (R)

West Virginia

Primary Date—May 8, 2018
Joe Manchin (D—Incumbent)

Primary Candidates:

Evan Jenkins (R)
Patrick Morrissey (R)

Wisconsin

Primary Date—August 14, 2018
Tammy Baldwin (D—Incumbent)

Primary Candidates:

Kevin Nicholson (R)
Leah Vukmir (R)

Find out who's running for office in *your* area [here](#). Find out more about Intercessory Activism [here](#).





Pray for these primaries and elections.

Pray for godly candidates to emerge from these primaries and to appear on the ballot in the general election. Click [here](#) to find out who's running for office in your area. Learn more about Intercessory Activism [here](#).

February 27

Arizona 8th District special primary

March 6

Texas primary

March 13

Pennsylvania 18th District special election

March 20

Illinois primary

April 24

Arizona 8th District special election

May 8

Indiana primary
North Carolina primary
Ohio primary
West Virginia primary

May 15

Idaho primary
Nebraska primary
Oregon primary
Pennsylvania primary

May 22

Arkansas primary
Georgia primary
Kentucky primary
Texas primary runoff

June 5

Alabama primary
California primary
Iowa primary

Mississippi primary

Montana primary
New Jersey primary
New Mexico primary
South Dakota primary

June 12

Maine primary
Nevada primary
North Dakota primary
South Carolina primary
Virginia primary

June 19

Arkansas primary runoff
D.C. primary

June 26

Colorado primary
Maryland primary
Mississippi primary runoff
North Carolina primary runoff
New York primary
Oklahoma primary
South Carolina primary runoff
Utah primary

July 17

Alabama primary runoff
North Carolina primary runoff

July 24

Georgia primary runoff

August 2

Tennessee primary

August 7

Kansas primary
Michigan primary
Missouri primary
Washington primary

August 11

Hawaii primary

August 14

Connecticut primary
Minnesota primary
South Dakota primary runoff
Vermont primary
Wisconsin primary

August 21

Alaska primary
Wyoming primary

August 28

Arizona primary
Florida primary
Oklahoma primary runoff

September 6

Delaware primary

September 11

New Hampshire primary
Rhode Island primary

September 13

New York primary

September 18

Massachusetts primary

November 6

General Election
Louisiana primary

December 4

Georgia general election runoff

December 8

Louisiana general election

Source: [Ballotpedia](#)

