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SOCIAL MEDIA & OUTREACH

Like it or not, social media is how most people communicate and interact with one another these days. Therefore, it would be a very good idea to make use of social media platforms in order to alert people in your community to your **MYATP** prayer meetings and to provide real-time information and updates to your prayer warriors. This could be important, as you may have critical announcements to relay, such as an unavoidable change in venue or time.

You might want to consider delegating this responsibility to a mature, responsible team member who is familiar with the technology, especially if you are not! Any of the major platforms can be put to good use including **Facebook**, **Twitter**, **Instagram** and **Meetup**. The **GovPray** and **Intercessors for America** websites are other places you will want to post information specific to your local meetings.

GovPray (GovPray.com)

This is your number one online resource. First of all, it is the place to go for the most up-to-date information, and where you will download your weekly **Prayer Points** before each meeting. It is also where you will register your local meetings and post your flagpole location so that people can find you. You will be able to post meeting notes specific to your location. This might include announcements such as "We will be meeting at the flagpole on the Cherry Street side of the County Courthouse and not at the flagpole on Main Street," or "There is a chance for rain so dress warm and bring an umbrella."

Intercessors for America (<u>ifapray.org</u>)

This is an organization formed in 1973 specifically for the purpose of national prayer mobilization. You can register your meetings with them and place your pole location on their interactive map. This will reach prayer warriors in your area who might not otherwise hear about the meetings. Be sure to update your information if the meeting place or time changes. We would encourage your prayer warriors to get on the IFA email list to receive their weekly prayer reminders and notifications. This will help them stay involved as intercessors even after the **MYATP** meetings have ended.

Facebook (<u>www.facebook.com/GovPray</u>)

As the most widely used social media platform, creating a **Meet You at the Polls** Facebook page for your local flagpole meeting would be an excellent idea. This will enable you to post meeting announcements and updates, prayer requests and pictures from your pole gatherings.

This should be done as early as possible for two reasons. First, because the earlier your page exists, the more people will find and share it. Second, when you go to set up your page, there is a possibility that FB may consider it to be a political page (even though it is not). If they do, there may be a two week hold before it is allowed to go live. Therefore, when you set up the page, be sure to indicate that this is a religious event and not political in nature. **MYATP** does not contribute to political candidates or parties, nor do we as an organization endorse candidates or parties. We pray for candidates, voters and leaders regardless of political affiliation, and for the electoral process in general.

Here is a step-by-step guide to creating your own **MYATP** page. If you are not skilled at creating FB pages, it would probably be advisable to get the help of someone who is.

IMPORTANT Permission to use the **MYATP** name and logo is only granted to those who agree to operate within the **MYATP** <u>Code of Conduct</u> and accept our <u>Statement of Faith</u>. Permission to use the **Meet You at the Polls** name and logotypes does not reflect the endorsement of **Meet You at the Polls**, our staff, volunteers, partners or leadership. Additionally, **Meet You at the Polls** reserves the right to withdraw said permission at any time or for any cause without advance notice or explanation.

If you agree to these terms, then proceed as follows!

- 1. Go to the parent *Meet You at the Polls* Facebook page at www.facebook.com/GovPray
- 2. Create a new Facebook Page for your own community. You will be given two options: Business or Community. Select Community.
- 3. Name the Page after your city or community (i.e., Meet You at the Polls Spring, TX. Be sure to use the exact **MYATP** wording and spelling so that the event will not be confused with the "See You at the Pole" school gatherings.)
- 4. Enter "Community" as the page category (*do not enter Political* first of all, this isn't a political event, and second, Facebook will pull your page down and require you to go through a two week vetting process to get it back up)

- 5. Use whatever images you wish for your Profile Picture and Cover Photos, though neither of these things are absolutely necessary.
- 6. In your page description, insert the following text:

"Content and comments posted on this page are generated by others and do not necessarily reflect the beliefs and opinions of **Meet You at the Polls**, its staff, volunteers, partners or leadership, nor does the existence of this page imply an endorsement by **Meet You at the Polls**."

- 7. Create a Post by copying and pasting the information you see on the parent **MYATP**Facebook page, and then personalize the content to meet the needs of your community.
- 8. Create an Event by clicking on the Events button. You will create two Public events, as follows:

Event Name Meet You at the Polls — Spring, TX

Location Harris County Courthouse, 6831 Cypresswood Dr, 77379

Frequency Weekly

Day Select the 4 Sundays leading up to the election: Oct 11, 18, 25 & Nov 1

Time Suggested start time is 3 PM & the event should last about 1-1½ hours

Category Religion

Description A local gathering of Christians to pray for our country

Keywords None necessary

Kid Friendly Yes

Messaging ON, if you will be available to field questions on FB Messenger

9. Event Name Election Day

Location (Since each person in your community will go to his own polling station

in order to cast his vote, you should enter a link that lists the polling

stations in your area, i.e., https://harrisvotes.com/)

Frequency Occurs Once
Day Tuesday, Nov 3

Time Enter the times your voting stations will be open (7AM-7PM)

Category Other

Description Time to perform our civic duty and vote!

Keywords None necessary

Kid Friendly Yes

Messaging ON, if you will be available to field questions on FB Messenger

10. Ask family, friends and church members to go to your page, click on the Events they will be attending and share your page with their own FB friends.

Email

As you promote your meetings, you will build up a roster of names and contact information. You will also want to pass around a contact sheet at the conclusion of each pole meeting to enable persons to get on your contact list. Use this email list to spread information on **MYATP** meetings or other local events they might be interested in. However, do so judiciously. Include an opt-out statement in each email you send in case a person wishes to be removed from your list. If a person *does* ask to be removed, do so immediately!

Broadcast Media

Contact your local Christian radio and TV stations to alert them to your meetings. They may be willing to interview a member of your team, or wish to report on one of your meetings. We aren't looking for publicity for publicity's sake, but we do want to let as many believers as possible know about our meetings. If you are asked to do an interview, please read through ALL of the **MYATP** materials so that you will be able to speak accurately about this nation-wide initiative. If no one in your local group feels comfortable doing an interview, we have people within the **MYATP** organization who would be happy to speak with your local media.

Additionally, broadcast media outlets usually have community calendars which are available on their websites and may even be broadcast at a certain time of the day. It is important that you get your meeting information submitted as soon as possible, as these calendar announcements can fill up pretty quickly.

Churches

Obviously, you will wish to tell your priest or pastor about **Meet You at the Polls**. If he catches the vision, he may wish to invite his whole congregation to participate. If so, praise God! If not, ask his permission to speak to Bible study groups or Sunday School classes in the church to get the word out. Be sure to tell him that **MYATP** does not endorse candidates or parties, and that the events are not held in churches. Participation at a **MYATP** event will in no way jeopardize the church's 501.C.3 status. You also might ask him to watch Rafael Cruz' message to the pastors of America, which may be found here: Rev. Rafael Cruz - Reclaiming America

You may also contact other pastors in your community to let them know of the opportunity. Though phone calls are great, a personal visit to the church with some **MYATP** flyers would be much better. Be sure to visit Christ-honoring churches of all races and ethnicities, and invite them to help lead your meetings if they are in agreement with the **MYATP** ideals.

Flyers, Handouts & Promo Materials

MYATP has templates available for business cards, flyers and posters. These templates are created in Microsoft Word, and all you have to do is fill in your own local information. Of course, you are also welcome to design your own. These may be posted publically or handed out at Bible bookstores, churches, coffee houses, etc. Templates are also available at **Vistaprint**, should you wish to have large numbers printed up at a relatively low cost. Contact us for details.

You may also wish to engage believers at political events. Based on experiences we had in 2018, we learned some valuable lessons. Use handouts that say **PRAY** in large letters instead of **POLLS** so that people won't think you're doing voter registration or campaigning for a candidate. It also wouldn't be a bad idea to wear a hat or shirt indicating that your outreach is spiritual rather than political in nature. If it is a large crowd, don't waste time engaging individuals who are antagonistic or clearly uninterested unless the Spirit is moving you to minister to them.

Bumper stickers, shirts and pins may eventually be made available at **GovPray.com**. Stay tuned for more info.