

Sarasota Prayer Breakfast, Inc.

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Celebrating Christ Among Us Through Our Sarasota Prayer Breakfast Since 1973



Sarasota Prayer Breakfast
P.O. Box 19026
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Sarasota Prayer Breakfast Newsletter

July 2019

Creating Prayer and Unity on the Suncoast

Historically the leadership of our nation has turned to Almighty God for strength and guidance. It is in this spiritual tradition that we hold the Sarasota Prayer Breakfast which is patterned after the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, D.C.

We just recently held our 47th Prayer Breakfast, bringing together people from all walks of faith. What a wonderful opportunity for us to come together in unity, set aside our differences and pray for our leaders, community, state and nation.

For those of you who were able to attend, we thank you. The success of the Sarasota Prayer Breakfast was all because of your involvement, participation and support. We continue to receive good reports of how this year's Prayer Breakfast positively affected people.

This year's guest speaker was David Barton, president and founder of Wallbuilders. David shared many historical facts of how God's divine providence has blessed our nation. It was inspiring.

We are already planning next year's Prayer Breakfast which will be on March 9, 2020. Our guest speaker will be Rick Larson. Rick has done extensive studies on the star of Bethlehem and the earthquake at the time of Jesus's crucifixion.

The purpose of this newsletter is to uplift your spirit and to thank you for your support of our annual Prayer Breakfast. Please accept this newsletter as an inspiration and encouragement for remembering that PRAYER really does change things in Sarasota! The solidarity of community prayer (even in small groups) is an inspiration to us all!

Have You Heard Of The Cedars ?

The Cedars is a mansion dating back to the 1700's surrounded by lush woodlands located on the highest point of the Potomac with a magnificent and historic view of Washington, D.C. The home was once surrounded by cedar trees which is how it got its name.

In 1942 members of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives began the Congressional Prayer Breakfast groups. Their example lead to the formation of similar leadership groups which have begun in over 180 nations on every continent.

As a result of these groups close personal friendships have developed among people throughout the world who carry heavy responsibilities. These friends and their associates visit Washington, D.C. frequently. Therefore in 1945 it was decided that a home was needed where they could meet to link together, plan together and pray together about personal and public problems and opportunities. The Cedars was an answer to that need. It provides a wonderful family atmosphere – a haven of security and privacy, a place of discovery while inspiring peace and contemplation.

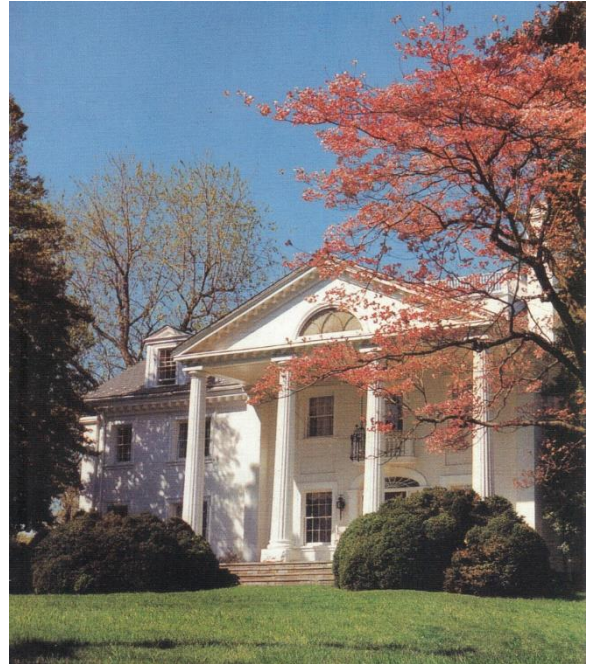
The Cedars was purchased in 1978 by the Fellowship Foundation (the organization behind the National Prayer Breakfast, a.k.a. the International Foundation).

It is maintained voluntarily inside and out by young men and women from throughout the United States and the world who live and work together pondering and applying the principles and precepts of Jesus of Nazareth.

The home is used as a center for Bible studies, counseling, hymn sings, life mentoring, prayer groups, Prayer Breakfasts, luncheons, dinners, and hospitality receptions for international reconciliation and conflict resolution initiatives.

Down through the years all those involved at The Cedars agree that their vision for this home is expressed by the following:

"I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you made me welcome. I was naked and you clothed me. I was ill and you came and looked after me. I was in prison and you came to see me there. I assure you that whatever you did for the humblest of my brothers and sisters, you did for me."



The Cedars is host to dozens of Prayer Breakfasts, luncheons and dinners for ambassadors, congressional representatives, foreign religious leaders and many others. Representatives from the International Foundation travel around the world making friends with world leaders, often praying with them and inviting them back to The Cedars.

While attending a Fellowship prayer and discussion group in 1978, President Carter had discussions via phone with Menachem Begin. Yasser Arafat visited the Cedars in 1999.

In 2001, the Fellowship helped arrange a private meeting at Cedars between two warring leaders, Democratic Republic of Congo President Joseph Kabila and Rwandan President Paul Kagame, one of the first of a series of discreet meetings between the two African leaders that eventually led to the signing of a peace accord.

The Cedars also provides a place of respite. Well-knowns ranging from Michael Jackson to Hillary Clinton have escaped to The Cedars for refuge.

Couples rotate as hosts at the mansion for two-week stints and welcome any visitors. College students and post graduates can sign up to work as interns at The Cedars from six months to a year.

You can visit or work at The Cedars.

Ask us how.

The National Prayer Breakfast Is a Multiple Day Event

The National Prayer Breakfast is traditionally held on the first Thursday in February. Did you know that it is one of many events that surround this occasion?

I had the pleasure of attending the NPB and was amazed at all the other activities. Check-in begins on Tuesday and continues into Wednesday morning. During the week there are all types of meetings, conferences, and seminars to attend.



Wednesday morning is a Middle East Breakfast to learn about what believers are doing in that area. Wednesday afternoon before dinner the Florida group holds a reception where you can fellowship with other Floridians. Wednesday evening is the regional dinner hosted by members of Congress and national performing artists. Thursday morning is the Prayer Breakfast attended by over 3,500 guests from 150 countries and all 50 states.

Seminars continue throughout the day. If you plan to stay through Friday there is a 9:00 a.m. reception to share experiences. Field trips are available to visit The Cedars and the "Southeast White House".

The National Prayer Breakfast is an awe inspiring event. It is reassuring to see how our leaders come together in prayer seeking God's guidance.

Attendance at the National Prayer Breakfast is by invitation only. Each state gets a limited number of tickets.

I would like to encourage you to consider taking part in this wonderful event. If you are interested please let me know. I can put you in touch with the Florida team.

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Southeast White House



The Southeast White House is literally a large house painted white located in the poorest part of the District of Columbia. It is maintained and operated by the International Foundation – the same organization behind the scenes at the National Prayer Breakfast.

It is an outreach to the poor and needy in the community providing a variety of services. Outreach programs include:

Food and clothing; fellowship – being a friend to those in need; tutoring; Bible studies; helping people obtain services; a meeting place; and much more.



You may be wondering, "What does this have to do with the Sarasota Prayer Breakfast?"

Anyone is welcome to attend the Prayer Breakfast; however, the main focus is to invite leaders from all walks of life: business, industry, religion, education, public service, military and the like. The Prayer Breakfast presents an inspiring program and in turn, encourages those leaders to bring back that inspiration to the people that they lead and to make a difference in the community. One way to reach out to the community is through local programs like those at the Southeast White House.

Here in Sarasota we encourage the formation of small groups. A few like-minded people can accomplish great things and create outreach programs that make a difference in the community.

Sarasota Prayer Breakfast 2019



"An awesome, awesome relevant message. And the music!"
Sharon Kelley

"I loved the message and it really helped to see the hand of God in the past and everything we do."
Ava Swihart



"Thank you all, so very beautiful. What a joy & blessing it is to gather together so many God fearing, loving citizens of our community together."
Donna Hoefler

"I'm so glad I came! Wonderful!!"
Beverly Albertson



"Exceptionally inspiring meeting. It gives us reason to hope and pray more frequently."
Marilyn Koach



"Wonderful! Excellent! Praise God!"
David Downer



Thanks to our sponsors for helping to make this Prayer Breakfast possible:
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We would like to hear from you. Please e-mail your comments and suggestions to:
info@sarasotaprayerbreakfast.com