

I. Introduction.

- A. Every Christian church and ministry on earth has various distinctives, emphases and cultures/personalities (DNA) all their own according to the gifts and purposes of God. No ministry can or will do it all. At GPHOP, we're no different. We're to focus on the few distinctives God has shown us and honor those who have different ones. We all exist to emphasize certain things the Spirit is emphasizing to us in order to faithfully play our part in "...equip(ing) his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ" (Ephesians 4:12-13).
- B. Each of you will be involved for some months or years here in various capacities. If and when you move on according to God's plan for your life (which is good and healthy and worth celebration), it's my hope and prayer that you will have received certain character qualities and insights to carry with you. In other words, I hope there are things you will take from your time of involvement here. Not that I believe we are the gold standard of ministry, but that we nonetheless have been given a particular stewardship that comes with unique qualities to help promote spiritual maturity in a way different than any other place in Jesus' citywide church.

II. Things I hope you grow in and learn during your time involved at GPHOP.

1. **A love for God and a delight in His Word.** Simply put, that you would appreciate the majestic grandeur of the triune God that we are so blessed to know by believing in and following Jesus. We are His sons and daughters and friends. Love Him above all else in life (Matthew 22:37-40). Devour what He said (the Scriptures) every single day and night while seeking to cultivate a correct understanding of God. "What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." (A. W. Tozer)
 - **Psalm 112:1 (NIV)** | Praise the Lord. Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who find great delight in his commands.
2. **A strong and enduring devotional life.** Taking time every day to sit at Jesus' feet like Mary of Bethany did is probably the most important thing we can do each day. This involves reading the Bible and prayerfully contemplating what it means. (See Luke 10:38-42.)
3. **An understanding of the calling and power of intercession.** God calls us all to stand in the gap for our Christian brothers and sisters, the lost, our city, specific nations, etc. (1 Timothy 2:1-3). **STORY** of a young man getting saved as we persistently asked for his salvation. I'm hoping you catch a love for central Illinois and a strong sense of responsibility to intercede for our communities.
4. **An addiction to answered prayer.** Very few things make us feel loved by God like when we pray and He actually answers specifically and powerfully. Answered prayer is, in my opinion, one of the highest—if not the highest—motivators for continued perseverance in prayer. "When I called, You answered me..." (Psalm 138:3). David would pray for God to answer his prayers (Psalm 143:1).
5. **A genuinely humble heart.** Love expressed as humility is chief among all virtues. This involves serving, ability to be low, teachability, speaking honorably of others, etc. If you leave your time in this ministry more humble than when you first came, I feel I have given you one of the greatest gifts you could ever receive (yet not I, the Lord). We serve a humble God who expects us to embrace a meek and servant-oriented attitude. These are the types of people He exalts. (See Matthew 11:29, James 4:6, 1 Peter 5:5.)
6. **An appreciation for the diversity of the church and a burden for her unity.** The global church of Jesus Christ is incredible. It spans many cultures and theological persuasions. Let's focus on common areas of agreement instead of being difficult and divisive. Jesus prayed that believers would be one in unity (John 17) and it's very important to Him that we relate to one another accordingly.
7. **A care for and tenderness toward children.** Like Jesus, we're to have a special love for little children (including the unborn). There's something about how we view little kiddos that reveals our true worldview. Jesus made many astounding statements in regard to children. He said that if we welcome the children, we welcome Him (Matthew 18:5). Also see Matthew 18:10.
8. **A clearer sense of God's will for your life.** As I often say, the most spiritual thing you can do is what Jesus tells you to do. If you're not sure what that is, stay faithful where you're at until He makes it clear. If you have a growing sense of clarity about something, it's worth the risk to look into it and check it out. No matter how much clarity we have, though, there's always some element of faith involved in order to step into it. I also hope that with the added clarity you will have more skills and excellence due to serving here. In other words, I hope you've grown in your leadership, musicianship, administration, technology, etc. (See 1 Thessalonians 4:3,7.)

Honorable mentions: A focus on encouragement; an appreciation for faithfulness in little; a longing for revival; a heart for relationship with the Holy Spirit (fruit, gifts, especially the prophetic); a vision for discipling younger believers to fully obey and radically live the gospel.

Help me improve my notes! The first person to point out a legitimate mistake/typo on this document (during service) gets \$1.

Greater Peoria House of Prayer Announcements for August 30, 2019.

1. **Welcome** to the Greater Peoria House of Prayer... we're glad you're here and blessed to be worshipping God with you! Be sure to pick up the **free** materials at the back table in the prayer room or the desk near the front of the downstairs fellowship area, which includes teaching notes, stickers, pens, prayer cards and more. **Daily schedule:** We have morning prayer right here in this room seven days a week from 7-8 a.m. Monday - Friday and 8-9 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. We have afternoon prayer four days a week: Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 11:30 a.m. - noon. We have evening prayer with live worship from 6-8 p.m. Monday - Saturday. On Friday's, we have an extra prayer gathering from 10-11:30 a.m. Our **Friday Encounter Night** is from 6-9 p.m. and is our main corporate gathering each Friday evening featuring live worship and a teaching to inspire love for Jesus and prayer.
2. **UPCOMING EVENTS:** Kids Prayer Night is tomorrow evening from 6-8 p.m. There's a free giveaway!
3. **Prayer room ministry opportunities:** If you are interested in leading or ministering during a live worship set by singing, playing an instrument, prayer leading or behind the sound board, please contact us at info@gphop.org. We'd love to have you serve on one of our teams! **Team ministry opportunities:** If you feel the Lord has gifted you in the prophetic (or would like to grow in this gifting) and would consider helping on a prophetic team, send an email to info@gphop.org. Contact Mandy Kistner at mandy@gphop.org if you would like to schedule a future healing ministry appointment or help out on the healing team.
4. **Missions:** Please keep the following missionaries we support in prayer as well as be sensitive to their financial needs: **Ashley Bucknam** and **Alicia Wright** (ACTS School; Colorado Springs, CO); **Tim and Blair Fraim** (Florianopolis House of Prayer; Florianopolis, Brazil); **Eric and Erin Simmons** (Minnesota House of Prayer Network; Twin Cities, MN); **Austin and Amy Zhu** and **Phil Kellenberger** (International House of Prayer; Kansas City, MO); **Babett Mueller** (111 Global; Kansas City, MO). Also keep friends **Tyler and Sarah Cook** and family in prayer who lead a HOP in Ottawa, IL.
5. **Military:** Please keep the following members of our military in prayer as they valiantly serve the United States of America: **Jake Gerst**, currently stationed in Fort Benning (Georgia).
6. **Social media:** Follow us on Facebook (Greater Peoria House of Prayer - GPHOP), Twitter (@GPHOPrayer), Instagram (@GPHOPrayer), Vimeo and YouTube for regular updates and inspiration. Use these social media sites to get the word out, share pictures, quotes you heard, etc. Contact Derek at derek@gphop.org if you're interested in helping with GPHOP's social media.
7. **Refuge ministry:** There are several groups who use our facility for their ministry purposes. Please keep the following in prayer: Christian Business Men's Connection Bible studies (Thursday mornings), Kinisi 424 senior worship leader meetings (monthly/as needed), kingdom business prayer groups (as needed), prophetic dance classes (as needed) and Sunday church gatherings (as needed).
8. We provide **free wifi** to everyone here! The password for the **GPHOP** router is on the chalkboard in the downstairs fellowship area. You can also connect to either the CableWiFi or xfinitywifi routers if you have a personal Comcast account.
9. **Prayer requests:** If you would like our community to pray for something specific, please submit it to info@gphop.org.
10. **Giving:** If you have been blessed by the GPHOP and would like sow financially into the ministry, we would be more than blessed. You can give in cash, but if you would like to give to GPHOP with a check, please make it out to "Greater Peoria House of Prayer" or "GPHOP"—your gift is tax deductible. Thank you for your generosity! It's helping make day and night prayer with worship possible in central Illinois. You can place your gift in the Saturday night offering during the 7 p.m. teaching or drop it in either of the two black donation boxes. Donations can also be mailed to our physical address at 117 East Washington Street, East Peoria, IL 61611. Donors can also use PayPal or our website (gphop.org/donate) to give electronically.

*Thank you for helping to **keep this prayer room sacred** by ensuring conversations with others are brief and kindly reminding others to do the same. Use the large Gathering Grounds fellowship area downstairs if you would like to chat at length.*