

WE LIFTED DETROIT IN PRAYER—NOW LIFT **YOUR** COMMUNITY!

On the afternoon of Sunday, September 14, at Hart Plaza, the epicenter of the Detroit experience for over three hundred years, nearly 1000 diverse souls gathered for “I Lift Detroit in Prayer!” At this spot, the destination of the Underground Railroad that carried slaves to freedom, a powerful prayer energy was ignited that is still reverberating in the hearts and minds of the people of Detroit. This was the number one lead story in the newspapers and news broadcasts the next day.

At the event, which included participants from all the world religions and groups living in Detroit, only a few words were spoken—by David Crumm, editor of Readthespirit.com and Greg Barrette, Lead Minister of host church Renaissance Unity. Unity Licensed teacher and founder of the Center for Enlightenment, Jane Hart, led a brief meditation, during which everyone envisioned a one word affirmative prayer for their community. As Juliaette Hamilton sang Renaissance Unity’s Gospel Truth selections, the participants lined up to write their prayers in specially designed and blessed books, emblazoned with the “I Lift Detroit in Prayer” logo, which were then distributed to all the faith communities in the city by those who came.

This was the climax of a twenty-one day prayer vigil that had been kicked off with special Sunday services at Renaissance Unity and many area churches, mosques and spiritual communities.

The slogan “I LIFT DETROIT IN PRAYER” was emblazoned on 25,000 yellow bumper stickers and seen by over one million souls who passed by Hart Plaza’s jumbotron sign during the weeks preceding the event.

We are now forming dozens of “I Lift Detroit in Prayer” Master Mind Groups, which use the eight-step Master Mind prayer group format to embark on a transformative journey in our neighborhoods. We will each say a prayer for our self, our family and our community, picking one simple project to lift up our locality—such as pulling up the weeds in a median strip, baking a dinner for an elderly neighbor, or clearing out a vacant lot. Then, each week, we will hold ourselves accountable by reporting back to the group what we have done. In this powerful way, we will make a difference in our cities and towns. The format for these self-organizing groups can be found on our website, www.renaissanceunity.org. Just click on the “I Lift Detroit in Prayer” logo.

“I LIFT (YOUR COMMUNITY) IN PRAYER” has the opportunity to transform the consciousness of any city. The changes in Detroit have just begun! Our vision is that the Association of Unity Churches will adopt and share this idea so that every city will be lifted up in prayer.