

INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA

PRAYER LETTER

March 2011

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A CALL TO STAND WATCH

David Kubal

Our founding fathers set out to make this nation the greatest nation. They understood how critical it was for them to seek “Divine Providence” in order for this to occur. At a critical moment in the forming of our Constitution even Ben Franklin, one of the least religious of our founding fathers, was quoted urging his fellow framers that, “prayers [must be held] imploring the assistance of Heaven and its blessing on our deliberation.” Without the assistance of our Heavenly Father, America would never become a “praise in the earth.”

The desire woven into our culture for America to be the best is a good one—as long as we understand that only our Heavenly Father can do this for His Name’s sake and for His Kingdom. And who is it that moves the hand of our Heavenly Father? Watchmen.

There is much talk about watchmen and God’s intent for this role. It is amazing our Heavenly Father even chooses to use watchmen. He could have put the creation on autopilot or just left it to evolve randomly, but He is

“I have set watchmen on your walls.... They shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the Lord, do not keep silent, and give Him no rest ... till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.”

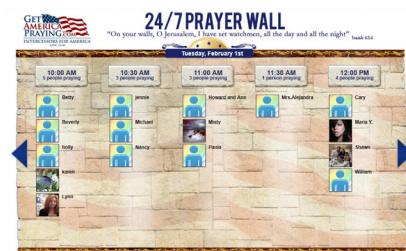
—Isaiah 62:6-7 NKJ

until He has accomplished all that is possible with a nation (Isaiah 62:6). We are to stand watch until there is an answer (Habakkuk 2:1).

The other element of our calling is accountability. It is quite chilling: If we hear from the Lord and do not “speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life,” God will hold us accountable (Ezekiel 3:17-19). It is our responsibility to be obedient and speak what has been spoken to us.

We must not give up the fight to make America the greatest nation—in obedience to our Heavenly Father—on the face of the earth. We must fight this battle with diligence as watchmen on our knees, realizing there is strict accountability.

Go to GetAmericaPraying.com and join the 1000+ watchmen who have taken their place on the prayer wall for this nation.



Help Build a Wall of Prayer!

For centuries, the Western Wall in Jerusalem has been a sacred gathering spot for prayer. The ancient wall is a glimpse of what once surrounded the Jewish Temple’s courtyard, and today the crevices between the Jerusalem limestone are filled with countless slips of paper containing written Jewish prayers from Israelis and pilgrims. Visit IFA’s website GetAmericaPraying.com to see a similar “prayer wall” where intercessors voice their hearts’ cry for America. Sign up and join our vibrant, 24/7 online prayer community!

FIRST FRIDAY

March 4

PRAYER FOCUS

On the first Friday of the month we encourage all to fast and pray for our nation.

THY KINGDOM COME

Reflect upon the petition of The Lord’s Prayer — “Thy Kingdom Come.” (See page 3.) Since believers effectively “hallow” the name of their Heavenly Father in each region of the earth as they themselves know and reverence Christ as Lord in their own hearts, intercede that grace for repentance, renewed faith, and consecration unto Christ as Lord would be granted to all U.S. citizens (1 Peter 3:15).

NATIONAL REPENTANCE

Intercede that the Lord would continue to work conviction of sin and release grace for repentance as 40-Day prayer and fasting vigils continue through April 17 (James 4:8-10; 1 John 5:16). Pray for awakening and revival in the churches in your community. (See page 3.) Pray that the hearts of unbelievers respond to planned evangelical outreach like Waymakers and the “Seek God for the City” prayer vigil. (See page 4.)

PERSONAL VALUE TO GOD

Read and reflect upon Ephesians 1:15-19. Intercede for family members, for your pastor and area church leaders, and for city, state, and national officials. Specifically ask the Lord to reveal His love, personal regard, and worth to each of them—the truth that they are each part of “the riches of His glory”—His desired and treasured inheritance. Pray that this will draw and/or unite them more deeply to Christ.

ANTI-SEMITISM / MIDEAST POLICY

Repent for any wrong attitudes and anti-Semitism that you, your family, or your church might have inherited or be walking in toward the Jewish people—the Messianic race, and root of our Christian faith. Intercede that the Lord root out spirits of anti-Christ (1 John 4:1-3) which are at work in some U.S. foreign policy makers, and that He convert or remove individuals promoting anti-Semitism. Pray that the U.S. would remain in a biblical posture in policies toward the Jewish people, the nation of Israel, and Jerusalem.

www.GetAmericaPraying.com



Community Prayer in Action

Interviews by Nicole Arnoldbik

PROFILE SNAPSHOT

Intercessors: Doris Amrine, Mary Heber, Aline Davis

Location: Little Rock, Arkansas

Professions: Emergency/hospice nurse, special education teacher, and sales department associate

IFA members since: 1990s (praying together for around 20 years)

Meetings: Twice a month, every 2nd and 4th Saturday, 9:30 AM

IFA Intercessor Mary Heber was in the middle of faxing her state senators as well as South Carolina Senator Jim DeMint when she received a phone call from Intercessors for America. "Tell us about your monthly prayer group for the nation," we asked her, requesting an interview. Delighted to "catch her in the act" of passing along urgent prayer needs for the Senate, we heard about her heart for intercession. Fellow group leaders Doris Amrine and Aline Davis also contributed to the discussion, and here is what they had to say.

How did your group start and how do you lead prayer?

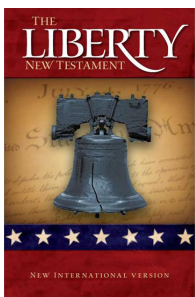
MARY: Doris was our leader years ago, she may have been the original one when we started around 20 years ago.

We started meeting in my home—about five to ten women.

THE LIBERTY NEW TESTAMENT

A new resource offered by Intercessors for America!

This is one of the most pivotal times in the history of America. The Liberty New Testament is a perfect resource and opportunity to encourage your people to pray for our nation. Paperback, \$4.99 each plus shipping. See our ordering information on page 4.



All of us were friends attending different churches and connected through a ministry called A.S.K. (Ask, Seek, Knock). We ask God to lead and guide us by His Holy Spirit. Our format is to talk a bit in the beginning, talk about what to pray for, then Aline leads worship and praise, we read Scripture and meditate—then prayer. We pray through the IFA prayer letter, which helps our group to focus. Other things come up too, if God leads.

ALINE: We've used the IFA prayer letter as a guideline for many years. I like it because it gives us updates on what I need to pray for. We also open our group to others and to newcomers.

The November election was an answer to prayer. We were praying that God would move in our nation; we were praying for different leadership in the House. We feel committed to keep on praying for our leaders. —Mary Heber

How did you develop a heart for intercession?

ALINE: One time Doris' husband (a pastor) ... was teaching and he was saying that there are certain people called to intercession. I just felt in my heart that's really what I was called to be, a prayer warrior. Sometime after that, Doris called some ladies to pray together. Privately, the LORD also put it on my heart to pray for the nations in the 10/40 window. The LORD just put the names of those nations into my

memory. I can't say I remember a lot of things, but I've memorized all the names of those nations and pray for them every day, at least 3 times a week. I pray for the nation and the president every day and for our leaders. I think all true Christians are burdened for our nation right now.

MARY: I am also a part of another group that meets to pray for the city every Tuesday night, and we've been meeting for almost four years. Rhonda Hughey's book *Desperate for His Presence* gave us a real vision for our city. I feel like God has given me a gift for intercession because it's on my heart. Since we've been praying, the city's crime rate has gone down. We've gone to the capitol, walking the halls and praying depending on what's going on.

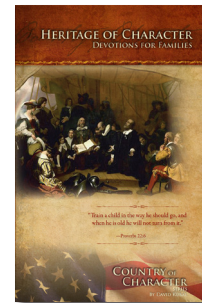
DORIS: I am part of a prayer group that involves four or five churches, about 100 people. It's like a big family. Some of the needs are unbelievable, but I've seen prayer help them through unbearable situations. I always think of Habakkuk 3:17-19, "though the fig tree does not blossom, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation"—no matter what's happening, the LORD is my strength. Look at Him and see what He is doing.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR CHURCHES OR GROUPS WHO PRAY FOR THEIR COMMUNITIES.

CALL US AT 1-800-USA-PRAY!

HERITAGE OF CHARACTER

Devotions for Families by David Kubal



David Kubal, President and CEO of Intercessors for America, wrote this eight-week family devotional to encourage parents and children to pray for our nation. Blending stories from American history with lessons found in Scripture, this study guide offers a unique context to inspire and nurture young readers. Paperback, \$7.99 each plus shipping. See our ordering information on page 4.

THE SURPRISING WORK OF GOD – Part 2

Jonathan Edwards

This work of God, as it went on and the number of true saints multiplied, soon made a glorious change in the town, so that in the following spring and summer of 1735, the town seemed to be full of the presence of God. It had never been so full of love and joy, and yet so full of holy distress, as it was then.

There were remarkable signs of God's presence in almost every household. It was a time of joy in families because salvation had been brought to them; parents rejoiced over their children as if they had again been born, and husbands rejoiced over their wives, and wives over their husbands. The workings of God were then seen in His sanctuary (Psalm 68:24), the Lord's Day was a delight (Isaiah 58:13), and His tabernacles were amiable (Psalm 84:1).

“Our public assemblies were then beautiful; the congregation was alive in God's service, everyone earnestly intent on the public worship, every hearer eager to drink in the words of the minister as they came from his mouth.”

Our public assemblies were then beautiful; the congregation was alive in God's service, everyone earnestly intent on the public worship, every hearer eager to drink in the words of the minister as they came from his mouth. From time to time, the assembly in general were in tears while the Word was preached, some weeping with sorrow and distress, others with joy and love, others with pity and concern for the souls of their neighbors.

In all gatherings on other days of the week and on whatever occasions people came together, Christ was to be heard of and seen in the midst of them. Our young people, when they met, were inclined to spend the time in talking of the excellency and dying love of Jesus Christ; the glory of the way of salvation; the wonderful, free, and sovereign grace of God; His glorious work in the conversion of a soul; the truth and certainty of the great things of God's

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—Jonathan Edwards

Word; the sweetness of His perfections, and so on.

Those among us who had been formerly converted were greatly enlivened and renewed with fresh and extraordinary touches from the Spirit of God. Of course, some were affected much more than others, according the measure of the gift of Christ. Many who before had labored under difficulties about their own state had their doubts removed by more satisfying experiences and clearer discoveries of God's love.

The Universality of God's Work

This revival among us seems to have been a very extraordinary dispensation of Providence. God has, in many respects, gone out of and far beyond His usual and ordinary way. The work in this town and others around us has been extraordinary on account of the universality of it affecting all kinds of people, temperate and corrupt, high and low, rich and poor, wise and unwise. It has reached the most considerable families and individuals, as far as anyone can tell, as much as it has reached others.

The People Remain Changed

Even so, those who have been converted in this revival generally seem to have had an abiding change take place in them. I have been particularly acquainted with many of them since, and they generally appear to be people who have a new sense of things: new understandings and views of God, the divine attributes of Jesus Christ, and the great things of the Gospel. They have a new sense of

the Gospel truth, and they show this in a new manner.

Their hearts are often touched and sometimes filled with new sweetness and delights. There seems to be an inward ardor and burning of heart, which they never experienced before. Sometimes, perhaps, this is occasioned only by the mention of Christ's name. There are new appetites and a new kind of desire in the heart and “groanings which cannot be uttered” (Romans 8:26). There is a new kind of inward labor and struggle of soul toward heaven and holiness.

“I know of no young person in the town who has returned to former ways of looseness and extravagance in any respect.

Instead, we remain a reformed people. God has evidently made us a new people.”

Some who used to be very rough in their disposition and manner seemed to be remarkably softened and sweetened. Others have been exceedingly filled and overwhelmed with light, love, and comfort, long after the work of God had ceased to be so remarkably carried on in a general way. And some, have had much greater experiences of this nature than they had before.

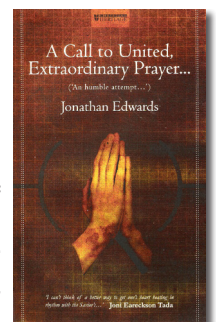
There is still a great deal of religious conversation continued in the town among both young and old. I know of no young person in the town who has returned to former ways of looseness and extravagance in any respect. Instead, we remain a reformed people. God has evidently made us a new people.

—See our book offer below to read more about Jonathan Edwards and his ministry of prayer.

A Call to United, Extraordinary Prayer...

Jonathan Edwards

Reverend Jonathan Edwards was the foremost leader of the Great Awakening in North America in the 18th Century. Paperback, 176 pages, \$8.99 + shipping. See page 4 for ordering information.



SEEK GOD FOR THE CITY, MARCH 9

★ AUSTIN, TX – The annual “Forty Days to Palm Sunday” vigil begins Wednesday, March 9, ending April 17, 2011. Now is an ideal time to pursue God’s promises for your city, seeking His face and His Kingdom by lifting up urgent needs with long-range vision. The 2011 prayer guide edition centers on “full-hearted hope” based in part on Matt. 24:12 where Scripture warns that in the last days “the love of most will grow cold.” The 2011 edition aims to “re-ignite desires for Christ that may have gone dormant, so that our hopes will rise as high as the purposes of Christ’s Kingdom.” www.waymakers.org.

CAMPAIGN FOR LIFE, MARCH 9

★ FREDERICKSBURG, VA – The next 40 Days for Life campaign (prayer and fasting vigil) will take place March 9 – April 17, 2011. Abby Johnson, director of the Planned Parenthood abortion center in Bryan/College Station, TX, quit her job during a 40 Days prayer campaign and has now written a bestselling book called “unPlanned.” Teaming with 40 Days for Life, her hope is to unveil the truth about the inner workings of Planned Parenthood and the deaths of more than 50 million unborn babies. As the pro-life movement gains momentum, one 40 Days campaign manager encourages continued prayer for “for conversion of hearts and minds.” www.40daysforlife.com

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER MAY 5

★ COLORADO SPRINGS, CO – “A Mighty Fortress is Our God” is this year’s theme, drawn from Psalm 91:2. Intercessors are signing the petition to “save the NDOP” after U.S. District Court Judge Barbara Crabb ruled that the statute serves no secular purpose. To learn about the petition or participate in prayer events in your area for the 60th observance, visit www.nationaldayofprayer.org.

CALL FOR CRACKDOWN ON IRAN

★ A coalition of evangelical, Roman Catholic, and other faith and civic leaders have written a letter to the Senate calling for an uncompromising crackdown on Iran’s Nuclear program. Christian Leaders for a Nuclear Free Iran (CLNFI) identified eight key areas where U.S. legislation could increase pressure on the Iranian government and its potential supporters. Concerns are that failure to leverage more specific demands will accelerate instability in the Middle East and threaten the U.S. and its allies. (CNW)

In America Today...



photo: <http://www.allgirlsallowed.org>

FROM TIANANMEN SQUARE TO DC

★ This year the March for Life rally on Jan. 24 went the extra mile. In fact, it jumped continents. Bridging global, pro-life concerns of both East and West, Tiananmen Square student leader and Nobel Prize nominee Chai Ling led a prayer vigil at 4:30 PM at the Chinese Embassy in Washington, DC. Her mission? To restore life, value and dignity to girls and mothers in China, and to reveal the injustice of China’s One-Child Policy.

Escaping the massacre of an estimated 3,000 people stemming from the Tiananmen Square protest of 1989, Chai Ling is now a successful business woman and a new Christian. She recently started the Boston-based organization “All Girls Allowed” and joined this year’s March for Life event line-up in an effort to raise American awareness of the 35,000 babies lost every day in China, not to mention cases of pregnant mothers being kidnapped, abused, and forced to abort up until the ninth month. Ling prays that the Lord will use Monday’s vigil at the embassy to stir the hearts of government leaders on both sides of the ocean to put an end to gendercide.

Interviewed by *RELEVANT* magazine and asked about her newfound faith and God’s direction for All Girls Allowed, Ling replied: “... the whole mission of All Girls Allowed is really to bring God’s love to China and to where the victims are most vulnerable and violated—let them know God still loves them and cares for them. And through this process, to bring the Gospel to those people and to bring the Gospel even to the perpetrators, the policy makers, the enforcers. (AGA 1/11)

H.R.217: DEFUNDING ABORTION

★ Rep. Mike Pence (R-IN) and more than 120 co-sponsors introduced the Title X Abortion Provider Prohibition Act to ensure that abortion providers are not subsidized with federal tax dollars. Pence referred to the government’s \$363 million fund toward Planned Parenthood in 2009, a year in which the organization performed an unprecedented 329,008 abortions. According to the Family Research Council, the Guttmacher Institute announced a rise in U.S. abortions, amounting to the equivalent of 6,150 new graves in 2008 – “more than the entire student population at Yale, Princeton, Brown or Dartmouth.” The prohibition act would not decrease the entire amount of funds available for family planning, but it would block assistance unless an entity certifies that it will not perform, or provide funds to an entity that performs, an abortion. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. (CNW 1/2011)

INTERNET “KILL SWITCH”

A piece of legislation to cripple or possibly shut down access to the Internet and other telecommunications systems is moving to the front burner this year. The “Internet Kill Switch” bill, first introduced by Sen. Joe Lieberman (D-Conn) and Sen. Susan Collins (R-Maine), would authorize the President to block the Internet for 30 days during a cyber emergency. The bill is unclear as to what defines a “significant threat” or national emergency, conceding that the federal government’s designation of critical communications infrastructure “shall not be subject to judicial review.” Groups such as the American Civil Liberties Union are fearful that the bill might be used to censor the Internet and erode our rights. (CN 1/2011, NN 2/2011)

NATIVE SUICIDES ALARMING

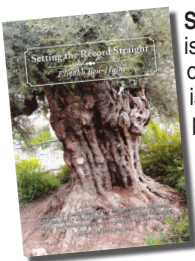
Federal officials are exploring ways to address the alarming rate of suicides in Alaska Native and Native American communities, especially among the young. Almost twice as many Native young people (ages 15-29) committed suicide in 2006-2007 compared to non-Native youth. That’s why tribal leaders, the Indian Health Service, the Interior Department’s Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration are teaming to develop strategies and coordinate resources. On Eagle’s Wings, a Christian ministry based in Arkansas, is making strides to bring the Gospel of hope to America’s isolated people groups. (ICT, RHM 1/2011)

★ = An answer or development to an IFA First Friday or On Watch in Washington prayer point.

Publication index: AGA=AllGirlsAllowed.org; CN=CNet News;

CNW=ChristianNewsWire.com; ICT=Indian Country Today; RHM=Ron Hutchcraft Ministries; NN=NewsoftheNorth.net

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Setting the Record Straight by Eliyahu Ben-Haim – The question of Israel’s legitimacy as a nation in the family of nations is an issue that is being raised more frequently every day and even in the Church. In many circles, present day Israel as a fulfillment of God’s prophetic word is denied as a false interpretation of Scripture. This is a battle that is not going away, but to the contrary, is increasing in intensity. These questions and negative attitudes toward Israel’s legitimacy as a nation need answers. This book provides a historical, legal, and scriptural response. 36 pages, \$7.00 + \$3.50 shipping. See ordering information above.



A higher standard.
A higher purpose.

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“Though the fig tree may not blossom ... Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The LORD God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer’s feet...” —Habakkuk 3:17-19