

A National Day of Prayer?

By D. A. Sharpe



Join me with other office holders and community leaders for recognition of the [National Day of Prayer](#). It will be a gathering outside at the southwest corner entrance to the [Wise](#)

[County Courthouse](#) in Decatur, TX on Thursday, May 3, 2018 from 12:15 – 12:35 PM

On this May 3rd, thousands and thousands of prayer gatherings will take place in America at state capitols, at county courthouses, at city halls, at public facilities, and at churches. You are exhorted to be a part of one of these gatherings. The purposes include uplifting our government at national, state, county and city levels and the elected leaders at the helms of those political entities, that they would have vision, knowledge, wisdom, integrity, initiatives and compassion to lead the citizens of this nation. Here is a list of Wise County leaders and citizens who will read Scripture or say prayers uplifting our nation.

Speakers with Roles in the National Day of Prayer, May 3, 2018 at the Wise County (TX) Courthouse

5/7/2018

	1	2	3	Comment / Role
Lane Akin				Wise County Sheriff
Darla Bailey				Wise Republican Women President
Kevin Burns				Wise County Commissioner Precinct #2
Judge J. D. Clark				Wise County Judge
Sharon Dawson				Democratic Party Precinct 7 Chair
D. A. Sharpe				National Day of Prayer Organizer
Jack Tucker				Democratic Party Precinct 8 Chair
Jack Westmoreland				Led Pledges of Allegiance to the Flags
Sarah Westmoreland				Teenage Representative

Why is there a National Day of Prayer? Most students of American history will know that the people we call founders of our nation and its governmental documents mostly were people of faith ... the Christian faith expressed in the Holy Bible. In fact, much of the motivation for many immigrants to the New World was to escape to a place where they would have a freedom of worship.

From the beginning of our new nation, the first President, [George Washington](#), had occasion to issue a call for the citizens of the nation to a time of prayer and fasting. Some other Presidents had occasions to call the nation to prayer, but a consistent and official frequency of those times of prayers was not present until more contemporary times.

In January–February 1952, during the [Korean War](#), the desirability of a united national prayer was stated by Reverend Billy Graham, who said, "What a thrilling, glorious thing it would be to see the leaders of our country today kneeling before Almighty God in prayer. What a thrill would sweep this country. What renewed hope and courage would grip the Americans at this hour of peril." A Mr. [Percy Priest from Tennessee](#)



observed that Graham had issued a challenge for a national day of prayer. Priest was an announced candidate for Congress, and won his first term just the November after this. His advocacy awakened Members of the House and Senate that introduced a joint resolution for an annual National Day of Prayer, on which the people of the United States may turn to God in prayer and meditation at churches, in groups, and as individuals." On April 17, 1952, President Harry S. Truman signed a bill proclaiming a National Day of Prayer to be declared by each subsequent president at an appropriate date of his choice.

In 1988, the law was amended so that the National Day of Prayer would be held on the first Thursday of May. Two stated intentions of the National Day of Prayer were that it would be a day when adherents of all great religions could unite in prayer and that it may one day bring renewed respect for God to all the peoples of the world.



We will be doing that in Decatur at the Courthouse. Join me!

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