**The National Day of Prayer Task Force**

- **1775**: First National Call to Fasting & Prayer, called for by Continental Congress.
- **1863**: President Lincoln declares a National Day of Prayer and Fasting.
- **1983**: The National Day of Prayer Task Force was established May 1983. The first National Day of Prayer Observance was held in Constitution Hall.
- **1987**: Vonette Bright & NPC begin lobbying President Reagan and Congress to set aside a designated day for national prayer.
- **1988**: President Reagan signs into law the designation of the First Thursday in May as the annual observance for the National Day of Prayer.
- **1991**: Mrs. Shirley Dobson becomes Chairman of the NDP Task Force.
- **2016**: Shirley Dobson celebrates her 25th anniversary and passes the baton to Anne Graham Lotz, who becomes the third Chairman of the NDP Task Force.

**Chairman**
Anne Graham Lotz

**Officers**
- Chief Operating Officer – Lisa Crump
- Chief Communications Officer – Dion Elmore
- Chief Financial Officer – Larry Nobile

**Governing Board**
The National Day of Prayer Task Force is governed by its 17 member Board of Directors who also preside over the National Prayer Committee.

**Board Chair**
Dr. David Butts

**President**
Rev. Dick Eastman

**Mission Statement**
The mission of the NDP Task Force is to mobilize prayer in America and to encourage personal repentance and righteousness in the culture.

**About the Ministry**
The National Prayer Committee formed a national prayer subcommittee in 1981, which became the National Day of Prayer Task Force in 1989. Led first by Vonette Bright until 1991, then by Shirley Dobson until Anne Graham Lotz assumed the position of Chairman in 2016. Since 1993, there have been 1,361 proclamations by the President of the United States and state leaders, encouraging all Americans to pray on the National Day of Prayer.

Today, more than 48,000 events, reaching millions of people, are coordinated by more than 17,000 NDP Task Force volunteer leaders across the nation.
Dear Friends,

What an honor it is to address you from my position as the Chairman of the National Day of Prayer Task Force! Although I have been in a steep learning curve during these past six months, and am still discovering so much that I have yet to learn, I am confident God has given me this assignment “for such a time as this.” Thank you for your prayers as well as for your encouraging words through emails and notes. I have been made to feel very much a part of the NDP family.

It’s interesting that at the same time God has called me to chair this ministry... at the same time He has been expanding NDP... at the very same time He has been increasing America’s awareness of the need for prayer. Without a doubt, God is moving in our nation, calling His people to pray as never before.

We at NDP want to be in lock step with Him. For this we need your help. We need your prayers first and foremost—pray for wisdom, clear direction, unity within our network, and prompt, accurate communication between the staff, Board, the regional leaders, and myself. Pray that God will grant us a sharpened focus on His Son and a sharpened sensitivity to His Spirit. Pray that we will be effective in getting people to pray... and keep praying.

We also need your financial gifts to help us carry out what we believe is a sacred charge—to lead people to pray and seek the face of God during these very strategic days. As a partner, I know you understand the practical costs involved in an endeavor of this magnitude. I don’t believe there has ever been a more critical time for God’s people to come together in order to stand in the gap for our nation. Please help us. For more information on how you can support our efforts financially and as a volunteer, visit our website at www.nationaldayofprayer.org/donate.

During this holiday season, join with me in thanking God for our freedom which has not been won easily and is even now being challenged by foreign governments, Islamic terrorists, and anarchy in our streets. Together, let’s ask Him to grant us peace in our hearts and in our homes, on our streets and in our state houses. Pray now that He will bless those who at this moment are defending our freedom by their courageous sacrifice—willing to lay down their lives to keep us free and safe. I pray we will never abuse our freedom or take it for granted, but will guard it as the gift from God that it is.

For His Glory,

Anne Graham Lotz, Chairman
2016 Initiatives and Accomplishments
This year, we celebrated 25 years of leadership by Shirley Dobson and the passing of the baton to our new chairman, Anne Graham Lotz. From over 48,000 annual events, to our National Prayer Summit at Together 2016, followed by our Pray for America Bus Tour, it was an amazing and fruitful year!

Annual Prayer Events
Through the dedicated efforts of our volunteers within their communities, we rallied more than 48,000 gatherings in churches, parks, state capitals, stadiums and civic centers. Millions gathered to intercede for our nation once again.

National Observance
Coming alongside members of Congress, the National Observance in Washington D.C. was a powerful time of prayer with a featured keynote address from Dr. Tony Evans (2016 Honorary Chairman) and a special message from Shirley Dobson and Anne Graham Lotz. This special event lasted 3.5 hours and was broadcast from our nation’s capitol into 90 countries with more than 500,000 people tuning in live via web-stream and cable television.

Pray for America Rally Tour IV: Government – In God We Trust
Our Pray for America Bus launched again in July, the day after Together 2016, heading to Cleveland for the Republican National Convention and then to Philadelphia to rally in prayer around the Democrat National Convention. In collaboration with the Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation, we engaged and encouraged key leaders, state delegates, and thousands of intercessors, in prayer for and with leaders and influencers in national, state, and local government.

Raising National Awareness – Government
In 2015 our focus was on education, this year it was on government. The National Day of Prayer Task Force has been working for decades to mobilize intercession for national and local governmental leaders, state, county, and city employees, and anyone involved in exercising their civic responsibility.
National Prayer Summit 2016 at Together 2016

From July 14 – 17, 2016, over 300 of our volunteer leaders from around the nation gathered in Washington D.C. to be encouraged and equipped to become more effective prayer mobilizers in their communities and in our nation. On July 16th, we joined with over 400 different ministries from around the nation for the largest ‘Jesus’ gathering in American history! Prayer and revival was the focus as over 350,000 believers of all ages converged upon the National Mall in Washington D.C.!
Looking Back on 2016

In addition to our key initiatives, there were more than 7,500 stories that ran on the National Day of Prayer in the media, reaching millions of people. Our Facebook posts were seen by 1,463,819 people, with 169,793 people engaged. The 2016 Theme Video was viewed 482,175 times on Facebook and YouTube. By comparison, the 2015 Theme Video was viewed 102,828 times. This number fails to capture the number of people who showed the video in churches or at events from the purchased DVD kits. Over 137,281 people viewed the live broadcast on the National Day of Prayer website. Another 32,336 people viewed the video of Shirley Dobson passing the baton to Anne Graham Lotz on Social Media. Our combined web traffic was 391,147 people for the month of April into May 5. This surpasses the last year by over 100,000 people.

As you can see, over the past year, we have successfully connected with thousands of new individuals. With your help, we can engage hundreds of thousands more to pray in 2017! This vital movement is truly on the rise, evidenced by the ever-increasing participation in our annual observances and year-round mobilization efforts. Your faithful help serves a critical role in the ongoing success of our mission.
Looking Ahead to 2017

Many Christian’s are unaware that they live in a nation that has a law in place requiring our President proclaim a National Day of Prayer each year on the first Thursday in May.

_The President shall issue each year a proclamation designating the first Thursday in May as a 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._

(Public Law 105-225)

As citizens and residents of the United States and as believers in Christ Jesus, we not only have a **spiritual responsibility** according to 1 Timothy 2:1-2 to pray, but a **civic duty** as well to heed our President’s call to stand in the gap for our nation. Who but God’s people have the ability to enter into the very throne room of Heaven with prayers and petitions!

Our theme this year is _For Your Great Name’s Sake! Hear Us... Forgive Us... Heal Us!_ Taken from Daniel 9:19, which says, “O Lord, Listen! O Lord, Forgive! O Lord, Hear and Act! For Your Sake, O My God...”. As the 2017 National Day of Prayer on May 4th approaches, thousands of individuals, churches, and communities will be working to rally millions of Christian’s to once again heed this call!

Scripture tells us again and again that our fervent prayer is effective. That our loving God responds to His children’s earnest pleas in mighty ways that avail much, and ultimately determine the course of history.

If you would like to sponsor an event, become a volunteer, or obtain resources to help promote an event in your area, visit our website at [www.nationaldayofprayer.org](http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org).
Visit Us Online For Financial Details:

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The National Day of Prayer Task Force is a nonprofit organization with a 501(c)(3) status. The mission of the National Day of Prayer Task Force is to mobilize prayer in America and to encourage personal repentance and righteousness in the culture. We rely on individual donations, foundation support, and resource sales. Copyright 2016. All Rights Reserved. International copyright secured.