



The Annual
**NATIONAL
DAY OF
PRAYER**

First Thursday of May

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**National Day of Prayer Task Force
Pima County, Tucson, Arizona**

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“PRAYER...America’s Hope!” For Millions, Hope in America Rests in Prayer”

Pima County, Arizona – As we honor the 58th Annual National Day of Prayer on May 7, 2009, Tucsonans and all of Pima County will join tens of thousands of people as prayer events are planned across the country. Citizens are gathering in churches, parks and on courthouse steps, to pray for our nation -- government leaders, media, military, schools, churches, businesses and families.

The Pima County National Day of Prayer Task Force invites everyone to come together in unity and strength to celebrate this year’s observance at the following events scheduled on Thursday, May 7, and Friday, May 8, 2009:

1. **“Children’s Wall of Prayers”** – Special essay and drawing event throughout Tucson for students, children’s groups, and Christian/Home-schooled children ages 4 and up. Many entries to be displayed at the Reid Park Bandshell during the National Day of Prayer Main Event and Youth Rally. www.pimandp.org
2. **National Day of Prayer Main Event** – Thursday, May 7, from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m., at the Reid Park Bandshell, where families and local leaders will come together for a Concert of Prayer. Live Christian music, Ministry Fair, and a children’s puppet show, games and focused children’s prayer time will also be featured. There will be food available for purchase from Chick-fil-A Restaurants as well. Everyone is invited to enjoy this citywide family event directed by Pima County Coordinator, Suzette Howe.
3. **National Day of Prayer Youth Rally** – Friday, May 8, from 6 – 8:30p.m., at the Reid Park Bandshell where youth will gather to celebrate our freedom to pray, worship and enjoy one another in fellowship. There will be live music, English/Spanish special guest bands and Chick-fil-A will have food available for purchase. Directed by Youth Rally Coordinator, Matt Skamser.

This year’s theme, **“Prayer...America’s Hope!”** is based on Psalm 33:22 “May your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, even as we put our hope in you.” Pima County Coordinator, Suzette Howe states, *“Our desire is to see masses of Christians of all denominations and all ethnicity unite together for prayer, praise, and worship at numerous events all over Pima County”*.

The National Day of Prayer tradition predates back to the Continental Congress issuing a proclamation setting aside a day of prayer in 1775. This process was continued through Abraham Lincoln in 1863. Then in 1952, Congress established an annual day of prayer eventually to become designated in 1988 as the National Day of Prayer, the first Thursday in May.

We continue to focus on the **“7x7”** initiative designed by the National Task Force to help people develop the scriptural discipline of regular prayer. Through this endeavor, we are urging Americans to pray each day for the seven spheres of influence in our culture; family, church, education, business, media, military, and government. All Americans are encouraged to exercise their religious freedom by gathering publicly to worship and pray for our land.

Visit www.pimandp.org for more information on local events.

To schedule media interviews or the receive a media packet contact Deborah Carey at (520) 481-2355 or deborahndp@comcast.net