

# PRAYERCONNECT

Connecting to the Heart of Christ through Prayer

## WATCH AND PRAY

Staying Alert in a  
Troubled World

**Confronting Terror with Confidence**

**Honoring *First Responders***

**Praying Church INDICATORS**

2017

SCHOOL OF PRAYER

SERIES

# *In Prayer*

with **DICK EASTMAN**

## **THE GROWTH CLUSTER:** *Abounding in Prayer*

Growing in Prayer, Advancing in Prayer, Prospering in Prayer

*January 14 from 9 a.m. to noon (MST)*

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Join us as we launch our new School of Prayer series: *In Prayer with Dick Eastman*. Dick has been a leading voice on the topic of prayer for over 40 years, and he has written several books on prayer with over 5 million copies in circulation. This series features nine teaching sessions, called “Clusters,” to help you cultivate a fruitful, vibrant prayer life.

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2017 School of Prayer Dates:

January 14 | February 18 | March 11 | April 8 | May 6 | September 16 | October 14 | November 18 | December 9

*All sessions start at 9 a.m. (MST)*

Join us in person, or watch live or on demand at  
[www.ehc.org/sop](http://www.ehc.org/sop)



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We are looking for general articles, ideas, and news stories on what God is doing as a result of prayer. We are primarily looking for newly written pieces that have not appeared in other publications. Writer's guidelines are available by emailing Carol Madison at [editor@prayerconnect.net](mailto:editor@prayerconnect.net). For news stories, we recommend emailing first to see if we have an interest in reporting on the event or item you wish to write about. Send your submissions to:

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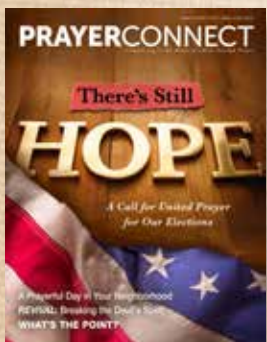
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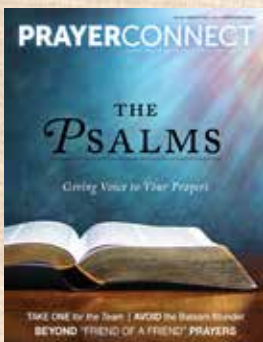
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## Need a Speaker for Your Prayer Conference or Event?

There are a number of gifted speakers associated with *Prayer Connect*. Jonathan Graf regularly ministers in churches of varying sizes. Carol Madison is also available to minister in the area of prayer for revival and community transformation. Our parent organizations, Harvest Prayer Ministries and the Church Prayer Leaders Network, have many speakers associated with their ministries. You can find their contact information at the respective emails or websites.

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The mission of PRAYERCONNECT is

1. To encourage and equip believers toward a deeper walk with Jesus Christ through prayer—our experiential connection to God.
2. To resource prayer leaders and pastors with tools to help them motivate, disciple, and mobilize believers in churches to be a part of an army that seeks to pray the purposes of God for churches, communities, and the nations.
3. To be a unifying force between prayer ministries, community transformation groups, and churches.

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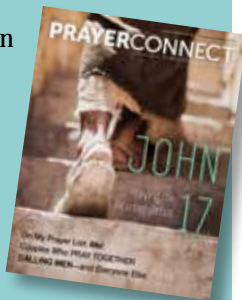
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## Previously in Prayer Connect

Jesus' prayer in John 17 gives us the perfect example of how to pray for protection, sanctification, and unity throughout the Body of

Christ. This issue takes a look at each major component of how Jesus prayed—and reminds us that He is even now interceding for us! *Praying the Heart of Jesus* and other back issues can be ordered at [prayershop.org](http://prayershop.org).



## Can We Stop Praying Now?

It was an amazing year as far as prayer is concerned. In my 20-plus years in the prayer movement, I have never seen anything like the amount of praying that went on during 2016. From multiple ministries coming together as Pray As One to rally prayer for the nation and elections, to perhaps 400,000 believers gathered to pray on the Washington Mall at Together 2016 in July, to churches calling for prayer meetings—this has truly been a phenomenal year.



Our magazine's parent ministry, Harvest Prayer Ministries, saw its reach expand in multiple ways as well. One resource, *Desperate for Change: 40 Days of Prayer for America*, had great sales for several months in 2012. But then it sold just 2,000 or so a year—until 2016. More than 18,000 sold in the nine months prior to the elections. Our election prayer guide, “There’s Still Hope,” which first appeared in our March *Prayer Connect* issue, sold more than 40,000 copies in its booklet form and was viewed online or downloaded by another 50,000-plus. That same election issue of *Prayer Connect* sold 2,000 more individual copies than any previous issue. And our web traffic this past fall was up more than 900 percent, with most viewers coming to the Pray for America section.

A nerve of desperation was clearly struck!

One has to admit it was an unprecedented election result. Almost no one saw Donald Trump winning, yet he did. Intercessors were praying desperately for truth to be revealed, for a standard of righteousness, and for God's purposes for our nation to be released. We know from Scriptures that God raises up and takes down kings and rulers, so we have to trust that He did just that in this election. Clearly God has a purpose for bringing this seemingly absurd, long-shot candidate to power.

### What Do We Do Now?

Many believers will now sit back, believing the elections are over and “God's individual” is in leadership. But that would be the absolutely wrong thing to do. We need to raise up even more prayer. Why?

First, President Trump cannot be described as a godly man. He needs prayer to make godly decisions for the nation. Only God's intervention can turn our nation back to Him.

Second, most major revivals in history came during times of serious social desperation. When people are unsettled and in major discomfort, they look heavenward for answers. Hundreds of thousands of believers have been praying for revival in the American Church and for spiritual awakening in our nation. Social desperation certainly describes our nation in this hour. I think we are on the cusp of the significant revival and awakening we have been seeking.

To help us all pray, a number of ministries have come together to launch Pray 100, a prayer initiative to pray for President Trump and the nation, starting on Inauguration Day, January 20, 2017, and running for 100 days. Check it out at [facebook.com/prayfirst100](https://facebook.com/prayfirst100). And keep praying!

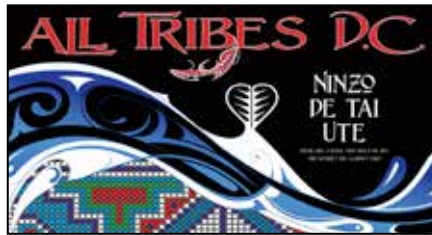
—Jonathan Graf



## Native Americans Offer Forgiveness

**N**ative Americans, representing 1,000 tribes, gathered in Washington, D.C., on October 21, 2016, for an historic event called All Tribes D.C.: A National Day of Prayer for the First Nations.

Native American tribes came from around the United States and Canada for a public ceremony on the National Mall to forgive the U.S. government for breaking treaties with their ancestors. The day of prayer, held near the Washington Monument, included intercessory petitions, proclamations, and declarations of forgiveness by leaders from All Tribes D.C., a fellowship of Christians representing American Indians from the U.S. and Canada.



Negiel Bigpond, a full-blooded Euchee (Yuchi) Indian, coordinated the first-ever national prayer gathering of Native Americans in the nation's capital. "We chose to forgive the U.S., whether it asked for it or not," he says. Bigpond is a fourth-generation pastor who offered forgiveness and spoke blessings over the nation, alongside other tribal prayer warriors. He believes that Native Americans have taken a good first step toward aid-

ing national awakening by extending forgiveness to the nation.

Portions of a proclamation posted on the All Tribes D.C. website ([alltribesdc.org](http://alltribesdc.org)) were read by tribal leaders gathered on the National Mall. The proclamation reads, in part: "We stand in the gap for those who are unable or unwilling to forgive, and call upon the Master of Life to forgive us for harboring unforgiveness, resentment, hatred, bitterness and rage. We repent of every curse spoken over America by our ancestors and we release the power of forgiveness to bring healing and the peace of Creator God to this land."

First Nations intercessors will convene again in 2017 during the third week of October.

## Georgia Hosts Prayer Movement

**T**he OneCry message of the urgent need for spiritual awakening has spread across the state of Georgia, culminating in a statewide prayer gathering on November 20 in Cartersville, GA. The gathering was hosted at the LakePoint Champions Center, where a crowd of 1,800 people prayed for personal revival and national awakening.

The movement began in September 2016 when churches in seven cities in Georgia (Dalton, Cumming, Albany, Americus, Rutledge, Douglas, and Thomasville) hosted four-day events that featured strategic preaching about the urgent need for revival—both personally and nationally. Teams from Life Action Ministries traveled to the cities to lead the meetings.

In Dalton, more than 60 diverse congregations across denominational and

ethnic lines gathered in a city convention center when it was determined the host church would be too small. The other six cities also focused on unity among churches.

Because of the growing and unified prayer movement in Bartow County (where Cartersville is located), the OneCry leadership approached 100 pastors and business leaders in Cartersville to inquire about hosting the November 20 statewide event. The leaders unanimously agreed to host the prayer event and raise the money to cover the cost. In addition to the participation of 1,800 people in attendance, the event was simulcast to the other cities and broadcast on American Family Radio.

Organizers of the simulcast expressed



desire for two outcomes: 1) that pastors with hearts for prayer would be strengthened, and 2) that local church prayer meetings would either be strengthened or resurrected.

Dr. Bob Bakke, member of the OneCry executive team, produced and hosted the simulcast. He also produced the Revive Our Hearts CryOut16! broadcast in September that gathered more than 400,000 women around the world in unified prayer for revival. More of the Georgia story can be read at [onecry.com/georgia](http://onecry.com/georgia).



## Decision America Tour Concludes in NC

Rev. Franklin Graham concluded his 50-state Decision America Tour prayer rally on October 13 in his home state of North Carolina. For several months leading up to the presidential election in November, Graham and his team toured the country, stopping at each state capital, urging Christians to pray for America and to get out and vote. During each rally, Graham invited attendees to pray

in groups for the nation, for the local government workers, for law enforcement, and for a revival in peoples' hearts.

In Raleigh, NC, more than 14,000 people gathered at the final rally. There were an additional 150,000 live views online, and more than 287,000 people watched via Facebook Live. A total of 236,950—an average of nearly



5,000 people per stop—turned out for the 50 state rallies ([decisionamericatour.com](http://decisionamericatour.com)).

## Dust Storm Protects Christians

God created a massive dust storm in October to deliver Islamic converts from the militants who hunted them, according to a report from Bibles For Mideast. The ministry claims that immediately after a mass baptism for newly saved Christians, militants surrounded their bus and fired shots.

“About 50 people, including baptism candidates, attended the service,” a new believer reports. “After the baptism service and prayers, we all entered the bus to return back to our house church for the worship service and the Lord’s Supper. Suddenly some militants . . . started shooting with guns toward us.”

The converts and their leaders feared the worst. “Really, we did not know what to do, but started praying to the Lord for His mighty protection,” the report continues. That’s when the wind started to pick up, and dust began to swirl around them.

“Suddenly we saw a giant dust storm form behind our bus. At first we [were] all afraid of . . . the dust storm. We thought we may not be able to go beyond and [would] be held by the militants. But praise the Lord! Praise the Lord again and again! We all felt that the Lord Jesus Christ appeared upon the dust storm as a Mighty and Wonderful Man showing His protecting and lovely hands toward

us with a sweet smile. Jesus saved us. He Himself blocked the road of militants in the form of a dust storm,” the report reads.

According to the Bibles for Mideast

website ([bibles4mideast.com](http://bibles4mideast.com)), the ministry is the fruit of prayers and fasting for the evangelism of the Middle East. It is an underground mission that distributes Bibles and establishes house churches.

# IS OUR NATION IN TROUBLE? CAN PRAYER CHANGE A NATION?

## IF IT IS NOT TOO DIFFICULT, WILL YOU HELP?

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To receive a **FREE SPI-5Y80/PrayerCords** envelope of materials, email [mike@harvestprayer.com](mailto:mike@harvestprayer.com) or call **708.673.5998**. For such a time as this...?



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*Do you believe in the ministry of Prayer Connect?  
We need a team of people to partner with us.*

We are slowly growing our subscriber base, but currently our subscription income only covers about 70% of our expenses. Advertising revenues cover another 15%. Beyond that income we still need to raise \$3,000 for each issue. We currently raise a little over \$1,000 from partners to help cover that shortfall. More partners would help us remain strong financially so we can continue producing *Prayer Connect*.

### Would you consider a special gift or becoming a monthly donor?

Every gift of \$10, \$25, \$50 or more helps to assure that *Prayer Connect* will be published for many years to come.

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## IHOP to Raise Up Intercessors for Global Missions

**I**nternational House of Prayer of Kansas City (IHOPKC) has joined with Youth With a Mission (YWAM) in a new commitment to cover global missions in prayer. It is an intercession and missions partnership that could help see the gospel preached in every nation.

The partnership was birthed on Sept. 11, 2016, at the end of a week-long gathering of thousands of YWAM and IHOPKC staff that focused on several Great Commission thrusts, including ending Bible poverty (by providing Scripture in every language) and a commitment to seeing every sphere of society impacted with the gospel.

Mike Bickle, founder of International House of Prayer, took the challenge from Loren Cunningham, co-founder of YWAM, to help raise up one million intercessors to cover their global missions in prayer.

“We love what the Lord has done through Loren and Darlene Cunningham and the whole YWAM family for over 50 years, and we are committing to cover them in intercession for the great cause of advancing the Kingdom in the nations and to call other prayer ministries throughout the world to join us,” says Bickle.

Darlene Cunningham expressed gratefulness: “The practice of intercession—hearing from God and praying His prayers—[was] part of the core DNA of YWAM from the beginning. We need it, and I am so thankful that IHOPKC is joining us.”

Other senior YWAM leaders such as John Dawson, David Hamilton, and Mark Anderson, joined IHOPKC’s Allen Hood and Daniel Lim on stage in a demonstration of unity.

Dawson, YWAM president emeritus, spoke about prayer movements that have

birthed revivals, and the way revivals have birthed mission movements.

“The 17-year commitment to 24/7 prayer maintained faithfully by IHOPKC is no small thing in our eyes,” Dawson says. “Out at the ends of the earth, our missionaries can feel the power of this loving shield; in the hard places, in the dangerous places, we know we are not alone because intercessors are traveling, even through the night watches.”

Since its 1999 launch, IHOPKC has partnered with other organizations to see the gospel preached in all the nations. The ministry has established 24/7 prayer and worship as the center of its missions base in Kansas City, MO.

**JENNIFER LECLAIRE**, taken from *International Prayer Connections* ([ipcprayer.org](http://ipcprayer.org)).

## Prayer Calendar

Virtual Prayer Meeting  
**January 1–22, 2017**  
[americapray.net](http://americapray.net)

National Family Prayer Month  
**January 1–31, 2017**  
[nationalfamilyprayermonth.org](http://nationalfamilyprayermonth.org)

Weekend of Prayer to End Slavery and Trafficking  
**January 13–15, 2017**  
[nwoprayer.org](http://nwoprayer.org)

Collegiate Day of Prayer  
**February 23, 2017**  
[collegiatedayofprayer.org](http://collegiatedayofprayer.org)

Seek God for the City  
**March 1–April 9, 2017**  
[waymakers.org](http://waymakers.org)



