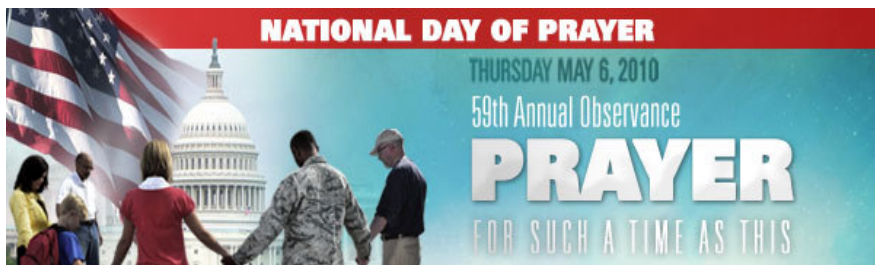

UPCOMING EVENT – The National Day of Prayer, May 6th



Plan now to gather Believers from multiple churches at one location in your community to pray for our nation and our leaders. Held on the first Thursday of May, the National Day of Prayer is the one day of the year that the Body of Christ can come together across race, denomination and geography on behalf of our nation.

If your church is hosting a prayer event and you would like to be listed in our email announcements, please email your event details to office@COPGNY.org. Or call us at 718.721.2626. Please include the following details: the site name, address, phone number for directions, the event date and time, languages (i.e., Spanish, Korean, etc.), any special emphasis of your event (e.g., “Sponsored by the Young Adults” or “praying for reconciliation in our community”), and the name and phone number of your contact person. Let’s keep praying!



March 2010 Edition

Excerpt from *Revive Us Again Devotional Guide 2007*. To order, please call 718-721-2626.
Let's maintain a spirit of worship and prayer as we focus on Jesus, our Savior and King.

“As He Stretched Himself Out” by Michael Durso II Kings 4:34

In our instant message world, answers are never quick enough. However, this passage teaches us that there are times when the answer isn't instantaneous, but rather a direct result of extended periods of prayer. II Kings 4:8-37 records the unforeseen tragedy that has come into a blessed home: “the boy sat on her lap until noon, and then he died...” (2 Kings 4:20). The death of their only child seemed hopeless. However, the family received a life-giving miracle, not from an *ordinary method* of prayer demonstrated by the companion Gehazi, but rather from a prolonged season of continual urging for God to change the circumstances. “... *HE STRETCHED OUT UPON HIM ONCE MORE*. The boy sneezed seven times and *OPENED HIS EYES*” (2 Kings 4:35). God's promises are not always instant, but they are always certain: “...Receive whatever you ask for in prayer...” (Matthew 21:22).

To cut short, abort, or give up was not an option. The widow in Luke's gospel also did not give up, “There was a widow in that town who kept coming to Him with the plea...” (Luke 18:3). She too received justice and an answer to her prayer because she did not give up.

The Spirit of prayer is recorded also in the Acts of the Apostles Chapter 12:5. When the church prayed for Peter's release from prison, they prayed earnestly. The word “*Earnestly*” literally means “*Stretched Out*”. From the Old Testament to the New Testament, from the Fulton Street Revival, to the present, God looks for those who will stretch themselves out in prayer.

Lord's Watch Prayer Outline – March 2010

Continue to pray for those who have lost sons and daughters in the continuing strife in Iraq and Afghanistan. Designed for a 1-hour prayer time, or spend 5 minutes each for 30 minutes total.

I. **Rejoice – (10 Minutes)**

READ – 2 Kings 4:34

REJOICE – for our God's promises are always certain

REPENT – for not stretching ourselves out in prayer

II. **Revival in the Church - *Jesus, give us your tears for our cities.***

PERSONAL – Pray that God would give us a greater desire to know His Son more deeply and to live our lives in worship and obedience to Him.

REGIONAL – Pray for a Christ Awakening! Pray for pastors in Greater New York to know and experience Christ's majesty and supremacy in their lives and the lives of their congregants.

NATIONAL – Please pray that God would strengthen and empower the faith of Christians in government. Please pray for America to get back to our Godly roots, and to seek Godly leadership and protection of this great country.

INTERNATIONAL – Please pray that spiritual renewal would manifest as the Haitian people turn their hearts to God in the aftermath of the recent earthquake. Pray that Haitian Relief efforts will be effective in addressing the country's short-term and long-term needs. Pray that God will empower and enable the Christian community (both Haitian and International) to offer comfort and to display the love of Christ.

III. **Reconciliation - *Jesus, be our peace between races & churches.***

REGIONAL – The family of Sean Bell expressed disappointment the federal government won't prosecute the New York City police officers who shot Bell to death in 2006. The U.S. Department of Justice told the family this week there was not enough evidence to bring civil-rights charges against any of the five officers involved in the slaying during a traffic stop outside a Queens strip club. Pray for renewed efforts to improve police-community relations across the region.

NATIONAL – Praise the Lord for how the Winter Olympic Games brought peoples together across the world in friendly competition and as a viewing audience of fans. Give thanks for the ethnic diversity of the American team and the representation of Canada's Aboriginal communities and four chiefs of the First Nations during the Opening Ceremony. Ask God to empower Christian athletes everywhere to be a bridge between their colleagues and Christ our Champion.

INTERNATIONAL – This month Jewish people will celebrate Passover which commemorates the emancipation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt. Pray that Jesus the Messiah would knock on the door of their hearts and be received this holiday season. Continue to pray for the peace in the Middle East between Muslims and the Jewish people.

Lord's Watch Prayer Outline

IV. **Reformation in Society - *Jesus, be the protector of our cities.***

REGIONAL – NJ Transit could face a budget hole of close to \$300 million and may be forced to raise fares and change service as soon as May — the fourth increase in the past eight years. Pray for State and Agency officials to close the gap by other means.

NATIONAL – School officials at the Air Force Academy have set aside an outdoor worship area for pagans, wiccans, druids and other Earth-centered believers. Pray that Jesus will reveal himself to cadets as they worship in their own ways and for Christians on campus to effectively and sensitively share their faith.

INTERNATIONAL – For the past two years, Anglican worshippers in Zimbabwe have been forced to hold services outside as they have been denied entry into churches. They also have suffered disruptions from the police during church services. The police have been utilized by Nolbert Kunonga, who was excommunicated from the Anglican Church in 2007 after he tried to withdraw the Diocese of Harare. He has set up his own Anglican province, appointed himself archbishop and has laid claim to church properties. Pray for a peaceful and lasting resolution to this conflict.

V. **Reaching Outward - *Jesus, blessed is the King who comes!***

REGIONAL – Please pray that God would provide faith, clear direction and wisdom for the leadership of a church plant in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. Pray also that the church will be able to effectively reach out to the community and address its needs.

NATIONAL – Please pray for BattleCry 2010, a youth conference that will take place on April 16 and 17 in New Jersey. Pray that God would speak powerfully into the hearts of youth to live a true authentic relationship with God that is able to break every addiction or stronghold in their lives. Pray that God would use this conference and others like it to effectively reach thousands of youth for Christ.

INTERNATIONAL – A gunman opened fire on two Christian university students in Iraq in February killing one and wounding the other. The vice president of Iraq, Adel Abdul Mahdi, urged the country's Christian population to resist fleeing Iraq and called on the international community to help protect the dwindling minority group from extremists. Since the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003, some 250,000 to 500,000 Christians have left the country. Christians, although making up only three percent of Iraq's population, account for nearly half of the refugees leaving Iraq, according to the U.N. High Commission for Refugees. Pray for God's protection, for strengthened faith for Iraqi Christians and for Iraq's to come to Christ.

VI. **Reflect – Wait – Listen – Report**

REFLECT – upon the Scriptures you have read and how that has guided your prayers.

REMAIN – in the presence of the Lord allowing His Spirit ample time to speak to you.

RECORD – what God says to you. **REPORT** – testify of answered prayer.

Feel free to make additional copies. For an electronic version, please contact Damaris: 718.721.2626, x219 or daherron@COPGNY.org.