

PROCLAMATION

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

May 5, 2016

WHEREAS, *NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER* is a tradition that first began when the Continental Congress in 1775 asked the colonies to pray for wisdom in forming a nation; and

WHEREAS, our country was founded on the ideals of freedom and liberty, with many of our Presidents turning to prayer, as they led our great nation, including President Abraham Lincoln who proclaimed a day of "humiliation, fasting, and prayer" in 1863; and

WHEREAS, in 1952, President Harry S. Truman signed legislation, passed by Congress, declaring *NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER* as an annual observance; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed legislation, passed by Congress, designating the first Thursday of the month of May each year as *NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER*; and

WHEREAS, *NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER* upholds the fundamental right to pray for: peace, security, guidance and protection for our families, government leaders, civil servants and persons serving in our armed forces especially important during this time of conflict and instability in the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, over the years people from all faiths in our community have provided leadership that has helped the *NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER* unite citizens of Lancaster County; and

WHEREAS, today we celebrate the 65th anniversary of the *NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER* and remember the one law that binds all great religions together: the Golden Rule, and its call to love one another; to understand one another; and to treat one another with dignity and respect.

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that we, the Board of Commissioners of Lancaster County, do hereby proclaim, Thursday May 5, 2016, as *NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER*, and encourage citizens of Lancaster County to participate according to their customs and traditions and to express thanksgiving for our freedoms and blessings and to ask for continued guidance, grace, and protection for this land that we love.

Dennis P. Stuckey, Chairman

Joshua G. Parsons, Vice Chairman

Craig E. Lehman

*Board of Commissioners of
Lancaster County, Pennsylvania*