Day of Prayer 2009

Today is National Day of Prayer, and all across our country, citizens will be gathering in groups or kneeling in privacy to communicate with Jehovah God. And so should we, throughout Life Care Centers of America, for the Lord has called us to our mission, and He grants the grace and the strength to care for His children.

The theme of the week is *Prayer ... America's Hope*. Beth Moore, author and Bible teacher, was asked to offer a prayer for the nation. She wrote:

"Father in Heaven, we lift our eyes toward Your throne, where You reign in righteousness. Your Word assures us that when Your people cry out in sincerity and humility, You will never turn a deaf ear to us. We call upon You now, seeking your forgiveness and favor. Look over this fevered landscape and heal us, Lord. Drop knees to the floor and raise eyes to the sky, for we know where our help comes from. Unite these States again in devotion to You, and blur every dividing line. Do not give us over to our sins. Give us, instead, over

to passionate prayer that moves Your heart. 'May Your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, even as we put our hope in You' (Psalm 33:22). In the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen."

Despite the problems and challenges of our land, our nation is blessed, indeed, with the freedoms granted us by the Constitution and the pursuit of happiness endorsed by the Declaration of Independence. Life Care has had the favor of God upon it since it was created in 1976. And no matter what issues we may be facing, virtually all of us in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home can agree that God has been good to us personally – even to the granting of each breath that we draw.

Let us always seek to show our gratitude to God, and on this day in particular, thank the Lord for His mercy and grace. Some suggestions for observing National Day of Prayer:

- Ask someone, or several, to offer sentence prayers during a standup meeting.
- Plan a prayer time with residents, perhaps at breakfast or lunch or at a specially appointed hour.

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 As you plan your own private prayer time, pray for your residents and your fellow associates – in their personal lives as well as in their professional pursuits. Ask God to bless our company and its leadership, for wisdom in decisions that are made. Petition the Almighty to grant His grace to our country and guide those with authority over us – the President, his cabinet and staff, and the Congress. Request the Lord's protection for our men and women in uniform.

Above all, let us make it a day that honors God.

Beecher Hunter