

“Notes and Quotes”

Fall 2002

P. O. Box 460365, San Antonio, TX 78246 Email: WNPSA@Juno.com
(210) 349-PRAY (7729) Fax 349-0173 Website: www.wnpintl.org

All to the Glory of God

What is truth? Is truth relative? -- The headline in the Express News read, “Poll shows belief in tolerance”. An excerpt reads: “Many Americans know little about people of other faiths but believe Christians should be tolerant of those of other religions and not work to convert them, a new poll shows. The poll of 2002 adults across the country was taken by telephone between March 26 and April 4, 2002. The poll was conducted as part of a joint project of the ‘Religion and Ethics News Weekly’ TV program and U.S. News & World report magazine. *When asked to compare a statement saying Christians should convert people of other faiths to Christianity to one saying they should be tolerant of people of other faiths and ‘leave them alone,’ 71 percent said the latter statement was closer to their own views, compared to 22 percent who sided with the first one.*” It goes on to say “For many, many centuries, Christians have thought they had the truth, and that other people did not have the truth in the same way. And now Christians are not quite so sure of that. They are more likely to say ‘This is true for me’.” Some individuals who were polled may not have been Christians, but even so I am grieved by those words. Are Mohammad and other false gods being placed on the same sacred level as Jesus Christ because of fear of rejection or persecution, simply evading the truth, or never being told the gospel truth?

Before I became a Christian in September of 1976 I denied Jesus as the Son of God and testified that there were many ways to heaven through many prophets. Since Jesus came into my heart as my Savior and Lord, I now know that He is Truth and I believe that God’s word is inerrant. God tells us in John 14:6 “I am the way the truth and the life and no man comes to the Father, but by me.” I Timothy 2:5 tells us “For there is one God and one Mediator man and between God and men, the Man, Jesus Christ.” The apostle Peter, full of the Holy Spirit speaks to the rulers of the people and elders of Israel about a man who was healed, “let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole. This is the ‘stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.’ Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:10-12)

*The women of WNP are asking God to give Christians an uncompromising faith with a holy boldness in love to stand firm on the truth that Jesus is the Way, The Truth and the Life and no one comes to the Father, except through Him. If we do not set this example for our children and the next generation coming behind us, Satan will have had his way. God is a God of love, and He sent His only Son to be the only provision for man’s sin. Jesus Christ is the only hope for our world! We, in the body of Christ, must be prepared daily to not compromise our faith. Romans 12:2 tells us “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind that you may prove what is the good and acceptable will of God.” – *When each of us asked Jesus into our**

hearts as our personal savior the spirit of the living Christ came to indwell us to empower us to love others and yet have an uncompromising faith that holds firm in spite of what the world says. Galatians 2:20 says "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live but Christ lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave His life for me."

Through the years God has reminded me of what a loved one who has not yet received Jesus said to me -- "If I believed what you believe about Jesus, I would spend every waking moment telling others."-- I have not denied Jesus when asked, but I have failed in always sharing the gospel of Jesus with others. I pray that it will no longer be so. – *May Christians across America become known as disciples of the Truth by lovingly sharing the gospel of Jesus in **word** and deed to honor the name of our living Lord and Savior Jesus Christ --- all to the glory of God!*

Joan Bond, President

WNP Encouragers

(Taken from the WNP Website: www.wnpintl.org)

Please visit our website to read encouraging words of others

Vonette Bright – Co-Founder, Campus Crusade for Christ, Intl.

"If we are to solve the problems in our world today, the greatest need of the hour is prayer. Women's Neighborhood Prayer is responding to that need by utilizing the power of prayer and uniting women in voicing their concerns to God."

Soapy Dollar - Citywide Director, Campus Crusade for Christ; Citywide Coordinator, National Day of Prayer; Director, Arms of Love Ministries, San Antonio, Texas; WNP Advisory Board Member

My wife, Suzanne, and I have been involved with Women's Neighborhood Prayer through financial and prayer support since the beginning. We have witnessed the integrity and sincerity with which the leaders have sought to know and follow God's will in their decisions. At each step, Joan Bond has sought and heeded the counsel of Godly men and women.

WNP is helping to unite the Body of Christ in San Antonio by humbly and lovingly relating to all true believers; and by maintaining a servant attitude while motivating and leading women, and men as well, to be diligent and persevering prayer warriors.

Most Reverend Patrick Flores – Archbishop, Catholic Diocese of San Antonio, Texas

God is blessing our city by using Women's Neighborhood Prayer to bring Catholic and Protestant women together to pray united in Christ. This ministry is truly from the heart of God.

Max Lucado - Author; Senior Minister, Oak Hills Church of Christ, San Antonio, Texas

More than once I've been encouraged by these prayer warriors. Their work is essential.

Dr. Rev. David McNitzky – Senior Pastor, Alamo Heights United Methodist Church, San Antonio, Texas; WNP Advisory Board Member

In John 17 Jesus prayed and He prayed that His people would be one. I am excited about the Women's Neighborhood movement because it fulfills both the fundamental practice and the deepest desire of our Lord.

John Ofoegbu - Founder and International Director, Unity for Africa and International Conference on Reconciliation; WNP Advisory Board Member

Four years ago God brought Joan Bond and Women's Neighborhood Prayer into our lives during the preparation of the first International Conference on Reconciliation in San Antonio, Texas. As we worked together with Joan and WNP, we noticed some remarkable qualities such

as: Love, humility, faith, team spirit and willingness to serve not only God, but the body of Christ in San Antonio and beyond. While some in the body want to be served and noticed, Joan Bond and WNP always make themselves available to serve humbly, gracefully and quietly.

WNP is a gathering of God lovers, God pleasers, prayer warriors and reconcilers. They are at the center and leading the way of what God is doing in San Antonio in the areas of : Prayer, and Racial, Denominational, Gender, Family and Political Reconciliation.

Alice Patterson - Director and Founder, Pray Texas

It was a joy to speak to Women's Neighborhood Prayer and to see the room filled with beautiful diversity. God loves to pour out His blessing on people who are joining together to answer His prayer in John 17 -- "that we would be one so that the world will know that the Father sent Him." The work of WNP to call women together across cultural and denominational barriers to pray for the lost is God's heart. No wonder He's blessing this organization.

Mrs. "Tex" Tippit Coordinator, City Wide Women's Prayer, San Antonio, Texas (Wife of International Evangelist, Sammy Tippit)

In John 17:21, Jesus said, that they may all be one; even as Thou, Father art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be in Us; that the world may believe that Thou didst send Me." One of the necessary factors of spiritual awakening in a nation is "visible union across the lines that seem to divide us." Women's Neighborhood Prayer has continually encouraged women to gather to pray with one voice unto the Lord Jesus and to intercede for their communities, churches, and nation. How I praise God for that!

Rev. Stephen P. Troxel - Senior Pastor, Wayside Chapel Evangelical Free Church, San Antonio, Texas; WNP Advisory Board Member

When God's people begin to pray, great things begin to happen! Prayer has always been the great forerunner of every major revival. Often that prayer is initiated from the hearts of women. Women's Neighborhood Prayer is a ministry born of the Holy Spirit that is being used of God to encourage people to pray. There is nothing but good that can come from that which is of the Holy Spirit. Peter Dyneka, the Russian immigrant whom God mightily moved in prayer, had a saying "Much prayer, much power; little prayer, little power." May God continue to enlarge the boundaries of this ministry.

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTATIONS TO ENERGIZE YOUR PRAYERS

"A movement of prayer for the world must first target on our own spiritual blindness. Once Christ is revealed in the midst of His Church, we will be spiritually propelled into the urgent ministry given us to extend His kingdom among the nations. God's whole vision for the whole world can only be fulfilled through the whole Body of Christ. Therefore, the whole Body must pursue that vision together. And, the most strategic way to pursue it is through a movement of united prayer for spiritual awakening and world evangelization. Only a God-given reawakening to Christ and the full extent of His supremacy can resuscitate the Church's spiritual passion and re-engage her effectively in the worldwide advance of His Kingdom."

David Bryant, President, Concerts of Prayer Intl. and Proclaim Hope!
Chairman, America's National Prayer Committee

www.DavidBryantDirect.com

WE PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

For the February Annual Praise and Prayer Breakfast and the message God gave Mary Ann Bridgwater, President of Pray the Word Ministries, which blessed us all. Visit her website at: www.praytheword.org
For the Annual Leadership Meeting for Prayer Guides and Prayer Hostesses held in March. God's presence was surely with us that morning.

For the way God's faithfulness prevailed in making our May Introductory Training session for new Prayer Guides and Prayer Hostesses possible.

For the February corporate office Open House and the way God blessed us with those who visited and those who graciously helped.

For Chris Castillo, a friend of WNP, for her sweet spirit and endless hours of helping in the office during her summer break from work. Carrying out God's work with great joy would not have been possible without her and the other precious volunteers.

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WNP is A: Work of Faith, Labor of Love & Service of Joy

**"Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it;
Unless the Lord guards the city, the watchmen stay awake in vain."**

Psalm 127:1

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PRAYER PETITIONS

Alan Parker of the Texas Justice Foundation is preparing to go before the Supreme Court with personal testimonies and affidavits of women asking for abortion to be stopped. Eileen Vincent of Outpouring Ministries will organize nationwide prayer covering for this battle. This is also a major undertaking. She and her staff also covet your prayers. Please visit their website and get involved with this God-sized, God ordained task: www.operationoutcry.org

OUR PRAYERS GO OUT TO MARGIE MCGRATH, ONE OF OUR PRAYER GUIDES AND HER FAMILY AT THE LOSS OF HER NEPHEW IN THIS LAST S.A. FLOOD AND THE LOSS OF HER SISTER LAST AUGUST; GAIL ANDREWS ONE OF OUR PRAYER MEMBERS AT THE LOSS OF HER HUSBAND; JOHN (MEMBER, WNP ADVISORY BOARD) AND JUSTINA OFOGBU, AT THE LOSS OF HER BROTHER; PASTOR CINDY DANIEL, (MEMBER, WNP ADVISORY BOARD) AT THE LOSS OF HER BROTHER; AND OUR PRAYER MEMBER, SHERRY EDGE AT THE LOSS OF HER FATHER.

PRAY FERVENTLY FOR THE NOVEMBER ELECTIONS AND FOR CANDIDATES WHO UPHOLD BIBICAL PRINCIPLES TO BE ELECTED.

WE COVET YOUR PRAYERS FOR THE WNP CELEBRATION DINNER AND OUR GUEST SPEAKER, CLIFTON JANSKY. PLEASE PRAY FOR GOD'S FINANCIAL PROVISIONS FOR WNP. WE ARE BELIEVING GOD FOR THE FUNDS NEEDED TO CARRY ON HIS WORK IN SAN ANTONIO AND BEYOND. GOD IS FAITHFUL TO PROVIDE FOR HIS WORK! WILL YOU BE A PART OF HIS PROVISION THROUGH YOUR PRAYERS AND THROUGH GIVING A ONE-TIME GIFT OR PLEDGING A MONTHLY GIFT FROM SEPTEMBER 2002 TO SEPTEMBER 2003? (PHILIPPIANS 4: 14-20)

HONORING GOD'S SERVANT

Charles Sciascia, our brother in the Lord has been God's gift to WNP since 1998. He has sacrificially helped us before work, during his lunch break, after hours and on weekends as a WNP volunteer working on Joan's home computer and the two computers at our office. The two computer systems at our office were a direct result of his initiative to ask for and gather quality equipment from donors. Charles always exhibits a spirit of patience, humility and "how can I help you" attitude. He has gone beyond his normal

services offered in helping WNP with email, excel and Microsoft word questions that Joan has encountered. If you are having technical computer problems or errors, your system won't shut down, Internet connectivity problems, Cable Modem, DSL, application problems or just about anything regarding technical problems, Charles can help you.

Charles has 19 years of computer experience and is a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer. He is available by appointment evenings and weekends with reasonable rates. You will be happy that you gave him a call at 210-561-0585 or email him at csciascia.jr@worldnet.att.net. His wife Jackie has been a WNP prayer member since 1997. We thank God for Charles and Jackie's friendship and support of WNP.

“From the Neighborhoods to the Nations – Transforming our cities for Christ through United Prayer” WNP is a non-profit 501(c)(3) servant prayer ministry – encouraging and equipping women to unite as sisters in Christ to pray for the transformation of their city and nation for Christ, not forsaking their own assembly. Please make every attempt to attend our Celebration Dinner on Friday, September 20th from 7:00 P.M. – 9:30 P.M., invite others and bring your spouse! Send your check with names of attendees in the enclosed envelope. If you want to reserve a table for eight, please send a check for \$96.00. When you have the names of attendees, please call us so we can prepare a nametag for each one. We hope to see you there!

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap the harvest (of souls) if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9

Exciting News – “Thank You, Jesus” – Three offices open for prayer each week
PRAYER FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF OUR CITY AND NATION FOR CHRIST

Each Wednesday from 12:00 – 1:00 P.M.

| <u>Northwest</u> City Reachers Vision | <u>North Central (Beginning Oct)</u> WNP (Women only please) | <u>Northeast</u> Missionaries with the |
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| 8308 Fredericksburg Rd. 35N, Ste 311 San Antonio, Texas 78229 78233 (210) 614-9330 | 104 Ivywood Circle San Antonio, Texas 78213 (210) 349-PRAY (7729) | 10635 Interstate San Antonio, Texas (210) 227-6988 |

Until next time, may God shower you, dear sisters and brothers in the Lord, with His blessings of peace, protection, and provisions!

Women's Neighborhood Prayer, Inc.,
Prayer Coordinators, Staff, and Board of Director