State of
North Dakota
Office of the Governor

John Hoeven
Governor

PROCLAMATION
DAY OF PRAYER
MAY 7, 2009

WHEREAS, since our nation's founding, Americans have turned to prayer for hope, strength, comfort and protection in times of grief, anger and uncertainty; and

WHEREAS, National Days of Prayer are a venerable American tradition, the first such day having been proclaimed by the Continental Congress on July 20, 1775, to affirm the nation's spiritual heritage and to enlist prayer for local, state and national leaders; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we observe a day to acknowledge our many blessings, express gratitude and recognize the need to strengthen religious and moral values in our state and throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, a day of prayer is also an opportunity to renew and inspire the joy we find in our faith, friends, family and communities, to remember those who are suffering and facing hardships, and to pray for peace throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, a day of prayer is a day to remember our brave men and women who are fighting to defend our country and preserve our freedoms, and to recognize those who have returned safely home to their family and friends; we also honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our nation and the families who mourn their loss; and

WHEREAS, the North Dakota state constitution states, "We, the people of North Dakota, grateful to Almighty God for the blessings of civil and religious liberty, do ordain and establish this constitution."; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has set aside the first Thursday in May as a National Day of Prayer, allowing us an opportunity to celebrate our freedoms and America's great tradition of prayer.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim May 7, 2009, a **DAY OF PRAYER** in the state of North Dakota.

John Hoeven
Governor

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State

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