

# PROCLAMATION

*National Day of Prayer  
May 1, 2003*

*Whereas*, Due to the faith of many of our founding fathers, public prayer and national days of pray have a long-standing and significant history in American tradition, and;

*Whereas*, the National Day of Prayer was first proclaimed by President Lincoln in 1863 and was established as an annual event in 1952 by joint resolution of the Unites States Congress and signed into law by President Truman, and;

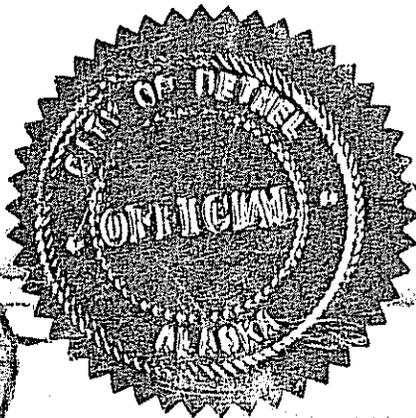
*Whereas*, In 1988, the law was amended and signed by President Reagan permanently setting the day as the first Thursday of every May, and;

*Whereas*, This government-proclaimed day is offered to all Americans, regardless of religion, to celebrate their faith through prayer, and;

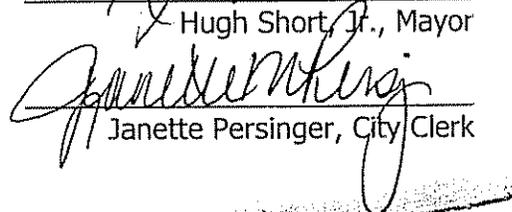
*Whereas*, As our nation enters in to a time of critical need, we, as a community, take this occasion to pray for the men and women of the military who fight to defend our freedoms and those of countless others around the world.

*Now therefore*, I, Hugh Short, Jr., Mayor of Bethel, Alaska on behalf of the Bethel City Council and the citizens who reside in Bethel, do hereby proclaim May 1, 2003 as "National Day of Prayer" and urge all citizens to pray for God's continued blessing for our lives, as well as those in our community and ask for His protection for our great land.

In witness hereof, I hereby set my hand this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February 2003.



  
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Hugh Short, Jr., Mayor

  
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Janette Persinger, City Clerk