



CAPITOL HILL PRAYER PARTNERS

Partners in Prayer for the Nation

I exhort therefore, that...prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made. . . . For all in authority. . . . (I Timothy 2: 1,2)

THE NIGHTWATCH IS BASED UPON THE WORD OF GOD

"Arise, cry out in the night, as the watches of the night begin; pour out your heart like water in the presence of the Lord. Lift up your hands to him for the lives of your children, who faint from hunger at every street corner."(Lamentations 2:19)

"At night my soul longs for You, indeed, my spirit within me seeks You diligently, For when the earth experiences Your judgments, the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness." (Isaiah 26:9)

"In a dream, in a vision in the night, when deep sleep falls upon men as they slumber on their beds, 16 He opens their ears at that time and terrifies them with warnings . . ."(Job 33:15-16)

TO BE CALLED TO STAND IN THE NIGHTWATCH IS A HIGH HONOR IN THE COURTS OF HEAVEN

"For many are called, but few are chosen."(Matthew 22:14)

What is the CHPP NIGHTWATCH?

The NIGHTWATCH is governmental prayer and intercession that takes place every night between the hours of 12 am and 6 am (Eastern Standard Time) to align with Washington DC time.

The NIGHTWATCH was born in December of 2003, when Sara Ballenger (President, Capitol Hill Prayer Partners) was deep in prayer, to see if there was any strategy we could utilize to strengthen the hands of President Bush as he waged the war in Afghanistan; and for the protection nation of Israel, who were under much attack.

The LORD replied by stating: ***"If you open your conference night for the next 30 nights and call your people to pray, I will move on your behalf."***

And so . . . we began . . .

The anointing in the night was SO STRONG every night that this time of prayer was truly exciting! We prayed at 2:00 a.m. as if it was 2:00 p.m. the next day . . . but we DID realize the next morning that we had been up all night the night before!

We had no name for this initiative, but this strategy has since been called "THE NIGHTWATCH." As you read through this testimony, you will find how other teams soon became involved in this watch.

Our mission is to have the saints of God praying for our government, nation and Israel during the night when the enemy is most active. NIGHTWATCH saints are intercessors for the Kingdom of God and not for any specific political party, however, we are keenly aware of the signs and times. We can see that there is a spiritual and natural battle going on for the life of our nation, Israel, their governments and the church worldwide; therefore we are contending against forces of evil seeking to overthrow all that we know to be right, *just and good*. *As sons and daughters of Issachar, we intercede as in Nehemiah 4. "Nevertheless we made our prayer to our God, and because of them (the enemies) we set a watch against them day and night."*(v.9) **We are** the watch of the night against the enemies of our God and all that He is building.

Who carries the NIGHTWATCH throughout the year?

When the CHPP NIGHTWATCH was birthed through Sara Ballenger, Founder and Director of Capitol Hill Prayer Partners, the Lord told her that He would bring the battalions to pray through the nights. From that point in January 2004, until the present, He has been faithful to fulfill His promise. Month after month (or week after week), Father God has, indeed, raised up battalions of intercessors who are willing to sacrifice time and sleep in the night to see our nation protected through the strategy of all-night prayer. While most are sleeping the NIGHTWATCH intercessors are on the job, and GOD MEETS THEM THERE providing His energy, His vision, His anointing, and His strength! The reports of powerful encounters with the Holy Spirit in these quiet times of night are consistent and frequent.

We are excited to share the feedback we have already received from some prayer warriors with the National Day of Prayer Task Force, who are carrying the watch this month. Please be blessed as you read three excerpts of their NIGHTWATCH reports, below:

Alaska carries first watch.

Powerful opening night for West!!

A stunning line-up of leaders in the state with powerful Intercessors assigned to cover the requests as they came forth. Exciting night with over 20 involved. Wow!!!

Oregon takes second watch.

Power packed watch with new watchman coming on every 15 minutes. The flow was amazing praying for different topics regarding the church. Great job

California watchmen start off strong!

Powerful intercession for church and for NDP leadership. Two are better than one!

Our co-coordinators finished the night watch continuing to stand on the prophetic words over their beautiful state.

We welcome many ministries and organizations with intercessory prayer teams who are willing to stand as battalions for the Kingdom of God in the night. Our calling is from the Lord, our unity comes as we labor with each other, and our protection comes from His Hand. As we prepare to wage our warfare in the night, we remember Nehemiah, who said: *"Do not be afraid of them (the enemies). Remember the Lord, great and awesome, and fight for your brethren, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your houses."* (Nehemiah 4:14). And we would add, fight also for your land, nation and government.

Where does the NIGHTWATCH take place?

Every team is different and encouraged to follow their team leaders. The primary method is with a free conference call. CHPP has a line set up that any team is welcome to use. Others have their own line that is private for that team only. Still others pray at home through the night. All will be following a schedule developed by their ministry team leaders, so that every watch has a facilitator responsible for leading and guiding the intercession, as well as making sure no one comes onto the call to disrupt. The facilitators have full autonomy within the guidelines of their own ministries.

How is a NIGHTWATCH scheduled?

We at CHPP set up the annual calendar, inviting local, national (and international) ministry teams and organizations to "carry a watch", which means to pray every night (from 12am to 6 am EST) for a period of time between one week and one month long. The shortest amount of time is no less than one week (typically reserved for small teams of 5-10 people).

The watches are usually 2-hours in length, with 1-2 facilitators per watch with the intercessors that will join them and pray. Each watch has a theme defined either by CHPP prayer materials, the Ministry itself or by the Holy Spirit. There is liberty for each team to pray as they are led or instructed while they carry the watch. It is unity that commands the blessing (Psalm 133).

CHPP has developed extensive prayer materials for each watch, which include all areas of our government, repentance, Israel, spiritual enemies, our Constitution, the 7 mountains and others in authority. This year, we will particularly target the upcoming elections, with the first watch praying especially over the Executive branch, the second watch praying for the Congress and in particular, seeing God's people elected into office, and the third watch is the Supreme Court and justice in the land. Teams are also welcome to target the daily news; cover "Red Alerts" as well as hover in prayer, praise, worship, and the reading of the Word. Many teams also use the CHPP Daily Brief as their prayer guide each night, too.

"The Changing of the Guard"

Our Lord birthed the vision of "the Changing of the Guard" on January 4th, 2004. At that time, our own CHPP prayer warriors were scheduled to stand down from the watch, and to pass the assignment on to the National Day of Prayer Task Force.

The Lord then showed us:

1. When I (Sara Ballenger) protested that this was to continue past our first 30-day assignment, our Lord CLEARLY said:

"If You will trust Me, I will raise up battalions who will follow your lead in praying through the night, until further notice."

And He has done just that!

2. That it was CRITICAL that there be NO BREACH in the WALL OF INTERCESSION that He was creating, but that this watch in the night was to continue nonstop until further notice. OUR UNITY COMMANDS OUR BLESSING!
3. That we were to envision the literal "Changing of the Guard" at Arlington Cemetery, when the Marines rotate their shift by clicking their heels, marching in PRECISE formation, and handing the Sword to the next Marine.
4. That WE are "God's military" – waging the warfare shown in His Word, defending our nation AND Israel from ALL enemies: foreign, domestic and spiritual!
5. Like the Marines, we, too, march "in formation" at the beginning and end of each of our assignments, verbally handing the TORCH/FLAME of intercession to the next team and speaking a word of blessing over each one.
6. To support the Changing of the Guard, (the "COG"), CHPP sends out a reminder notice to announce the next rotation, with an agenda for the "COG" included.
7. This monthly rotation is AWESOME and often the anointing as we align our forces together is literally "electric!" We invite YOU to come JOIN us in this adventure in prayer!

In Closing

We encourage each one of you who are reading this announcement to "huddle with your team" and to seek His face together, to hear if Father God is calling YOU, too, to participate in this hidden, strategic work of prayer.

We stand ready to support you, and to hear from you, if YOU too, want to join the Kingdom Intercessors, who by their obedience, have taken their own position on the wall over these past seventeen years, thereby creating a NONSTOP FLOW OF PRAYER for the Kingdom of God!

You may contact us by sending an email to Lori 4Him, CHPP NIGHTWATCH Administrator, at: info@capitolhillprayer.org.

"The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (James 5:16)

Capitol Hill Prayer Partners (CHPP) is a 501(c)(3), tax- exempt, faith-based, ministry.