



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, the 65<sup>th</sup> observance of the National Day of Prayer will be held on Thursday, May 5, 2016, with the theme "Wake Up America" based on Isaiah 58:1, "Shout it aloud, do not hold back. Raise your voice like a trumpet"; and

**WHEREAS**, a national day of prayer has been part of our country's heritage since it was declared by the First Continental Congress in 1775; and

**WHEREAS**, leaders of our nation have relied upon the power of prayer throughout America's history and have called on our citizens to unite together and pray, asking the Creator for divine guidance, protection, blessing, and strength to meet the challenges that we face as we band together to defend this great country against any foe that would threaten it; and

**WHEREAS**, recognizing the power and love of God, we, as citizens of the State of Tennessee, value the freedom we have to gather and pray, and we acknowledge our need for God's strength and wisdom in the face of present and future challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, we join with fellow citizens, regardless of religion or denomination, to ask God for His blessing and protection upon every citizen of our state; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress, by Public Law 100-307, as amended, affirms that it is essential for us as a nation to pray as it directs the President of the United States to set aside and proclaim the first Thursday in May of each year as a National Day of Prayer; and

**WHEREAS**, an act of The General Assembly, which amended Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 1, Part 4, requests the Governor of the State of Tennessee to designate the first Thursday of May each calendar year as "Tennessee's Day of Prayer," on which the people of this state may turn to prayer, meditation or otherwise give thanks, in accordance with their own faiths and consciences;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim, May 5, 2016 as

*Tennessee's Day of Prayer*

and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this eighth day of February, 2016.

*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Joe Vest*

Secretary of State