

Board of Directors

Joan Courtney

President

Joan's purpose in life is to show God's love, to pray, and to profess, "the Lord Jesus Christ is the only way, the truth, and the life." This has not always been the desire of her heart, but God had His plans for Joan. Joan grew up in Golden Acres, Texas in a Christian home (the Daniel household). As an adult, Joan turned her back on her Christian roots and could no longer accept that Jesus was God's Son. During an in-home Bible study, the Holy Spirit convicted Joan that she knew about God but did not **know** Him. When she returned home, she prayed, "God, I want to believe that Jesus is who the Bible says He is." It was then the Holy Spirit got hold of her **heart; and in September 1976, Joan prayed to receive Jesus as her Savior. Joan remembers her friends' words: "We've been praying for you."**

In July 1980, Joan was on her way home when a train crushed the car she was driving. Joan clung to life by a thread as her friends and family prayed for her. God answered the many prayers and healed Joan of her multiple life-threatening injuries. **God used Joan's near death experience to teach her that God hears and answers the prayers of His children and He has the power to heal.**

Joan had many more opportunities to experience God's amazing power to heal spiritually and physically when she served as a certified volunteer chaplain at the University Hospital in San Antonio, TX. Joan prayed for those with whom she came in contact, and saw God save souls and bring His comfort and healing to those for whom she prayed.

God provided leadership and prayer opportunities for Joan that she now uses for God's glory in Women's Prayer International. Joan was employed as an airline flight attendant, a full charge bookkeeper and a residential mortgage loan officer. In addition to her chaplain ministry, Joan served as the Women's Ministry Prayer Chairman for a mainline denomination mega church and has been a participant, trainer and speaker in evangelism and prayer activities. She has served as a Stonecroft Ministries Speaker and a Friendship Bible Coffee District Consulting Coordinator.

In October 1996, Joan served as the Women's Prayer Coordinator for the South Texas Billy Graham Crusade's Women's Event, which became the Women's Prayer Committee for the crusade, held in the Alamodome in April 1997. *It was at this time that God imparted His vision to Joan for her to continue to encourage and equip women to unite in prayer in their neighborhoods, across cultures, denominations and races. This vision birthed Women's Neighborhood Prayer International (now Women's Prayer International).*

In 1998, God led Joan to leave the corporate world to serve Him full-time as Director for WNP. Many WNP groups throughout San Antonio were established; and in 2005, God opened the door for WNP groups to be established beyond San Antonio. **In 2006, Women's Marketplace Prayer International (now Women's Prayer International) was birthed to give women in their place of work the opportunity to unite to pray for the transformation of their city and nation for Christ.**

God continues to provide opportunities for Joan to network with organizations that share the same vision. Being in ministry with these like-minded organizations is Joan's delight. She serves locally as a WPI representative at The Gathering of Pastors and Leaders, working with the National Day of Prayer and Global Day of Prayer committees, and is a member of Wayside Chapel Evangelical Free Church where she leads a monthly women's prayer group to pray for Wayside, San Antonio and the nation. Joan represents WPI nationally with the Mission America Coalition, the National Association of Evangelicals Women's Committee. She has served as a Volunteers Staff Representative Prayer Manager for Promise Keepers and is an alumna of C.L.A.S.S. (Christian Leaders and Speakers Seminar)

Joan believes time is short, and God wants to unite women throughout the nation and world to pray in a neighbor's home or in their place of work across denominations, races and cultures so "that the world may know Him". Her mission is to fulfill the vision God gave her in 1997: for women to unite in prayer with such passion and purpose that the whole world will see Jesus' prayer in John 17:20-23 fulfilled... and millions around the globe will come to know Him as their personal Savior before He returns for His Bride, the Church.

Joan was married for 36 years to a devoted husband, Gerald (Jerry) Bond, who went home to be with his Lord in February '07. Joan states "After the passing of my husband, I did not think that I would ever marry again, however I am thankful that God had other plans for me. It is a wonderful thought to know that my heavenly Father knew the exact Godly soul mate and best friend whom I would need at this time to complete me, both personally and as the President of WPI. God is true to this word when He says that "His ways are higher than our ways, His thoughts higher than our thoughts."

On January 10, 2009, Joan married Sgt. Major (Retired) LC Courtney in front of their family and friends at Wayside Chapel in San Antonio. They were blessed to have Pastor Roger Poupart, Senior Pastor at Wayside give them a prayer blessing, and Pastor Steve Troxel, former Pastor at Wayside, and a long standing WPI Advisor to perform the ceremony. LC and Joan are now blessed with a beautiful blended family (two daughters, two son-in-laws, one son and daughter-in-law and five grandchildren).

Joan has a zest for life in service to her Lord with the full support of her family. She welcomes opportunities to speak to groups on any facet of prayer and on God's faithfulness in response to prayer. God is using Joan to accomplish Christ's Kingdom work here on earth, all for the glory of God!