



LCRL PRAYER PARTNERS

February: TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE

Beginnings

On July 4, 1776, fifty-six delegates from all thirteen colonies signed the Declaration of Independence and declared, "We mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor."

These men were willing to give up their lives, property, businesses, wealth, and honor in pursuit of independence, risking everything to form a free and self-governing nation.

To honor that pledge, many of the signers took up arms against the British. Nine died during the struggle, and others suffered the loss of homes, businesses, or fortunes.

They kept faith with one another and modeled a unity the colonies had never seen before. In doing so, they demonstrated not only solidarity but the very essence of citizenship. Their courage inspired thousands to fight, support the war effort, or endure hardship for the sake of freedom. From their sacrifice emerged the United States of America.

That same day—July 4, 1776—Benjamin Evans and Lydia Whidden, surrounded by family and friends, made a pledge of their own before Samuel Hutchins.

Benjamin vowed, "I take you as my wife, pledging to love you, provide for you, protect you, and remain true to you all the days of my life."

Lydia vowed, "I take you to be my wedded husband, to love, honor, and keep you, forsaking all others, and remaining faithful to you for as long as we both shall live."

Their union brought together two complementary lives, and from that union came a child—one of the first citizens of the new nation born that same day.

July 4, 1776: two beginnings—one birthing a nation, the other birthing a citizen of that nation.

It is only by a man and a woman, joined as one, bearing children who ensure the continuation of the family, the community, and the country.

Traditional marriage offers a stable, lifelong union that strengthens families, nurtures children, and supports the well-being of both spouses and their community.

The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty advocates for Traditional Marriage.

Let Us Pray:

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, 1 Timothy 2:1 ESV

Father, we give thanks for the joy and blessings that You grant to husbands and wives through the gift of marriage. Assist them always by Your grace that they may honor and keep their marriage vows; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Lord, we give thanks to You for the gift and blessing of Christian marriage and for Your gift of children. Be with mothers and fathers as they train up their children in Your way; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Let Us Encourage:

PRINT – PERSONALIZE – Pray

The LCRL asks that you would commit to pray for those people and organizations that labor on behalf of traditional marriage during the month of February.

Not only do we ask that you would pray, but that you would share this prayer request with your family, friends, neighbors, and congregation.

Please see:

<https://www.lcms.org/social-issues/marriage>
for one such organization.

You may be familiar with other local or national organizations.

Please feel free to personalize this bookmark with the name(s) of the organization(s) that you will pray for in February, cut it out and keep it in your Bible for handy reference.

Marriage Ministry

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. 1 Timothy 2:1-2 ESV

