

# **Tulsa churches promise to pray around the clock all year long for their city, state**

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**By Bill Sherman**

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TULSA, Okla. (RNS)—As Oklahoma enters its centennial year, two dozen Tulsa-area churches have joined together to pray for the state and the city around the clock for the entire year.

Some of Tulsa's largest churches, from several denominations, are participating in the 24-7 prayer cycle.

Mark McAdow, pastor of prayer and evangelism at Asbury United Methodist Church, said the goal is to "saturate Tulsa and the state with prayer, as a unified body of Christ."

He called the prayer project "a rare opportunity for us to cross denominational lines and be united in prayer for the state and the city."

The 24-7 prayer started at midnight New Year's Eve at Believers Church.

Earlier that day, a torch was lit that will be carried each week to the participating churches. Each will schedule people to pray in one-hour slots around the clock for one week.

Roger Nix, pastor of Believers Church, said enough churches have signed on to cover the first six months of 2007, and more are interested. If fewer than 52 churches participate, some will schedule more than one week of prayer.

On a recent Tuesday afternoon, staff workers at Believers Church covered the prayer slot from 2 until 3 p.m.

In a dimly lit prayer room with scribbled prayer requests glowing under black lights on a black wall, Debbie Tietsort prayed that “all the churches will come together and love you in one accord, without denominational barriers.”

After participating in the prayer time, Kathy Ruddick said she believes God has a purpose for every city.

“I think Tulsa is meant to be a healing place,” she said.