

Daily Devotion For July 27, 2022

“Pray without ceasing.” I Thessalonians 5:17

Yesterday I received an email from my cousin Kimi asking prayers for a good friend of hers, Beth Pratt, who lives in Midpines, the same area that the Oak Fire is raging out of control. I met Beth last year as she was one of the speakers for the Chiura Obata Great Nature Memorial Highway dedication.

Beth is the Executive Director of the California Regional Center of the National Wildlife Federation. She has lived in Midpines for 25 years and her home is in danger of being burned.

The news and images emerging from the fires in California are hard to believe. Skies have turned red, filled with smoke over cities and counties as “historic winds” have fueled multiple wildfires across the state. As the governor declares a state of emergency, families are evacuating to escape the flames, knowing they may never see their homes again. Livelihoods and businesses are being lost as firefighters and first responders do everything in their power to stop the spread of the fires.

If we have learned anything in the extraordinary events of 2022, it is how little we are in control, and how much of our lives and livelihoods rest in the mercy of our good and powerful God, who gives and takes away.

Thought For Today And Today’s Prayer Focus: As you follow the news, lift up these prayers for the State of California, for the first responders with their lives on the lines, for the victims experiencing sudden loss, and for Beth Pratt and others who are in harm's way.