



Fall Newsletter 2013



Protecting the Family Through Prayer and Action

Photo by In the Garden Photography

The Nehemiah Principle

“Let us rise up and build ... then they set their hands to this good work.” - Nehemiah 2:18

Nehemiah is one of my favorite books of the Bible. I love the history of the Old Testament, and Nehemiah stands out for me because the principles laid out there are just what we do in CWA.

First, let's look at a little historical background. Because of their idolatry, God allowed the Israelites to be taken captive to Assyria and to Babylon. Jerusalem had been demolished by invading armies—its foundations and walls were broken down. The small remnant of Jews living there were demoralized and discouraged because their beautiful city was in ruins. Then God raised up Nehemiah—another example of how God places His people in specific positions at the right time for His purpose. Nehemiah had never been to Jerusalem; he was born in captivity in Babylon and served as a cupbearer to the king, a trusted position.

The first principle is **education**. Nehemiah learned about the great trouble and disgrace in Jerusalem because the wall was broken down, and its gates had been burned. In America, our foundations are crumbling, our “walls” are breaking down, and we've allowed the enemy to demoralize us—taking away our Biblical foundation. As culture warriors, we need to be educated, and CWA is a great source for becoming educated on pro-family issues.

Nehemiah was deeply **burdened** to the point that he sat down and wept. Are you burdened? Burdened that more than 55 million babies have died in the U.S. since abortion became legal in 1973 and that women have been -- and still are -- deceived into aborting their own children? Are you burdened that the homosexual agenda is like a freight train coming at us and that there are efforts to normalize pedophilia? What about pornography and human trafficking? What about loss of local control in education or loss of religious liberty?

Nehemiah **prayed** for three months before the God of

heaven. He confessed his own sins and those of his fellow Israelites. Nehemiah had a plan, and he asked the Lord for success of his plan and for favor of the king. CWA's backbone is prayer. Our Prayer/Action Chapters' focus is always on prayer and action. South Dakota's Encourage-A-Legislator Campaign upholds our state legislators in prayer each day during the legislative session.

Nehemiah took **action**. Because Nehemiah had served the king with integrity and faithfulness, the king responded favorably when Nehemiah asked permission to go to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls. CWA members take action by contacting their national, state and local lawmakers, writing letters to the editor, volunteering, etc.

Nehemiah's endeavor to rebuild the walls did not come without **opposition**. The Jews working on the wall were mocked and ridiculed by Sanballot and Tobiah attempting to discourage the Jews and stop the project. When you do something for the Lord and resist the evil culture you can expect opposition. Jesus said, “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven ... (Matthew 5:11-12)

The Jews made repairs on the wall “in front of their house,” “and next to them” ... “beside his house” ... “each in front of his own house.” They were truly a **grassroots** people. CWA members not only pray and act on national issues, but also are involved locally in their own communities and in the state.

The opposition grew and the Jews could have succumbed to the harassment. They could have said “the job is too big,” “the stones are too heavy,” “It's hopeless.” They could have said that masonry was way out of their comfort zone. However, Nehemiah encouraged the Jews by reminding them *why* they were

If you are interested in becoming a Prayer/Action Chapter leader, contact Linda at 605-380-6914. We will be happy to come to your town to help you get started with an informational meeting.

working so hard and *what* their motivation was. “Don’t be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes.” (Nehemiah 4:14)

Encourage-A-Legislator Campaign



“... prayers, intercession ... for kings and those in authority.” – I Timothy 2:1

In 2014, CWA of South Dakota will begin our 15th year of prayer for our 105 state legislators. You are invited to

participate in our Encourage-A-Legislator Campaign by committing to adopt a legislator and praying for him/her daily during the 40-day session. Each week you will send your legislator a CWA-provided postcard. Note your prayers for him/her, then stamp and mail the card.

To become one of 105 faithful prayer warriors, check the box on the enclosed response envelope, call Linda at 605-439-3630, or e-mail director@southdakota.cwfa.org. Please provide your name and address. Early in January, CWA of South Dakota will assign your legislator and supply you with CWA postcards and instructions.

We need more culture warriors. Would you consider joining our team? Let us rise up and build. Let us set our hands to this good work. (Nehemiah 2:18)

Thank you!

CWA of South Dakota would like to thank you for enabling us to receive these awards. If it weren't for your participation through prayer, letters and phone calls to legislators, financial support and more, we would not have been recognized in this way.

On September 21, Cindy Flakoll and Linda Schauer received the Humanitarians of the Year Award from South Dakota Right to Life.



On October 15, Linda Schauer received the 2013 Rosa Parks Citizen Activist Award from the Family Heritage Alliance at their “Stand Banquet” in Rapid City.

South Dakota Joins Prayer Case at the Supreme Court of the United States

“For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you...in every place your faith in God has become known ...” - I Thessalonians 1:8

The city council of Rapid City has opened its meetings with a prayer led by a local minister for many years.

Mayor Sam Kooiker stated in January, "I believe that this is a time-honored tradition that has strong community support." He added that the state Legislature and U.S. Congress also begin sessions with a prayer. But now there is a case before the U.S. Supreme Court that could well affect Rapid City and other towns and entities who have a tradition of prayer and petition to God for a blessing upon their proceedings.

Attorney General Marty Jackley announced on August 2 that South Dakota was joining 23 states in a multi-state Amicus or “friend of the court” brief filed in the U.S. Supreme Court. The case is *Town of Greece v. Galloway*, which will decide the constitutionality of starting government meetings with prayer. Two women, a Jew and an atheist, contend that the Greece, New York town council's practice of prayer amounts to “government endorsement of a single faith.” However, Greece's town supervisor stated that the practice dates from the republic's earliest days and that, “We have a rich tradition, back to our founding fathers, of opening legislative meetings with a prayer.”



Attorney General Jackley explained why the Amicus brief supports the Town of Greece: “The framers of our South Dakota Constitution opened their sessions with a prayer in 1883, and this practice continues today with our duly elected legislators. **The U.S. Constitution is a shield to protect our rights, not to be turned into a sword through judicial interpretation to strike down our rights and freedoms.**”

Prior cases have been decided regarding public prayer, such as the determination in 1983 by the Supreme Court that it was constitutional for the Nebraska State Legislature to open its sessions with a prayer by a paid, official chaplain who was Presbyterian. But other cases held that government cannot appear to endorse any particular religious viewpoint.

The Second Circuit Court of Appeals had decided against the Town of Greece on May 17, 2012, ruling that the prayers violated the First Amendment because they were almost always Christian. Town of Greece appealed *Greece v. Galloway* to the U.S. Supreme Court, where that case was heard on November 6, with a decision expected next June.

Religious Liberty and the HHS Mandate

“Their hands are skilled to do evil; the official and the judge ask for a bribe, and the powerful dictate what they desire; thus they pervert justice.” - Micah 7:3-4

The ObamaCare “Affordable Care Act” health care plan is in the news this fall because October 1 was the day to begin enrolling in the “exchanges,” and Congress is very much divided over the need for such a plan and whether it should or should not be funded. But a portion of the plan that is getting much less media coverage than the ongoing debate over implementation is the Health and Human Services-directed portion known as the **“contraceptive mandate,”** which will take effect on January 1, 2014.

This mandate requires employee health insurance to cover contraceptives, including abortion-causing drugs such as Ella and Plan B, and female sterilization. Such a mandate is totally unacceptable to many religious denominations, pro-life organizations and businesses, and **there is no allowance for the right of conscientious objection.**

In 2011, President Obama had weakened a federal regulation fully protecting the exercise of conscience in health care. One wonders just how close we are to a full-fledged push by this administration to require health care workers to perform both surgical and chemical abortion for any woman requesting the destruction of God's tiny, precious life growing within her.

Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York, who leads the U.S. Catholic Bishops' Conference, lays out his fear in this statement: “It is plain that the HHS Mandate lessens the ability of our ministries to give full-throated witness to our faith. ... **“We are concerned as pastors with the freedom of the Church as a whole ... to carry out the mission and**

ministry of Jesus Christ.” He calls for conscience provisions, and has endorsed the **Health Care Conscience Rights Act** (H.R. 940, S. 1204), sponsored by Rep. Diane Black (R-Tennessee) and Sen. Tom Coburn (R-Oklahoma).

CWA's CEO and President Penny Nance recently commented in an article in *Politico*, “Being forced to offer or buy a plan that pays for someone's contraception, sterilization or abortion is not only offensive, but is also a direct violation to the faith principles of Christians, and they, therefore, must object to ObamaCare's provisions. Unfortunately, the Obama administration ignored their concerns and issued the final rule in July 2013.”

According to the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, 73 cases and over 200 plaintiffs representing hospitals, universities, businesses, schools, and individuals have lawsuits challenging Secretary Sebelius' egregious, anti-religious liberty measure. Christians running businesses like Hobby Lobby, Autocam and Sioux Chief Manufacturing are spending huge sums to fight their own government for the 1st Amendment right to religious freedom.

As this newsletter was about to go to print, Attorney General Jackley joined at least 17 attorneys general in a "friend of the court" brief urging the U.S. Supreme Court to take up this ObamaCare requirement.

“The issue here isn't about birth control,” he said. “It's about, should the government force these rules upon us? The basic premise is that the federal government should be respectful of religious rights.”

“Mandatory, free contraception's triumph over religious freedom is not the sole issue of the president's birth-control mandate. It is about extending the power of government and ObamaCare to rule any and all aspects of our personal lives and individual choices.” Janice Shaw Crouse, Ph.D., spokesperson for Concerned Women for America Legislative Action Committee

Regularly Contact Your State Legislators	Gov. Dennis Daugaard 500 East Capitol Pierre, SD 57501-5070 Phone: 605-773-3212 Fax: 605-773-4711	Representative _____ Senator _____ 500 East Capitol Pierre, SD 57501 Website: legis.state.sd.us	Message for State Legislators House Lobby Phone 605-773-3851 Senate Lobby Phone 605-773-3821
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When e-mailing your elected officials, be sure to provide your name and mailing address (street, city, state, zip code). They will disregard your e-mail if this information is not included. Please e-mail only one Member of Congress at a time.

Regularly Contact Your National Elected Officials	Sen. John Thune 320 No. Main Ave. Ste. B Sioux Falls, SD 57104 Phone: 202-224-2321 Toll free: 866-850-3855 Fax: 202-288-5429 Rapid City: 348-7551 Aberdeen: 225-8823 thune.senate.gov	Sen. Tim Johnson 5015 S. Bur Oak Pl. Sioux Falls, SD 57108 Phone: 202-224-5842 Toll free: 800-537-0025 Fax: 202-228-5765 Rapid City: 341-3990 Aberdeen: 226-3440 johnson.senate.gov	Rep. Kristi Noem 2310 W. 41 st St., Ste.101 Sioux Falls, SD 57105 Phone: 202-225-2801 Fax: 202-225-5823 Sioux Falls: 275-2868 Rapid City: 791-4673 noem.house.gov
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Culture Warriors in Action - Building the Foundations

September 27 - 28, CWA of South Dakota, North Dakota and Minnesota



Young Women for America Prayer Chapter Leader Taylor Brown with Caroline Biggs and Jaden Morrison.

Kitty Werthmann, President of South Dakota Eagle Forum, was presented CWA's Culture Warrior Award. Kitty's personal story of "My Life Under Hitler's Socialism" helped attendees realize how precious, and yet how fragile, our liberties are. From left to right: Linda Schauer, Kitty Werthmann, CWA Executive Director Kenda Bartlett, and Janne Myrdal.



The book table was a busy place between sessions.

Exceptional speakers shared on the issues of the day, educating, challenging and motivating attendees to get involved in the culture battles that are going on around us.

Speakers included Janice Crouse, Director and Senior Fellow of the Beverly LaHaye Institute; Bill Federer, President of Amerisearch, Inc.; Allison Howard, CWA Communications Director; Caroline Biggs, Young Women for America Coordinator; Linda Schauer, South Dakota State Director; Cindy Flakoll, State Legislative Liaison; and Janne Myrdal, North Dakota State Director.



Cindy Flakoll, Legislative Liaison; Ellen Bergman, Tami Heitmann and Sharon Amdahl—all Prayer/Action Chapter Leaders; Linda Schauer, State Director, and Lois Van Dusseldorp, Home Team Captain.



CWA membership — State and National

A donation of \$25 or more has TWO benefits: membership in CWA of South Dakota and membership in CWA national. All donations sent to CWA of South Dakota, P.O. Box 343, Leola, SD 57456 remain in South Dakota for state projects. All donations sent to CWA national in response to their mailings are utilized in Washington, D.C. Your renewed annual membership/additional donation is greatly appreciated. [Click here](#) to donate online. All contributions are tax-deductible.

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