

SUMMER 2019



Concerned Women for America of North Dakota



A Note From State Director Linda Thorson **Prayer, Patience, Hope, and Honor**



Pray. “For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are attentive to their prayer.” (I Peter 3:12) As an organization, we continually commit our plans and efforts to the Lord in prayer and encourage others to join us in those prayers. Though difficult at times, we must spend time in prayer before running out the door.

Patiently endure. As we go through the ups and downs of victories and losses, we must be patient. If you are like me, you feel like it is an act of patiently enduring. Hebrews 6:1 says, “And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.”

Victory is not always immediate; yet, it is promised. Recall when Jesus calmed the storm? It was not in the timing of the disciples. In His timing, Jesus stood up and calmed the storm. It is at His perfect time that He will exercise His power over the evils of this world. It is our job to be faithful and not panic. When things seem dismal as we observe our culture and the issues we work on, we are comforted knowing He is at work in His time.

Hope is our anchor. “We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High

Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek” (Hebrews 6:19). Thanks be to God! Christ is our hope; He is our all in all.

It is Concerned Women for America of North Dakota’s honor to be on the front lines advocating for Biblical principles in public policy. We promise you that is what we will continue to do in 2019 and into 2020 in the state of North Dakota and our nation!

Please join us as we fulfill this duty through prayer, patience, and dependence on the hope that is our all in all.

Special Thanks to the EAL Volunteers

During the 2019 legislative session, our state Encourage-A-Legislator (EAL) program kicked off with volunteers covering every one of our 47 state senators and 94 state representatives with encouraging words and prayers. Throughout the session, which took place January 3 through April 27, these wonderful volunteers prayed for their assigned legislator and regularly sent encouraging postcards. As always, I received many positive comments from legislators about the messages they received! It is good to urge our legisla-

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tors, through our e-mails and calls, to vote for pro-family legislation, but more importantly, we are first and foremost called to pray for them and show them the love of Jesus, regardless of the decisions they make. Thank you to all who participated in the 2019 EAL program in North Dakota!

Karen Anderson
EAL Coordinator

Anti-Women Lawsuit

On June 27, Concerned Women for America (CWA) of North Dakota put out the following press release:

Fargo Women’s Clinic Enlisting Help from NYC Attorneys

Fargo, North Dakota – When the Red River Women’s Clinic (RRWC) can’t win through the legislative process, they find partners like the Center for Reproductive Rights of New York City to challenge North Dakota’s pro-woman, pro-health laws. Nearly 90% of North Dakota lawmakers voted to support a woman’s right to know that they may be able to reverse the chemical abortion procedure. Seven other states have a law that requires doctors to tell women about the possibility of changing the outcome of a chemical abortion. North Dakota physicians and medical experts serving women in our state spoke in support of the Abortion Pill Reversal Informed Consent Act. Gov. Doug Burgum stated this concerning the Abortion Pill Reversal Informed Consent bill, “If it gives hope to even one person who has started the process and wants to try to reverse it, it is worth providing that information.”

The RRWC is also using tactics of the minority, in our pro-life state, to challenge the law that requires doctors to tell patients that abortion terminates “the life of a whole, separate, unique, living human being.”

State Director Linda Thorson stated, “Women are strong and capable; they have the right to the truth about any medical procedure. To

hide facts from women is failed health care. It serves only to make more victims for the purpose of increasing the number of abortions in our state’s only abortion facility.”

On June 28, host Joel Heitkamp, on his program *News & Views* discussed the American Medical Association Lawsuit against North Dakota abortion laws with State Senator and former State Director of Concerned Women for America of North Dakota, Janne Myrdal. Listen [here](#) as they unpack the issues at hand. (Note that CWA of North Dakota is mentioned.)

“A woman’s right to know – what is the harm in that?”

So, what is the current status of the lawsuit? On July 12, 2019, U.S.

District Judge Daniel Hovland agreed to a preliminary injunction request by the plaintiffs which prevents the Abortion Pill Reversal Informed Consent law from going into effect on August 1, 2019. Both sides of the lawsuit filed a joint stipulation stating a delay in enforcement would give the Court more time to address the merits of the plaintiffs’ request.

This move is not considered to be a setback, nor is it unexpected. The result of this legal move means that the Abortion Pill Reversal Informed Consent law did not go into effect on August 1, 2019. However, it gives the state more time to prepare for the lawsuit. Read more about the injunction [here](#).

CWA of North Dakota will keep you updated on the status of the lawsuit.

What is a Typical CWA Chapter?

Once a month, you will see six to ten ladies gathering for prayer and action in a room at a community center or library. Or, perhaps there will only be three ladies sitting around a kitchen table in a home. That “typical” home might be brick with properly trimmed shrubs or a two-story farmhouse with livestock in a nearby pasture.

The “typical” leader is young and concerned about the world her new baby will one day inherit. Or, she might be “young at heart” with grandchildren or even great-grandchildren.

Once a month, the Prayer/Action Chapter will meet for prayer, a short devotion, and a call to action. All meetings have elements of fellowship where bonds of friendship are formed. A group might have a speaker educate on how pornography hurts the whole family or the “not-so-gay” agenda, or the group might gather to write letters to their legislators concerning pro-life legislation. It looks like a group of ladies gathered for prayer and whatever action the Lord directs. And these “typical” Prayer/Action Chapter meetings are taking place during mornings, afternoons and evenings all over America.

Might you consider being a “typical” Prayer/Action Chapter Leader? [Contact us](#) for more information today!

Beth Brown
Prayer/Action
Chapter
Coordinator



When I say, “I am a Christian”

I'm not shouting, “I've been saved!”
I'm whispering, “I get lost sometimes
That's why I chose this way”

When I say, “I am a Christian”
I don't speak with human pride
I'm confessing that I stumble –
needing God to be my guide

When I say, “I am a Christian”
I'm not trying to be strong
I'm professing that I'm weak
and pray for strength to carry on

When I say, “I am a Christian”
I'm not bragging of success
I'm admitting that I've failed
and cannot ever pay the debt

When I say, “I am a Christian”
I don't think I know it all
I submit to my confusion
asking humbly to be taught

When I say, “I am a Christian”
I'm not claiming to be perfect
My flaws are far too visible
but God believes I'm worth it

When I say, “I am a Christian”
I still feel the sting of pain
I have my share of heartache
which is why I seek God's name

When I say, “I am a Christian”
I do not wish to judge
I have no authority
I only know I'm loved

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Concerned Women for
America of North Dakota

State Legislative Update - Wins and Losses From the 66th Legislative Session (January - April)

CWA of North Dakota provided testimony and sent e-alerts on six bills and one concurrent resolution. All of the bills CWA of North Dakota supported passed! The two bills we testified in opposition to were defeated! There was one legislative loss. House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 3037, which we supported, was not passed.

Thank you for taking action after receiving our e-alerts! You made a big difference!

Wins:

Prohibition of Human Disembodiment Abortion, SB 1546 – Passed

[Read our testimony](#) before the Senate Judiciary Committee.



*Picture with Gov. Doug Burgum,
legislators, and pro-life leaders
after the signing of SB 1546.*

Abortion Pill Reversal Informed Consent, HB 1336 – Passed

[Read our testimony](#) before the Senate Judiciary Committee.



Picture with Students for Life leaders.

Safe Haven, HB 1285 – Passed

Increases the number of harbors for infants under one year of age. [Read our testimony](#) before the House Human Services Committee.

Homeschool Bill, HB 1052 – Passed

HB 1052, clarifying the state's home education laws. [Read our testimony](#) before the Education Committee.



Gender Identity/ Sexual Orientation, SB 2303/HB 1441 – Gratefully it did not pass

[Read our SB 2303 testimony](#) before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

[Read our HB 1441 testimony](#) before the House Human Services Committee.

One Loss:

Equal Rights Amendment, HCR 3037 - Failed

HCR 3037, a House Concurrent Resolution on the Equal Rights Amendment clarifying the 1975 ratification. [Read our testimony](#) before the Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee.

[Linda Thorson quoted](#) in *The Washington Times*.

[Linda Thorson quoted](#) in *High Plains Reader*.

PRAYER IS #1. Please make a note to regularly pray for Concerned Women for America of North Dakota. Pray for our leaders to be able to stand strong to promote and protect the Biblical values we hold so dear.

Concerned Women for America of North Dakota Leaders Head to Washington, D.C

As you may know, this year Concerned Women for America is celebrating 40 years of being the nation's largest public policy women's organization with a rich history of helping our members across the country bring Biblical principles into all levels of public policy. To celebrate we are gathering in Washington, D.C., on September 12-14 for our anniversary gala, Capitol Hill briefing/

lobbying, annual Leadership Training Conference, and more.

We are excited to announce that several of our state leaders will be attending the September events. They will have three days of exciting activities. This event will better equip our leaders and solidifying us as a powerhouse in North Dakota.

Please mark your calendar now to be praying for the North Dakota team during their time in Washington, D.C.

If you would like to join us at the 40th Anniversary Gala, click [here](#).

If you would like to contribute to offset the costs of several of our state leaders' travel expenses, respond to the opportunity to give below.

North Dakota State University Refuses to Break Ties With Planned Parenthood

Despite the concerns of 89 state lawmakers, Concerned Women for America of North Dakota members, and many others, the president of North Dakota State University (NDSU), Dr. Dean Bresciani, did not cancel the *Safe Spaces* teacher professional development courses offered by Planned Parenthood of Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. Sadly, President Bresciani allowed this partnership with Planned Parenthood and NDSU to continue.

CWA of North Dakota members responded to our e-alert, "[Planned Parenthood and NDSU have Teamed](#)

[Up Again](#)," by sending messages to Dr. Bresciani in May and June expressing their concern about the partnership. They also sent messages of appreciation to the 89 North Dakota state legislators who signed a letter expressing their displeasure with NDSU's continued public partnership with Planned Parenthood. The list of the 89 lawmakers is posted on our state webpage [here](#).

[A heartfelt thank you to all of you who sent messages!](#) The legislators were very grateful for every message of support they received on this issue!

Real Presence Radio Network invited Linda Thorson and Fr. Jim Cheney from the NDSU Newman Center on June 27 to discuss the issue. Listen to the interview [here](#). (Go to the June 27 program and start at the 6:10 minute mark.) Also, *The Bismarck Tribune* posted Linda's op-ed, "[Concerned about NDSU, Planned Parenthood.](#)"

You can count on CWA of North Dakota to be active on this issue when it comes up again in 2020 or until NDSU decides to step away from the inappropriate, harmful, and anti-family partnership with Planned Parenthood! Be sure to join us!

On the Move!

As you know, the battle between Biblical and secular worldviews is intensifying. Liberalism, progressivism, false religions, and those who are coming against Christians and their beliefs seem intent on destroying the Judeo-Christian traditions upon which our nation was built, whether in the spiritual, moral or public policy realm. Nevertheless, Concerned Women for America continues to stand in the gap in the cultural war to promote and protect Biblical values amongst all citizens. To be effective in our state, we need three important things: prayers, volunteers, and financial support.

Financially supporting Concerned Women for America of North Dakota is a great opportunity to keep a strong, consistent, conservative voice at the state capitol and

across the state. Whether we are testifying at the state capitol, strategizing in coalition meetings with other organizations, meeting with a legislator or their staff, speaking at events, attending a training event in Washington, D.C., educating and activating our members through e-alerts, newsletters, and materials—it is because of gifts of all sizes that we are enabled to do this work. We are all volunteers; therefore, all contributions go directly towards the work at hand.

Concerned Women for America of North Dakota is on the move, won't you join us?

Please donate online or send a check to CWA of North Dakota, P.O. Box 213, Park River, ND 58270. Make the check out to "Concerned Women for America" and put "CWA of North Dakota" on the memo line.