NFLUENCER MONTHLY

April 2024

A publication prepared exclusively for CWA leaders, members, and friends dedicated to impacting the culture for Christ through both prayer and action.

Seeing God's Nature

Tom Tusser, an English poet and farmer, is the author of many well-known sayings, including "Sweet April showers do spring May flowers." While some may wrangle over the scientific evidence of the statement, most will agree that moving from the grayness of winter into spring with its burst of flowers and sparkling green trees is medicine for the soul.

Washington, D.C., is beginning to burst into spring colors. At this writing, the cherry blossoms are in full bloom and the tree-lined tidal basin in front of the Jefferson Memorial is stunningly beautiful.

The Bible teaches that the creation around us bears witness to the glory and character of God. The psalmist wrote

that the "heavens declare the glory of God ..." (Psalm 19:1). Paul said that the physical, visible world is a picture of the invisible attributes of the Lord. (Romans 1:20) How does nature do that? Perhaps like this:

As sunlight warms the earth and brings life, the Light brings warmth and life into the human heart. "... I am the Light of the World ..." John 8:12

Just as God brings the changing of the seasons, so He brings change into my life from the cold, death of winter to the warmth of spring exploding with life. "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me." Psalm 51:10



Just as a gentle rain cleanses the earth, the Water of Life cleanses my life. "I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols." Ezekiel 36:25

Just as gravity keeps me from soaring like an eagle, so rebelling against God keeps my soul from soaring in His freedom. "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us." Hebrews 12:1

Also, just as gravity keeps me from drifting aimlessly through the sky, so the "gravity" of God draws me to Himself, keeping me from drifting aimlessly through life. "Or do you show contempt for the riches of His kindness, forbearance, and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?" Romans 2:4

Spring is also a time of renewal, where our internal nature seems to respond to the freshness of the season.

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My prayer is that each of you will seek <u>daily</u> to renew your mind in Christ as we are commanded to do in Romans 12:2: "Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by

the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test

and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will."



Tanya Ditty, Vice President of Field Operations

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Seeing God's Nature 1

HOUSE INSIGHTS:
CWALAC Endorses the
Child Online Safety
Modernization Act 2

SENATE INSIGHTS: Senate Considering Pro-Family Tax Provision

GENDER IDEOLOGY:
March (Madness) Leads to
Redemption 4

CWA IN THE NEWS: A Voice in the Wilderness 5

STATE HIGHLIGHTS FROM
ACROSS THE NATION:
Having an Impact from
East to West! 7

YOUNG WOMEN FOR AMERICA: YWA's Project Genesis Seminar

HOUSE INSIGHTS

CWALAC Endorses the Child Online Safety Modernization Act



Valerie Bynog, Legislative Strategist

In March, the House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Crime and Federal Government Surveillance held a hearing entitled "A Voice for the Voiceless – CSAM Identification." This hearing came on the heels of the Senate Judiciary's explosive hearing entitled "Big Tech and the

Online Child Sexual Exploitation Crisis." There is no question that the exploitation of children online has grown to unprecedented levels. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)'s CyberTipline has seen a 329% increase in child sexual abuse material (CSAM) files reported in the last five years. In 2023, NCMEC received over 36.2 million reports of CSAM. The Child Online Safety Modernization Act (COSMA), H.R. 5182, is a straightforward bill that would address some of the most pressing issues when it comes to protecting exploited children online.

Currently, there are no legal requirements regarding what information an electronic service provider (ESP) must provide when sending a CSAM report to NCMEC. The lack of useful information often leads to law enforcement not being able to identify and locate an exploited child or their abuser. NCMEC shared over 3,000,000 reports with



federal, state, and local law enforcement in 2022, yet over 40% of those were lacking information to act or concerned viral imagery. COSMA combats this ongoing issue by requiring reports to include information that will help law enforcement bring justice to the exploited child through rescue and catching the perpetrator.

While there is an increase in CSAM reports every year, there is in no way an equal growth of law enforcement to address the issue. ESPs are only required to keep the content of their report for 90 days, but this current retention time is sincerely lacking, providing little time for law enforcement to properly address each case – often leading to

cases never being addressed. COSMA addresses this issue by extending the required preservation of reports from 90 days to one year.

Lastly, COSMA would change all current federal statutes utilizing the term "child pornography" to use the more precise term "child sexual abuse material." A small but necessary step forward in this ongoing battle to protect children online.

PRAYER:

- Pray for the children who are caught in exploitative relationships.

 Pray Psalm 9:9-10 on their behalf: "The Lord is a shelter for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. Those who know your name trust in you, for you, O Lord, do not abandon those who search for you." (Psalm 9:9-10)
- Pray for an increase in law enforcement officers in this specialized field.

ACTION: Visit our Action Center <u>here</u> to ask your Representative to cosponsor H.R. 5182, the Child Online Safety Modernization Act.

SENATE INSIGHTS

Senate Considering Pro-Family Tax Provision

Maggie McKneely, Legislative Strategist

Of all the pressing issues on the world stage, one of the most important to

American families is the ability to put food on the table, an increasingly expensive task in today's economy. But the U.S. Senate has an opportunity to pass an expansion to the current Child Tax Credit program that would provide much-needed economic relief to Americans while encouraging the formation and growth of families.

Rep. Jason Smith (R-Missouri) and Sen. Ron Wyden's (D-Oregon) <u>Tax</u> Relief for American Families and <u>Workers Act</u> includes a number of provisions meant to help families struggling in this economy, and many of those concern the child tax credit. The bill passed out of the House of Representatives overwhelmingly and is now being debated in the Senate. While its fate is still yet unknown, Concerned Women for America Legislative Action Committee (CWALAC) encourages senators to support

American families by voting in favor of the bill.

One of the bill's proposed changes to the tax credit is what's been dubbed the "lookback provision." Instead of having to use the current tax year's

reported income, the bill would allow parents to use the previous year's income instead. While some say that this weakens the work requirement, it actually encourages families to spend valuable time with their kids during their most formative months. Many moms choose to leave the workforce during the first year of the child's life, resulting in a loss of income. This provision would allow them to still be eligible for the child tax credit by claiming the prior year's income, instead of punishing them for staying home with their newborn.

The bill would also adjust the child tax credit for inflation, rather than it being a flat payment that remains the same every year, regardless of the state of the economy. It would also remove a provision in the current program that effectively penalizes low-income families for having more than one child.



Fewer Americans are forming families every year; many women feel too financially insecure to have children, and young families are struggling under the burden caused by out-of-control inflation. Preserving the nation begins at home, by supporting families, which is why CWALAC endorses the new improvements to the child tax credit.

PRAY for the family –the institution ordained by God, the bedrock of society.

"May the Lord bless you and protect you. May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you His favor and give you His peace." (Numbers 6:24-26)

TAKE ACTION TODAY! Contact your Senators and ask them to support this pro-life and pro-family legislation.

March (Madness) Leads to Redemption



Doreen Denny, Senior Advisor

As Christ's redeeming work on the cross brought the month of March to a close, we're holding renewed hope for the future, including a redemption of the

NCAA's policy failure in women's sports.

On March 8, <u>CWA and YWA led allies in a public</u> <u>protest</u> against the latest case of NCAA discrimination against female athletes at the Division III Indoor Track and Field national championships held in Virginia Beach, Virginia, where a biological male had been selected to compete as a Top 20 female sprinter. Speakers at the

Support Your Local Pregnancy Care Center

A meaningful way for Prayer/Action Chapters to support a local pregnancy care center is by collecting supplies. See what Janet Robey put together for her chapter in Forest, Virginia. Start making plans now and involve all your attendees



press conference included 31x all-American and 2x NCAA national champion swimmer Kylee Alons, a YWA ambassador, CWA's Tanya Ditty, and Virginia Attorney General Jason Miyares. The following week, CWA's Doreen Denny exposed a bombshell admission by NCAA President Charlie Baker in *FOX News* online, revealing that the NCAA has *never* assessed the harm of its "transgender inclusion" policy on female athletes. The article set the stage for the announcement of a landmark lawsuit against the NCAA brought by 16 NCAA female athletes, including Alons and fellow swimmer Riley Gaines, marking two years after Lia Thomas invaded competition and the locker room under NCAA rules.

As Easter marks a pivotal moment, we entrust to the Lord these developments as a turning point and praise Him for His faithfulness in leading and guiding all involved who put their

PRAYER: "How abundant are the good things that You have stored up for those who fear You, that You bestow in the sight of all, on those who take refuge in You." (Psalm 31: 19)



It's not too late to participate! Order your flags and decals today and we'll put them in the mail within two days! Enter our social media photo challenge to win a prize!

Go to ConcernedWomen.org/faith-month for details.



CWAIN THE NEWS

A Voice in the **Wilderness**

Concerned Women for America (CWA) media hits are a good resource for your Chapter meetings (listen to the podcasts,

watch the videos, print off articles, and discuss/ share.)

Women for America Podcasts Walking Alongside Single Mothers

with Aisha Taylor Aisha Taylor shares her

story on how as a mother of twins she has dedicated her life to helping single mothers learn how to manage their finances and grow in their faith.

The God of Genesis 50:20 with Joshua Broome

There was a 6-year period of Joshua Broome's life where he was one of the most successful adult film stars in the world, but it left him broken

and empty. After an encounter with Jesus, Joshua is now a passionate communicator of the message of restoration and has dedicated his life to those who feel like their life is over because of a circumstance or situation.

Television/Online Media/Radio



March 12: Christian Broadcast Network - "We Won't Back Down!" -Wendy Griffith reported from the rally and featured CWA members and staff at the Division III National Track and Field Championship where a male was competing against female athletes.

March 15: Newsmax – Wake Up America - YWA ambassador and former collegiate swimmer Kylee Alons discusses the lawsuit that she along with 15 other athletes filed against the NCAA.

March 20: Newsmax - Chris Plante: The Right Squad – Penny returned to the insightful roundtable discussions on a number of news topics of the day.

March 21: Daystar – Joni Table Talk – Penny discusses issues of the day from a Biblical perspective on a roundtable hosted by Joni Lamb.





March 25: FOX Network and Fox News Channel – Fox News Sunday – Penny provided expertise to the panel discussions on a number of subjects examining the 2024 election, the new EPA guidelines for electric vehicles, and the pressure on Justice Sotomayor to step down.

Print Media

March 14: Fox News – What the NCAA's Blockbuster Admission Says About the Future of Women's Sports – CWA Senior Advisor Doreen Denny exposes NCAA's Charlie Baker's admission to the U.S. Senate that the NCAA has never studied the impact of males competing in female sports.

March 22: *Townhall* – **State of Our Sports: A Crack in the Dam** – YWA ambassador Macy Petty addresses the current state of female sports in a new op-ed.

Other Media

March 19: CWA hosted a congressional staff briefing on Israel on Capitol Hill. Penny Nance was joined by an expert panel of guests including former IDF paratrooper Daniel Flesch and Liz Naftali, the great aunt of Abigail Edan, one of the released hostages.

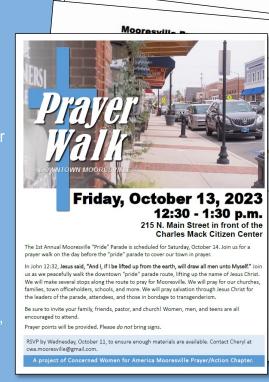
March 14: Penny Nance was guest speaker at Shadow
Mountain Community Church's women's ministry event where she shared Biblical truths that shed light on today's issues. Watch Penny's remarks here.

Prayer Walk Your Local "Pride" Parade Route

This June (or other months), your community might encounter a "Pride Parade." A great activity for your Chapter is to prayer walk the "Pride Parade" route *the day before the parade*. Cheryl Pletcher, Prayer/Action Chapter Leader of Mooresville, NC, designed a wonderful prayer walk for the day before her town's parade. Seventy-five attendees broke into groups and prayed at different stops along the route, such as a school, church, Townhall, etc.

To get started:

- Search the Internet for local pride parades/events scheduled for your town/city or within driving distance—example, "Maine Pride Events 2024."
- Contact your State Director, or Michelle in the absence of a director, for the Mooresville prayer walk documents and/or for assistance in planning the prayer walk.











STATE HIGHLIGHTS FROM ACROSS THE NATION

Having an Impact from East to West!

From the East Coast to the West Coast and all states in between, our CWA leaders are the tip of the spear in the fight for our families, faith, and freedom! Check out a few March happenings around the nation of our leaders showing up, praying, and taking action.







(3 and 4) CWA of Missouri leaders and members from across the state, along with YWA School of the Ozarks Chapter President Madelyn Sestak, joined their pro-life allies at the annual Keep Missouri Pro-Life Rally Day. They met with pro-life legislators, thanking them for standing for life and also encouraging them to keep Missouri abortion free and to fight ongoing efforts





(1 and 2) CWA of Louisiana gathered at the State Capitol in Baton Rouge for the annual prayer walk in advance of the state's 2024 legislative session.



(5) CWA of Georgia Atlanta Prayer/ Action Chapter leader Katerine Fristoe (left of Riley) and several of her Chapter members attended the Young Women for America Georgia Tech chapter meeting hosting Riley Gaines.

CEO and President Penny Nance was the guest speaker at the GirlTime event at Shadow Mountain Community Church hosted by the women's ministry. Over 1200 women attended the event, along with CWA of California leaders and CWA National staff. Penny shared Biblical truths that shed light on today's issues of how our faith provides strength and guidance when navigating and responding to society's culture.

- (6) CWA Founder Beverly LaHaye with CWA of California State Director Marlo Tucker.
- (7) Penny with CWA of California leaders and attendees.







(8 and 9) CWA of Texas Dallas Prayer/ Action Chapter hosted Jeremy Sherrod, North Texas Regional Director Department of Public Safety, to discuss the realistic view of the Texas border issue.

(10) CWA of Kansas met at the Sheriff's Office to pray for Sheriff Hill, the officers, and all those who work in law enforcement.

SHE PRAYS SHE VOTES

CONCERNED WOMEN FOR AMERICA LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

CWA's She Prays She Votes
2024 campaign is in full swing!
If you are looking for helpful
links, printable materials,
inspiration, and more,

Check out our
She Prays She Votes page,

YOUNG WOMEN FOR AMERICA

YWA's Project Genesis Seminar



Morgan Schlesselman, YWA National Director

In March, Young Women for America (YWA) continued our

efforts to protect girls' sports and stand with Israel. YWA Ambassador Kylee Alons joined Concerned Women for America (CWA) staff at the NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field Championships in Roanoke, Virginia, where a male competed in the women's 200-meter.



CWA, YWA, and other girls' sports coalition members were honored to be <u>joined</u> by Virginia Attorney General Jason Miyares at a press conference and thanked him for his

support of female athletes. Kylee shared comments regarding her experience changing in a storage closet at the 2022 NCAA Division 1 Women's Swimming and Diving Championships to avoid changing in front of a male University of Pennsylvania swimmer, Lia Thomas.

YWA hosted the Project Genesis Israel Seminar for 30 YWA leaders at CWA's Headquarters. Sessions included The Hostage Crisis with Penny Nance and Liz Neftali, The Iranian Regime and Proxy War with Andrew Doran from The Philos Project, Antisemitism and Free Speech on College Campuses with Mattie Harris, Israel Defense Forces and Military Ops with Daniel Flesch, and The Pivotal Role of the U.S. in this Fight with Robert Greenway from The Heritage Foundation. It was encouraging to hear our leaders' thoughtful questions and ideas for

advocacy, prayer, and conversations moving forward.

As we concluded the seminar, I was reminded of the importance and need to pray for Israel, the hostages, innocent victims, and the military. I leave you with Psalm 122:6-8: "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! 'May they be secure who love you! Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!' For my brothers' and companions' sake, I will say, 'Peace be within you!"



