May 2024
A publication prepared exclusively for CWA leaders, members, and friends
dedicated to impacting the culture for Christ through both prayer and action.

When the Wicked Rule

At this writing, lawlessness is erupting on college campuses across the country. Hamas sympathizers are causing havoc and chaos and are putting Jewish students in severe danger. Concerned Women for America (CWA)’s Legislative Strategist Valerie Bynog wrote this timely article on the issue, and CWA’s CEO and President Penny Nance has called for the defunding of schools that tolerate Jew hatred.

As your Chapters meet this month, would you take time to pray over this issue? Here are prayer points to consider:

**Pray for the salvation of the lost**—Jesus said in Luke 19:10, “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost,” which includes those who are stoking the violence and those who are partaking in it. There is grace, mercy, and still time to snatch people out of the grips of hell because 2 Peter 3:9 tells us, “The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not willing for any to perish, but for all to come to repentance.”

**Pray for the protection of Jewish students.** “I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.” (Psalm 121:1-2)

**Pray for God to confuse the plans of the well-orchestrated chaos of the enemy.** “Lord, confuse the wicked, confound their words, for I see violence and strife in the city.” (Psalm 55:9)

**Pray for restored peace and safety on college campuses.** “In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.” (Psalm 4:8)

**Pray college presidents will exercise Godly wisdom in all their decisions.** “For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding; He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk uprightly.” (Proverbs 2:6-7)

**Pray for the safety of law enforcement.** “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9)

Be encouraged that your prayers matter and are heard because our Lord “hears the prayer of the righteous.” (Proverbs 15:29)
Since the inception of Concerned Women for America Legislative Action Committee, advocating for mothers and the unborn has been a top priority on Capitol Hill. This Congress, the Life.Gov Act has been a top priority for us.

With Mother’s Day right around the corner, we are focusing on reaching out to every member of Congress to share life.gov with them.

The Life.Gov Act and its Senate Companion, the Standing with Moms Act, were introduced by Congresswoman Diana Harshbarger (R-Tennessee) and Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Florida) late last year. In short, this bill would create a federal clearinghouse titled life.gov that would aggregate all local, state, and federal resources that a mother might need during and after an unexpected pregnancy. The website would house information on the local pregnancy resource centers, food banks, clothing banks, lactation consultants, and any other resources that might be pertinent for a mom and her child.

For those who are involved in the pro-life community, it is common...
This Rule changes the VA’s longstanding exclusion of abortions and abortion counseling from its covered services and flagrantly violates the Veterans Health Care Act, a federal law that has prohibited VA facilities from performing abortions for over 30 years. The agency argues in the Rule that this change is necessary because “as abortion bans come into force across the country, veterans in many states are no longer assured access to abortion services in their communities, even when those services are needed.”

Sen. Tommy Tuberville (R-Alabama) has led the charge against this new Rule ever since it was announced. But despite Congress’s best efforts, the Rule has now been finalized, so Tuberville’s next move, alongside Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks (R-Iowa 1), is to introduce legislation that would force the VA to be transparent about abortion services.

SENATE INSIGHTS
VA Puts Abortions Ahead of Caring for Veterans

Maggie McKneely, Legislative Strategist
The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is the latest agency to flout the will of the people by focusing on politics rather than its foundational mission. Instead of ensuring America’s warfighters are cared for, the VA has just finalized a rule that allows it to provide taxpayer-funded abortions to veterans.

Just three months after the Dobbs decision returned the question of abortion to the people through their elected representatives, the VA announced an Interim Final Rule (IFR) that would allow the agency to facilitate abortions at VA medical centers or through community care.

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ACTION:
♦ Contact your representative here and urge them to cosponsor the Life.Gov Act.
♦ Contact your senator here and urge them to cosponsor the Standing with Moms Act.
♦ Look at South Dakota’s Life.Gov site here to see the benefits of a life.gov portal.

PRAYER:
♦ Pray for the women in your local community who have found themselves in an unexpected pregnancy that they might choose life.
♦ Pray that the Lord would place a believer in her life through work, school, or a local activity to serve and encourage her throughout her pregnancy.
President Joe Biden’s Title IX final rule has landed in black and white with an effective date of August 1, 2024. It is a tidal wave threatening to drown 52 years of civil rights law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 was enacted to ensure equality of opportunity and protections for male and female students in all educational programs and activities, including athletics. For many liberal feminists, Title IX was a consolation prize in a failed campaign to win the Equal Rights Amendment. But the law was soon embraced across the spectrum as a constructive vehicle for ensuring women’s opportunities in academics and athletics.

In large measure, it has succeeded. Female participation in higher education and certain scientific fields now exceeds male counterparts. Some 44% of student-athletes in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) today are women. Title IX has been a foundation for many female students to pursue their gifts and passions.

But under Biden’s brand of Title IX, trans-identifying men are now the new women. Unlimited “gender identities” have priority for claims of sex discrimination, turning the whole purpose of Title IX for male and female students on its head. Sex-based protections are meaningless if women and girls are no longer protected on the basis of sex.

Pushback from certain states resisting Biden’s radical rewrite of Title IX has been swift. Within the first week, superintendents in Louisiana, Oklahoma, Florida, and South Carolina sent letters to school districts instructing them not to comply with Biden’s changes. Conflicts with state laws, the illegitimacy of redefining the meaning of “sex” by executive fiat (not Congress), concerns for parental rights, and the harm to students of imposing gender ideology through Title IX mandates are all valid issues for court challenge.
Elections also have consequences. But for now, Biden’s Title IX holds the power of federal enforcement and the threat of federal funds, which compel schools to surrender instead of stand firm.

When a tidal wave is coming, the response should be to build a barrier of protection. That barrier is what Concerned Women for America will continue to support in prayer and action as we engage the battle to protect our schools, students, and athletes from Biden’s destructive crusade to impose gender ideology through Title IX.

PRAY: Psalm 65: 5,7
“You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds, God our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas, who stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the turmoil of the nations.”

CWA IN THE NEWS

Peace Through Strength

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
Reclaiming God’s Very Good Design for Women
CWA had the chance to sit down with Reclaim conference speakers Laura Perry Smalts, Monica Cline, and Dr. Georgia Purdom to learn about the amazing ways God is using each of them to reclaim His very good design for women.

The Role of the Church in Today’s Ideological War
CWA’s CEO and President Penny Nance was joined by Pastor of Potomac Valley Church, Will Archer, for an insightful conversation on the role of the church when it comes to tackling the ideological issues of our day.

NCAA’s Day of Reckoning
On March 14, 2024, 16 brave women filed a lawsuit in the federal district court in Georgia against the NCAA for sex discrimination.

YWA ambassador and 31-time All-American swimmer Kylee Alons joined YWA National Director Morgan Schlesselman and CWA Senior Advisor Doreen Denny to discuss.

April 25: Macy Petty was interviewed on FOX Business Network’s Varney & Co.

April 25: CWA created this reel contrasting the pro-Palestine riots we are seeing to the YWA prayer vigils we have hosted.

Print Media
April 8: A new op-ed on Faith Month and Biden’s proclamation of “Transgender Day of Visibility” was published at The Daily Caller.

April 8: Penny’s op-ed defending Speaker Johnson was published in Newsweek and was passed around Capitol Hill by the Speaker’s team and other supportive groups.

April 9: Penny was quoted in The New York Times, The Washington Post,
was before YWA’s invitation to have the prayer vigil for Israel. I felt I needed to learn more and stir a passion for others on this issue, too, yet I felt ill-equipped. But God made a way! In late March, I had the opportunity to travel to YWA’s Project Genesis seminar in Washington, D.C., to learn more and be surrounded by a community of YWA leaders. This meaningful opportunity encouraged, prepared, and cultivated passion for the nation of Israel in my heart so that I could step into what God had called me to do back on campus.”

On the life issue, several of our YWA leaders from across the state of California joined CWA at the California March for Life. It was encouraging to see the next generation’s heart for the unborn. Emma Garrison, YWA Ambassador at College of the Sequoias, said, “As the March ended, I felt peace and joy wash over me. I had just taken a small step in a more significant issue, strengthening the foundation of my generation’s commitment to building a California culture that cherishes and protects all life. The California March for Life was a testament to the power of community, conviction, and the Lord’s compassion.”

This semester, YWA has 70 high school and college leaders graduating. PLEASE PRAY for a smooth transition to college, graduate school, and the workforce and that they’ll continue to trust in the Lord’s ways and advocate for Biblical values.
Help Ensure That Every Eligible Vote Counts!

Click here for our She Prays She Votes 2024 resources that include how to be a poll worker or poll watcher, election dates and deadlines for states, how to conduct a voter registration drive, easy-to-print posters, push cards, and more.

STATE HIGHLIGHTS FROM ACROSS THE NATION

Expanding Our Reach and Influence Through Prayer, Education, and Action

Rallies … lobbying … praying … providing … This is just a glimpse of what our leaders do in the states each month. We are grateful for our leaders!

(1) CWA of Illinois Chapter leaders from Mokena, Sue Lecas and Leslie Cosich, participated in the Illinois March for Life.

(2) CWA of Kansas State Director Mary Meininger and her chapter prayed for their guest speak former State Representative Eric Rucker.

(3) CWA of Colorado Chapter leader Kathryn Palermo and others attended the Colorado March for Life in Denver.

(4) CWA National co-sponsored the Reclaim Women’s Conference at the Ark Encounter. We were happy to see multiple CWA leaders at the conference! Two of them are pictured here. From L-R: YWA National Director Morgan Schlisselman, CWA of Kentucky State Director Jennifer Pendleton, CWA’s Field Development Coordinator Michelle Minor, CWA of Virginia Chapter leader Ann Robeson, and CWA’s VP of Field Operations Tanya Ditty.
(5) CWA of Arizona’s Prescott Chapter met for their second meeting, led by Lauren McCrea (second from the right). Most did not know each other at the first meeting and quickly became a tight-knit group excited to be among like-minded women.

(6) CWA of Louisiana State Director Laura Huber (far left), leaders, and friends participated in the pro-life day at the Capitol.

(7) CWA of California joined thousands who gathered in Sacramento for the California March for Life. State Director Marlo Tucker, Legislative Liaison Rochelle Conner, and other leaders spoke at the CWA hosted Prayer & Praise event preceding the march.

(8) CWA of California Chapter leader Pat Pestoni and her chapter members bought baby toys for a local pregnancy center.

(9,10) CWA of Pennsylvania State Director Dilonna Coran and leaders gathered at the State Capitol to pray for legislators. On a different day, they were in the Senate gallery to hear Sen. Cris Dush commemorate April as Faith Month in Pennsylvania by introducing his Faith Month resolution.
Many CWA leaders and members participated in the nationwide Don’t Mess with Our Kids rallies held at state capitals by tabling, speaking, and praying. Here are a few of them, top-bottom: CWA of New Mexico State Director Nickie McCarty and Legislative Liaison Gayle Martinez; CWA of North Carolina State Director Tina Marie Bloomer; CWA of Tennessee Influencer Abi Prudent; CWA of Texas State Director Jana Long and her team; CWA of Virginia State Director Teressa Pregnall, CWA member Anita Lawrence, and Chapter leader Rene Camp; and CWA of Florida leaders.

(11) Joy Howell, our new Oklahoma City Chapter leader, was the keynote speaker at a local women’s luncheon, where she shared about her upcoming chapter meeting. Many attendees signed up to receive information about her chapter.

(12) CWA of Missouri State Director Tracy Dougan (far right) and Area Director Haven Howard (far left) joined the School of the Ozarks YWA chapter at their Israel prayer vigil.

(13) CWA Mount Airy, Maryland Chapter leader Dorothy Hughes (third from the left) and her chapter members participated in their state’s March for Life.