

INFLUENCER

MONTHLY



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)



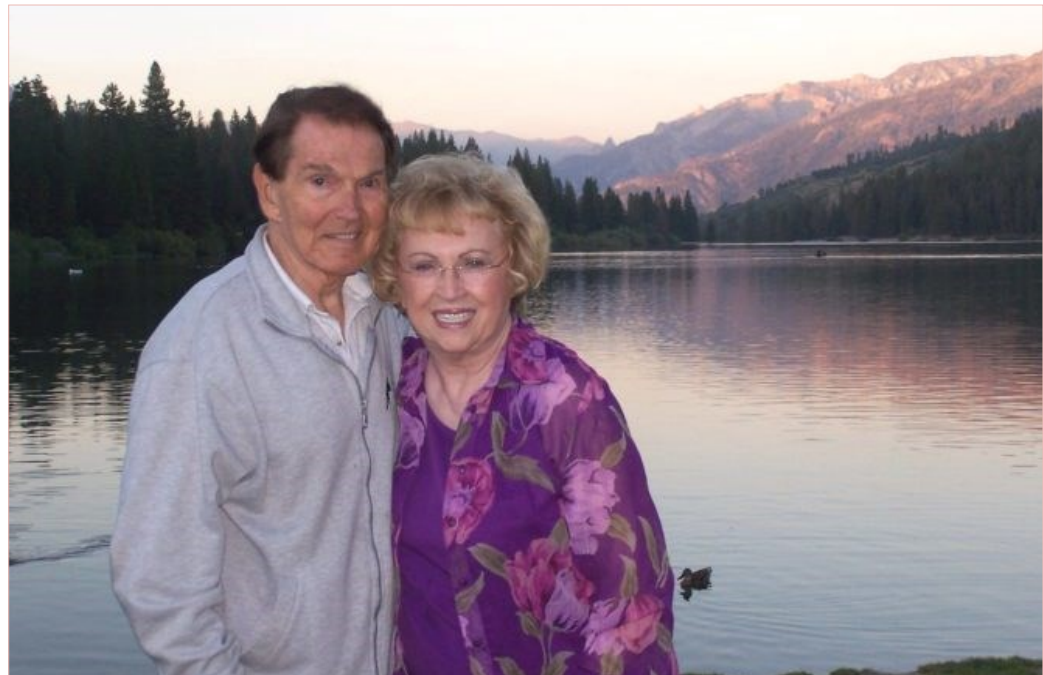
Tanya Ditty,
Vice President of
Field Operations

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See it for yourself!

Be sure to check out all the extraordinary work our CWA leaders and members are doing across the nation on pages 7, 8, and 9.



"It is hard to imagine a woman who has had a greater impact on our culture than our founder. We are forever grateful for her vision, her wisdom, and her spiritual leadership. A tenacious woman of God, her legacy will live on and be cherished by the organization she founded and the millions of people she has touched." - Penny Nance, CWA CEO and President

Go to ConcernedWomen.org/beverlylahayelegacy to join us in honoring her legacy.

HOUSE INSIGHTS

Standing with Moms in Congress



Valerie Bynog, Legislative Strategist

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

sense to know that there is a plethora of resources available to women and children in need; for those who are not, they might not be aware that there might be a pregnancy resource center in their city. From 2018 to 2022 alone, Planned Parenthood [spent](#) \$13.2 million on ads across Meta platforms. The sad reality is that when a woman has found herself in an unexpected pregnancy, she might feel scared and alone. Because she does not know that there are other resources out there, she turns to the only organization she thinks can help her, Planned Parenthood. Life.gov stands in direct contrast to Planned Parenthood by empowering women to choose life.

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.

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.

[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.



passed, Tuberville’s bill would require the VA to be transparent about the abortion-related services that it is providing on the government’s dime. The bill would force the VA to provide a quarterly report that provides the number of surgical abortions versus abortions via mifepristone or other drugs, the number of weeks at which the abortion was conducted, the exception under which the abortion was justified, the state in which the procedure took place, and the total expenditures for facilitating these procedures.

If the federal government is going to provide taxpayer-funded abortions and, often, in states that have restricted the practice, the least that they can do is provide some relevant data to Congress. Concerned Women for America Legislative Action Committee thanks Sen. Tuberville for his tireless efforts on this front.

ACT: Use our [action center](#) to contact your Members of Congress and ask them to support the VA Abortion Transparency Act.

PRAY: Pray for your Members of Congress by name. Ask the Lord to soften their hearts for the unborn and to seek ways to protect life in and outside the womb.

GENDER IDEOLOGY

Biden’s Title IX Tidal Wave



Doreen Denny, Senior Advisor

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.

[Antisemitism Erupts on College Campuses Across America](#)

YWA Chapter President at College of the Ozarks, Madelyn Sestak, responded to the antisemitism chaos and highlighted the incredible work that YWA is doing to support their Jewish classmates.

Television/Online Media/Radio

April 11: Penny [provided commentary](#) on Trump’s position on abortion on Newsmax’s *The Chris Salcedo Show*.

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](#),

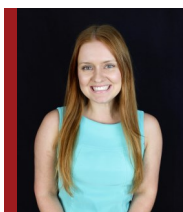
[Politico Playbook](#), and dozens of outlets regarding Donald Trump's stated position on abortion policy.

April 14-20: The life of Dr. Beverly LaHaye was featured in numerous news stories, including in [The New York Times](#), [The Times of London](#), [The Washington Post](#), [The Washington Times](#), [Charisma](#), [The Christian Post](#), [Christianity Today](#), [FOX News](#), and many others.

April 23: CWA was featured in a story at [ESPN](#) regarding our campaign to urge the NCAA to protect female athletes.

April 24: YWA Ambassador Macy Petty's [op-ed](#) exposing the dark secrets of the NCAA at [Fox News.com](#)

YOUNG WOMEN FOR AMERICA End of Semester Celebrations and Advocacy



Morgan Schlesselman, YWA National Director

As the spring semester began to wind down, not only did our Young Women for America (YWA) chapters host end-of-the-year brunches and parties, but we also saw their commitment to advocacy for Israel and life continue.

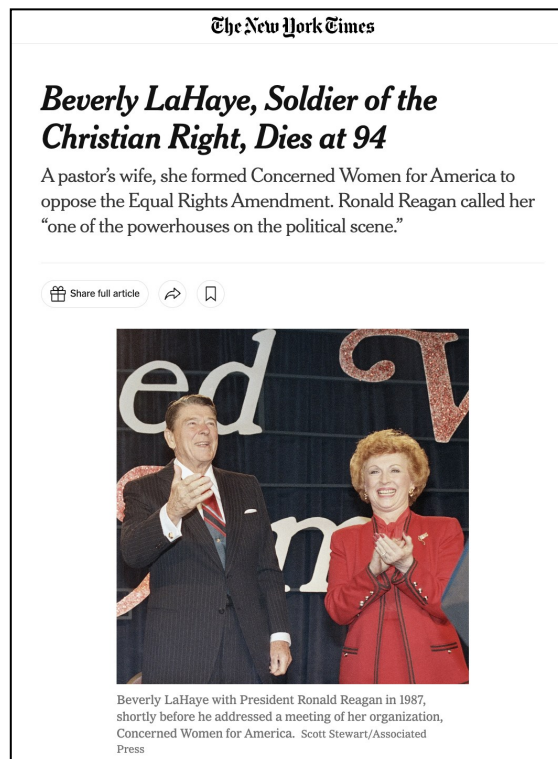


Our YWA chapters at Grand Canyon University (above) and College of the Ozarks (page 9) hosted Support for Israel prayer vigils. It was encouraging to see our leaders take a stand for Israel and hear how the Lord's hands had been over the entire event.

Madelyn Sestak, YWA Chapter President at College of the Ozarks, said: "I felt called to learn more about the word 'shalom' and to fix my eyes on Israel in January, which

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



(6) 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.



(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.





(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.



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 Teresa Pregnall, CWA member Anita Lawrence, and Chapter leader Rene Camp; and CWA of Florida leaders.



(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.

