

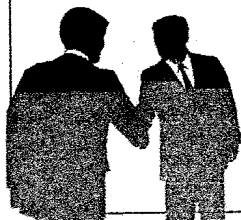
# Christian Action Ministry...

Newsletter

Involving the Christian in Community Action

May, 1991 Special Issue

Welcome to CAM



What is CAM? CAM is short for Christian Action Ministry. Welcome to the first edition of our newsletter. Through this vehicle, we hope to keep a communication channel open with you, the Christian, to inform you of what we are doing and to educate you about what is going on in our communities that concerns you. Because this ministry is relatively new, this opening newsletter is designed to introduce you to who we are, what we do and vision God has given us. So first, to understand our burden and vision, let's explore some "echoes from America's past" and a few words from one of the key Christian figures of our time.

## Echoes From America's Past

"It was the Lord who put it into my mind [to take the journey]--I could feel His hand upon me...There is no question that the inspiration was from the Holy Spirit."

Christopher Columbus, 1490

"We all came to this part of America with one and the same end and aim, namely, to advance the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ..."

New England Confederation, 1643

While the people are virtuous they cannot be subdued; but once they lose their virtue they will be ready to surrender their liberties to the first external or internal invader...If virtue and knowledge are diffused among people, they will never be enslaved. This will be their great security..."

Samuel Adams, 1772

## Special Introductory Issue

"...A patriot without religion...is as great a paradox as an honest man without the fear of God...The Scriptures tell us righteousness exalteth a Nation (Proverbs 14:34)."

Abigail Adams, 1775

"Proclaim liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." *Leviticus 25:10*

The Liberty Bell, July 8, 1776

"The highest glory of the American Revolution was this: it connected, in one indissoluble bond the principles of civil government with the principles of Christianity."

John Quincy Adams

"We have staked the whole future of American civilization...upon the capacity of...each and all of us to govern ourselves, to control ourselves, to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God."

James Madison

"The Congress of the United States approves and recommends to the people The Holy Bible for the use of schools."

Congress, 1782

"No free government now exists in the world unless where Christianity is acknowledged, and is the religion of the country...Its foundations are broad and strong, and deep...it is the purest system of morality, the firmest auxiliary, and only stable support of all human laws...Christianity is part of the common law..."

U.S. Supreme Court, 1826

## Upon The Rock

From this small sampling of our past, there can be no question that our Founding Fathers understood the virtues of the Christian faith. It is also quite evident that our laws and civil structure are inseparably built upon the solid rock of Christian prin-

ciples. In fact, even *Newsweek* reported in its December, 1982 issue that "...historians are discovering that the Bible, perhaps even more than the Constitution is our Founding document."

This founding has given America unprecedented political and civil prosperity for over 200 years. But something very alarming has happened, perhaps only in the last 30 years, that today is reaping great destruction of the heritage God has given us. It has led us to a place where teen pregnancy, abortion, violent crimes, drug abuse, divorce and sexually transmitted diseases daily touch our lives in some way. What has happened in America?

## On Sinking Sand!

Perhaps we already know what has happened to America. But to be sure, let's look at a quote that sums it up pretty well. Dr Dobson, respected Christian psychologist and author, in his newest book *Children At Risk* writes:

"Nothing short of a Civil War of Values is being fought today throughout North America. Two sides with vastly different views...are locked in a bitter conflict that permeates every level of society...the struggle now is for the hearts and minds of the people. It is a war over ideas...30 years ago, biblically based concepts were the dominant values and beliefs in Western society...the humanistic system of values has now become the predominant way of thinking in most of the power centers of society. It has outstripped Judeo-Christian precepts in the universities, in the news media, in the entertainment industry, in the judiciary, in the federal bureaucracy, in business, medicine, law, psychology and sociology, in the arts, in many public schools, and to be sure, in the halls of Congress."

## "Is The LORD'S Arm Too Short?" (Num 11:23)

You can be sure that we have lost much ground in the battles to hold onto America's heritage. But CAM believes that the Lord's arm has not grown short and that in Him we can still win the war. God is calling a great multitude from His church, but we cannot win this war if we don't join in unity as the body of Christ and WORK TOGETHER. Dr. Dobson shares this vision:

*"The great army of believers could still turn the tide of battle if it awakens in time, but thus far, only a courageous minority has been willing to defend the beloved homeland with their lives."*

We are all called by God to be the "salt" and "light" of Christ in our communities and that is what we Christians must be. We have got to "let our light shine" and get involved at every level of society. Only then can the salt of Christ flavor the world through us.

## Our Beginnings

In Vermont, God has sent out the call for soldiers in all denominations of the Christian community to reclaim our homeland. In 1990, God led many of these believers together and we discovered the common burden for our state. We recognized the need to network together and share information in a timely fashion, to share our insights, to unite in prayer and coordinate together in good works for God's glory. We also recognized the need to be a resource and not a burden to our church "shepherds", who cannot be all things for all people, and to respect their God given authority and duty. Also, we had to overcome denominational barriers and respect the differences in the way we worship our Lord. God gave us all a free conscience and that had to be considered.

We knew we wouldn't all agree on all things, but we had to agree that God has the answer for the needs of our country and that He has the ability to reach the

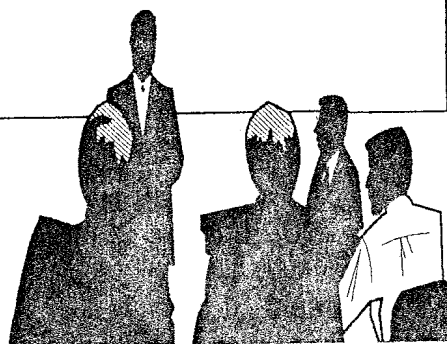
world with that message through us. Thus the Christian Action Ministry was formed.

## Who We Are

We are simply a group of lay leaders from many different churches in our community who work under the authority of our pastors. We meet together monthly to seek God as to the practical and effective ways we can be Christ's Salt and Light in our local, state and national communities. Currently, there are about 12 participating churches from the Chittenden County area. Our mission is to be an educational resource and stimulus for united Christian involvement. We have all seen the fruit from recent "concerts" of effort by the Christian community through prayer and in bringing the message of hope, in Christ, to a hurting world. TOGETHER, we can continue to sprinkle God's grace on Vermont and make a positive difference.

## Next Meetings

May 6, 6:30 PM  
Essex Alliance Church  
June 3, 6:30 PM  
Maranatha Christian Church  
July 1, 6:30 PM  
Community Bible Church



## For More Information:

Norm Beauvais	878-5070
Ken Beilstein	879-1733
Paul Cook	527-1544
Barbara Fondry	878-4024
Steve Howard	985-2362
Yves Nadeau	863-9646

## What We Do

The lay leaders from each participating church are encouraged to build a team within their home body which meets monthly to facilitate involvement and to be an educational resource for that body. They provide a two-way communication channel between the local church and its leadership, and the network group. CAM works hand-in-hand with the many Judeo-Christian organizations already on the battlefield of Vermont in order to be as efficient as possible for God's glory. Our educational resources include a periodic newsletter, a calendar of local events, fact papers and a resource kit which includes a reading list and a list of names, addresses and phone numbers of interest. We also sponsor seminars, workshops, book studies and educational trips to Montpelier.

The network group forms study committees that explore important issues and alternatives for action. These in turn present recommendations to the group for discussion. Once CAM has done its work, the liaison or liaison team reports back to their pastors, and if appropriate, the whole body. Whenever possible, CAM will work toward united action from the church community, but each church acts at their own discretion.

## Please Join Us

Please do join us at our next meeting to find out more and become involved in spreading the Salt and Light upon our homeland as God leads you. The need is great right here in Vermont and God can do a great work if we all work together for His glory. Contact a representative below if you have any questions. Thanks and God Bless.

*"You are the Salt of the Earth...you are the Light of the World..." Mat 5:13-14*

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William Parkinson	482-3113
Ray & Kit Racine	655-0280
Spencer Richland	878-555
Trudy Schwenn	864-7620
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