

# Christian Action Ministry Newsletter

Involving the Christian in Community Action

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By  
Lauston Stephens

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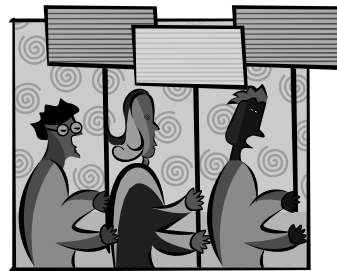
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If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please call 655-0280, email, or contact our website (see back page)

This wasn't expected, but in the Sunday morning service after the elections, my pastor expressed appreciation for the work that I had done on the candidate survey published in our last issue. Given the ballot that takes shape each biennium, we work to inform fellow Christians so we can all be better stewards of our vote. That vote may not be the determining factor in very many elections, but each of us will still give account for our stewardship of our privileges and responsibilities.

My pastor also expressed appreciation to another member of the congregation

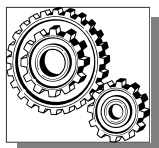
who had worked very hard to provide good choices on the ballot. You would think that these two efforts go together: getting good candidates and informing the electorate where candidates



stand on a wide range of issues. Not surprisingly, some candidates and partisans don't necessarily see it that way.

For each election, candidates, political parties, reporters (and others) try to determine what issues voters are most concerned about at a given time. Is it jobs and the economy? Is it immigration and borders? Is it health care? Is it taxes? The issue at the forefront of people's concerns one year might fade to relative obscurity by the time the next election is held.

Events often thrust an issue to the front. For example, the 9/11 attacks put homeland security at the top for a great many Americans, but after years of relative peace and safety, other issues took center stage.



In the Works

### Speaker for 2015

Are you interested in becoming involved? CAM is looking for interested and active people to act as liaisons to their church, helping to keep the Christian community informed. Contact CAM at 655-0280.

### Ironic!

Sandra Cano passed away 9/30/14. Cano was "Mary Doe" in the case *Doe v. Bolton*, the companion case to *Roe v. Wade*. While the Supreme Court legalized abortion in its *Roe* ruling, its decision in *Doe v. Bolton* established the so-called "health" exception. More than *Roe v. Wade*, *Doe v. Bolton* led to America's legal regime of abortion-on-demand. Sandra Cano claimed she never wanted an abortion, but was misled and exploited by the attorneys handling the case. Like Norma McCorvey, the "Jane Roe" of *Roe v. Wade*, Cano became a pro-life activist. She told the *Catholic Register*, "*Doe v. Bolton* allows abortion up to the ninth month. This case takes children's lives." What irony. The two women associated with the cases most celebrated by the left as "liberating" women and expanding their "rights" became staunch advocates for the right to life!

Occasionally, a new voting bloc emerges. For example, the Supreme Court ruling, *Roe v. Wade*, produced “Pro-life” and “Pro-choice” voting blocs. There may be no additional voters, but people that might come from very diverse demographics suddenly find agreement on an issue that is very important to them. Political parties take one side or the other on an issue and find a fresh source of volunteers with energy and donations. The next election will need volunteers with energy and donations. Political parties add a plank to their party platform and become identi-

fied with one side of the issue.

But, with time, the energy and donations wane. A “political reality” sets in: if you are a one-issue voter, your issue has become yesterday’s issue. The political will cannot be found to make the changes in society that you want. Candidates and parties don’t want to talk about it. If you’re not going to give up, what are your options?

One option is to step back and re-assess. What brought your issue to the fore-front in the first place?

It could have been a govern-

ment action from any branch: a court ruling, a new law, adoption of an executive policy. But, just because government action brought an issue to a head does not mean government is the best or only place to address the issue.

If you let your car rust for decades and your bumper falls off when you hit a pothole, you haven’t solved the problem by tying the bumper back on or by filling that one pothole. You’re still driving a rust bucket! If an event such as a court case is the pothole, the court ruling is the bumper falling off, but it is the culture and fabric of society that has been rusting for decades. We won’t

solve all our problems just by reversing one ruling or winning one election cycle.

Ungodly laws, policies and rulings are symptoms. Do you want to treat the symptoms or the disease? We are still called to be salt and light (Matt. 5:13-16). Don’t retreat just to your prayer closet and sanctuary. Staying in the public arena is part of effecting change. Remember, the child that will be aborted tomorrow morning is not “yesterday’s issue.”

*Lauston Stephens is a Director of the Christian Action Ministry and attends Roadside Assembly of God in Rutland*

## Save the Date

**Wednesday, January 28, 7:00 pm**  
**Livak Ballroom, Davis Center, University of Vermont**



### **Dr. Kedar returns to Burlington**

Mordechai Kedar is an Israeli scholar of Arabic literature and a lecturer at Bar-Ilan University. He holds a Ph.D. from Bar-Ilan University. Kedar is an academic on the Israeli Arab population. He is an excellent speaker and well versed in the Arab-Israeli conflict

**Presented by We Stand with Israel**



**"It will be of little avail to the people, that the laws are made by men of their own choice, if the laws be so voluminous that they cannot be read, or so incoherent that they cannot be understood; if they be repealed or revised before they are promulgated, or undergo such incessant changes that no man, who knows what the law is to-day, can guess what it will be to-morrow. Law is defined to be a rule of action; but how can that be a rule, which is little known, and less fixed?"**

*James Madison, Federalist No. 62, 1788*

## ARAB-ISRAEL CONFLICT - FORGOTTEN FACTS!

by

Steven Shamrak

[Provided by the Freeman Center for Strategic Studies]

### Editor's Note:

*There is a great deal of misinformation being promulgated about the plight of the Palestinians and the so-called occupied territories. The following historical information from the Tzemach News Service may be of interest to those who are questioning Israel's actions.*

The term "Palestinian" is itself a masterful twisting of history. To portray themselves as indigenous, Arab settlers adopted the name of an ancient Mediterranean tribe, the Philistines ("Invaders" in Hebrew), who had died out over 2,500 years ago. There is no connection between this tribe and modern day Arabs. The Romans, in order to conceal their shame and anger with rebellious regions, changed the references to Judea and Samaria by naming them 'Palestine'. Most Arabs had settled in Palestine after Jews started developing agriculture and industries approximately 100 years ago.

1. Israel became a nation in 1312 B.C.E., almost two thousand years before the rise of Islam.

2. Since 1272 B.C.E. the Jews have had a dominion over the land for at least 1,000 years as well as a continuous presence in the land for the past 3,300 years.

3. The only Arab dominion since the conquest in 635 C.E. lasted no more than 22 years.

4. King David made the city of Jerusalem his capital, Mohammed had never been to Jerusalem.

5. For 3,000 years, Jerusalem has been known to be the Jewish capital. Jerusalem has never been the capital of any Arab or Muslim entity. When the Jordanians occupied Jerusalem, they never sought to make it their capital and Arab leaders did not specifically come to visit there.

6. Jerusalem is mentioned over 700 times in the Tanach (Jewish Holy Scriptures). Jerusalem is never mentioned in the Koran.

7. Jews pray facing Jerusalem wherever in the world they may be. Muslims pray facing Mecca (often with their backs toward Jerusalem).

8. In 1854, according to a report in the New York Tribune, Jews constituted two-thirds of the population of the holy city. (The source: A journalist on assignment to the Middle East that year for the Tribune. His name was Karl Marx. Yes, that Karl Marx.)

9. In 1867, Mark Twain took a tour of Palestine and described that land: "A desolate country whose soil is rich enough but is given over wholly to weeds. It is a silent and mournful expanse. We never saw a human."

10. In 1882 census figures of the Ottoman Empire, it was recorded that in the entire land of Israel, there were only 141,000 Muslims, both Arab and non-Arab.

11. A travel guide to Palestine and Syria, published in 1906 by Karl Baedeker, estimated that the total population of Jerusalem was 60,000, of whom 7,000 were Muslims, 13,000 were Christians, and 40,000 were Jews.

12. After Zionist Jews came, drained the swamps, and made the deserts blossom Arabs followed them. They came for jobs, for prosperity, and for freedom. Arabs arrived in large numbers.

13. In 1922, during the illegal separation of Transjordan, Jews were forbidden to settle on 77% of the disputed territory, while Arab settlements went unrestricted by Britain.

14. Prior to the Second World War, Mojli Amin, a member of the Arab Defense Committee for Pal-

estine, proposed the following idea: "All the Arabs of Palestine will leave and be settled amongst the neighboring Arab countries. In exchange for this, all the Jews living in Arab countries will leave and come and live in Palestine."

15. Did you know that Saudi Arabia was not established until 1913? Lebanon was not established until 1920. Iraq did not exist as a nation until 1932 and Syria until 1941. The borders of Jordan were established in 1946 and those of Kuwait in 1961. Any of the aforementioned nations that say that Israel is only a recent arrival would have to deny their own right of existence. They did not exist as fully-fledged countries, but were all under the control of the Turks. Over 80% of the original British Mandate land was given to the Arabs without any form of population transfer.

16. In 1947, the Jewish state settled on 18% of the original British Mandate land. This was accepted gratefully. The Arabs rejected it with a vengeance and seven Arab states immediately declared war against Israel.

17. In 1948, the Arabs were encouraged to leave Israel by Arab leaders promising to purge the land of Jews. Most of them left in fear of being killed by their own Arab brothers as traitors.

18. Jewish citizens of Arab countries had been forced to flee from Arab brutality, persecution, and pogroms.

19. The number of Arabs who left Israel in 1948 was 470,000 (this figure was later inflated after UN offered them free help). The number of Jewish refugees from Arab lands is estimated to be the same.

20. From 1948 to 1967 Arabs made no attempt to create a Palestinian state. Under Jordanian

rule, Jewish holy sites were desecrated. Jews and Christians were denied access to places of worship. Under Israeli rule, all Muslim and Christian sites have been preserved and made accessible to people of all faiths.

21. Arabs began identifying themselves as part of a Palestinian people only in 1967, after Israel captured Judea, Samaria, and Gaza.

22. Out of the 100,000,000 refugees since World War II, Arab-Palestinians are the only refugee group in the world that have never been absorbed or integrated into their own peoples' lands. Jewish refugees from all over were completely absorbed into the land of Israel.

23. Arab refugees intentionally were not absorbed or integrated by the rich Arab oil states that control 99.9 percent of the Middle East land mass. They are kept as virtual prisoners by the Arab power brokers with misplaced hatred for Jews and Western democracy.

24. There is only one Jewish state. There are 57 Muslim countries, including 22 Arab ones.

25. The PLO's Charter still calls for the destruction of the State of Israel.

26. Pan-Arabism or the idea of an Arab Caliphate declares that all land that supposedly belonged to Arabs, must be returned to Arabs. *(Editor's Note: Includes Israel)*

"For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest." Isaiah 62.1

*Tzemach News Service [TNS] is a ministry of Tzemach Institute for Biblical Studies (<http://www.tzemach.org>).*

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*What can I do?*



*Faith without  
works is dead  
James 2:17*

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**This issue of our Christian Action Ministry newsletter begins the 25th year of providing information on issues of interest to Christians who recognize their lives are impacted by what happens in the secular world, and believe that they have an obligation to bring Judeo-Christian principles to our neighborhoods, state, and nation.**

**We have provided information on a broad array of issues, such as abortion, human trafficking, same-sex marriage, population control, voting, morning after pills, implantable ID chips, pornography, homeschooling, physician assisted suicide, parental notification, Israel, radical Islam, sharia law, socialism, the U.S. Constitution, and twelve voter guides for the General Elections, as well as sponsoring presentations by renowned speakers.**

**We will continue informing you about issues like these and are looking for some new people interested in taking part in that effort. All that is needed is an interest in making a difference in the world we occupy until we return Home.**

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### Next Meetings

*January 13, 7:00 pm  
Living Hope Christian Church  
Williston, VT  
February 10, 7:00 pm  
Parkinson home  
Hinesburg, VT*

**Making A Difference  
in  
Vermont!**