

Christian Action Ministry Newsletter

Involving the Christian in Community Action

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added to our mailing
list, please call
655-0280, email, or
contact our website
(see back page)**

The Lord is not slow concerning his promise, as some count slowness; but is patient with us, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. (2 Peter 3:9 WEB)

As Christians, we know a little about repentance, but what do we know about national repentance? How would it come about? What would it look like?

May I recommend a book? The Power of Return, by John Goyette, (2010) Shipensburg, PA, Destiny Image Publishers, Inc. The author, John Goyette, and his wife, Linda, began Green Mountain Christian Center in Bennington in the late 1970's and John is still senior pastor there. The Power of Return is a thorough study of 12 national revivals recorded in scrip-

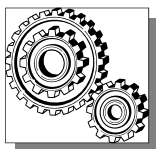
ture. Each is unique, but there are some common elements to all of them: a strong, godly leader; a shared vision; the Word of God; unity; obedience to authority and, of course, opposition.

Who were the strong, godly leaders in ancient Israel? Only one of them was what we would call a member of the clergy. Only Ezra was descended from Aaron, although Samuel was from the tribe of Levi. Who were the other ten leaders? There was one general, Joshua, one governor, Zerubbabel, one palace worker, Nehemiah, and seven kings. Which brings us back to the question, what would national repentance look like in this country? We've had presidents call for a national day of Thanksgiving or "Humiliation, Fasting, and Prayer," and Lincoln's

proclamation was in response to a resolution by the Senate, but when have we "turned from our wicked ways?" (2 Chr. 7:14)

I had to ask this question when South Carolina's governor called on the state's legislature to vote to remove the confederate flag from outside the State House, the speaker of the State House in Mississippi similarly insisted the emblem be removed from his state's flag, and Alabama's governor ordered the flag removed from public grounds.

Christian individuals and even whole denominations have repented of their roles in slavery and race relations, but is there any record of southern civic leaders accepting Lee's military defeat as a divine rebuke of the "peculiar institution"?



**In the
Works**

Get involved!

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 372-6442.

"God rules this world. It is the duty of nations as well as men to owe their dependence upon the overruling power of God, to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow ... and to recognize the sublime truths that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord."

- Abraham Lincoln

Civic leaders are now saying, “You know what, states’ rights aren’t as important as individual rights. The state cannot exist without the individual.” Did it really take an additional 150 years of injustice to concede that truth?

Yes, elected officials often seem to go whichever way they sense the political winds are blowing, but God looks on the heart and He,

after all, is the judge. Do you grieve over other national sins more than what is touched on here? Can you and I do more than just pray for national repentance? Are we a “repentance constituency”? When you vote, have you asked yourself, would this candidate lead in repentance?

Let’s not be self-righteous Northerners here. I know Vermonters with slaveholding ancestors and

Vermont’s history is not without blemish. When Daniel confessed the sins of his nation (Daniel 9:3-19), he consistently said, “We,” not “They,” even if he, personally, wasn’t guilty of the sins he confessed.

He has shown you, O man, what is good. What does Yahweh require of you, but to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with

your God? (Micah 6:8 WEB)

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

Veterans for Life

As part of *40 Days for Life* a dedicated group of pro-life individuals selected a special time for veterans, with their spouses and friends, to pray for an end to abortion. They met in front of Planned Parenthood on St. Paul Street in Burlington on Mondays from 4:00 to 6:00 pm, wearing some indication of their service (hat, t-shirt, or jacket). It was not limited to veterans and anyone was welcome to join them. By the time this newsletter is in your hands, *40 Days for Life* will have ended for 2015. Next year they will do it again, and are looking for pro-life veterans and their friends to join with them.



Ray Racine, Kit Racine, Dick Trudell, Kay Trudell (Agnes Clift photo)

An Evening with William Federer

On September 18, the Christian Action Ministry brought in William Federer to the Holiday Inn in South Burlington. He enthralled the audience with his vast amount of knowledge of Christian history and its impact on the colonies and the formation of the United States. Realizing the audience was composed of Christian believers, he was able to inculcate a good deal of gospel into his presentation and connect the dots between the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Founding Fathers, and the documents they gave us that formed the basis of the United States. There was an extensive array of books and DVDs to augment what we heard.

William Federer is a nationally known speaker, best selling author, and host of *American Minute.com* and his *Faith in History* programs air on DirecTV.



The fundamental basis of this nation’s laws was given to Moses on the Mount. The fundamental basis of our Bill of Rights comes from the teachings we get from Exodus and St. Matthew, from Isaiah and St. Paul. I don’t think we emphasize that enough these days. If we don’t have a proper fundamental background, we will finally end up with a totalitarian government which does not believe in rights for anybody except the State.

President Harry Truman

Supreme Court refuses to review non-citizen voting in Federal Elections

by
Dick Trudell

It would seem like a no-brainer—to vote you should be a citizen.

However, the Supreme Court refused to consider letting states require evidence of citizenship when people register to vote for federal elections. An appeal from Arizona and Kansas was rejected in June of 2015.

The states were seeking authority to require proof of citizenship before registering to vote. The Court's refusal to hear the case is a victory for the Obama administration and voting- and minority-rights groups that battled the two states in court. It leaves intact a decision by a U.S. agency that blocked the states from requiring proof.

The Court seemed to defer to the federal form's requirement that prospective voters swear that they are citizens, under penalty of perjury.

Does that make sense? If you asked someone seeking to vote illegally if they were doing it legally, what would you expect for an answer?

It's the second high court defeat on the issue for Arizona. The state has a law that requires evidence of citizenship, but the Supreme Court ruled in 2013 that it couldn't be enforced when people use a standard registration document known as the "federal form" to register to vote for Congress and the president.

That 7-2 ruling left open the possibility that Arizona could impose its requirements through a different avenue. The court said the state could submit a request to the agency that developed the form, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, asking it to tell Arizona voters they needed to supply proof of citizenship.

A 1993 law lets states use their own voter-registration forms as long as they also accept the federal form. Arizona and Kansas both demand proof of citizenship from would-be voters when they use the state registration application.

Arizona and Kansas said in their appeal that they now have two different voter lists — one of people eligible

only for federal elections and one of those who can cast ballots in state elections as well.

Why is this important? A close election can be swayed by a few votes, and if those votes are coming from people not eligible to vote, they can negate the votes of those who are eligible.

It is expected that Kansas and Arizona will continue to seek ways to keep their voting lists limited to citizens.

Dick Trudell is President of the Christian Action Ministry and attends Community Bible Church in So. Burlington

"It is emphatically the province and duty of the Judicial Department to say what the law is. Those who apply the rule to particular cases must, of necessity, expound and interpret that rule. If two laws conflict with each other, the Courts must decide on the operation of each. So, if a law be in opposition to the Constitution, if both the law and the Constitution apply to a particular case, so that the Court must either decide that case conformably to the law, disregarding the Constitution, or conformably to the Constitution, disregarding the law, the Court must determine which of these conflicting rules governs the case. This is of the very essence of judicial duty. If, then, the Courts are to regard the Constitution, and the Constitution is superior to any ordinary act of the Legislature, the Constitution, and not such ordinary act, must govern the case to which they both apply."

—John Marshall, Marbury v. Madison, 1803



What can I do?



*Faith without
works is dead
James 2:17*

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www.christianactionministry.com

As we complete our 25th year of newsletters to the Christian community, we want to look at our Statement of Purpose.

The Christian Action Ministry Network is a group of lay men and women dedicated to informing and involving Christians in issues that affect the spiritual and moral well being of our communities. The function of the ministry is primarily educational.

The ministry identifies and researches current issues and trends affecting the family and the Church to develop Christian options and responses. This information is summarized and distributed through the network to other Christians, encouraging individuals to become involved with the issues presented. The ministry recognizes the authority of pastors and priests over their assemblies to use or reject material provided to their Churches.

The Christian Action Ministry Network recognizes the diversity of beliefs found within the Christian church, but focuses on our shared faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. With the cooperation and support of a multitude of Christians working in unity, Christian principles and ideals can again become the guide and basis for decisions and direction in our community.

We wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and a joyous Christmas Season, and best wishes for the upcoming year. May the Lord guide our country in the decisions we will make, and draw us back to Him.

The **Christian Action Ministry Network, Inc.** is an educational nonprofit public charity supported entirely by volunteers and contributions from the public. Personal, church and business donations are encouraged and are tax-deductible under the IRS Code 501(C)3. The information provided herein does not necessarily reflect the views of any particular church or individual associated with the Christian Action Ministry Network.

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Next Meetings

*November 10, 7:00 pm
No. Ave. Alliance Church
Burlington, VT
December 8, 7:00 pm
Parkinson home
Hinesburg, VT*

**Making A Difference
In
Vermont!**