

Christian Action Ministry

Newsletter

Involving the Christian in Community Action

Jan.—Feb. 2022 ☆ Vol. 32, Number 01

Calendar

Jan. 4th
Legislative session
began

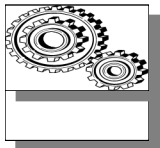
March 1st
Town Meeting Day

Inside

Appreciate Your Poll
Workers

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If you would like to be
added to our mailing
list, please email us at
camnetvt@gmail.com
or
contact our website
(see back page)



**In the
Works**

2022 Legislative Session

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 us at camnetVT@gmail.com.

Let's Put It in Perspective

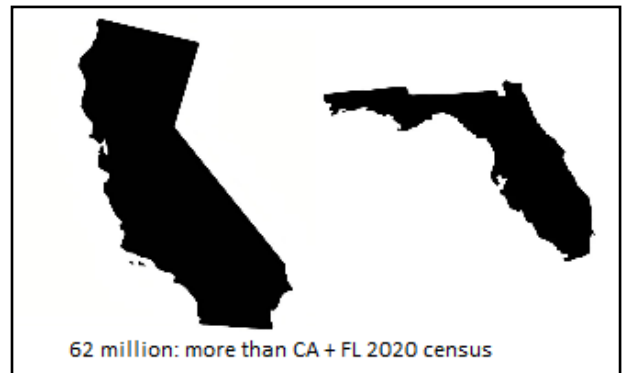
By
William Parkinson

The last couple of years with Covid and in politics we have all become a bit obsessed with numbers. How many covid cases, how many deaths, how many days with mandates, how many trillions in spending and national debt, etc. A lot of those numbers are so high that they are beyond our comprehension so they just drift by. Let's look at a few of them and compare them to something closer to our own reality. Because of timing, to get an article in the newsletter, these numbers are from November 2021 so in most cases, they will be even worse by the time you read this, but you'll get the idea.

We are all horrified that we have had 48 million cases of Covid in the United States (48,120 in Vermont), resulting in 777,107 deaths in the USA. It is estimated the US Federal government has spent over \$4,000,000,000,000.00 (four trillion) on Covid related expenses. Since Roe V Wade 62 million

babies have been murdered in the United States (that's over 96 times the population of Vermont; more than all the people in California plus Florida); eighty times as many deaths as Covid. It is estimated that the economic loss to our country from the aborted babies since 1973 is 37 trillion dollars, which is even greater than our staggering National Debt!

Americans paid no income taxes last year. The top 1% of earners pay 40% of the total income taxes to the federal government. You hear the media constantly harping about the amount we spend on the military and national defense, and it is a lot of money - \$717 billion, but at least we are getting a legitimate function of government for that money. We are also



Our national debt is currently 29 trillion dollars which translates to over \$87,000.00 per citizen in the country. Worse in a couple of ways, it equals \$229,706.00 per taxpayer in the country (also illustrating how many citizens do not pay taxes). According to CNBC, 61% of

paying \$418 billion just for interest on the national debt that we have carelessly accumulated over the past years, spending money we and our children will have to repay later. The last year we had a balanced budget was 2001. The last time the United States had zero

national debt was 1835—that's right 1835. Andrew Jackson was president!

The cost of education in the public schools of Vermont is one of the greatest tax burdens we face as Vermonters. The annual per-pupil expenditure for Champlain Valley Union High School is \$11,764.00, for Williston Elementary it is \$11,879.00; for private education, the average annual tuition at Trinity Baptist School in Williston is \$5,725.00.

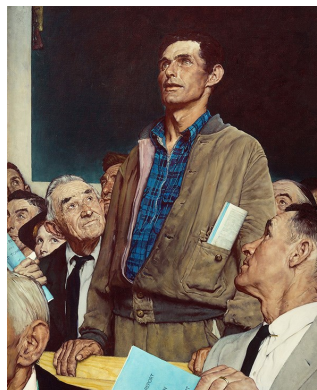
The United States has the sixth highest divorce rate in the world. About fifty percent of marriages in the United States end in divorce. That equals a divorce in our country every 42 seconds, over 2,000 per day! For the children that means thirty percent of children under 18 are living with only one parent.

As of late October, the US Border patrol had arrested 1.7 million illegal immigrants at the southern border, which doesn't account for the numbers that got in unnoticed by

the Border Patrol. That number is greater than the entire population of both Vermont and Wyoming, about equal to the entire population of West Virginia. Between the low and high estimates, it is estimated there are between 11 and 22 million undocumented immigrants in the United States as of now. So if we were to declare a State of Illegals and give them the vote it would be, at the high estimate, the 3rd most populous state in the nation. Or spread out if they were all given the vote and exercised it they would make up almost 10% of the eligible voters or 14% of the total who actually voted in the 2020 presidential elections, more than enough to swing most elections.

When someone is talking and wants to make an example of a human monster they often use Adolph Hitler. It is estimated Hitler killed 20,946,000 civilians during and before World War II. After Roe V Wade in the United States about three times that number; 62,000,000 inno-

cent babies have been killed by abortion in the USA.



Vermont is often rated as the most unchurched state in the nation in polls. Figures vary but most common seems to be that 54% of Vermont adults consider themselves Christian with 23% saying they are “very religious”. If the higher figure were true then it follows that Vermont would never elect anyone but a Christian, but we know that has not been the case. Even if the lower figure were true you would expect that if Christians voted as a block we would win almost every election, so what went wrong? Either the polls are way off or Christians are not doing their duty to

become informed and involved. What better gift could we pass on to our children and the next generation in the political realm than to give them Godly leaders in our government? We have been blessed with a government that allows us that choice, what a shame to squander it in laziness, apathy, and ignorance. I can't remember an election where we haven't been told by someone “this is the most important election of our lives”, so I won't say that. But we do have some very important elections coming up in Vermont and we need to not only be on our knees, but we need to exercise our brains and mouths spreading the truth and we need to put our feet to the pavement spreading the word and getting ourselves, friends and relatives all to the polls.

William Parkinson is a founder and director of the Christian Action Ministry whose family attends Trinity Baptist Church in Williston.

Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter into the Kingdom of Heaven; but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ... I will tell them, 'I never knew you. Depart from me, you who work iniquity.' *Matthew 7:21, 23 WEB*

Appreciate Your Poll Workers

by
Lauston Stephens

A member of my town's board of civil authority passed away in the fall of 2019 and I was appointed to fulfill the term. I worked the polls for Town Meeting Day, the Presidential primary election, and the general election, all in 2020. The pandemic added a duty. We wiped down voting booths and marker pens throughout the day. I didn't immediately recognize my own next-door neighbor because of his mask.

More than half of the voters used the mail-in ballot for the general election. Two poll workers fed those ballots into the voting machine. In our case, it was one "D" and one "R," but in some Vermont towns it might have been one "D" and one "P" or even one "P" and one "R". After we made sure that the names were on the checklist and that they were checked off, we turned the envelopes face down. One of us opened the envelope and the other fed the ballot into the machine. In this way, we ensured that the mail-in ballot remained a secret ballot. One poll worker might inadvertently get a glance at the name or one might get a glance at how the ballot was marked but no one was able to connect the two.

We are citizens first and the secret ballot is sacrosanct. If the poll workers are all of one party, the

urge to look over the shoulder of our fellow citizens might be more temptation than some can resist. It is helpful to have people that differ from us.



There are personality traits that are commonly found among conservatives and other personality traits that are commonly found among liberals. The town clerk and assistant clerk had alphabetized the ballots that had arrived before election day to expedite confirming them on the checklist. As a conservative, I found my impulse was to maintain the order that had been applied to the ballots. After doing all the "A"s, I would reapply a rubber band to the envelopes before proceeding to the next group. Is that what you would do? My more liberal co-worker in the morning was new to it all and did not object. My co-worker in the afternoon, however, felt no need to maintain the order and discarded the banding on the empty envelopes. Noticing my

discomfort, he explained that the only time we would feel the loss of order was if someone claimed they had not already voted. That's not likely to happen, his approach was different from mine. God just didn't wire us all the same way.

This fellow poll worker is an excellent public servant. He has been a long-time member of the volunteer fire department and he serves the town in other ways. We have two polling locations in our town and a voter dropped off their ballot at the wrong one just a few moments before the polls closed. My fellow citizen and poll worker rushed the unopened ballot the few miles to the other location so that it could be counted. No elections were decided by just one vote. That last-minute voter will not be told how much trouble it was to make sure that his or her vote was counted. This is just the way rank and file poll workers keep the wheels of democracy turning, even in a pandemic. Poll workers are your neighbors. Next time you vote, thank them for their service.

Lauston Stephens is President of the Christian Action Ministry and attends Roadside Assembly of God in Rutland, Vermont.

If ever the spirit of liberty should vanish from the rest of the Union, it could all be restored by the generous store held by the people of this brave little State of Vermont. - Calvin Coolidge



What can I do?



*Faith without
works is dead*
James 2:17

e-mail : camnetvt@gmail.com website : <https://christianactionministry.org/>

Late Breaking News

It is the nature of human institutions for power and control to gravitate to a center over time. The VT Governor and Legislature have punted the political hot potato of mask mandates to the towns and cities. As we go to press, we know of 17 towns that have enacted a mask mandate:

Brattleboro - Burlington – Danville - East Montpelier – Essex,
Hartford – Ludlow – Manchester – Montpelier – Norwich,
Peacham - Rutland Town – Waitsfield – Warren,
Williston – Wilmington - Winooski.

Burlington, Hartford, Norwich and Williston have “house of worship” exemptions, e.g. “Any person officiating or participating in a religious service or activity in which the temporary removal of a face covering is necessary to participate in or complete the religious service.”

It is necessary to remove a mask to receive the Eucharist or Lord’s table. How about singing, public prayer or speaking? Will towns go to court over this?

These ordinances place responsibility on individuals and public spaces are not burdened with enforcement.

See you in church!

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✉ **CAM Network, Inc.**
PO Box 1067
Williston, VT 05495

📞 **(802) 773-2602**
Call or text to confirm date

Next Meetings

Feb. 7, 7:00 pm
Zoom Meeting.

March 7, 7:00 pm
Parkinson home
Hinesburg, Vt.

**Making A Difference
In Vermont!**

To reach our website enter <https://christianactionministry.org> and select the first listing below that reads **Christian Action Ministry Network VT** and open it. Then bookmark our website calling it CAM or else Christian Action Ministry. Then when you want to go to our website in the future, click on the bookmark name you entered in your list of bookmarks.