

CHRISTIAN COALITION OF PINELLAS COUNTY

NEWSLETTER FOR FEBRUARY 2007A.C.

Dr. Vance Lackore, vlackore@tampabay.rr.com, +Co-Chairman+, Ron Scheffler, Rmscheffler@cfaith.com
Rick Klenk, Webber: rek03@ccpcf.org tele. 727-595-6971

Next meeting: This Saturday, February 3, 2007A.C., Panera Bread, Bardmoor Shopping Center, corner of Bryan Dairy and Starkey Road (Keane Road to North County people, or Park Street in St Pete), beginning at 10:00a.m..

Special Speaker: Sol Pitchon, Pregnancy Center of Pinellas will again update, and share some testimonies of lives saved, and changed for the glory of our God.

Sol Pitchon has been president and CEO of the Pregnancy Center of Pinellas County since 1999. Sol is a Greek Jew, born in Thessalonica, Greece, who immigrated to America in 1951 and accepted Christ in 1981. Both his father and mother are holocaust survivors. Sol is married, the father of four grown children and has eight grandchildren.

Before joining the Pregnancy Center, Sol was a Christian psychotherapist, having spent five years in private practice. He also worked three years in a psychiatric hospital setting for Rapha, a Christian inpatient program. He has a BA degree in psychology from the University of South Florida, and received a Masters degree in counseling from Liberty University.

As a Jewish-Christian whose parents are holocaust survivors, Sol feels it is a privilege to work in the holocaust of abortion in the pregnancy center movement.

Sol has been a resident of Pinellas County for nearly 50 years. His vision, along with that of the Staff and Board of Directors is to open a 'Breath of Life Woman's Health Services and Birth Center' in order to provide a continuum of care and discipleship for women and their families.

Sol plans a PowerPoint presentation of interesting information. It is an honor to welcome again, our friend Sol.

Vance will have a PowerPoint presentation also.

Vance will also address Barbara Stephen's 'Central Pinellas Republican Club' at their February 8 (second thursday each month) so mark that also on your calendar.

* + *

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not harm you. Plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. Jeremiah 29:11 (from Manna in the Morning)

* + *

March Meeting: Nancy Bostock, of the Pinellas County School Board, plans to be with us, as our Special Speaker. As you remember Nancy has been with us many times, and we appreciate her candid reports on School Board issues.

* + *

Thinking Right, by Vance Lackore

2 Corinthians 1:3-5 "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows."

Did you ever stop to think why people who are in difficulty, sick or have just lost someone dear to them will call their neighbor who they know goes to church somewhere for comfort or to pray for them? It seems they think those who are acquainted with God somehow have an inside track to God's ear. And, they are right! You and I have known the comfort of our Lord God in many ways. It is a comfort to know our sins are forgiven; it is an everlasting comfort to know that the instant we leave this life we will be in the presence of our God, it is a comfort to know Jesus said that when he left this earth the Father would send another comforter to take up residence in our lives.

Here the Apostle Paul reminds us that our Heavenly Father is full of compassion toward us who are his children and he will comfort us in all our troubles. Scripture says if we are downcast to look up to him, if we are discouraged we can take encouragement from his promise to never forsake us, if we are disappointed we know he is perfect in all his attributes and he is a friend who is closer to us than our living relatives.

(continued, next page)

Since our Heavenly Father has comforted us, we are to comfort those we know need his comfort and be the instrument through which he can comfort them as well. King David knew the comfort of God in the woes of his life, he wrote in Psalm 34 'The Lord is close to the broken hearted.' and in Isaiah, Jesus is prophesied as coming to 'bind up the broken hearted.' Since he was sent to bring comfort, and he sends us with the same commission, we are to always willing to bring the comfort of our God to all who seek it.

Our gracious Heavenly Father, we ask you to use us today to be the instrument you can use to comfort those we meet who desperately need your comfort, in Jesus' name we pray.

January Meeting Report, by Eleanor: Terry Kemple, President of Community Issues Council, was our Special Speaker. Vance and Ron remember working with Terry when he was Executive Director of Christian Coalition of Florida in the 2000 Presidential Election. While Executive Director, Terry Spoke at our monthly meeting in 2001.

Community Issues Council (CIC) (web site: www.communityissuescouncil.org) is in planning stages of '**Family Impact Summit' September 21, and 22, 2007**. National Speakers have been invited, and groups such as the American Family Association, Florida Family Association, Liberty Council, Christian Law Association, Christian Coalition of Florida, Alliance Defense Fund, Pinellas Pregnancy Center, Florida Family Policy Council, Somebody Cares Tampa Bay, Florida Right to Life, United Christians of Florida, Christian Coalition of Pinellas, and others, have expressed interest.

The days will have a speakers, followed by breakout hands-on discussion sessions, followed by lunch with speaker; then afternoon similar to morning. In the evening a banquet with name speaker. Meals will served, and food court, and booths will be available, and where the authors will be making their books available and book signings.

Purpose: Unite Churches, and Pastors all sides of Tampa Bay

Evangelism, with break-out sessions, on various forms.

Assist Christians to become knowledgeable, and deal with, community issues.

How to ignite interest- get Christians excited about issues.

Subjects include: Racial reconciliation, Life Issues, Homosexual agenda, Community decency, Education.

We are all invited to be part of this exciting event. We think September is a long way off, and it better be because this is a large undertaking. Those interested in being part of this amazing adventure our representatives at the meetings, contact Brinton Overholt 596-6275, or Ron Scheffler 595-6971.

* + *

Other items in the News:

Gov. Charlie Crist backs *Ethical* Stem Cell Research (Tallahassee) Jan. 31, 2007 "Gov. Crist today announced that he supports state funding of ethical stem cell research that does not support human life. The Governor proposed spending 20 million on grants for research that uses adult stem cells and cells obtained from umbilical cord blood and amniotic fluid." (For the full story go to internet www.FloridaFamilyAction.org -- And Check on the 'Marriage Amendment.'

Good work Gov. Crist.

* + *

From: "Washington Update" Family Research Council, Tony Perkins, President.(www.FRCPub.org)

"Monday, the 34th annual 'March For Life' had 200,000 Americans joined in protest of 'Roe v. Wade' **ruling** that created such callous disregard for innocent human life. Sen. Brownback (R-KS) and Rep. Duncan Hunter (R-CA), two of Capitol Hills finest, attended."

* + *

From: 'www.OneMillionDads.com' Jan 31, 2007 "Good News! Geico drops 'Dirt', here's the message from Geico:

"Thank you for sharing your concerns with Geico and the show 'Dirt'. We have recently contacted the FX Network and instructed them that our advertisement should no longer appear during this program."

A product "Lectric Shave" still sponsors the program 'Dirt'. Carrie Barsuhn is spokesperson for 'Combe' the makers of "Lectric Shave", and she may be telephoned at (914) 461-4636. This program's includes homosexual and heterosexual graphic sexual scenes. **Geico** should stick with its neat little **Gecko** in commercials..

* + *

From Chicago, Jan 22/ On Friday, a ruling was handed down from the Northern District Court allowing the pro-life message to be an option for specialty license plates in the State of Illinois. Citing First Amendment protection, Judge David Coar ruled in favor of 'Choose Life Illinois' (CLI) explaining that their message is constitutionally entitled to be on Illinois license plates. In Judge Coar's memorandum he states that "...The Secretary of State is ordered to issue the 'Choose Life' plates.' I believe the numbers are; 'Choose Life' is on cars in 14 states and 32 states are still working on giving their OK, and sale of these plates just began in 2000. The Choose-Life part, over and above the States portion, goes to organizations that assist unwed mothers to have their baby. Congratulations to our friends Russ and Jill Amerling. Their Web site: www.choose-life.org

* + *

"Someone has said if Christians really understood the full extent of the power we have available we have through prayer, we might be speechless. Did you know that during WW II there was an advisor to Churchill who organized a group of people who dropped what they were doing every day at a prescribed hour for one minute to collectively pray for the safety of England, its people and peace.

There is now a group of people organizing the same thing here in America. If you would like to participate: Every evening at 9:00p.m. Eastern, 8:00p.m. Central, 6:00 Pacific, stop whatever you are doing and spend one minute praying for the safety of these United States, our troops, our citizens, and for a return to a Godly nation. If you know anyone else who would like to participate, please pass this along.

Our prayers are our most powerful asset." Thank you Major Frank and Hiroko Foster, USMC (ret.)

Our member George Flory heads up the Prayer Ministry at FBCIR; a work that is having great impact and results. To God be the glory.

* + *

American Minute with Bill Federer

In his 'State of the Union' Address (to Congress and us) of Jan. 25, 1984, (23 years ago), President Ronald Reagan stated: "Each day your members observe a 200 year old tradition meant to signify America is one nation under God. I must ask: If you can begin your day with a member of the clergy standing right here leading you in prayer, then why can't freedom to acknowledge God be enjoyed again by children in every school room across this land."

A month later in a radio address, Feb. 25, 1984, President Reagan stated, "The First Amendment to the Constitution was not written to the people from religion: that amendment was written to protect religion from government tyranny... But now we are told our children have no right to pray in school. The pendulum has swung too far towards intolerance against genuine religious freedom. It is time to redress the balance. (Has anything changed? Does anyone care? Some of us do. Jesus is the answer.)

Former Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart noted, "if religious exercises are held to be impermissible activity in schools, religion is placed at an artificial and state-created disadvantage... Refusal to permit religious exercises is seen not as the realization of state neutrality, but rather as the establishment of a religion of secularism."

* + *

Ron observations: While driving down the street recently, observing the beautiful sky, that is different each day.

It seemed so obvious that only a loving God could create this view. The same God that "so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might (might: the choice is ours) be saved. He (includes she) who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the only begotten Son of God. (John 3:16-18)

As I drove further hundreds of little gray birds came flying. These little birds just **fly**, not bumping into each other. They all have tiny eyes, tiny wings, tiny bodies and **flying** beautifully. It's a God thing, isn't it? "God's eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watched over me." Only a fool would explain that this is all a product of 'random chance' and that these birds evolved from some swamp scum over billions of years. How dumb can people be?

Can educators teach evolution in Public Schools with a straight face? These folks operate in fear, and terror, knowing that if they aren't constantly insisting their 'facts' are true, their house of cards will collapse like a punctured balloon. The only possible explanation for origins of life is contained in Chapters 1 and 2 of the Bible.. And the best history book is the Bible. Fossils prove that it was a great flood, not an 'ice age' that changed the earth....The Ark is in Turkey even now. Evidence in Texas, at the Paluxy River has Dinosaur footprints and man footprint together: The Book of Job also proves this.

That's all for now; "Jesus Christ is Lord" (Phil 2:11), and I'm Ron