

SEPTEMBER NEWS

Cambria Baptist Church Newsletter

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM | SUNDAY WORSHIP 11:00 AM | WEDNESDAY PRAYER 6:30 PM



What God has Defined, We Defend

by Pastor Keith Crowgey

Besides this, knowing the time, it is already the hour for you to wake up from sleep, for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is nearly over, and the daylight is near, so let us discard the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.
Romans 13:11-12 HCSB

I recently attended a town hall meeting at First Baptist in Roanoke regarding the upcoming amendments to the Virginia Constitution. Last Fall, I mentioned that these amendments were on the horizon. They have now come to the forefront of our upcoming elections. It is now in the hands of the people to vote.

There are three amendments proposed. But what is significant is that these are amendments to the Virginia Constitution. What happens here is that should these amendments become constitutional, it becomes the law of the land.

Why are these important? Quite honestly, they stand against Biblical convictions.

Why now? Because early voting begins on September 18. Election day is November 3.

What are the amendments?

Virginia's Reproductive Rights Amendment (HJ1)

This does not remove abortion, that is covered under the existing law. But it elevates reproductive rights to a constitutional level. There will be few safety requirements (the amendment removes oversight requirements). Parents may no longer be required to consent or even know, since the abortion procedure is an exercise of a constitutional right. Medical professionals will be faced with the pressure of a constitutional right if they object to being involved in the procedure.

Under the current law, abortion is legal up to 26 weeks, with limits thereafter. Under the proposed amendment, abortion is elevated to the highest protections as a constitutional right; no limit outlined; and will be legal for an abortion up to the point of birth.

What I found discouraging is the ramification of this amendment. The abortionist does not have to have a Medical Degree. So, if an abortion is given, and there are complications, the abortionist may not know how or even be obligated to care for the mother. Tragically she could die or have serious medical issues from the procedure. Regardless, the abortionist is protected from any wrongdoing. (And keep in mind, this is a profit measure – the abortionist profits from every abortion).

Another scenario. A boyfriend does not want his pregnant girlfriend to follow through with the pregnancy. Although she disagrees, he slips a couple of abortion pills into her food. Things do not go well, she has complications, maybe even to the point of death. Regardless, the boyfriend would be totally protected from any liability.

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BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 – Tommy Manirakiza
- 5 – Grayson Showman
- 7 – Brooke Crowgey,
Brenna Crowgey Cox
- 11 – Pam Conner
- 14 – Travis Thompson
- 15 – Kirby & Myra Conner
- 17 – Richard & Peggy
Quarterman
- 18 – Iris Mullins,
Peggy Brugger
- 19 – Sandy Warner
- 23 – David & Hattie Dove
- 25 – Janette Newhouse,
Belinda Horney
- 28 – Kaleigh Crowgey
- 29 – Seth Wills
- 30 – Carrie Bradshaw,
Debbie Phillips

Under this amendment, there is no age referenced here, meaning no one could stop a minor from exercising any and all definition of “reproductive rights”, including gender-destructive treatments, nor does it allow parental oversight of such a minor, nor does it protect vulnerable minors from the influence and control of traffickers.

Virginia's Fundamental Right to Marry Amendment (HJ9)

This amendment would change the legal definition of “marriage” to include “two adult persons” (regardless of sex) and remove conscience protections for clergy in the process.

This changes from the current law of marriage between one man and one woman to “two adult persons.” It changes the language where there is no “right” to marry, so no clergy can be compelled to marry anyone, to the creation of a “right” under the law.

The original language of this amendment included a statement that clergy “shall have the right to refuse to perform any marriage,” but that language was intentionally removed. This opens the door for clergy to be brought in on a Civil lawsuit, and that can lead to a Criminal lawsuit should the clergy refuse to perform this marriage.

Again, under the current law, gender ideology distinguishes men from women. Under the proposed constitutional amendment, the sexes, men, women, mothers and fathers are erased. This amendment does not give the specific status of a “right” which would encompass *any* definition the government deems to give to “marriage”.

Virginia's Felon Rights Amendment (HJ2)

This amendment restores the voting Rights of convicted felons upon release from incarceration.

Currently in Virginia, convicted felons may have their Right to vote restored upon completion of time served, parole period ended, fees and restitution paid.

However, this amendment does not take into account the nature of a person's crime. It does not offer any consequences for persons convicted of a felony that never served time in prison or served limited time in jail and/or prison and then are released on parole. It does not take into account whether or not fines or restitution has been paid. But this amendment goes further: there

will be an immediate return of “all political rights” - so not just voting rights, but ALL political rights, whether or not full restitution has been made or whether they are on parole, or whether or not their crimes were violent crimes – it eliminates the current application and review process.

Individuals should be evaluated on an individual basis prior to restoration of their rights as is the current law.

How should we respond?

Start with prayer. James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Defend Biblical principles.

Psalms 139:13-16 For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful; I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be.

Matthew 19:4-6 “Haven't you read,” He [Jesus] replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’ and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

Matthew 5:13-16 “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

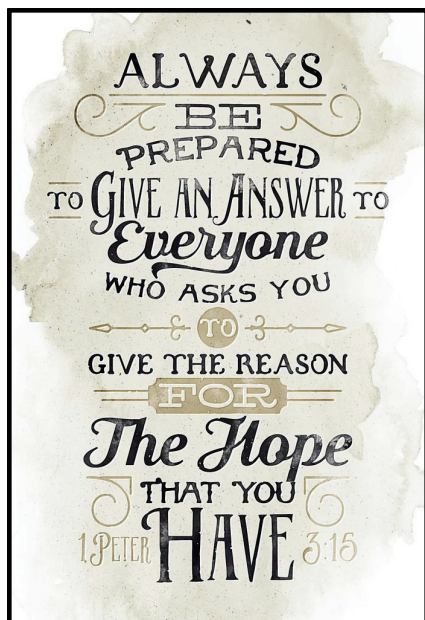
Vote. I know I have not brought up these matters in the past, but this what our state government is striving to define against what we believe as Christians. What God has defined, we defend. I ask you to prayerfully vote NO for all three of these amendments.

Pastor Keith Crowgey

Ready to Give an Answer

Gary Allen, Minister of Music and Worship

I Peter 3:15 makes it clear we need to be "ready at any time to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you." I have had two restaurant experiences recently when a woman, then a man shared their salvation experience with me.



The woman has waited on me a few times, but I don't even know her name. She revealed that she was having a rough day and I just listened and I told her I'd pray for her. She then explained how she came to know the Lord four years ago and how her life has drastically changed. A few days later I was eating breakfast and was reading my daily devotional when a stranger next to me asked me to read him the verse of the day. So I did. That started a conversation and he told me how he was saved at 15 years old.

I was blessed by both of these conversations. That prompts me to ask each of you a question: when have you shared your salvation testimony with someone? Not only should we all be ready, but we should intentionally look for opportunities. The Holy Spirit will guide us if we're open to His leadership. I challenge you to pray that you will have

such an opportunity within the next week. If time allows, you can say a word about your life before Christ, the details of your conversion, then what God has done in your life since that time.

September Prayer Guide

Praises and Blessings!

Wonderful Church Picnic at Claytor Lake!
Great finish to VBS at the Baptist Camp!

Pray for the Lost / Unspoken:

Phillip Caulder – Gary Smith's cousin

Prayer for Revival! Ministries of the Church:

Children's Activity Coordinator Kaitlyn Showman
All About Jesus Boy's Ministry

Pending /recovering surgeries / Treatments:

Candy Woolwine, Brain cancer treatment
Kathy Rumble (G. Smith cousin) Heart Transplant list
Michael Piselli (Victoria brother) Tumor behind eye. Surgery 9/16
Charles Damron, WBRBN Moderator – Colon Cancer. Surgery at VA on 9/16

Prayer for the Brokenhearted / Down in Spirit:

Pray for spiritual warfare against evil spirits.
Frances Gardner – Loss of Olen/ Diverticulitis
Family of Larry Sutherland – Larry passed 7.21
Family of Ron Lewis (G. Allen Brother in Law) passed 8/21. Wife Peggy (St. Louis, MO)

Prayer for Shut-ins / Widows / Widowers:

Bob Pohner, Aubry Conner, Carol Burruss, Donna Roberts, Jackie Caldwell

Prayer for Local / State / Nation:

Peace for Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Iran and the innocent citizens affected by the war.
First Responders, Government Leaders

Prayer for the sick and afflicted

Cindy Gentry – Skin Cancer – Continued Treatment
Melissa (Iris Mullins Niece) Breast Cancer
Novel Martin (Woolwine) Esophagus Cancer – Duke. Completed Chemo – Surgery August 7
Cassie Baker (J.Rivers G-Granddaughter) (Mother Karley) 4 year old. Lemierres Syndrome. Home.
James Lawrence (Woolwine G,G-son) 5MO Kidney

Prayer for Missionaries:

Brandon Brooks – Student ministry.
Graham Rogers – Europe, unreached people
Jeff and Becky Hrubik (Lois' brother) Brazil. New Ministry in University of San Diego, California
Hrubik Family – Missionaries to Tokyo, Japan.
M/M Allen Davis (Bakers) Missionaries to NYC

Needing Employment:

Jenna McKendrick (G. Smith)
Brady Baker (Eddie/Judy); T.J. Ramey – Grundy

First Sunday Fellowship

The first Sunday of every month we come together for a breakfast between Sunday school and worship service! All are welcome! This month will be organized by the fellowship team.

Ladies Lunch Bunch

Please join us for a time of fellowship and food at Pizza Inn on Wednesday, September 2nd at 11:30am. All ladies are welcome to attend. If anyone has any questions, please contact Lois Banyai at 540-998-3376.

Baptist Collegiate Ministry Pancake Breakfast

8:00am on Sunday, September 6th we will make a pancake breakfast for the students at BCM Virginia Tech! Meet at Cambria Baptist at 7:45am if you want to carpool. Sign up in the welcome center!

Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast is the second Wednesday of every month at Country Kitchen in Christiansburg. This month they will be meeting Wednesday, September 9th at 8:30 am. All men are welcome!

Choir

Cambria Baptist has a choir and it starts back up again for the fall on Thursday, September 10th at 7:15pm! If this sounds like something you would want to be a part of, please contact the office or seek out Gary Allen, who is our minister of music and worship here.

Women on Mission Meeting

Tuesday, September 15th at 1:00pm in the fellowship hall there will be a WOM meeting for any ladies interested in helping with the mission projects discussed in the August meeting. See page 7 of this newsletter for a note from our WOM Director here at Cambria as well as more information on two of the projects we are currently working on: Christmas cards and paperback books for women in the regional jail!

Quarterly Business Meeting

Mark your calendars for the next business meeting: Wednesday, September 23rd at 7pm. There will be no prayer meeting that Wednesday.

Financial Assistance Available for our College Students!

Did you know? College students connected with Cambria Baptist can apply for financial assistance through the Walton Education Fund in honor of Mildred, Robert (Buddy), and Velma Walton. Call our office at (540) 382-2490 or email us at info@cambriabaptistchurch.org – we would love to bless you in this way!

Fall on the Farm

For anyone interested, Kaitlyn Showman is pulling together a group of kids to go to Richdale Farms for Fall on the Farm on Sunday, September 27th! Based on availability, this day is subject to change, so please sign up or talk with Kaitlyn. Families and anyone else wishing to join the group are welcome to come along!

Harvest Festival

Save the date: Sunday, October 18th, 4:00 - 6:30pm. We will be looking for ideas, volunteers, and of course candy donations as the date comes closer!

Understanding the Mission

By Selah Ulmer

One of my friends has a brother who is a retired agent for the United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). In that role, he went all over the world on missions. He has fascinating stories! His missions always came with instructions and had a clear purpose. He was given a specific job and was entrusted to carry it out.

Understanding what he was being asked to do was crucial for success.

God has a mission too. His plan has always been to save the world! As believers, we are invited to be part of this mission. God not only offers us salvation, but He also recruits us to be agents of redemption, on mission to tell others about His mercy and grace.

Like the CIA agent, we receive instructions to help us carry out our assignment. In John 3:1-21, God provides the direction we need to understand and accomplish the mission He has given us.

SETTING THE TERMS

In John 3, Jesus spoke to Nicodemus, a prominent religious leader. Nicodemus had his idea of what the Messiah was supposed to be like, which Jesus challenged in verses 1-21. We, too, often have ideas of how things should go, including what we think God's mission of redemption should look like. But we are not the ones who set the terms God is. It is His mission and plan; we are mere participants. Before we receive our instructions, we must remember who is in charge.

THE MISSION

To sum it up, our instruction is simply to proclaim a message. God does not ask us to save anyone—we do not have the power to do that! He is the One who does the saving. Our job is to testify to the truth of the gospel, which is presented in verses 16-17:

"For God loved the world in this way: He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him." Read these verses again. They reveal to us the content, context, and target group of our mission.



"Children are not a distraction from more important work. They are the most important work."

-Dr. John Trainer



CONTENT OF THE MISSION

In this passage, Jesus was blunt with Nicodemus. He did not downplay the truth, and we should follow His example. Verses 19-21 make it clear there is a big problem in the world. Humanity has loved darkness and evil. Because of that, rightly deserved judgment is coming. But the larger passage also reveals God's heart. He does not want to condemn the world; He wants to save it! He loves humanity so much He gave up His Son to take on that condemnation so those who believe in Him would not perish but instead live forever with Him. God's mission is a rescue mission. He wants people to have eternal life with Him through Jesus. That message is the content of our mission.

CONTEXT OF THE MISSION

During Jesus' time, the religious leaders were a big deal in the community. They taught and enforced the law and went before God on behalf of the people of Israel. They thought they were "good" with God. They did all the "right" things. But verses 5-14 contain a very different message from what Nicodemus expected. Instead of offering a pat on the back or congratulating him for keeping the law, Jesus told Nicodemus that to be part of God's kingdom, he must be "born again" (v. 7). Consider for a moment how challenging that would have been for a teacher of the law! Jesus told Nicodemus he had to enter the kingdom of heaven on God's terms, not on his own merit. The context of this passage is important because any of us can fall into the trap of believing we can earn our way to God. When on mission, we must guard against this lie and seek to help others do the same.

TARGET GROUP OF THE MISSION

When CIA agents go on a rescue mission, they don't choose the person they are rescuing. Instead, they follow their instructions and go rescue whoever is in danger, regardless of what they know or how they feel about the person.

In verse 16, God is clear who the target group of this rescue mission is the whole world! In verse 18, Jesus said anyone who believes is not condemned. All languages, nations, and people groups are loved by God, and He wants them to be saved through Christ.

It is easy for us to agree with that statement. Of course God loves them all! But what happens when we make it more personal, when we look into the details of that list?

Do we believe God loves someone in the opposite political party than us, our challenging coworker, our angry customer, or our bitter family member? God's love and mission extends to them too, and those just might be the people He wants us to reach.

CONCLUSION

Many agents are a part of the CIA, and all of them are responsible for different aspects of various missions. They might be tasked to deliver a package, collect information, or simply keep an eye on something. They most likely won't understand the full picture of what they are doing. Instead, they focus on completing their part.

It is similar for us. We are a small piece of a big mission. We might not always see the results, but God sees the big picture, and He will bring His mission to completion. What matters is that we trust God, walk in the power of the Spirit, and stay faithful to the piece of the mission He has called us to do.

For more from Missions Mosaic Magazine, check out the latest editions by borrowing a copy from the welcome center, or on their blog at www.wmu.com/blogs



There's excitement in our ladies ministry, Women on Mission, as we begin a new year of service.

We can all find our place in an effort to share the love of Jesus. Whether it's sewing or quilting for a cause, ministering to inmates in regional jails, participating in Operation Christmas Child (coming up in November!), volunteering for or donating to the Agape Center or Bland Ministry Center, Women's Resource Center and Pregnancy Resource Center of the NRV (PRC), caring for our local school children and college students, or shut-ins, or meeting others' needs after a disaster hits, and many, *many* more.

As a missions-minded church, learning about, praying for and supporting our missionaries play a huge role in the purpose of Women on Mission.

May we be women who feed the hungry, clothe the needy, and welcome the lost. We are called to serve, sent to share.

In Christ,

Connie Moore

Director of Women on Mission at Cambria Baptist



↖ *WOM meeting in August!*

Next Meeting:
Tuesday, September 15
1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall



We are still accepting new ideas for service opportunities, so bring your creativity and energy!

Reminder for WMU/Church Christmas Card Project

Last year the Network Churches gave more than 1500 cards and stamps to the Regional Jail Inmate Christmas Card Project. This project has been an ongoing ministry to the Inmates for a number of years, sponsored by the Women's Missionary Union and Women's Ministries of the Network and Highland Association.

Now would be a good time to start collecting cards and stamps to be delivered in early December for distribution to the inmates. Toni Trueheart, our contact at the jail, tries to give each inmate 3 pre-stamped cards to send home to relatives before the Christmas holiday. There is close to 800 inmates at the jail, thus needing 2400 cards.

In this same ministry effort, we are also accepting paperback books! The inmates enjoy having wholesome reading materials. Please bring cards and books to the designated baskets in the welcome center.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

Tips for Photographing Church Events

Victoria Hinckley, Administrative Assistant

For the past few months I have slowly (but surely!) been increasing our engagement on social media, specifically through Facebook and Instagram. This is a ministry in itself, as it gives us the opportunity to show local families that there is a family that meets here and they are welcome to join it. And although I would like to consider myself a part of the Cambria family, I'm not able to attend most of the wonderful events that I help publish on the Web, so, as the one who posts pictures, I wanted to give some ideas for how to take meaningful photos at church events, as well as a few things to be mindful of.

What am I looking for? People, family, life! I can take pictures of this beautiful building, but I *know* that there is so much life that happens in these walls that cannot be shown in pictures of empty classrooms and hallways. If you think of it, take a picture as a Sunday School class! Photograph your greeter! Take a selfie with Pastor Keith! Candid or posed, I'll take them all; the more the merrier.

When it comes to community events, "the more the merrier" is even more true. If you don't know, at children's events we typically have a waiver that gives guardians the option to say yes (or no!) to their children's likeness being posted online. There are always a few photos that we can't post for that reason, so the more photos I have to choose from, the better. That said, here are 5 tips for photographing church events:

1. If possible, designate 1 or 2 volunteers to take pictures and send them to my email (vhinckley.cbc@gmail.com)
2. Capturing a mix of posed and candid is a great way to get variety
3. Avoid name tags, if applicable, to protect the online privacy of the kids we serve
4. If you aren't sure whose likeness is able to be posted online, play it safe and take a photo from behind the individual or group, this will capture the moment without compromising their privacy and safety
5. Have fun! Don't let these precautions keep you from capturing meaningful moments. If you took a photo send it to me and I will figure out which are safe to post online!

Thank you to everyone who sends me photos from events regularly, and for all of the support you all show me and my family!

Sincerely, Victoria Hinckley

