

ADA combines with Vision America and pastors as we mobilize together to encourage hearts to stand therefore ...

By Bill Johnson



Vision America

Late last year we received a letter from a generous supporter from the greater Detroit area accompanied by \$5,000 requesting that we reach out to pastors with our message of urgency for the Gospel and Christian living.

As the months have passed, we have waited upon the Lord wondering what God would have us do.

In recent weeks, God has provided the vision. We have benefited from what some godly friends in Florida have already done - using their efforts as a template.

In recent weeks, I traveled across the state to test what I sensed was God's leading. I had sent out a letter to a small core of friends and supporters of this ministry asking them to meet with me so that I could share the project that I believed God was unfolding.

I met with dear friends at the Faith Lutheran Church in Troy (Sept. 13), Covenant Presbyterian Church in Fenton (Sept. 15), Arnie's Restaurant in Grand Rapids (Sept. 16) and at our headquarters in Fremont (September 17). I also traveled to Lansing to the large Mount Hope Church. However, with no one showing up I met with a staff person who was very gracious in receiving me and my information, and, passing it along to one of the pastors.

Observations. I came away hugely encouraged as it was clear that what God was laying on my heart resounded in the hearts of every person in attendance. In addition, sacrificial gifts were also given demonstrating heart and spiritual evidence that God was at work.

People recognize that it is late in America. There is heaviness of heart regarding the spiritual falling away that we have been witnessing in our great country. There is a realization that if the salt loses its savor

wherewith shall it be salted. (Matthew 5:13)

Enclosed in this newsletter is a copy of the letter that is being sent to pastors.

We state in our important letter: *This upcoming project (detailed below) is not affiliated with any denomination; rather it is calling out to all pastors who name the name of Christ and preach His Word. The project has the full support of Donald E. Wildmon (founder of American Family Association), Gary Bauer; President of American Values, Mat Staver (President of Liberty Counsel), Tim Wildmon (President of American Family Association), Art Ally (President of the Timothy Plan), and Dr. Ron Workman (Founder of Interim Ministries Incorporated).*

God's calling to pastors is a high and holy calling. And in these days of increasing godlessness and falling away from His Word - even by many within the church - the need for pastors to preach boldly and stand for His Truth is great.

We are attempting to recruit pastors known for preaching the Word boldly and graciously in their communities. In turn, we are urging these pastors to identify like-minded pastors throughout Michigan for this important mobilization project. As one of these key pastors, you are being asked to attend a ninety-minute meeting at one of the various locations listed

You will see from the letter the various meeting locations.

Pastor Rick Scarborough of Vision America [<http://www.visionamerica.us/about-us/about-dr-scarborough/>] will be flying in from Texas to join with me in presenting the vision of this pastor mobilization project. We will be meeting at key cities and sites for the first series of Pastor Meetings to recruit pastors who will "stand up; speak up; and refuse to give up!" in our effort to restore our nation to its original ideals.

The Church is greatly needed today to be salt and light within the culture and within the political process. Congregations need to hear why they should vote - not as Republicans or Democrats - but rather as followers of Christ. Christians need their pastors not to endorse any political party or candidate, but to prayerfully proclaim what God's Word says regarding the issues of our day. At the meeting, you will be shown that by following the steps we will outline, you will not jeopardize your non-profit status.

These meetings scheduled during the week of October 10-14 will not only be instructional but inspirational and encouraging. We are His workmanship and there is vital work that we can accomplish in His mighty Name.

The following letter reaches out to Michigan pastors. As we have benefited from a similar movement in Florida, may others be inspired to duplicate these efforts in other states. [Call us at 888-733-2326 for information.]

A special note to those in Michigan: We urge you to take the enclosed letter to your pastor and please prayerfully urge your pastor to attend the gathering nearest you!



From the desk of Bill Johnson

Evidences of God working in so many of you, our friends. PTL

In the early years of my becoming a Christian, I naively thought that most Christians would be like Dr. James Dobson or Donald E. Wildmon. I wanted to believe that you could count on a Christian as being someone that was on fire for the Lord and for His righteousness.

As the years passed and I began my full-time ministry as the state director of the American Family Association of Michigan, I was quite jarred by the ever evident reality that when I spoke before various church gatherings that it was always only a few that responded enthusiastically for our call to “pursue holiness without which no man shall see the Lord.” Only a few would come up to our information/resource table afterwards.

I also began to realize quite some time ago that just because persons don’t respond enthusiastically to our ministry and to the need for “salt and light” engagement doesn’t necessarily mean they are not a Christian or that they are “asleep at the switch.” There are ministries that just don’t touch my hot button. I wouldn’t want want Christians to think that I was “out of the will” of God because I didn’t sign up for their newsletter or get involved in their good ministry.

However, that being said, I must say what a joy and an honor it is to be around like-minded Christians with similar callings.

Years ago I remember going to a conference in Grand Rapids with the featured speaker, former Fulton County (Atlanta), Georgia Solicitor General Hinson McAuliffe, addressing a good-sized gathering of activists. His comments have stuck with me long afterwards.

During McAuliffe’s tenure in Fulton County, he personally led the charge in closing down a multitude of porn shops in that heavily populated area.

McAuliffe stated that some of the finest, most committed Christians he had ever met were those who hungered for righteousness and opposed pornography.

McAuliffe may have been biased as I am, but I echo those sentiments. This was reinforced again today and most every day as it was recently when I met with a core of people across Michigan.

How thankful I am to be a Christian! How thankful I am to have so many people standing with me, beside me, behind me, in front of me!

Today I received a call from a friend in the greater Detroit area. Her voice, as always, though I hadn’t spoken with her in perhaps ten years, still had that ring of hope, resolve, concern, and endurance in the Lord, reflecting the power of God in her life and bringing that sense of joy and engagement in living out her faith in Jesus Christ.

That’s what I saw at each stop along the way - person after person. I was encouraged and strengthened as I have been so many times.

Now we are gearing up for the week of special meetings with pastors! Please pray for these times as Pastor Rick Scarborough joins us in ministry here.

If I could make several requests of you, it would be as follows.

- (1) Please pray for daily events occurring on October 10-14.
- (2) Take the enclosed letter to pastors and share it personally and prayerfully, asking him to please join us at the location nearest you.
- (3) As God leads, your financial support of this project will help us with plane fare(s) for Rick Scarborough, restaurant expenses for pastors and several overnight stays for Pastor Scarborough and myself.

We have scheduled with the cooperation of the following churches preaching engagements for Pastor Rick Scarborough on Sunday, October 9.

All are welcome and encouraged to worship with us:

In Traverse City, Michigan
Sunday morning worship service:
October 9 - 10:30 A.M.

East Bay Calvary
2225 Hammond Rd. E.
Traverse City, Michigan 49686
<http://www.eastbaycalvary.org/>

In Grant, Michigan
Sunday evening worship service:
October 9 - 6:00 P.M.

Grant Reformed Church
271 East State Road
Grant, MI 49327
<http://grantreformed.org/>

Brief Biography of Dr. Rick Scarborough, D Min., Founder and President of Vision America

From 1990 to June 2002, Dr. Scarborough was the Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church of Pearland located on the southeast side of the Houston Metroplex. During his twelve year ministry there, the church baptized over 2,000 people.

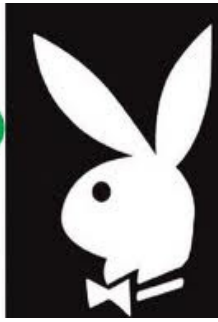
In 1996 he published the widely acclaimed 252-page book appropriately entitled, *Enough is Enough; a Call to Christian Involvement*. Other published works include, *In Defense of Mixing Church and State* and *It All Depends on What Is...Is*. In 2007 he published *Liberalism Kills Kids*.

In 1998, he founded Vision America, an organization whose mission is to “inform and mobilize Pastors and their congregations to become salt and light, becoming proactive in restoring Judeo-Christian values in America.” The advisory board of Vision America includes notable Christian leaders such as Don Wildmon and Dr. Tim LaHaye.

Dr. Scarborough has appeared on Larry King Live, Fox News, CBS Evening News, Focus on the Family, and numerous other television and radio programs.

Thick as Thieves – NBC and Playboy

by: Lisa Van Houten



NBC recently premiered the show *The Playboy Club*, based on Hugh Hefner's 1960s Chicago Playboy Club. The TV show drew much outrage months before it was broadcast both from the right and the left – pro-family groups, anti-pornography organizations, and feminist Gloria Steinem.

While NBC aired steamy promotions in the weeks before the premiere, they tried to claim with a straight face that the show *The Playboy Club* was not a promotion of pornography or a promotion of the actual Playboy magazine and brand.

Yet not only is the Playboy name and logo peppered throughout the show, Hugh Hefner himself was used as a narrator for the initial episode. Hefner has eaten up the free publicity NBC is offering from this show, hoping to reinvigorate his aging brand overshadowed by the proliferation of internet porn. In return, Hefner has given NBC a quid pro quo, using one of the actresses from NBC's *The Playboy Club* as the "cover girl" of the October issue of his pornographic Playboy magazine – released to coincide with the premiere episode of NBC's raunchy new show. NBC and Playboy are as thick as thieves in their promotion of pornography.

The first episode began with this narration from Hefner: "...I built a place in the toddling town – a place where everything was perfect, where life was magic, where the rules were broken, and fantasies became realities for everyone who walked through the door...."

While Hefner describes The Playboy Club as a place with no rules, the show's creator, Chad Hodge, has stated that viewers will enjoy *The Playboy Club* as a guilty pleasure

and claimed, "Today, people wish we were living in unhealthier times." "Watching this pilot, people are always like, 'I wish I could smoke and drink and have sex in the bathroom'. ..."

His description – smoking, drinking, and having sex in the bathroom – pretty much sums up the first episode. Along with lots of flesh, eroticism, and degrading references to women. I guess the fact that the show is set in the early 1960s, the producers must feel America will turn a blind eye in 2011 to women being overtly demeaned.

The show sends the message to male viewers that women are nothing more than sex objects for their pleasure – which is how the "bunnies" are portrayed – it tells female viewers to use their bodies to gain acceptance. In the first episode the Playboy "house mother" instructs the girls on showing more cleavage, more leg – more of everything – to appeal to men. Teaching the ploys of seduction.

The first episode ended with this narration from Hefner about the 1960s Playboy Club: "the world was changing and we were changing it – one bunny at a time."

Tragically, there is much truth in that. The proliferation of pornography of which Hefner was a major factor has changed the world for the worse.

The Playboy Club is set in the early 1960s – when pornography was still taboo and men needed a key to enter the world of Playboy. Now 50 years later pornography is available to anyone and everyone at a click of a button and the Playboy brand is even displayed on products at local supermarkets – such as at the regional shopping giant in our area, Meijer's, with their sale of Playboy brand men's toiletries.

And now NBC is jumping on the band wagon with a show that doesn't just refer to pornography, it doesn't just promote pornography – it is pornography!

And the corporations advertising on *The Playboy Club* are complicit with their sponsorship of the show. Companies

that depend on families for support are undermining the values of those same families. Advertisers such as Jell-O, Campbell's Soup, Hellman's mayonnaise, Chrysler, Sprint, Subway and others empowered *The Playboy Club* on NBC.

Please join with us and let these advertisers know that a company that aligns with the promotion of pornography will not be a company your family will support.

Unilever United States, Inc. - Hellman's

Paul Polman - CEO
800 Sylvan Ave
Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632
Phone: 212-888-1260
MediaRelations.usa@unilever.com

Doctors Associates Inc. - Subway

Frederick A. DeLuca - President
325 Bic Drive
Milford, CT 06460
Phone: 203-877-4281
Toll-free: 800-888-4848
email: DeLuca_F@subway.com

Sprint Corporation

Daniel R. (Dan) Hesse - CEO, President,
and Director
6200 Sprint Pkwy
Overland Park, KS 66251
Phone: 913-624-6000
Toll-free: 800-639-6111
email: media.relations@sprint.com

Chrysler Group, LLC

Sergio Marchionne - CEO
PO Box 21-8004
Auburn Hills, MI 48321-8004
Phone: 248-512-6130
Toll-free: 800-992-1997
email: Sergio.Marchionne@chrysler.com

Capital One Financial Corporation

Richard D. Fairbank - Chairman,
President, and CEO
1680 Capital One Drive
McLean, VA 22102
Phone: 703-720-1000
Toll-free: 800-801-1164
webinfo@capitalone.com
email: Richard.Fairbank@capitalone.com

CRASS OVER CLASS - ACTION NEEDED



In recent days we've received several notes and emails regarding a mall window display of a group of topless women – not at Victoria's Secret – but at the plus size women's clothing store, Lane Bryant.

One supporter first alerted us to this blatant display in the Lansing, MI shopping mall. Another person wrote: *A week or so ago I was in the former Eastbrook Mall [now Centerpointe Mall, Grand Rapids MI] and was shocked with the window display of Lane Bryant's Store of topless women looking overly friendly with each other. Have you observed that?*

And this email: *I received the newest Lane Bryant catalog in my mail... this was the cover. [Same as mall display photo] I was embarrassed to pull this out of my mailbox. Some people are calling this art - I call it porn. I called and wrote to Lane Bryant.. maybe others would want to also.*

After receiving the first message we stopped in at the mall and saw what the outrage was about - and it was certainly warranted!

The ad shows five topless women, wearing nothing but the jeans, the product supposedly being advertised. The women are standing in a row, erotically pressed up against each other, touching each other.

Lewd and disgusting are two words that came to mind when I saw this large window display. What is entering the minds of children when they pass by with their parents?

What do nudity and allusions of lesbianism have to do with selling jeans? Nothing. Lane Bryant's advertising ploy, following in the footsteps of Victoria's Secret, throws public decency out the window in their attempt to portray their brand name as "unconventional." These erotic displays

show complete disregard, even contempt, for mall customers. Shoppers are exposed to explicit images - without choice. Malls should be a welcome place for families without having nudity and sexual imagery foisted in our faces and in front of our children.

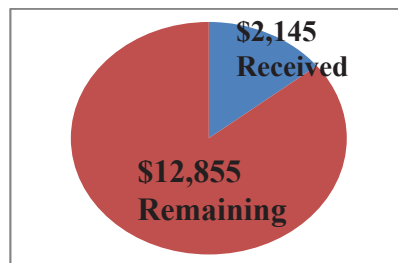
Moms and dads, grandmothers and grandfathers – all of us - need to oppose indecency/pornography wherever it is found – certainly that includes the local mall. If we stick our heads in the sand instead of taking a stand, such displays will only continue to gain acceptance and spread from Victoria's Secret to Lane Bryant to store after store – turning a family shopping place into a haven for eroticism and pornography

Contact Lane Bryant at:

Lane Bryant – Charming Shoppes, Inc.
Anthony Romano – President
450 Winks Ln.
Bensalem PA 19020
Phone: 215-245-9100
email: Gayle.Coolick@charming.com
Anthony.Romano@charming.com

Also, stop in a Lane Bryant store and express your concern.

Please take advantage of a new match challenge!



By the grace of God and by the generosity of one of God's faithful servants, we have been blessed and encouraged by a year-end match challenge. It is a challenge that has been offered before and one which we are so grateful for, although we often wonder "How are we ever going to make it this year?" And yet, the Lord has faithfully provided!

It's not an easy challenge as it appeals to individuals who have not given to this

ministry for quite awhile to stand with us again. It also challenges those who have given recently or fairly recently to give over and above what they gave last year!

Our anonymous donor has faithfully challenged friends and supporters of this ministry to get behind us so that we would be strengthened!

Giving in general and the number of gifts is significantly in decline throughout this entire year. It is concerning; yet we know that many are struggling to pay their own bills, tithe to their local church, and stay afloat financially themselves. Many elderly ones are on fixed incomes. Others have lost their jobs or are unemployed. We truly understand that many are facing serious hardships!

That being said, dear friend, if you are in a position of being able to stand with us financially would you please prayerfully consider supporting the work of ADA now and/or in the months ahead to help us meet this important match challenge? Thank you for your prayerful consideration and for doing whatever you can do!

Here are the details of the challenge:

We will again offer a matching grant of up to \$15,000 under the following conditions;

1. All new money received between 9/1/11 and 12/31/11
2. New money is any money received from someone who has not given since 1/1/10 or who gives more in 2011 vs 2010 (but only for the amount given after 9/1/11). (Eg. If someone gave 200 in 2010 and 300 in 4/11 and 400 in 9/11, we will match 400)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

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Tearing Down Imaginary Walls

By Chris Johnson



The first line of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States has caused a considerable amount of controversy. In fact, there was even concern regarding the meaning of the amendment ten years after it was added to the Constitution.

In answer to a letter from the Danbury Baptist Church which expressed concern that religious freedom was treated not as a human right but as a favor from the state, Thomas Jefferson wrote in 1802 to assuage the congregation's anxiety with the following words, which have since been warped to mean the opposite of the original intent: *Believing with you that religion is a matter which lies solely between Man & his God, that he owes account to none other for his faith or his worship, that the legitimate powers of government reach actions only, and not opinions, I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature should "make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof," thus building a wall of separation between Church and State.*

It seems as if Jefferson wrote the line, *the legitimate powers of government reach actions only, and not opinions*, in answer to a line in the Baptists' letter which said ... *no man ought to suffer in name, person, or effects on account of his religious opinions--that the legitimate power of civil government extends no further than to punish the man who works ill to his neighbors.*

In other words, what Jefferson was saying was that when the Constitution said, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof," it meant that the religious beliefs of those in power must not affect the right of their constituents to

abide by their own beliefs. The only duty of government in terms of religion is to ensure that no man harms another man by way of practicing his religion and that no man prohibits another man from practicing his religion.

What the First Amendment was written to prevent is as simple as the words it consists of.

Many of the original settlers who came to the United States did so to escape the persecution of the Anglican Church, the official church of England. At that time, the English government did not allow belief in any other religion or denomination. To prevent this, the framers of the Constitution made the matter of religious freedom the first point of the First Amendment to the Constitution: *"Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..."*

That is a far cry from the modern interpretation of the First Amendment. Far from enforcing a "wall of separation between Church and State" as Jefferson intended (which was that the state would leave the church alone), the government has used the "wall of separation" argument to establish atheism as the state religion of the United States.

After all, you can't have a value neutral government. Either all belief systems will be treated equally, or one belief system will be preferred above the rest.

And the preferred belief system pushed by the government at this point is atheism or, more accurately, Secular Humanism.

Why do I say that Secular Humanism is the established religion for America in 2011? Here's how Merriam-Webster defines humanism: *"a doctrine, attitude, or way of life centered on human interests or values; especially: a philosophy that usually rejects supernaturalism and stresses an individual's dignity and worth and capacity for self-realization through reason."*

Secular Humanism simply takes away the "usually" qualifier for "rejects

supernaturalism" in the above definition.

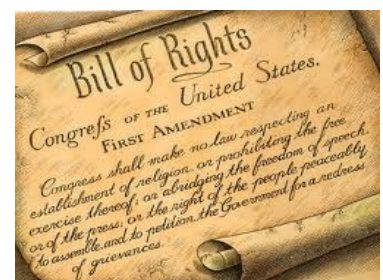
An example would be the public school's refusal to teach creationism as well as evolution. Most scientists will say that is because religion and science don't mix, but in reality, many scientists not only don't look for evidence of God, they reject any evidence that might point towards Him. And refusing to accept evidence is not science, it's ideology.

Secular Humanism is not an alternative to religion. It is simply an alternative religion.

This is why the twisted "separation of church and state" argument cannot work. In fact, it completely violates the actual meaning of the first amendment. This is what it comes down to: If the government "builds a wall" to protect itself from all theistic beliefs, it inherently sponsors Humanism. However, if the government "builds a wall" around the church to protect religious belief from government meddling, it can treat all religions equally.

The fact is, the issue comes down to this question. Does the "right" of someone to not be offended by a cross in a cemetery or a prayer in a school trump the right of someone to practice his religion.

The answer has to be no. It is not the job of the state to keep us from offending each other anymore than it is the state's job to tell us what to believe, and were the words of the First Amendment to be examined in their own merit, rather than the unfortunately worded letter of Thomas Jefferson, the argument against everything from prayer in the classroom to the Ten Commandments at the courthouse would be left without a leg to stand on.



Dignity or Degradation?

By Lisa Van Houten



If you have family members who lived through the Great Depression in the 1930s, you've probably heard accounts, as I have, of great hardship, yet great ingenuity to provide for one's family. Mothers scrimped and saved – everything! Clothes were patched over and over again. Families who'd lost jobs moved in with relatives. Those who had something to spare shared with those who didn't. Yet through great deprivation, pride and self-respect were traits that characterized that generation – and still do today.

Those who came through those troubled times did so with dignity and honor as they found ways to make ends meet. Their values weren't altered by hardship. Right was still right and wrong was wrong.

Today we also face very tough economic times—though not nearly with such hardship. Today there is a much greater safety net for those struggling. Between many forms of government programs, unemployment benefits that extend for nearly two years, home-heating assistance, etc. – as well as countless charitable organizations, food pantries, church outreach programs, thrift shops, ministries and missions – there are many sources of help for those struggling.

I'm sure the values of that generation from the Great Depression are also shared by many impacted by today's economy. However, that's not what MSNBC chose to highlight in a recent article posted on their website, entitled: *“Lawyer turns topless dancer to pay bills.”*

The article paints a picture of a woman who graduated from law school ten years ago, but lost her job and can't find another in the legal profession and is now saddled with debt and student loans and – according to the article – has no other option but to dance naked to pay the bills.

She states in the article: *“As a little girl, I never thought to myself, ‘I just want to grow up and be a stripper,’ or, ‘All I ever wanted to do in life is climb in the lap of sweaty stranger and take my top off.’”*

“But, with our economy the way it is, especially in smaller cities ... you strip or you starve,” she said.

Really?? There are no other options for young women in financial crisis, but to degrade and prostitute themselves to keep from starving? This is the message MSNBC is articulating.

The woman, referred to as “Carla,” goes on to say: *“... it's degrading and I hate it, but it is necessary right now and I'm glad I have the option of doing it,” Carla said. “My parents and a few friends know and they were horrified at first. But now they are proud of me for sucking it up and doing what I have to do.”*

What parent would be proud that their daughter is working as a stripper?

MSNBC also points out how supposedly lucrative stripping can be. *On an average day, she earns \$20 an hour; but on a good weekend night, she might pull in \$50 an hour –enough to get her finances back on track.*

Carla, for the most part, attempts to paint a rosy picture of her experience as a stripper, claiming:

... “While there are some real creeps that come in, there are also some very sweet guys who are regular customers and who I genuinely enjoy knowing. ...

“... I have learned that I still have a lot to learn about life but now I have some incredible female mentors who continually inspire me with their courage and work ethic.”

However, the article does give a hint about the actual horrors women in the sex industry face, stating: *... Carla said she has had her share of ugly moments. Not all men follow the rules; some have tried to overpower*

her and “grab her, bite her, kiss her, or get their hands under the bottoms (I) wear.” ...

“I've had men overcome me,” she said. “Luckily help has arrived and nothing has happened. But I have been scared.”

This is the true picture of strip clubs. In the 1990s our ministry worked to strengthen Michigan's Obscenity Laws and bring more stringent regulation and limitations of sexually oriented business. Numerous legislative hearings were held in which the pornography industry brought testimony opposing the legislation and our side brought testimony in favor of the proposed regulations.

Through this process we communicated with a ministry friend from Citizens for Community Values in Memphis who led a ministry – the first of its kind nationwide – offering assistance, mentoring, and a way out for young women in the sex industry.

Several of the young women, former strippers, who had been helped by this ministry volunteered to testify at our state legislative hearings. They wanted their stories told of the horrors that take place in sex shops – the prevalent drug use; the sexual abuse of women by patrons; the coercion by management to participate in lewd acts; the employment of underage girls. This is the reality of strip clubs.

MSNBC may irresponsibly portray the sex industry as a positive vocation choice for out-of-work lawyers and financially troubled young women, but that is not reality.

If you would like to know more about the great work of the “A Way Out Program” go to: www.ccvmemphis.org.

For assistance in limiting sexually oriented businesses in your community, attorney Scott Berghold specializes in this area of law and is known nationwide for his expertise. He assists city leaders in drafting sound ordinances and was a great help in our efforts to limit sexually oriented businesses in Michigan. His website is: www.adultbusinesslaw.com