



***Christian Citizenship 101:
Making Biblically-grounded citizenship a
regular ministry of your church***

“First, it is their judgment, and that from Scripture taught them, that those who are chosen to a place in government, must be men truly fearing God, wise and learned in the truths of Christ....”

(Rev. Jonathan Edwards, 1654)

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“Pastors Standing and Speaking Together for Righteousness and Justice”

Citizenship was once considered a nearly sacred heritage in the United States of America. Samuel Adams, a dedicated Christian often referred to as “The Father of the American Revolution”, admonished the people to be faithful in voting. *“Let each citizen remember at the moment he is offering his vote that he is not making a present or a compliment to please an individual--or at least that he ought not so to do; but that he is executing one of the most solemn trusts in human society for which he is accountable to God and his country.”*

The convicting truth is that many Christians and local churches today do not measurably influence the moral direction of our culture, promote responsible and consistent voting, or defend our God-given freedoms. We believe that the responsibility for these things does rest with the church. For example, since God has ordained the governing authorities, and since “We the People” ARE the government in this country, God’s people carry the responsibility of governing more than all other citizens.

We believe in the critical role of Pastors and the local church in serving as the primary source of righteousness and justice to the community and to civil institutions. We urge pastors to initiate the launch of a Citizenship Ministry that contains the following elements to maximize the Biblical influence in your community’s governing – God’s way!

St. Patrick – Converted King Loeghaire of Ireland and served as his counselor, or “annchara”, and wrote “Book of the Law of Moses” (432 A.D.) that was used as civil law by chieftains and kings throughout Ireland and emphasized the rule of law and self-government.¹

Martin Luther – By nailing his 95 Theses on a church door in Wittenberg, Germany in 1517, he was used by God to facilitate the Reformation grounded in the “Sola Scriptura” or “Scripture alone” position that placed all earthly authorities – including the church – under and accountable to God and His Word.

John Calvin – Wrote “Ecclesiastical Ordinances”, which included policies for jails, education, and the physical health and safety of citizens such as sanitation requirements. He stated that, “...in order to become free outwardly, man must first succeed in being free inwardly.”²

John Robinson – Pastor to the Pilgrims who landed at Cape Cod in 1620, and described by historian Marshall Foster as a clergyman who, “More than any other man...prepared a people to take dominion over the wilderness to the glory of God. Through his godly wisdom, he taught the Pilgrims individual Christian unity.”³

Jonathan Mayhew – Minister of West Church in Boston preached in 1747 that, “The king is as much bound by his oath not to infringe the legal rights of the people, as the people are bound to yield in subjection to him. From whence it follows that as soon as the prince sets himself above the law, he loses the king in the tyrant. He does, to all intents and purposes, un-king himself.”⁴

¹ “Pastors and American Independence” - McDowell

² Ibid

³ The American Covenant and the Untold Story – Marshall Foster and Mary-Elaine Swanson

⁴ “One Nation Under God” – David Gibbs, Christian Law Association

Forming a Christian Citizenship Ministry

A. Senior Pastor

Since you have been called to serve as the shepherd of your congregational "flock" and in most cases are the proper authority to approve ministry activities, it is important that a prospective Citizenship Ministry (CMD) Director be **appointed** and **approved** by you personally. We suggest the following criteria in choosing a leader for this ministry:

1. A leader who is highly respected in the congregation (could be a staff member, deacon, elder or other lay leader) and whom you personally respect and trust to be accountable to you.
2. He or she should be **Called** (*has a conviction and passion that we must be godly citizens*), **Capable** (*has leadership skills, people skills and experience in the “battle”*) and **Committed** (*will make this a priority ministry to assure its effectiveness*).
3. He or she will communicate with you regularly as you direct to serve as your “eyes and ears” for what is happening in the community, culture and government that is relevant to the mission of the ministry.
4. He or she will agree to participate in training and educational workshops sponsored by the area Pastor Council for Citizenship Ministry leaders.

PLEASE NOTE: *Pastor, this ministry will only be as effective as its visible, regular support by you from the pulpit. If it operates as an “unwanted stepchild” ministry it will flounder and become a frustration to you and to those serving in it.*

B. Recruit a Team – (Facilitated by Ministry Director)

Regardless of the size of your church, enlisting help from a team of believers who share interest in this ministry will accomplish many things faster and more efficiently, **however one committed person can accomplish much of this**. Delegating elements of the plan to others (with follow up of course!) spreads the load of the various tasks to minimize the problem of overload and burnout by a dedicated volunteer! We recommend you proceed as follows:

1. Make a list of men and women who you believe would be interested in being involved with this ministry. Request that an announcement be made from the pulpit and in the weekly bulletin to enlist volunteers.
2. Form a nucleus of people who are also called, capable and committed to serve as your ministry team leadership.
3. Establish a date for a formational meeting at the church (preferable) or a home to launch the ministry.
4. See **Appendix A** for sample agenda for the formational meeting.

C. Establish Mission and Goals

1. A sample mission statement could be as follows:

“The (Church) Citizenship Ministry is an extension of the mission of this church to impact our city, state and nation for Jesus Christ, bringing Biblical hope and redemption to individuals, families, and every institution of influence including education, media, arts, community benevolence and all levels of government.”

2. Establish goals for AMERICA Plan (Appendix B) activities including:

- a. Voter registration (i.e. percentage of church registered by target date)
- b. Voter turnout (i.e. percentage that vote in each election)
- c. Issues and voter awareness (i.e. methods to keep church informed)
- d. Education and training (See **Appendix C**, Citizenship Education Outline)
- e. Community Service Projects (i.e. adoption, foster care, etc.)

D. Assign Tasks

It is best to have one person specifically responsible for each category of activity that the Citizenship ministry decides to engage in. For example, the ideal would be to have a separate coordinator for each task listed in section C (2) as a subcommittee, depending on available manpower. Plans and timelines should be developed and approved for each activity.

E. Track Activities and Results

It is very important to take the time during each project to record the date, location, people involved and results. For example, during the voter registration drive you would want to record in a database the following information for each newly registered voter:

1. Type of project (i.e. match & mail, registration table, individual contact)
2. Date registered
3. Issues survey response
4. Number of eligible voters in household

For voter turnout activities you should track the following information:

1. Commitment to vote
2. Request for voter information
3. Transportation needs
4. Voting fulfillment

The key is keeping complete and thorough records that will enable you to develop a comprehensive database of the various citizenship activities by individual for your congregation.

F. Execute an ongoing education program

Over the years we have discovered something profound but simple. *If people do not have a compelling "why", then it is fruitless to attempt to teach them "how"!* The following outline

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describes a suggested series of topics that will provide a solid Biblical and historical foundation upon which to build our citizenship responsibilities. These topics can be covered in whatever setting is practical for your situation, ranging from Sunday School classes to home fellowship studies. Sources of materials and curriculums are available through HACP.

Biblical worldview –

- How we apply Biblical principles to culture, community and government
- Practical applications on current issues, citizenship, culture and faith

Religious Heritage –

- The role of Christianity in the formation of our nation
- The role of Biblical principles in the development of our government
- The governing philosophy of our founding fathers.
- The role that pastors and churches have played in shaping our culture and government

Constitutional government –

- Learn the U.S. Constitution
- The Bible as foundation of the U.S. Constitution
- The original philosophy of limited government – why and how
- The role that “morality and religion” have in preserving Constitutional government
- What government should and should not do.

Grassroots community involvement –

- How to impact local, state and federal policies
- Opportunities for community influence and service
- How to effectively communicate a message to the public
- How to impact the community in relation to moral issues
- Voter registration drives and tracking
- Get-Out-The-Vote activities



“FaithVotes” Project

Maximizing Voter Turnout In Your Church

OVERVIEW: Every American Christian who is eligible to vote does so either:

- a) **By default** (failing to vote and allowing elected officials to be chosen by those who do not share the same values),
- b) **Carelessly** by voting out of ignorance or selfishness choosing ungodly or unrighteous leaders, or
- c) **Becoming informed** about candidates’ positions on key issues, praying and **casting the vote** in a way consistent with Biblical principles.

Most pastors would agree that options A and B are *poor stewardship* and have led to ungodly, unjust and corrupt leaders being chosen, resulting in unrighteous government. *It is still an accepted statistic that no more than one-third of churchgoing citizens vote in each election, a fact of which we should be ashamed.*

We believe that it is a legitimate ministry of the local church to assure that our congregants are educated and active citizens, *beginning with casting informed votes in EVERY election.* The following plan can effectively be implemented in every church and we are asking that Senior Pastors commit to leading this effort and overseeing its completion prior to the next General Election. ***The righteous gain authority in this nation by God working through the choices of the people.***

The ***first step*** we recommend is for the Pastor to appoint a permanent Christian Citizenship Ministry coordinator for this ministry as described earlier in Christian Citizenship 101.

FaithVotes VOTE 100 Plan – Sample

The basic objective of the Vote 100 plan is for every church to achieve as close to 100 percent voter registration and voter turnout as possible in every election. Given that most elections are won in the fractional margins, if even ten percent of pastors and congregations with a Biblical worldview performed these steps, victories would resound in cities all across America.

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1. **Four weeks prior to election** - include announcements from the pulpit, on projection screens, in church bulletins and using posters to begin awareness of upcoming election. Place special emphasis on the convenience of early voting (materials available).
2. **Three weeks prior to election** - set up a voter awareness table to be staffed by the Community Impact Ministry team to provide early voting information, voting locations and voter guides (information will be available through the HAPC office).
3. **Two weeks prior to election** - Preach an “Election Sermon” as done by preceding generations of pastors, giving Scriptural and Historical basis for choosing godly leaders (Sample sermon notes and audio tapes available).
4. **Day prior to election** - Send a broadcast e-mail to church list with a special Get-Out-The-Vote message by the Senior Pastor and links to non-partisan voter education information (Sample text available).
5. **Election Day** - Initiate automated phone calls with a Get-Out-The-Vote script recorded by the Senior Pastor, calling through the entire church list prior to Election Day (Sample script and automated calling support available).

A Church Kit containing a CD and manuals with the above material and more is available. For more information please contact us by phone at 832-688-9166 or by e-mail at info@uspastorcouncil.org

Conducting A Voter Registration Drive

OVERVIEW

Changes in the laws regulating the process of voter registration have made it easier than ever to get registered. In addition, many churches conduct regular voter registration activities regularly to assure maximum participation. Their right to do so is clearly established in the Internal Revenue Code governing 501 (c) (3) non profit corporations.

“The IRS has ruled that even private foundations may support non-partisan voter registration drives. T.D. Release K-87, May 11, 1969”⁵

The question, then, is how to conduct the drive in the most efficient and effective manner possible given the available manpower of the church. We suggest the three following methods of conducting voter registration, and we will propose them in the order of their efficiency.

NOTE: *Again, we recommend that the church Citizenship Ministry Director recruit a team to help. As we will discuss later, the Director and at least one other person should become certified Deputy Voter Registrars.*

⁵ Political Activity by Clergymen, Alan Dye, Esq., Webster, Chamberlain & Bean.

I. In the Pews

Many pastors use the following method of actively promoting basic voter registration in their churches.

One. Qualify several members of the church leadership as deputy voter registrars to oversee the project. *(Contact local Pastor Council for assistance)*

Two. Acquire voter registration forms from the local (tax assessor/collector) or state (Secretary of State) election office in sufficient quantity based on church roster size or attendance.

Three. Schedule and promote several Citizenship Sundays prior to the voter registration deadline before each election

- We encourage the church to promote CS opportunities in four ways:

(1) The church newsletter

(2) The Sunday church bulletin – use inserts if possible

(3) Discussion by the Pastor from the pulpit

(4) The use of posters and a special booth – placed visibly

Four. On Citizenship Sunday:

1. Prepare ushers with a sufficient quantity of voter registration and mail-in ballot request forms.
 - a. The suggested amount would cover one-half of the adult attendance for each service.
2. Set up a table in each major traffic area of the church with one or more of the ministry team members in attendance to address any questions after the service.
3. At the appropriate time during the service, the Senior Pastor would address the issue of voting, and ask the ushers to distribute voter registration and mail-in ballot request forms to those who request them.
 - a. Ideally, time should be given for people to complete the forms and pass them back to be collected by the ushers. (An alternative would be to ask people to leave them with ushers at the end of the service.)
 - b. Ushers take all completed registration forms to the voter registration table where they are given to the Citizenship Coordinator.

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- c. All forms should be viewed for completion, and forms that are filled out properly are then mailed or delivered to the tax assessor/collector's office.

The Community Impact Chairman should contact any person within 24 hours whose form is filled out incorrectly or incompletely to assure accuracy.

II. In the Foyer

Another common method of voter registration is to simply set up a table or booth in the main foyer of the church where people can stop by before or after the service. Because most people have several different points in the church to attend, including Sunday School, taking children to their classes, pre-service responsibilities and other necessary demands on their attention, many people who are not registered will bypass a table – planning to “come back by later”. This method is less effective than “In the Pews”, but can accomplish the task if given the necessary promotion by the Pastor.

One. On Citizenship Sunday

1. Include bulletin inserts in order to alert people to the availability of voter registration.
2. Set up a table or booth in a highly visible location in the foyer and/or other high traffic areas with signage provided or prepared by the ministry team and approved by the Pastor.
 - a. Ideally, the table should be set up and staffed at least one-half hour prior to and after each morning and evening service.
 - b. CCM team set up materials, and at least two prepared volunteers serve to assist people who stop by prior to the service.
3. Mention the availability of voter registration during at least two points of the service, in order to maximize effectiveness.
 - a. First, draw attention to the registration table and the bulletin insert during announcements.
 - b. Second, and most importantly, the Senior Pastor should mention at the close of service that voter registration is available, and should strongly encourage that people who are not registered or are unsure of their voter status make the effort to go to the registration table before leaving.
4. The CCM Chairman should personally collect all completed voter registration forms, and assure that each name is listed on the tally sheet for follow-up purposes.

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5. **If Internet access is available** near the table, set up a laptop computer to directly access the registered voter file of the county elections office for verifying voter information.

III. Through the church list or roster

This method is actually the most accurate way of determining which members and regular attendees of the church are registered to vote. It can also be the most time-consuming unless using computer matching with the official registered voter list, and is best used after a Christian Citizenship ministry team has been more fully developed. We still encourage Method 2 (In the Foyer) to be used in conjunction with this process to make it more convenient for those individuals identified as unregistered to do so.

- One.** Acquire pastoral authorization for the CCM team to plan and implement this project.
- Two.** Acquire the most current church list for use (specifically with this project) within the guidelines of church policy regarding the active mailing list.
- Three.** Request a password for the voter management section of the HACP website. The passwords will be assigned for specific blocks of time to allow for rotation. Several people on the ministry team can use the password during that period, however they cannot log on at the same time.
- Four.** Divide the church roster or list into sections based on the number of individuals assisting.
 1. The size of the church list and the voter file will determine the number of volunteers needed. We suggest approximately one person per 100 names on church list
- Five.** Match individuals on the church list against the voter file to identify those who are not currently registered.
 1. Each “no” should be marked for follow up
- Six.** Assign one or two team members to call those identified and let them know that a voter registration form will be mailed to them, and will also be available on Citizenship Sunday.
- Seven.** Project coordinator or CCM Chairman assures that forms are mailed within 48 hours.

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- Eight.** Plan a follow up call night for two weeks later (or sooner if close to the deadline) to contact form recipients and determine if they received and returned the forms.

Report numbers of new voters and track activity

It is vital to maintain a database that contains a record for each church member in the categories listed below. A simple spreadsheet can be used or a more sophisticated program, but several individuals with good computer skills should be recruited and assigned to develop and maintain this file.

1. Voter registration number
2. Voting history
3. Issues interests
4. Activism (campaigns, political party, issues advocacy, etc.)
5. Citizenship Ministry involvement

NOTE: It is important to report the numbers of newly registered voters and the percentage of the church list registered (before vs. after the drive) to the HACP office. We are looking for documented increases in the number registered - generalities and guessing do not get us across the finish line!

Conducting Effective Voter Awareness and Turnout Activities

Registering to vote is like getting your driver's license – it's great to have, but you must get in the car and turn the key in order to put it to use. One great dilemma of the church has been how many Christians are not registered to vote, but an equal issue is how many “have their license” but rarely if ever use it. Failure to vote responsibly is a de facto stamp of approval on immoral, unjust and corrupt government. Just these basic steps taken in any church will increase the number of Christian citizens voting regularly and will help elect more godly leaders and promote righteous laws.

Objective

To maximize the number of citizens in each church who are verified to have voted in each election.

1. Suggested Plan

- One.** Place “Stand For Righteousness Sunday” or similar inserts into the bulletins to be distributed for the services on the Sunday before the election.
- Two.** Set up an information table in the foyer staffed by the CCM team to answer questions about voting locations and other related issues.

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- i. Have list of voting locations in the community available.*
- ii. Have a sign up sheet for those interested in staying informed on important moral and policy issues.*

Three. At an appropriate time during the worship service, the Senior Pastor should discuss the importance of voting responsibly. He could then ask each person to rise who is an eligible voter and who is willing to make a commitment to vote, and “Stand for Righteousness” to illustrate their commitment.

- i. Alternatives to this "optimum" approach would be for the pastor to urge the congregation to vote and mention the information table as well as identify the CCM Chairman as the contact for further information.*

Four. Distribute non-partisan voter guides or other voter education materials:

- i. As church bulletin inserts, or*
- ii. At the doors as people leave the service, or*
- iii. By mailing directly to the church list*

Recommended follow up –

One. The Senior Pastor authorizes the CMD and/or Ministry team to schedule and coordinate a phone bank to call through the church list and remind people to vote.

- 1. Scripting should be prepared or acquired from the Pastor Council*

Two. The calls should be made during the several days before and day of each election. (automated calls with a recorded message from the pastor are very effective.)

Three. Have list of polling locations and extra voter guides available at the church on Election Day.

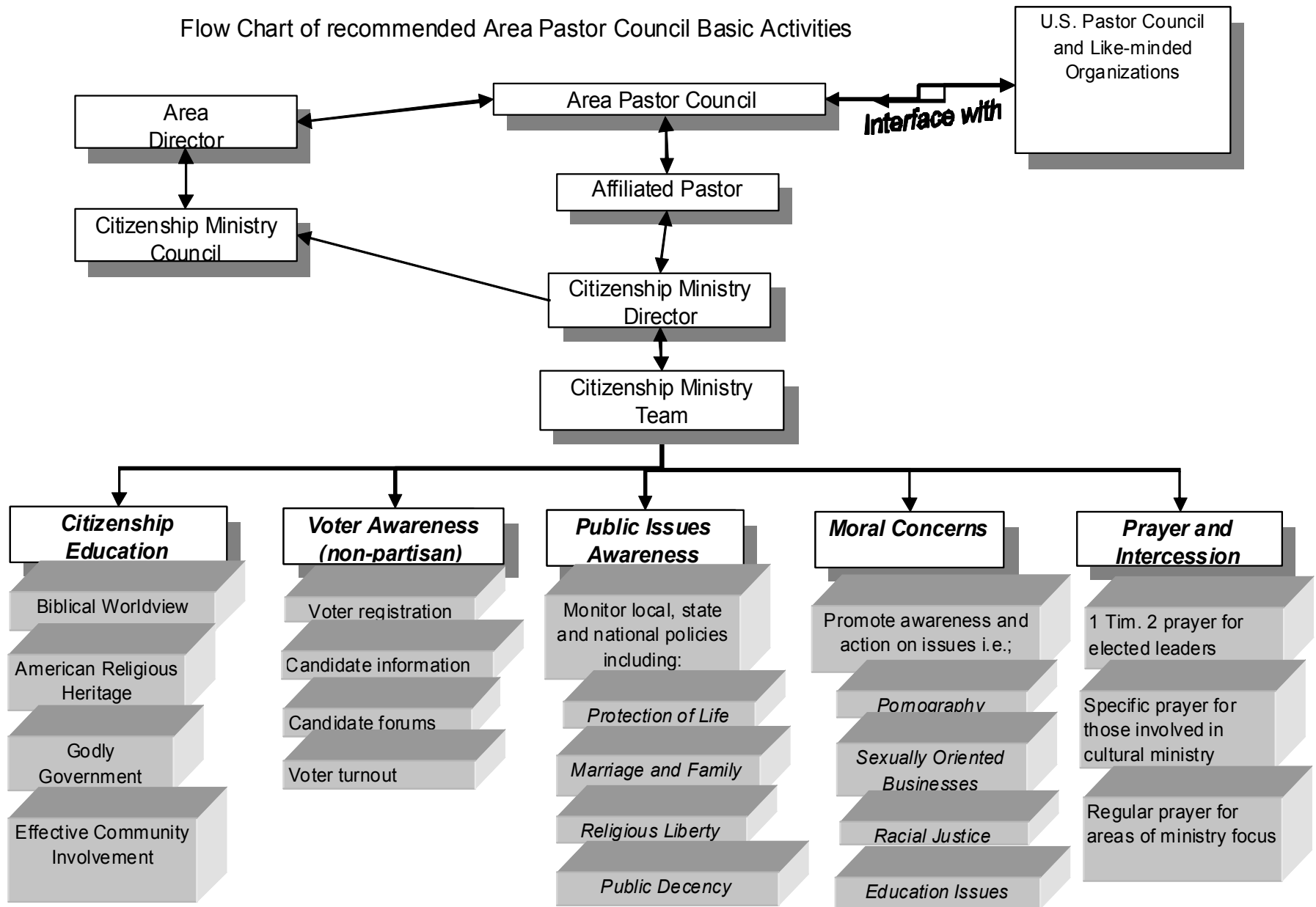
Four. Citizenship Ministry team could also coordinate childcare and transportation for those with such needs.

Summary

The task of increasing the informed voter turnout in your church is one of the most essential responsibilities of the Christian Citizenship Ministry. Remember that elections are won and lost in the margins - very often by 1 or 2 percentage points or even a few votes. Every vote makes a difference, and it may be the difference as seen in the "Just One Vote!" attachment.

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Flow Chart of recommended Area Pastor Council Basic Activities



APPENDIX A

***Citizenship/Salt & Light Ministry Formational Meeting
Sample Agenda***

1. Call meeting to order*
2. Open in prayer
3. Present overview of ministry and confirm pastor/church leadership support
4. Present draft mission statement
 - a. Discuss, amend and approve mission statement
 - b. Discuss the AMERICA Plan
5. Discuss objectives of the ministry
 - a. Relative to the four major categories such as (*flow chart in Section 2*):
 - i. Education and training
 - ii. Voter Awareness
 - iii. Public Policy Action
 - iv. Moral Concerns
6. Assign responsibilities for each designated focus (i.e. as listed above)
7. Identify and assign a Prayer Coordinator (***very important!***)
8. Determine ministry meeting regular schedule (i.e. second Tuesday of each month, etc.)
 - a. Decide next meeting date (may want to meet more frequently during start up)
9. Meeting overview and summary
10. Close in prayer

* - *It is important to have the senior pastor (preferable call the formational meeting to order and affirm pastoral support for the ministry. If that is not possible, a written statement from the pastor is desirable. If the ministry is "Ad Hoc" without formal ministry status it is still advisable to try to include senior pastoral staff in the first and subsequent meetings.*



APPENDIX B

THE AMERICA PLAN*

THE SEVEN STEPS OF EFFECTIVE CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP FOR CHURCHES

ARTICULATE A BIBLICAL POSITION ON IMPORTANT ISSUES OF THE DAY

Teach sound doctrine; Address citizenship and current moral issues from the pulpit as appropriate; Speak to the crucial moral issues of the day from a Biblical perspective, and why Christians must be active citizens.

MOTIVATE CONGREGANTS TO BE GODLY, RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS.

Most Christians do not become effectively and Biblically involved in any ministry or take action related to cultural and political change unless inspired by their pastor, led from the pulpit and called to appropriate activity.

EDUCATE BELIEVERS ON THE "WHY" AND "HOW" OF GODLY CITIZENSHIP

Biblical Worldview; American Christian Heritage; Understanding the Biblical role of Government; and Effective Community Involvement.

REGISTER ALL ELIGIBLE ADULTS IN THE CHURCH TO VOTE

If a person is 18 or older and an American citizen, this is not an option! The goal is 100% registered, 100% voting.

INFORM THE CONGREGATION ABOUT IMPORTANT POLICY AND MORAL ISSUES

Pending legislation – local, state and national
Current moral issues – sanctity of life, pornography, gambling, marriage, Biblical justice, etc.
Candidates' character, philosophy and positions on vital issue

COORDINATE WITH OTHER LIKE-MINDED PASTORS IN THE COMMUNITY

Establish a permanent, inter-racial, inter-denominational Pastor Council of senior pastors who will stand together, speak together and act together in your area.

ACTIVATE MEMBERS TO EFFECTIVE PRAYER, SERVICE AND CIVIC ACTION IN THE COMMUNITY TO PROMOTE BIBLICAL RIGHTEOUSNESS AND JUSTICE.

Create or support a **Christian Citizenship Ministry** in the church to facilitate the above activities in an organized manner, and to serve as the church's link to the community team.

FOUR STEPS TO COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION: 2 CHRONICLES 7:14

- 1. Pray, fast and repent- get our spiritual "house" in order *first***
- 2. Serve our neighbor - meet needs, share the Gospel**
- 3. Raise the standard of righteousness - get involved culturally and politically**
- 4. Reap the harvest - transformed lives, transformed culture**

** The AMERICA Plan was created by Dave Welch (Executive Director, US Pastor Council) and is trademarked by Vision America.*

APPENDIX C

CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION OUTLINE

Suggested Christian Citizenship Ministry Educational Materials

One of the many challenges in promoting active and effective Christian citizenship is that many – if not most – churchgoing Americans have little reason to get involved. Civic responsibility in general is not taught well or at all in many primary and secondary schools, and the vast majority of churches do not address this aspect of ministry at all. If we believe that God did indeed establish and ordain all governing authorities, and are aware that in the United States of America, “We the People” ARE the government, then it is not a matter of “if” but rather “why and how” that should be considered.

Since every American citizen over the age of 18 has a right and duty to determine the direction for all levels of government, it stands to reason that we should perform those duties in conformity with personal and corporate Biblical principles. We strongly urge Pastors to establish a Christian Citizenship Ministry or Coordinator in their churches for the purpose of educating, training and activating their congregates to fulfill their civic duties as part of the ministry of the local church. There are a number of very credible sources of materials that we recommend *in the following categorical order* which can provide a solid foundation of knowledge and proper motivation for Christians to become active citizens.

These programs can be ordered directly from the sources listed, or you may call our office at 713-980-3274 and we can assist you in obtaining them. This document is designed so that when accessed through our website, all hyperlinks are live and take you directly to the order page for that resource. (NOTE: Prices may have changed but give you an idea of the cost of materials.)

Biblical Worldview

Overview

As Christians, our approach to all areas of our lives should be shaped by our belief in the transcendent and all encompassing application of Scripture. This includes our understanding of the source, purpose and function of civil government. If we do not think like Christians (a major problem today according to analyst George P. Barna) we will not act or vote like Christians. A solid grounding in Biblical Worldview lays the only proper foundation for civic involvement. (NOTE: prices may change or vary from those listed below)

Curriculums/materials

“How Should We Then Live” – Dr. Francis Schaeffer (1976)

Book – 288 pages, paperback, Good News Publishers/Crossway

“Dr. Schaeffer's brilliant analysis of Western civilization from the fall of Rome through the Atomic Age concludes that we have lost sight of both our roots and our direction. He examines the breakdown of modern society in philosophy, theology, art, music, literature, film, and morals, and presents the only

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viable alternative: living by the Christian ethic, acceptance of God's revelation, and total affirmation of the Bible's morals, values, and meaning.”

Available at www.Christianbook.com

Video Curriculum – Gospel Films, Inc., 12 half-hour segments on 3 tapes.

Available at www.Christianbook.com

"A Christian Manifesto" - Dr. Francis Schaeffer

Marx and Engels published *The Communist Manifesto* in 1848, in the hopes of transforming society by removing classes. In 1933, *The Humanist Manifesto* was published in the hopes of creating, not just a new understanding of religion, but actually creating a new type of religion, based simply on the abilities and knowledge of humanity. To combat the dangers inherent in humanism and its grip on government, Francis Schaeffer wrote *A Christian Manifesto*.

Available at www.Christianbook.com

“Mind Siege” – Dr. Tim LaHaye, Dr. David Noebel (2001)

Book – 384 pages (hardback), Thomas Nelson/Word

“The war for our minds has begun! Will you follow Freud or Moses? Marx or Christ? Featuring a fictional prologue written in trademark LaHaye style, this battle plan arms you with knowledge and practical suggestions to help you combat the forces of society's popular beliefs with the Word of God.”

Available www.Christianbook.com

Leader's Guide – 144 pages, paperback

Available at www.Christianbook.com

Workbook – 144 pages, paperback

Available at www.Christianbook.com

Video – Set

“ ‘The Battle For Truth in the New Millennium’ is a kit containing one video, the hardcover book, a workbook, and the leader's guide. The six hard - hitting, clear thinking sessions in this video present a little reconnaissance work behind the battle lines, if you will...to expose the enemy. Tim LaHaye and David Noebel will serve as guides for the journey. The titles of these sessions present the challenge of the battle we face today: The Struggle of the Ages, The Rise and Fall of America, The Threat of Secular Humanism, The Five Pillars of Secular Humanism, Waking the Sleeping Giant, What Can You Do. The Leader's Guide and Participant's Guide contain one group weekly assignment plus 5 days of daily assignments.”

Available at www.Christianbook.com

“Pastors Standing and Speaking Together for Righteousness and Justice”

The Mind Siege Project: The Battle to Keep You From Knowing the Truth - Youth Edition – 160 pages, paperback

Book and Bible study oriented at high school and college age youth. Available at www.Christianbook.com

“How Now Shall We Live” – Charles Colson, Nancy Pearcey (2000)

Book – 500 pages, hardback, Tyndale House

“Colson calls this ‘the most important book I've ever written.’ You'll call it ‘the book that changed my life.’ Using remarkable true stories, Colson and Pearcey illustrate how the Christian worldview collides with other worldviews---helping you to know firmly what you believe, have confidence in your belief, change the world around you, and transform the way you live!”

Available at www.Christianbook.com

Study Guide – 128 pages

For use in personal study or small groups or classes

Available at www.Christianbooks.com

Leader Kit – set

The Kit includes one copy each of the Member Book, the Leader Guide, and the trade book, a videocassette containing a dramatic movie that will draw people to the study and four videocassettes containing weekly study segments and interviews with Colson and others.

Available at www.LifeWaystores.com

Member workbook – copies of workbook for video series

Available at www.LifeWaystores.com

American Religious Heritage

Overview

Once we understand the core spiritual issues at stake, it is also crucial to know the truth about the role that Christianity and Judeo-Christian principles played in the founding, formation and development of our country. Karl Marx said that if you can separate a people from their heritage, they are easily persuaded. The government and even many private schools have eliminated most or all reference to this issue in the teaching of history, resulting in several generations of Americans who have no knowledge of their true heritage. Is there “Separation of church and state”? Were our founding fathers “deists”? These materials are just a few of those available to help reeducate church members about our true history.

Curriculum/materials

“The Light And The Glory” – Rev. Peter Marshall

Book – Paperback, 384 pages, Baker/Revell, 1977

“Pastors Standing and Speaking Together for Righteousness and Justice”

“Did God have a plan for America? See countless examples of His hand in the discovery and settling of this land, in its spiritual awakening and in its first years as a republic. As they document the Christian faith of key figures from Columbus to Washington, their often startling insights and inspiring stories have made this book “must reading” for all who would regain their national heritage.”

Available at [Peter Marshall Ministries](#)

Study guide – paperback

Available at [Peter Marshall Ministries](#)

“America’s Christian History: The Untold Story” – Gary DeMar

Book – 246 pages, American Vision, Inc.

“In 1892 the Supreme Court declared, “This is a Christian nation.” In 1963 it banned prayer from public schools. Is America abandoning all Christian values? In this eye-opening account, DeMar shows how Christianity shaped America’s history and why we need Christian values to maintain a free and just society.”

Available at www.Christianbook.com

“The American Covenant: The Untold Story” – Marshall Foster

Book – 186 pages, paperback

“For those who want to see America return to its founding principles, there is no more important tool than the knowledge of America’s history. Only in the early history of America and in the writings of its main figures can those principles be found. Marshall Foster has been bringing the true history of America - the history that history books omit - to hundreds of thousands through *The American Covenant*.”

Available at www.amazon.com

Video – 52 minutes

Available at www.Christianbook.com

“The Holy Cause of Liberty” - Marshall Foster

Video – “As you enjoy Marshall Foster’s teaching through gripping historical vignettes, you will understand why human attempts at liberation have failed. You will discover how only God’s strategy for success has produced true liberty. They will uplift and encourage those who desire to walk in the light of freedom. For personal or group study.” 13-part series on 3 VHS Tapes

Available at www.mayflowerinstitute.org

Wall Builders Materials – David Barton

“Original Intent” (book) - Reveals how the Supreme Court has reinterpreted the Constitution, diluting the Biblical principles upon which it was based. Hear the Founders speak for themselves in regard to their vision for America. 550 pp. Paperback.

“Pastors Standing and Speaking Together for Righteousness and Justice”

Available at www.Wallbuilders.com

“Our Godly Heritage” - Discover the beliefs of the Founders concerning the role of Biblical principles in education, government, and public affairs. Accompanied by color portraits and captivating scenes from America's history, this is an excellent primer for learning the Founder's intent for America and how to restore what's been lost.

Booklet (33 pages) available at www.Wallbuilders.com

Video (one hour) available at www.WallBuilders.com

“Keys To Good Government” - Learn the Founders' counsel on good government, and how to reclaim the quality of government we once enjoyed.

Booklet (32 pages) available at www.WallBuilders.com

Video (one hour) available at www.WallBuilders.com

“America’s Providential History” – Mark Beliles, Stephen McDowell

Book - Based on the assumption that all history is Providential (i.e., that it reflects God's purposes) you'll learn how God's presence was evident at our nation's founding in the hearts and minds of the men who fought for independence and shaped the Constitution. Numerous illustrations, portraits, and visual aids make this book a valuable resource. 300 pages.

Available at www.Providencefoundation.com for

Godly Government

Overview

Once we understand the need for a Biblical worldview and the Biblical roots of our nation, we also need to know the Bible-based structure of our government. We must understand the purpose of government, and just how our founding fathers – from a solid Judeo-Christian perspective – designed our Constitutional Republic to work. As citizens we need to be responsible for promoting godly government that operates within the confines of the “...laws of Nature and of Nature’s God...”

Curriculum/Materials

“Christianity and the Constitution; The Faith of our Founding Fathers” – John Eidsmoe

Book – Paperback, Baker/Revell, 1995

“John Eidsmoe rights the faulty historical record and correctly brings us back to the roots that made America great. . . clearly demonstrates that our constitutional liberties are a direct result of our founders' moral and religious convictions which were based on belief in God who created heaven and earth as well as on the fixed and unchanging absolutes of God's Word.”

“Pastors Standing and Speaking Together for Righteousness and Justice”

Available at www.Christianbook.com

“The Constitution of the United States of America”

Book – 30 pages, Applewood Books

“It's the unabridged text of the U.S. Constitution. From the famous "We the People" to the last amendment passed by Congress in 1992, it's all here to be studied and cherished by the next generation.”

Available at www.Christianbook.com

“Defending The Declaration” – Gary Amos

Book – paperback, 234 pages, Providence Foundation

“For years Americans have been taught that the Declaration of Independence was a deistic document and that there was nothing Christian about it. Gary Amos has skillfully exploded this myth and has brought to bear a enormous amount of historical documentation indicating the Biblical and Christian principles and ideas which underlie the Declaration.”

Available at www.Christianbook.com

“God And Government Volume 1” – Gary DeMar

Book – 222 pages, American Vision, 1990

“What forms of government does God describe in Scripture? What about the separation of church and state? What is the purpose of civil government? Your students will find answers to these questions and more in this comprehensive volume. Filled with historical facts, thought-provoking topics, Bible references, art reproductions, and a complete bibliography. Designed to make learning easy, it's ideal for self-study.”

Available at www.Christianbook.com

Effective Citizenship

Overview

Founding father Benjamin Rush said that, “Education without the Bible is useless.” We submit that education without action also has little value. There are many ways to become active in the community and in impacting the political climate where you live. We have listed just a few of the resources that are available so that individuals may prayerfully consider where the Lord is leading them to get involved. Sir Edmund Burke said that “All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing.” Well informed and Biblically grounded action by teams of Christians working together will have a dramatic effect on our communities, state and nation.

Curriculum/Materials

Citizenship is Ministry

“Pastors Standing and Speaking Together for Righteousness and Justice”

Booklet – USPC publication

“One of the greatest tragedies of the 20th and early 21st century is the collapse of a Judeo-Christian consensus in America that has resulted in spiritual, moral, societal and political chaos. Why has this occurred? Far too often, those Christians who felt called to the battle to restore this consensus through the Biblical foundations of the church and our culture have looked “in all the wrong places” as to the source of the problem...” This booklet provides a basic Biblical “why” for churches to start citizenship ministries.

Available at www.uspastorcouncil.org/resources

“Enough is Enough” – Rick Scarborough

Book – 244 pages, paperback, 2000

“While many books have appeared evaluating the present moral and religious scene in America, very few have been published which exhibit succinctness, carefully measured objectivity and advice that grows out of experience rather than theory. In my estimation, not only the Christian public but also the general public that desires a safe and moral society in which to live will find (this book) to be a most succinct and measured activist response.” (Dr. Paige Patterson)

Available at www.visionamerica.org

Additional Resources:

1. America’s God and Country Encyclopedia of Quotations – William Federer

- a. Hundreds of alphabetically arranged, fully footnoted entries present brief biographies and spiritually profound quotes from founding fathers, presidents, statesmen, scientists, and other well-known figures. Comprehensive and meticulously researched, this volume is a valuable resource for writing papers, essays, and articles. Includes topical index for easy reference. 845 pages, soft cover from Fame.
- b. Available at www.Christianbook.com
- c. *Software version* – Contains the America’s God and Country- plus additional quotes, Webster’s original 1828 Dictionary, King James Bible, Strong’s Greek & Hebrew Definitions, Nave’s Topical Index. System requirements: 4 MB RAM recommended. 100k free hard disk space. CD-ROM player. Microsoft Windows 3.1 or higher.
 - i. Available at www.amerisearch.net

(Additional materials and sources will be listed as they are approved.)

“Pastors Standing and Speaking Together for Righteousness and Justice”

LIBERTY LEGAL INSTITUTE

Churches and Elections:

Many churches and pastors feel called by scripture to “equip the saints” to represent Christ in all areas of our society, including the voting booth. Pastors should thus be supported in their goal of helping their members be good stewards in representing Christ in their civic duties. This is especially important in light of the fact that only one out of every four Christians in America is voting.

Unfortunately, many churches and pastors have been given false information in an attempt to scare them from acting as a pastor and impacting their culture for Christ. The law is actually very supportive of pastors and churches in fulfilling their mission to equip their saints. Even as a non-profit corporation, there is very little a church may not do.

WHAT IS THE LAW?

Churches May NOT:

1. Endorse or oppose a particular candidate
2. Contribute to or raise money for a candidate (including free use of church list)

Churches May: (among other activities)

1. Register their members as voters
2. Pass out voters’ guides
3. Invite all candidates in a race to speak (It is okay if only one shows up)
4. Speak DIRECTLY about specific issues and legislation (abortion, marriage, etc.)

Individually, a pastor can do whatever he feels led to do- endorse, support a member’s campaign, etc. There are no limitations. The few limitations above that exist are only for the church entity and only if the church is a non-profit corporation.

Pastors should not be intimidated from acting as pastors, calling their people to vote and giving them info so they can best represent Christ in the voting booth.

Liberty Legal Institute is the state legal group in Texas associated with Focus on the Family. It protects churches and religious freedoms free of charge. For questions, please call (972) 423-3131.

“Pastors Standing and Speaking Together for Righteousness and Justice”

*For additional resources, questions or comments please contact U.S. Pastor Council at **832-688-9166** or by e-mail at info@uspastorcouncil.org.*



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