

In America Today...

CREATION CARE PRAYER DAY MAY 25

★ WASHINGTON, DC – Christians from around the nation will gather at noon at the Upper Senate Park on the Capitol grounds for the National Day of Prayer for Creation Care. Prayer for stewardship of the earth's resources, worship and celebration around the theme of Psalm 24:1 will mark the day. An evening Creation Care Concert will feature Dove Award winning artist Mark Schultz. Creation Care Prayer events will also be convened in additional cities across the country. Visit www.creationcare.org.

OBAMA EXECUTIVE ORDER ON ABORTION FUNDING SEEN AS "BOGUS" BAN

WASHINGTON, DC – The health care reform package passed on Sunday, March 21 after Rep. Bart Stupak (D-MI) and pro-life Democrats threatened to vote no unless the bill included language barring federal funding for insurance plans and exchanges that cover abortions. Stupak and allies extracted an executive order from Barack Obama "to close loopholes" that would allow federal funding for abortions. Prominent pro-life groups have accused Stupak of "caving" for a "bogus" order that is nebulous, does not have the weight of law, and can be annulled by the president at any time. In actuality, even the Hyde Amendment HHS abortion funding ban language must be attached to appropriations bills and renewed year after year. (LN 4/1/10 S 3/21/10)

RATIONING ON HORIZON IN HEALTH CARE

WASHINGTON, DC – The health care restructuring bill approved by the U.S. House and sent for President Obama's signature (having been adopted by the Senate in December 2009) will, if not repealed before its most dangerous provisions come into effect, result in an 18-member "Independent Payment Advisory Board" [Sec. 10320(b)] "ordering the rationing denial of lifesaving medical treatment, and consequent premature and involuntary death, of an unknown but immense number of Americans." U.S. citizens will effectively be limited in spending their own money to save their own lives, unless they are able to travel abroad for life-preserving measures denied them in America. (RPC NRLC 3/21/10)

2010 CENSUS WILL COUNT SAME-SEX COUPLES AS MARRIED

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Census Bureau released promo videos and other materials in April advising same-sex couples to choose "married" status if that's how they view their relationships, and told transgender people to check off the sex they identify with, not necessarily their legal or birth genders. Demographers expect hundreds of thousands to report they are spouses—even though legal same-sex weddings in the U.S. number in the tens of thousands. Gay activists say they plan to use "A Census That Reflects America's Population" to push for legislative and policy initiatives. (MH 4/5/10)



2010 PRAYER FOR MAY 6 DAY OF PRAYER

Franklin Graham – 2010 Honorary Chair Lord – We are thankful for the abundant blessings You have bestowed on America. Our forefathers looked to You as Protector, Provider, and the Promise of hope. But we have wandered far from that firm foundation. May we repent for turning our backs on Your faithfulness.

We pray that this great nation will be restored by Your forgiveness.

From bondage, You grant freedom.

Through Your own sacrifice, You offer salvation.

From the state of despair, You offer peace.

From the bounties of Heaven, You have blessed—but not because of our goodness—but by Your grace.

You have given us freedom to worship You in spirit and in truth as Your holy Word instructs. May our lives honor You in word and deed. May our nation acknowledge that all good things come from the Father above.

President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed that our nation should set apart a day for national prayer to confess our sins and transgressions in sorrow, "yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon... announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord."

"We have vainly imagined in the deceitfulness of our own hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own... we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God who made us! It behooves us then... to confess our national sins and to pray for clemency and forgiveness."

Help us to pray earnestly for our president and leaders who govern, that they will humble themselves and seek Your guidance so that everything we do will shine the light of Your glory in a darkened world.

May our prayers as a people and a nation be heard and blessed for such a time as this. We make this plea in faith, believing in the mighty name of Jesus our Lord. Amen

DOCTORS WARN SCHOOLS ABOUT GAY MISINFORMATION

★ WASHINGTON, DC – The American College of Pediatricians (ACP) sent letters to school superintendents asking that they not tell students who may experience same-sex attractions to simply accept that they are homosexual. The group also launched the Web site www.FactsAboutYouth.com with material for educators and students. The letter cites studies that "demonstrate most adolescents who initially experience same-sex attraction, or are sexually confused, no longer experience such attractions by age 25."

One such study shows as many as 26 percent of 12-year-olds reported being uncertain of their sexual orientation, yet only 2-3 percent of adults actually identify as homosexual. (CL 4/5/10)

UNDEREMPLOYMENT GRIPS U.S.

WASHINGTON, DC – The March unemployment rate remained at 9.7, despite the addition of 162,000 jobs to the workforce. The number of new jobs was lower than the 200,000 that had been projected, and 40,000 or more of those were public sector temporary 2010 Census workers hired by the federal government. Factoring in the 9.1 million part-time workers who would prefer full-time work and the 2.3 million who want a job but have given up searching, the U.S. "underemployment" rate stood at 16.9 percent. [IFA encourages daily prayer for the unemployed and for private sector job creation.] (AP 2/3/10)

U.S. RUSSIA REACH 'START' AGREEMENT

★ PRAGUE – The U.S. and Russia formally agreed to a new nuclear arms reduction treaty in April, ending negotiations over a new version of the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) that expired last December. The new START treaty calls for about a 30 percent reduction in both countries' nuclear arsenals, but some critics say that "creative accounting" will actually mean a much smaller drop. The Obama administration hosted an international summit nuclear security in Washington in mid-April intended to discourage nuclear proliferation. (NYT 3/30/10)

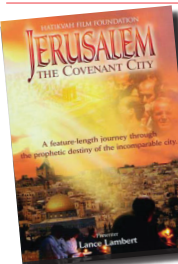
OBAMA PERMITS OFFSHORE DRILLING

★ WASHINGTON, DC – President Obama announced new leases for offshore oil drilling in late March, as part of a move to try to gain Republican support for his energy strategy. The new lease will allow drilling 50 miles off the coast of Virginia, and Obama said the administration will allow exploration of other possible drilling sites off both coasts. He also announced that proposed leases in Alaska's Bristol Bay will be canceled, and any drilling in Florida would be no closer than 125 miles from shore. (USA 3/31/10)

GLOBAL DAY OF PRAYER MAY 23

Worldwide Day of Prayer | www.gdopusa.com

★ = An answer or development to an IFA First Friday or On Watch in Washington prayer point. Publication index: AP=Associated Press; CL=CitizenLink.org; LN=LifeNews; MH=The Miami Herald; NRLC=National Right to Life Committee; NYT=New York Times; RPC=Robert Powell Center for Medical Ethics; S=Slate.com; USA=USA TODAY



JERUSALEM: THE COVENANT CITY by Lance Lambert / Hugh Kitson – Why do world leaders wage war for the Temple Mount and rage over "the final status" of Jerusalem? Part 1 of "Jerusalem: The Covenant City" traces the prophetic history of the Holy City. Part 2 explores what the Bible has to say about Jerusalem's present and future destiny. We discover that as we move into the third millennium of the Christian era, the destiny of the whole world hinges upon the destiny of Jerusalem and the nation of Israel. This 108-minute documentary will bring you a memorable message of challenge and hope. \$15.95 + \$3.50 shipping. Order from IFA Fulfillment Center, c/o The Christian Shoppe, PO Box 1058, Purcellville, VA 20134. Credit card orders toll-free 888-349-4446 or via www.ifaresources.com.

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