



SEPTEMBER 2018

# THE CONNECTER

CONNECTING HEARTS OF PRAYER FOR  
THE NATION TO GOD AND EACH OTHER!

# VOTE

## WHY THESE ELECTIONS MATTER



**By Carol Tobias**  
**President, National Right to Life**

**F**or many years, pro-abortion candidates recited the mantra that abortion should be “safe, legal, and rare.”

This raised the question — if abortion should be safe and legal for anyone who wants one, why should it be rare? What is wrong with it?

The reluctance to fully embrace abortion outwardly never sat well with groups such as Planned Parenthood and NARAL who decided to challenge the idea that abortion can ever be bad. They now fight any and all efforts to limit or restrict abortion, even those with support among a large majority of the country.

It is within that radical push for “no limits on abortion” that we understand what is at stake in the upcoming elections.

For years, pro-life voters have been successful in electing pro-life candidates who then pass laws to protect unborn children and other vulnerable human beings. All too often, we see those pro-life laws overridden by judges who abuse their power and impose their own policy preferences.

If our goal is to change the law to stop abortion, we have to change the courts.

Pro-life Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell recently stated, “What I want to do is make a lasting contribution to the country, and by appointing and confirming these strict constructionists to the courts who are in their late 40s or early 50s, I believe, working in conjunction with the administration, we’re making a generational change in our country that will be repeated over and over and over down the years.”

In order to continue confirming those “strict constructionist” judges, pro-life senators need to win in November.

Pro-life President Donald Trump is nominating judges to the federal bench

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### FIRST FRIDAY PRAYER

**September 7, 2018**

On the first Friday of the month, we encourage all to fast and pray for America using the prayer focuses below.

### FOREIGN POLICY | ISLAM

Intercede for President Trump and all who are involved in U.S. foreign policy. Intercede for inspiration, wisdom, and strategies for dismantling and overcoming the training centers, networks, and tactics of Islamic terrorism. (Ez 32:22-25; Acts 9:1-6) Pray for the salvation of Muslim terrorists. Pray for “the peace of Jerusalem.” (Ps 122)

### FALL ELECTIONS

Intercede that godly, pro-life, and pro-marriage candidates in your state and area be supported, granted public platforms and good media exposure, and find favor with the voters. Pray that lies, deception, corruption, and partisan manipulation be exposed, and that the Lord grant objective debate and media coverage on critical issues and candidates’ positions. (1 Tm 2:1-4)

### RETURN TO SCHOOL

Pray for the millions of students returning to school. Pray that the Lord will pour His Holy Spirit upon them and draw multitudes of them to salvation in Christ. (Acts 2:17) Intercede that He will shield and protect students from immoral friends, teachers, and influences.

**To see God’s purposes for America fulfilled through sustained prayer and Spirit-led obedience**

# The Power of Prayer



**By Gary Bauer**  
**President, American Values**

I know the power of prayer because I experienced it vividly in my own family at an early age. I grew up in a blue collar household in a rough working class neighborhood in Newport, Kentucky. My father was a World War II veteran who served in the South Pacific in the First Marine Corps Division. Like so many men of the "Greatest Generation," my father had physical and psychological wounds from the things he witnessed and had to do in combat. In addition, he grew up as an orphan and never knew his birth parents. Not surprisingly, he wrestled with alcoholism most of his life. And, sadly, when he went on binges of heavy drinking he became mean and aggressive.

I was an only child and at a young age there were many nights when I cried and prayed myself to sleep. My grandmother had started taking me to the local Baptist church, and I learned

there that prayer can help us overcome life's challenges. I regularly prayed that my father would overcome his addiction and that my parent's marriage would survive.

After my grandmother's passing my parents started going to church with me. One Sunday after a moving sermon, I felt God's tug on my heart. When the



Easter 1958 - Gary Bauer with his father

"altar call" was made at the end of the service, I joined with a handful of others who walked up the aisle to the front of the church to make a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. When I reached the front

and turned to face the congregation, I was shocked to discover that my father had walked up behind me to accept Jesus too. A few weeks later, we were baptized together. All these years later that day is so vivid in my mind; it is as if it happened only a few months ago.

Before my father accepted Christ, he was powerless to overcome his alcoholism. He regularly denied he was an alcoholic. He made no noticeable effort to stop drinking. After his baptism he was a changed man. Every day he fought his addiction. He would go months without backsliding. But when he failed, he was filled with remorse and would ask for forgiveness from God and from my mother and me.

My parent's marriage survived. My father's anger issues abated. Prayer became a significant part of his life and helped him greatly in his life-long battle with addiction. And I learned at an early age the wonders and power of prayer.

Learn how to **pray** for,  
**connect** with, and **contact**  
our elected officials.  
**[IFApray.org/get-out-and-pray](http://IFApray.org/get-out-and-pray)**

# WHY THESE ELECTIONS MATTER

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who understand that the Constitution does not authorize the killing of unborn babies. We need a Senate that will confirm his nominations.

In the 2016 election, Democrats had 10 Senate seats on the ballot; Republicans had 24. Political pundits were sure Democrats would pick up many of those 24 seats.

But on election night, as results came in, pro-life wins kept rolling in. Democrats did pick up two seats, but the Senate remained in Majority Leader McConnell's guiding hands.

This year, the numbers are reversed. Nine Republican seats and 26 Democratic seats are on the ballot. That same political wisdom would tell us this should be a good year for pro-life Republicans because Democrats have so many seats to defend.

Pro-lifers must take nothing for granted!! Just because a Senate race seems non-competitive in September, it could change dramatically by November. All 35 Senate seats on the ballot in November are important.

Keeping pro-life leadership in the U.S. House of Representatives is also critical. Political pundits have been predicting a blue wave, saying Nancy Pelosi could be Speaker of the House next year. If that happens, **no** pro-life legislation will pass and many members of Congress will be pushing to impeach pro-life President Trump.

We have an amazing country that allows citizen to participate in the functioning of our government. For the next two months, keep your focus on praying for and electing those candidates who will preserve and protect the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.



## Fathering a Fatherless Generation



**By Wanda Alger**  
**IFA Field Correspondent**

**M**any believers are heralding the emergence of young sons and daughters of the Kingdom finding great purpose in this season. Spiritual fathers and mothers labor with these young pioneers in a multi-generational move of God. The Lord is using this time to rebuild time-tested foundational truths and restore a breach of broken trust with spiritual authority figures.

*And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to dwell in. (Is 58:12 ESV)*

Many in the body of Christ who have been wounded by those in positions of spiritual authority are now finding healing and restoration within the family of God. Where "spiritual authority" has often been a negative term for those who have felt disenfranchised, abandoned, or even controlled, the Lord is now repairing this breach of trust through healthy authority figures.

Scriptures are clear about the place and purpose of healthy spiritual fathers and mothers. (2 Kgs 2:12, 1 Cor 4:15, 1 Thes 2:11, 1 Jn 2:13-14) God's plan has always been for the body of Christ to

be an intergenerational demonstration of an eternal kingdom that is always increasing, expanding, and building on prior lessons and victories. (Ps 112:1-3)

Spiritual fathers and mothers in local houses of worship greatly impact future leaders, who are most potent and fruitful when they lead with the heart of a father and mother, committed to nurturing for the long haul. God's grace rests on those who are called to establish a strong and secure household of faith. (1 Pt 2:5)

I believe God is speaking to this "fatherless generation," inviting fathers back in the house to put things in order for the sake of His kids—not to control, manipulate, or coerce, but to lovingly support, undergird, and empower the next generation to be all they were destined to be.

Fathers and mothers are rising up to come alongside the firebrands, pioneers, and servant-leaders in order to secure our inheritance in the land. Let's join with heaven in the Lord's work.

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## Answered Prayer



### SCOTUS RULES IN FAVOR OF 1ST AMENDMENT

"The U.S. Supreme Court ruled 5-4 in favor of the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates in the case, NIFLA v. Becerra, marking a victory for free speech, religious liberty and the sanctity of human life. Under the precedent set by this Supreme Court ruling, pro-life centers cannot be required to compromise their principles by being forced to provide information to their patients on ways to obtain an abortion. The Court also struck down disclosure requirements for pregnancy resource centers that would have made the promotion of a pro-life message practically impossible." (CPCF)

### SCOTUS UPHOLDS LEGISLATIVE PRAYER

"The Supreme Court of the United States denied review of the Sixth Circuit's decision allowing legislator-led prayer. The ruling, in favor of Jackson County, MI, will allow county commissioners to continue to open public meetings with prayer, a long-standing tradition of both federal and state legislators since the founding of our country." (CPCF)

### EXECUTIVE ORDER FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM



President Donald Trump signed an Executive Order for the Establishment of a White House Faith and Opportunity Initiative, issued legal guidelines to protect freedom of conscience, and appointed Sam Brownback (former Senator, Congressman, and Governor of Kansas) as Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom. (CPCF)

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### SPIRITUAL COMPANION FOR THE SUFFERING

An American flag, a Bible, and prayer. It's how a veteran named Dave ministers to those in need at a hospital in Maryland. Dave volunteers as the hospital's Spiritual Companion, responsible for bringing comfort and care to the sick and hurting by sharing the hope of God's Word. Since 2016, he has partnered with American Bible Society to put Bible-based materials into the hands of hospitalized service members. Dave encourages patients to keep sharing what they've learned through the Bible-based resources. As the ministry grows, Dave is training Veterans who can reach even more patients with God's message of hope. (ABS)

### GEORGE MÜLLER AND ANSWERED PRAYER

George Müller, his staff, and orphans lived on daily prayer and cultivated a day-by-day (even hour-by-hour) dependence on God. And their needs were met. In fact, Müller's ministry grew and, as the needs grew, so did God's provision. Be encouraged by God's faithfulness. (GP)

# GET OUT AND PRAY

MOBILIZING LOCAL PRAYER FOR THE NATION



This new tool is designed to equip the Body of Christ to pray for God-fearing candidates to be elected.

#### Get Out and Pray is the place to:

- Find and pray for candidates and elected officials in your local district
- Discover and engage with others in your area who are praying for the nation
- Identify and adopt a street in your district for which you have a heart to pray
- Join thousands who are praying 24/7 for America and our leaders

Go to [IFAPray.org/get-out-and-pray](https://IFAPray.org/get-out-and-pray) to use this governmental prayer tool.

### INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA

PO Box 915, Purcellville, Virginia 20134  
IFAPray.org  
800-USA-PRAY (872-7729)

Join believers in praying for our elected officials at [PrayforAmericasLeaders.com](https://PrayforAmericasLeaders.com) • [IFAPray.org](https://IFAPray.org)



### FIRST FRIDAY PRAYER CONFERENCE CALL

Please plan on setting these important 30 minutes aside to join with hundreds across the U.S. in praying for America, its leaders, and its citizens on **September 7, 2018 from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. (ET)**

Call: (712) 432-0075 Access Code: 1412452#

Publication index: ABS=American Bible Society;  
CPCF=Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation;  
GP=Guideposts;

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