

Obamacare Under Legal Attack On First Anniversary

✘ It's been one year since Obamacare was signed into law. But the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, as it is officially called, is still largely unpopular.

In December 2010, U.S. District Court Judge Henry Hudson in Richmond ruled in favor of Virginia concluding the individual mandate provision "exceeds the constitutional boundaries of congressional power." A Florida Supreme Court judge ruled Obamacare unconstitutional in January.

Now, the American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ) is making a bold move to declare the entire health care law unconstitutional.

Christians Targeted in Nigeria Election-Related Violence

✘ Violence threatens next month's elections in Nigeria.

Already, political violence has been disruptive to church activities. Police have warned churchgoers that places of worship are targets, and they have made note of several attacks on believers within the last week.

On March 20, three would-be attackers in Jos were killed in a failed attempt to bomb the Evangelical Church Winning All

(ECWA) and the nearby Church of Christ in Nigeria (COCIN). The same day, a bomb planted at the Mountain of Fire and Miracles Church failed to detonate.

Doug Stringer Sees Change Amid Japan Crisis

☒ Somebody Cares about Japan. And that somebody is Doug Stringer.

Doug Stringer, the half-Japanese, half-American founder of Somebody Cares America, is leading a team that's actively working on the ground in Japan. Stringer's philosophy: teamwork across racial and denominational lines makes an impact.

"Crises draw people together, but some groups, even Christian groups, want to get their five-minute sound bite or 15 minutes of fame and they no longer really work together," says Stringer, who is shipping 10 truckloads of water, food, hygiene items and medical supplies to Japan through partner organizations and groups. "It's like a fishing pole catching one fish rather than a fishing net woven together to catch a lot. We need to work together."

Sahara Challenge Works to

Build Muslim-Christian Relationships

As violence, unrest and confusion heat up in predominantly-Muslim countries like Libya, Tunisia, Bahrain and Egypt, many believers are beginning to see the potential for outreach.

As Fouad Masri, president of Crescent Project, mentioned in a recent interview with MNN's Greg Yoder, Muslims living in these countries have watched Islam fail as a political system. Devout Muslim leaders have been overrun by other Muslims in search of more rights. The tension has undoubtedly rubbed off on Muslims who live elsewhere around the globe.

Questions are stirring in the minds of many Muslims. In fact, in the last 10 years, more Muslims have come to faith in Christ than over the last 1,400 years combined. This exponential growth in interest toward Christianity presents the Christian world with an urgent responsibility.

Christians and Muslims Unite to Condemn Koran-Burning Terry Jones

✘ Terry Jones is at it again. The Florida pastor who made international media headlines by planning to burn the Koran on 9/11 last year is heading to Detroit to protest against Islamic law and rule outside the Islamic Center of America.

The *Detroit Free Press* is reporting that a group of Christian

and Muslim leaders are set to speak out today in a Detroit church against Jones. Rev. Charles Williams II, pastor of King Solomon Baptist Church in Detroit, told the [Free Press](#) that Jones is bringing “a message of hate.”

Two Quakes Rattle Burma

- ✘ Two quakes rattled Burma within seconds of each other late Thursday.

The temblors struck near the borders with China, Thailand and Laos but did not present an immediate tsunami risk. Initial readings from the U.S. Geological Survey showed the quake measuring at 6.8.

Dyann Romeijn with Vision Beyond Borders says, “Chiangrai and Chiangmai were the hardest-hit population centers, although we’re not hearing that there was extensive damage. They were still a ways from the epicenter; the quake, it sounds like, was more in some rural areas.”

VBB had a team on the ground in the region where the quake struck. “We actually have contacted our contacts inside Burma to see what the story is from inside [the country], but at this point, we have not heard anything back from them,” says Romeijn.

Japan Prime Minister Calls Nuclear Disaster 'Very Grave'

✘ After what looked like good news earlier in the week, the Japanese government is signaling that the danger at Fukushima nuclear power plant is far from over.

In fact, Japanese authorities have called on residents who live within 19 miles of the plant to evacuate.

The concern is getting food and water into an area where the threat of radiation is persistent and growing. Radiation has already seeped into some food supplies and people there are being warned not to eat certain foods. The evacuation order is so far voluntary, but that could change if the crisis is not contained swiftly.

Syria Security Forces Kill More than 100 Protesters

The United States strongly condemned the Syrian government's brutal repression of demonstrations in the Middle Eastern nation. According to the AFP, more than 100 people were killed on Wednesday as security forces clashed with activists.

In particular, White House spokesman Jay Carney cited the violence and killings of civilians at the hands of security forces.

"We reject the use of violence under any circumstances. We are also deeply troubled by the arbitrary arrests of human rights activists and others.

“Those responsible for the violence must be held accountable. The United States stands for a set of universal rights, including the freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, and believes that governments must be responsive to the legitimate aspirations of their people.

“We call on the Syrian government to exercise restraint and respect the rights of its people and call on all citizens to exercise their rights peacefully.”

The Alawite-controlled Baath party has ruled the nation of Syria for nearly five decades. Large protests there are demanding change.

Should Israel Prepare for War in the Middle East?

✘ The violence in Gaza is escalating. In the wake of a [terrorist attack in Jerusalem on Wednesday](#), Palestinian militants continued firing rockets into southern Israel. Israel launched new airstrikes in Gaza.

Islamic Jihad, a Middle Eastern terrorist group, claimed responsibility for Thursday’s rocket fire. However, Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak said the nation holds Hamas, a Sunni Muslim extremist group that won free elections in the Gaza Strip in 2006, responsible. Hamas said it wants to “restore calm” and would not attack. And Israeli’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has made it clear that the nation will not be passive about terrorism.

Terrorism is nothing new to David Rubin, former mayor of Shiloh, Israel. Rubin was driving home from a dentist

appointment with his three-year-old son, Ruby, when Palestinian terrorists opened fire on the vehicle just outside Ramallah many years ago. One tracer bullet hit Rubin in the leg. Another hit little Ruby in the back of the head. Doctors said surviving the drive-by shooting was a miracle.

Charisma magazine caught up with Rubin, author of the *Islamic Tsunami*, to get his perspectives on what these new attacks against Israel mean in light of the unrest in the Middle East and whether or not Israel should prepare for war.

Palau Set to Equip Vietnam Churches

☒ Believers in Vietnam are passionate to reach their nation with the Gospel.

Evangelist Luis Palau says, “The churches in Vietnam are far more fired up, I’ll be honest with you, than the churches in the USA, with regards to training people, preparing them, and motivating them. They are eager to win people to Jesus Christ; they want to be trained.”

Although the church is good at winning souls one-on-one, they admittedly need help to train preaching evangelists and to gain unity between north and south Vietnam, as well as between unregistered and registered churches.

Out of their excitement to spread the gospel, unregistered and registered churches alike have asked Palau to come to Vietnam to help their people move forward in faith and in progress. Even governing officials have welcomed Palau to the country.