

Christian University Fights Back Against 'Unlawful' Elementary School Board

Arizona Christian University officials are appalled by an Arizona elementary school district's decision to ban ACU's student teachers because of its commitment to Christian values, and the school's president says it will fight back against the ban.

Last week, Washington Elementary School District board member Tamillia Valenzuela told the rest of the board that hiring Christian teachers is "not safe." While she says she "full-heartedly" believes in religious freedom and people being able to practice whatever faith they have," Valenzuela took exception to language on ACU's website, accusing the school to be "committed to Jesus Christ and accomplishing His will and advancements on earth as in heaven."

On Feb. 23, school district officials recommended renewing an 11-year partnership with ACU to have its students engage classes as student teachers. However, the Washington Elementary School Board members, three of whom identify as members of the LGBT community, opted to nix the agreement and argued that "having student teachers with biblical values in the state's largest and one of the best elementary school districts would pose too much of a threat to LGBTQ students.

"The school board's recent decision to ban ACU students from serving as student teachers was done for one reason only: our university's commitment to our Christian convictions," ACU President Len Munsil said in a statement to The Christian Post. "That's wrong, it's unlawful and it will only hurt the district's students.

"Religious liberty and freedom of conscience are bedrock

American principles,” Munsil told The Christian Post. “We are exploring our options to defend the rights of our students.”

Munsil said that there had not been any issues involving LGBTQ students over the 11-year period of partnership with the Washington elementary school district, and that student teachers have “done such a great job.”

Many of ACU’s student teachers, he said, were hired full-time after graduation.

☒ “Administrators have time and again asked us to send more ACU students because of the quality of our students’ work and their love and servant’s hearts for all,” Munsil said. “For years Arizona Christian University has partnered with the Washington Elementary School District. More than 100 ACU students have served the district, including 25 student teachers.”

The high quality of their work wasn’t good enough for some board members, including Valenzuela, Nikkie Gomez-Whaley (President), Jenni Abbott-Bayardi (Vice President); Kylie Clayton and Lindsey Peterson. {eoa}

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Shawn A. Akers is the online editor at *Charisma Media*.

Thousands Get Saved at Graham Crusade in Communist Vietnam

Janet never thought she would see the day where a Christian crusade would be held in her home country of Vietnam. It gave her goosebumps.

This past weekend, however, Franklin Graham brought his team to the Spring Love Festival in Ho Chi Minh City, and the miraculous happened. Many surrendered their lives to Jesus, and it opened doors for multitudes to hear the gospel of Christ.

Vietnam is a communist country, and to see the gospel preached there gives people much-needed hope.

“Now, people have choices in my country (about faith). There are millions who have never heard the name of Jesus,” Janet told the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

Government officials granted permission for last weekend’s two-day evangelistic outreach at the Phu Tho Sports Stadium.

“I think it’s important that we pray for the government officials,” Franklin Graham said in Saturday’s crusade, one that drew an overflow crowd of tens of thousands. We stood and prayed together for those in authority as the Bible commands. “We must continue to pray that God will bless them, guide and direct them.”

The two-day event drew diverse crowds with young and old, families and children in attendance, and government officials “warmly” welcomed Graham to Vietnam earlier in the week.

“Many came forward at the invitation to turn from their sins and put their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior,” Graham said. “We give God the glory for each one whose life was changed for eternity. Join me in thanking God and and praying for them.”

Graham cited Romans 5:8, which reads, “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

Pastor Lam Thien Loc served as Graham’s interpreter during the outreach, allowing attendees to hear the gospel in their own

language.

With revival happening around the world right now, why not in Vietnam?

“We do believe this is God’s timing for us to do a festival,” Loc said. “We thank God for the government, that they’re open to us, and give us permission to [hold the] Festival. God opened a way, so now we should focus on how to share God’s love with people.”

Graham said he wanted the people in Vietnam to know that God loves them.

✘ “It was a privilege to proclaim that Good News tonight,” Graham said.

More than 300 churches helped get the word out about the festival and arranged for buses to bring people to the event, including those who didn’t know about Jesus.

A handful of students with their teacher came to the stage, eager to make Christ a part of their lives.

Someone asked the children, “are you happy you accepted Jesus into your heart?” To which they replied, “Yes, yes, yes!” in unison. {eoa}

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Pastor Claims ‘Spirit of

Murder' Is Plaguign this U.S. City

Lawlessness is a growing concern that many faith leaders across the country are speaking out against.

Some are claiming it as a sign of the End Times, while others are focusing on a more immediate solution to combatting it.

No matter to what varying degrees lawlessness is affecting America today, and what can be done about it, there is a spiritual root behind this increase of lawlessness and it is only going to get worse according to the Bible.

St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church senior pastor Rev. Orin D. Grant Sr. said in an interview with Fox News that his city, New Orleans, is suffering from a spirit of murder that is plaguing the people of the city.

"There's a spirit of murder at work in this city and in our nation," Grant claims.

"It's a dark time," he added. "It's a dangerous time. It's a deceptive time."

Few know the pain of living in a city with high violent crime like Grant does. It was barely six months ago, in August 2022, that his youngest son, Orin D. Grant Jr., was shot and killed mere blocks away from his church.

"It's a tough pill to swallow," Grant said. "I wake up with him on my mind. I go to sleep with him on my mind."

Since 2019, New Orleans has seen a % increase in homicides rising from 123 in 2019 to 266 in 2022. It even briefly held the title of the nation's murder capital until Jackson, Mississippi, surpassed it at the end of 2022.

Things have become so dangerous for Grant and his community that the church has had to take steps toward protecting its congregants.

“I got a security director because these are the times we live in,” Grant said. “People even come into churches and do stuff.”

Sadly, the trend of robbing churches is not limited to New Orleans.

As Charisma News reported less than two weeks ago, a pastor in Ferguson, Missouri, who was also a retired police officer, was able to recognize and prevent an armed robbery of his church as he spoke from the pulpit, on Feb. 23.

The Bible tells of these things occurring in a society that has turned its back on God during the End Times. But it does not call for Christians to sit on the sidelines and do nothing in the meantime.

Pastor Grant has taken up this call to action to stop violence in New Orleans, and is rallying the community together with law enforcement to do the same. Grant is also a chaplain for the local police department, and calls on members of the community to cooperate with officers and city officials to help combat the violence plaguing their neighborhoods.

“If you have one person pulling in one direction but everybody else is standing still, it’s not gonna work,” Grant said. “So, we have to work together.”

“We have to take ownership of our neighborhoods again and run drug dealers out,” Grant said. “Run criminals out.”

“And we have to respect life,” Grant told Fox News. “We have to respect one another.”

How true are the realities Grant and others like him are facing, compared to the words of Jesus in Matthew 24:12,

saying: "Because iniquity [immoral or grossly unfair behavior] will abound, the love of many will grow cold,"?

In today's America, people are no longer shocked by the heinous crimes committed within her borders.

Children are gunned down in the streets, mutilated by doctors and sacrificed on the alter of abortion. All because the hearts of people have gone cold toward the respecting of the life God has granted.

It will not be easy, but Christians are called to endure and persevere through these times. As the world becomes increasingly hostile toward the Word of God, it is imperative that the gospel continues being shared in love for the good of the souls who hear it.

The temporary discomfort of earth is greatly outweighed by the promise Jesus leaves His disciples with in Matthew 24:13:

"But he who endures to the end shall be saved."

That is what Pastor Grant is doing. Enduring, not giving up and working to bring about the kingdom of God in a world covered in darkness. {eoa}

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Morning Rundown: One Pastor's

Alleged Abuse and Cover-up Across Multiple Megachurches

Here's a quick summary of the top stories on :

One Pastor's Alleged Abuse and Cover-up Across Multiple Megachurches

"There's nothing quite like waking up to discover that your church is being featured on an episode of 'Dateline,'" Pastor Cal Jernigan wrote in a letter to Central Christian Church, the congregation he leads in Phoenix, Arizona.

Jernigan's church has been under the microscope and featured in news headlines after he brought in Caleb Baker to work on their staff as the Lead Student Pastor and Associate Preaching Pastor.

On Feb. 12th Jernigan discovered Caleb was involved in a six month extramarital relationship with another staff member at their church.

YWAM Founder Loren Cunningham Stricken With Stage 4 Cancer

Loren Cunningham, who founded the Youth With a Mission Ministry more than 62 years ago, has been stricken with Stage 4 lung cancer. His wife, Darlene, posted this notice on Instagram this week:

"Thank you so much for your prayers for Loren and his health. As you know, doctors did a biopsy on some very slow-growing nodules in his lungs earlier this month, when they got large enough to biopsy. They turned out to be cancerous, which led us back to Honolulu for a full body scan on February 22.

"The results from that scan have just come in, revealing that there is extensive cancer in Loren's lungs, bones and lymph system (stage 4 cancer)."

Messianic Rabbi Schneider: 'America Will Not Turn Back to God'

✖ Although there are many Christians across America rejoicing at the news of revival pouring out at Asbury University, the country is still continuing down a path that runs contrary to God's Word.

Messianic Rabbi Kirt Schneider had a burning message in his heart that he felt the Lord wanted delivered to His people and shared it on his program, "Discovering the Jewish Jesus."

"I do believe that before the return of the Lord, we will see pockets of revival," Schneider explained in reference to Asbury. {eoa}

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"I do believe that before the return of the Lord, we will see pockets of revival," Schneider explained in reference to

Asbury.

"[But] the world is not going to turn back to God, and neither is the United States of America going to be turning back to God," he continued.

"Some people are still hoping for this country to become some type of utopia again, as if the United States of America is going to become a Judeo-Christian nation, and I'm here to tell you that it is not, and it will not," Schneider proclaimed. "The floodgate has been opened [and] immorality has swept into the earth, into the Western world and in particular into the United States of America, in such a way that the bomb has gone off and there is no going back to the good old days."

Rabbi Schneider is not a "doom and gloom" apocalyptic naysayer, he instead has read the Scriptures and taken Jesus at His word that in the last days, humanity will continue to turn from God and pursue their own fleshly desires.

Quoting Jesus in Matthew chapter 24, Rabbi Schneider shares the words of Christ to illustrate this position that America will not return to being a Christian nation, and how it is for the sake of the elect that the Tribulation that is coming will be shortened or else no one would make it through.

These words, along with many others found within the Bible such as 2 Timothy chapter 3, show that times are going to become more difficult for Christians, not easier. Persecution will ramp up, not diminish.

"The only thing you and I can do is get prepared for what's to come," Schneider extolled his viewers.

"You and I need to wake up. The Bible tells us we need to be sober in spirit. Don't think that there's some type of revival that's going to change everything, that we're somehow going to be going back to this idyllic place where you can let your children outside running freely down the you wouldn't be

worried about them. No.

“People are so broken, so many demons have entered our culture and humankind that it is broken and it is chaos,” he says.

Rabbi Schneider lays out the history and timeline supporting these claims, and how America essentially opened the door a crack and let the devil swing it wide open.

From Elvis, seemingly innocently these days, swinging his hips and injecting sexuality into mainstream culture; the sexual revolution degrading the purpose and importance of marriage and sexual morality; the rise of homosexuality and the legalization of same-sex marriage leading to a complete breakdown of the God-ordained marriage; the devil’s influence in getting people addicted to technology to the point they lose touch with their own soul and much more have led America to the place it is now in.

Within society today there is lawlessness, spiritual violence and the occult taking the place once filled with the Holy Spirit. And once the Holy Spirit backs off or stops restraining evil, evil will move in to take His place.

But Rabbi Schneider insists there is hope in these times. Hope to endure and continue spreading the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

“We need to stand up for biblical truth,” Rabbi Schneider says. “We need to be lights in this darkness. If the salt loses its [flavor] Jesus said, what good is it?”

“We’re moving into a culture of complete breakdown. Total breakdown. Breakdown of the psyche, breakdown of the soul. We’re moving into an era of lawlessness, spiritual violence and spiritual assault.

“If you and I are going to survive and live victoriously in the End Times, we’re gonna have to become rock solid right to

God about everything. Continually examine yourselves so you're aware of your thoughts, you're aware of your attitude, you're aware of your soul and you form a continual dialogue with God."

These practices will keep one aligned with the will of God, says Rabbi Schneider, and they offer the spiritual protection one needs to resist the enemy during the End Times. {eoa}

✘ *To read more about the End Times found within the book of Revelation, view Rabbi Kirt Schneiders book here.*

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James Lasher *is Staff Writer for Charisma Media.*

Israeli Shekel was Third

Worst Performing Currency in February

The value of the Israeli shekel dropped by 6% in February, hitting a three-year low last week.

The decline put the shekel among the three worst-performing currencies in February, along with the Russian ruble and the Korean won.

The shekel fell sharply against the U.S. dollar, from NIS per USD at the end of January to about NIS per USD at the end of last month.

In response, the Bank of Israel raised the interest rate to %.

While many in Israel blame the nation's judicial reforms for the decline, some market watchers think the case could be overstated.

"We have had some increased noise in recent days on the developing political situation in Israel. Our ultimate takeaway is that this is largely noise," said financial services company JPMorgan last month.

Last week, financial services company Wells Fargo announced that it expected to see "a strong rebound" of the shekel and said the currency could "recover most of recent losses by the end of Q1-2023."

Yesterday, the shekel appeared to be rebounding, trading at NIS per USD.

As ALL ISRAEL NEWS reported in December, the devaluation of the shekel against the dollar, especially if it is only temporary, makes an excellent investment opportunity.

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu accused the

political opposition of harming Israel's economy by staging continued threats. Another factor in its decline has been Israeli-owned companies, like Wiz and Papaya, moving funds out of Israel. Such an act creates downward pressure on the shekel.

During Netanyahu's previous term as prime minister, the economic situation in Israel improved in many regards, including the national debt and average salaries. Unfortunately, stringent COVID-19 lockdowns, which included the shuttering of all "nonessential" jobs and businesses, negated most of those gains.

The shekel grew stronger overall during his tenure, with some economists noting that the currency's 3-year decline coincided with the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdowns.

The shekel is the only major currency to grow stronger against the U.S. dollar over the past decade. {eoa}

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The All Israel News Staff is a team of journalists in Israel.

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Catholic Bookstore Could be Forced to Use Gender-Affirming Pronouns

A Catholic bookstore in Jacksonville, Florida, is suing over a local ordinance that would force them to use gender-identity affirming pronouns regardless of the customer’s biological reality.

Queen of Angels Catholic Bookstore is known by the community as a place to go to find answers on religion and Christianity. Now, the bookstore is being challenged by the Jacksonville law that would put LGBTQ rights above their own religious liberty.

Bookstore owner Christie DeTrude “seeks to provide a welcoming environment for anyone who enters her store. And she seeks to use her bookstore to share the Gospel,” the Alliance Defending Freedom website states. DeTrude’s bookstore also prides itself on Catholic principles and a Christian heart which means: “The bookstore serves everyone regardless of who they are and sells anything in the store to anyone.”

However, this willingness to serve customers of all backgrounds is not enough with the implementation of the Human Rights Ordinance that was first approved in 2017 by Jacksonville. Officials updated the law with a new bill in 2020 as it was determined to be “unenforceable as written,” according to the Jacksonville Daily Record.

The ordinance describes it unlawful to use sexual orientation and gender identity to refuse service or communicate in a way that would lead a person to believe “the patronage of such person is unwelcome, objectionable, or unacceptable.” Gender identity and sexual orientation in the ordinance include both something that is physically visible and that which the person believes to be true of themselves.

The ordinance also includes a limitations and exemptions section which concludes with the statement: “With regard to discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity, this Part 3 shall not apply with regard to any action of, or decision made by, a religious organization as defined in this Chapter.”

How are religious organizations defined in this ordinance? They are listed as “churches, synagogues, mosques and schools of religious instruction and non-profit institution or

organizations affiliated therewith, as well as 'any religious corporation association or society.'"

The bookstore's filed complaint against the city of Jacksonville states: "Following a disturbing nationwide trend, the City has expanded its public-accommodation law to cover gender-identity discrimination and thereby require businesses to address customers using their preferred pronouns and titles regardless of a customer's biological sex."

The complaint continues with the issue that the ordinance creates when placed in the context of First Amendment rights, which the Queen of Angels Catholic Bookstore believes are being undermined.

"The bookstore *just cannot speak* contrary to its beliefs—to affirm, for example, the view that sex can be changed. So, the store cannot use customers' pronouns or titles contrary to their biological sex."

With ordinances like this one in Jacksonville, the people who are most affected are not those who already had rights and are gaining additional ones, as the LGBTQ community in this case. It is the people concerned about the negative effects it could have on their First Amendment rights to the freedom of speech and religion.

With issues from Colorado baker Jack Phillips who has had to repeatedly defend his religious right *not* to bake cakes in support of the LGBTQ agenda, to a young girl who was told at school that she couldn't wear a face mask which said "Jesus loves me," those in the faith community have unfortunately grown accustomed to seeing their values knocked down.

While there is a real human desire for life to be easy, this is not possible. For the Christian believer, there are real spiritual and natural battles that come as a result of being a disciple of Christ. In John 15:18 (MEV) Jesus reminds His followers that: "If the world hates you, you know that it

hated Me before it hated you.” Jesus does not promise that our life on this earth will be without struggles, but rather He promises that we can count on having opponents. However, His Spirit gives comfort through these struggles, and the perseverance to keep going with the knowledge that one day He will wipe away every single tear and the pain and suffering of a sinful world will fade away.

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Abby Trivett is a marketing copywriter and coordinator and Staff Writer intern for *Charisma Media*.

School Board Member Says Hiring Christian Teachers ‘Not Safe’

A school board member for the Washington Elementary School District in Phoenix, Arizona, who describes herself as a bilingual, disabled, neuro-divergent, queer, Black Latina, says she opposes the hiring of Christian teachers and says she would not feel “safe” in a school that does.

Tamillia Valenzuela expressed her concerns at a recent board meeting and said she would be opposed to having a contract with a Christian university over the religious and biblical beliefs they espouse.

The Washington Elementary School District has had an ongoing contract with Arizona Christian University for five years, an agreement that enabled student teachers to be placed in schools for field experience. The contract opened up

opportunities for recruitment and hiring, Fox News Digital reported.

Watch the latest video at

Fox News reported that Valenzuela “blasted” Arizona Christian University over its Christian beliefs and said she was “disheartened” to learn about the contract that had been in place for half a decade.

Valenzuela, who, during the school meeting sported cat ears on her head, said she’s all for religious liberty, but that she had “some concerns regarding this particular institution.”

“... I full-heartedly believe in religious freedom and people being able to practice whatever faith they have,” Valenzuela said. “... And while I understand we are currently in a situation across the nation that we have a teacher shortage and recruiting ... is really difficult, my concern,[is] when I go to Arizona Christian University’s website, [they are] ‘committed to Jesus Christ, accomplishing His will and advancements on earth as in heaven.’

“Part of their values is .. [to] ‘transform the culture with truth by promoting the biblically-informed values that are foundational to Western civilization, including the centrality of family, traditional sexual morality and lifelong marriage between one man and one woman.’”

Valenzuela pointed out that three of the school board members are part of the LGBTQ community, and that bringing in teachers from Arizona Christian University would greatly impact those board members.

“If we’re bringing people in whose mission [has] ... been with their institution’s education that very plainly on their website ... that above all else, it was to influence people to be biblically-minded, how does that hold space for people of other faiths? How does that hold space for our members of the

LGBTQ community?

✘ “At some point, we need to get real with ourselves and take a look at who we’re making legal contracts with and the message that is sending to our community. Because that makes me feel like I could not be safe in this school district.”

The school board voted to dissolve the contract with Arizona Christian University on Feb. 23.

Another board member, Kyle Clayton, blasted ACU for “teaching with a biblical lens.”

“Proselytizing is embedded in how they teach. And I just don’t believe that belongs in schools,” Clayton said. {eoa}

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Morning Rundown: At 79, Joyce Meyer Got Tattooed to ‘Honor God’

Here’s a quick summary of the top stories on :

At 79, Joyce Meyer Got Tattooed to ‘Honor God’

Joyce Meyer doesn’t have to remind the enemy as to whom she belongs. She’s been serving God for more than 55 years.

But just for good measure, Meyer, who turns 80 this year, recently decided to get not one, but two tattoos—something she

said she would never have thought to do in her lifetime. One of the tattoos, which simply says “Love,” is embossed on her left ankle. The other, which says “I Belong to Jesus,” was drawn on her left shoulder in a place she says “where you all cannot see.”

Meyer says she was inspired to get the tattoos by Isaiah 49:16, which reads, “See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; your walls are continually before Me” (MEV). But it took a long time for her to convince herself to go through with it.

The Miraculous Transformation of a Progressive Christian Antagonist

Last week, a remarkable email was forwarded to me by my staff. It was from Sarahbeth Caplin, someone I had previously interacted with when she was a hostile, “progressive” Christian writing for an atheist website.

Why was she contacting me now?

I share all this with you here with her full permission and blessing.

Prayers for Revival in a Kairos Moment

With revival breaking out on college campuses and churches across America—and around the world—we need to be careful not to miss the day of our visitation.

Now is not the time to stop praying. Now is the time to pray more. Indeed, every revival in history started with prayer. Prayer births revival. Prayer sustains revival. Prayer is the key.

But it’s not just any kind of prayer. It’s fervent prayer. It’s passionate prayer. It’s prayer completely dependent on the God of revival to pour out His Spirit. {eoa}

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