



November 8th Networking Luncheon

NEMA's annual Thanksgiving Networking Luncheon will be hosted by Linda Shanks, Pastor of Metro Church. The date is this Thursday, November the 8th. Since the beginning of NEMA, Pastor Linda has provided a wonderful Thanksgiving luncheon. The luncheon will begin at 11:30 to allow time for meeting friends and getting caught up on the latest news. Food will be served at 12 o'clock sharp. The luncheon will conclude at 1 a.m. Metro Church is located on 1960 in Atascacita; 7811 FM 1960 E.; Phone: 281 852-3630. (No monthly prayer meeting this month-Thanksgiving holidays.)

NEMA ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETS

Thursday, October 25th marked the first official meeting of NEMA's Advisory Council. The council met at The Nathaniel Center on the forth Thursday to begin to pray and discuss the future of the NEMA Fellowship.

For over sixteen years, pastors in the greater Humble area have habitually gathered once a month to enjoy the fellowship of spiritual leaders with like passions. The primary goal during those early years was to foster meaningful relationships between pastors and ministry leaders. While the Council recognizes the value of those relationships, it feels that it is time to consider a more pastoral role for the membership.

Recognizing that the Church has a Biblical mandate to pastor the city or area where they are located, the Council discussed practical steps that NEMA could take to influence the physical needs and the moral climate of our respective communities. The Council feels that it is time for NEMA to step up to the next level. The Council concurred that God has kept NEMA together for these sixteen years for more than just mutual friendships.

In a very short time the Advisory Council will be sharing with the membership ways in which each church or ministry can practically implement their expanded pastoral role to the community. The Council is presently considering forming action committees which would address matters as: feeding the poor of our community, meeting the physical needs of the elderly, adopting a public school, alerting city leaders and the general public on matters of moral and spiritual significance. There are also the practical needs of NEMA as well, i.e., contacting new churches and ministries in our area, preparing the NEMA Newsletter, ministering to the needs of the membership, securing the monthly networking locations, embellishing our monthly meetings, strengthening our monthly prayer meetings, etc. The Council is in the process of identifying the various categories and giving details as to how you can become involved. If you feel that you would like to offer assistance in any of these ministry areas, or if you would like to suggest an additional matter that the Council could consider, please feel free to contact any of the Council members. The Council members are: Cary Baker, Tom Battle, Buddy Hicks, Jerry Martin, Mike May, and Linda Shanks.

“SCORE ONE FOR GOD” is the title given to this article posted on Fox News today! One Christian woman in California decided she had had enough with the secularists, humanists in her school district and decided to do something about it. The old adage, “One person and God constitute a majority!” is certainly the case here. Take courage and don’t give up. We can make a difference in our culture.

California School District Approves 'In God We Trust' Classroom Displays

Tuesday, November 06, 2007

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. — Trustees of the largest high school district in the country voted 4-1 Monday night to mandate displays bearing the nation’s motto — “In God We Trust” — and other historical documents in over 2,300 district classrooms and offices.

The display of the Constitution, Declaration of Independence and Bill of Rights will be included in the posters approved by district trustees in [Bakersfield](#), Calif. Monday night. Kern County High School District trustee Chad Vegas initially proposed the measure as a way of promoting patriotism. But the idea sparked a contentious debate. "I'm extremely pleased the measure passed and was in fact expanded beyond what I had originally proposed," said Vegas.

In addition to placing the displays in over 2,300 classrooms, the posters will also be hung in district boardrooms, libraries, administrative offices and other rooms. Board President Bob Hampton, a former teacher in the district, told The L.A. Times he would vote against the posters because they reflect a "spiritual agenda." "The spiritual side of students belongs at home and at church, not in the educational system," Hampton said.

The classroom displays were first suggested by the non-profit group In God We Trust — America Inc., whose president, Jacquie Sullivan, is a Bakersfield council woman. "I encouraged the trustees to put this on the agenda," she said. "It's very important. We need to promote patriotism and promote it in our schools. We can't just assume that the younger generations are going to have that strong love for God and their country the way the older generations do." Sullivan's organization has offered to provide funding for the project at Kern.

The councilwoman, who said she is a registered [Republican](#) and a Christian who attends a local Baptist church, told FOXNews.com that she has neither a religious nor political agenda in pushing for the measure. "It's not political. It's not religious. It's patriotism," Sullivan said. "American patriotism is love of God and love of country. It's pride in our country." She believes schools are becoming more casual about teaching children to appreciate the ideals and values the [United States](#) was founded on, and she thinks it's important to "get back to the basics." "Some schools have gotten so lax as to not be pledging allegiance to the flag everyday," Sullivan said. "We can easily get out of the habit of doing good things. (Patriotism) is something that continually needs to be taught." And she believes that most Americans have faith in God, so having the national motto posted in school shouldn't offend anyone. "We are faith-based people for the most part," Sullivan said. "Sometimes you have to go with the majority." Other Bakersfield residents said there's nothing wrong with posting the nation's motto on classroom walls — even if it does mention God. "Most kids in Bakersfield already have that seed planted, but for the others, it couldn't hurt," Malia Casarez told the Times. "My daughter is just 9 months old and I'm already scared of sending her to school, with all the things you hear about." Trustee Bryan Batey said he could support displaying the posters in some classrooms, but not all. Two other members on the five-person board have said they do not support the proposal, The Bakersfield Californian reported.

The Kern district superintendent's office and the office of trustees did not immediately return calls from FOXNews.com seeking comment.