



July 8, 2008

**Re: American Family Association
Action Alert on Gay Marriage in California
Protect Marriage 08
July 30th Pastors and Leaders Conference Call**

Dear Pastor,

This letter is being sent to pastors across Kern County and may be a duplication of information you have already received. By now many of you have seen the Action Alert notice from the American Family Association concerning same sex marriage in California. As a result of a decision by the California Supreme Court, same sex couples are now "marrying". **In the November election there will be a measure on the ballot calling for an amendment to the California State Constitution. The amendment will define marriage to be between one man and one woman (reflecting the will of the people as evidenced in the passage of Proposition 22 several years ago).** Pastors and leaders across California are joining together to activate the people in their congregations and communities, in an effort to ensure they understand the importance of voting "Yes" on this ballot measure, defining this important social issue.

Under the leadership of Pastor Jim Garlow of Skyline church in Dan Diego and Pastor Chris Clark of the East Clairemont Southern Baptist Church, pastors and leaders from across the state gathered in 101 host sites on Wednesday, June 25th for a conference call to launch this effort. Over 1600 people were present across the state for the call which included nationally recognized leaders, Lou Engle, Dr. James Dobson and Tony Perkins as well as other leaders from within California. Canyon Hills served as the host site for our area and will so for the additional state-wide calls for pastors and leaders which are scheduled between now and the election.

I am writing to you regarding these upcoming conference calls for three primary reasons.

1. Thank those of you who were able to attend the first meeting. We received *very* short notice for this meeting and there was not time to notify everyone who needs to be involved. Please accept my apology for lack of notice to those of you who were unaware of the conference call. We acted with a sense of urgency which is continuing to grow.

2. I have attached a copy of one the of the handouts from the conference call which sets forth a timeline of some of the things that "the church" will be doing across the state between now and the election. **You will note that another conference call is scheduled for 10:00 A. M. on July 30th.** I sincerely hope that you and other leaders from your congregation will be able to attend. Canyon Hills will again serve as the host site and we will most likely gather in our sanctuary, to accommodate a larger group.

3. As was discussed during the first conference call, traditional marriage protection is a defining social issue not only for California, but for our nation. We, as leaders, must be prayerful about this and encourage our congregations to pray and get involved in this issue in the coming weeks. It is also a time when the church needs to hold out hope and love for those living in the homosexual lifestyle. They need to know there is a place for them to turn when they need help.

I sincerely hope you and some of your leaders will attend this next conference call meeting. If you are unable to attend, please send someone in your place. To ensure sufficient materials are available for everyone attending, please contact our office at 871-1150 to RSVP by noon on Friday, July 25th.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions. Thank you for you willingness to partner with churches across our county and state on this matter.

Very truly yours,

Rev. Cynthia Giumarra
Director Women's Ministries
Canyon Hills
871-1150

Rev. Wendell Vinson
Senior Pastor