

St. Andrew's (JKP) Monthly Newsletter  
*September, 2011*

Edification: In last month's newsletter we considered the foreign and defense policy of Rep. Ron Paul, and found it to be lacking. In that newsletter a passing comment was made regarding Michele Bachmann "screeching" about making Obama a one-term-president. While it is a favorite screech of hers that doesn't do justice to what seems to be a woman of considerable substance. She's no slouch when it comes to politics or the legal profession. She's the first Republican woman to be elected to represent Minnesota in the U.S. House of Representatives. Prior to this she served in the Minnesota State Senate. Before that she was a federal tax litigation attorney working on literally hundreds of civil and criminal cases. And as to her personal life, she's been married to the same man for over 30 years with whom she has 5 children and also fostered an additional 23 children! What can you say? She really can "*bring home the bacon and fry it up in a pan!*" Whoa! Was that a sexist assessment of her record, or is it an assessment and a record that is indicative of a deeper issue? Michele Bachmann is clearly an intelligent, accomplished and compelling woman. Yet equally compelling is her extraordinary drive to be a mother. While raising her own 5 kids she takes on the role of foster-mothering 23 more. That is remarkable! Is that not though indicative of the confusion and frustration that exists in the minds of many women (and men) about the role of women in the world? It's been said that during the industrial revolution women were plucked from the pedestals upon which society placed them, and were thrown onto the shop floor where men could now use them. Was that a step-up for women? Was the sexual revolution of the 60's a step-up for women? Has N.O.W. or feminism in general been a real boon to "womankind"? Will being President of the United States be the ultimate up-stepping for the American woman? Or might that result in a president that is distracted with diapers and daycare, while trying to address the affairs of state? Should the president be frying up bacon in the kitchen, or fighting off pork in the congress? Is the woman that can do both truly the "liberated woman"? Or is she actually a slave of inert and passive men, men who's cowardliness would undoubtedly be nauseating if not for the plain fact that bacon makes everything taste better!

*"On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come". 1Cor.16:2*

Encourage: In the book of Judges when Barak (not Obama) refuses to go into battle unless Deborah leads them she says to him; "*I will surely go with you; nevertheless there will be no glory for you in the journey you are taking, for the LORD will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman.*" Ouch! Thus it seems the conservative men of America are panting for Michele Bachmann (or Sarah Palin for that matter) to lead us into battle. Where are the men of principle who will lead us into battle? Where are the men who are willing to drive the tent peg into the head of the enemy? It's become too easy to step aside and let women lead the charge. And you know what - they'll do it! C.S. Lewis once remarked that at a ball where there are no men the women may dance with each other but that's not really much of a ball. A woman may be willing to step into the leadership void created by men but we shouldn't be slapping backs or high-fiving when they do so. We shouldn't feel relieved that at last someone has taken the mantle of leadership, who cares if the mantle happens to be a mink stole? Our pastor has said many times recently that we've become "a nation of little boys". What does that make these women but our mommies? Mommy will take care of us - mommy will make the hard things easier - mommy will stare down the bullies. But if men don't step up and start being men our collective bacon will be cooked!