The U.S. Constitution Does Not Give Us Rights

By Van Yandell

The Constitution of the United States of America does not give us rights. Instead, it regards certain privileges/rights as being "unalienable" and common to mankind.

The Constitution prohibits the government from taking away those rights. It was written for the citizen's protection from an oppressive government.

The framers must have known that over a period of time, power hungry individuals would try to block those fundamental rights and saw it necessary to write a document that would keep that from ever happening.

Article one of the Bill of Rights states "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

Article one explicitly states "Congress shall make no law." This is to keep the lawmakers from establishing a religious state or prohibiting the establishment of a religion.

Article one also gives American citizens the freedom of speech. The freedom to lie, confuse or mislead concerning the truth was apparently not foreseen by those framers.

Many in America have come to a point of mistrust of any information to which we may be exposed. Sad to say, trust in our world is on the chopping block and in many locations, the axe has fallen.

A very precious right is the right to peaceful assembly. I was working a church construction and maintenance project in Cuba in 2011. One night I met with the deacons/elders of the church.

Being in a tropical climate there were openings in the outer walls but no glass in those windows. A watchman was placed outside to be sure no government official would stand and listen to our meeting. A typical church meeting as it was, the government would not have seen it as such.

The communist government there (as in many communist countries) is constantly fearful of a rebellion/coup. Consequently group meetings are strongly discouraged and in many cases strictly prohibited.

Whereas there are several countries that have determined to be a religious state, prohibiting the presence of other religions, that is not to happen in the U.S.

If you have been in a church, local government meeting or even a motorcycle club group meeting, you may be assured; in many countries you would be breaking the law. A few countries require a permit to assemble the then those assemblies are monitored.

The second amendment is the right to bear arms. "A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

One estimate is that one-third of Americans own guns with a total number of around 107 million. Those are estimated to possess up to one-trillion rounds of ammunition. If legitimate gun owners were the problem, we would know it!

Freedoms are not to be taken lightly. Many lately have been observed sitting during the National Anthem. This practice is disgraceful for anyone enjoying the freedoms that thousands of service men and women have died to protect those rights.

Being "Ungrateful" and "entitled" may be an accepted practice by some but the mothers of deceased soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen would be devastated in seeing anyone disrespecting their sons and daughters that had died to secure those rights.

Religions numbering around 4000 exist in our world. All have one thing in common. That is the opinion, "I'm right and everyone else is wrong."

That being the case, where is the evidence of reality. Christianity offers through the Holy Bible, extensive evidence. In the minds of many, enough evidence leads to proof. As a policeman friend once told me, "Follow the evidence and it will lead you to the truth."

Through prophesy and the science in the Bible, the God of the Bible verifies His existence. Containing information no human could have known when the scrolls were penned, the Bible proves itself from within itself.

Information such as dietary (Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14), modern science and nutrition has proven its correctness.

Whereas most religions are seeking a better life or an eternal life, the establishment of those religions is simply fulfilling a human need. It certainly appears people are not prepared to accept the finality of death and have created a God for comfort and peace.

That peace has been interrupted by such horrific disagreements and hostilities, religions have led to many wars and deaths.

All in all, the question we ask is, "which religion has the highest credibility?" Realizing some religions have questionable beliefs and actions, Christianity appears to be the most sustainable.

Offering believers a faith based belief in a Savior, Christianity has grown from a few believers nearly 2000 years ago to a number equaling over one-fourth of the world's population.

The United States Constitution does not give us rights; it protects those natural rights to which all mankind is entitled by our Creator. We should be thankful for those that determined and penned those rights and wrote them in such a way, if obeyed, protect us from tyranny.

The Bible teaches there is only one eternal salvation. That is by a faith based belief (Ephesians 2: 8) that Christ Jesus was crucified (Matthew 27: 35) for the remission of sin (Romans 4: 25) and resurrected (Matthew 28: 6).

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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

4-H NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY • COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

BY

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Make Your Holidays Green!

We often associate environmental activities with springtime, but caring for our planet is something we can practice all year long! Did you know that household waste in the United States increases by approximately 25% between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, adding millions of tons of additional garbage?

The holiday season is a perfect opportunity to teach children the importance of reducing waste while creating meaningful memories with family and friends. You don't have to sacrifice holiday traditions or gift-giving to make a difference. A few simple changes can make your celebrations more environmentally friendly!

7 Ways to Make
Your Holidays Greener

• Give a gift that gives back. Donate to a charity or organization that is meaningful to the recipient instead of purchasing a traditional gift.

• Give the gift of time. Encourage children to offer their help or companionship. They could help with chores, organize a movie night, bake together, or spend time with an older family member. Sometimes the most meaningful gifts are experiences shared together.

• Get creative with handmade gifts. Make scrapbooks, recipe books filled with favorite family recipes, homemade ornaments, or other DIY gifts. Handmade presents are thoughtful and often use materials you already have at home.

• Bake together. Homemade cookies, breads, and other treats make wonderful gifts. Baking together is also a fun way to spend quality time while teaching children kitchen skills.

• Bring your reusable shopping bags. Keep reusable bags handy when shopping for gifts, groceries, and holiday meal supplies.

• Wrap gifts sustainably. Think outside the traditional wrapping paper! Use dish towels, scarves, baskets, reusable shopping bags, or other materials that can be used again.

• Decorate naturally. Gather pinecones, branches, and other natural materials to create beautiful holiday decorations. Many natural decorations can be composted after the season.

Make a Difference
This Holiday Season!

Remember, protecting our environment doesn't require big changes. Small actions, when practiced by many families, can make a big difference. This holiday season - encourage children to think creatively, reuse what they have, reduce waste, and discover that caring for the environment can be fun!

Give a little more thought to your gifts, create meaningful memories, and make this holiday season a little greener!

Happening This Month

November 19th TLA – Hopkins Co

November 24th Master Chef Cooking Club (full) 4-5:30 p.m.

November 25th Poinsettia Fundraiser deadline (noon)

November 27th Thanksgiving (4-H Office Closed)

November 28th 4-H Office Closed

Union County 4-H
Poinsettia Fundraiser Underway

The Union County 4-H program is once again selling poinsettias for the holiday season. This marks the 25th year for the annual fundraiser.

All poinsettias are locally grown and available in a variety of colors and sizes. Color options include red (6.5-and 8-inch pots), white (6.5-inch), pink (6.5-inch), red glitter (6.5-inch), ice crystals (6.5-inch) and marble (6.5-inch). All poinsettias come with a decorative pot cover and in a clear plastic sleeve.

The 6.5-inch poinsettias are $16 each, and the 8-inch red poinsettias are $26 each.

Funds raised support Union County 4-H youth programs and activities throughout the year.

Deadline for ordering Poinsettias is November 23rd. Pick up will be on December 10th and 11th at the Union County Extension Office.

For more information or to place an order, contact the Union County Cooperative Extension Service at 270-389-1400.

Country Ham Project
Signups NOW!

Once again, Union County 4-H is excited to offer the 4-H Country Ham Project to local youth!

The project will take place February through August and provides participants with a hands-on educational experience while learning about the traditional process of curing country hams.

As part of the project, youth will be required to:

• Give a speech on a country ham-related topic at both the Union County Fair and the Kentucky State Fair.

• Complete six educational hours while learning about the country ham curing process.

• Participate in the project activities and complete all required components.

Youth who successfully complete the project will receive the two country hams they cured at the conclusion of the program!

The cost to participate is $85 per youth, which covers the two hams.

For more information, contact the Union County Extension Office at 270-389-1400.

Don't miss this opportunity to be part of a Kentucky tradition while developing valuable life skills through Union County 4-H!

Remember: The deadline to register is December 11, 2026.

Follow Us On Facebook!

To keep up with all the fun events happening in the Union County 4-H Program follow Union County 4H on Facebook for all the latest news, events, and information about 4-H. There you will find interesting articles related to youth/4-H and much more!

Educational programs of the Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expressions, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability.

