



WISCONSIN FAMILY ACTION

CAPITOL Connection



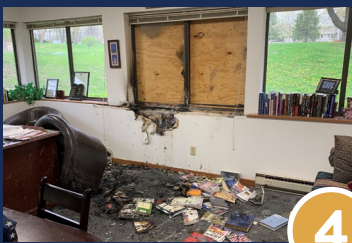
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Legislative Updates



LEAD Wisconsin



Attack Update



Wisconsin Family Action

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wifamilyaction.org | Spring 2023



TOO SOON TO QUIT; DON'T GROW WEARY!

Unfortunately, April's Supreme Court election didn't yield the results we wanted. Self-proclaimed progressive judge Janet Protasiewicz beat out judge Daniel Kelly, who WFA PAC endorsed. This means the court will lean left by a 4-3 margin after Protasiewicz is seated in early August, and we expect Protasiewicz to legislate from the bench, as she has already signaled to Wisconsin voters how she intends to rule on certain cases. Wisconsin's abortion ban will go before the court, and Protasiewicz has given us good reason to believe she will strike it down.

The good news is that we had record-breaking voter turnout for a spring election not coinciding with a presidential primary, and not all was lost in the election results. Conservatives prevailed in many local government races, including the 8th district senate seat.

Thank you for all you did to contribute to that record-breaking turnout—voting, urging your family and friends to vote, encouraging your church to use appropriate election resources, praying, and financially supporting Wisconsin Family Council/Action in our efforts to get like-minded and infrequent voters to the polls!

In partnership with you, Wisconsin Family Action, Inc. (WFA) worked tirelessly to elect conservative leaders during this election. We launched a \$225,000 targeted, statewide, multi-media campaign to encourage Wisconsin voters to not just vote, but to vote for Daniel Kelly. We ran digital ads that educated our targeted individuals about the judicial philosophy of each candidate and sought to motivate them to cast their ballots accordingly. We also provided an online election voter guide to help Christians honor God with

their vote. Without you, what we did wouldn't have been possible. Our preliminary analysis, based on surveys conducted before, during, and after our campaign, shows we turned out 248,000 voters who don't typically vote in spring elections, with, we believe, about 188,000 of those voting for Dan Kelly. We'll know more for sure when we have the voter rolls from the state in the next couple of months. We'll be sure to share our final analysis with you.

Now we must determine what we should do going forward. For starters, we must continue to vote in elections, help find good candidates to run, support those good candidates, and hold elected officials accountable. As Christians, we have a duty to stay informed and involved. **Election results don't dictate how we live or how we respond. We need to show the world how true Christianity responds to adversity.**

**“AND LET US NOT GROW
WEARY
OF DOING GOOD,
FOR IN DUE SEASON WE
WILL REAP, IF WE DO NOT
GIVE UP.”**

GAL. 6:9

Don't let these election results discourage you. Rather, use them as motivation to keep fighting for Christian values in Wisconsin. Scripture tells us to not grow weary in well-doing, to occupy until Jesus comes. It's always too soon to quit! We desperately need you in this battle. You are the real difference-maker!

Wisconsin Family Action's mission is to advance Judeo-Christian principles and values in Wisconsin by strengthening, preserving, and promoting marriage, family, life and religious freedom.

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UNDER THE DOME

2023 Bills On Our Radar

With our new Legislative and Policy Director, Jack Hoogendyk, on board and representing you and our shared values in the state capitol, we have been involved in supporting or opposing numerous legislative proposals. Of course, between now and late June, the vast majority of the legislative air is being taken up by the state's biennial multi-billion dollar budget. But while that process is proceeding, other bills are also being introduced. Following are a few of the key bills we are tracking and working on:

Life

AB 63 - requiring medical personnel to give life-saving treatment to babies who survive an abortion. WFA supports this bill in general, but does not support the exception it contains.

AB 175 - adding rape and incest to the current

law that bans most abortions in Wisconsin. WFA opposes this bill.

AB 176/SB 211 - allowing pharmacists to write prescriptions for certain contraception drugs and devices. WFA opposes this bill.

AB 218 - revoking the current pre-Roe law banning most abortions in Wisconsin. WFA opposes this bill.

Family

AB 1 - establishing a flat income tax of 3.25%. WFA in general supports this bill because it would mean more families could keep more of their earnings.

AB 2 - eliminating the personal property tax. WFA in general supports this bill because it would mean more families could keep more of their earnings.

AB 3 - prohibiting the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social

Work Examining Board from creating and implementing a rule that prohibits licensed marriage and family therapists and counselors from banning so-called "conversion therapy." WFA supports this bill.

AB 15 - restricting minor or pupil access to harmful or obscene materials in school and public libraries. WFA supports this bill.

SB 252 - restructuring who can be represented on a school district's Human Growth and Development advisory committee. WFA supports the bill and is seeking an amendment to the bill.

AB 77/SB 74 - allows automatic registration for schools and families involved in a Parental Choice Program. WFA supports this bill.



Connecting Pastors & Elected Officials

CHURCH AMBASSADOR NETWORK

One way Wisconsin Family Council's Church Ambassador Network is a resource to churches is through our election outreach. This spring, we contacted 1566 churches throughout Wisconsin to encourage people in our local churches to honor God with their vote. National averages suggest 10% of churches will use election resources. Of those churches we contacted, 43% utilized our Wisconsin Family Council resources! The toolkit included bulletin inserts, videos, PowerPoint slides, and a prayer guide.

God has been opening doors for us at the Capitol as well. So far this year, we have had over 130 meetings with governing authorities. We've met with members of the executive, legislative, and judicial branch. Twenty-eight pastors and ministry leaders have joined us to minister to elected officials as a person, as a shepherd, and as a community partner. One representative asked a pastor how they can better defend the pro-life position with Scripture. Another told us that our biblical presentation on life is the reason abortion expansion will not pass the State Assembly. Last week a governing authority asked us to partner churches with her office to be a solution to the childcare crisis. God is using the Church Ambassador Network to mobilize the church to influence government and our elected officials with the gospel, which is exactly as it should be.

Difference-making partners make CAN possible. When we visit legislative offices, in a real sense you are going there too, as a valued partner. Thank you for investing.



Our biannual Pastoral Advisory Committee Meeting



Our Church Ambassador Network Team

OUR NEXT EVENTS

Last year, our team was able to meet with so many of you throughout the state as part of our "Your Backyard: Own It!" series. Now, we are pleased to announce our upcoming "Religious Freedom Matters!" tour kicking off this fall!

Our religious freedom is squarely in the cross-hairs of every culture war today. Is it worth defending? Does it really matter? Join us for a dynamic presentation as we discuss our "first freedom" and what we can and must do to protect this foundational liberty.

Dinner is included in the evening and is complimentary. To be sure you know when and where our community events will be held, sign up for email updates at WiFamilyAction.org.

PRAISE GOD FOR LEAD WI!

Over the last two years, we've seen God work in tremendous ways through LEAD Wisconsin. Last year, we saw campers come to faith in Christ and experience spontaneous revival as they heard practical presentations on biblical worldview, interacted with people who shared how God has worked in their lives in unique ways, gained leadership experience, and grappled with the legislative bills they supported and opposed.

Following is what some recent LEAD WI campers and a donor have to say about the camp. As you can tell, this week-long worldview/leadership camp built on a government and civics platform is incredibly impactful.

"It was the best camp I've been to, and I definitely feel that my relationship with God was strengthened. It's given me more confidence in the decisions I make, and I definitely don't regret coming."

"I'm so happy, too, that the LEAD conference was at 100% capacity. It makes me feel hopeful about the future." -LEAD WI Donor

"It is totally worth it. The amount you learn paired with actual experience applying it to make the teaching stick. And if that is not enough, it is SO FUN!!!"

Thanks to your faithful prayers and generous financial support, LEAD WI continues to grow. We are looking forward to pouring into over 130 teens in just a few weeks. This year's LEAD WI will take place July 16-21. Teen campers will have a unique opportunity to engage in authentic leadership simulations, biblical worldview discussions, and faith-building sessions.

Another way you can support and be involved with LEAD WI is investing your time. This year, we still very much have a need for Crew members. The Lord has blessed us with a full camp, but we are still looking for people to help throughout the week. Crew members must be 19 years or older. Crew members 19-25 years old will be paid \$500 for the week, while chaperones (25+ years old) will be compensated room & board for the week. Please visit LEADWI.org/volunteer for more information!



What people are
saying about
LEAD WI



LEADWI.org

MAKING MUCH OF MARRIAGE

We really are about marriage and family! Last year, our inaugural year for our Wisconsin Marriage Hall of Fame, we inducted 11 couples who had been married 65 or more years. This year, we opened the application for the next round of inductees in mid-January. Ultimately, in early March we inducted 30 Wisconsin couples who have been married 60 or more years into the Marriage Hall of Fame! We issued a press release and sent each couple a beautiful framed certificate along with a personal note congratulating them on this honor and thanking them for setting a beautiful example for those coming after them.

We love doing something positive and public for marriage! This is another area where your partnership is making a real difference in our state.



a note from JULAINE APPLING

My mind is struggling to come to grips with the reality that it has been a year since the firebombing of our office. So much has happened over those 12 months: all the cleanup and restoration of my office, LEAD WI 2022, fall primary and general elections, our year-end campaign, and then the spring primary and spring general election, two Day at the Capitol events for school groups, more than a dozen community events around the state, speaking opportunities, new hires, and more.

We said from the first interview after the attack that this incident would not stop us, that we would not be intimidated or bullied into silence, and we certainly wouldn't even think of "going away" because the work we are doing is too important. Even the written threat the anarchists left us will not and has not deterred us: *"If abortions aren't safe, then neither are you."* And because we have an awesome God and great partners like you, we can make such statements and then confidently do what we say.

While it has been a year since the attack, we are still very much on alert when it comes to our safety and in particular the safety of the 130+ teens and 40+ CREW members who will be with us for LEAD WI in July.

In addition to the security measures we've already taken, we are right now working with a vendor to get some safety film added to all our windows (nearly 30 of them!) and to purchase new blinds for all our office space. Once again we will need to have 24/7 armed security for our LEAD WI camp. We'd prefer not to have to spend money on such things, but that's the reality we now live with 24/7. We know God will supply each need.

We are here to serve you and are honored to do so. Thank you for standing solidly with us over this past very eventful year.

Julaine
President, WFA

ATTACK UPDATE!



In March, Hridindu Sankar Roychowdhury, 29, was arrested at Boston's Logan International Airport in Massachusetts as he was attempting to board a plane headed for Guatemala. Mr. Roychowdhury is charged with one count of attempting to cause damage by means of fire or an explosive for the attack on our office on Mother's Day, May 8, 2022. This charge carries a mandatory minimum sentence of five years up to a maximum of twenty years. Currently, the alleged perpetrator has been extradited from and is being held in the Dane County Jail. He has pled not guilty to the charges against him. The case is being tried in federal court at the Federal Courthouse in Madison. Recently, Mr. Roychowdhury requested to be released for the duration of the court case. The federal judge denied his request.

While we are grateful progress is being made in resolving our case, we do not have any other details about the organization and funding behind over 100 attacks on pro-life organizations,

churches, and pregnancy care centers across America that have occurred since the U.S. Supreme Court's *Dobbs* decision was leaked just days before the attack on our office. Of course, this is the decision that ultimately, on June 24, 2022, overturned *Roe v. Wade*.

We will keep you updated as more information becomes available on the case involving the arrested alleged perpetrator. Thank you for your concern, your prayers, and your support in so many ways over this last year! We can't imagine going through this without our friends!



What You Can Do

■ PRAY

- Pray for WFC's Church Ambassador Network outreach program to connect pastors with elected officials.
- Pray for our LEAD WI camp held July 16-21 this year. Pray that God will give us the Crew members he wants us to have and that lives will be changed and challenged during this week.

■ STAY INFORMED

Be sure to connect with us to stay up to date on events, bills, LEAD WI, and more by subscribing to our FREE weekly newsletter at WIFamilyAction.org. Your contact information is confidential and will not be shared or sold.

■ FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Get breaking news and timely information via social media. Follow us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, or Parler below.

■ INVEST IN THIS IMPORTANT WORK

Your partnership is truly difference-making! Your financial investment impacts what kind of candidates get elected, helps hold them accountable once elected, keeps the CAN team on the road and in the capitol, changes a teen's life through LEAD WI, influences thousands through statewide radio, and more.

■ BECOME A CHURCH LIAISON

As a Church Liaison, you can serve your pastor and church by bringing valuable information and resources to them, all designed especially for churches and pastors. For details and to sign up, call 888-378-7395.

■ VOLUNTEER

There are several ways in which you can volunteer and make a difference. For more information call 866-849-2536.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TODAY!



DONATE TODAY!



WISCONSIN FAMILY ACTION
Marriage|Family|Life|Liberty

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