



WISCONSIN FAMILY ACTION CAPITOL Connection



inside this issue



2

New Team Members



3

Making a Difference in the Capitol



4

Time to register for LEAD WI



Wisconsin Family Action
P O Box 7486, Madison, WI 53707
866-849-2536

wifamilyaction.org | Winter 2023



WHAT MAKES THE SPRING WI SUPREME COURT RACE SO CRITICAL

Another election is around the corner, and you can be the difference makers!

The Fall 2022 midterm election results were not entirely unexpected, even if disappointing in some ways. The big races—US senate, governor and attorney general were all close. But at the end of the day, Wisconsin voters kept Republican US Senator Ron Johnson, added conservatives in both the State Senate and Assembly, and added a conservative to the state's Congressional delegation with Republican Derrick Van Orden winning the 3rd Congressional District.

Now, only a few months later, Wisconsinites must make another crucial decision at the ballot box to determine the balance of the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

The balance of the court is currently 4-3, favoring conservative justices, but incumbent Patience Roggensack is retiring, making the upcoming election (with the primary on February 21 and general on April 4) absolutely critical for the future of Wisconsin.

Here's what could happen if the court shifts to 4-3 with a liberal majority:

- Wisconsin's pre-Roe law will be overturned in its entirety and a "right" to abortion will be concocted in our state constitution, resulting in abortion on demand.
- All current abortion regulations/restrictions will be overturned, leaving women and

their unborn children without any protection.

- All references to mother and father and other gender-specific family-relation words, as well as gender-specific pronouns, will be prohibited in official documents
- Biological males will be allowed to participate in girls' and women's athletic contests and on their teams, as well as have access to their restrooms, locker rooms, changing facilities, etc.
- The Parental Choice Programs (voucher programs) will be eliminated.
- Parents' rights will be subjugated to the desires of those looking for special rights and protections of special groups ("trans" students, etc.)
- Marriage could be defined to include polyamory and polygamy and more
- Election reform will be impossible to attain and retain.
- Act 10 overturned
- District maps redrawn.
- And just about anything else conservatives have worked for and put in place over the last decade-plus.

This is THE election. Liberals know it. Fall 2022 was almost "small potatoes" to them; they were planning even then for how they will win this Supreme Court race.

These "world-changers" know this is the best chance and the best way for them to advance their dangerous and destructive agenda. The question is, do Wisconsin conservatives know it, and are they willing to do the hard work necessary to protect this key judicial position? This is YOUR moment to make a major difference!

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.

© 2023 Wisconsin Family Action. All rights reserved.

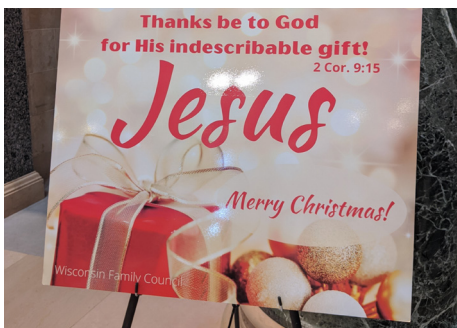
In The News

CHRISTMAS IN THE CAPITOL

Bringing the Truth to the seat of government

Continuing its 27-year tradition, Wisconsin Family Council (WFC) and Wisconsin Family Action (WFA) once again sponsored a Christmas display in the State Capitol Rotunda.

The sign wished everyone a Merry Christmas and reminded visitors of the real reason for the season—that Jesus Christ—God’s indescribable gift—was born to become mankind’s Savior.



Wisconsin Family Action placed an accom-

panying nativity display, a tradition begun several years ago.

The WFC sign counters the dark and hopeless message of Freedom from Religion’s (FFRF) sign, which “celebrates” the Winter Solstice. Our sign gloriously celebrates the Creator of the Winter Solstice!

The WFA nativity gives visitors the truth about the season in contrast to the blasphemous “nativity” sponsored by FFRF, which blasphemously depicts the US Bill of Rights as the baby in the manger, surrounded by America’s Founding Fathers. While this document and our Founding Fathers certainly are essential parts of American history to be respected, they are not the true meaning of Christmas, and FFRF’s accompanying sign falsely claims the world doesn’t need religion, just for people to be “kind,” even though we know FFRF is routinely less than kind to Christians.



“Celebrating Christ’s birth is a Christian celebration, an American holiday, and a Wisconsin tradition,” said Julaine Appling, president of WFA and WFC. “It is altogether fitting for us to share the message of Christmas with our fellow Wisconsin citizens through this public display.”

Every year we hear from folks who visit the capitol during the Christmas season, telling us how grateful they are that the Truth of Christmas is displayed in the seat of our government.

We are incredibly grateful for our partners who make this display possible. Imagine how many people saw the truth this year!

New Team Members!

MEET SIERRA JOHN & JACK HOOGENDYK

Thanks to your partnership, WFA was able to make two recent hires to expand our team and the reach of WFA’s and WFC’s influence! Sierra John not only serves as WFA’s Digital Director, but she also recently took on the role of Director for our impactful LEAD WI program!

Hi everyone! I’m Sierra, and I joined WFA/WFC in June 2022, as a recent graduate from Maranatha Baptist University. I am the Digital Director and LEAD Wisconsin Director on the team. I also am newly engaged, with a December wedding in the works!



I enjoy using my Digital Media Communications degree to create many different designs and elements for WFA and WFC. There’s always something—and usually many somethings—going on in our office; so I get to design for a variety of things, and I love variety. But I’m most excited about my role as LEAD Wisconsin Director. LEAD Wisconsin is such an incredibly unique opportunity, one that I wish I had had in high school. It’s great to be a part of a program that shows teens they don’t need to segment their lives from the Bible, but rather that the Bible actually speaks to all of our cultural issues today. It’s a great camp, and I’m excited to help facilitate its growth and expand it with even more opportunities.

Our amazing community of donors are at the heart of this leadership and worldview camp! Because we want to provide as many teens as possible with this amazing opportunity, our registration fee covers less than half of what it actually costs to run LEAD WI. Our donors are a key part of allowing LEAD Wisconsin to operate each year through covering operating costs and making it possible for us to give financial aid to campers who need help.

We couldn’t do LEAD Wisconsin without the extensive support, financially and through prayers, of our donors and community. Thank you! Thank you for investing in the next generation, allowing them to see a continually relevant God and His Word for situations where they are being taught the opposite. If you are looking for ways to be more involved with LEAD Wisconsin, please visit www.leadwi.org/volunteer. We covet your prayers as we continue planning for another great summer!

We are also thrilled to introduce Jack Hoogendyk! Jack will fill a critical role at Wisconsin Family Action—Legislative and Policy Director. His background equips him well for this position.

NEW HIRES, CONT'D



A native of Michigan, Jack has a diverse background that includes being a national sales manager for a Fortune 500 company. With an inherent interest in government and genuine concern for the direction of our country, Jack served in local, county, and even state government there. He term-limited out as a state representative, but while serving was twice rated the most conservative member of the Michigan House of Representatives. That's our kind of guy!

Jack moved to Wisconsin ten years ago, having become the executive director of Hope Life Center in Wausau, a pro-life pregnancy care center that offers multiple services to women in crisis pregnancies. Under Jack's leadership, Hope has moved to a better and more visible

location, significantly increased its budget, expanded its services and reach and even added a mobile unit.

"I love the mission and vision of Wisconsin Family Action and am excited to serve as Legislative and Policy Director. It's an honor to build on what has been done over the past 30-plus years. We have a busy session ahead of us, and I'm ready to get to work," Jack says. And we are ready for that, too!

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE CAPITOL

One of the most exciting and important initiatives we've ever undertaken is Wisconsin Family Council's Church Ambassador Network (CAN). This effort is made possible by generous friends who want to make a difference now and for eternity. We are grateful they share our vision and passion.

CAN is about connecting the shepherds of God's church—pastors—to the ministers of government—elected officials—not for politics or policy purposes, but for the purpose of creating real and redemptive relationships for the furthering of the Gospel.

Growth best describes CAN's 2022—growth made possible by our generous partners. The team launched a Pastoral Advisory Committee that provides a greater foundation for our initiative to advance the Gospel in the Capitol, attended over 60 meetings with pastors around the state, and hired a part-time administrative assistant to help manage the details.

The Lord has opened many doors for this ministry at the Capitol. Last year CAN had over 102 meetings with governing authorities with 26 pastors being part of those meetings. The CAN team, led by Director Daniel Degner and Dave Lingle, Church Ambassador, has built great relationship with members in both the Senate and State Assembly, Republicans and Democrats.

Consider the difference you, our partners, are making with this effort. One legislator told the CAN team that they are the first organization or person to ever tell her they cared about her as a human being made in the Image of God. Another legislator who appreciated the ministry to him as a minister of God in government, "I wish the Church Ambassador Network was here when I was first elected." That legislator is now encouraging all freshman Representatives of their caucus to meet with the CAN team and pastors!

In just the first few weeks of this new legislative session the CAN team had over 25 pastor connections in 22 meetings with governing authorities in the legislative and executive branch. We believe the prayers and investments of our partners are making a difference in our Capitol for now and for eternity. Use the QR code to get more information about CAN.



a note from JULAINE APPLING

In case you are wondering what kind of difference you, our valued partner, are making, consider this:

- Dozens of elected officials have had pastors visit them, share Scripture, and pray for and with them through CAN.
- Over 100 young people have been challenged to develop and use a Biblical worldview to impact their generation and beyond through LEAD WI.
- Good bills have passed in the legislature; and bills that would be harmful to marriage, family, life, or religious freedom have been stopped here in Wisconsin and in Washington through direct lobbying and grassroots campaigns.
- Citizens around the state have received practical information about how to own their own backyards by getting involved with local government through our community events and informational websites.
- Long-married couples are honored through WFC-sponsored WI Marriage Hall of Fame (apply or refer someone at wifamilycouncil.org by Feb. 20!).
- Tens of thousands of conservative voters are informed and convinced to go to the polls on election days.

I could go on and on. What a difference you are making in individual lives, in families, as well as in the corporate life of our state and even nation! Thank you for caring, for being involved, for investing in multiple ways.

We are honored and humbled beyond words to partner with you in work that is truly difference-making.

Because of you, we are able to move into this new year with sufficient resources to do what needs to be done in these first few months that include a critically important election, a new legislative session, planning for LEAD WI, hosting events around the state, keeping a strong media presence, and more. All the above makes a difference in real lives--and you are why it can happen! To God be the glory! He's doing great things through you!

Julaine
President, WFA

REGISTER FOR LEAD WI 2023!

Registration is now open for LEAD WI 2023, and there's an early-bird discount if you register before March 30! In our inaugural year, we hosted 80 campers; LEAD WI was so popular, that last year, we were able to host 103 campers!

What, Where, When

- Learn to live out your faith in the real world; be Empowered to fulfill God's purpose in your life. Act like a leader. Discover & unlock your God-given potential. That's what LEAD WI is about!
- Campers will be immersed into a Senate, Assembly, or Media track to learn how to engage real-world issues and learn specific skills in political engagement or journalism/media all in a fun-filled camp experience that includes 2 trips to the State Capitol!
- Maranatha Baptist University in Watertown, WI
- July 16-21, 2023
- For ages 13-19 (entering 8th grade through just completed 12th grade!)

Learn more and register at LEADWI.org, or scan the QR code!



What You Can Do

■ PRAY

- Pray for WFC's Church Ambassador Network outreach program to connect pastors with elected officials to form authentic redemptive relationships.
- Pray for the upcoming spring elections. That God's people will vote and will vote in ways that honor Him.

■ 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.

■ SHARE

Encourage others to join you in making a difference through WFA and WFC.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE
TODAY!



WISCONSIN FAMILY ACTION
Marriage|Family|Life|Liberty

PO Box 7486, Madison, WI 53707 • 866-849-2536 • wifamilyaction.org

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. ©2022 Wisconsin Family Action. All rights reserved.

follow us
and continue to pray



twitter.com/WIFamilyAction



parler@WIFamilyAction



[instagram.com/WIFamilyAction](https://www.instagram.com/WIFamilyAction)



[facebook.com/WisconsinFamilyAction](https://www.facebook.com/WisconsinFamilyAction)

