



WISCONSIN FAMILY COUNCIL
Marriage|Family|Life|Liberty



Church Connection July 2015

Strengthening, Preserving & Promoting Marriage, Family, Life & Liberty

Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.

Psalm 2:1-4

*We have moved!
Our new mailing
address is:*

*PO Box 14440
Madison, WI
53708*

*Please note this in
your records.*

In God We Trust?

It's our national motto, though given current events, one can't help but wonder: For how much longer? Did the founders of this great country really trust in God? Who did they look to for direction in a time of great adversity, a time of the heavy hand of government taking away their individual freedoms and their ability to self-determine? We don't have to look much beyond the words of the Declaration of Independence for a reasonable answer.

Fifty-six different men signed this document. Men from all walks of life, representing the diversity of the colonies. They understood what they were doing. The Declaration of Independence represented the sentiments of all who took the quill and with their signature pledged to one another, their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor.

The Declaration of Independence was not rashly composed. There were some 86 changes to the original draft, including the insertion of three complete paragraphs, before its adoption on July 4, 1776. The deliberations and changes make it clear: The founders were extremely careful about the wording.



In the opening paragraph of this incredible document, the signers make a bold statement regarding the "Laws of Nature and of Nature's God," with the word *God* capitalized. Clearly these men were referring to the God revealed in Scripture.

The second paragraph has this phenomenal declaration: *We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.* Again, the signers universally agreed that the Creator was the same as "Nature's God."

In the concluding paragraph, the colonists, through their

continued on back

Pray

- That Congress will pass the First Amendment Defense Act.
- That pro-life legislation will be passed in our state and country and be upheld when it is legally challenged.
- Pray for a smooth transition from our current office to our new-to-us office.

What Can You Do To Be Sure Your Ministry Is Protected?

Every church, Christian school, and Christian organization needs to take steps now to make sure its core documents provide the best legal protection against the attacks that are almost sure to come.

Visit
[wifamilycouncil.org/
resources/churches](http://wifamilycouncil.org/resources/churches)

lected representatives to Congress, boldly declare their decision: “That these united Colonies are, and of Right ought to be free and independent states, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown...”

Strong words. Frightening words. But their trust was not in themselves, individually or collectively. Rather their trust and appeal was to the “Supreme Judge of the world,” to God Almighty. In those days everyone knew they were referring to the God revealed in the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures. For those 56 men who risked everything signing this document, “In God We Trust” was a rock-solid belief, not just a motto. It was direction in the midst of oppressive circumstances, the light of hope in the midst of dark tyranny.

To understate it, those were difficult days. We also live in challenging times. Powerful cultural forces are intent on destroying marriage as God designed it, the foundation of civilized society. The Solicitor General testified to the Supreme Court that the deconstruction and redefinition of marriage would have significant implications for religious liberty. What are we to do?

Our national motto and the faith of the founders serve as a reminder: “In God We Trust.” We need to continue to pray for God to send revival and spiritual renewal to our land. We must pray for our leaders to stand boldly and unashamedly for what is right. By the time you read this, the US Supreme Court will have rendered an opinion on marriage. Every Christian church and ministry needs to make sure it has done all it can to protect itself legally from the attacks that are almost sure to come. (See side bar on this page.)

Pastors and Christians also need to show their support, *en masse*, for legislation on the state and federal level that reinforces and protects our First Amendment freedom of religion. And finally we must be faithful in trusting God. The God of our Founding Fathers is still God, and it is still right for us as individuals and as a nation to declare boldly, “In God We Trust.”

About Wisconsin Family Council

Wisconsin Family Council is a 501 (c)(3) organization that since 1986 has been advancing Judeo-Christian principles and values in Wisconsin. We have largely done this by informing Wisconsin citizens, policymakers and churches about the important legislative and cultural issues so that they can be involved in strengthening and preserving marriage, family, life and liberty in our state.

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