



## Church Connection April 2017

### Making America Great Again

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

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*My son, hear the  
instruction of thy father,  
and forsake not the law  
of thy mother...if sinners  
entice thee,  
consent thou not.  
Proverbs 1:8 & 10  
Righteousness exalteth  
a nation: but sin is a  
reproach to any people.  
Proverbs 14:34*

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**Mark Your Calendar!**  
WFC presents,  
“2017: What Now?”  
with Julaine Appling  
Thurs., Apr. 20, 6-8 p.m.  
Oshkosh Pizza Ranch  
Thurs., Apr. 27, 6-8 p.m.  
Weston Pizza Ranch

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“All great change in  
America begins at the  
dinner table.”  
~Ronald Reagan

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Here is a potentially  
helpful resource for  
families: *Parenting: The  
14 Gospel Principles  
That Can Radically  
Change Your Family*, by  
Paul David Tripp

“**M**ake America great again.” This might be a good campaign slogan, but what really needs to happen to make America great again? Can a president do that on his own? Or even in cooperation with Congress? Or is America’s greatness determined by factors different from economic policies, trade agreements, immigration laws, business regulations and foreign policies? In truth, America’s past, present and future greatness resides in a different place. America’s greatness is in the family, which is the bedrock of this or any nation.

Family is not just any group of people who like each other and agree to some level of commitment. As God designed family, it begins with one man and one woman who enter into a monogamous, lifelong commitment to each other in marriage. Typically that union results in children—either biologically or through adoption. The father and mother, having committed themselves exclusively to each other, then commit themselves to the upbringing of these children.



They are to love, nurture, discipline, instruct, educate, and train these children—these gifts, this “heritage of the Lord”—in a way that is good for the children and brings glory to God.

To the extent that moms and dads in America take this responsibility seriously, to that extent we will see America made great again.

In what ways should dads and moms especially focus their time in this fast-paced, technologically-driven age that is determined to have unrestricted liberty and license?

**Return to the basics.** Because we are engaged in spiritual warfare, we need to make personal and family Bible reading a priority, complete with prayer and discussion. Start when the children are tiny and build Truth into their lives!

**Attend church weekly as a family.** And just as importantly, live a transparent, authentic life before your children, individually and as a couple. Practice what you say you

*continued on back*

## Pray...

- For “all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.” 1 Tim. 2:2
- For the work and financial needs of Wisconsin Family Council

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Here are just a few of the ways WFC seeks to serve believers and churches in our state:

- Being your eyes and ears in our state capitol and your voice for biblical values.
- Producing weekly email and radio broadcasts to keep you informed about what is happening in our state relative to marriage, family, life and religious liberty.
- Distributing voter information to help you be a good steward of your vote.
- Developing a legislative scorecard so you can know how your elected officials are performing in office.
- Defending and promoting biblical values in mainstream print and broadcast media.
- Keeping on staff a full-time Director of Church Relations, dedicated to serving pastors and churches.

believe, complete with admitting wrong and asking forgiveness. Use every opportunity to shape the thinking and the character of your children, talking to them and modeling for them what a life lived in obedience and surrender to Christ really looks like.

**Establish boundaries and accountability.** Filter all computers and all personal technological devices. Check your kids’ phones and tablets—for their good and protection. Talk to them about why this is important. Hold yourself accountable as well in this important area.

**Explore your choices relative to formal education.** Pray about this. Don’t let money be the deciding factor in the decision regarding your children’s education. In Wisconsin we have many educational choices. Read Psalm 1 and think about it in relationship to your children’s schooling. Who provides the formal education for your children matters—not just in the short run, but also in the long run. If you choose a “traditional” setting for school, remember how much influence those teachers and that school will have on your children. What are they learning about origins of the universe, about America’s history, about human sexuality, marriage and family, economics and a host of other subjects?

**Be sure your children know what America is all about.** Rehearse our history, connect our history to current events, celebrate patriotic days, visit historic sites and read stories to them from the time they are little about great Americans. Hold family meetings to discuss important events as they happen. Take time to explain them to your children—always within a biblical framework. Make a big deal of voting, of being involved with your government, and of praying for elected officials.

This is not an exhaustive list, but it’s a start. If we are going to make America great again, it will take more than Executive Orders, policies and laws—even very good ones. It will take ordinary families committed to doing seemingly ordinary things that will have extraordinary results—a generation that loves and honors God, respects others, works hard, and has the character to do and stand up for what is right. That’s when America will be great again.

## About Wisconsin Family Council

*Wisconsin Family Council is a 501 (c)(3) organization that has been advancing Judeo-Christian principles and values in Wisconsin since 1986. 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.*

“Church Connection” is published monthly by WFC and is available to churches in Wisconsin.

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