



WISCASIN FAMILY COUNCIL
Marriage|Family|Life|Liberty



Church Connection February 2018

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

*Finally, my brethren,
be strong in the Lord,
and in the power of his
might...take unto you
the whole armor of God,
that ye may be able to
withstand in the evil day,
and having done all, to
stand.*

Ephesians 6:10 & 13

Join us for...

*“Punching Holes in the
Darkness: Equipping
Christians To Bring
Light to the Critical
Issues of Our Day”*

A presentation by Julaine
Appling, WFC president

Thurs., Feb. 8, 6-8 p.m.,
Sheboygan Pizza Ranch

Thurs. Feb. 22, 6-8 p.m.,
Green Bay Pizza Ranch

Register online at
wifamilycouncil.org

or call us at
888-378-7395.

See wifamilycouncil.org,
“Resources,” “Family,” for
links to helpful articles.

Making Your Family Great

Family is not just the middle word in our organizational name. It’s the heart of our ministry. We take very seriously God’s plan for marriage and family, the foundational relationships for people and the foundational institution for every society. When we individually and collectively get marriage and family right, everyone benefits.

Strong families, starting with strong dad-and-mom marriages, are every church’s, community’s, state’s and nation’s best natural resource. That God designed this to be so should be enough for us to take marriage and family seriously, but today, sadly, it’s not. Our day demands empirical data for such assertions. Fortunately, we have that.

Actually, there’s an enormous amount of data supporting the assertion that strong, married dad-and-mom families are essential to well-ordered, well-functioning, prosperous, sustainable societies. Not everyone believes the data, however, as too many policy decisions and headlines make painfully obvious.



Because we believe in God’s plan and know common sense, everyday observation and empirical data support it, we want to do what we can to strengthen this bedrock institution. In that spirit, we offer some ideas for 2018 to do just that.

- **Spend more quality family time together.** This isn’t just about having everyone under the same roof, in different rooms doing different things. This is about the entire family unit intentionally setting aside time to do family activities. Vary the activities. Include fun, physically active times, times of service for others, family game nights and more. Build family bonds and memories.

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Mark Your Calendar!

February 20—Wisconsin Spring Primary, with statewide race for WI Supreme Court Justice, an incredibly important position. Please be sure to vote!

What Others Are Saying

The disintegration of the two-parent family is the greatest long-term threat to American prosperity and cultural health... But more consequential than the risks to individual children is the cultural pathology of regarding fathers as an optional appendage for child-rearing... Family decline will be stemmed only when it is widely understood that care provided by both biological parents is the most powerful social and economic advantage that any child can enjoy.

~Heather MacDonald,
The Manhattan Institute

In other words, God's plan for the family really is best for everyone. May the Lord help us to proclaim and live this truth.

- **Spend more time together around God's Word.** Gathering as a family to read God's Word, talk about it and how it applies to every-day living, and praying together does amazing things for families—assuming dad and mom are positive, upbeat and committed to it happening. Memorizing passages of Scripture together is a great way to hide the Word of God in hearts both young and old.
- **Faithfully meet with your local church.** Going to church together as a family is one of the most important safeguards to keeping a family together and on the right track. It's about the example of commitment to the family of God, faithfulness in that commitment, corporate worship, and service to and with others.
- **Limit technology use.** We continue to address this because it is becoming more and more important—and not just for the young. Limiting technology use for families begins with dad and mom limiting their own and helping their kids by having family guidelines. Consider making a family compact in this area. Smart phones offer access to every kind of temptation. Parents need to hold themselves accountable, and also help ensure their children aren't sucked into the dark side of the cyber world. (Resolving to have no technology at meals is a great idea.)
- **Husbands and wives, purpose to make sure your children know you love each other.** The best thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother. The flip-side of that is true, as well. When children know their parents love each other, their sense of security is greatly increased. Additionally, marriage done well is catching! Children who see love, affection, respect, and togetherness modeled in their parents will want that for themselves one day and will know much more about how to have it.

These ideas aren't rocket science—but neither is strengthening your family unit. It doesn't take brilliance. It does take dedication, purposeful planning, heart-felt commitment and a few ideas you believe you can truly do. It is never too late to make positive, intentional, Christ-honoring changes. Ask God regularly for His wisdom and His help to make your family great for His glory and their good.

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, preserving and promoting marriage, family, life and religious liberty in our state.

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

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