



WISCONSIN FAMILY COUNCIL
Marriage|Family|Life|Liberty

Church Connection September 2019

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

Ye are the salt of the earth; but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 5:13-16

Mark your calendar...

Join us for "2020 Vision: Contending for the Faith, Challenging the Culture."

- Thurs., Sept. 12, La Crosse, Black River Beach Neighborhood Center
- Thurs., Sept. 19, Eau Claire, Pizza Ranch
- Tues. Oct. 1, West Bend, Pizza Ranch

Register at 888-378-7395 or wifamilycouncil.org/events.

Christian Heritage Week

Did you know that last year then-Governor Scott Walker officially declared September 9th-15th as "Christian Heritage Week" in Wisconsin? Similar official proclamations have been made in Wisconsin going back at least as far as 1994. If you have school-aged children in your life, ask them if they have heard about "Christian Heritage Week" at school. Sadly, the most likely answer will be "no."

The text of Governor Walker's 2018 proclamation is instructive:

"Whereas the Preamble to the Constitution of Wisconsin states that 'We, the people of Wisconsin, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom...domestic tranquility...do establish this Constitution,' and [w]hereas

Benjamin Franklin, at the Constitutional Convention in 1787, stated, 'It is impossible to build an empire without our Father's aid. I believe the sacred writings which say that 'Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain (Psalm 127:1)'; and [w]hereas George Washing-



ton said, 'animated alone by the pure spirit of Christianity, and conducting ourselves as the faithful subjects of our free government, we may enjoy ever temporal and spiritual felicity'; and [w]hereas Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence, wrote, 'Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed the conviction that these liberties are a gift from God?'; and [w]hereas James Madison, father of the U.S. Constitution, advocated 'the diffusion of the light of Christianity in our nation' and [w]hereas these, and many other truly great men and women of America, were statesmen of caliber and integrity who did not hesitate to express their faith, now, therefore, I, Scott Walker, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim September 9-15, 2018, as Christian Heritage Week throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all of our citizens."

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Pray for...

- Your pastor and his family as he seeks to faithfully serve Jesus.
- Our elected officials, I Timothy 2:1-4.
- Our police officers and military personnel.
- Marriages and families in your church.
- The work of Wisconsin Family Council in our state.
- Healing of our land, and that God would use recent tragedies to cause us to turn to Him.

Helpful Resources*

- For a series of 5 lessons on the Christian heritage of The United States, go to: www.wallbuilders.com/chw/lessons.
- *In God We Still Trust, A 365 Day Devotional*, Dr. Richard G. Lee, (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2011, 384 pp).
- wifamilycouncil.org/wisconsin-christian-heritage-week/

*Inclusion of a resource does not mean WFC endorses an organization or agrees with everything an author says. "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." (I Thess. 5:21)

Governor Walker used quotations from our nations' founders to demonstrate our Christian heritage. Clearly these statements support the contention that America does indeed have a strong Christian heritage.

Today's very secular culture would like to revise this aspect of our national history. The goal of expunging the impact of Christianity on our history would make it much easier to advance a liberal, progressive and destructive agenda. Christianity is a real impediment to what they want America to become—a totally humanistic, socialistic, godless shell of its original self. Forgetting our history is one of the best ways to ensure that Christianity has little, if any, impact on our national future.

The antidote to no one knowing about Christian Heritage Week, or more importantly knowing the truth about our Christian heritage, is for families to instruct their children about our awesome heritage.

For example, did you know all 50 state constitutions make reference to God or Providence or the Supreme Judge? While the US Constitution doesn't include such a direct reference, the signing of the original includes the phrase, "in the year of our Lord." We also certainly see those references in the Declaration of Independence, the founding document of our existence as a nation. Even a cursory survey of the writings of many of our founders and those following our founders' era are replete with distinctly Christian references.

Consider how many national days of prayer and fasting presidents have called. Reading those proclamations makes it very clear that the nation has a Christian heritage. Certainly rehearsing the story of William Bradford and the 1620 voyage of *The Mayflower* and the signing of The Mayflower Compact beautifully relates our strong Christian heritage—one that is unique to America. No other country was founded in the way and for the reasons ours was.

With just a little time spent researching online, parents can get some excellent information that will help them teach their children about our Christian heritage. Unless we do this family by family, our Christian heritage will rather quickly be completely forgotten and while annual Christian Heritage Week proclamations may continue, they will be meaningless. Let's not let that happen. We can ensure it won't, one family at a time.

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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