

CHURCH CONNECTION

DECEMBER 2022



“ON PURPOSE & WITH A PURPOSE”

“Jesus Christ came on purpose and with a purpose.” Just nine words, yet words we ought to regularly share with others and express in our prayers as an expression of truth and gratitude.

Galatians 4:4-5 beautifully expresses this truth: *“But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.”*

In the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son. What a powerful statement! That tells us this happened at exactly the right moment, with the Father’s exact planning, accomplishing every detail—no matter how small—of how He would come, when He would come, and where He would come. Jesus Christ did indeed come on purpose. Our great God had planned it from eternity past.

Jesus Christ also came for a purpose—a very specific purpose—to become our Savior, to redeem us so we can be adopted into God’s family. *“For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”*

There’s the purpose clearly stated in John 3:16. Fulfilling the purpose for Jesus’s coming meant several years of public ministry and rejection by His own people. It meant ultimately the cruelest form of death at that time—crucifixion—complete with scourging, a crown of thorns, bearing His own cross, mocking, spitting, unbelief, and disbelief—but the Sovereign purpose was accomplished.

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STRENGTHENING,
PRESERVING & PROMOTING
MARRIAGE, FAMILY, LIFE &
RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Mark Your Calendar!

**Sunday, January 22, 2023,
Sanctity of Life Sunday**

Thankfully, we saw the end of *Roe v. Wade* this year. What an amazing victory for life that was! But the battle is not over. We confront a culture of death daily.

Will you plan now to do something to promote the sanctity of life in the coming year?

As this year comes to a close, would you consider beginning the new year with a “Choose Life” license plate? This is a wonderful way to promote a positive message to the culture, and to provide a funding stream to the pregnancy centers in our state that are doing wonderful life-saving, woman-helping work. For more info, visit chooselifewisconsin.com.



“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

Isaiah 9:6

Jesus Christ took our sins on Himself, paying a debt we could never pay. Praise God that included in the purpose was Jesus Christ's incredible, miraculous resurrection! Yes, Jesus' coming was truly for a purpose—the redemption of mankind—the reconciliation of sinners to their holy Creator God.

At a church's re-telling of the Christmas story, a Bethlehem merchant stood outside the stable and in character spoke to the audience: "What an incredible night! After so many years of waiting for Messiah, tonight He is born...here in Bethlehem. At last our faith has been made sight! I am going to go into the stable now to see this Messiah. But wait, what are you all still doing here??

Go! Go! Go tell everyone that Jesus is born—that Messiah is come—that the Light of the World, the Hope of Mankind is here!"



What an incredible reminder that we are responsible to share the Gospel—the account of Christ's birth, death, and resurrection—with those we know. We need to let people know that the Babe of Bethlehem came on purpose and for a purpose. We truly do need to keep Christ in Christmas.

It is no small slight when retailers refuse to use the word *Christmas*, or for school districts to veto Christmas carols or even do away with Christmas programs. It should be obvious that there is no Christmas if Christ is excluded.

The worldview and culture wars will rage on, and we need to be involved as a matter of Christian civic stewardship. But nothing can or should stop us from joyously celebrating and sharing, in word and deed, the incredible Truth that God, through the birth, death and resurrection of His only Son, Jesus Christ, has provided salvation for poor lost sinners like us—because Jesus came on purpose and with a purpose.

KING OF KINGS

As we celebrate the birth of our Savior, many of our songs and hymns remind us that He is King of kings. He is that whether or not He is acknowledged as such. In light of Who Christ is, the Psalmist asks a provocative question and makes a sobering observation: *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* (Ps. 2:1-3).

Sadly, way too many of the recently elected officials in our country seem to epitomize this passage. It is a powerful reminder to us that we need to pray for our country, and we need to pray for those in authority, because God has commanded us to do this (1 Tim. 2:1-4). He "will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." As this year draws to a close, will you renew your commitment to pray for those who are serving in elective offices?

Wisconsin Family Council (WFC) 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 they can be involved in strengthening, preserving, and promoting God's plan for marriage and family, the sanctity of human life, and religious freedom in our state.

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