



An initiative of WISCONSIN FAMILY COUNCIL

Tuesday, August 15, 2023

WI Government Update

Dear Pastor,

The Capitol is normally quiet for the summer after the state budget is signed in late June. This year has been similar except for the Supreme Court. We don't share the following update to be political, but to update you on what is happening and on how you can pray.

In April, Wisconsin elected Janet Protasiewicz to the Supreme Court. Her ten-year term started on August 1. Our Supreme Court is non-partisan; however, it is often viewed through the lens of justices being conservative or liberal. Protasiewicz's swearing-in changed Wisconsin's court majority from conservative to liberal for the first time since 2008.



Wisconsin Supreme Court Chambers

It didn't take much time for fireworks to start among the justices. The new majority called a meeting to remove authority from the Chief Justice and fired the court's administrator. As a result, Chief Justice Annette Ziegler, in an unprecedented press release and media interviews, called her colleagues "rouge members." Unfortunately, the temperature of the court is expected to rise in the coming months.

Last week Attorney General Josh Kaul made a motion to move for final judgment in his abortion case in Dane County, a case alleging Wisconsin's pre-Roe abortion ban is unenforceable. Once the decision is made in Dane County, it is expected that the Supreme Court will shortly take this case. There has also been chatter in the legislature about impeaching Protasiewicz if she doesn't recuse herself from two other lawsuits filed within days of her joining the court, lawsuits that would change the legislative maps for the 2024 through 2032 elections.

So, what can a pastor do to help this situation?

- Pray! Pray that we would see our government work together with unity for the betterment of our state. Pray that those in our state government would come to faith in Christ. Apart from a miracle by God, we can expect legal abortion back in Wisconsin. Pray that God would work through these seven justices to promote a path of life and not destruction.
- Join us at the Capitol. We move at the speed of relationships. Time and time again, we've seen that when a pastor leaves an office at the Capitol, their influence is still impacting that elected official.

God has moved our government through turbulent times in the past, and we have faith He will do so again. Thank you for your support, and please continue to partner with us in prayer for eternal impact at the Capitol.

In Christ,



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P.S. We once met with and prayed with a Supreme Court Justice and pastors in the court's chambers. The Justice left the meeting saying, "With all the big decisions made in this room, I wonder how often we have prayed for guidance from God?" Our vision is that praying for God's wisdom would become the expectation and not the exception. Pray that we can connect pastors to all the justices for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom.

P.P.S. This week, we encourage you to join us in praying for Representatives Kalan Haywood (Milwaukee) and Shannon Zimmerman (River Falls) and Senator Jesse James (Altoona).

P.P.P.S. **WFC Sunday** is on October 29. If your church chooses to participate, we invite you, on this Sunday or another Sunday, to, in turn, invite your church to financially partner with Wisconsin Family Council through a special offering. WFC Sunday is primarily for churches that are not currently regularly supporting the ministry of WFC. We are incredibly grateful for the churches who include WFC in their annual ministry/missions giving!