

# Arkansas NOVEMBER 2025



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The following is from Family Council's Assistant Director, David Cox:

### Dear Friends,

When I got the text on September 10 that Turning Point USA founder Charlie Kirk had been shot, a flurry of thoughts hit me. Dr. Os Guinness's words on political violence in the "Truth Rising" documentary came to mind. I remembered Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel who said terrorists attack without warning—as if the victims don't deserve an explanation. I thought about Founding Father Alexander Hamilton who was fatally shot in a duel with Vice President Aaron Burr. We are told that in his later years, Burr regretted the duel, saying he realized the world was actually "wide enough" for both of them. I thought of other assassinations—Rev. Dr. King's, President Kennedy's, Robert Kennedy's, and so on. Oddly, I also thought about outdoors author John Gierach, who once wrote, "Later in life, the death of a friend is no longer unbelievable because you've learned about mortality the hard way, but that doesn't make the news land any easier."

I wasn't friends with Charlie Kirk, but that didn't make the text message about his death "land any easier." My colleague Erin Hogan wrote about Kirk in our October issue of the *Arkansas Citizen*, and I had not planned to say any more. But I've reflected on Charlie Kirk's assassination at some point nearly every day since September. What troubled me initially was that he was murdered because of his willingness to discuss controversial issues with people who disagreed with him. But what has troubled me since September 10 is the way so many people celebrated his murder. I honestly thought we had more common ground between us.

At her husband's funeral, Erika Kirk offered powerful words of forgiveness to Charlie's assassin. That message spread like wildfire online and in the media. Many pundits seemed stunned or even offended by it. Their reactions reminded me of something Dr. David Jeremiah wrote in his 2006 book *Captured By Grace*:

Grace is shocking—something like the heavenly converse [opposite] of a traffic accident. When love is returned for evil, we can't help stopping to rubberneck.... Grace suggests that human beings may be something more than honor graduates of the animal kingdom after all, that the rumors may be true that purity and goodness are real and alive.

It never ceases to impress me how light can shine in darkness. This month marks 36 years since the collapse of the Soviet Union. Some years ago, I stopped to see a ten-foot section of the Berlin Wall at a park in Eureka Springs. Officially, the Berlin Wall protected East Germany from invasion, but unofficially, the wall kept East Germans from escaping. On this particular section of wall, an East German graffiti artist wrote "Psalm 23" and the words "ich habe keine angst!" meaning "I have no fear!" I'm sure the people living under Soviet oppression had plenty to be afraid of, but here on this slab of reinforced concrete someone painted biblical words of hope. I stood there staring at the message for a long time, and I wondered if the person who wrote those words could have imagined that this Christian graffiti would outlive the U.S.S.R., much less become a tourist stop in America.

We are all called to be salt and light through every season—especially when times seem dark. That is something we're committed to doing at Family Council. I hope you will keep reading this letter to learn more about how you can join with us to be salt and light in Arkansas in the coming months.



### **My Thoughts and Prayers on Raising Teenage Boys**

By Jerry Cox, Executive Director

With Thanksgiving and Christmas just around the corner, this is a season when many people pause to count their blessings. One of the greatest blessings God gives us in this world may be our family—especially our children. Back in 2004, my wife, Doris, and I were in the throes of raising our four sons who were

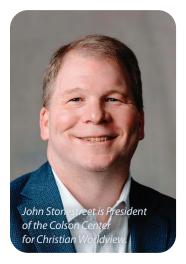
then 18, 16, 14, and 9 years old. I sat down one day to reflect and take stock of how we were doing with them, and I shared a few of those thoughts in a Family Council update letter. They seem as true today as they did more than 20 years ago, so I wanted to reprint them here. Some of them will probably apply equally to girls and to younger children. If you're a parent I'm sure you have your own list, but, for what they're worth, here are some of my thoughts on—and prayers about—raising teenage boys.

- 1. They need my unconditional love most when I think they deserve it least.
- 2. Remembering what it was like to be 16 makes me a better dad even if my boys can't imagine that I was ever their age.
- 3. No matter how high my level of frustration, may the words of my mouth always be edifying, helpful, beneficial, and seasoned with grace.
- 4. May I never let the sun go down on my wrath.
- 5. A teenage boy's version of the words, "I love you" is "let's wrestle." There is something reassuring about being pinned to the floor by dad and made to cry "uncle."
- 6. They're big on the outside and little boys on the inside. When they cry it may sound and look like ungratefulness, disrespect, and even rebellion, and it takes a lot of wisdom to know the difference.
- 7. Just as they've never been a teenager before, I've never parented a teenager with their unique needs and qualities. We're all on a very steep learning curve. May God grant us grace to stay out of the ditch.
- 8. Like arrows in a quiver, it is my job to polish them, sharpen them, and sometimes straighten them out. For one day I will launch them into a future where no one has ever lived.
- 9. Each of my boys is outstanding in his own way. May I learn to accept the fact that God may be calling them to be outstanding in ways that are contrary to what I might have planned.

- 10. I believe foolishness is in the heart of a child and that correction will drive it from him. Sometimes that correction takes the form of a "kick in the pants" while at other times it's a "pat on the back." It takes real wisdom to know when each one is appropriate.
- 11. Hopefully one day, when they're all grown up, we'll be the best of friends. For now, my job is to be their dad.
- 12. May I never be deceived to believe that my great parenting skills, if I had them, would be all my boys need. When all is said and done, at best I am a very weak, but vital partner in God's plan and purpose of making godly men out of the raw material of teenage boys.

Twenty-one years later those boys are husbands and fathers. A while back one of our daughters-in-law texted a picture to my wife Doris. It was a simple snapshot of our thirty-something-year-old son playing with their kids. Under the picture were the words, "You raised a great son." We may be a bit biased, but Doris and I have talked about how blessed we are—how our four sons have grown up to be Christian men, loving husbands, and good fathers—and how our grandchildren, seven boys and two girls, are simply the best. Each of them is outstanding in their own way. We know that every family's story unfolds differently and that the Lord works in ways we don't always see. Like us, I'm sure you pray and take comfort in knowing that God's hand is on your family and that He is always faithful. As we enter this wonderful holiday season, I hope you and your family are blessed and joyful.





The Quiet Revival of Gen Z

By John Stonestreet, Colson Center for Christian Worldview

Back in April, The Bible Society of the U.K. issued a report describing a "quiet revival" across England and Wales. "Church decline in England and Wales has not only stopped," read the subheading, "but the Church is growing, as Gen Z leads an exciting turnaround in church attendance." Though the report has its fair

share of critics, it launched an essential conversation.

[On August 15,] James Marriott continued that conversation with an article in the U.K. publication The Times entitled "Full-fat faith: the young Christian converts filling our churches." Marriott, who labels himself "a dry and desiccated materialist," described what he called "a comeback for Christianity." At least part of this comeback is, Marriott thinks, due to a widespread and growing disenchantment with atheism. Once, he wrote:

[I]t was widely held that the world was soaring ineluctably along an arc of enlightened progress. We were all destined to become richer, more democratic, more just, more rational and more secular. But those optimistic beliefs have been sorely tested in difficult recent years. Anyone tempted to simply dismiss the idea that religion could ever revive may not grasp how dramatically the cultural and economic landscape inhabited by young people has changed.



Instead of the utopia that was promised, the post-9/11 reality included economic disruption, Covid, wokeness, and thought police. As a result, many young people are rebelling to a more traditional form of the Christian faith. According to Marriott:

If you're young, the establishment is obviously secular. Nowadays, it is precisely Christianity's marginal status that lends it glamour and charisma, comparable perhaps to the appeal of exotic-seeming eastern religions in the 1960s.

Last week, I spoke about the "quiet revival" in the U.K. with podcaster, author, and apologist Justin Brierley. He was among the first to identify what he called "the surprising rebirth of belief in God." For example, according to a recent poll of non-Christian, Gen-Z students, 75% said they'd consider attending church if invited. And though church attendance is typically higher on Easter, this past Resurrection Sunday broke records all over Europe. According to one poll, the number of 16- to 24-year-olds in the U.K. attending church at least once a month jumped from 4% in 2018 to 16% in 2024.

There's still much to learn about this phenomenon, and it remains to be seen how sticky this new-found faith will be for these young people raised in such highly secular environments. It's fascinating how, merely a decade ago, we were focused on the rise of "the Nones," who often claimed the church had let them down. Today, we are talking about the rise of the religious who were let down by secularism.

One more factor worth mentioning, as Marriott put it (perhaps channeling John Calvin)—humans are inescapably religious:

I suspect the supernatural side of life—not much catered for in secular rationalist democracies—is a constant of human nature, even if only for a minority. It has more room for expression now. If man is a religious animal, God may never really be banished.

Indeed, secularism as a worldview is simply not big enough for the God-shaped hole in the human heart. As more young people realize this, the Church has an incredible opportunity to help them find the One who can. You can hear my entire conversation with Justin Brierley about the "quiet revival" on a special bonus episode of the Breakpoint podcast.

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### Governor Invites Churches, Faith Leaders to Participate in Pilot Program Addressing Poverty in Arkansas

On October 6, Governor Sanders announced a pilot program that will partner with Arkansas' faith and business communities to address poverty in Arkansas. The 10:33 Initiative by the Governor's Office of Faith-Based Initiatives is designed to "lift Arkansans out of poverty and improve their long-term self-sufficiency by connecting them with faith and community partners who can meet their immediate needs and help guide them toward a prosperous future."

The name is taken from Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:33. The 10:33 Initiative will conduct a 12-month pilot program in Pulaski, Union, and Pope counties using Restore Hope's HopeHub, which is a data-sharing platform that connects people who need assistance with organizations that can help meet those needs. The program will also help meet long-term goals like connecting people with job opportunities, training, and career guidance. In a statement, Governor Sanders described the effort as "a groundbreaking project carefully curated to give Arkansans a hand up, not a handout."

We have written many times how Americans often do not fully appreciate how much churches do for their communities. Nationwide, researchers estimate that churches, ministries, and religious charities provide hundreds of billions of dollars worth of services every year. We are glad Governor Sanders recognizes that churches and faith leaders are a resource that can help address many of the problems our communities face.

Governor Sanders described the effort as "a groundbreaking project carefully curated to give Arkansans a hand up, not a handout."

If your church is interested in knowing more about the 10:33 Initiative, contact Morgan Warbington at the Governor's Office of Faith-Based Initiatives at morgan.warbington@governor.arkansas.gov.

### FDA Quietly Approves Generic Version of RU-486 Abortion Drug

At the end of September, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration quietly approved a generic version of the drug mife-pristone—part of the RU-486 abortion regimen. Abortionists typically use two drugs for chemical abortions. Mifepristone kills the unborn baby, and a second drug called misoprostol causes the baby to be expelled from the woman's body.

Given what we now know about mifepristone, it is deeply troubling that the FDA would approve a generic form of it. A study by the experts at the Ethics and Public Policy Center found the abortion drugs mifepristone and misoprostol are at least 22 times more dangerous than the U.S. Food and Drug Administration labeling indicates. Researchers noted that from 2017 to 2023, nearly one in nine women suffered serious health complications like sepsis, infec-

Groups like Planned Parenthood are also spending millions of dollars to promote abortion to women from pro-life states like Arkansas. That's a serious problem.

tion, and hemorrhaging as a direct result of abortion drugs. All of this has prompted the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to launch a formal investigation into the drugs and their safety. It isn't clear why the FDA would ap-

prove a generic form of mifepristone if the federal government is concerned the drug may be dangerous.

Since 2022, Arkansas has generally prohibited abortion except to save the life of the mother, and state law prohibits abortion drugs from being mailed or delivered in the state. Abortionists who break the law are subject to criminal penalties. They may be sued for malpractice, and they face professional discipline—like suspension of their medical licenses. Unfortunately, lawmakers in some states have enacted "shield laws" to protect abortionists who ship abortion drugs across the country. If an abortionist in one of these states mails abortion drugs to Arkansas, the state's "shield law" prevents the abortionist from being prosecuted. Groups like Planned Parenthood are also spending millions of dollars to promote abortion to women from prolife states like Arkansas. That's a serious problem.

**But the news isn't all bad.** Attorney General Tim Griffin has threatened to take legal action against companies advertising abortion drugs in Arkansas. The attorney general says these groups may be penalized under the state's Deceptive Trade Practices Act. He has also urged the federal government to restrict abortion drugs and let states like Arkansas enforce their pro-life laws.

**Abortion drugs end the lives of unborn children, and they hurt women.** They simply should not be for sale in America.

#### Planned Parenthood Facilities Still Active in Arkansas

Nearly three and a half years after the reversal of *Roe v. Wade*, Planned Parenthood's facilities in Little Rock and Rogers remain open for business. Planned Parenthood is the nation's leading abortionist, and the regional affiliate Planned Parenthood Great Plains oversees facilities in Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Kansas. **Abortion is generally prohibited except to save the life of the mother, so what is Planned Parenthood doing at its locations in Central and Northwest Arkansas?** 

For one thing, we know both facilities advertise "gender-affirming care"—which often means a clinic sells cross-sex hormones and other drugs used for gender transition. Arkansas law prohibits doctors from giving these drugs to children, but clinics are still free to sell them to adults. Over the past decade, Planned Parenthood has become a major distributor of these transgender drugs and hormones.

Even though Planned Parenthood cannot perform abortion in Arkansas, their staff can still promote abortion in our state.

More broadly, we know Planned Parenthood's affiliates nationwide spent \$3.4 million helping more than 12,500 women travel for abortions last year. According to its website, both of Planned Parenthood's facilities in Arkansas can refer women to facilities in other states for abortion,

and both advertise that "Abortion funds may be able to help cover some of your costs." That means even though Planned Parenthood cannot perform abortion in Arkansas, their staff can still promote abortion in our state.

All of this underscores what we have said for years: It's important to pass laws making abortion illegal, but we need to create a culture of life that makes abortion irrelevant and unthinkable as well. If you live in Central or Northwest Arkansas, you can find a local pro-life volunteer group like 40 Days for Life who holds prayer vigils outside these Planned Parenthood facilities.



## **Arkansas Students Are Protected Against Compelled Pronoun Use by Good State Laws**

A student in Northwest Arkansas recently faced pressure at school to use "they/them" pronouns for classmates who claimed not to be male or female. When she declined, she was pressured to do so by other students. She was concerned that the school administration might punish her for refusing to comply.

**Stephanie Nichols, director of our Arkansas Justice Institute, was able to help.** Stephanie explained that three laws safeguard the student's right to stand firm in her faith and refuse to use pronouns that recognize any gender that is different from the person's sex at birth. These laws are:

- The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
- The Arkansas Religious Freedom Restoration Act
- The Arkansas Given Name Act (Act 542 of 2023)

The Given Name Act, sponsored by Rep. Wayne Long and Sen. Mark Johnson, directly addresses this issue. It states:

"A student shall not be subject to any disciplinary action for declining to address a person using a name other than the name listed on the person's birth certificate; or pronoun or title that is inconsistent with the person's biological sex."

Thanks to these laws, this student was on solid legal ground. This case is a clear example of why the Religious Freedom Restoration Act and the Arkansas Given Name Act—laws that Family Council worked hard to pass—are producing such good results today. And now, through the Arkansas Justice Institute, our attorney Stephanie Nichols is able to show families exactly how to use these protections to defend their rights and freedoms.

Thankfully, through the good work of the Arkansas legislature and the generous gifts of our supporters, students in Arkansas are on solid footing with regard to their free speech rights and freedom of religion rights in our public schools.

# Lawsuit Over Ten Commandments in Schools Likely to Go On for Quite Some Time

A lawsuit over whether Arkansas public schools are free to display privately-donated copies of the Ten Commandments is likely to go on in court for months or even years. Act 573 of 2025 by Sen. Jim Dotson (R – Bentonville) and Rep. Alyssa Brown (R – Heber Springs) requires privately-funded posters of the Ten Commandments to be displayed in public schools and other public buildings. The measure received strong support in the Arkansas Legislature earlier this year, and the governor signed it on April 14. However, the ACLU filed a lawsuit against Act 573 in federal court on June 11, and U.S. District Judge Timothy Brooks partially blocked the law on August 4.

The ACLU's lawsuit claims that displaying the Ten Commandments sends students a "harmful and religiously divisive message" and "unconstitutionally pressures students into religious observance, veneration, and adoption of the state's favored religious scripture." Displaying the Ten Commandments in a public school or library does not "pressure" anyone, and it certainly is not "harmful" or "divisive."

The Ten Commandments have often appeared in artwork at courthouses and other public buildings around the country. When she presented Act 573 in the Arkansas House last April, Rep. Alyssa Brown pointed out that the U.S. Supreme Court uses a "longstanding history and tradition test" to decide if it is constitutional to display something like a copy of the Ten Commandments. Rep. Brown said "the Ten Commandments without a doubt will pass this longstanding history and tradition test." We believe our federal courts ultimately will agree and uphold Act 573 as constitutional, but past cases tell us that it may take a long time.

For example, the lawsuit over Arkansas' SAFE Act that protects children from sex-change procedures went on for more than four years. A federal judge in Arkansas struck down the SAFE Act at first, but the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals eventually reversed that bad decision. It took a while, but Arkansas won the case. In 2023, the legislature passed a law protecting Arkansans from dangerous drugs made from industrial hemp. Our federal courts finally upheld that good law last June—more than two years after it first passed.

Arkansas Attorney General Tim Griffin is defending the Ten Commandments law in federal court, and we believe his office will win a big victory in this case eventually. Act 573 lets Arkansans place copies of the Ten Commandments in public buildings other than schools. So far, the lawsuit over Act 573 focuses on schools. If you would like to request posters of the Ten Commandments to place in other public buildings in your community, please call our office at (501) 375-7000.

### NCAA Announcements Draw Attention to Sports Betting Violations

In September, the NCAA issued a press release announcing it is in the process of addressing alleged sports betting violations by 13 men's basketball players. The allegations center on student-athletes betting for and against their own teams, sharing information for sports betting purposes, manipulating scores or game outcomes, and refusing to cooperate with investigators. The NCAA was careful to point out that none of the players are still enrolled in the schools where the sports betting violations allegedly occurred. In a separate statement issued that same week, the NCAA revealed that three men's basketball players colluded to underperform so they could win bets that they placed on one another.

Unfortunately, stories like these are not surprising. We have written before about how sports betting corrupts athletics. The national experiment with sports gambling has been a disaster for individuals and families, but it is also undermining athletic programs nationwide. Part of the problem is that gamblers can wager on literally every part of a game. Professional ballplayers and student athletes alike have been accused of "spot fixing"—that is, underperforming in a specific area to affect a bet. Players may not lose an entire game on purpose, but they can deliberately miss a free throw, pitch outside the strikezone, or commit a foul. Since gamblers are able to place "prop bets" on things like these—and not just on who will win or lose the game—there is much more room for corruption.

Sports betting is now legal in 39 states—including Arkansas, where people wager more than a million dollars a day, on average. Last year the Arkansas Problem Gambling Council announced it has seen a 22% increase in calls for help with problem gambling-driv**en largely by sports betting.** That kind of gambling ruins lives, tears families apart, and hurts communities. Studies indicate people who gamble on sports may be twice as likely to suffer from gambling problems. Young men are particularly hurt by sports gambling. Twenty-year-old males account for approximately 40% of calls to gambling addiction hotlines, and upwards of 20 million men are in debt or have been in debt as a result of sports betting. And research now shows that the legalization of sports betting may be linked to serious financial problems in America such as credit card debt, overdrafts, late payments on loans, lower credit scores, and higher bankruptcy rates.

As powerful corporations try to make gambling part of everyday life, it's important for Arkansas to protect citizens and families. Otherwise, predatory gambling and addiction will simply continue hurting innocent people in our state.

#### Researchers Continue to Find Evidence that Marijuana is Harmful

Recent scientific reports continue to highlight that marijuana is harmful. In August, a study published in the American College of Physicians' journal found marijuana that is high in THC is associated with "anxiety, depression, psychosis or schizophrenia, and cannabis use disorder (CUD)." In September, researchers writing in Nature Communications reported that marijuana use may harm female fertility and increase chromosome errors in unborn children. That same month, a study presented at the annual meeting of The European Association for the Study of Diabetes showed marijuana is linked to a 400% increased risk for developing diabetes.

Ten years ago, the popular talking points in favor of marijuana claimed it's just a harmless plant. Science now shows that simply isn't the case. Smoking marijuana is unhealthy, but so are marijuana gummies and other edibles. Modern varieties of marijuana sold in dispensaries are more powerful than the marijuana that people used in the past. Marijuana has been tied to deadly heart problems—including heart attack, heart failure, and stroke. Researchers now say marijuana use

doubles a person's risk of death from heart disease. Marijuana is also linked to increased risk of oral cancers. And marijuana use during pregnancy has been shown time and time again to hurt unborn children and newborns.

All of this should matter deeply to Arkansans, because for the past few election cycles marijuana industry insiders have worked to legalize marijuana in the state. In 2022, marijuana businesses financed a ballot initiative effort that would have given them a monopoly over a virtually unchecked recreational marijuana industry. In 2024, they supported a measure that would have done more or less the same thing as the 2022 amendment by drastically expanding "medical" marijuana in Arkansas. Fortunately, both of those efforts failed. At this point, we expect marijuana businesses to try again in 2026. Arkansans need to understand what is at stake when it comes to marijuana legalization. Marijuana may be many things, but "harmless" simply is not one of them.

# \$30K GOAL

ON

### **GIWINGTUESDAY**

This year you have an opportunity to make a tremendous impact when you support the work of Family Council on Giving Tuesday (December 2, 2025). Some very generous donors have pledged \$30,000 to Family Council in matching challenge gifts for Giving Tuesday. We are calling on all of our friends to help us match their pledge dollar-for-dollar.

When you give to Family Council on Giving Tuesday, your gift will help us:

- Protect unborn children.
- Stand up for Arkansas' 32,000 homeschoolers.
- Speak the truth in the media, online, at the capitol, and all across the state.
- Equip everyday Arkansans to stand up for biblical values in their communities.
- Defend parental rights.
- Support transparency in government.
- Work to secure funding for pro-life pregnancy resource centers in Arkansas.

Scan this QR code to help us reach our \$30,000 goal this Giving Tuesday!



- Continue to support meaningful reforms that will stop wealthy interests from buying their way to the ballot through Arkansas' initiative process.
- Stand against marijuana, gambling, and other vices that hurt individuals and families.

### There are three ways you can help us reach our \$30,000 goal this Giving Tuesday:

First, you can go to FamilyCouncil.org or scan the QR code next to this page on December 2, and give securely at that time.

Second, if you prefer, you can mail your gift using the enclosed envelope. Just please include a note designating it for Giving Tuesday so we know to count your gift toward our \$30,000 goal.

Finally, if you don't want to give by mail or online, a member of our team can take your donation securely over the phone weekdays between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM. Just call us at 501-375-7000, and let us know you want to help us reach our Giving Tuesday goal.



On October 2, Family Council hosted a successful Worldview Workshop at Geyer Springs Baptist Church in Little Rock. The workshop was designed to equip Arkansans to confidently address current issues from a biblical perspective. Attendees heard Family Research Council's Joseph Backholm and David Closson discuss abortion, homosexuality, transgenderism, critical race theory, and other topics.

We want to thank everyone who joined us for this event. It was great seeing you there. And we want to say how deeply we appreciate our friends at Family Research Council, Geyer Springs Baptist Church, and Counteract USA for helping us make this a successful event.

### Please Pray for Me and My Staff

We need all of our friends to support us financially, if they are able, to help us be successful. But more than that, we need your friendship and your prayers. That's why I hope you will say a prayer for me and my staff as we enter these final few weeks of the year. November and December are critical months for us. This is when we begin laying groundwork for what we want to accomplish in January. It's also when a large part of our financial support comes in for the year. I hope you will take a few minutes to pray and ask God to strengthen us in the following areas:

- **1. Wisdom:** We need godly wisdom and discernment as we approach new opportunities.
- **2. Courtesy:** We need to be Christlike and courteous when we encounter opponents who are not always polite to us.
- **3. Resources:** We need the resources to accomplish the work that is before us.
- **4. Unity:** We need goodwill with one another and with the other organizations and leaders we work alongside.
- 5. Humility: This work is a calling and a ministry, and it is impossible to succeed without humility.

Thank you for your friendship and support. I hope you will reach out to us if there is ever anything my team or I can do for you.

Thank you!!

Jerry Cox, President

P.S. I hope you will help us with a generous, tax-deductible gift toward our 2025 Giving Tuesday goal. You can read more about that in this letter and on our website. There isn't enough room for me to tell you everything going on in Arkansas right now, but you can find daily news and information from our office online at FamilyCouncil.org. Thank you!!



**About Us:** Family Council is a conservative, Christian non-profit organization based in Little Rock, Arkansas. Jerry Cox founded Family Council in 1989 in association with Dr. James Dobson and Focus on the Family. Our mission is to promote, protect, and strengthen traditional family values. We educate and equip families and churches to make Arkansas a better place to live, work, and raise a family, and we lobby lawmakers and elected officials on important issues that matter to families. Our work is funded by generous supporters all over Arkansas.

