

Iowa Capitol Project

What Is the Iowa Capitol Project?

The Iowa Capitol Project lies at the heart of the Church Ambassador Network. Our overall goal is to restore the biblical relationship between Church and state, for throughout Scripture, God's kings and His Church are revealed in direct, though distinct, relationship.

The Prophet Nathan and King David are excellent examples: Nathan was a friend to David, invested in building a relationship with him, and when David stepped out of line, Nathan restored him. We see this relationship modeled with Elijah and Ahab, Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar, Joseph and Pharaoh, Jonah and the King of Nineveh, and so many more.

Furthermore, though government's primary purpose is to commend good and punish evil, it cannot determine good and evil on its own. Thus we need pastors engaged as missionaries in the civil arena, because the government needs the Church to serve as its moral compass.

So we have been working with hundreds of pastors across Iowa to develop a ministering relationship with our elected officials. Pastors came to Des Moines – over 700 pastor visits in 2016 and 2017 – to meet with state lawmakers, members of the executive branch, and even the governor and our U.S. senators.

Through the Iowa Capitol Project, pastors have begun to build relationships with our elected officials through prayer, words of encouragement, and speaking biblical truth to various public policy issues.



These meetings are non-partisan, and all conversations are kept in confidence in order to protect the relationship between state officials and pastors. We want them to know these relationships will not be used for political gain.

We hope YOU will be able to join us. This webpage has been created to equip you and will be updated with the 2018 legislative calendar, articles on different issues legislators will face this year, and a prayer list both you and your congregation can be praying.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, and to RSVP if you would like to visit our State Capitol in Des Moines.

In Christ,

Greg Baker
Executive Director of Church and Grassroots Ambassadors,
The FAMiLY LEADER & The Family Leader Foundation
515.263.3495, ext. 105 (office)
515.229.4053 (cell)
greg@TheFamilyLeader.com

2018 Schedule

TBA

How Can I Be Praying for the Iowa Capitol Project?

[Downloadable prayer guide](#)

Learn More about the Issues Legislators Are Discussing

Doctor-assisted suicide

- Proponents' view:

[Death with Dignity legislation in the United States](#)

- Church's response:
 - [Focus on the Family talking points on Death with Dignity](#)
 - [Christianity Today speaks to the debate over doctor-assisted suicide/Death with Dignity](#)
 - [LifeNews talking points on what the Bible says about doctor-assisted suicide](#)
 - [Russell Moore, president of Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission viewpoint on doctor-assisted suicide](#)
 - [Pew Research center compiled summaries of 16 major American religious groups views on the end-of-life debate](#)
- Resources:
 - [Resources on doctor-assisted suicide](#)

Gambling

- Current laws on gambling in Iowa:
 - <http://www.gambling-law-us.com/State-Laws/Iowa/>
- Biblical perspective on gambling:
 - <http://www.gty.org/blog/B110630>
 - <http://www.gty.org/resources/sermons/90-164/Gambling-The-Seductive-Fantasy-Part-1>
- The addiction of gambling:
 - <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/how-the-brain-gets-addicted-to-gambling/>

Human trafficking

- Overview with resources:
 - <http://www.humantraffickingsearch.net/>
- Biblical resources:
 - <http://www.focusonthefamily.com/socialissues/family/sex-trafficking/sex-trafficking-a-christian-perspective>
 - <https://cmda.org/library/doclib/tip-module-10.pdf>
- Current laws in Iowa:
 - <https://coolice.legis.iowa.gov/Cool-ICE/default.asp?category=billinfo&service=IowaCode&ga=83&input=710A>

- Human trafficking in Iowa:
http://siouxcityjournal.com/news/modern-day-slavery-in-iowa-workshop-raises-awareness-of-human/article_fc03bfe4-d183-5846-9d69-ee123ef0cc70.html

Life

- Pastoral article:
<http://bound4life.com/blog/2016/07/16/rejecting-california-abortion-mandate-pastor-jim-garlow-fights-for-life-on-capitol-hill>
- Iowa law on abortion:
<http://www.newsmax.com/FastFeatures/Iowa-abortion-laws/2015/10/09/id/695523/>
<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/politics/2016/06/27/court-ruling-devastating-iowa-anti-abortion-forces/86445302/>
- Biblical view of abortion/life at conception:
<https://answersingenesis.org/sanctity-of-life/when-does-life-begin/>
- Why preserve life:
<http://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/24-pro-life-bible-verses/>
- Biblical counseling/help for unplanned pregnancies:
<https://www.informedchoicesclinic.com/>

Marriage

- Biblical perspective on marriage:
<http://www.focusonthefamily.com/marriage/gods-design-for-marriage/marriage-gods-idea/gods-design-for-marriage>
- The importance of marriage:
<http://www.futureofchildren.org/publications/journals/article/index.xml?journalid=37&articleid=104§ionid=667>
- Current Iowa law on marriage:
<https://coolice.legis.iowa.gov/Cool-ICE/default.asp?category=billinfo&service=IowaCode&input=595>
- Iowa marriage license altered to acknowledge Varnum

Case, Iowa Supreme Court Ruling:

<http://www.usmarriagelaws.com/marriage-license/iowa/sioux-county/clerk-recorder/office-requirements.shtml>

Predatory lending

▪ Examples:

<https://www.debt.org/credit/predatory-lending/>

▪ Iowa's law on payday loans:

<http://www.paydayloaninfo.org/state-information/23>

▪ Biblical view of predatory lending:

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/ask-chuck-what-does-the-bible-say-about-payday-loans-168501/>

<http://www.crosswalk.com/home-page/todays-features/lending-borrowing-and-the-bible.html>

▪ Biblical view of lending:

<http://lendjustly.com/blog>

Religious liberty

▪ Biblical view:

<https://www.firstthings.com/article/2012/03/in-defense-of-religious-freedom>

<https://tifwe.org/is-religious-liberty-biblical/>

▪ Iowa's battle:

<https://www.adflegal.org/detailspages/case-details/fort-des-moines-church-of-christ-v.-jackson>

<http://faithontrialradio.blogspot.com/2016/09/bathroom-debate-invades-church-walls-in.html>

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/2015/06/22/gortz-haus-owners-closing-business-sex-marriage/29114043/>

School choice

▪ <http://dailysignal.com/2016/12/13/how-texas-can-lead-the-charge-on-education-choice/>

▪ <http://thf-reports.s3.amazonaws.com/2016/SR-190.pdf>

▪ <http://dailysignal.com/2016/12/26/they-grew-up-in-a-poor-neighborhood-how-school-choice-changed-these-brothers->

[lives/](#)

Welfare reform

- What Iowa offers:

<http://www.welfareinfo.org/ia/>

- Biblical perspective:

<http://dollarsanddoctrine.com/2010/03/how-should-a-christian-view-the-welfare-system/>

<http://www.wnd.com/2008/08/71564/>

<http://darashpress.com/articles/biblical-welfare-reform>