



December 2016

Dear Faithful Friends,

Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year from Concerned Women for America (CWA) of Texas. I pray this letter finds you enjoying the season as you celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Big things have been happening with CWA of Texas, where I have just recently been appointed as the [new State Director](#). I have been serving as the Associate State Director for the last two years under the faithful leadership of former State Director Ann Hettinger. As Ann has stepped down, I treasure her mentorship and the legacy she has built through CWA of Texas. I am humbled by this opportunity to lead such a dynamic organization and am excited to see what God is going to do through CWA of Texas in the years to come.



As 2017 is quickly approaching, we will head into the 85th Texas legislative session beginning in January. As we saw in 2015, we anticipate there will be a hard fought battle to retain our religious liberties. CWA of Texas played an integral part in the passing of the [Pastor Protection Act](#) last session, and our focus this session will continue to build upon that success. From bills that will protect the privacy of women and children in public restrooms, to bills that seek to put an end to human trafficking, we are your voice in Austin. We have already been working with legislators as they are pre-filing their bills and letting them know where our members stand on these important issues.



Ann spoke on behalf of CWA of Texas at a press conference in Austin regarding pro-life legislation.

While 2016 was a year where our attentions were consumed by a divisive presidential race, we look toward 2017 knowing it will also be a challenging one. Now more than ever, the political climate is antagonistic and will require your vigilant prayers and actions. Even though times may be changing and seemingly more difficult, the message has not changed and continues to bring life and comfort: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,' which is translated, 'God with us'" (Matthew 1:23).



CWA of Texas in Washington, D.C., meeting with Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton. This took place during CWA and Faith and Freedom's Road to Majority conference.

Because we have the hope of Christ, we must do all we can to ensure that we protect the ability to freely share the gospel in our culture. Just like its stated in Esther 4:14, "For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father's house



CWA of Texas at their leadership training in Austin. Leadership enjoyed a full day of training at the state Capitol as well as a tour. Both CWA and CWA's Young Women for America gals participated.

[Concerned Women for America of Texas](#)

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will perish. And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?" If not us, who? If not now, when?"

Here are several ways for YOU to take an active part in the work of CWA of Texas:

- ◆ Our Encourage-a-Legislator program is an important part of our legislative work. Though the focus is not on lobbying, it strengthens our relationships with those we tend to agree with and builds bridges with those whom we do not. But, most importantly, it delivers prayer and encouragement to men and women, democrats and republicans, conservatives and liberals alike. We supply the Scripture-rich postcards, and you supply the prayers, encouraging words and stamps. For more information go to: [tx.cwfa.org](http://tx.cwfa.org).
- ◆ Consider joining a local [Prayer/Action Chapter](#) or starting one in your community! These chapters are vital to the effectiveness of our work. Their purpose is to inform, pray and take action. [Contact me](#) today to find out more.
- ◆ Support CWA of Texas with a generous financial gift. Remember, when you give directly to CWA of Texas, your gift remains in Texas to help our state efforts. And, because we are staffed by all volunteers, all the finances go directly to the work at hand. We are unable to move this CWA of Texas train down the tracks without your financial support. Please help us in the fight in our state by mailing a tax-deductible donation to the address below or [donate online](#).

Abundant blessings to you and yours,

  
Dana Hodges  
State Director

#### CWA Save-the-Dates for 2017:

- ◆ **Tuesday, January 10, 2017** - Start of the Texas 85th legislative session
- ◆ **Thursday, January 19, 2017** - An Evening of Prayer in the original courtroom where the Roe v. Wade case was first heard. Registration is free; however you must be registered to attend. Event begins at 7:30 p.m. Watch your email and our Facebook page for more information.
- ◆ **Wednesday, March 15, 2017** - CWA Dinner with the Legislators Banquet at 6:00 p.m. Mark your calendars now and plan to join us for this delightful evening with many conservative champions within our Texas Legislature. Ticket information coming soon!
- ◆ **Thursday, March 16, 2017** - Faith and Family Day at the Texas Capitol. Join us for this important day at our beautiful Capitol building in Austin as we advocate directly with our Texas legislators. More details will be coming soon to your email and on our Facebook page.

#### Your CWA of Texas State Leadership Team:



**Dana Hodges**  
State Director



**Beverly Roberts**  
South Texas  
Area Director



**Rose Cabrera, M.Ed**  
El Paso, Texas  
Area Director



**Mary Smith**  
Northern Texas  
Area Director



**Melady Thompson**  
East Texas  
Area Director



**Cindy Asmussen**  
State Legislative  
Liaison