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First Baptist Church of Ellijay to Present Award-Winning Film, “One Generation Away” *Followed by Question and Answer Session with Director Ken Carpenter, Sen Steve Gooch, and Sen. Josh McKoon (Sponsor of RFRA -SB 129)* Docu-drama warns of dangers to America’s religious liberties.

First Baptist Church of Ellijay, an official EchoLight Cinemas partner location, will present the award-winning film “One Generation Away” on Sunday evening, October 25th. Winner of 5 Dove Awards and awarded Best Documentary in the 2015 Christian Worldview Film Festival, this timely movie reveals how quickly First Amendment freedoms can disappear if Americans do not remain vigilant to defend them. The event starts at 5:30 PM and runs until 7:30 PM, including a question and answer session with Director Ken Carpenter, Sen. Steve Gooch, and Sen. Josh McKoon, the sponsor of Georgia's Religious Freedom Restoration Act (SB 129). Other legislators, including the Speaker of the House, David Ralston, may also attend if their schedules permit.

“One Generation Away” is a joint production between Echolight Studios and American Family Studios. Exploring both sides of the religious freedom debate, “One Generation Away” focuses on seven cases of religious freedom disputes throughout the United States: the Mt. Soledad Veteran’s Memorial in San Diego, wedding service providers in Oregon and Washington, Hobby Lobby, chaplaincy in the military, as well as two education cases with a collegiate counseling program, and high school cheerleaders in Kountze, Texas.

Each case clearly presents both sides of the issue and reflects on how the First Amendment, Equal Protection Clause, Free Exercise Clause and Religious Freedom Restoration Act are interpreted and applied.

“There has probably never been a time in American history since the founding of this nation when the issue of religious freedom has been more important,” stated Interim Pastor Buck Burch. “What we do at this crossroads in our generation will have global impact on the religious freedoms our children and grandchildren might experience. I believe every American Christian should see this movie right now.”

More than 70 interviews are included in the film. From politicians, thought leaders, business leaders, to religious leaders and opposing sides of freedom advocates, including Mike Huckabee (2016 presidential candidate), Tony Perkins (Family Research Council), Jennifer Marshall and Ryan Anderson (The Heritage Foundation), Todd Starnes (Fox News), Rick Santorum (former U.S. Senator), Barry Lynn (Americans United for Separation of Church and State), James McElroy (American Civil Liberties Union), Robbie George (Princeton University), and numerous others.

"We're honored to partner with the First Baptist Church of Ellijay to show what we believe is one of the most important films of our time," said Jeff Sheets, president of EchoLight. "One Generation Away clearly presents the complex perspective on important religious liberty issues that the average Christian American doesn't think about every day. It is our desire that this film will bring more attention to the critical times we are facing and help Americans open their eyes to the reality that we are indeed closer than ever before to losing the religious freedoms that our ancestors so bravely fought to obtain."

"I am very grateful that EchoLight and First Baptist Church of Ellijay are partnering together to bring this film to Gilmer County and I appreciate being invited to talk about what we are doing right here in Georgia to protect religious liberty," stated Sen. Josh McKoon (R-Senate District 29). "We worked hard in our Georgia Senate to pass the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), but there is much more work ahead. This film will help illuminate the many reasons not only why RFRA must pass in Georgia, but why we need to move forward with a complete legislative agenda to protect religious liberty. I hope everyone who cares about protecting our liberties will become informed and engaged in this issue."

"I am proud to be a co-sponsor of RFRA," stated Sen. Steve Gooch (R-Senate District 51). "As the Majority Whip in the Senate, I was glad to use my authority to help this bill pass out of the Senate. RFRA is a good first step to protecting religious liberty in Georgia. Now is the time for citizens all over this state to engage so that this bill gets to the Governor's desk this year. This movie will help educate citizens on why we need to protect religious liberty, and Gilmer County is fortunate that the film will be screened in our community."

For more information about "One Generation Away," watch the trailer at www.onegenerationawaymovie.com. Tickets are not necessary to attend because the event is free, but for directions or further local information, call First Baptist Church of Ellijay at (706) 635-5611. The church is located at 164 Dalton Street, Ellijay, GA. The event begins at 5:30 PM on Sunday, October 25th.

EchoLight Studios

EchoLight Studios is a world-class entertainment studio specializing in bringing first-class, redemptive media to the marketplace. EchoLight Studios produces, directs, funds and distributes faith-based films that bring communities together. For information, visit <http://www.echolight.com>.