

The Influencer Monthly

For Such A Time As This



Nickie McCarty
Field Engagement Specialist

When we read the story of Esther, it's easy to imagine her as confident, regal, and sure of her purpose. But the truth is, Esther was a young Jewish woman thrust into a foreign palace, navigating court politics and cultural pressures. She likely felt unqualified, uncertain, and afraid. Yet God had positioned her strategically – not for her comfort, but for His divine purpose.

You may not wear a crown or sit in a royal court but make no mistake: your influence matters deeply in this cultural moment.

Whether you're leading a Prayer/Action Chapter, raising a family, engaging in your community, mentoring the next generation, or simply being a voice for truth in your workplace – you are right where God has called you to be.

"And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" Esther 4:14

Just like Esther, you may wrestle with fear, doubt, or the weight of responsibility. But take heart, God does not call the equipped; He equips those He calls. Esther's courage didn't come from her position – it came from her trust in God.

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AUGUST 2025

A publication prepared exclusively for CWA leaders, members, and friends dedicated to impacting the culture for Christ through both prayer and action.

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MEN.WOMEN.BABIES.ELDERLY.
ARE STILL HELD HOSTAGE BY HAMAS
#BringThemHomeNow

There is Hope in the Face of Evil. [Read More.](#)



Big Win for Moms & Babies

25 Abortion clinics
close their doors!

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cont.

Her breakthrough moment happened when she chose faith over fear, obedience over comfort, and purpose over preservation.

We are living in a time that demands courage, clarity, and conviction. The culture may be shifting, but God's truth stands firm. And He is calling His people – women of faith – to stand boldly, pray fervently, and act wisely. Your prayers are powerful. Your leadership is shaping lives. Your faithfulness is making a difference.

Don't underestimate the impact of your "yes" to God. The ripple effect of obedience reaches far beyond what we can see. Whether it's a conversation you have, a stand you take, or a prayer you pray – God is using it all.

Right now, in this moment in history, your obedience matters. So be encouraged. Keep showing up. Keep speaking truth in love. Keep leaning into God's strength and wisdom. You are not where you are by accident. You've been called, chosen, and commissioned for this season – for such a time as this. 🙌



September 11-13, 2025
Washington, D.C.

Gaining Ground

Leadership
Summit

**Registration
is CLOSED.**
Pray that God
will use this time
to encourage
and inspire all of
our participants.



Enlarge the place
of your tent.
Do not hold back.
Strengthen your
stakes.

—Isaiah 54:2

On the Hill

THE SENATE in Review

*CWALAC Applauds
the Effort to End
Woke Education
Practices*



Maggie McKneely
Legislative Strategist

Gender ideology has been a pervasive problem in the school system for years. Now Congress is acting to stop it.

At least [16 states](#) have laws compelling teachers to include these materials in their lessons. Several of these, including [Nevada](#), mandate that LGBTQ+ inclusive curriculum begin as early as kindergarten. Because some of the states with these laws on the books are the most populous in the country, such as California and New York, nearly 37% of American schoolchildren are subjected to gender propaganda in the classroom, paid for by taxpayers.

Traditionally, parents have been able to opt their children out of classes when sex education material, which they would rather talk to their kids about at home, is presented. But when this ideological indoctrination is in every subject and affects various levels of school policy, it makes it impossible to avoid, short of pulling a child out of the public school system entirely.

One of President Trump's [first executive orders](#) was to declare that there are only two sexes, male and female, and that no other ideology would be tolerated across the executive branch or any entities funded by the federal government, which includes public K-12 schools. While Concerned Women for America's Legislative Action Committee applauded that executive order, the reality is that executive orders can be easily overturned by a future president with a different (and erroneous) view of human nature. The only way to ensure that this directive remains the law of the land is for Congress to enact it into law.

That is why Sen. Jim Risch (R-Idaho) and Rep. Owen Burgess (R-Utah 4th) are introducing the [Say No to Indoctrination Act](#). The bill focuses on the portion of the executive order that prohibits federal taxpayer dollars from funding radical

August Chapter Tips

Encourage your Prayer/Action Chapter members to become Influencers.

Partner with another Chapter and host a prayer walk at the State Capitol.

Attend a city council or school board meeting.

gender ideology in public schools. While it will not prohibit states from requiring schools to promote this ideology, losing funding will be a powerful motivator for public schools to reform.

PRAYER

Pray that this legislation moves forward in both chambers for the sake of the future success of America's children.

ACTION

Email a note of encouragement to the sponsors and co-sponsors of this bill (listed below). Investigate your local school district's policies and procedures regarding this issue and hold them accountable for following the Trump Administration's executive order.

Sponsor and Co-sponsors of H.R. 2617

[Rep. Owen Burgess \(R-Utah 4th\)](#)
[Rep. John McGuire \(R-Virginia 5th\)](#)
[Rep. Rudy Yakym \(R-Indiana-2nd\)](#)
[Rep. Gregory Steube \(R-Florida-17th\)](#)
[Rep. Brad Finstad \(R-Minnesota-1st\)](#)

Sponsor and Co-sponsors of S.2251

[Sen Jim Risch \(R-Idaho\)](#)
[Sen. Mike Crapo \(R-Idaho\)](#)
[Sen. Roger Marshall \(R-Kansas\)](#)
[Sen. Eric Schmitt \(R-Missouri\)](#)
[Sen. Ted Budd \(R-North Carolina\)](#)
[Sen. Tommy Tuberville \(R-Alabama\)](#)
[Sen. Josh Hawley \(R-Missouri\)](#)
[Sen. Tim Sheehy \(R-Montana\)](#)



[Watch](#) the whole interview.



Order your copy today! [Penny Nance's new book](#), at a special leaders' discount of \$10 plus shipping.



“Eligibility (to compete in women’s sports) must be based on sex and verified.”

Nothing short of that will restore the purpose of elite competition and the parity of the playing field for women across nations.”

*-Doreen Denny
CWA Senior Advisor*

JUNE 27 Doreen Denny is quoted throughout this [Washington Stand](#) piece, hopeful of and advocating for a change in policy that reflects “what God has created, and nature unfolds.”

JULY 1 CWA’s [exit poll statistics](#) support the case for UPenn issuing a public statement adopting biology-based definitions and apologizing to female swimmers affected by a trans athlete as reported by [Fox News](#).

JULY 2 [The Washington Stand](#) cited CWA’s praise for the Trump administration’s stance on protecting women’s sports resulting in The University of Pennsylvania’s decision to revoke Lia Thomas’s women’s medals, and issue an apology to female athletes.

JULY 3 [Annabelle Rutledge](#) appeared on Newsmax’s [The Right Squad](#) to speak on the implications of the new administration that we are seeing in the economy and immigration. She also called Americans to remember the United States’ role in the Israel conflict.



JULY 4 Penny Nance joined [The Chris Salcedo Show](#) to challenge an Axios report claiming abortion is on the rise after Dobbs. She exposed the loopholes being used by abortion advocates and shield law states. (Story begins at 53:00.)



JULY 21 Penny joined the [Sean Spicer Show](#) to discuss the Epstein list and gently redirected the conversation to the list few talk about—the ongoing list of missing and exploited children (Penny starts at 42:47).

JULY 23 [American Family News](#) cites CWA’s research, courtesy of Hannah Lape, CWA’s Legislative Assistant, revealing that more than 1,900 gold medals have been taken from women by men competing in women’s sports, sparking national awareness.

JULY 23 Macy Petty wrote an op-ed published in the [Daily Wire](#) titled [Planned Parenthood Is Hiding ‘Gender-Affirming Care’ In Its Annual Report](#). Macy called it a deception that must be exposed to protect women and children.

JULY 30 [Big Wins for Moms and Babies: Twenty-five Big Abortion Clinics Closed in July](#). Hannah Lape reports on the closings of 25 Planned Parenthood clinics post-BBB and the legislative way forward for supporting mothers.

*“Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.”
Ephesians 5:15-16*

**New Research Reveals
Shocking Number of Gold Medals
Trans-identifying Males Have
Stolen from Female Athletes**



@INSTAGRAM CLIP

Males have competed in at least 10,067 female, amateur and professional, sporting events in the United States.

Tens of thousands of women and girls have been displaced!

- Trans-identifying males have stolen over 1,941 gold medals from women and girls in the United States, pushing each rightful champion down to second place.
- In California alone, over 521 women and girls have taken silver below a male.
- **Trans-identifying male athletes have stolen over \$493,173 in prize money from women in sports.**
- Transgender-identifying males have competed in more than 10,067 female sport events. Tens of thousands of women and girls have been displaced and disrupted on their own teams, tracks, fields, and leader boards.

For more information go to [THE DAILY MAIL REPORT](#).

THE NUMBER OF GOLD MEDALS STOLEN BY STATE AL 5, AK 18, AZ 78, AR 2, CA 521, CO 52, CT 158, DE 1, FL 51, GA 42, HI 7, ID 3, IL 43, IN 4, IA 15, KS 25, KY 12, LA 51, MA 17, MD 57, ME 73, MI 31, MN 21, MO 43, MS 1, MT 2, NE 4, NV 32, NH 38, NJ 32, NY 56, NC 42, OH 14, OK 4, OR 86, PA 87, RI 45, SC 25, TN 29, TX 53, UT 6, VT 2, VA 10, WA 25, WI 12 (www.hecheated.org)

Information compiled by Hannah Lape, CWA Legislative Assistant.

CWA AT THE *White House*

CWA Applauds UPenn's Title IX Compliance and Trump Administration's Leadership

"We commend the Trump administration for its unwavering commitment to protecting women's rights under Title IX," said Penny Nance, CEO and President of Concerned Women for America. "This agreement with UPenn is a testament to President Trump's leadership and a step toward restoring fairness for female athletes. It sends a strong message that there is no compromise to protecting women's sports for women only. Our national exit poll revealed that 70% of moderate voters view this issue as important, with 44% calling it 'very important.' We will continue to fight for policies that uphold the integrity of women's sports and safeguard opportunities for girls across America."



CWA of VIRGINIA

State Director of Virginia, Teresa Pregnall (top left on the right), hosted the Annual 2025 CWA of Virginia Leadership Training in Ruckersville, Virginia, on July 19. The day offered fellowship, helpful information, inspirational speakers, including legislators, CWA leaders, YWA leaders, and round table discussions, all seasoned with prayer and worship.



CWA of ILLINOIS

State Director of Illinois, Kaleen Marshall, spoke at the Compass Church in Naperville, Illinois. While there, she met Betsy George, the woman who started the Naples Prayer/Action Chapter, which is still going strong today, 39 years later! The current leader, Chris Barr, has been leading the chapter for 30 years. Praise God for these faithful women!





Macy Petty
Legislative Strategist

HOUSE BUSINESS

America Strong

The House of Representatives continues to churn through the Appropriations process with yesterday's passage of the [Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2026](#) (H.R. 4016). In the bill, the

House advanced several pro-family wins that refocus our military on defense and strategic investments, rather than woke ideological battles.

Ideologically driven political leaders have a history of misappropriating defense spending to further radical social goals, which in turn weaken national security. For example, former President Joe Biden long championed using defense dollars to provide free travel for members of the military seeking abortions.

The Hyde Amendment explicitly prohibits forcing taxpayers to pay for others' abortions, and H.R. 4016 ensures these protections as they relate to military funding.

The Pentagon also has a storied history of drag shows and vaccine mandates, both of which are now explicitly prohibited. And the bill guards taxpayers from having to finance sex trait modification procedures.

The defense appropriations bill also restores unity and strength by loosening the grip of DEI bureaucracy on military officials, quotas for hiring and promotion, and by thwarting standards and expectations in the name of "equity." Related DEI programming and materials were previously considered "core competency," but are now entirely defunded under H.R. 4016.

A new day has dawned. Rather than financing initiatives that weaken our defense and threaten our homeland stability, new leadership has redirected these previously misappropriated funds towards military superiority.

H.R. 4016 OVERVIEW

- \$13 billion towards missile and space program development in support of the U.S. Golden Dome effort
- \$1.15 billion to combat international drug trafficking
- \$500 million in the Israeli Cooperative Missile Defense Programs (Iron Dome and others)
- \$122.5 million towards U.S.-Israel cooperative development programs

The bill additionally honors the men and women who serve with a 3.8% base pay increase.

The FY26 Defense appropriations bill reclaims the attitudes and purpose of the world's most prestigious defense operation, prioritizing readiness over ideology. [See how your representative voted here.](#)

PRAYER

Pray for the men and women in the armed forces as they stand ready to protect our national sovereignty. Pray that our leaders will see and be responsive to the needs of our military and honor their families by pursuing life-giving policies that support and preserve flourishing.



ACTION

Begin planning a Veteran's Day (November 11) event in your community, honoring those who have and are serving in our armed forces.



CWA GRASSROOTS ARE *growing*

God has gifted CWA with two new phenomenal State Directors for Arizona and Michigan! Praise the Lord! Please pray for them as they bring others into the fold to carry out CWA's mission and vision on a state level.



Tracey Henry

Michigan

"I consider it a distinct honor to step into this role during such a critical time in our Nation. It allows me to live out my faith and follow God's direction as I passionately serve others with wholehearted dedication. My goal is to build a strong, vibrant state organization that champions Christian principles and promotes CWA's seven core values. I plan to establish a dedicated steering committee and expand local Prayer/Action Chapters, inviting both women and men to stand for Biblical and constitutional principles across Michigan."



Patty Erickson

Arizona

"As Christians, we're called to be Salt and Light – actively engaging in our culture, not sitting on the sidelines. The mission of Concerned Women for America gives us a powerful way to do just that. I'm excited to lead the charge in Arizona, building a network of women who will pray, act, and stand for Biblical values. There is no limit to what God can do through women who pray – will you join me?"

STATE DIRECTORS

CWA's State Directors promote the purposes and concerns wherever possible (Bible study groups, churches, neighborhood groups, etc.), and educate people on the issues important to families.

They develop and lead an effective Steering Committee that shares the mission and vision of CWA and are dedicated to supporting CWA efforts at the state level.

They provide for the development and growth of CWA Prayer/Action Chapters and Influencers by furnishing training for the leaders and guidance in promoting their effectiveness; giving guidance for action on local, state, and federal issues that affect families, oppose Biblical standards, and warrant CWA attention; supporting the work and activities of the state or area organization, within the state budget.

They attend the annual Leadership Conference and encourage the attendance of Steering Committee members, Prayer/Action Chapter Leaders, and Influencers.

SHARE CWA WITH FRIENDS

- [Who We Are](#)
- [The Field](#)
- [Capitol Hill](#)

Empowered by Prayer

Reflections from the YWA President's Retreat

Hadley Smith, Young Women for America Regional Coordinator



Our first annual YWA President's Retreat was a sweet and memorable weekend dedicated to fellowship, educational sessions, and silliness. It was a wonderful opportunity for the Chapter Presidents to connect with each other, share experiences, and gain valuable insights while creating lasting memories. The Lord's presence was very evident throughout the weekend, and I continue to praise Him for creating such a special program that brings together young Christian women to build connections and deepen their understanding of their leadership roles. That Over the weekend, we engaged in collaborative

discussions and shared insights during our educational sessions, covering a range of topics essential to our mission.

One particular interaction I cherish involved a heartfelt conversation with one of the Chapter Presidents about the core foundation of our prayer life. We explored why prayer can sometimes feel intimidating, yet why it is fundamental in our faith journey. In a time of struggle and disappointment, there can still be joy through prayer. It is written in Philippians 4:6-7, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Additionally, scriptures throughout the Bible reinforce the necessity of prayer—1 Thessalonians 5:17 states simply, "Pray constantly." These two powerful words encapsulate the essence of our relationship with God.

In our organization, prayer is the bedrock upon which everything else is built. Our motto, "Pray. Educate. Advocate," highlights the importance of prioritizing prayer as we engage with the world around us. By starting with prayer, we invite God into our discussions, our education, and our advocacy. It 'is essential to remember that God already knows our every thought, yet He desires for us to bring our struggles and triumphs to Him. This relationship is profoundly personal and transformative. As we move forward, let us carry the lessons from this retreat in our hearts. Together, through prayer and shared understanding, we can uplift each other and make a lasting impact in our communities. There is so much power in a unified group of women who trust in the Lord and support one another through prayer and action. However, He wants us to come to Him with everything, because this is a faith that is a personal relationship. 🙏

Connecting with like-minded women is a highlight of the training.



The group enjoyed the encouragement of founder, Beverly LaHaye's daughter and CWA Board Chairwoman, Linda Murphy.



CWA of California State Director, Marlo Tucker, dropped in to welcome the group to her home state of California.



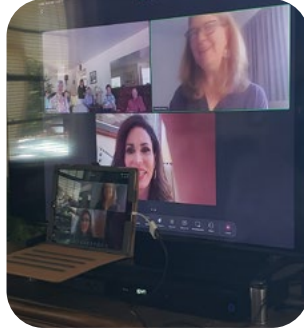
PRAYER

Heavenly Father, We come before you with grateful hearts, reflecting on the insights and connections we've gained during this retreat. May we carry this empowerment in prayer into our everyday lives, supporting one another with love and faith. Help us to grow in strength and unity as we seek to serve you and those around us. In Jesus's name, Amen.

ACTION

Consider inviting a local YWA collegiate group to share with your CWA Chapter at your next meeting. There is so much we can learn from each other!

CWA OF COLORADO Celebrates 40 YEARS of Prayer and Action!



State Director Karen Pennington (4th from the left in the group picture) honored the Lakewood Prayer/Action Chapter on their 40th anniversary with a cake, flowers and special guests, Michelle Minor and Penny Nance, who zoomed in for the occasion. Mary Ann Bruno has led the Chapter for the last 20 years, and host, Lynn Callison, commented in a thank-you note, "We were honored to have such a lengthy one-on-one time with Penny!" Well done, good and faithful servants!

STATE OF *the States*



1) CWA OF PENNSYLVANIA **State Director Dilonna Coran** (right) tabled at a human trafficking awareness event and enjoyed a visit with **YWA Ambassador Katie Kenlein**. 2) CWA OF FLORIDA **State Director Beverly Shoemaker** met with **State Rep. Ryan Chamberlin (R-District 24)** to discuss CWA issues. 3) CWA OF TEXAS **State Director Jana Long** (2nd from the left) and her team held its first legislative training session for its new Legislative Impact Program. 4) CWA OF MICHIGAN **GROWTH, GROWTH, GROWTH ...** (LEFT) **Director of Field Operations Michelle Minor** and **State Director Tracey Henry** relax after a long day of Director's Training. (RIGHT) **Tracey** (center) led a combined meeting of the **Kingston Prayer/Action Chapter** and the **Highland PAC**. 5) CWA OF KANSAS **CWA State Director Mary Meininger** (2nd from the right) hosted a planning meeting with her Kansas team. Keep Mary in your prayers as she heads to Nebraska for a new adventure. A win for Nebraska, but a loss for Kansas.

Welcome to the Home Team

Nickie McCarty!



Nickie McCarty, Field Engagement Specialist for Concerned Women for America (CWA), was first introduced to the organization in 2020 at a church conference in Belen, New Mexico. When the pastor's wife shared about her involvement in a local CWA Prayer/Action

Chapter, Nickie knew immediately this was where God was calling her. Upon returning home, she launched a Chapter in her community, and six months later was appointed State Director for New Mexico. Recognizing the critical need to stand for truth in her home state, Nickie embraced the mission to defend Biblical values and restore righteousness in the public square.

Born and raised in Raton, New Mexico, Nickie earned her bachelor's degree in accounting from West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas. After a brief career in accounting, she felt led to pursue a more impactful path – education. She returned to school to earn a teaching degree

and later a master's degree in educational leadership. Nickie spent 16 years teaching business and math, coaching volleyball and track, and serving as student council sponsor. She also served as an athletic director for a decade, advocating for student engagement in school activities. Her passion for student success is rooted in the belief that involvement builds purpose and resilience.

Nickie lives in Taos, New Mexico, with her husband of 33 years, Monty. They have two sons, Kevin and Ryan, both of whom served in the U.S. Army and Army National Guard. She is also blessed with two wonderful daughters-in-law and a cherished granddaughter who brings great joy to their lives.

Today, Nickie is honored to serve on the national team at CWA as a Field Engagement Specialist. In this role, her heart for prayer, passion for truth, and deep love for America fuel her passion to equip and empower women nationwide to take action on the issues that matter most. 🙌

“I consider it a privilege to be part of a movement that is raising up Godly leaders for such a time as this.”

CWA on the move...

Open doors and open hearts.

PRAY for these states where God is opening doors for new State leadership opportunities with CWA.



GEORGIA

(LEFT) Atlanta Prayer/Action Chapter Leader Katherine Fristoe partnered with CWA Field Engagement Specialist Jennifer Pendleton to host an event at the Georgia State Capitol.

New Savannah PAL Milly Butler invited Jennifer to share the CWA mission with her weekly prayer partners.



OHIO

YWA Regional Coordinator Hadley Smith and Jennifer hosted a Prayer Walk at the Ohio Statehouse.



WASHINGTON

Tri-Cities PAL Tila Hubrecht (LEFT) hosted her kickoff meeting on July 10 in Kennewick, Washington. (Pictured here with an attendee.)