

The Influencer Monthly

Take Your Burden to the Lord



Haven Howard
State Director of Missouri

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentle spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near. Be anxious for nothing, 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 comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."
—Philippians 4:4-7

Life can become very overwhelming, especially as we look around and see the condition of our world and the breakdown of our families. So often we try

to carry our burdens alone but God never intended for us to do that. Throughout the scriptures He encourages us to give our burdens to Him, share our burdens with each other, and to live with the confidence that He is in charge of our future.

I'm reminded of the song, "[Take Your Burden to the Lord and Leave It There](#)," which starts out, "If the world from you withholds of its silver and its gold, And you have to get along with meager fare, Just remember, in his Word, how he feeds the little bird; Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there."

Give those burdens to the Lord and trust Him with the outcome. 🙌

AUGUST 2026

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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CHAPTER *highlight*



A NEW CWA Prayer/Action Chapter launched in Florence, Montana!

The women came ready to pray and contribute and left encouraged, excited, and eager to spread the word.

On the Hill

Boy Withdraws from Female Irish Dance Competition

As Concerned Women for America (CWA) has reported, a female-identifying male dancer was slated to dance at last month's North American Irish Dance National Championship (NAIDC) in Orlando, Florida. That boy had [previously won](#) the girls' regional title in his age group three years in a row, stealing qualifying spots and medals from biological females.



Maggie McKneely
Director of
Government Relations

CWA has been advocating that the Irish Dance governing bodies change their policy through action centers, direct letters, and [letters](#) from Congressional representatives.

The pressure campaign escalated when Florida Attorney General James Uthmeier [sent a letter](#) of his own to the governing bodies, warning them that the NAIDC was at risk of violating multiple state laws. The first is the Florida Civil Rights Act, which bars discrimination based on sex at public accommodations. The second law cited protects against unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive conduct. Because the NAIDC was advertised as hosting women's competitions when in fact biological men could participate, the advertised sex-separated competitions were deceptive and ran afoul of state law.

Instead of responding to Uthmeier, the organizers announced that the event would proceed as scheduled, that they were not, in fact, breaking Florida state law. Despite that insistence, the boy at the center of this controversy chose to withdraw from the competition. In this case, the threat of legal action based on laws designed to protect women's sports, the girls in the U17 category did not have to compete against a boy for the first time in several years.

However, continue to pray that fairness will be fully restored to Irish Dance. While still a victory,



NEW CWA POLL ON MIDTERM ISSUES FINDS MAJOR SUPPORT FOR WOMEN'S ISSUES



TOP 3

1. **Over 67% (67.6%)** definitely or probably believe that the FDA should again require an in-person doctor's visit before dispensing the abortion drug. (Men 68.9% v. Women 66.2%)
2. **Over 63% (63.9%)** somewhat or strongly oppose allowing gender transition services, including puberty blockers or cross-sex hormones, to be dispensed to minors under 18 years of age. (Men 62% v. Women 66%)
3. **Over 69% (69.3%)** believe it is very or somewhat important in deciding who to vote for in this election that candidates oppose forcing female athletes to participate in sports and share locker rooms with biological boys/men identifying as girls/women. (Men 71.5% v. Women 67.3%)

[Read the full report.](#)

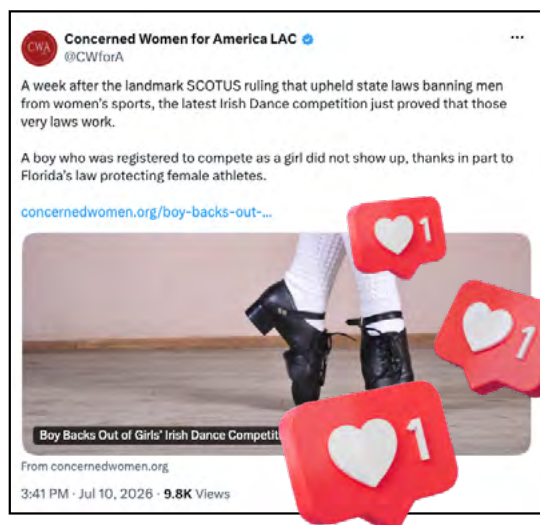
August Chapter Tips

Organize a community
Back-to-School Prayer Walk
around local schools.

Plan a She Prays She Votes voter
registration drive at a community
center, library, or church.
[Use this link for resources.](#)



the governing bodies have yet to
change their policy to permanently bar
dancers from competing in any category
other than that of their true sex.



The state law worked in this case. Now
that the Supreme Court has unanimously
upheld the [right of states](#) to protect their
female athletes, every state must do so.
Gender ideology has invaded every
sport, including Irish Dance, and one of
the strongest ways to push back against
it is via the legal power of the states. The
fight will continue until all girls' sports
truly are for girls only.

PRAYER Pray for fairness to be fully
restored in Irish Dance and across the
board in all sex specific competition.

ACTION Stay vigilant in your
community and state to make sure that
organizations abide by the laws in
place. In states that do not currently
protect female athletes, work to help
establish legislation to do so.



<<CWA OF ILLINOIS

Enjoying a local Independence
Day Parade celebrating
America's 250th!

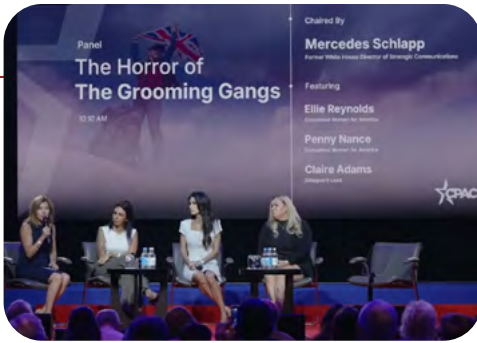
>>CWA OF UTAH

Celebrating the signing of the
Declaration of Independence at the
Let Freedom Ring celebration.



<<CWA OF KENTUCKY

The **Northern Kentucky
Prayer/Action Chapter**
braved the heat to participate
in the local 4th of July Parade!



PENNY SPEAKS AT CPAC GREAT BRITAIN

[A clip of Penny's message.](#)



Penny and UK Prime
Minister Liz Truss

*Let us not become weary in doing
good, for at the proper time we will
reap a harvest if we do not give up.*

—Galatians 6:9

IN THE News

JULY 10 [The Washington Examiner](#) published CWA Fellow Serenity Porch's op-ed, "[We test for alcohol in seconds. Marijuana impairment? Still a guessing game.](#)"

JULY 13 [The Daily Wire](#) featured State Legislative Strategist Macy Petty Charles' op-ed, "[The Game Industry's Most Dangerous Marketing Trick.](#)"

JULY 14 The [Out of Zion with Dr. Susan Michael Podcast](#) interviewed CEO and President Penny Nance about a variety of topics, including the rise of antisemitism on college campuses.

JULY 15 [Fox News](#) reported on CWA's support of a new bill that would require the Daughters of the American Revolution to restrict membership to biological women.

JULY 21 Legislative Strategist Hannah Lape's op-ed, "[How Conservative Candidates Can Win the Abortion Conversation,](#)" was published by the [Daily Signal](#).

JUNE 25 [Townhall](#) published [Macy's op-ed, "Despite the 54th Anniversary of Title IX, Men Are Still Competing in Women's Sports."](#)

JUNE 30 Director of Government Relations Maggie McKneely was interviewed by the [Orlando Sentinel](#) for a story about the upcoming Irish Dance competition and whether a trans-identifying boy would be competing.

JUNE 30 "Biology wins," said Penny about the Supreme Court ruling upholding fairness in women's sports state laws to [The Christian Post](#).

JUNE 30 Penny was featured in a front-page [Los Angeles Times](#) story about the SCOTUS ruling.

JUNE 30 Macy was on [Fox News @Night](#) to react to the women's sports Supreme Court ruling.

JUNE 30 [NBC Nightly News](#) featured an interview with Macy about the Supreme Court ruling.

JUNE 31 [NewsMax National Desk](#) featured an interview with Macy about the controversy over men playing in the WNBA.



LIKE • SHARE • FOLLOW

CHECK OUT THE TOP SOCIALS OF THE MONTH



>>>36.8K LIKES



>>>4.2K LIKES



>>>20.7K VIEWS



>>>2.3K LIKES



In Defense of Israel

Hannah Lape, Legislative Strategist

July was defining for congressional Democrats. Over one hundred Democratic members of the House of Representatives, including party leadership, voted to bar all United States military funding to Israel.

Last month, Rep. Thomas Massie (R-Kentucky 4th) proposed an amendment to an annual national defense appropriations bill to prohibit the United States from investing in military aid to Israel. One hundred three Democrats joined Rep. Massie in voting "Yes," and only ninety-eight voted "No." All House Republicans, minus Massie, voted "No."

With almost half of all House Democrats voting to end the United States' strategic partnership with Israel, it is important to establish facts.

The United States' partnership with Israel is mutually beneficial. As one of the United States' strongest global allies, Israel stands alone in the Middle East as a flourishing stronghold for religious liberty and civil liberties, a native land and covenant-promised home for the Jewish people, and a bulwark of freedom in a region marked by Jihadi terror and militant antisemitism.

Rep. Massie and Democrats' genocide claims are false and unfounded. There is no doubt that war is tragic wherever it is waged, but Israel has demonstrated a rigorous commitment to conducting a just war in Gaza against enemies with no interest in returning the favor.



YWA Israel group celebrates Shabbat at the Western Wall in Jerusalem.

Please be in prayer for the hearts and minds of policymakers in Washington, D.C., as rampant lies about Israel and the Jewish people persist. As Israel faces a war on two fronts against terrorists seeking to wipe the Jewish people off the map (Hamas to the west and Iran to the east), your prayers and United States military aid have never been more necessary. Israel is standing on the front lines for the free world against an Islamic nation whose motto is "Death to Israel, Death to America."

PRAYER Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!

ACTION Use this [CWA resource](#) to educate your network about the Biblical support for Israel.

Ordinary women doing
EXTRAordinary things

AUGUST WEBINAR
Wednesday, August 26 at 3:30 EDT

SHE PRAYS
She Votes

REGISTER

AUGUST WEBINAR
AUGUST 26
3:30 PM EDT

Join Nickie and Jennifer as they discuss how Concerned Women for America is leading the way in grassroots voter engagement—and how you can make a real difference in the 2026 midterm elections, right in your own community.

faith IN ACTION

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." –Matthew 5:16



Take a Stand

CWA of the District of Columbia's District Director, **Abi-Ananiah Prudent** (above), and the **District Prayer/Action Chapter** joined a **Love Life Prayer Walk**. They forged several new pro-life partnerships that will help strengthen and grow CWA's newly established presence in the District.



Make a Difference

The **Johnson County, Kentucky Prayer Action Chapter** assembled hygiene bags at their monthly meeting, then hosted a table for the **Hands and Feet Ministry** to distribute the bags to students as they prepare to start school.



Equipping to Serve



Abi-Ananiah Prudent

Senior Coordinator
Young Women for America

At Young Women for America (YWA), we've taken the words of our founder, Beverly LaHaye, to heart: "Grassroots are the backbone of CWA." In tandem with this belief, we understand that effective leaders must be equipped, disciplined, and emboldened through intentional investment. Our YWA events are each aimed at this goal, and our annual Presidents' Retreat

is no exception. YWA has Chapter Presidents from coast to coast. In July, we met with 18 of these leaders in the Rocky Mountains for a time of retreat and training ahead of the next season of leadership.

This year's Presidents' Retreat was more than a time of rest and fun—it was a dedicated space for our leaders to receive practical wisdom that will fuel work on their campuses and in their communities. Our girls were visited by our friend Halle Motley from [Stories of Antisemitism](#), who shared her story of being harassed by professors for her Christian faith and encouraged our leaders as they stand against antisemitism in their own spheres. We also had the joy of welcoming Karen Pennington, State Director of Concerned Women for America (CWA) of Colorado, who blessed everyone with her testimony in pursuing obedience to the Lord in a state where it is easy to grow weary as darkness often prevails. Our very own Annabelle Rutledge spent a sweet morning of fellowship with the girls leading a robust discussion on a Biblical understanding of Israel and our call to engage as believers. Topics like this, amongst many others, were the heartbeat of conversation throughout the whole weekend.

As we spent time together, each leader tangibly grew in confidence of her leadership abilities and built friendships with sisters in Christ who are passionately pursuing the same calling in this season of life. The friendships formed through YWA, including those at our retreat, have a unique depth. It's not just because they bonded during our pickleball tournament or had a lively conversation while hiking a mountain, but because of the Christ-centered culture of the entire weekend. As they grew closer to the Lord, they grew closer to each other as sisters in the faith and partners in the mission of YWA.



CWA of Colorado State Director
Karen Pennington shared her
experience serving with CWA.



Our entire team is excited and expectant for God to work mightily through each of these young women multiplying their impact as they return to their chapters this fall. These leaders not only have the tools to succeed but also a network of support as they navigate standing for truth and never growing weary in the work of the Lord. 🙌

PRAYER

Will you join us in praying for a bountiful harvest from the efforts of these young women this school year? May God use each one of them to educate and minister to their peers for His glory and the good of our nation.

ACTION

Help a young woman in your sphere of influence start a YWA High School or Collegiate Chapter. [Contact your state director](#) for more information.



LEADER *highlights*



1&2) CWA of MISSOURI State Director Haven Howard met with key legislative offices to discuss the **Protect College Sports Act**. This is a great example of CWA's national and state leaders working in tandem to make a difference. **3) CWA of NEBRASKA State Director Mary Meininger** (right) joined **Prayer/Action Chapter Leader (PAL) Amber Barajas** for the launch of the **Omaha Prayer/Action Chapter**. **4) CWA of UTAH Chapter Coordinator Mary Stewart** (right) attended the Riverton Prayer/Action Chapter meeting, inspiring all in attendance including **PAL Tammi Wright** (left). **5&6) CWA of TEXAS State Director Jana Long (in red)** and other CWA of Texas leaders enjoyed connecting with pro-life Texans at the **Convention for Life** and promoting the Texas Legislative Impact Program. **7) CWA of NORTH DAKOTA State Director Linda Thorson** met with the staffs of two U.S. senators to share concerns about the **Protect College Sports Act** and the importance of preserving state laws that protect female athletes. **8) CWA of UTAH Chapter Coordinator Mary Stewart** (2nd from right) enjoyed a time of prayer and fellowship with the **West Jordan Prayer/Action Chapter**. **9) CWA of KANSAS State Director Toni Stewart** (3rd from left) had great support as she returned to the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library Board meeting to restate her concerns about sexually explicit material available in the children's section.