



The RIGHT WRITE-UP



The Republican Club of Comal County

A political group of conservative Republican men and women.

Our goal is to inform about current issues and conservative candidates.

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rcocc.org

May, 2025

OUR NEXT MEETING

THE REPUBLICAN CLUB OF COMAL COUNTY

will meet on Tuesday, May 27, at 6:30 p.m. (social mixer at 5:30)

at the First Protestant Church of New Braunfels, 172 W. Coll Street.
(Enter the parking lot by the Civic Center from Coll St.)

The Club will provide light refreshments such as veggie trays, snacks, and desserts. The Club will also provide utensils, water, tea, and coffee.

Members and guests can bring salads and desserts to share, if desired. We encourage members to arrive early. This will allow time to pay dues, greet friends and guests, and partake of refreshments before the meeting starts.

Please share this meeting announcement with friends and family. As we grow in numbers, our influence grows with our elected officials, and they will respond to our calls on legislative priorities.

Questions? Call or email our President, Al Highfield, at 830-255-1367 or at Albert.Highfield@yahoo.com.



Our guest speaker for May will be

Mike McFarland

the Texas Faith Director for
Citizens Defending Freedom (CDF).

He will talk about facts and myths
regarding the U.S. Constitution.

Please join us for this timely and informative talk.

For more information on our speaker, see page 2.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello, Republican Club Members and anyone WHO reads our Newsletter!! Today, 30 April 2025, as we were lounging at home, my wife and I were watching the President's meeting with his cabinet. I am amazed at the Democrats not knowing all that is happening in our government that is positive with this administration. Oh, I know that political parties must disagree to keep up the illusion that their way is best. Reaching across the aisle lets them get things done but balking at everything that is positive for our country will only destroy our country! If you took the time to watch or record the briefing today it was very evident that this administration is here to put "AMERICA FIRST"! We must get to the mid-term elections with the attitude to keep Texas red and support our Republican state and national candidates!!

God Bless and keep Texas and America **RED forever!**

Please visit our website at rcocc.org for helpful information.

President Albert F. Highfield

WHO IS MIKE MCFARLAND?

Mike McFarland serves as the Texas Faith Director of Citizens Defending Freedom (CDF). Mike developed a profound appreciation for the sacrifice our founders made to ensure America's freedom. His interest was ignited at a young age when he had the privilege to witness numerous reenactments relating to the American Revolution while living in the Boston area during the 200th anniversary of our Declaration of Independence. Mike later witnessed progressive governmental overreach in the free market system, along with other unconstitutional behaviors as a real estate entrepreneur, where he helped others experience the American Dream of homeownership for more than two decades. Mike felt God's calling to read, study, and then to teach the United States Constitution, and America's Christian heritage to other Americans so that they will begin to defend and assert their God-given rights as protected by the Constitution. He has been a faithful member of his home church, where he serves as the Salt and Light ministry leader. Mike resides in Corpus Christi, TX.

OUR PATRON PROGRAM

The Republican Club of Comal County is thankful for those who have contributed to our Club through the Patron Program during 2024.

Patrons donate \$100 per year per person to help us finance our election strategy.

Susan Allick	Steve Gallets	W. Lindy Menefee	Patrick Seiler
Jan Brewer	Lori Granados	Mike Mikell	Joy Streater
John Brewer	Scott Haag	Cindi Montgomery	Christopher Suchil
Hoss Boyd	Albert Highfield	Charlie Motz	Teri Taylor
Geneva Boyd	Vicki Highfield	Jeffrey Narvaiz	Jennifer Tharp
Tracy Byrne	Marty Hiles	Naomi Narvaiz	Patty Kirk-Trimble
Joe Carroll	Pat Hingst	John O'Brien	Anita Valdez
Suzi Casey	Patricia Kettler	Sandy O'Brien	John Walker
Ruth Chambers	Susie LeCanu	Austinn Pruneda	Susan Walker
Bill Cooley	Kerry Ledford	Shane Rapp	John Young
Tom Ferguson	Donna Lee	Leigh Ann Rowlands	Diane Young
Nancy Ferguson	Doug Leacock	Craig Rowlands	Jason Young
Bill Foote	Al Malmsten	Maria Seiler	

Contact our Membership Chairman, Naomi Narvaiz, at 512-738-7000, to become a Patron member or for more information.

Patrons receive a special personalized Texas flag name tag.

Our Officers for 2024

President	Al Highfield
Vice President	Marty Hiles
Secretary	Leigh Ann Rowlands
Treasurer	Patrick Seiler
Past President	Mary Wohl
County Chair	Mark Montgomery

Committee Chairs

Membership	Naomi Narvaiz
Legislative Affairs	Lori Granados
Campaign Activities	Lori Granados
Hospitality	<i>(Currently vacant)</i>
Parliamentarian	<i>(Currently vacant)</i>
Publicity Chair	Audrey Johnson Scheper
Facebook	<i>(Currently vacant)</i>
Newsletter Editor	Kerry Ledford
Special Events	Donna Lee
Special Projects	Ruth Chambers
Web Master	Audrey Johnson Scheper
Sergeant-at-Arms	Marty Hiles
Chaplain	Steve Ceh

REPUBLICAN CLUB OF COMAL COUNTY



\$25 - Individual Membership

Name Tag \$13

\$35 - Family Membership

Name Tag \$13



\$100 + Individual or Family Dues

Name Tag Is Complimentary

Patron Dinner

Comal County Precinct Chairs

Why do we publish the Comal County Precinct Chair List in the Republican Club Newsletter each month? Our mission as active Republicans is to support the political process. Each one of us should know what Precinct we live in and who serves as our Precinct Chair.

We should offer our assistance to our Precinct Chair for the elections. We can assist as an Election clerk or Election Judge on Election Day. We can offer to block walk to inform our neighbors of early voting. We can block walk for our chosen candidates. We can offer to take a list of Republicans to call with a reminder of the times and places to vote early. There are a number of ways an individual can help to assure a maximum Republican vote.

Studies show that when people intend to vote, but fail to vote early, a substantial percentage of that vote is lost on Election Day. There is a lot to be done. Please offer your help to your Precinct Chair.

<u>Precinct</u>	<u>Name</u>
County Chair	Mark Montgomery
Vice Chair	(vacant)
Secretary	Patty Kirk-Trimble
Treasurer	Vicky Highfield
Chaplain	Linda Bartle
101	Richard Keisheimer
102	Kaci Sisk
103	Tracy Byrne
104	Marcia Stewart
105	Ernie Lee
106	Chris Byrd
107	Anita Valdez
108	Albert Highfield
109	Clint Pulpan
110	Joanne Martin
201	Marty Hiles
202	(vacant)
203	James "Hoss" Boyd
204	Marlin Brown
205	Mary Wohl
206	Kathy Phillips
207	John Brewer
208	Geri Baker
301	(vacant)
302	Lori Granados
303	Kenneth Kasper
304	(vacant)
305	Isabel Ibarra
306	Naomi Narvaiz
307	Timothy Davis
308	Mary Lou Erben
401	Robbie Borchers
402	(vacant)
403	Carolyn Besselman
404	Teri Taylor
405	Robert Butler
406	Joe Carroll
407	Susan Walker
408	Chrystina Power

Excerpts from a May 9 email from Chip Roy:

I wanted to pass along my latest update on what I have been doing to fight for you, Texas' 21st Congressional District, and our country as a whole:

Update on Medicaid Reform

Medicaid was designed to serve the most vulnerable – seniors, Americans with disabilities – not able-bodied Americans dodging work. Not only are status quo policies unfair, they are bankrupting the country.

My position on Medicaid reform is straightforward: able-bodied individuals should not receive benefits without working. Able-bodied individuals should not receive more benefits than the vulnerable. Medicaid recipients should not collect more benefits than Medicare recipients. Additionally, if you are ineligible or a noncitizen, you should not be receiving benefits at all. Finally, we should not allow the money-laundering Medicaid scams states like California take part in.

I've drawn no redlines for budget reconciliation, but the basic math has to add up. If we refuse to reform Medicaid and find the proper savings, then we are failing ALL Americans, especially the vulnerable. We must lead and that begins by cutting wasteful spending and reducing deficits.

Ending Medicaid Discrimination Against the Most Vulnerable Act

Obamacare's Medicaid expansion perpetuates a scam in which states get seven times as much money from the federal government for able-bodied adults than the traditional Medicaid population including pregnant women, children, disabled people, and the elderly.

Right now, Texans are forced to subsidize programs abused by blue states to the benefit of illegal aliens and able-bodied individuals. The federal government should not penalize states like Texas that have not expanded Medicaid.

Congress has no excuse. We must seize the moment to address failing Obamacare policies. If we do not, we will be one step closer to a socialist healthcare system.

Letter to Speaker Johnson

Last week, I wrote Speaker Mike Johnson with several requests related to the reconciliation process. The requests include proper resource allocation for Article III, provisions making new immigration judges and staff temporary, impositions of fees on sanctuary jurisdictions that do not comply with immigration detainers, dedicated funding for election integrity, and reimbursement to Texas for border security efforts.

We have a clear mandate to cut reckless spending, grow the economy, and protect our nation's southern border. It is imperative that these policies be included in the final reconciliation product.

Meeting with the Secretary of Health and Human Services

Last week, I had the pleasure of meeting with the US Secretary of Health and Human Services, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. We discussed strengthening healthcare and ensuring a high quality of life for Americans.

I appreciate Secretary Kennedy's vision for a fortified country with access to healthy foods and affordable healthcare options. I look forward to seeing the fruits of Secretary Kennedy and Health and Human Services' hard work. Make American Healthy Again!

Chip Roy
Member of Congress



Excerpts from a May 16 email from State Representative Carrie Isaac

Last night was the final deadline for house bills to be heard on 2nd reading. If any bill was not passed last night, it is now dead.

As the 89th legislative session progresses, I want to take a moment to sincerely thank you for the thoughtful input, questions, and concerns you've shared with me and my office. Your engagement truly matters, and I'm deeply grateful for each and every one of you. I'd also like to share some important updates on the legislative session and district-related developments.

89th Legislature

I'm proud to share that several of our legislative priorities have made meaningful progress this session. A number of our bills have been heard in committee, where we've had productive conversations and received valuable testimony that helps shape stronger, more effective policy. Additionally, some of our proposals have advanced to the House floor for debate—an exciting step forward in our commitment to serving the state and addressing the issues that matter most to you. I'll continue to keep you updated as we work hard to move these initiatives across the finish line.

In addition to the bills I've authored, I've also had the opportunity to co-author several important pieces of legislation that have successfully passed in the Texas House and have been received by the Texas Senate. Collaborating with my colleagues on these efforts has been an incredibly rewarding part of this session, and I'm proud to support policies that reflect the needs and values of our district.

Legislative Spotlight

SB 14, also known as "Texas DOGE," has passed both chambers and was signed by Governor Abbott on April 23rd. The bill creates the Texas Regulatory Office to streamline state regulations, eliminate outdated rules, and improve government efficiency. It also establishes an advisory panel and a public online portal to enhance transparency and collaboration in the regulatory process.

SB 16, introduced by Senator Bryan Hughes and sponsored by Representative Carrie Isaac, proposes a requirement for individuals to provide documented proof of U.S. citizenship when registering to vote in Texas. Acceptable documents include a U.S. passport, certified birth certificate, or naturalization papers. Voters unable to provide such documentation would be placed on a separate voter roll, limiting their participation to U.S. House and Senate races, and excluding them from presidential elections. Additionally, the bill introduces criminal penalties for election officials who knowingly register applicants without verifying their citizenship. All 20 Republican state senators have signed on as co-authors of SB 16.

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SB 17, authored by Senator Lois Kolhorst and sponsored in the House by Representative Cole Hefner, and a bill I was proud to co-author is a national security-focused measure aimed at protecting Texas land from potential foreign threats. The bill prohibits governments, companies, and certain citizens from China, Russia, North Korea, and Iran from purchasing land in Texas—particularly near military bases and critical infrastructure. Supporters argue that SB 17 is a proactive step in safeguarding state sovereignty and preventing strategic assets from falling under the influence of hostile foreign regimes. The bill thoughtfully exempts lawful permanent residents, dual citizens, and visa holders to avoid unintended harm to individuals who contribute positively to Texas communities. Having passed both chambers with strong Republican backing, SB 17 reflects a growing consensus among lawmakers that Texas must remain vigilant in defending its land and security interests.



District Updates

On April 25th, I had the pleasure of participating in the Dripping Springs Founders Day Parade, and it was truly a highlight of the month. Celebrating the rich history and vibrant community spirit of Dripping Springs alongside so many familiar faces was a wonderful experience. I'm always grateful for opportunities like this to connect with constituents, hear your stories, and celebrate what makes our district so special. Thank you to everyone who came out—I'm already looking forward to next year's festivities!

I'm honored to have recently received the School Choice Trailblazer Award from Americans for Prosperity in recognition of my continued commitment to standing up for the parents and students of Texas. Supporting families in making the best educational choices for their children has always been a priority of mine, and I'm grateful for this acknowledgment. I'm also proud to have been named a Charter Champion by the Freedom Coalition for Charter Schools—an award that celebrates the efforts, contributions, and achievements of elected officials working to advance equity and opportunity within the charter school system. These recognitions reinforce my dedication to ensuring that every student in Texas has access to a high-quality education.

The real celebration, though, comes from a major policy milestone: the largest day-one school choice program in the nation is now law in Texas. This legislation will give up to 100,000 families the power to select the educational path that best suits their children's needs. It's a huge step forward for parental empowerment and educational opportunity in our state.

I look forward to keeping you informed as we continue making progress this session. Remember, my Capitol Office is here to serve you on any legislative matters. We can be reached at 512-463-0325 or via email at carrie.isaac@house.texas.gov. I also have an office in New Braunfels where my District Director, Teresa Pick, stands ready to serve your needs. She can be reached at 830-730-6248 or teresa.pick@house.texas.gov. Thank you for your support and engagement—your voice matters, and I am proud to represent you.

In Liberty,
Carrie Isaac

Fighting Racism With Racism Is Racist

Thomas Gallatin, The Patriot Post, May 7, 2025

A growing backlash of white identity politics against leftist identity politics is not a path toward peace and national unity.

The Right can't be woke — or at least that's the claim made by some folks on the Right. However, this refrain is reminiscent of another refrain on the woke Left: Minorities can't be racist.

Of course, the debate surrounding “woke Right” versus “woke Left” is a question of definitions. The definition of the term “woke” is where the arguments exist.

For some on the Right, “woke” is merely a synonym for leftist ideology. Therefore, based on this simplistic definition, it would be impossible for a non-leftist to be “woke.” However, the term “woke,” while being birthed on the left side of the political aisle, is meant to convey the awareness of (read: obsession with) racial prejudice and discrimination — primarily where none exists.

In the context of leftist politics, being woke is to embrace race-based social justice, which frames white supremacy as the overarching social ill that needs to be eradicated. However, it has also expanded to include a litany of other special interest minority groups, all under the neo-Marxist metric of oppressed vs. oppressor. Therefore, in this context, racism is narrowly redefined as the exertion of white supremacy against minority racial groups.

So, the Right can't be woke, right? Well, when it comes to the broader application of the term “woke” as a catchall for radical leftist identity politics, then no.

Yet if one takes the original expression of the term to refer to obsession with racial prejudice and discrimination, then yes, the Right can be woke.

To put it another way, wokeness produces and advances identity politics. Logically, that then produces tribalism. It pits groups against each other based purely upon their ethnic or racial demographics. Leftist wokeness promotes the simplistic and false idea that white supremacy is the tool of oppression; Right wokeness promotes the simplistic and false idea that racial minorities are society's destructive agents.

Sadly, the spread of leftist woke tribalism is now resulting in a backlash of woke right-wing tribalism.

Two recent events highlight this dangerous progression and un-American spread of woke tribalism. The first is the alleged murder of Austin Metcalf by Karmelo Anthony at a high school track meet in Frisco, Texas, early last month. In the immediate wake of the incident, the races of the two teenagers involved became the primary focus of national attention. Since the victim, Metcalf, was white and the perpetrator, Anthony, was black, the narrative was quickly spun up into a race issue, despite the lack of evidence supporting such a framing. Indeed, the pleas of Metcalf's own grieving father were ignored as racial tribalism reared its ugly head.

Understandably, given the mainstream media's biased commitment to promoting leftist woke ideology, the coverage of the slaying was mostly ignored by the national press. A black teen killing a white teen doesn't advance the false narrative of white supremacist oppressor vs. oppressed.

However, in the wake of the killing, a growing tribalism on the Right, tired of the mainstream media's double standards, called out the incongruent response. They noted how the Leftmedia used the death of George Floyd to stir up resentment and anger and cries of racial injustice, which somehow was evidence of the woke Left's white supremacy claims regarding the U.S.

They further point to the trial of Daniel Penny in New York City. His restraint of a crazed black man on a subway led to the black man's death. It was a clear case of justified use of force, and yet because Penny was white, he was charged with murder.

Meanwhile, where's the media outrage when a black person kills a white person? It is this lack of balance or equal coverage or commitment to actual justice that stokes the anger of tribalism. Instead of seeing these individuals as fellow human beings who should be judged solely upon their behavior, irrespective of their ethnicity, wokeness demands that their ethnic identity trumps any concern over individual culpability.

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As noted above, Americans — especially white Americans — have grown increasingly tired of this leftist woke ideology. Unfortunately, some white Americans, instead of resisting the siren song of woke identity politics, have embraced it. Effectively, the logic goes, if you say I'm a racist for simply being white, then why resist it? Why not simply fight fire with fire?

This is where we come to a second incident in Rochester, Minnesota. A young white mother, Shiloh Hendrix, was filmed as she was confronted by a Somali immigrant who rebuked her for calling a young black child who had supposedly taken a toy from her child the N-word.

In the video, rather than deny or apologize, Hendrix simply doubled down. After the video was posted on social media and began to go viral, Hendrix started a fundraiser, similar to the action that Anthony's family took after the Metcalf incident. It is here where the evidence of a growing racial tribalism comes home. Both Anthony and Hendrix have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars in their defense.

What is clear in both cases is that the primary motivator for people's "charity" is racism. These are both expressions of people identifying with their racial tribe. They are picking teams based on their own identity, regardless of the specific facts surrounding these two instances.

Given the evidence thus far, only the second incident is blatantly racist.

However, what has given fuel to the woke Right is the inevitable backlash against the anti-white racism promoted by the woke Left. Neither of these is reasonable or excusable, even if they are understandable.

Some have praised the development of Hendrix, seeing massive fundraising success as an overall good thing because it may represent the end of the Left's cancel culture. They conclude that this is a victory for free speech, a corrective measure, while not explicitly defending Hendrix's racism.

There's some merit to that argument. The larger concern, though, is where this ends up going. The goal for conservatives is to see an end to racism and the toxic nature of identity-based politics. How is that goal achieved by embracing white racism against black racism?

Furthermore, the whole foundation for supporting freedom of speech is so that bad ideas can be confronted for what they are, challenged, and rejected by society.

Far from signaling an end to leftist wokeness, what these two incidents present is a growing racial grievance culture that too many people are eagerly joining.

NPR has a right to exist. That doesn't mean it has a right to my tax dollars.

Ingrid Jacques, USA TODAY

I regularly listen to NPR's 'Morning Edition.' But the program's blatant liberal bias often raises my blood pressure. President Donald Trump is right to cut off its taxpayer subsidies.

I woke up this morning as I usually do: listening to "Morning Edition" on NPR.

The soothing voices, hip musical interludes and international stories make me feel like I've been on a getaway of sorts before I have my first cup of coffee.

More often than not, however, it also raises my blood pressure. The blatant bias and superior attitude that liberals convey is intrinsic in nearly every segment.

And it makes me wonder: Why in the world am I paying for this?

President Donald Trump has wondered the same thing, and he's making the case that NPR – National Public Radio – and its television sibling PBS should be cut off from the taxpayer funding they've received since the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) was created by Congress in 1967, under a Democratic administration.

On May 1, Trump issued an executive order that seeks to end subsidies to both entities.

"Government funding of news media in this environment is not only outdated and unnecessary but corrosive to the appearance of journalistic independence," the order states. "At the very least, Americans have the right to expect that if their tax dollars fund public broadcasting at all, they fund only fair, accurate, unbiased, and nonpartisan news coverage."

All of that is true, and it's past time to end government-subsidized public media.

NPR CEO Katherine Maher said it best: 'Keep government out' of media

In addition to the executive order, according to The New York Times, the White House is asking Congress to rescind two years' worth of funding – \$1.1 billion – for the CPB, which distributes grants to NPR, PBS and local member stations.

Public media organizations obviously aren't happy and are painting Trump's actions as a "threat" to their work – and even an affront to the First Amendment. Other media groups are, too.

Is it though?

NPR CEO Katherine Maher recently told CBS News' "Face the Nation" that she saw the executive order as the Trump administration interfering with NPR's "editorial independence."

"Part of the separation that the First Amendment offers is to keep government out," Maher said. "In fact, the statute that was written when the Public Broadcasting Act was signed into law was very explicit about interference from any member of the government."

Our First Amendment offers the strongest free speech protections from government interference of anywhere in the world. But there is no constitutional guarantee of government-subsidized media.

Maher unintentionally made a case against taxpayer funding when she said the government should stay out of NPR's decisions.

Just as Harvard, Columbia, and other higher education institutions are learning, federal funding always comes with strings attached, and the surest way to free themselves from that interference is to forgo the money.

The same goes for NPR.

Let's go back to the problem of bias in public media. It's pervasive and obvious to anyone really paying attention.

Yet, Maher can't see it.

"Our people report straight down the line," Maher told CBS News. "And I think that not only do they do that, they do so with a mission that very few other broadcast organizations have, which is a requirement to serve the entire public."

For conservatives like myself, that got quite a chuckle.

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The sad thing is that she may actually believe it. NPR is like most legacy media organizations, in which the vast majority of the newsrooms are made up of left-leaning ideologues who all think alike.

A year ago, longtime NPR editor Uri Berliner created a stir when he went public by talking about the liberal bias and lack of ideological diversity that had overtaken the workplace he had loved. He resigned after the uproar that ensued.

As Mike Gonzalez, a senior fellow at the Heritage Foundation, testified at a March congressional hearing on NPR funding: “Democrats unanimously vote for more and more money for public media, and in exchange, public media heavily tips the scales in their favor.”

Trump is one of many Republican presidents who’ve wanted to end taxpayer-subsidized media. I hope he’s the first to succeed.

Poll: Democratic optimism sinks after election losses

Elise DeGeeter, Catholic Vote, May 14, 2025

CV NEWS FEED // A new poll released Wednesday reveals a drop in Democratic voter confidence, with just one-third expressing optimism about the future of their party, down from nearly 60% last July.

The poll, conducted May 1-5 by the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research, follows significant November losses in which Democrats lost the White House and both chambers of Congress. Now, only 33% of Democrats report being “very” or “somewhat” optimistic about their party’s direction.

“I just feel like the majority of the old Democratic Party needs to go,” said Monica Brown, a 61-year-old Democrat from Tennessee. “They’re not in tune with the new generation. They’re not in tune with the new world. We’ve got such division within the party.”

By contrast, Republican voters appear increasingly confident. The same poll found 55% of Republicans are optimistic about the GOP’s future, up from 47% in July 2024.

Still, the broader public remains dissatisfied with both parties. Only 33% of Americans view the Democratic Party favorably, compared to 40% for the Republican Party.

Among GOP leaders, Secretary of State Marco Rubio is viewed most favorably by Republican voters at 60%. House Speaker Mike Johnson and Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth each hold about 50% support within the party and 25% among the general public.

On the Democrat side, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer’s, D-N.Y., favorability dropped sharply, falling from about 50% approval last December to just one-third today. Critics blame his March decision to back a Republican-led funding bill, which triggered backlash within his own party. Meanwhile, Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., holds a 50% favorability rating among Democrats, while Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., is backed by about 75% of Democrats.

The poll also points to growing dissatisfaction with the political system. A majority of Democrats, 55%, say they are pessimistic about how political leaders are selected, up from 46% last summer.

A separate Washington Post/ABC News poll last month underscores voter frustration, showing 69% of Americans view the Democratic Party as “out of touch,” with 64% saying the same of the GOP.

The Resurgence of Faith in America

Samantha Koch, Patriot Post, April 24, 2025

There seems to be something of a spiritual revival happening, especially among younger Americans.

For years, Christianity in America has seen a downward turn in participation and open discussion of its principles. Public messaging has framed religious belief as controversial, outdated, and even offensive. Entertainment projects, whether music, movies, or shows, have pushed themes of faith aside to avoid alienating audiences, believing that even acknowledging these ideas would lead to less support and harsh criticism.

For a while, the impact of removing God from society went largely unnoticed, until it became undeniable.

The mental health of young people has deteriorated, more homes have been broken, and ideas that were reprehensible to most of us not that long ago have become normalized. Any sort of moral expectation is seen as oppressive. It was a line we thought we could toe forever without feeling the need to go back to our Christian roots as a nation.

However, our natural desire for meaning, purpose, and hope that there is something bigger than ourselves out there seems to be catching up, and the next generations are taking action.

Throughout 2024 and early 2025, a quiet but powerful spiritual revival has begun to take root, particularly among teens and young adults. From surging Bible sales to young people walking themselves to their local church buildings and even mainstream platforms like “American Idol” embracing Christian themes, evidence of a renewed hunger for faith is becoming undeniable. This resurgence reflects a broader societal shift, as Americans, especially Gen Z, seek meaning and community focused on a greater purpose.

One of the most striking signs of this revival is the growing number of young Americans converting to Catholicism. The New York Post reports, “A notable number of Gen Z and younger millennials are eschewing the ‘nones’ — those with no religious affiliation — and instead embracing the rituals, traditions, and community of the Catholic Church.” This trend is particularly strong among young men, as demonstrated by a 27-year-old churchgoer, who explains, “The lack of purpose and truth in contemporary society leads them to seek meaning. Watered-down versions of Christianity have no attraction.”

This movement seems to be a backlash against the constant focus on individualism and relativism that have left many feeling directionless. Because of this, young adults are now finding purpose in Catholicism’s structured rituals and deep-rooted doctrine.

Aside from Catholicism, attendance in church in general is surging, especially among Gen Z. A Bible Society report called “The Quiet Revival” found that church attendance among 18- to 24-year-olds in the UK quadrupled from 4% in 2018 to 16% in 2024, with young men leading the way. While the report focuses on the UK, similar trends are being seen across the U.S., where young people are increasingly finding themselves drawn to communities of faith.

This steady surge in religious participation seems to also be in response to the mental health crisis gripping Gen Z. A 2023 study from Oxford and Swansea University found that attending religious services can be linked to lower anxiety and depression. In the U.S., this aligns with what Shane Pruitt, a national director with the North American Mission Board, claimed: “The pandemic poured gas on problems already there. Gen Z is coming to the end of themselves at a much earlier age. They are looking for hope, and we get to slide in with the gospel.”

Churches offering authentic community and thought-provoking teaching are growing most, while more shallow models are fading.

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Another clear indicator of this revival is the dramatic rise in Bible sales. The Washington Times reports that Bible sales in the U.S. surged by 22% in 2024 compared to 2023, reaching 13.7 million copies in the first 10 months alone, despite overall book sales growing by less than 1%. This wave is driven by first-time buyers, particularly young people, who are turning to Scripture for answers. Publishers say the Bible sales trend is due, at least in part, to innovative marketing, new Bible designs, and a cultural moment marked by “general anxiety in the world.” Social media influencers on TikTok and YouTube have also played a role, openly sharing their faith journeys and encouraging followers to explore Scripture.

Perhaps the most unexpected sign of this revival is the reemergence of Christian themes in mainstream entertainment. This past Easter Sunday, “American Idol” aired a “Songs of Faith” special, celebrating Christian and gospel music. The Christian Post describes the event as a “profound celebration of the spiritual roots deeply embedded in American culture.” Judges Luke Bryan, Carrie Underwood, and Lionel Richie performed worship songs alongside the remaining 20 contestants. This marks a significant departure from the show’s earlier days, when, as original producer Simon Lythgoe recalls, there was “an unspoken rule to steer clear of anything overtly religious” to keep the show secular.

The special reflects a broader cultural shift. Underwood’s faith-infused performances, like her 2005 hit “Jesus, Take the Wheel,” and the 2008 “Idol Gives Back” performance of “Shout to the Lord” by the top eight finalists hopefully paved the way for future artists, actors, and production companies to incorporate faith into their projects as well. Lythgoe stated, “For ABC and Disney to take such a stand on this holy day and celebrate worship music is truly inspirational.” In an emotional tribute to the contestants and their willingness to participate in this national evening of Christian worship, Underwood said, “I know how difficult it is to come into the entertainment industry and bring your faith with you. It is a brave thing to do because there are a lot of outside forces that are going to tell you not to do that. I want to tell you that I’m proud of you guys.”

This spiritual revival is not without its challenges. Critics argue that some conversions may be faddish or politically motivated, and data from Arizona Christian University shows that only 6% of self-identified Christians hold a biblical worldview.

Yet the trends are encouraging: Young people are seeking faith, churches are growing, Scripture is resonating, and even pop culture reflects this shift.

After years of marginalization, Christianity is regaining its voice in America, driven by a generation hungry for truth and connection. As The Washington Times puts it, “Gen Z is sick and tired of their predecessors’ secularism.”

DEI Is Ruining Education, and Trump Is Trying to Fix It

Nate Jackson, April 24, 2025, Patriot Post

He signed several executive orders aimed at removing racial discrimination from education.

If it’s “status quo,” Donald Trump is disrupting it. That goes for our esteemed institutions of higher learning, which have become indoctrination centers run by faculty that skew 10-1 far left. A new series of executive orders takes the next step in the battle against what the administration calls “ideological overreach” in the form of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).

Already in Trump’s second term, he’s taken on the Ivy League, especially over rampant anti-Semitism. He’s used federal funding as a negotiating tool rather than an entitlement to extract concessions from Columbia and to provoke a legal battle with Harvard. Princeton, Brown, Penn, and Cornell have been in the crosshairs, as well.

During Trump’s campaign, he promised to “fire the radical left accreditors that have allowed our colleges to become dominated by Marxist maniacs and lunatics.”

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“Accreditors routinely approve institutions that are low-quality by the most important measures,” the order posits, citing rising six-year (as opposed to four-year) graduation rates and a “negative return on investment” for many degrees, all while there has been a “spike in debt obligations.” Instead of focusing on these problems, Trump’s order says, “Accreditors have remained improperly focused on compelling adoption of discriminatory ideology, rather than on student outcomes.” It explicitly points to DEI as the discriminatory ideology.

Having laid out the problem, the order proceeds to the solution:

American students and taxpayers deserve better, and my Administration will reform our dysfunctional accreditation system so that colleges and universities focus on delivering high-quality academic programs at a reasonable price. Federal recognition will not be provided to accreditors engaging in unlawful discrimination in violation of Federal law.

Given that the federal government dispersed more than \$120 billion in loans, grants, and work-study to nearly 10 million students last year alone, this is a wise move toward good stewardship of taxpayer dollars. “Revoking accreditation is an existential threat for these universities,” said the Cato Institute’s Andrew Gillen. “If you lose Pell grants and lose student loans, for most colleges that means you’re done.”

Secretary of Education Linda McMahon and Attorney General Pam Bondi will be tasked with investigation and enforcement, and McMahon will ensure that standards are improved. “Instead of pushing schools to adopt a divisive DEI ideology,” the secretary said, “accreditors should be focused on helping schools improve graduation rates and graduates’ performance in the labor market.”

What a novel concept.

Trump signed seven total orders Wednesday aimed at disrupting the Left’s chokehold on education. Two others were particularly geared toward eliminating race as a primary consideration — one on the supposed “disparate impact” approach to civil rights, and the other a restoration of “common sense school discipline policies.”

The two are related. Barack Obama’s administration began the trend of digging up “racism” by pointing to statistics showing that blacks or other minorities were disproportionately disciplined, regardless of the behavior that merited the discipline. Rather than acknowledging that a myriad of familial and cultural factors led, at this historical moment, to more misbehavior from minorities, Team Obama called it “disparate impact” so as to make Americans ashamed at how “systemic racism” had infected every facet of education.

Trump is changing that, too, by “ensuring school discipline policies are based on objective behavior, not DEI.”

“Under my Administration,” his “disparate impact” order says, “citizens will be treated equally before the law and as individuals, not consigned to a certain fate based on their immutable characteristics.” Or, as Martin Luther King put it, “I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.”

Isn’t it odd and revealing that leftists define “racism” as focusing on merit and equal opportunity rather than being obsessed with racial outcomes?



“All Americans...are rightly disturbed by the large numbers of illegal aliens entering our country. The jobs they hold might otherwise be held by citizens or legal immigrants. The public services they use impose burdens on our taxpayers. ... It is wrong and ultimately self-defeating for a nation to permit this kind of abuse of our immigration laws...”

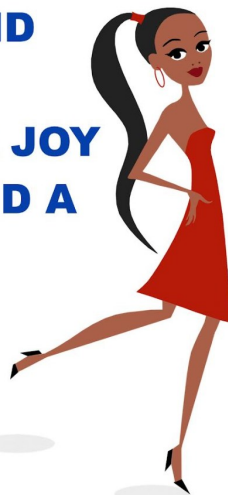
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