



22nd Annual Youth Legislative Training Conference—2016

The 22nd Annual AACCS Youth Legislative Training Conference was held July 11–15, 2016, and gave students from Christian schools across the nation a hands-on experience of the workings of Washington, DC. The report below from the AACCS Legislative Office highlights the events of the week.

During the week of July 11–15, the AACCS hosted the 22nd annual Youth Legislative Training Conference in Washington, D. C., for high school juniors and seniors from Christian high schools across the country. The week-long conference included workshops from top conservative leaders, a Day on the Hill, a mock senate, and tours of historical sites in our nation’s capital. The mock senate, led by Mrs. Gail Nicholas, gave the students an opportunity to role-play actual Senators and write and debate legislation on the topic of foreign affairs.

A highlight of the week was the Day on the Hill that included a congressional briefing designed just for the students followed by meetings with the students’ congressional representatives. The students also enjoyed an after-hours tour of the Capitol hosted by Rep. Barry Loudermilk (GA). During the congressional briefing, the students heard from Representatives Tim Huelskamp (KS), Louie Gohmert (TX), Diane Black (TN), and Gary Palmer (AL). The Congressmen all shared how the Lord guided them to run for office, and they encouraged the students to get involved in public policy and elections for conservative leaders. They also stressed the need for Christians to participate in the public arena.

The students also had the opportunity to tour the Library of Congress and Arlington Cemetery where the group laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The week culminated in a special banquet honoring Rep. Vicky Hartzler (MO) for her resolute service and dedication to family values and to religious liberty. During her keynote address at the banquet, Rep. Hartzler drew from her own experiences rising from the local to federal level and challenged the students to follow the Lord’s leading as she has done in her own life.

The Lord blessed the week with a great group of students, and we are excited to see what doors of opportunity the Lord will open for the students as the result of the things learned through the conference. To see pictures of the week, visit our Facebook page, AACCS Legislative Office; or our Instagram account, @AACCS_YLTC (also check out #YLTC16).