



**The Washington Flyer
October 10, 2025**

*"Let us have faith that right makes might,
and, in that faith, let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it."*
President Abraham Lincoln

"Sometimes the Results of Our Ministry Appear Many Years Later"

Last week, [a powerful statement](#) about the influence of Christian teachers and Christian education was posted by Denny Burk, Professor of Biblical Studies at Boyce College. Burke noted that he had received the message through an email that was sent by Wayne Gruden to his prayer partners. We are including the message here for the encouragement of our readers, many of whom have committed their lives to the important ministry of Christian education:

"Sometimes the results of our ministry appear many years later: In 1982, when our oldest son Elliot was in 3rd grade, Margaret began to think that we needed a Christian school in the north suburban Chicago area (there were none near us). As we talked, I agreed with her.

We began to talk with other parents and soon we formed a committee to address the possibility of founding a Christian school. After many presentations at many churches and in many homes, Christian Heritage Academy opened in 1984 in Northbrook, Illinois with 59 students in grades K-6. The school now has moved to nearby Northfield, Illinois, and has over 400 students in grades K-12.

I was the first president of the board, from 1982-1984. I think many of you who receive this prayer memo worked with us to get Christian Heritage Academy started.

Fast forward to about 2005. There was an 11-year-old boy in 5th grade, and one day, after hearing a challenge from a teacher, he raised his hand to commit his life to Christ. This commitment set the direction of his whole life. The young boy's name was Charlie Kirk."

Bill of Rights Essay Contest for Christian School and Home School Students

The Herzog Foundation is hosting a [Bill of Rights Essay Contest](#) for middle school (grades 6-8) and high school students. To be eligible, students must be enrolled full time in a Christian school or homeschool. The essays should answer the following writing prompt: *What made the Bill of Rights revolutionary and unique at the time of its ratification? How has it shaped the United States and its citizens over the years?* The essays should be 1,500 words or less (approximately three pages, single-spaced). One middle school winner and one high school winner will each receive \$300 from the Herzog Foundation, and runners-up could receive up to \$150. The deadline for submission is November 21, 2025. For more information on the guidelines and to submit an entry, please [follow this link](#).

Supreme Court Hears Free Speech Case

This Tuesday, the U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments for the case [Chiles v. Salazar](#), which focuses on free speech. Kaley Chiles is a licensed counselor in Colorado. However, a state law banning so-called “conversion therapy” prevents Chiles from giving her clients the help they need. This law prevents Chiles from helping struggling minors reconcile their sexual orientation or gender identity with biblical values. Importantly, the law is against the goal of the discussion. For example, Chiles could talk with a minor about these issues only if she advocated for the state-sanctioned message that people can change their sex or that same-sex attraction is good. Because Chiles could face disciplinary action for “conversion therapy,” she filed a [pre-enforcement](#) challenge. The Supreme Court agreed to hear Chiles’s case after she lost at both the district court and the U.S. 10th Circuit Court of Appeals. In oral arguments, the attorney representing Chiles [argued](#) that the state law violates the First Amendment by restricting speech. However, the state of Colorado [argued](#) that the law regulates professional conduct, not speech. A [majority](#) of Supreme Court justices seemed to question Colorado’s claims. Justice Samuel Alito called the Colorado law “blatant viewpoint discrimination.” In other words, the state allows counselors to discuss some things in a certain way. The justices may decide if the law must pass the strict scrutiny test, the highest test of legality that few laws meet. The Supreme Court could then either apply the test itself or send the case back to a lower court to decide. The Supreme Court is expected to announce its decision this summer.

Supreme Court to Hear Cases on Protecting Women’s Sports

The U.S. Supreme Court started its new term this Monday and is scheduled to rule on a [pair of state laws](#) that protect female sports. Idaho and West Virginia both have laws that prevent males from playing in female sports. Now these states are defending these laws before the Court. In [Little v. Hecox](#), male Lindsay Hecox sued the state because he wanted to try out for female sports at Boise State University. He received an injunction that allowed him to play female collegiate soccer, an injunction the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals has upheld. After the Supreme Court accepted the case, Hecox withdrew his complaint and argued that the case is now moot. Idaho Attorney General Raúl Labrador argued that the case is still live and that the Court should rule on its merits instead of dismissing it. In [West Virginia v. B.P.J.](#), a middle school boy challenged the state law. The Supreme Court initially declined to hear the case in 2023 but later accepted it this July. Although both cases are similar, they make arguments on different grounds. The plaintiffs in *Little v. Hecox* argue that the Idaho law violates the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment, and the plaintiffs in *West Virginia v. B.P.J.* argue that the state law violates [Title IX](#). The Court has yet to schedule oral arguments on these cases.

In Case You Missed It:

[Weekly Market Update](#) provided by Jeff Beach of the [AACCS Investment Team at Merrill Lynch](#)

[Practical Legal Help for Christian Schools: ADF Ministry Alliance](#)

[Knight Serves Internship with AACCS In Washington, D.C.](#)

[No More ‘Blind Eye’: VA Governor Issues Directive to Protect Girls’ Sports and Spaces](#)

[The OBBB Act is One of the Most Significant Shifts in Education in Decades](#)

Jamison Coppola: Government Relations Director

Olivia Summers: Government Relations Assistant

Maureen Van Den Berg: Policy Analyst

Washington Office, 119 C Street SE, Washington, DC 20003