



# THE FAMILY LEADER

Strengthening families...

2019 Annual Report





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Strengthening families...



*OUR*  
**FOCUS**

Inspiring the Church  
To engage government  
For the advance of God's Kingdom

*OUR*  
**VISION**

To see a revived America that honors God  
and blesses people

# INSPIRING *THE CHURCH*

The FAMiLY Leader's work with churches *truly sets us apart*. Even though we work with government, our focus is not just policy change, but *true, cultural transformation*, authentically joining the Church in its mission to advance the kingdom of God.

**1,800** *Pastors*  
in Iowa's Church Ambassador Network

**231** *Elected officials*  
reached

**222** *Bibles distributed*  
to elected officials

**1,300** *Pastor visits*  
to Iowa's Capitol over last 4 years

**300** *Pastor visits*  
to Iowa's Capitol in 2019

**64,705** *Downloads*  
of the If 7:14 revival prayer app



Church Ambassador Network's Pastor Steering Committee of Iowa

## THE CHURCH AMBASSADOR NETWORK (CAN)



Through the Church Ambassador Network, TFL brings ministers of the Church to ministers of government. Pastors counsel, pray, and care for elected officials, regardless of party or policy position. Grounded in prayer and leading with the gospel, these pastors are restoring the prophetic voice of the Church to the government in America.



The impact of these pastors is making national news. The Christian Broadcasting Network featured the Church Ambassador Network in 2019, crediting the pastor-legislator relationships with “raising the spiritual temperature” at the Iowa Capitol. “What any public official needs,” affirmed U.S. Sen. Chuck Grassley in the report, “is prayer for wisdom.”

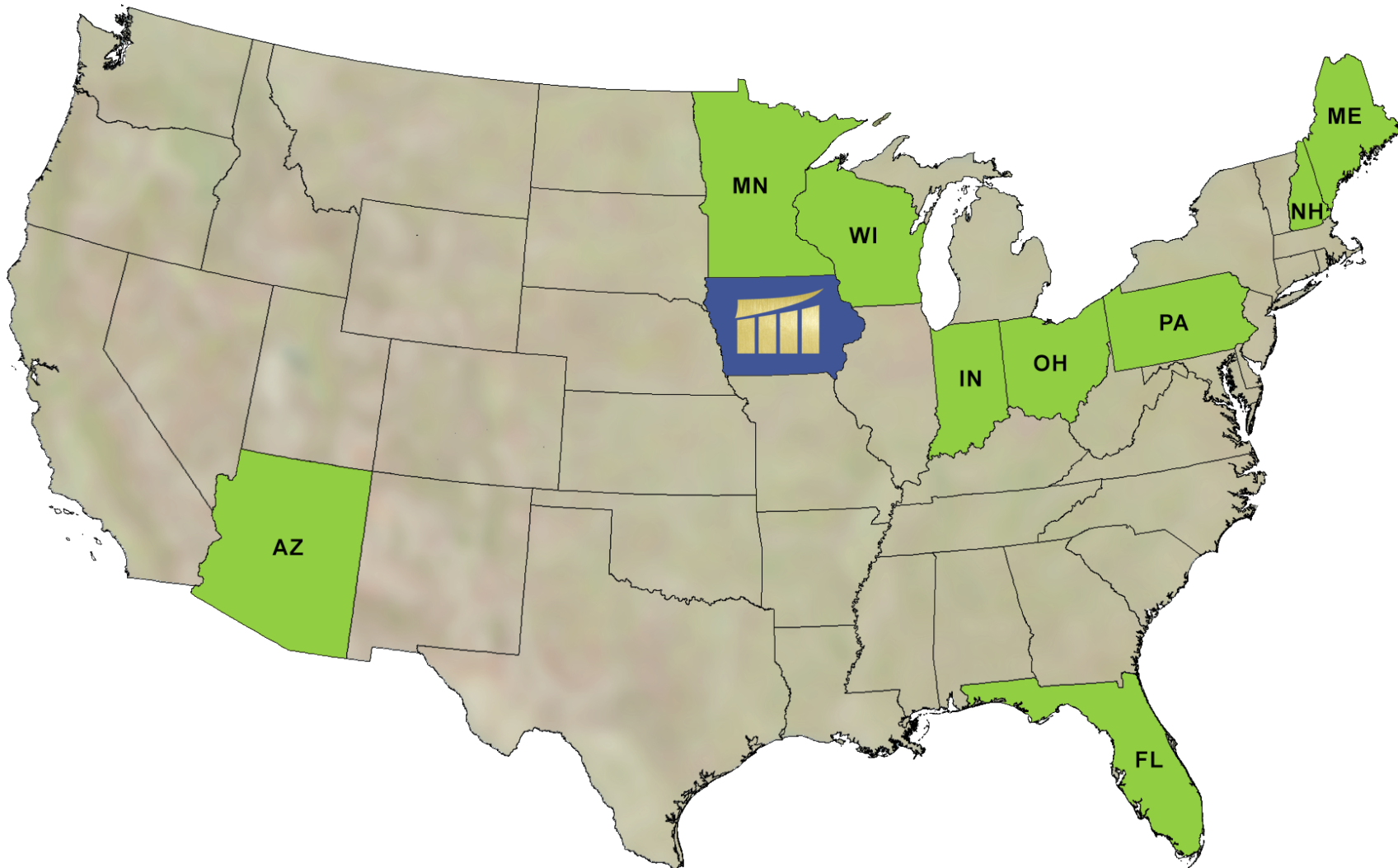


TFL's If 7:14 ministry unites the Church in prayer for revival. Our free If 7:14 app has been downloaded over 60,000 times in more than 30 countries, igniting a twice-daily, global rhythm of prayer. If 7:14 also coordinates prayer for EVERY congregation in the Church Ambassador Network; and during the legislative session, joins weekly with pastors to pray with Iowa's elected officials.



# THE DANIEL INITIATIVE

The Daniel Initiative exports TFL's Church Ambassador Network and model for Church-centered cultural transformation to other states. Through investment, mentorship, and partnership with sister state organizations, The Daniel Initiative is ***building a “beach head” of states to transform a nation.***



## What if **EVERY** state inspired the local Church to genuinely and biblically engage with government?

Today, The FAMiLY Leader is building state networks, reaching thousands of pastors across now 10 states, to **implement transformational, relational ministry at the local level.**



### **Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds**

“I’ve personally witnessed the impact of The FAMiLY Leader’s The Daniel Initiative in Iowa. Elections are impacted, best policies are enacted, and officials are blessed and encouraged when the Church is authentically engaged. I cheer on this proven model and hope it is embraced and enacted in many states.”



### **John Stemberger**

Florida Family Policy Council

“So much of the Church is drifting, afraid, and has cowered back from cultural issues. So churches need a place they are comfortable in, a space that’s legitimate, biblical, where churches are not being manipulated [for political ends]. The Daniel Initiative provides a model for churches to see this is ministry; this is not politics. That’s very profound, and it’s transformative to churches and their communities.”



### **Cathi Herrod**

Center for Arizona Policy

“The Daniel Initiative represents the right, biblical approach to engage the Church and Church leaders. Pastors tell me repeatedly they want nothing to do with policy and politics, but you can’t argue against the principles, aim, and calling of The Daniel Initiative.”



# ENGAGING GOVERNMENT

The FAMiLY Leader's Capitol Team remains your **voice for biblical values** in Des Moines and beyond.

While our pastor partners speak grace and truth to government leaders' hearts, TFL's lobbying team speaks truth to policy. And **2019 was a banner year for legislative victories at the Capitol.**



TFL's Elections & Policy Team

## LOBBYING WORK IN 2019

**838** bills  
reviewed

**103** bills  
registered and tracked

**6** supported bills  
passed



## Governor Reynolds signing the 'Heartbeat Bill'



- ✓ **Religious liberty protections enacted** for students at public universities
- ✓ Much-needed **judicial nomination reform passed**, over 50 years in the making
- ✓ The **complete defunding of Planned Parenthood** accomplished at the state level, eliminating taxpayer funded sex-ed by abortion providers

# LEADING AMERICA

God has given The FAMiLY Leader a platform at the national level for *inspiring Christ-like leadership* in America.

Whether it's to the national leaders and attendees who come to the annual Family Leadership Summit, or through newspapers and TV networks seeking TFL's perspective, we have the opportunity to *speak biblical values to a culture starving for truth and love.*

U.S. Sen. James Lankford at the 2019 Family Leadership Summit: "I don't believe Washington changes the country. I think the country changes Washington. And there should be no prime mover stronger than the Church for engaging the gospel throughout a community."



Racial reconciliation took center stage at the 2019 Family Leadership Summit in West Des Moines, as TFL President and CEO Bob Vander Plaats (right) talked with U.S. Senator James Lankford of Oklahoma (left) and U.S. Senator Tim Scott of South Carolina.



# THE NEXT GENERATION

Through TFL's summer LEAD program, **46 teenagers were equipped** in 2019 to become ambassadors for Christ, leaders in any field to which God calls them.

Far more than a government camp, LEAD uses hands-on experience to give the next generation of America's leaders the confidence and biblical thinking skills they'll need **to be salt and light to our culture.**





### **Ian's Testimony**

I am an alumni of TeenPact and now of LEAD. Throughout my experiences with The FAMiLY Leader, I have been nothing less than astonished by the biblical leadership and professionalism displayed. I have learned tons of essential information and grown considerably. All this to say, thank you for everything that you stand for. I hope to continue watching God use this organization in amazing ways for His glory!

### **Jennifer's Testimony**

I am so thankful for the Christ-centered teaching my daughter received at LEAD. It blew me away! It was so good, all of it, but at the closing ceremony, when you were talking about serving Christ in the now, not waiting for something spectacular to happen in your life or a certain calling... I just wanted to say, "Hallelujah!" Our daughter came home encouraged, with a folder full of notes from all these wonderful speakers. It made a deep and eternal impression. We are so thankful.

**Thank you for partnering with The FAMiLY Leader!** Whether you've volunteered, donated, contacted your legislator, made a visit to the Capitol, provided a Bible for a lawmaker, and/or joined us in prayer for revival; we first and foremost wish to say thank you!

Your partnership has allowed our team to be ambassadors of Christ to government, churches, and families. Our heartfelt desire is to be faithful in serving to strengthen each of these institutions of God. As we do, and as the scope of our mission field increases, we invite you to prayerfully consider how to join with us all the more.

We are specifically seeking to expand and solidify our Church Ambassador Network, which has spread to 10 states! The Lord has also opened a unique window for us to take ground in the battle to end abortion and to be a voice for the innocent. We will need resources above and beyond what is already in place for what we expect to do in 2020 and beyond.

As we look forward, would you consider how you may be able to meet the needs for this mission on a monthly basis? We ask you to prayerfully commit to join us by selecting one of the giving levels on the next page.



For the family,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob" in a cursive, stylized font.

Bob Vander Plaats, President & CEO

# WAYS TO GIVE IN 2020

We invite our ministry partners to help us continue our mission in 2020 by investing in the following ways:

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Each gift of \$100K & above | Fortifies <b>The Daniel Initiative</b> in a key battleground state              |
| 3 gifts of \$25K            | Underwrites the costs of our annual <b>Leadership Summit</b>                    |
| 5 gifts of \$30K            | Equips TFL's <b>Capitol Team</b> for its work during the legislative session    |
| 10 gifts of \$5K            | Connects 100 Iowa pastors ( <b>CAN</b> ) with Iowa state legislators            |
| 20 gifts of \$1K            | Each gift provides a full scholarship for a needy student to attend <b>LEAD</b> |

## Stock gifts & planned giving

We can easily facilitate your gift of appreciated stock or gifts of grain, and also help you make a gift to impact through your will or trust, or other planned giving vehicles.

If you have giving related questions, contact our offices at **(515) 263-3495** or by email at **[giving@thefamilyleader.com](mailto:giving@thefamilyleader.com)**





## THE FAMILY LEADER

Strengthening families by inspiring Christ-like leadership  
in the home, the church, and the government