



2019 GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Relative to the listed Ministry Assignment, please describe accomplishments in the past year that creates "value added" to the Cooperative Program dollars that ERLC receives.

I. Assist churches in applying the moral and ethical teachings of the Bible to the Christian life.

Throughout the year, the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission has provided a steady stream of resources to churches to help them apply the moral and ethical teachings of the Bible to the Christian life. Each day, the ERLC website publishes new content directly related to the issues of human dignity, family stability, civil society, and religious liberty—and these in a variety of formats ranging from popular-level to academic, articles to videos to podcasts. In the 2018 ministry year, the ERLC continued to set record numbers in terms of downloads, reach, and followers, in some areas seeing gains of over 100%.

Additionally, the ERLC strives to respond quickly to events in the news important to Southern Baptists so as to help train churches and assist Southern Baptists in thinking through the issues. Beyond this, the ERLC has been intentional in launching events—ranging from area pastor lunches, leadership summits, and large-scale annual conferences, designed to equip men and women to think through these issues from a kingdom-focused, gospel framework. In partnership with LifeWay and others, these events are often uploaded online after the fact so that all Southern Baptists, not just those who were able to attend our national events, are able to benefit from the conference content. Additionally, in partnership with the National Religious Broadcasters, much of this same content is broadcast on NRB TV, airing on DirecTV to millions of viewers around the country.

As a few examples of church-minded resources created, the ERLC has produced bulletin inserts for SBC churches for each of the respective emphasis Sundays as well as downloadable “Issue Analysis Briefs” for pastors and church leaders. These give leaders an in- depth analysis on individual issues. The ERLC has provided numerous resources free of charge to SBC churches and state conventions around the country for various events. Additionally, in partnership with LifeWay, the ERLC has developed and book length and curriculum resources designed to equip Christians and churches on issues of life, adoption, religious liberty, parenting, racial reconciliation, marriage, and many other issues. Our president has led the way too in equipping

churches through his own writings. This year, his book *The Storm-Tossed Family: How the Cross Reshapes the Home* was released by B&H. The book is designed to help Christians understand how “family” is designed to be a gospel icon, with implications for how we understand and live out our own lives from beginning to end. Just in recent weeks, too, *Christianity Today* named *The Storm-Tossed Family* book its 2018 Book of the Year.

The ERLC continued to innovate along several different multimedia initiatives, expanding Signposts, a weekly podcast featuring Dr. Moore addressing pressing issues and difficult ethical questions, interviewing prominent authors and thought leaders, and offering cultural commentary on pressing Christian issues. The ERLC also developed a policy-focused podcast, titled Capitol Conversations, in which the DC-based ERLC staff offer insight and analysis from a Christian perspective on developments in our nation’s capital and what we as a Commission are doing to drive conversations there. Andrew Walker and Trillia Newbell have also offered regular podcasts, with Walker interviewing various thought leaders focusing on timely ethical issues and Newbell focusing on serving women across the denomination. Additionally, video has received a great deal of attention over the last year. As an organization we have published hundreds of hours of interviews, discussions, and video productions on a variety of issues. This has been a common request from pastors and churches, particularly for use in their weekly services and for small group training. In the same vein, the ERLC has continued to work to develop curriculum designed for churches. Over the last few years, the ERLC has partnered with LifeWay to produce curriculum both on Christ-centered parenting as well as religious liberty. At the present moment, the ERLC is working on developing curriculum to help churches think through the issue of race from a gospel perspective. Other resources include (1) *Light* magazine, which takes up a new theme each issue in order to apply the gospel from a variety of perspectives to the important cultural issues of the day; and (2) our *Gospel for Life* series of books on racial reconciliation, same-sex marriage, marriage, pornography, abortion, parenting, work, religious liberty, and adoption, designed with pastors in mind in order to provide them small, accessible resources they can give to people in their congregation in order to think through these crucial issues from a gospel perspective.

II. Assist churches through the communication and advocacy of moral and ethical concerns in the public arena.

As the SBC entity charged not only to serve as a moral and ethical voice to Southern Baptist churches, but also to be a gospel witness in the public square, the ERLC engaged the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government on multiple fronts, from meeting with lawmakers and advocacy partners to issuing public comments to the administration to filing amicus briefs in the Supreme Court.

The ERLC labored in the public square on a range of issues, from religious liberty to the sanctity of human life to marriage to human trafficking to racial reconciliation and many areas in between, seeking to apply the gospel to public policy for the sake of religious liberty and human flourishing. Among the many specific policies engaged, the ERLC worked to secure religious liberty protections and worked tirelessly to be a voice of reason and persuasiveness on issues of concern to Southern Baptists.

Throughout the last ministry year, the ERLC focused its legislative attention on issues of life, family, and religious liberty, about which Southern Baptists have been insistent and consistent for decades. A summary of the ERLC's public policy activities is below, but the ERLC's policy team also secured a number of key victories this year, some of which are highlighted here:

- Preserving the Adoption Tax Credit: During the debate over the major tax reform package that became the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, the initial House draft included a provision that would have eliminated the Adoption Tax Credit, which provides financial relief and incentive for qualifying families who adopt domestically or internationally. The ERLC led a coalition of pro-life and pro-family organizations to fight for the restoration of the Adoption Tax Credit. These efforts were successful, and the Adoption Tax Credit remains a part of the Internal Revenue Code today.
- Federal Child Welfare Provider Inclusion Act: The ERLC has been actively working to build support for the Child Welfare Provider Inclusion Act (H.R. 1881 / S. 811). This year, for the first time, the Inclusion Act was added as a rider to the House Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies appropriations package. The ERLC has been leading within the coalition responsible for building support for the bill and led several coalition efforts to ensure a successful committee vote.
- Iraq and Syria Genocide Accountability Act: The ERLC has been actively involved in this piece of legislation over the last two years, working to secure passage in the House of Representatives and working to clear several procedural and political hurdles in the Senate. As of December 2018, President Trump signed this bill into law. The ERLC policy team dedicated significant energy to ensure that much-needed resources are able to reach the victims of genocide who suffer at the hands of the Islamic State.
- Criminal Justice Reform – Passage of FIRST STEP Act: In a show of bipartisanship this past Congress, both Democrats and Republicans came together to work on a package to reform the American criminal justice system. As of December 2018, the ERLC is happy to see a prison-reform package called the FIRST STEP Act passed by the House of Representatives, endorsed by President Trump, and pending passage in the Senate in

the next few weeks. The bill takes a targeted, nuanced approach at reducing certain mandatory minimums while also directing the Department of Justice to expand recidivism reduction programming in partnership with nonprofit and faith-based organizations. The ERLC policy team devoted a significant amount of time and energy in coalition meetings and meetings with members of Congress and the executive branch advocating for this piece of legislation.

In addition to extensive work within both the executive and judicial branches of government, here is a list of some of the key pieces of legislation the ERLC advanced—included to highlight the range of issues the Commission engages on behalf of Southern Baptists:

- Conscience Protection Measures: No healthcare worker should have to compromise their deeply-held beliefs in order to administer care. Healthcare workers should not be forced to participate in abortions or other medical procedures that conflict with their religiously-informed consciences. Therefore, it was encouraging to see the establishment of a new Conscience and Religious Freedom Office in the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Civil Rights at the beginning of this year. This new Office was announced for the first time by the Trump Administration at the ERLC's Religious Liberty Summit. The ERLC believes this new initiative will help curb the abuses of consciences in the healthcare industry across the country. HHS also issued new regulations to strengthen the conscience rights of healthcare workers, and the ERLC submitted comments supportive of those regulations.
- Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act: Currently, the U.S. is one of only seven nations in the world that allows elective abortions after 20 weeks post-fertilization. The Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act would prohibit the performing (or attempted performance) of abortions on babies at 20 weeks or greater gestation, except in cases of rape, incest, or to save the life of the mother. In 2017, the bill passed the House of Representatives. The Senate, however, failed to reach the 60-vote threshold needed to move forward, and the measure was withdrawn. The ERLC continues to advocate for this just and bipartisan bill until it is ultimately codified into law, recognizing that federal action on this measure provides cover for states to pass similar measures.
- The Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act: Federal law does not adequately protect a born child who survives a failed abortion. In that moment, such children deserve all the medical care possible. The Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act would amend the federal criminal code to require any health care practitioner present when a child is born alive following an abortion or attempted abortion to, first, exercise the same degree of care as reasonably provided to any other child born alive at the

same gestational age, and, second, ensure the child is immediately admitted to a hospital.

- Defund Planned Parenthood: The ERLC is committed to seeing the nation's largest abortion provider, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, deprived of federal taxpayer dollars. There have been several efforts to defund Planned Parenthood over the last two years, including through the healthcare reform package and through House appropriations bills.
- No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act: In the aftermath of *Roe v. Wade*, the Hyde Amendment was introduced to prevent taxpayer dollars from being allocated for abortion. Since its enactment in 1976, Congress has passed the amendment as a temporary rider which expires each year. The No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act would codify the Hyde Amendment by prohibiting federal funds from being expended for abortion or health coverage that includes coverage for elective abortion. The bill has been passed by the House of Representatives and is pending in the Senate.
- Physician-assisted Suicide: In 2017, the District of Columbia joined Oregon, Montana, Washington, and Vermont in legalizing physician-assisted suicide, a practice in clear conflict with ethical principles from both the Hippocratic tradition and a biblical perspective. Physician-assisted suicide simply is not healthcare. Pain (physical, medical) and suffering (emotional, psychological, spiritual) are each treatable given proper diagnosis and care (Matt. 25:35; Luke 4:18–21; James 1:27; 2:8). Treatable pain and care ought not be cause for death. Hospice and palliative care options provide compassionate and ethical treatment that recognize human dignity. On Capitol Hill, the role of the policy team has been primarily to educate members and staffers about our biblical convictions regarding assisted suicide.
- Child Welfare Provider Inclusion Act: Sluggish adoption rates and rapidly escalating foster care rosters call for encouraging more adoption, not less. Yet, laws in several states are actually decreasing the quantity and diversity of child welfare providers by requiring all providers in their state to facilitate adoptions under circumstances that often conflict with the sincerely-held religious beliefs or moral convictions of some providers. Birth mothers and adopting families find it increasingly difficult to locate adoption and foster care providers who share their own beliefs and convictions. The Inclusion Act would prohibit the federal government and any state receiving certain federal funding from discriminating against service providers on the grounds that the provider declines to participate in a child welfare social service in ways or under

circumstances which conflict with their sincerely held beliefs.

- Higher Education Reauthorization Act: Public universities ought to be places where diversity is encouraged, not stifled. The rights of free religious exercise and assembly of students on public college campuses are in need of clear federal protections. Specifically, college administrators ought to respect the rights of students to freedom of association and stop requiring religious student groups to accept as members or select as leaders those who do not share their core religiously informed beliefs. The Higher Education Reauthorization Act included language specifically protecting religious liberty of students to select leaders based on religious criteria. The bill also included language that would have protected the accreditation of faith-based higher education institutions. The ERLC continues to support efforts to include this language in the Senate companion bill and calls on Congress to protect students from religious discrimination.
- HHS Conscience Protection Rules & Conscience and Religious Freedom Division: The ERLC supports the new rules from HHS aimed at protecting life and conscience rights, titled, "Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care." These proposed rules, in addition to the formation of a new HHS Conscience and Religious Freedom Division, are important to maintain the core American freedom for citizens to live and act in accordance with their own deeply-held beliefs. These administrative actions are needed because it is unconscionable when pro-life healthcare workers are forced to participate in abortions and other medical procedures which conflict with their religiously-informed conscience. While we work to end the practice of abortion-on-demand, we will make sure our current conscience rights are properly enforced.
- Protect Religious Freedom for Military Chaplains & Medical Professionals: As the country grapples with the ever-expanding implications of the sexual revolution, religious liberty conflicts develop for those who hold to God's design for human sexuality. The normalization of same-sex marriage and transgenderism is creating conflict in virtually every sphere of society, including the military and the medical practice. The ERLC monitors the climate in these spheres and advocates for the freedoms of religion and conscience of service members, chaplains, and medical professionals to serve their country in a manner consistent with their deeply-held religious beliefs. This includes advocating on behalf of Southern Baptist chaplains publicly and through back channels as well as public policy provisions to protect the religious freedom of chaplains and other servicemembers.
- First Amendment Defense Act (FADA): FADA would prevent the federal government from discriminating against an individual or faith-based entity because of belief that

marriage is an institution between a man and a woman. FADA would enact system-wide religious liberty protections for adoption and foster care agencies, government contractors and grant recipients, businesses, and religious institutions—including institutions of higher educational, along with students seeking federal aid to attend them.

- Restoration of Russell Amendment protections: Due to an executive order by President Obama, all federal contractors and subcontractors were required to positively affirm “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” or else forfeit eligibility for federal contracts. Rep. Steve Russell (R–Okla.) and Rep. Hartzler (R–Mo.), respectively, sought in previous sessions to protect the religious freedom of government contractors, chaplains, and service members. Sadly, those amendments were abandoned by lawmakers in both parties. Until religious exemptions are fully restored—either by an act of Congress or rescission of Executive Order 13672—the religious freedom of military personnel and federal contractors is at risk.
- Universal Charitable Deduction & Parking Taxation Issues: In December 2017, Congress passed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which includes two points of concern to the ERLC. First, the standard deduction nearly doubled, likely providing welcome relief to many American families. However, because the charitable deduction is tethered to the standard deduction, the new law will likely reduce those incentivized to make charitable deductions from 30% to just 10% or even 5% of taxpayers. State level research suggests that modifications like this around the edges of charitable deductions often decreases private-sector giving. The ERLC advocates for a universal charitable deduction that would incentivize taxpayers at all income levels to give more to charity. Second, tax law now requires that nonprofits now pay taxes on certain benefits offered to employees, including parking. While many churches may see no financial impact from this, many churches will be forced to pay a significant amount in taxes more than they have previously. Additionally, other nonprofits who prior to 2018 were not required to file a Form 990-T must now file and may then be subject to state income taxes. The ERLC is working with allies on Capitol Hill and other nonprofits to amend the tax code to exempt nonprofits from this new policy.
- Responding to the Opioid Crisis: For the second year in a row, life expectancy in the United States has decreased—a direct result of the opioid epidemic ravaging the United States. The drivers for the epidemic are complex, and we are engaging with House leadership and the Department of Health and Human Services on a range of responses including poverty and welfare programs, engagement and training for the faith

community, and drug prescription practices and regulation.

- Adoptee Citizenship Act: In April 2018, the ERLC convened a coalition meeting of ten groups in an effort to pass the Adoptee Citizenship Act. This act would ensure that all children adopted by U.S citizen parents are recognized as U.S citizens, providing a technical fix that leaves approximately 40,000 adopted children with uncertain citizenship status. The ERLC policy team signed onto a letter along with the other groups which was sent to members of Congress expressing their support of the bill. The ERLC continues to advocate for legislation granting citizenship to all children adopted by U.S citizen parents.
- Civil Rights Uniformity Act: One legislative response to unfounded interpretations of the words “sex” and “gender” by federal agencies is the Civil Rights Uniformity Act. This act would require the approval of Congress before “gender identity” is treated as a protected class in federal law or policy, thus preventing such policies from being fabricated by Executive Branch bureaucracies.
- Women in combat and the draft: The increasing number of female service members put at risk in combat situations is disconcerting. Further, rhetoric during the 2016 election cycle included disagreements wherein otherwise socially conservative policy makers inexplicably affirmed forcing our teenage daughters to be registered in the Selective Service. Such policies are both a logical outworking of the sexual revolution and in direct conflict with biblical manhood and womanhood. The ERLC will continue to discourage such policies.
- Revive obscenity prosecution: The Obama administration’s Department of Justice terminated the Obscenity Prosecution Task Force (OPTF). Though the Department continued to prosecute cases involving children (which is essential), they ignored virtually all other violations of existing federal law which makes production and distribution of hardcore pornography illegal. The ERLC will monitor Department of Justice activity on this issue to see if there is a measurable difference in the Trump administration.
- Fighting global anti-Semitism: There is an alarming rise of anti-Semitic incidents in Europe and anti-Semitic speech around the world, particularly in the Middle East. But with the rise of the so-called Alt-Right movement in the United States, anti-Semitism is on the rise here as well. Through collaborative action with like minded organizations, we have worked against such action at the United Nations, and the ERLC will continue its work defending victims of anti-Semitic incidents in Europe and anti-Semitic speech

wherever it happens.

One of the other means by which the ERLC engaged the public square was through one-on-one meetings and other communication with elected officials and their staff. Through regular interaction with congressional offices, the ERLC sought to ensure that social issues and religious liberty issues were neither steamrolled nor relegated to backburner status. A second means by which the ERLC engaged the public square was through coalition work. ERLC staff participated in numerous coalitions, both formal and informal, among religious, life, family, and other public policy groups on issues of common agreement in an effort to find unified approaches to advance sound policy in the public square. In every instance, the ERLC brought a decidedly Baptist and gospel-focused perspective to the issue at hand. In many cases, the ERLC helped to reshape thinking and action among coalition partners by consistently voicing its positions through the lens of the gospel.

III. Assist churches in their moral witness in local communities.

The primary front of the advance of the kingdom of God is the local church, faithfully proclaiming the gospel, training disciples, and reaching the community around it with the gospel. The ERLC never wants to lose sight of the primacy of the local church and the needs of the communities they serve. That being the case, over the course of the ministry year the ERLC has offered resources designed to assist churches in their moral witness in local churches. The ERLC provides new resources daily—from books, to blog posts, articles, essays, podcasts, videos, bulletin inserts, and sermon outlines—for Christians and churches to help think through moral and ethical issues. Additionally, the ERLC has enhanced a rapid response strategy for news-related items that churches may want to address. The ERLC has worked to develop protocols that allow for rapid production of content that are produced quickly following consequential news.

Throughout the year, ERLC staff and leadership traveled the country speaking at churches and church events throughout the Southern Baptist Convention, in addition to our Southern Baptist seminaries. This ranged from state convention gatherings to Sunday morning worship to church-sponsored events and forums designed to address key cultural issues.

In the midst of our emphasis to stand for the unborn, the Psalm 139 Project of the ERLC raised a record amount of money to invest in crisis pregnancy centers at the local level. During our annual event in Washington, Evangelicals for Life, the ERLC helped raise enough money to place nine ultrasound machines in local communities around the country. There are few things more important to the ERLC than standing for vulnerable children at risk from death at the hands of a predatory abortion industry. This ministry has been one concrete way the ERLC has been able to

equip local centers, often working closely with local churches, to have resources for women in crisis and be a gospel witness at the same time.

In tandem with our denominational calendar, the ERLC produced bulletin inserts, videos, and content designed to address areas of denominational emphasis within the life of local churches, including sanctity of human life, racial reconciliation, and important social issues. Throughout the year, the ERLC also partnered with individual churches, associations, and state conventions via videoconference to help answer questions and equip churches on the issues alive in their respective congregations

IV. Assist churches and other Southern Baptist entities by promoting religious liberty.

No issue in the public square has been so foundational for Southern Baptists as has the priority of religious liberty and the right of liberty of conscience. As such, beyond the concrete legislative efforts listed in sections above, ERLC staff regularly published articles in Baptist Press, on ERLC properties, and at prominent outlets around the country. From the latest developments pertaining to religious liberty and persecution around the world, as well as many other important topics including adoption, marriage, human trafficking, race, and others, the ERLC addressed a wide array of concerns. On our website, entire channels are devoted specifically to these important issues. These pages feature brief explanations of the various topics, informational videos, links to news stories and applicable Scripture references. Additionally, on our public policy page includes information designed for legislators, staff, and thought leaders on issues of concern to Southern Baptists. We regularly meet with and attempt to drive the conversation regarding bills important for the sake of religious liberty, and our in-person presence wed with timely and well-supported information are key facets of legislative success.

Beyond this, the ERLC labored to promote religious freedom with like-minded groups and organizations and continued the work of its international office—designed to promote religious liberty for Southern Baptists around the globe, particularly calling attention to persecution of Christian minorities in the Middle East.

The ERLC also named leaders for their distinguished service awards on the basis of their contribution to the cause of promoting religious liberty—with Kristen Waggoner, a senior vice president at the Alliance Defending Freedom, being awarded the John Leland Religious Liberty Award for her legal representation and important victories on so many important cases over the last few years. Additionally, Dr. R. Albert Mohler, Jr. was named the Distinguished Service Award for his work in twenty-five years of faithful service at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, therein maintaining a focus on restoring theological orthodoxy at the seminary, as well as his

unending support of religious liberty and other issues of public concern widely shared among Southern Baptists.

Beyond these areas, the ERLC continued to participate in a number of regular gatherings with religious leaders and groups on issues of domestic and international religious liberty, along with other issues important to Southern Baptists. The ERLC also worked to continue to cultivate relationships with members of Congress and their staff by speaking at Capitol Hill events and meetings.

Based on the listed Ministry Assignment, what opportunities or challenges do you see on the horizon from 2019 and beyond that would necessitate changes, or new directions, in how you are accomplishing the above Ministry Assignment?

I. Assist churches in applying the moral and ethical teachings of the Bible to the Christian life.

Each new year brings new challenges and questions in our culture that affect the lives of Southern Baptists and Southern Baptist churches. Part of the ERLC's role is being attentive to those questions and applying the gospel to them for the benefit of our churches. One key way we will continue to do this in the 2019 ministry year is through helping to serve the denomination in the SBC Presidential Study on Sexual Abuse. The world is watching how the denomination handles this problem, and for the sake of our witness as well as for the benefit of local churches throughout our denomination, the ERLC wants to do everything possible to make sure that this study provides the best possible resources for pastors and churches.

Additionally, another way the ERLC is able to be both attentive to and influential within the life of our churches is through the work of the ERLC Leadership Network. Through partnerships with pastors and churches active in the work of the ERLC, and through our active conversation with them about their churches and needs, we are able to think through much more effectively how we can serve the SBC at-large. This year, we will welcome a new cohort of pastors into our Leadership Council, which will also bring new voices and churches into intentional and strategic partnership with the ERLC so as to help equip churches to apply the gospel to the Christian life. More than that, we have a number of national events and digital strategies in the planning and production stage that we expect to be helpful and consequential to the mission of the ERLC in the 2019 year. On top of that, we regularly produce resources, ranging from books to magazines to bulletin inserts to Sunday School curriculum designed to serve churches as they seek to understand the issues and live out faithful Christian lives.

II. Assist churches through the communication and advocacy of moral and ethical concerns in the public arena.

Each new year brings new opportunities for the ERLC to continue to make inroads in building coalitions, driving conversations, and being a voice of influence on Capitol Hill to represent Southern Baptists and their concerns well. A sampling of some of the areas and legislation on which the ERLC will focus include:

- Defunding Planned Parenthood
- Ending proposed taxation of church parking lots
- Promoting pro-life judicial nominees
- No Taxpayer for Abortion Act
- Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act
- Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act
- Conscience Protection Act
- Restoration of Russell Amendment protections
- First Amendment Defense Act
- Opposition to women in combat and in the draft
- Reviving obscenity prosecution

A continued focus in the 2019 year will be Capitol Conversations, regular ERLC meetings with coalition partners, elected officials, and influencers to keep close contact and influence with those crucial to defending America's first freedom of religious liberty. Beyond this, additional work done over the last year along with key strategic partnerships we have developed have poised the ERLC to grow its media presence, and our fully-equipped television studio in the Southern Baptist Convention building in Nashville adds to that potential.

III. Assist churches in their moral witness in local communities.

In the year ahead, we have unique opportunities to use enhanced digital platforms, ERLC events, and other platforms to leverage strategic relationships with churches and invest in local communities. Being the smallest SBC entity, it is an organizational challenge to be as involved in all of our states and associations as we would aspire to be, but through digital platforms, events, podcasting, and video conferencing, the ERLC has the ability to extend its reach in unique and strategic ways even further into the life of local churches.

IV. Assist churches and other Southern Baptist entities by promoting religious liberty.

With new cultural flashpoints around every turn, increased attention to the issue of religious liberty provides the ERLC a unique opportunity to be a prophetic voice in the public square.

Additionally, an increased investment in large-scale events provides the ERLC with the ability to speak to a broad audience on issues of concern to Southern Baptists. This year, several of our key events and publications will focus on what faithful Christian families should look like in the midst of an ever-changing, and ever-challenging culture landscape in which religious liberty is increasingly imperilled. As we equip Christian families, at the same time we hope to use the opportunity to model to the watching world a vision of religious freedom and Christian witness—with faithful men and women serving others, loving others, and welcoming them to hear the gospel message. Beyond that, through the work Research Institute, the ERLC has an arsenal of strategically-gifted and committed Southern Baptist thinkers that can help drive the conversation in the public square on issues of importance to Southern Baptists.