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Pro-Family, Pro-Liberty Organizations Share Christmas Message in State Capitol

“Merry Christmas” sign and nativity sets greet visitors this season

MADISON—Every year for the past 16 years, Wisconsin Family Council (WFC), the educational arm of Wisconsin Family Action (WFA), has displayed a *Merry Christmas* sign in the State Capitol Rotunda. The sign not only wishes everyone a Merry Christmas, but reminds viewers of the reason for the season, Jesus Christ, and counters Freedom From Religion Foundation’s (FFRF) sign recognizing the Winter Solstice and declaring that God does not exist.

WFC’s cheery Christmas sign reads:

Merry Christmas! “For there is born to you this day...a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2:11)
May God, Creator of Heaven and Earth, continue to show us His mercy and grace as we celebrate the birth of His Son, Jesus Christ!

This year, Christmas is being marked just a bit differently in the Capitol. For the first time in over 20 years, the beautiful tree adorning the Capitol Rotunda is called a Christmas tree, per Governor Scott Walker’s declaration. To make that change official, Rep. Jim Steineke (R-Vandenberg) has introduced legislation to rename the tree from the State Holiday Tree to the State Christmas Tree.

In keeping with a fresh approach in the State Capitol to this wonderful season of the year, Wisconsin Family Action will be sponsoring a first-ever nativity display beginning Sunday, December 11 and remaining through December 31.

“The celebration of Christ’s birth is a centuries-old tradition introduced to America by the Germans who eventually settled Wisconsin,” said Julaine Appling, president of WFA and WFC. “It’s a Christian celebration, an American holiday and a Wisconsin tradition.”

Earlier this week, Wisconsin Family Council also presented to the Executive Residence Foundation a nativity set, which will be on display through the season as a part of the Residence’s holiday decor and will become part of the Executive Residence’s collection.

The First Amendment, which prohibits government from interfering with religion and guarantees the right to exercise our religion, protects Americans’ right to celebrate Christmas in the privacy of their homes *and* in the public square.

“We have a wonderful Christmas tradition of love, giving and fellowship here in America and in the great state of Wisconsin,” says Appling. “Our sign and the nativity sets underscore that tradition and proclaim the Truth of Jesus Christ to visitors to our capitol and Executive Residence.”

Merry Christmas to one and all!

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Wisconsin Family Action is a statewide, not-for-profit organization actively strengthening and preserving marriage, family, life and liberty in Wisconsin.