

*Advocating for Life, Faith, and Freedom in the Public Square*

February Newsletter 2025

**President Trump hits the ground running on January 20<sup>th</sup>.** He has signed 54 Executive Orders as of this printing, including: Ending Radical Indoctrination In K-12 Schooling, Protecting Children From Chemical and Surgical Mutilation, Reinstating Service Members Discharged Under the Military COVID Vaccination Mandate, Enforcing The Hyde Amendment, Securing Our Borders, Restoring the Death Penalty and Protecting Public Safety, Unleashing American Energy, Restoring Freedom of Speech and Ending Federal Censorship, Banning Biological Men from Women's Sports, Establishment of the White House Faith Office.



**The President's Cabinet is beginning to take shape with the confirmation of Kristi Noem as the Director of Homeland Security and Pete Hegseth as Secretary of Defense.** Ohio played a big role in the confirmation of Defense Secretary Hegseth, as Vice President JD Vance was needed to break the 50-50 tie in the U.S. Senate. Former State Attorney General Pam Bondi was confirmed as the U.S. Attorney General and Senator Marco Rubio was confirmed as Secretary of State. Also confirmed were Scott Bessent, U.S.

Treasury; Lori Chavez-DeRemer, Labor; Doug Collins, Veterans Affairs; Sean Duffy, Transportation; Linda McMahon, Education; John Ratcliffe, CIA; Lee Zeldin, EPA; Scott Turner, Department of HUD.

**The speed and effectiveness that the second Trump presidency is already having on Washington, and the country is a beautiful thing to behold.** There is always a learning curve for any newly elected President, but President Trump and his team are displaying such confident leadership and decision making that he has garnered the respect of even his most fierce critics. And he's not even one month into his next four-year term. The nation is breathing a sigh of relief and breathing in the fresh air of a renewal of freedom. We should take this time to thank God for answering our prayers, for blessing our nation and its people. **Please join us in continuing to pray daily for President Trump and his Administration and members of Congress. There is so much to do.**

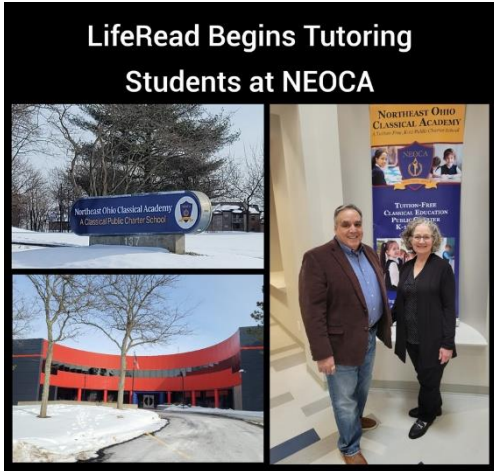
**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE  
WHITE HOUSE FAITH OFFICE**

EXECUTIVE ORDER  
February 7, 2025

The arrest of pro-lifers for praying outside abortion clinics, the raiding of Christian homes of pro-lifers, the shutting down of Christian churches during COVID, and the persecution against Christian colleges and universities under the Biden Administration: No more of that now. President Trump addressed the issue of anti-Christian bigotry by establishing the White House office of faith by executive order. Thank you, Mr. President.



**Good news! LifeRead Volunteer Reading Tutoring program is progressing. The LifeRead team has been working to recruit volunteer tutors and to find students who need our reading tutoring service.**



Silvia and I had the opportunity on January 28<sup>th</sup> to tour the Northeast Ohio Classical Academy with Board President Bob Anthony and to have a sit-down with the school headmaster. NEOCA Board approved LifeRead volunteers to begin working with the students. The school currently has grades K-5, and after initial assessments, it was discovered that some students were as much as two grade levels behind in their reading comprehension. We are starting with four volunteer tutors in-school in the next few weeks.

**In another development, Towpath Trail High School in the Akron area, a drop-out drug recovery trades program, is interested in utilizing LifeRead volunteer tutors with their students. More opportunities are opening up for**

our volunteer reading tutors to help students and adults achieve their reading goals. If you are interested in becoming a reading tutor, visit the website [www.LifeRead.org](http://www.LifeRead.org). Tutoring through LifeRead can be conducted both in-person and via Zoom. The COVID shutdown has created an education crisis in our state and nation. The national report card that was just released revealed that only thirty percent of fourth graders were reading proficient. LifeRead will work with children, young adults, and adults.

**Mark your calendar for Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup> for the Ohio Christian Alliance Spring Freedom Banquet. Details to be announced on our website shortly.**

## Real Estate Tax Reform For Ohio

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*A project of the Ohio Christian Alliance*

**Real Estate Tax Reform will be an issue that OCA will work on in 2025 with citizens groups across Ohio.** Inflation and the cost of living are bearing down on our seniors, those on fixed incomes, and young families as they struggle to pay for the essentials. The increased real estate tax assessments of the last year have grown between 20%, 30%, 40%, and even higher for some. This not only affects homeowners, but rents increase when real estate taxes go up; everyone is affected. The

caps on increases that we seek will benefit everyone.

**We will have a 3-pronged approach to the issue:** Urging the General Assembly to act to put meaningful real estate tax reform in legislation, working with local officials to enact a self-imposed cap- giving relief to residents, and organizing for a ballot issue if local officials and legislators fail to act. Visit the OCA website for updates on this issue. You have until March 31<sup>st</sup> to appeal your real estate tax assessment through your local county auditor or fiscal officer. **Thank you for your faithful continued support of the Ohio Christian Alliance, the OCA ED Fund, and LifeRead.**

Chris Long

President Ohio Christian Alliance

Ron Koehler, Esq., Secretary

Alfred Davis, Treasurer

Wendy Sergent, OCA Board Member

Brian Lowdermilk, OCA Board Member