



LCRL PRAYER PARTNERS

April: EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM

The First Teacher

For more than 250 years, countless philosophies, arguments, and methods for educating children have come and gone. Yet one truth has remained constant—and always will: parents are a child’s first and primary teacher.

It is parents who teach their children how to eat, dress, walk, and speak. Parents impart the family’s values, faith, and history. Parents desire an education that forms their children into independent, secure, productive, and contributing members of society.

In 1776, four subjects were widely considered essential to this purpose: reading, writing, arithmetic, and catechism—the tools needed for faith, citizenship, and daily life.

Today, parents are still the first and primary teachers of their children. Yet many now seek to supplement early education—sometimes for economic reasons, sometimes due to academic pressures, and sometimes to support social development. Organized, state-controlled public-school systems have become the predominant form of formal education, far outpacing parental, private, or parochial models.

Many parents who enroll their children in public schools are pleased when the local school supports their family’s values, faith, and goals.

However, in recent years, a growing number of school systems have distanced themselves from parents, insisting instead that the state knows best. Several recent Supreme Court decisions have rejected this claim, reaffirming the long-standing principle that parents—not the state—hold the primary responsibility and authority for directing their children’s education.

Today, many parents seek an educational environment that aligns with their values and faith but find themselves unable to afford alternatives.

The Big Beautiful Bill, passed last year, offers families a new opportunity: the ability to choose an affordable school that complements their worldview and supports their child’s formation.

The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty advocates for Educational Freedom and Parental Choice. The LCRL encourages parents to contact their local Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod district education office for more information about this groundbreaking opportunity—especially regarding how it expands access to Lutheran schools.

The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty proudly supports Educational Freedom.

Let Us Pray:

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, 1 Timothy 2:1 ESV

Heavenly Father, Bless the teaching of Your Word in our schools. Guard and protect our students from harm and danger in both body and soul; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Lord, Bless our parents, students, schools, teachers and staffs. Strengthen, equip and encourage all who teach and all who learn, so that Your name is praised and honored as knowledge, skills and attitudes are imparted and acquired; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Let Us Encourage:

PRINT – PERSONALIZE – Pray

The LCRL asks that you would commit to pray for those people and organizations that work in the area of education and educational freedom during the month of April. One such organization is the Lutheran Education Association. Their mission is to link, equip, and affirm educators and workers in ministry for the purpose of building up the body of Christ.

Not only do we ask that you would pray, but that you would share this prayer request with your family, friends, neighbors, and congregation.

Please see:
<https://lea.org/>

Please feel free to personalize this bookmark with the name(s) of the organization(s) that you will pray for in April, cut it out and keep it in your Bible for handy reference.



First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. 1 Timothy 2:1-2 ESV

