



2010 ANNUAL REPORT AMERICANS UNITED

for Separation of Church and State

"I have no doubt that every new example will succeed, as every past one has done, in showing that religion and Government will both exist in greater purity the less they are mixed together."

(Letter to Edward Livingston, July 10, 1822)

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Letter from the Executive Director

2010 was a year full of energy, excitement and activism for Americans United. Our organization was challenged in many ways, as attacks on church-state separation continued apace. Through it all, we were able to win many victories for the First Amendment while harnessing new technologies to rally increasing numbers of Americans to our cause.

Some misguided pundits believed that the Religious Right was mortally wounded after the 2008 elections. In 2010, these opponents of true religious liberty and its corollary, the separation of church and state, came roaring back with surprising vigor. The rise of the so-called "Tea Party" movement sparked efforts by long-established Religious Right organizations to forge a new and powerful alliance. Church-state separation was frequently in the crosshairs.

Indeed, highly charged rhetoric, some of which reverberated on the campaign trail, often embraced inaccurate, even dangerous, interpretations of the First Amendment. There were repeated misrepresentations of American history regarding the relationship between religion and government. Election night brought a sweeping change in House leadership and losses of key legislative champions of religious freedom.

No matter what the composition of government at any level, Americans United uses both innovative and time-honored strategies and tactics to remind the public of the essential role the First Amendment has had in the preservation of the right of all of us to believe whatever we want about religion, or reject it entirely, without facing the status of a second-class citizen.

All one has to do these days is go out for a cup of coffee or ride a bus to realize that we are getting information by plenty of non-traditional means. For increasing numbers of us, young and older, the cell phone is as much a source of instant news alerts as it is a chat line for family and computers, and iPads are the way we read the same newspapers we used to spread out next to the coffee cup.

Although AU staff still does hundreds of newspaper interviews and dozens of radio and television appearances each year, we also recognize the need to generate the mechanisms for putting out our message directly. We have over 40,000 "fans" on the social media site Facebook; the AU page there is updated several times a day with breaking events. We distribute *Church & State* magazine in an electronic as well as a print format. We do a daily radio feed. We do Internet "webcasts" where I can chat with hundreds of people from around the country at the same time and answer their questions.

On the other hand, there has been no diminution in the quality of our approach to more traditional venues. Our Legal Department is still appearing in court regularly (even if some of the briefs and other legal documents are now filed electronically). In 2010, our attorneys won an impressive first round victory in Enfield, Conn., by obtaining an injunction against the school system holding a high school graduation in a mega-church after non-Christian students and parents objected to use of a non-secular facility. The Legal Department continues cases involving sectarian prayer at meetings of government bodies, funding of religious activities by taxpayers and religiously motivated job discrimination. In another arena, our staff writes to government bodies violating separation and in over two-thirds of these matters achieves a positive result without needing to set foot in court.

Our active Legislative Department was hard at work in 2010 in both Washington and, with the help of our field staff and chapter activists, in many state legislatures. It worked to stop reauthorization of a failed school voucher system for the District of Columbia, to strip broad "spiritual care" reimbursements from the healthcare reform legislation and continued to work for change in the ill-advised "faith-based" initiative. (I testified at the House Judiciary Committee on the constitutional and civil rights changes the current administration has refused to make.) Americans United also played important roles in battling state voucher bills in eight states, battling anti-science and revisionist social studies curriculum in Texas and Louisiana and stopping Florida efforts to change its constitution to permit government funding of religious ministries.

Recognizing the diversity of our AU membership, our Field Department works with both religious and secular groups to promote constitutional advocacy, believing that only by working together will we maintain a strong wall of separation between religion and government. We currently facilitate activities by 67 chapters in 34 states and connect

with some 120,000 members and supporters. Local forums feature well-known authors and academics, and chapters engage in local activities from testifying at governmental bodies to setting up information booths at county fairs.

As AU executive director, I am very proud of the extraordinary commitment of our 32 staff members, our 15-member Board of Trustees, our National Advisory Council and all of our chapters and members. Consistent and persistent reminders to the public and to elected leaders about the historical and contemporary significance of keeping a decent distance between the institutions of government and those of religion are essential.

Without the support of all of you—including the financial support orchestrated by our Development team—we would not be able to preserve this principle for our children and grandchildren. We must and will remain vigilant about the inappropriate efforts by some religious leaders to receive government funding for what should be their privately funded missions and by some tax-exempt religious bodies seeking to illegally intervene in partisan political campaigns. We will stand up for the principles advanced by so many of the Framers who knew that the decision to create a new government, neutral on matters of faith, might turn out to be the greatest contribution to world thinking they would create.

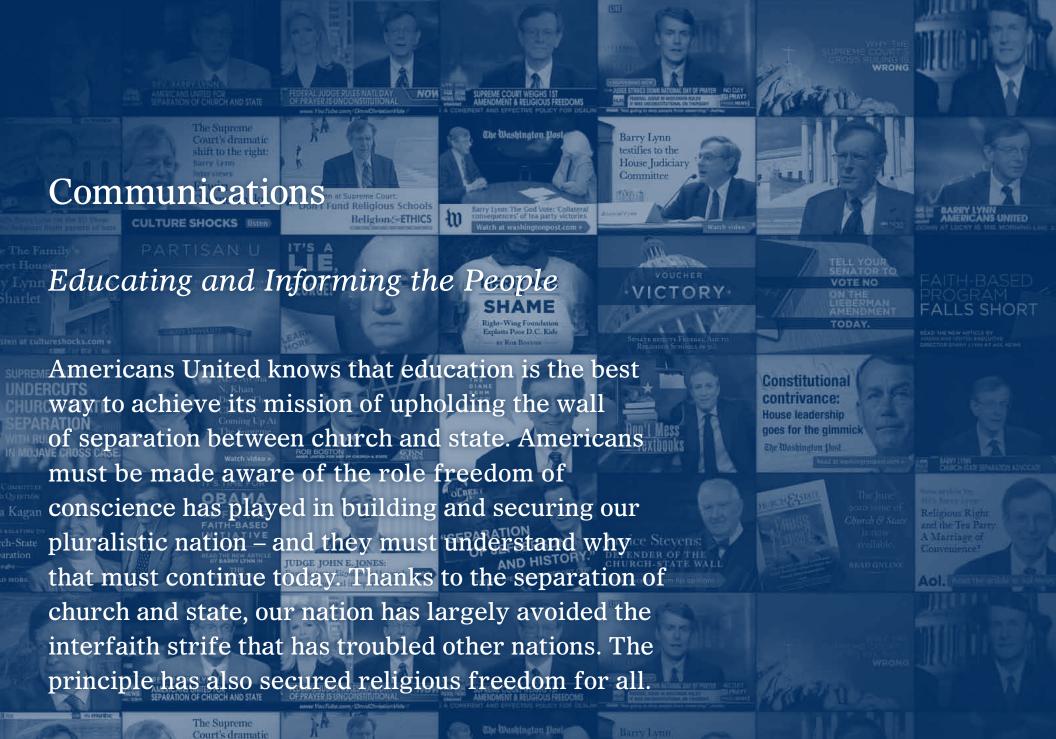
Barry W. Lynn
Executive Director

Bang W. Ly

Americans United

for Separation of Church and State





AU Communications Staff



Joseph Conn Communications Director



Robert Boston
Assistant
Communications Director



Sandhya Bathija Communications Associate



Susan Hansen Communications Assistant



Maria Matveeva
Web Associate

Ilana Stern Communications Assistant (through March)

Jon White Web Manager (through June)

The Communications Department is responsible for spreading AU's message – through a monthly magazine, daily blog, brochures, speeches, books, media appearances, social networking, email alerts and our website, www.au.org. AU's Communications team monitors all church-state developments, ready to offer expert comment. We vigorously act to correct any misinformation about the separation of church and state.

The Americans United Communications Department takes a front and center role in keeping an eye on the Religious Right. This movement seeks to impose a fundamentalist vision on all Americans by law. This year, a team of AU staffers attended the so-called "Values Voter Summit" in Washington, D.C., which drew 1,000 attendees to strategize about ways to increase Religious Right influence during the 2010 election season. AU staffers also attended another conference put on by Ralph Reed, called the "Faith and Freedom Coalition Conference and Strategy Briefing," another Religious Right planning session.

The AU Communications Department is led by Director of Communications Joseph L. Conn. Others on the Communications team include Assistant Communications Director Robert Boston, Communications Associate Sandhya Bathija, Communications Assistants Susan Hansen and Ilana Stern (through March), Web Manager Jon White (through June) and Web Associate Maria Matveeya.

2010 Education Highlights

Through various forms of media outreach, Americans United is able to reach a wide and diverse audience. The Communications Department worked diligently in 2010, educating the media and public about church-state issues, and using communications tools to mobilize supporters into action. Here is a sampling of how AU's Communications team spread the organization's message in 2010:

Church & State Magazine

Church & State remains AU's single most effective and time-tested means of communicating with AU members and activists, as well as with key players in the academic, religious and political communities. Each month, the magazine is mailed to thousands of Americans and posted on the AU website. This year, AU covered important stories that were often overlooked by the mainstream media, including features on: the Religious Right connection to the Tea Party movement; a Kansas pastor's protest against improper proselytizing in public schools; Sen. Joseph Lieberman's push to reauthorize D.C. school vouchers; Fox News Host Glenn Beck teaming up with faux historian David Barton to push for revisionist "Christian nation" history standards in public schools; Ralph Reed's reemergence as a leader in the Religious Right movement; and the Catholic bishops' attempt to influence Supreme Court justices and politicians through the annual Red Mass.

Facebook and Social Media Networking

Americans United is steadily adding new fans to its Facebook page, now over 40,000 strong! Every day, people "like" Americans United posts more than 100 times, exposing the posts to their own Facebook connection. Each post – whether it's the blog post of the day, a chapter event, a press release or an important church-state news story featuring comment from Americans United – receives 30 comments on average and dozens of "likes."

Other social networking sites that feature AU material include Flickr (photos), YouTube (video), Twitter (micro-blogging) and Good Reads (books).

Americans United's Website, www.au.org

The Communications Department continued to make the AU website attractive and content rich, ensuring that visitors stop by and explore multiple pages. The website serves as an important gateway for people looking to learn more about AU and stay up to date on church-state news and information. Each month, on average, www.au.org attracts some 36,000 individual visitors



AU Press Releases and Media Outreach

AU's Communications team educates journalists and activists across the country by issuing press releases announcing new church-state litigation, court victories, criticism of the Religious Right movement and church-state happenings in Congress and state legislatures. These press releases are circulated to reporters, editors, columnists, bloggers and other media professionals throughout the country, many of whom contact AU for background information and expert commentary.

In 2010, AU issued 74 press releases and advisories on topics ranging from the "faith-based" initiative, the Religious Right's role in the 2010 elections and revisionist social studies curriculum in Texas to creationism in Louisiana public schools, the confirmation of Elena Kagan to the U.S. Supreme Court and two Supreme Court cases on religious liberty.

AU's Blog – "The Wall of Separation"

In 2010, Americans United gave its blog, "The Wall of Separation," a facelift. The new look gave a professional edge to the blog and complemented posts written daily by Communications staff members Joe Conn, Rob Boston and Sandhya Bathija. The posts comment on important church-state news of the day and give readers a chance to really think about the issues and understand why it's so important for AU to continue serving as a church-state watchdog. This year, AU began posting daily blog items on its Facebook page – leading to some lively debates among AU's thousands of Facebook fans!

Op-Eds and Letters to the Editor

AU Executive Director Barry Lynn and other staff members often contribute opinion pieces for websites, newspapers, magazines and other publications in order to convey AU's message to communities across the country. In 2010, Lynn published several essays on The Huffington Post, the popular online news site, and he wrote an opinion article on the "faith-based" initiative for AOLNews.com. Lynn also continued his ongoing blog debate with Religious Right attorney Jay Sekulow on Beliefnet.com, the popular religion website. Toward the end of 2010, Lynn began contributing blog posts for *The Washington Post*'s growing "On Faith" blog.

In addition, in 2010, Rob Boston contributed a regular column about church-state issues to *The Humanist*, a bimonthly publication of the American Humanist Association. Sandhya Bathija, Alex Luchenitser and Lynn wrote blog essays for the American Constitution Society's website. Bathija also submitted an opinion piece on public school graduation ceremonies at churches for *American*

Teacher, a bimonthly publication of the American Federation of Teachers.

AU's Communications team also works with the Field Department and chapter members to submit letters to the editor in newspapers across the country.

Lectures to Foreign Delegations

Members of the Americans United Communications staff are often called upon to speak to delegations brought to the United States from other countries through the State Department's International Visitors Leadership Program. On several occasions, Bathija and Boston have met with delegates from other nations and explained the American system of government with regard to church-state separation and freedom of religion. In 2010, delegates from Tajikistan, Indonesia, Vietnam and Saudi Arabia visited AU headquarters to learn about America's strong tradition of religious freedom. We hope that they'll share this with residents of their home country.



AU's Sandhya Bathija speaks to delegates from Tajikistan about America's tradition of religious freedom.



Responding to Requests from the Public and Students

Every day, Americans United receives dozens of questions and comments from the general public via phone, mail or email. The Communications Department responds to these questions and provides insightful and helpful feedback. Oftentimes, AU is contacted by students—from the elementary school level to those pursuing their law degrees or PhDs—who want to know about a particular church-state issue and need to talk to an expert. The Communications staff talks to these students and provides the support they need to complete their paper or project.

Print Media Hits

In 2010, Americans United was cited nearly 900 times in major newspapers and wire services. Lynn and other Americans United staff were quoted in wire services including the Associated Press, UPI, the Religion News Service and the Associated Baptist Press. In addition, Lynn and staff were quoted in national publications including *The Washington Post*, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Los Angeles Times, National Law Journal, Newsweek, Inside Higher Ed, The Christian Science Monitor and USA Today.

Several news websites also quoted AU staffers, including The Huffington Post, CNN.com, ABCNews. com, FoxNews.com, the Iowa Independent and Salon. com. Finally, the following dailies carried quotes from Lynn or mentioned AU's work: the *Chicago Tribune*, The Washington Times, the Boston Globe, the San Diego Union-Tribune, the Virginian-Pilot (Norfolk), the St. Petersburg Times, the Miami Herald, The Tennes-



AU's Rob Boston speaks to a group of students from American University.

sean (Nashville), The Toledo Blade, the Orange County Register, the Louisville Courier-Journal, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, the Lexington Herald-Leader, the Winston-Salem Journal, Minneapolis Star-Tribune, Des Moines Register, Sioux City Journal, Arkansas Times, The Oklahoman (Oklahoma City), the Salt Lake Tribune, the Gainesville Sun, The Wichita Eagle, The Oklahoma Gazette, the Hartford Courant, Richmond Times-Dispatch, Knoxville News Sentinel, the Akron Beacon Journal, Lynchburg News & Advance, The Columbus Dispatch, The Detroit News and more.

Radio and Television Appearances

AU staffers are often asked to appear on national and local television and radio programs to discuss and debate church-state issues. Notable television appearances in 2010 included MSNBC, Fox News Channel, PBS, CNN, NBC and the Christian Broadcasting Network. Top radio appearances included NPR, AP Radio, CBS Radio, the BBC and Sirius Satellite Radio. A more detailed list of 2010 media appearances follows.

2010 News Media Highlights

Americans United Executive Director Barry W. Lynn has been called "the most visible face" of the churchstate separationist perspective. Throughout 2010, Lynn countered false claims by the Religious Right and was quoted by national and local media outlets, supplying expert commentary on the intersection of religion, law and politics.



Appearances On Radio And Television January - December 2010

Americans United staff members frequently appear on radio and television news and talk programs to analyze and debate church-state developments. The following list includes many of the appearances from January - December 2010 by AU Executive Director Barry W. Lynn, Director of Communications Joe Conn, Assistant Director of Communications Rob Boston, Legal Director Ayesha Khan and Communications Associate Sandhya Bathija.

Television

February

- 4 Boston on RTTV's "Alyona Show," secretive Religious Right group "The Family" (Cable, Nationwide)
- 10 Boston on MSNBC's "Countdown with Keith Olbermann," "Christian nation" propagandist David Barton (Nationwide)
- 26 Boston on Christian Broadcasting Network's "CBN News," Secular Coalition meeting at White House (Nationwide)

March

- 2 Boston on WBIR-TV, Sevier County prayer flap (Knoxville, Tenn.)
- 2 Boston on WATE-TV, Sevier County prayer flap (Knoxville, Tenn.)
- 8 Lynn on Fox News Network, Texas curriculum battle (Nationwide)
- 19 Lynn on MSNBC's "The Ed Show," House health care vote on Sunday (Nationwide)

April

 16 – Boston on CNN's "Prime News," National Day of Prayer declared unconstitutional (Nationwide)

- 16 Lynn on Fox News Channel's "America Live," National Day of Prayer declared unconstitutional (Nationwide)
- 18 Lynn on Fox News Channel's "America's News Headquarters," Christian Legal Society case at Supreme Court (Nationwide)
- 18 Lynn on Fox News Channel, debate with Megyn Kelly on court decision against National Day of Prayer (Nationwide)
- 19 Lynn on Fox News Channel, debate with Greg Baylor on Christian Legal Society case at Supreme Court (Nationwide)
- 19 Boston on CNN Headline News, court decision against National Day of Prayer (Nationwide)
- 20 Lynn on PBS's "Religion & Ethics Newsweekly," Christian Legal Society case at Supreme Court (Online edition)
- 23 Lynn on MSNBC's "The Ed Show," Franklin Graham appearance cancelled by Pentagon (Nationwide)
- 23 Lynn on Fox News Network's "O'Reilly Factor," debate with Laura Ingraham about Sarah Palin's "Christian nation" remarks (Nationwide)
- 28 Lynn on ABC's "World News Tonight," Supreme Court's Mojave cross decision (Nationwide)



AU's Barry Lynn appears on MSNBC's The Ed Show: "the Religious Right pattern of hate" *October 2010*



Barry Lynn debates the constitutionality of the National Day of Prayer on FOX News *April 2010*



AU's Rob Boston on MSNBC's "Countdown With Keith Olbermann" February 2010



Rob Boston vs. Doug Napier on CNN: Judge strikes down National Day of Prayer *April* 2010

- 28 Lynn on NBC's "Nightly News," Supreme Court's Mojave cross decision (Online edition)
- 28 Lynn on Fox News Network's "Special Report with Bret Baier," Supreme Court's Mojave cross decision (Nationwide)

May

- 6 Boston on WJLA's "ABC 7 News," National Day of Prayer (Washington, D.C.)
- 11 Lynn on Fox News Channel's "O'Reilly Factor," religion and politics (Nationwide)
- 28 Lynn on PBS's "Religion & Ethics Newsweekly," faith-based initiative job bias (Nationwide)

June

2 – Lynn on PBS's "In The Life," faith-based hiring bias (Nationwide)

August

- 6 Lynn on MSNBC's "The Ed Show," pulpit politicking (Nationwide)
- 27 Lynn on Fox News Channel's "O'Reilly Factor," Manhattan mosque controversy (Nationwide)

September

- 9 Lynn on MSNBC's "The Ed Show,"Fla. church's proposed Quran burning (Nationwide)
- 10 Lynn on MSNBC's "The Ed Show,"Newt Gingrich and the Religious Right (Nationwide)
- 17 Lynn on MSNBC's "The Ed Show," Values Voter Summit (Nationwide)
- 19 Boston on Fox News Channel's "Fox & Friends," Roxbury, Mass., mosque prayer flap (Nationwide)
- 24 Boston on WTVD News, Fort Bragg-sponsored evangelical rally (Raleigh, N.C.)
- 24 Bathija on WBTV 3, Fort Bragg-sponsored evangelical rally (Charlotte, N.C.)
- 25 Boston on Fox News Channel's "Fox & Friends," Fort Bragg-sponsored evangelical rally (Nationwide)

- 29 Lynn on MSNBC's "The Ed Show," Newt Gingrich and the Tea Party (Nationwide)
- 30 Boston on KWTV's "News9 Oklahoma," Edmond church politicking (Oklahoma City, Okla.)

October

- 7 Lynn on MSNBC's "The Ed Show," hateful Religious Right rhetoric (Nationwide)
- 20 Lynn on MSNBC's "The Ed Show," "personhood" amendment in Colorado (Nationwide)
- 30 Boston on Fox News Channel's "Fox & Friends Weekend," council prayers (Nationwide)

November

 7 - Lynn on PBS's "Religion & Ethics Newsweekly," Arizona religious school funding case at the Supreme Court (Nationwide)

Radio

January

- 5 Boston on KPSI's "Stan Layne Show," Britt Hume statements on Christianity (Palm Springs, Calif.)
- 21 Conn on KPSI's "Stan Layne Show," Bible inscriptions on U.S. military equipment (Palm Springs, Calif.)
- 22 Boston on KPFK's "Michael Slate Show," Pat Robertson and Haiti (Los Angeles, Calif.)
- 24 Boston on WBAI's "Equal Time for Freethought," Pat Robertson and Haiti (New York, N.Y.)

March

- 4 Lynn on Jefferson Public Radio, churchstate controversies in the news (Oregon and California)
- 8 Lynn on BBC News, Obama Faith-based Council's recommendations (Worldwide)
- 10 Lynn on Sirius Radio's OutQ News, Obama Faith-based Council's recommendations (Internet)
- 18 Bathija on Welton Gaddy's "State of Belief," faith-based hiring discrimination (Nationwide)

April

- 19 Khan on CBS Radio, Christian Legal Society case at Supreme Court (Nationwide)
- 19 Lynn on AP Radio, Christian Legal Society case at Supreme Court (Nationwide)

- 19 Boston on WSPA's "Morning News," National Day of Prayer declared unconstitutional (York, Pa.)
- 21 Lynn on Wisconsin Public Radio, National
 Day of Prayer declared unconstitutional
 (Wisconsin)
- 28 Lynn on ABC Radio, Supreme Court's Mojave cross decision (Nationwide)
- 30 Conn on WRUF, church intervention in mayoral election (Gainesville, Fla.)
- 30 Conn on UNI, National Day of Prayer (Nationally syndicated)

May

 6 - Lynn on "The Michael Medved Show," debate with Eric Buehrer on the National Day of Prayer (Nationally syndicated)

June

- Boston on KNOX's "Jarrod Thomas Show,"
 Connecticut church graduations (Grand Forks, N.D.)
- 2 Lynn on "In The Market with Janet Parshall," general church and state (Nationally syndicated)
- 14 Lynn on "The Armstrong Williams Show," general church and state (Nationally syndicated)
- 28 Lynn on KPFA, Supreme Court's Christian Legal Society decision (San Francisco, Calif.)

- 28 Lynn on CBS Radio, Supreme Court's Christian Legal Society decision (Nationwide)
- 28 Lynn on KGO, Supreme Court's Christian Legal Society decision (San Francisco, Calif.)
- 29 Lynn on KRXA-AM, Supreme Court's Christian Legal Society decision, interview with Hal Ginsberg (Monterey, Calif.)

July

- 6 Boston on Ave Maria Radio's "Kresta in the Afternoon," Supreme Court's Christian Legal Society decision, debate with Jordan Lorence of the ADF (Nationwide)
- Boston on KNPR's "State of Nevada," Mormons and California's Prop. 8 (Las Vegas, Nev.)
- 14 Conn on WHP, Harrisburg mayor's staff prayers (Harrisburg, Pa.)
- 26 Bathija on KFXR's "The Dave Kenoly Show," general church and state (Dallas, Texas)
- 28 Lynn on "In The Market with Janet Parshall," religious exemptions for students (Nationally syndicated)

August

- 16 Lynn on NPR's "Diane Rehm Show," NYC mosque dispute (Nationally syndicated)
- 26 Lynn on AP Radio, "faith-based" job bias (Nationally syndicated)

September

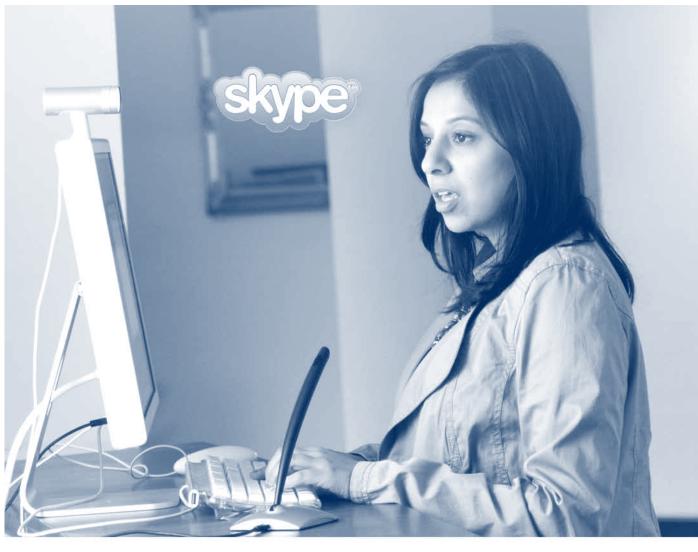
- 9 Lynn on NPR's "Diane Rehm Show," religious intolerance in America (Nationally syndicated)
- 9 Lynn on "The Ed Schultz Show," Fla. church's proposed Quran burning (Nationwide)
- 10 Lynn on "The Ed Schultz Show," Newt Gingrich and the Religious Right (Nationwide)
- 17 Lynn on NPR's "All Things Considered," Religious Right-Tea Party nexus (Nationwide)
- 17 Lynn on "The Ed Schultz Show," Values Voter Summit (Nationwide)
- 23 Lynn on "In the Market with Janet Parshall," faith-based hiring bias (Nationwide)
- 27 Boston on WPTF's "Bill LuMaye Show" Fort Bragg evangelistic event (Raleigh, N.C.)

October

- 20 Lynn on "The Ed Schultz Show," "Personhood' amendment in Colorado (Nationwide)
- 26 Lynn on "In the Market with Janet Parshall," First Amendment issues (Nationally syndicated)
- 26 Lynn on "The Ed Schultz Show," church/ state and the 2010 election (Nationwide)

November

23 – Lynn on "In the Market with Janet Parshall," general church and state (Nationwide)



A North Carolina television station interviews Sandhya Bathija at AU's national office via Skype live video chat.

Project Fair Play:

Putting a Stop to Illegal Church Electioneering

This year, Americans United realized that church electioneering is changing with the times. Thanks to the onslaught of Twitter and Facebook, monitoring how churches use their resources to communicate political messages to congregants is becoming even more of a challenge.

AU learned this on May 19, when it received a complaint about Oasis Church in Los Angeles. A church official, Alex Jones-Moreno, was seeking reelection to the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood City Council. On the church website, church officials urged congregants to vote for Jones-Moreno.

Then, the church posted multiple tweets that read, "Our very own Alex Jones-Moreno, Director of Social Justice, is running for reelection. We are asking everyone who attends, serves, gives or is a part of Oasis Church to please cast your vote for Alex Jones-Moreno during the upcoming elections."

On Election Day, the church sent eight messages through Twitter urging members to vote for Jones-Moreno. After the election, the church sent a final "tweet" taking credit for his victory.

Americans United was on the case immediately and filed a complaint with the Internal Revenue Service, asking the agency to investigate Oasis Church for improperly endorsing a candidate for office. Federal tax law clearly forbids religious groups and other nonprofit organizations in the 501(c)(3) category from intervention in campaigns.

It was an Americans United first, and a glimpse of the work we have cut out for us in the future as we continue Project Fair Play. Since 1988, AU has been active in opposing partisan activity by religious organizations. In 1996, we officially launched Project

Fair Play, a special project that has succeeded in many ways in preventing the blatant politicization of religion.

The project has several facets. AU educates clergy through frequent informational letters sent to houses of worship across the country and the production of targeted publications. We also maintain a special website, www.projectfairplay.org, which received a complete facelift in 2010. This website gives accurate information about federal tax law.

AU also actively engages in contacting the media to spread the word that tax exemption is a privilege, not a right, and that the IRS Code means what it says: religious organizations may lose their federal tax exemption for egregious violations of the law.

Project Fair Play serves as a watchdog. AU files complaints with the IRS when there is clear evidence that a house of worship, ministry or

other religious group has violated federal tax law. This work is especially vital now, because several Religious Right organizations are insisting that churches have the right to intervene in partisan politics by endorsing or opposing candidates.

Although this view has been rejected by a federal appeals court, the Alliance Defense Fund (ADF) and other allied groups continue to mislead pastors and urge them to engage in pulpit politicking. The ADF annually sponsors an event it calls "Pulpit Freedom Sunday," during which pastors openly violate the law by endorsing or opposing candidates during services. Americans United has in the past reported several churches for taking part in this event.

Since this year featured mid-term elections, AU's Project Fair Play team was especially busy. In addition to Oasis Church, AU filed the complaints listed on the following page.

The church posted multiple tweets that read, "Our very own Alex Jones-Moreno, Director of Social Justice, is running for reelection. We are asking everyone who attends, serves, gives or is a part of Oasis Church to please cast your vote for Alex Jones-Moreno during the upcoming elections."

2010 AU Reports to the IRS

Project Fair Play serves as a watchdog, filing complaints with the Internal Revenue Service when there is clear evidence that a church or other religious group has violated federal tax law barring partisan electioneering.

New Life Christian Fellowship, Titusville, Fla., Nov. 22, 2010: During Sunday services, the pastor announced that two members of the congregation were running for local office and encouraged people to vote for them.

Greater New Birth Church, Milwaukee, Wisc., Nov. 4, 2010: The church hosted a rally for a Democratic gubernatorial candidate days before the election. The pastor introduced the candidate as "our future governor."

Sun City Christian Center, Wimauma, Fla., Oct. 28, 2010: The pastor announced during Sunday services that he had prepared a list of Republican candidates that he intended to vote for and urged people to pick up copies of the list in the back of the church.

Berean Bible Baptist Church, Hastings, Minn.,

Oct. 18, 2010: The pastor endorsed the Republican gubernatorial candidate from the pulpit, as well as several other GOP candidates. He said he was

aware it was against the law but did it anyway. He also distributed a list of candidates endorsed by the church.

Brown Memorial Baptist Church, Brooklyn, N.Y.,

Oct. 7, 2010: The pastor allowed the Democratic gubernatorial candidate to speak from the pulpit during Sunday services. The candidate was introduced by another politician who attacked the candidate's opponent and urged votes for the candidate. The pastor later endorsed the candidate from the pulpit.

Cornerstone World Outreach, Sioux City, Iowa, Sept. 30, 2010: The church created a special project designed to defeat three state supreme court judges who were on the ballot in a retention election. In addition, the church pastor used congregational resources to attempt to draft other churches into the scheme.

Fairview Baptist Church, Edmond, Okla.,

Sept. 28, 2010: The pastor endorsed a gubernatorial candidate from the pulpit during Sunday services. He did this knowing it was a violation of tax law as part of the Alliance Defense Fund's "Pulpit Freedom Sunday."

Reclaiming Oklahoma for Christ, Edmond, Okla., July 21, 2010: This tax-exempt group issued an email urging people to attend a rally for Oklahoma House of Representatives candidate Sally Kern. The email contained information about why Kern should be reelected.

Liberty Baptist Tabernacle, Rapid City, S.D.,

June 10, 2010: The pastor endorsed a gubernatorial candidate after the candidate called on pastors to endorse him during services. The candidate later issued a press release lauding the pastor's endorsement. The pastor claimed he was not accountable to the IRS.

Crossroads Christian Church, Newburgh, Ind., April 27, 2010: The pastor issued a letter of endorsement for a congressional candidate.

Dove World Outreach Center, Gainesville, Fla.,

March 26, 2010; supplemental filing, April 8, 2010: The church posted a sign on its property reading "No homo Mayor," a reference to a gay mayoral candidate in a run-off election. The church also produced a series of videos attacking the candidate, which it posted on its website and on YouTube

Liberty University, Lynchburg, Va.,

Feb. 22, 2010: University officials used its student newspaper and other resources to promote a Republican candidate for House of Delegates.





AU Legal Staff



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Hellen M. Papavizas Legal Policy Fellow (from September)



Devin Cain
Steven Gey Fellow
(through December)



Robert Shapiro
Steven Gey Fellow
(from September)



Nan Futrell Legal Policy Fellow (from October)

These seniors did not want to graduate on a stage bracketed with 25-foot banners proclaiming, "I am GOD" and "Jesus Christ is Lord." They didn't want their families to be subjected to watching television screens that informed attendees, "This Is God's House Where Jesus Christ Is Lord."

That's why they called the Americans United Legal Department. AU's lawyers stepped in and wrote to the Enfield Public School District asking that graduation ceremonies be moved from First Cathedral to a secular venue. The letter advised school officials that holding commencements in a religious environment violates the constitutional rights of students.

At first, the Enfield school board complied with AU's request. But after being aggressively lobbied by the Family Institute of Connecticut, a Religious Right group affiliated with Focus on the Family, board members insisted that the commencements must go on in the church.

Americans United, joining with the American Civil Liberties Union, filed a lawsuit against the Enfield Public Schools on May 5 on behalf of seniors and their parents, seeking to stop the 2010 graduations of Enfield High School and Enrico Fermi High School from being held at the religious facility. Soon after, a federal district judge ruled in favor of the families.

"Upon attending graduation ceremonies, a reasonable observer would conclude that the Board's April 13, 2010, decision to use First Cathedral sends the message that the Board embraces the religious values, symbols, and ideas present within First Cathedral," Judge Janet C. Hall wrote. "By choosing to hold graduations at First Cathedral, Enfield Schools sends the message that it is closely linked with First Cathedral and its religious mission, that it favors the religious over the irreligious, and that it prefers Christians over those that subscribe to other faiths, or no faith at all."

Americans United hailed the judge's ruling. But it wasn't long before the school district voted to appeal the decision. Due to the district court's injunction, the 2010 graduation ceremony was not held in the Cathedral. And the court of appeals rejected the school district's appeal. Still, the case is continuing to determine whether future graduation ceremonies may be held at the First Cathedral.

For students in the Class of 2010, AU's Legal Department did just what it set out to do: successfully stop the public school district from violating their religious liberty rights. AU's legal team is hopeful that when the *Does v. Enfield Public Schools* case is finally concluded, school administrators across the country will get the message that no student may be made to feel like an outsider or second-class citizen at her own public school graduation.

Enfield is just one lawsuit in a long list of cases that Americans United is litigating in 2010.

The AU Legal Department, headed by Legal Director Ayesha N. Khan, spent 2010 working to keep public schools religiously neutral, block taxpayer funding of religious institutions, stop government-sponsored religious displays and prevent state-endorsed religious activities.

In addition to litigation within the judicial system, AU's legal team also engages in advocacy outside the courtroom, responding to complaints about constitutional violations in communities across the country. Many of these disputes are successfully resolved by the Legal Department through letter writing, telephone calls and, on occasion, representation of individuals in non-courtroom settings.

In addition to Khan, others on the AU legal team include Assistant Legal Director Richard B. Katskee (through August), Senior Litigation Counsel Alex J. Luchenitser, Staff Attorney Ian S. Smith, Legal Assistant Thelma Scott, Madison Fellows Taryn Wilgus Null, Jef Klazen (through August), Michael Blank (through August) and Hellen M. Papavizas (from September), Steven Gey Fellows Devin Cain (through December) and Robert Shapiro (from September) and Legal Policy Fellow Nan Futrell (from October).

2010 Litigation Highlights

In addition to filing the *Enfield* case, the Americans United Legal Department worked on the following cases, either by serving as counsel or by filing friend-of-the court briefs in cases that could set important church-state precedents. AU's lawsuits dealt with religion in the public schools, taxpayer funding of religious institutions, government-sponsored displays of religious texts and symbols, religious discrimination and accommodation and government-sponsored prayer and other religious activity.





Ongoing Litigation in 2010

- Westphal v. Wagner: Americans United filed a lawsuit against South Orange County Community College District in California on behalf of several students and faculty members. The lawsuit seeks to stop members of the district's board of trustees from delivering prayers at scholarship-award ceremonies (which are mandatory for students receiving scholarships) and graduations, training programs for faculty and other significant events. The district court denied AU's motion to stop the prayer practices, and AU appealed the case to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.
- Galloway v. Town of Greece: Americans United filed a lawsuit against the Greece (N.Y.) Town Board, which has a longstanding practice of inviting clergy to open the board's monthly meetings with sectarian prayer. Over the past decade, all but two of the prayer-givers have been Christian. The district court concluded that these prayer practices were constitutional, and AU filed an appeal to the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.
- Pedreira v. Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children: Since 2000, Americans United has been litigating this case on behalf of Kentucky taxpayers who object to millions of dollars in state subsidies for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, a sectarian child-care agency that discriminates on religious grounds in hiring and attempts to convert youngsters to its beliefs. In 2009, AU had a significant win in the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which gave the go-ahead for taxpayers to challenge publicly

funded faith-based groups that discriminate and indoctrinate. The attorneys backing the ministry's state subsidy have appealed the case to the U.S. Supreme Court, which has yet to indicate whether it will accept the case.

- Chane v. District of Columbia: This lawsuit challenges the District of Columbia's plan to provide millions of dollars worth of public property to Central Union Mission, a sectarian homeless shelter. The mission only employs Christians and requires volunteers to declare their church affiliation. Shelter for the homeless is conditioned on participation in Christian religious activities, including mandatory attendance at nightly church services. The case is pending before a U.S. district court.
- Does v. School District of Elmbrook: Americans United filed this lawsuit against a public school district near Milwaukee, Wisc., which holds high school graduation ceremonies in the sanctuary of an evangelical Christian mega-church. Americans United represents nine students and parents. A federal court ruled for the school district and dismissed the case. Americans United has appealed that decision to the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.
- Joyner v. Forsyth County: Americans United is now counsel in this lawsuit brought by AU's Winston-Salem Chapter members and the ACLU of North Carolina against the Forsyth County Board of Supervisors' practice of inviting local clergy to deliver sectarian prayers before board meetings. The district court ruled in Americans United's favor, but the board has appealed this case to the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Friend-of-the-Court Briefs Filed in 2010

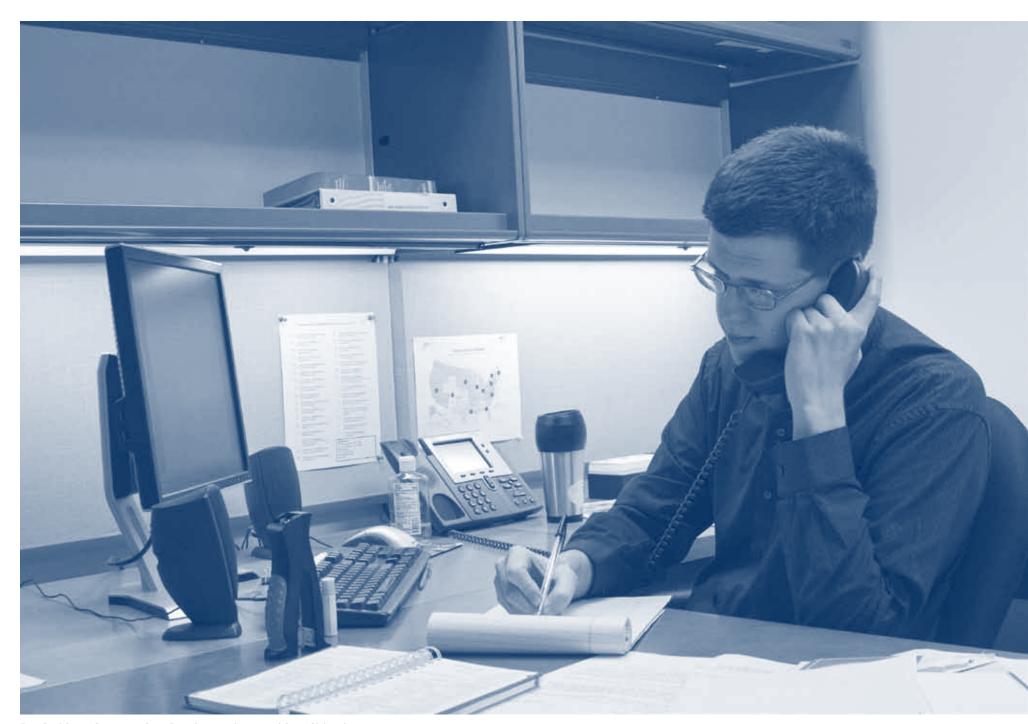
- Arizona Christian School Tuition Organization v. Winn: Americans United's brief urged the U.S. Supreme Court to uphold taxpayers' rights to sue in religion-funding cases that challenge the diversion of public dollars to religious schools.
- ACLU of Ohio Foundation v. DeWeese: Americans United's brief to the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals argues that an Ohio judge violated the Constitution by displaying a poster promoting the Ten Commandments in his courtroom.
- of Hastings School of the Law, Americans United told the U.S. Supreme Court that a public university should be permitted to enforce its nondiscrimination policy that prohibits school-subsidized student clubs from engaging in religious discrimination. The high court ruled in favor of the California law school on June 28, 2010.
- Doe v. Indian River School District: Americans United filed a brief with the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in support of parents who argue that a school board must stop its practice of opening meetings with Christian prayers. School boards are inherently different from legislative bodies, AU asserted, because of their connection to schoolchildren and public education.
- Johnson v. Poway: Americans United filed a brief with the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on behalf of a public school that ordered a teacher to remove religious banners from his classroom; the teacher had sued the school arguing that his constitutional rights had been violated.

- Rescue Mission: Americans United filed a brief with the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on behalf of a woman who was forced to attend religious programming and encouraged to convert to Christianity after a judge ordered her to attend a faith-based rehabilitation program.
- **Perry v. Schwarzenegger: Americans United submitted a brief with the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in support of a lower court decision that ruled unconstitutional Proposition 8, a referendum banning same-sex marriage. The ban, said AU, is based on intolerance, pseudoscience and religious dogma, not legitimate public policy concerns.
- Sossamon v. Texas, et. al.: Americans United filed a brief asking the Supreme Court to rule that a prison inmate is entitled to damages under the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act if his rights are violated.
- Spencer v. World Vision, Inc.: Americans United filed a brief with the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals requesting that the court reconsider a decision dealing with religious bias in hiring at taxpayer-funded "faith-based" charities. AU said the decision should be amended to make it clear that allowing publicly subsidized groups like World Vision to discriminate in employment on religious grounds raises serious church-state issues.
- Freedom from Religion Foundation v. Obama:
 Americans United filed a brief with the 7th U.S.
 Circuit Court of Appeals in support of a lower court decision that declared the congressionally mandated National Day of Prayer unconstitutional. AU argued it is not Congress's role to tell Americans how and when to pray.

2010 Non-Litigation Highlights

Every day, AU's legal team sends letters to government bodies that have acted unconstitutionally. Many times, after receiving these letters, which carefully lay out the law and suggest the constitutionally required changes, violators cease their activities, successfully bringing the matter to a close without litigation. Here is a sampling of AU's non-litigation successes in 2010:

- Oklahoma City, Okla.: AU wrote to a county election board after hearing that it used a church as a polling place in the 2010 elections. The church erected several proselytizing displays in the voting area. Upon receiving complaints, county election officials responded that because the church was private property, they were not allowed to remove the religious content. AU told the election board that an Oklahoma state statute clearly authorized election officials to remove the proselytizing messages. The election board responded and agreed that such messages would be removed in the future.
- Bristol, Tenn.: AU wrote to school administrators after receiving a complaint that a middle school was inviting a group called the "Tater Patch" to speak to students. The Tater Patch is a religious group, and its presentations are uniformly proselytizing. The school responded, explaining that there had been a misunderstanding and that the group had been invited by a student club and not the school, but acknowledging that the way that the event had been structured would make it appear that it had been school sponsored. The school agreed to take steps to ensure that students understand that any future visits by the group are not sponsored by the school and that students are not required to attend.



Ian Smith works to resolve church-state issues without litigation.

- Chicago, Ill.: AU wrote to public school officials after learning that an elementary school had allowed a church to place an advertisement for worship services on one of the school's entrance doors. The advertisement was left in place even when school was in session, creating the appearance that the school and the church were in partnership. Following AU's letter of complaint, the school removed the advertisement from the door.
- Burnsville, N.C.: A parent contacted AU after attending a "Kindergarten Celebration" at her child's elementary school. The event's program featured a prayer and Bible reading, and students were directed to pray and sing religious songs, including "Jesus Loves Me." AU wrote to the school district to explain that this event was clearly unconstitutional. The district agreed and assured AU that it would not happen again.
- Brea, Calif.: AU wrote a letter to a public school district after receiving a complaint that a high school choir director had assigned Christian gospel songs as featured performances and that he had assigned students to read his novel, which contained his personal religious philosophies, over the summer. Following AU's letter of complaint about these practices, the school district informed us that the gospel songs and the novel would no longer be used.

- Goldsboro, N.C.: AU wrote a letter to a school district after learning that invocations and benedictions were being included as official parts of public high-school graduation ceremonies. The district agreed to end the practice after AU explained that school promotion of religion violates the Constitution.
- Jacksonville, Ore.: AU wrote to the U.S. Postal Service after receiving a complaint about a mural containing a religious message painted above the entrance to a contract postal unit. After receipt of our letter of complaint, the Postal Service instructed the contract postal unit to remove the mural.
- Boerne, Texas: A public school district allowed volunteers from a religious group known as the Pais Project to visit schools within the district and, according to news reports, to communicate religious messages to students during the school day. AU wrote to the district and explained that it is unconstitutional for the school to allow volunteers to proselytize. The school spoke with the volunteers and instructed them to cease communicating religious messages to students.
- Meadville, Miss.: AU wrote to a public school district after reports about a high school math teacher who was fired from her position for praying with students in class but who was then

- reinstated. In a letter, AU informed the district that it had both the duty to prohibit teachers from praying with students and the authority to discipline employees who flouted the district's prohibition. Subsequent to the letter, the teacher resigned her position rather than be fired for continuing to pray with students.
- Covington, Ga.: AU wrote to a Superior Court judge who was routinely inviting local clergy to open his courtroom sessions with prayer. AU explained that it is unconstitutional for government to promote religion, and asked that the practice be discontinued. The judge agreed, informing AU that he would stop the prayers.
- Stevensville, Mont.: AU wrote to a public school district that was treating students to a "senior's brunch" at a local Masonic lodge that included a prayer and a recruitment speech for the lodge. The speech stressed that non-religious people may not join. AU objected to the prayer and to the recruitment speech, explaining that they were unconstitutional. School district officials agreed to remove the prayer and the recruitment speech from the event.
- Brooklyn, N.Y.: AU wrote to officials at a public charter school that planned to hold graduation ceremonies in a church sanctuary that featured several religious symbols. The

principal responded that though the school could not move the graduation this year because of time constraints, it would cover the religious iconography. The principal also agreed to use a secular venue for future graduations.

- Palm Bay, Fla.: AU wrote to school officials after learning a public school teacher prayed with her kindergarten students, displayed a picture of Jesus on her desk and hung prayers on classroom walls. After receiving AU's letter, school district officials responded that they had instructed the teacher to discontinue the religious practices. School officials then educated the staff about these issues at the next staff meeting.
- Exeter, Calif.: AU wrote to officials at a public school that decided to allow the senior class to vote on whether prayer would be included in graduation ceremonies. AU's letter informed district officials that public schools cannot include prayers as part of a public high school graduation ceremony, whether by vote or otherwise. The school district responded that it would no longer allow the voting and instituted a moment of silence in lieu of a prayer.
- Oliver Springs, Tenn.: AU wrote to a public school district after receiving a complaint that a teacher was displaying crosses on her classroom desk and that the school's principal had a Bible

on his desk. AU informed school district officials that it is unconstitutional to display religious items and asked that the items be removed. The principal responded that he had promptly removed the items and addressed the issue at a faculty meeting.

- King, N.C.: AU wrote to officials after learning that the city of King, N.C., hosted an annual 9/11 memorial ceremony replete with religious content, including a closing benediction from the mayor. After receiving AU's letter, the mayor sent a response assuring us that, in the future, the event will be privately funded and sponsored and that he will attend the event only in his personal capacity.
- Plymouth, Wisc.: AU wrote to the warden of a correctional institution that was including religious music in its graduation ceremonies for prisoners who earn vocational certificates and high school equivalency degrees. AU's letter explained that the inclusion of religious music posed serious constitutional concerns. The warden responded saying he had reviewed the practice and that he planned to immediately discontinue the use of religious music at the graduation ceremonies.
- St. Louis, Mo.: AU wrote a letter to hospital administrators after receiving a complaint

regarding a proselytizing holiday performance at a VA medical center in St. Louis. VA patients were taken to the performance by center staff without being told of the program's religious nature. The hospital responded, assuring us that it would make clear to patients when events would be religious and inform them that attendance at religious events is purely optional.

- St. Augustine, Fla.: AU wrote to the St. John's County Sherriff's Department after learning that a department employee had placed a cross in the back of the window of his police cruiser. The sheriff's office said the cross would be removed from the window.
- Madisonville, Ky.: AU wrote to a public school superintendent after discovering that Board of Education meetings and annual district-wide events included prayers. The school district's attorney informed AU that the practice would be stopped.
- Sullivan's Island, S.C.: AU wrote to officials at the National Park Service after learning that an annual Constitution Day event, which doubles as a swearing-in ceremony for new citizens, featured prayers and gospel songs in 2009. Park officials responded that they would discontinue the practice of including religious messages and performances in the festivities.



AU Legislative Staff



Aaron Schuham Legislative Director



Maggie Garrett Assistant Legislative Director



Dena Sher State Legislative Counsel



Beth Kurtz
Legislative Assistant
(until June 2010...)



Nate Hennagin Legislative Assistant (...from September 2010)

Theresa Tilling-Thompson Senior Legislative Analyst

Americans United has led the opposition to the constitutionally flawed policy since President George W. Bush proposed it in 2001. Lynn planned to tell the House panel that it was past time for President Barack Obama to fix the initiative.

Knowing that the congressional hearing was imminent, however, Obama issued an executive order making some changes to the faith-based rules in accordance with the advice of a special presidential task force dealing with the issue. (AU's Lynn served on the task force, a body that offered expert recommendations to the president's 25-member Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships.)

The Obama executive order, which came just two days before the House hearing, made some modest improvements to the faith-based initiative, including a new rule requiring federal agencies to provide alternatives for people who do not want to receive social services at religious charities and a "At the end of the Bush administration," said Lynn, "nearly every social service program was governed by the faith-based initiative: The traditional safeguards that had protected religious liberty had been stripped, and civil rights protections barring the federal funding of religious discrimination had been abrogated.

new process creating greater transparency in the program by requiring that recipient organizations be listed on government websites.

The president, however, did not address the significant constitutional problem of allowing publicly funded faith-based charities to discriminate on religious grounds in hiring. When Lynn met with the House panel on Nov. 18, 2010, he made sure to let members of Congress know that the recently

issued executive order still failed to cure a central problem with the faith-based initiative.

"At the end of the Bush administration," said Lynn, "nearly every social service program was governed by the faith-based initiative: The traditional safeguards that had protected religious liberty had been stripped, and civil rights protections barring the federal funding of religious discrimination had been abrogated. That Administration had even Lynn told Congress that the Bush policy is unconstitutional and unfair and should be addressed immediately by the Obama administration.

instituted a policy of allowing federally funded religious discrimination in instances where federal law specifically barred such discrimination."

Lynn told Congress that the Bush policy is unconstitutional and unfair and should be addressed immediately by the Obama administration.

"Each day that no action is taken," Lynn said, "applications for federally funded jobs are subject to blatant religious discrimination and the religious liberty rights of social service beneficiaries are compromised.... It is past time for President Obama's administration to fix the faith-based initiative as promised."

Throughout 2010, Americans United urged the Obama administration and Congress to ensure that no taxpayer funds go to support religion through the faith-based initiative or other government programs. Although staff members of AU's Legislative Department must continue to work on the employment discrimination issue, their efforts to apply civil rights and civil liberties safeguards to government spending have accomplished a great deal.

Americans United's legislative team strives every day to tackle difficult church-state legislative and policy issues on the federal and state level. AU's legislative work in 2010 was led by Legislative Director Aaron Schuham with the help of Assistant Legislative Director Maggie Garrett, Senior Legislative Analyst Theresa Tilling-Thompson, State Legislative Counsel Dena Sher, and Legislative Assistant Beth Kurtz (until June 2010) and Nate Hennagin (from September 2010).

2010 Legislative Highlights

This year, AU's legislative department lobbied on behalf of church-state issues at both the federal and state level. Here is a sampling of the issues worked on this year:

Federal Legislative Advocacy

Worked with President Obama and Congress to improve the Bush-era "faith-based" initiative Prior to President Obama's issuance of an executive order improving some aspects of the faith-based initiative and Barry Lynn's testimony before Congress, Americans United worked behind the scenes as chair of the Coalition Against Religious Discrimination (CARD). AU's vigorous advocacy led to recommendations that the administration bar religious groups that receive government aid from engaging in religious activities with those funds and increase transparency and accountability. President Obama finally issued an Executive Order implementing some of the Coalition's recommendations on Nov. 17. AU's legislative department was pleased with some of these improvements, but greatly disappointed with the fact that Obama left in place most of the Bush Executive Order, particularly leaving in place the rules permitting employment discrimination.

Stopped the D.C. school voucher program from being reauthorized by Congress

Congress established the federally funded Washington, D.C., voucher program in 2003 to pay for tuition at religious and other private schools. Intended as an experimental program, the fiveyear pilot phase was set to end in September 2008. AU has been working vigilantly with the National Coalition for Public Education (NCPE) to oppose the scheme. As an NCPE co-chair, we organized meetings of the coalition and took the lead to create and implement legislative strategy, lobbying efforts, talking points, testimony and letters, among other administrative duties. In 2010, the coalition worked together to stop Sen. Joseph Lieberman's amendment to the American Workers, State and Business Relief Act that would have reauthorized vouchers. The coalition also successfully headed off Lieberman's attempt to add the same amendment to the Federal Aviation Administration Air Transportation Modernization and Safety Improvement Act. Americans United also succeeded in stopping a voucher program attached to a defense reauthorization bill in Congress that would have granted \$5 million for a school voucher program for military personnel.

Continued to fight against 'Charitable Choice' language in a substance abuse and mental health bill

In May 2010, Americans United's legislative team worked to strike any "charitable choice" language from the SAMHSA Modernization Act of 2010, introduced by Rep. Patrick Kennedy (D-R.I.). This language weakens the traditional safeguards that ensure federally funded faith-based organizations abide by constitutional constraints, undercutting protections against

government-funded proselytizing and allowing federally funded employment discrimination. AU's legislative team was successful in convincing Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Henry Waxman (D-Calif.) not to move any legislation unless the charitable choice language was repealed.

Advocated for a Workplace Religious Freedom Act that respects the civil liberties of all

Although AU is a strong supporter of religious freedom, our legislative team has been forced to vigorously oppose the Workplace Religious Freedom Act (WRFA) in the form that it has been introduced in Congress for the past several years. AU believes this version of WRFA would threaten important rights of religious and racial minorities, women, gay men and lesbians and persons seeking reproductive and mental health services. For these reasons, Americans United's legislative team has lobbied to narrow the original bill. Sen. John Kerry has introduced a bill that is a narrower version of WRFA and Americans United has since thrown its support behind this piece of legislation.

Stripped from the Healthcare Reform Bill provisions that would have significantly undermined the separation of church and state

Americans United's legislative department succeeded in removing a charitable choice provision that applied to an adolescent health education program. Additionally, the legislative team stripped spiritual care provisions that had been attached to three of the different health care bills moving through Congress. The amendment would have required insurance companies to provide unrestricted access to spiritual care



AU's. Barry Lynn testifies before Congress on the "faith-based" initiative.

alongside medical care under any health insurance plan, private or public.

Americans United also battled against the Stupak Amendment, which would have restricted reproductive rights under the health care bill. We objected to the amendment's codification of religious tenets.

Conducted research on Supreme Court nominee Elena Kagan

Legislative staff urged the Senate Judiciary Committee to question Supreme Court nominee Elena Kagan about her views on crucial religious liberty issues.

State Legislative Advocacy

Worked to improve potentially harmful language in Oregon's Workplace Religious Freedom Act In 2009, Oregon enacted a Workplace Religious Freedom Act that left in place a longstanding ban on teachers wearing religious attire in the classroom. During a 2010 special session, the Oregon Speaker of the House proposed a bill that would repeal this ban. Americans United opposed the bill as drafted, asking that additional protections be included in the measure so that public school teachers could not proselytize students. The Oregon legislature made several improvements to the measure before adopting it, thanks to work of Americans United's legislative team. The final language explicitly protects students from any potential harassment or disruption of the educational process that could result from accommodating teachers' religious exercise.

Put a stop to Florida resolutions that would have repealed the state constitution's church-state protections

In 2010, the Florida legislature considered two resolutions that, if passed, would have placed a proposed constitutional amendment repealing the state constitution's no-aid provision. If approved, it would have allowed taxes to fund religious organizations and ministries, including religious schools. Americans United worked with a coalition including the American Civil Liberties Union of Florida, the Anti-Defamation League and the Florida Education Association to successfully stop the measures from passing.

Battled against voucher and tuition tax-credit bills in the states

Approximately 50 bills that would have allowed public funding to be used for religious education – through tax credits or voucher programs – were introduced in the 2010 state legislative session. Americans United opposed these measures by lobbying legislatures in Oklahoma, Louisiana, Illinois, Georgia, Maryland, New Jersey, Florida, Arizona and other states.

Advocated against the Texas State Board of Education adopting anti-Islam resolution

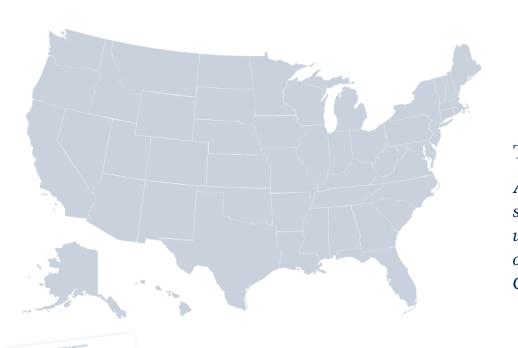
In September, the Texas State Board of Education considered a resolution condemning "anti-Christian/pro-Islam" bias in history textbooks used in the state's public schools. The resolution claimed to promote balanced treatment of religion, but instead had the effect of denigrating Islam. Americans United's legislative department worked with the Texas Freedom Network and the AU Austin chapter to oppose this resolution, which passed despite the negative publicity generated over the measure.

Lobbied the Texas State Board of Education To Adopt Sound Social Studies Curriculum

The Texas State Board of Education worked to revise its social studies standards throughout late 2009 and early 2010. AU worked with the Texas Freedom Network to develop and coordinate a strategy to ensure the board did not adopt revisionist history standards. The legislative department monitored the standards for any undue religious influence, wrote testimony for local chapter leaders, wrote letters to the board and sent action alerts to our members. The Board adopted standards that reflected Religious Right bias, and ongoing scrutiny of the subsequent curriculum will be required.

Urged Louisiana Education Board not to adopt review policy that favors creationism

In 2010, the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, as required by statute, began the process of adopting regulations to implement the "academic freedom" bill that was enacted in Louisiana in 2008. Americans United submitted comments on the proposed regulations. Unfortunately, despite comments from more than 50 individuals and groups asking the Board to make changes to better protect against the teaching of creationism, the Board adopted regulations that were drafted by the lead creationist proponent on the Board. These new regulations inadequately protect against supplemental creationist materials in Louisiana science classrooms and close monitoring of the situation will be necessary.



Take Action!

Americans United's legislative team sent out dozens of Action Alerts in 2010, urging members to contact lawmakers on crucial church-state legislation in Congress and in state legislatures.

forward this message



Public school opponents are using I, tax dollars should be spent on priva extend the vouther program in DC, vouchers throughout the rest of the program is no exception. Students fr target population for the program, is proches schools. The program is a fa-

unger population for the program, a voucher schools. The program is a fi With the current state of our nations

programs that actually work. We use funding evidence-based markets at

Please urge your Senator to take a stand against you Lieberman Amendment to FAA Resuthorization.

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Backdoor School Voucher Threat in

Tell Your Representatives to Oppose S 1872!

The opponents of strong public schools are once again New Jersey. Senate Bill 1872 would create backdoor a tax credit to corporations that contribute money fo organizations, money which the organizations then § students' private school tuition.

When the government grants a tax benefit like this o a 100% tax credit, which means that for every dollar government loses a dollar of revenue by giving it bac Under S 1872, the state could forgo at \$360 million o doesn't even account for the cost to administer the pi economic times, this is fiscally irresponsible.

This backdoor voucher scheme will not provide the s to improve student achievement. Furthermore, vou constitutionally suspect and offer little to no account taxpayers. This misguided scheme would force the st could be spent on New Jersey's public schools, instea parochial schools. During a time when responsible st importance, this tuition tax-credit scheme is simply i

Governor Christie is a supporter of school vouchers be gaining traction. That's why we need you to speak Contact your legislators and urge the rejection of this

Tell your legislators to oppose backdoor school you



If you are unable to view this email, click here to view it online.

Act now!

Over the past several years, we've told you about the Texas State Board of Education's blatant attempts to include creationist concepts in science curriculum standards and its outright distortion of history in the state's recently adopted social studies curriculum standards. The elected officials on the Board — none of them experts in science or social studies — made hundreds of detailed changes to the curriculum standards that had been drafted by highly qualified

As a result, the standards now include many academically unsupported and blatantly political provisions. For instance, Texas public school students now learn creationist claims about "sudden appearance" of life in the fossil record in Activism in the Field

For the first time, Americans United Executive Director Barry W. Lynn could talk to a member in Maine, a donor in Minnesota and a Facebook fan living in Missouri – all at the same time.



Thanks to the latest technology, Lynn held livestream conversations with supporters and activists across the country, immediately answering questions sent via email. Multiple live webcasts were organized by Americans United's Field and Development departments this year as another way to motivate and communicate with those across the county who care deeply about the separation of church and state.

That's the job AU's Field Department is tasked with every day – bringing together allied activists who want to fight for AU's cause in their local communities. Americans United's Field Department is headed by Field Director Beth Corbin. In 2010, she was assisted by Chapter Coordinator David Morris and Assistant Field Director for Religious Outreach Steven Baines. Together, the department conducts grassroots organizing by offering inperson and online grassroots trainings for chapter leadership, notifying the AU activist database through activist alerts and tabling conventions and conferences.

This year, in particular, AU expanded religious outreach by adding to the contacts database and working with AU chapters on how to reach out to faith leaders in their communities. The Field Department also revamped the student activist website and continued to communicate with chapter members using new forms of technology.

In addition, the AU Field Department works with other public interest groups at the national, state and local levels to foster support for church-state separation and confront challenges to First Amendment values whenever and wherever they crop up. Organizations that agree to work with AU on church-state issues may become "associated" or "aligned groups."

AU Field Staff







The Rev. Steven Baines
Assistant Field Director
for Religious Outreach



David Morris
Chapter Coordinator

The Field Department works with these Aligned Groups on church-state issues, just as it does with AU chapters:

- » Alliance for Tolerance and Freedom (Lancaster, Pa.).
- » Heartland Humanists (Shawnee Mission, Kan.),
- » Humanists of the Treasure Coast (Stuart, Fla.),
- » Humanists of North Puget Sound (Everett, Wash.),
- » Humanist Society of Santa Barbara (Santa Barbara, Calif.),
- » Iowa Secularists (Iowa City, Iowa),
- » Japanese American Citizens League Chicago Chapter (Chicago, Ill.),

- » Military Association of Atheists and Free Thinkers (Columbus, Ohio),
- » Monadnock Committee for Separation of Church and State (Westmoreland, N.H.),
- » North Coast Civic Association (Encinitas, Calif.),
- » Public Issues Forum (Memphis, Tenn.),
- » St. Charles County Social Justice Alliance (Lake St. Louis, Mo.),
- » Secular Humanists of the Lowcountry (Charleston, S.C.),
- » Space Coast Freethought Association (Palm Bay, Fla.)

2010 Chapter Highlights

In 2010, a new chapter of AU formed in Long Island, N.Y. and a chapter took shape in Owensboro, Ky. Several other communities showed interest in forming AU chapters in the coming years, including Port Huron, Mich., Charleston, W.Va., and Treasure Coast, Fla. Our current 67 chapters in 34 states have remained extremely active throughout 2010. Here is a sampling of the quality events put on by our chapters as they seek to educate their communities on church-state separation:

- January 14, 2010: The Louisville Chapter hosted a dinner event featuring AU Executive Director Barry Lynn speaking on "Culture Wars Over?: Not By A Long Shot!"
- January 16, 2010: The Orange County Chapter hosted an event titled "Separation of Church and State: A Mormon Perspective." Guest speakers were Steve Young, civil justice attorney, and Bill Bollard, trial lawyer, arbitrator and mediator.
- February 2, 2010: The Bucks County (Pa.) Chapter held a meeting featuring Chapter President Ed Joyce, who gave a presentation entitled "The Evolution Controversy and Its Church/State Implications."
- February 9, 2010: The Flagler County (Fla.) Chapter held a meeting on the topic "Deconstructing the Bill of Rights: First Amendment Memories." Guest speaker was Pierre Tristam, Daytona News-Journal columnist and 2008 First Place Winner for Editorial Writing from the Florida Press Club.
- February 20, 2010: The Orange County (Calif.) Chapter hosted author Dr. Phil Zuckerman, who spoke about what we can learn from countries

- less religious than our own. His focus included issues of religion, justice and contentment.
- February 23, 2010: The Winston-Salem (N.C.) Chapter met at the Mayberry Restaurant on Miller St. Speakers included Thomas Farmer, president of Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), and Janet Joyner, who discussed the history of interaction with the school system regarding advocacy.
- February 23, 2010: The Great Plains (Kan.) Chapter and the Political Science Club of Wichita State University hosted an on-campus screening of Randy Olsen's film "A Flock of Dodos: The Evolution-Intelligent Design Circus."
- March 3, 2010: Bucks County (Pa.) Chapter member Ellen Greenfield made a presentation entitled "The Faith of the Founding Fathers." She discussed the results of her research on what our Founding Fathers believed. Her balanced presentation rejected the simplistic view that America was created as a "Christian nation," while at the same time challenging those who argue that our Founders were anti-religious.
- March 6, 2010: The Massachusetts Chapter held its Annual Meeting and Religious Liberty Award Banquet honoring with award recipient and featured speaker the Very Rev. Dr. Katherine Hancock Ragsdale. Ragsdale was appointed in March of 2009 as president and dean of Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Mass.
- March 27, 2010: The Greater Kansas City Chapter hosted a panel discussion titled "The Truth About the Founding Fathers and Separation of Church and State." Participants were Rob Boston, AU assistant director of communications, and Fred Whitehead, local historian.

- April 10, 2010: The South Pinellas County (Fla.) Chapter held its annual meeting with keynote speaker Steven Baines, Assistant Field Director for Religious Outreach at Americans United. Baines addressed the topic "Fissures in the Mortar: A Crisis for Church-State Separation in America."
- April 13, 2010: The Flagler County (Fla.) Chapter held a meeting with guest speaker Terri Fine, PhD, political science professor and senior fellow, Lou Frey Institute of Politics and Government at the University of Central Florida. Her talk was on "Hearing the Voice of Thomas Jefferson in the 21st Century."
- April 15, 2010: The Sacramento Chapter of Americans United hosted Alan Brownstein, professor of law, UC Davis School of Law, who spoke on "Reconciling Conflicting Autonomy Rights: Same-Sex Marriage and Religious Liberty."
- April 17, 2010: The Orange County (Calif.) Chapter held an event featuring Dr. Tony Huntley, co-chair of the Biological Sciences Department at Saddleback College who spoke on "The Biological Basis for Morality, Religiosity and Belief in God."
- April 24, 2010: The Greater Phoenix Chapter held its first public meeting with guest speaker Robert Boston, assistant director of communications for Americans United. His topic was "Church-State Separation in the Era of Barack Obama."
- April 27, 2010: Austin Chapter activists held a book club meeting to discuss Anne Marie Lofaso's book Religion in the Public Schools and to talk about their approach to the State Board of Education hearings for social studies textbooks.

- May 6, 2010: The Flagler County (Fla.) Chapter hosted "A Day of Inclusivity and Meditation." The event was organized as a positive response to the anti-separationists activities of the National Day of Prayer Task Force.
- May 8, 2010: The Oklahoma Chapter held a Spring Dialogues workshop. Topics included: "Martha Nussbaum and the History of Religious Liberty" by Rev. Scott Jones, Cathedral of Hope; "An Interfaith Perspective on Church/State Education" by Rev. Jeff Hamilton, associate minister of the First Christian Church and president of the Interfaith Alliance, Oklahoma City Chapter; "A Legislative Update" by Nick Singer, vice president of the AU Oklahoma chapter; and "Islam and the Separation of Church (Mosque) and State" by Razi Hashmi, executive director, CAIR Oklahoma. The keynote speech was given by AU Communications Associate Sandhya Bathija, who spoke on "Current Church/ State Issues from the National Point of View."
- May 13, 2010: The Orange County (Calif.) Chapter hosted an event with guest speaker Sean Faircloth, executive director of the Secular Coalition for America, who spoke on "One Nation under the Constitution: The Future of Secularism in America."
- May 15, 2010: The Orange County (Calif.) Chapter hosted guest speaker Dr. James Corbett, who discussed what it's like to teach Advanced Placement European History in the Capistrano Valley Unified Schools. He also discussed the history curriculum promoted by the Texas School Board, the science curriculum in Dover, Pa., and a New Jersey case of book censorship.
- May 15, 2010: The Upstate South Carolina Chapter hosted a panel discussion on church-



The Columbia, Ore., Chapter booth at the Vancouver Peace and Justice Fair.

state separation issues in upstate South Carolina. Sharon Free served as moderator and panelists were the Rev. Lawrence Webb, Dr. Roger Rollin and Mike Cubelo.

- May 17, 2010: The Indiana Chapter held its Spring Event entitled "God and Country: America in Red and Blue," with guest speaker Sheila Suess Kennedy, J.D., professor of law and public policy at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis.
- May 17, 2010: The Columbia (Ore.) Chapter's annual meeting featured guest speaker Prof. Steven K. Green, director of the Center for Religion, Law and Democracy at Willamette University College of Law. Green, who has both a PhD in American history and a law degree, had recently testified at the Texas Board of Education hearings about controversial social studies standards. He shared his perspective on that important issue with the attendees.
- Chapter held a meeting featuring guest speaker attorney Paul Grosswald. His topic was "One Nation...Indivisible?" Grosswald was involved in a Supreme Court case involving recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools. He discussed the arguments he presented to the Supreme Court in a friend-of-the-court brief and also provided an update on new Pledge decisions that have been handed down since 2004. At the conclusion of his talk, he led a discussion regarding the best strategy for church-state separationists going forward.
- June 3, 2010: The Western North Carolina Chapter hosted an event titled "Does Prayer Have A Place In Government Meetings?" The

- public forum co-sponsored by the Interfaith Ministerial Association of Henderson County. Presenters included Dr. William Campbell, pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville, N.C.; Dr. Sheldon Marne, podiatrist, Hendersonville, N.C.; and the Rev. Phillip Allen, president of the AU chapter.
- June 19, 2010: The Orange County (Calif.) Chapter hosted Hans Johnson, president of Progressive Victory, speaking on "Gall in the Family: The Growing Rift within the Religious Right over LGBT Equality."
- June 24, 2010: The North Shore (III.) Chapter held an event titled "Can the First Amendment Separate Religion from Politics?" Prof. Geoffrey R. Stone was the guest speaker. He is the Edward H. Levi Distinguished Service Professor at the University of Chicago.
- July 17, 2010: The Orange County (Calif.) Chapter hosted an event titled "Separation of Church & State: Making It Work in City Halls." The presentation focused on practical steps that local government officials can take to keep church and state separate.
- July 20, 2010: The San Antonio Chapter hosted a meeting with guest speaker Fred Williams, an educator, writer and principal founder of Black Men United for Reading and Writing. He spoke on "The State Board of Education and the 'Whitewashing' of Texas History."
- August 21, 2010: The Orange County (Calif.) Chapter held a screening of "Jesus Politics." The film explores the role of religion in the 2008 presidential election and contains invaluable interviews with a variety of religious leaders who have become involved with the political process.

- September 11, 2010: The Nashville Chapter cosponsored an event with the L-Club of Nashville titled "Church and State in Tennessee: A Three-Way Dialogue on Separation of Church and State." The speakers included Hedy Weinberg, executive director of the Tennessee ACLU, the Rev. David Kidd, a retired Presbyterian minister, and Charles Sumner, vice president of the AU chapter.
- September 14, 2010: The Central Virginia/ Greater Richmond Chapter hosted an event with guest speaker the Rev. Steven Baines, who addressed the topic "How Separation of Church and State is Good for Religion."
- September 20, 2010: The Houston Chapter presented a program titled "How Religion is Influencing What Public Schoolchildren Are Taught." Meryl Cohen, vice president of education, Planned Parenthood, spoke about sexuality education; Chris Comer, former director of science in the curriculum division of the Texas Education Agency, spoke about science; and Andrew Dewey, high school history teacher and executive vice president, Houston Federation of Teachers, spoke about history.
- September 21, 2010: The Flagler County (Fla.) Chapter hosted an event on "Project Fair Play: Because Religion and Partisan Politics Shouldn't Mix!" Chapter members discussed how to educate clergy in their community about federal tax laws barring electioneering by houses of worship and how to respond to violations.
- September 23, 2010: The Delaware Valley Chapter hosted a talk at its Center City Philadelphia meeting by attorney Paul Grosswald. Grosswald specializes in civil rights cases and was involved in a Supreme Court case involving



Many AU chapters use Facebook to stay connected with members.

- recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in public school.
- September 30, 2010: The North Shore (Ill.) Chapter hosted an event titled "ID's Next Strategy in the Evolution/Creationism Wars." Chapter President Matt Lowry discussed his findings from attending a talk by Casey Luskin of the Discovery Institute and subsequent research on the issue.
- October 12, 2010: The Flagler County (Fla.) Chapter hosted a presentation on "Church, State and the November 2010 Elections" by John Elac. Elac is a professor of comparative politics and global issues at the University of North Florida.
- Chapter 14, 2010: The West Suburban Chicago Chapter hosted guest speaker Col. Jill Morgenthaler (ret.). She is president and CEO of CJMI, an emergency management and public safety consulting firm located in Des Plaines, Ill., and a retired U.S. Army colonel, having served for nearly 30 years. Morgenthaler discussed her concerns regarding rising religious fanaticism in the military.
- October 16, 2010: The Orange County (Calif.)
 Chapter hosted Erwin Chemerinsky, dean of
 the University of California, Irvine, School of
 Law, who spoke on the future of church-state
 separation under the Roberts Court.
- a forum called "My Faith and My Government: When Should They Mix?" Speakers included AU Executive Director Barry Lynn, James Dunn, a professor at Wake Forest Divinity School and former executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty, and Al Staggs, a Baptist minister and performing artist.



Left to Right, Flagler AU members Arnie Levine, Konnie Rae, Merrill Shapiro and Jim Guines, PhD, former Flagler County school board member, oppose school vouchers. Following the demonstration, 35 people attended the Flagler AU March meeting to hear Flagler County Educators Association President Katie Hansen speak on the problem of vouchers.

- October 18, 2010: The Austin Chapter joined with the Texas Freedom Network, Equality Across America and the Center For Inquiry-Austin Chapter to host an event with AU's Barry Lynn titled "Church & State Under Obama... and Beyond."
- We obser 21, 2010: The Nashville Chapter, along with the Islamic Center of Tennessee, hosted a town hall forum at the Islamic Center with more than 80 in attendance. AU's Steven Baines was the guest speaker, and the event was the lead story on the evening news on the local NBC and ABC affiliates.
- November 17, 2010: The Rochester (N.Y.) Chapter of Americans United hosted an event featuring AU's Rob Boston who spoke about "Church-State Separation: Where We Stand Now."
- November 20, 2010: The Upstate South Carolina Chapter hosted guest speaker the Rev. Neal Jones, Unitarian minister of the Columbia, S.C., Fellowship and current president of the Columbia (S.C.) AU Chapter. Jones spoke on the history of religious tolerance and intolerance in America.
- November 21, 2010: The Naples (Fla.) Chapter held a presentation in its First Voice Series which featured guest speaker Douglas L. Wilson, Esq., speaking on "A Lifetime Written Guarantee? Church & State Separation: Now & Then." Wilson, a well-known civil rights attorney and the president of the Collier County ACLU Chapter spoke on the health of the First Amendment today and what the future holds. He serves on the board of the Collier County AU Chapter and served as director of the Arkansas Legal Aid Program founded by Hillary Clinton.

December 12, 2010: The Austin Chapter hosted a meeting with Karen Gross, the community director of Anti-Defamation League's Austin office. Gross spoke about a case in Leander, Texas, in which the public library received an angry demand to remove a menorah from a holiday display. She talked about how the ADL helped revise policy guidelines for holiday displays to make them more accurately reflect current law. She also discussed some guidelines for how to recognize when a public holiday display truly is a church-state violation and how to go about addressing the situation.

2010 Religious Outreach Highlights

Americans United's Field Department is responsible for work with members of the faith community and attending various events, conferences and forums that reach out to clergy. This responsibility is especially important because religious voices play a vitally important role in conveying AU's message and they contribute to the success of AU's work. The Rev. Steven Baines, Assistant Field Director for Religious Outreach, has been specifically tasked with reaching out to various religious leaders as national ecumenical and interfaith partners.

In 2010, his Religious Outreach Program consisted of the following meetings, events, talks and conferences:

February 3 - 7, 2010: Baines tabled and led a day-long seminar at the National Creating Change Conference in Dallas, Texas. As part



The Rev. Steven Baines, Assistant Field Director for Religious Outreach, mobilizes religious leaders as national ecumenical and interfaith partners.

- of the week-long events, he hosted Dallas-area clergy for an evening of dialogue on churchstate issues.
- February 24, 2010: Baines tabled at a community forum sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock in Manhasset, N.Y. AU's Barry Lynn, the Rev. Welton Gaddy from the Interfaith Alliance and Daniel Mach from the ACLU were the featured panelists.
- April 6, 2010: Baines spoke at George Mason University in Virginia to religion and political science majors on the issues relating to churchstate separation.
- April 8 11, 2010: Baines hosted a series of events for the AU South Pinellas (Fla.) Chapter as well as a community workshop on grassroots outreach to communities of faith. Baines was also the guest preacher at Maximo Presbyterian Church in St. Petersburg, Fla.
- April 23, 2010: Baines hosted a lunch dialogue with area clergy and religious leaders regarding the ongoing partisan politicking by Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va., and trained leaders on advocacy efforts to counter the Religious Right.
- May 4 5, 2010: Baines gave a presentation on church-state separation at Princeton Theological Seminary as part of the Advisory Committee for the Religious Institute.
- May 10 14, 2010: Baines attended the semi-annual meeting of the National Religious Leadership Roundtable in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and was part of a clergy delegation that lobbied the legislature on the dramatic increase of religion-based bigotry and LGBT hate violence.

- June 22 27, 2010: Baines tabled and hosted a clergy breakfast at the yearly Unitarian Universalist General Assembly in Minneapolis, Minn.
- August 26 -28, 2010: Baines led a three-day retreat on church-state issues facing religious communities for the Disciples of Christ region at Bethany Beach, Md.
- September 18, 2010: Baines led the Mid-Atlantic Ministerial retreat at Colonial Beach, Va., on why church-state separation is an important issue to faith communities and how to do effective messaging among those communities.
- October 21, 2010: Baines spoke to religion and philosophy classes at Vanderbilt University about how faith and church-state separation issues are affecting the 2010 elections.
- October 24, 2010: Baines was the guest preacher at Brookmeade Congregational Church in Nashville, Tenn., which was followed by a community forum in the church's social hall on "The State of Church-State Separation in America." The forum was well attended, and AU recruited several new members and activists.
- November 13, 2010: As part of the annual national meeting of the AU National Advisory Council and AU Chapter leaders, Baines helped lead the grassroots training on effective outreach and messaging to local clergy and religious leaders.
- November 16, 2010: Baines was a featured speaker at the first-ever virtual National Religious Leadership Roundtable meeting held on-line with over 60 national faith leaders. Baines spoke on the results of the mid-term elections and how progressive people of faith must

- mobilize religious constituents using effective values-based frames.
- December 4 6, 2010: Baines was the keynote speaker at the Public Issues Forum annual meeting in Memphis, Tenn., and then met with local community leaders and activists about the possibilities of forming an AU chapter in the greater Memphis area.

AU Chapters throughout the Country

Alabama

Tuscaloosa Chapter Mobile Bay Chapter

Alaska

Alaska Chapter

Arkansas

Arkansas Chapter

Arizona

Greater Phoenix Chapter

California

Orange County, CA Chapter

Silicon Valley Chapter

Kern County Chapter

San Diego Chapter Sacramento Chapter

San Fernando Valley Chapter

Connecticut

Connecticut Chapter

Delaware

Delaware Valley Chapter

Florida

Tampa/Hillsborough Chapter

Gainesville, FL Chapter

Tallahassee Chapter

Clay County Chapter

Flagler County, FL Chapter (in formation)

Greater Naples Area Chapter

NW Florida Chapter

NE Florida Chapter

South Pinellas County Chapter

Sarasota-Manatee Chapter

Nature Coast Chapter

Georgia

Georgia Chapter

Paulding County Chapter

Illinois

West Suburban Chicago Chapter

North Shore IL Chapter

Indiana

Indiana Chapter

Kansas

Greater Kansas City Chapter Great Plains (Wichita) Chapter

Kentucky

Louisville KY Chapter

Louisiana

Louisiana Chapter

Maine

Southern Maine Chapter

Maryland

Maryland (Baltimore) Chapter

Massachusetts

Massachusetts Chapter

Michigan

Michigan Chapter

Missouri

St. Louis Chapter

Greater Kansas City Chapter

North Carolina

Winston-Salem Chapter

Western NC (Asheville) Chapter

East Carolina Chapter

North Carolina Chapter

Nebraska

Nebraska Chapter

New Hampshire

Upper Connecticut River Valley of NH/VT

Chapter

New Jersey

Delaware Valley Chapter Monmouth County Chapter

New York

AU of NYC Chapter Rochester Chapter Ohio

Northeastern OH (Cleveland) Chapter

Oklahoma

Norman Chapter (in formation)

Northeast Oklahoma (Tulsa) Chapter

Oklahoma Chapter

Oregon

Columbia (Portland) Chapter

Pennsylvania

NW Pennsylvania Chapter

Delaware Valley Chapter

South Carolina

AU of Upstate South Carolina Chapter

South Carolina (Charleston) Chapter

Columbia Chapter

Tennessee

Nashville Chapter

Texas

Austin Chapter

San Antonio Chapter

Greater Houston Chapter

Vermont

Upper Connecticut River Valley of NH/VT

Chapter

Virginia

Central Virginia/ Greater Richmond Chapter

Lynchburg, VA Chapter

Virginia Chapter

Washington

Clark County, WA Chapter

Greater Seattle Chapter

South Sound, WA Chapter

Wisconsin

Wisconsin Chapter

Organizational Structure

Founded in 1947 by a distinguished group of political, religious and educational leaders, Americans United for Separation of Church and State is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt educational organization that works to inform Americans about the U.S. Constitution's guarantee of religious freedom. Americans United believes that the principle of churchstate separation is crucial both to good government and to the vitality and integrity of religious faith.

The organization currently represents more than 120,000 individual members and supporters in all 50 states, as well as cooperating houses of worship and other religious bodies. Under Americans United's banner, concerned citizens from many different political, philosophical and religious viewpoints have joined together to promote full religious freedom.

A 32-member staff at the national offices in Washington, D.C., conducts Americans United's day-to-day operations. The Rev. Barry W. Lynn, an

attorney and ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, is our executive director.

A 15-member Board of Trustees and a 125-member National Advisory Council (NAC) governs Americans United. The Board of Trustees, elected from among the NAC, meets periodically through the year to make decisions about organizational governance and policy. Trustees serve for a three-year period and are eligible for re-election for two additional terms.

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Managing Director



Renée Collins Receptionist



Dianne Robinson

Executive Producer



Duane Davis Facilities Manager





Michael B. Smoot Financial Officer



Chris Bruning Financial Assistant

Statement of Financial Position

Current Assets

As of September	30,	2010
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Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$830,419
Investments	2,779,413
Accounts Receivable	586
Bequests Receivable	923,246
Prepaid Expenses	82,888
Deposits	13,421
Total Current Assets	4,629,973
Property and Equipment	
Net of Accumulated Depreciation	2,697,704
Other Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Bond Escrows	135,549
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Remainder Trust	2,270
Investments restricted for Remainder Trust	323,014
Debt Issuance Costs, Net of Accumulated Amortization	65,796
Total Other Assets	526,629
Total Assets	<u>\$7,854,306</u>

Statement of Activities Revenue, Gains and Other Support For the Year ended September 30, 2010 Contributions \$3,162,159 1,577,765 **Bequests Trust and Foundation Grants** 437,734 Realized and Unrealized Gain on Investments 204,598 Legal Settlement 202,706 Other Revenue 114,282 Gift Annuity Income 70,717 Net Investment Income 64,838 **Contributions - Chapters** 6,787 Sales 4,450 **Local Churches** 2,743 Change in Value of Split Interest Agreement (113,384)Total Revenues, Gains and Other Support 5,735,395 **Expenses Program Services: Educational and Publication Division** 1,513,759 Field Services Division 970,384 **Legal Division** 1,064,531 Trustee and National Advisory Council Meetings 43,518 **Total Program Services** 3,592,192 **Supporting Services:** Management and General 833,294 **Fundraising** 1,026,671 **Total Supporting Services** 1,859,965 **Total Expenses** 5,452,157 Change in Net Assets before other items 283,238 **Other Items** Change in Fair Value of Interest Rate Swap 0 Minimum Pension Liability adjustment 103,813 Change in Net Assets 387,051

Net Assets at Beginning of Year 3,733,748
- Audited - Net Assets At End Of Year \$4,120,799

Statement of Financial Position Liabilities and Net Assets

As of September 30, 2010	Current Liabilities	
	Accounts Payable	49,788
	Accrued Expenses	200,090
	Accrued Pension	248,807
	Charitable Annuities Payable	136,062
	Note Payable	112,500_
	Total Current Liabilities	747,247
		,
	Long-Term Liabilities	
	Note Payable, Less Current Portion	2,040,000
	Charitable Annuities Payable	740,439
	Remainder Trust Payable	205,821_
	Total Long-Term Liabilities	2,986,260
	Total Liabilities	3,733,507
	Net Assets	
	Unrestricted	4,001,337
	Temporarily Restricted	119,462
	Total Net Assets	4,120,799
	Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$7,854,306</u>



AU Development staff (from left to right): Rebecca Davis-Nord, Chelsea Collings, Marjorie Spitz Nagrotsky and Sarah Stevenson

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AU's *Guardians of Freedom* are generous donors who have committed \$1,000 or more annually to support our work.

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We honor the following dedicated members who remembered Americans United in their estate plans in 2010, and we offer our condolences to those they have left behind.

Barbara C. Ayres
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Madison Society

In 2010, 783 households supported AU through the Madison Society, our monthly giving program. We thank them for their generous support.

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