

December 2024

Dear Friends:

Please read our end-of-the-year update included in this letter.

During this season of giving, I am requesting fundraising help for a technology refresh/upgrade. I have a very old laptop and a damaged iPad, so I would like to upgrade those. I am asking the Lord to help us raise \$1800 for this project. If you can help with that, please make a tax-deductible donation by sending a check - payable to Citizen Impact - and mail it in the enclosed return envelope (postage required). A gift of any amount truly adds up and would be greatly appreciated!

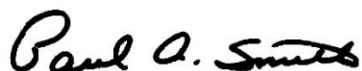
We are excited to partner with the First American Bible Project to get a reproduction of the First American Bible, a King James Bible, approved by Congress to be printed in 1782, into the hands of every member of the Georgia General Assembly. These historical Bibles will be distributed on our Pastors & Ministry Leaders' Day on February 25.

It was a blessing that my wife and I were able to get away for a week in November. I then took a second week, where I worked on some home projects and got in some golf. I appreciate the Citizen Impact Board's encouragement to "unplug" for a solid two weeks!

Let me also praise the Lord for the team He has assembled who are committed to this ministry. Cricket White has been volunteering for 14 years! Cory Lawrence started off as a volunteer, but now works one day per week for Citizen Impact. Earlier this year, we added Hadassah Cromer as a part-time Administrative Assistant. Obviously, my wife is a significant help, even though she works full-time as the bookkeeper at our church. Our daughter, who lives in North Carolina, helps out from time to time, even though she has a full schedule herself. I am humbled by this group who give so much to this work.

The General Assembly goes back into session in January, and your prayers are needed.

Sincerely,



Paul Smith  
Executive Director

Enclosures



## December 2024 End-of-Year Update

We are grateful that Citizen Impact has had a great year! We now have two part-time employees and faithful volunteers who make our organization run smoothly. We had many successful events, we also awarded the Citizen Impact Scholarship for the first time in several years! Executive Director, Paul Smith, visited over twenty churches during the summer and fall, updating churches on what happened at the Georgia General Assembly last spring, and what was going on in Washington, DC. We also ran a successful online voter information campaign prior to the 2024 election.

In February, we held our Pastors' & Ministry Leaders' Day. The Lord blessed our day with the largest attendance ever, including many new pastors! Dr. Jim Schettler brought two great messages, challenging all of us.



At the Georgia General Assembly there was a hard push to legalize sports betting here in Georgia. Again, however, we (along with other like-minded organizations) successfully stopped any expansion of state-sponsored gambling. We were also instrumental in strengthening the language of the Georgia Promise Scholarship Act, which Governor Kemp signed into law this year, to better protect Christian schools.



We made two trips to Washington, DC, advocating for churches, Christian schools, and religious freedom. Two specific pieces of legislation we discussed with lawmakers during our September trip were the Charitable Act and the Safeguarding Charity Act. The Charitable Act would benefit nonprofits and taxpayers, changing the tax code to include a universal charitable deduction. The Safeguarding Charity Act would help protect the tax-exempt status of nonprofits and churches.

Our Annual Conference at People's Baptist Church in August was a great success! We had many first-time attendees and a large group of students there for the workshops. We had several great workshops and an informative legislative panel. Tim Goeglein was an excellent speaker who talked about "Faith in the Halls of Power," and his experience working for the George W. Bush administration.



Citizen Impact works hard to advocate on behalf of our churches and Christian schools at the Georgia General Assembly. We also work to be a reliable source of pertinent information for the average pastor, Christian school worker, and church member. If Citizen Impact has been a valuable resource to you or your church this year, please consider giving financially to our ministry so that we can finish the year strong.