



CHRISTIAN
LEGAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL
REPORT

21

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Sixty years! Christian Legal Society (CLS) celebrated 60 years in 2021. We praise the Lord for the blessing of this ministry – your ministry – and we continue to pray for His blessings for all of the work of CLS.

We are so grateful that CLS was blessed to serve so many during the continuing worldwide challenges in 2021.

It was a unique year, one that followed a time of isolation for many Americans, and we are so thankful to have begun a return to face-to-face ministry. We gathered around the country, in events, chapter meetings, and other venues, with a great appreciation for community as so many struggled adapting to a new normal. In May, the CLS Law School Fellows program returned in person, albeit in a modified location, and, in October, we were blessed to once again host an amazing in-person CLS National Conference in San Antonio.

We found that in 2021, the CLS community became more sensitive to the needs of those around them and were even more receptive to the work of CLS' Christian Legal Aid program. I would like so much to say we are out of this pandemic period but, as we wrap 2021, we find ourselves yet again faced by another pandemic wave. So, my commitment to you is this – no matter what the future holds, CLS will continue to serve attorneys and our communities with the love of Christ, just as we have for the last 60 years.

Thank you for your support of Christian Legal Society. CLS' amazing ministries – Attorney Ministries, Law Student Ministries, the Center for Law & Religious Freedom, and Christian Legal Aid – thrive and continue to bless others because of your faithful partnership.

Together, with His guiding hand, we are accomplishing the mission of Micah 6:8 – to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with our God. CLS serves in ways only attorneys can serve – in and through the law – and CLS thanks you for joining us on this mission.



DAVID NAMMO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO



ACT JUSTLY
LOVE MERCY
WALK HUMBLY
WITH YOUR GOD

Micah 6:8

ATTORNEY
MINISTRIES
since 1961

LAW
STUDENT
MINISTRIES
since 1962

THE CENTER
FOR LAW &
RELIGIOUS
FREEDOM
since 1975

CHRISTIAN
LEGAL AID
since 1997

WHO WE ARE

Christian Legal Society (CLS) is a fellowship of Christians dedicated to serving Jesus Christ through the practice and study of law, the defense of religious freedom and life, and the provision of legal aid to the needy.



CHRISTIAN LEGAL SOCIETY

SIXTY YEARS AND COUNTING

*"It is a fulfillment of a dream ...
in which lawyers come together to
acknowledge Christ and to
work out Christian principles
in the law and in government."*

-Henry Brinks, CLS Founder



CHRISTIAN LEGAL AID

CHRISTIAN LEGAL AID IS A CRITICAL MINISTRY THAT INCREASES ACCESS TO LEGAL AID SERVICES FOR THE POOR, THE MARGINALIZED, AND THE VICTIMS OF INJUSTICE IN AMERICA.

CLS' Christian Legal Aid program provides critical legal help that sets people free from abusive and burdensome situations.

Christian Legal Aid continued to grow despite many continued worldwide challenges in 2021.

CLA added new clinics to its network in seven U.S. cities:

- Detroit, MI
- Dallas, TX
- Houston, TX
- Mansfield, OH
- Greensboro, NC
- Auburn, CA
- Montgomery, AL

Plus, CLA added its first international clinic in Toronto, Canada – the first-ever faith-based legal aid clinic in Canada!

CLS' Christian Legal Aid network now has 65 programs serving approximately 150 communities across the country.

CLA is also in discussion with attorneys in a number of other cities who are working on starting new CLA clinics. We appreciate your prayers to help them get launched in 2022.

In 2021, the CLA program provided training to nearly 500 people on a wide range of topics, including:

- helping survivors of human trafficking;
- equipping legal aid clients with life-changing relational skills;
- legal innovation for improving access to justice;
- "Good Samaritan" tactics for serving CLA clients; and
- religious freedom protections for CLA clinics.



ANGELA'S STORY

In a recent story from Christian Legal Aid of Philadelphia, Angela (not her real name) endured years of abuse from her spouse who regularly threatened her life and encouraged their son to be abusive to women. One day Angela heeded the urging of her family, called the police, and sought an emergency protective order. She couldn't afford the \$3,000 fee of private attorneys, but fortunately found her way to Christian Legal Aid of Philadelphia (CLCP). By God's grace, CLCP was able to help Angela obtain a three-year protective order against her husband. Best of all her son now wants to grow in kindness, gentleness, and respect for all people. Praise the Lord!



ADAM'S STORY

In Tucson, AZ, Adam (not his real name), a resident of Gospel Rescue Mission's homeless and drug addiction recovery program, came to the legal clinic saddled with a \$1,500 financial burden in unpaid court fines. Because Adam was actively working to recover from his addiction, the clinic helped Adam get the fines reduced and helped him set up a payment plan with the court, giving him renewed freedom and hope and further equipping him on his path to recovery.



Photo courtesy of Trinity Legal, Oklahoma City



**150 Communities
Served Nationwide**



**8 New Clinics
Added in 2021**



**Over 32,000 Families
Served in 2021***

**approximately*



**65 Clinic
Programs
Nationwide**

"I cannot thank you enough for the time, wealth of information, guidance, and support! I feel so grateful to have had the opportunity to speak with you, and for your encouragement, and especially for your prayers. It is daunting, but I can see the vision [for starting a new Christian Legal Aid clinic] coming to life."

-FL Attorney Interested in Forming a CLA Clinic

"I look forward to the Summit every year as there's no other conference like it! It's an invaluable day of networking with attorneys from other Christian Legal Aid clinics and learning more about how to do this difficult work like Jesus."

-CLA Summit Attendee



CHRISTIAN LEGAL SOCIETY

**CHRISTIAN
LEGAL AID**

CHRISTIAN LEGAL AID CLINICS

*Photo courtesy
of Trinity Legal, Oklahoma City*

ALABAMA

Montgomery

Faulkner University Law School
Legal Clinics*

ARIZONA

Phoenix Metro Area

CLA of Arizona

Tucson

Christian Legal Society of
Tucson CLA Program

CALIFORNIA

Auburn

3R Ministries*

Los Angeles

Pepperdine University
Legal Aid Clinic

Los Angeles Metro Area

CLA of Los Angeles

Oakland

Pope Francis Legal Clinic

Orange County

CLA Office Orange County

Sacramento

Love and Wisdom (LAW) Clinic

San Diego Metro Area

San Diego CLA

San Jose

Silicon Valley CLA

Santa Ana

Trinity Mobile Legal Clinic

CLA of Orange County

Tustin

Trinity Law Clinic at the
Orange County Rescue
Mission

COLORADO

Denver

Justice and Mercy Legal Aid
Clinic

Denver Metro

CLA of Metro Denver Triage
Legal Clinics

- The Rising Church
- Broomfield FISH
- Samaritan House
- Salvation Army
- Providence Network
- More Life Community
Center
- Life Center
- SECOR Clinic
- Dry Bones
- Greater Metro Ministerial
Alliance

Fort Collins

Serve 6.8 Legal Clinic

DELAWARE

Wilmington

Mission Legal Aid Clinic

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Washington, DC

CLA of the District of Columbia

- Central Union Mission
- DC Dream Center

FLORIDA

Jacksonville

CLS Pro Bono Project

Jacksonville Metro Area

Jericho Road Legal Service
Ministry

ILLINOIS

Chicago

Cabrini Green Legal Aid

INDIANA

Indianapolis Metro Area

Neighborhood CLA

KANSAS

Wichita

Wichita CLA

KENTUCKY

Georgetown

Merciful Justice Legal Clinic

Louisville

Metro CLA

MARYLAND

Gaithersburg

Good Samaritan Advocates at

Covenant Life Church

The Salvation Army Center

MICHIGAN

Detroit

CLA of Southeast Michigan

The Joseph Project*

Grand Rapids Metro Area

West Michigan CLA

Kalamazoo

CLA of Southwest Michigan

Lansing

CLA of Lansing

MINNESOTA

Minneapolis

Park Avenue Legal Clinic

Twin Cities

Twin Cities CLA

MISSISSIPPI

Jackson

Mission First Legal Aid Office

MISSOURI

St. Louis Metro Area

New Covenant Legal Services

NEW JERSEY

Newark Metro Area

Immigrant Hope

NEW MEXICO

Albuquerque

New Mexico CLA

Las Cruces

Catholic Charities of Southern

New Mexico

NEW YORK

New York City

Open Hands Legal Services

NORTH CAROLINA

Durham

Justice Matters

Greensboro

Wilberforce Center for Justice

and Human Rights*

Raleigh

Campbell Community Law

Clinic

OHIO

Cleveland

Scranton Road Legal Clinic

Columbus

Vineyard Immigration

Counseling Service

Richland County

Richland County Legal Clinic*

Toledo

Christian Legal Collaborative

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma City Metro Area

Trinity Legal

- Crossings Community

Center

- Cross and Crown

Mission

- City Rescue Mission

- Living Faith Ministry

- Salvation Army Norman

Tulsa

Tulsa University College of

Law CLS Christian Legal Aid

Clinic

OREGON

Portland

Union Gospel Mission of

Portland Christian Legal Aid

Clinic

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia

Christian Legal Clinics of

Philadelphia

- West Philadelphia Legal

Clinic

- Hunting Park Legal Clinic

- South Philadelphia Legal

Clinic

- Chester Legal Clinic

- Germantown Legal Clinic

- Kensington Legal Clinic

- Chosen 300 Legal Clinic

- North Philadelphia Legal Clinic

Pittsburgh

CLA of Pittsburgh

TENNESSEE

Murfreesboro

Murfreesboro CLA

Nashville Metro Area

Compassionate Counsel

TEXAS

Dallas

Revive Justice*

Houston

Community CLA

Restoring Justice*

Houston

Legal Aid Center

VIRGINIA

Arlington

Restoration Immigration Legal

Aid

Northern Virginia

Good Samaritan Advocates

- Columbia Baptist Church

- Cornerstone Chapel

- Reston Bible Church

- The Lamb Center

WASHINGTON

Seattle

Open Door Legal Services

Spokane

Union Gospel Mission CLA

WISCONSIN

Milwaukee

JC Legal Resources Center

Inc.

INTERNATIONAL - CANADA

Toronto

CCM Toronto Legal Clinic*

**Joined the CLA network in 2021*

CENTER FOR LAW & RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

THE OLDEST CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ADVOCACY MINISTRY IN THE UNITED STATES DEFENDING THE RIGHTS OF ALL AMERICANS AND RELIGIONS.

In 2021, the Center's work included representing clients and defending their religious rights in a variety of settings from the church to the workplace, supporting a federal regulation to protect religious student groups facing exclusion from college campuses because they require their leaders to be religious, and fighting threats to the ability of Christian attorneys to practice law consistently with their religious beliefs.

The Center's work to defend the rights of religious student groups to meet in K-12 schools and on college campuses remained a top priority in 2021, even through the pandemic. The Center also educated both the public and legislators regarding legislation and regulations that would protect religious students' right to gather on their college campuses and also provided expertise to state and federal legislators regarding how best to protect religious students.

The Center remains the nation's leader in fighting ABA Model Rule 8.4(g). This invaluable work continued in 2021 as the Center provided resources to attorneys in over a dozen states from Hawaii and Alaska to South Dakota, Connecticut, and North Carolina. The Center's work enabled lawyers to explain to their colleagues the danger ABA Model Rule 8.4(g) poses for lawyers who value freedom of speech, religious freedom, and ideological diversity in the profession.



IN THE COURTS DEFENDING FREEDOM THROUGH LITIGATION AND REPRESENTATION

Defending the Rights of California Religious Students

Officials in the San Jose Unified School District derecognized a Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) student group because they did not like its religious beliefs. The Center filed suit on behalf of FCA, bringing claims under the Equal Access Act and the First Amendment. The school district argued that the defendants could not be held personally liable under qualified immunity. On January 28, 2021, a federal judge disagreed and ruled that FCA may proceed with its claims of discrimination against the district superintendent, a high school principal, and a teacher in their personal capacities. Depositions and discovery continued throughout much of 2021, and, in October, a hearing on the motion for a preliminary injunction was held. The school district filed another Motion to Dismiss, this time based on standing, to which FCA has replied. Both the Motion to Dismiss and the Motion for

Preliminary Injunction await disposition, which may take some time because the judge presiding over the case is moving on to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and a new judge must be assigned. (*Fellowship of Christian Athletes v. San Jose Unified School District*)

Fighting Religious Discrimination in the Workplace

The Center represented a Christian woman fired for “bringing her personal religious beliefs into the workplace” after the woman and two co-workers had mutually discussed their religious beliefs and worldviews over lunch. The Center filed an employment discrimination complaint with the Maine Human Rights Commission and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission alleging the employer illegally fired the woman because of her religious beliefs in violation of federal and state laws. In the end, the Center was able to negotiate a favorable settlement for the fired employee. (*Nelthropp v. Port Resources*)

Protecting a Church’s Right to Determine its Ministers

New Life in Christ Church in Fredericksburg, Virginia, was denied a parsonage tax exemption for its college minister’s home. The City of Fredericksburg asserted that college ministers are not ministers under the Presbyterian Book of Church Order. The First Amendment gives religious congregations, not government officials, the authority to determine their ministers, as long as their decisions are sincere. The church retained the services of the Center to handle their case on appeal. In February, the Center appeared before a panel of the Virginia Supreme Court to urge that it accept the church’s appeal to be heard by the full court. Despite a strong argument, the Virginia Supreme Court denied the petition. In August, CLS, along with a team of Gibson Dunn attorneys and a team of First Liberty attorneys, filed a petition for certiorari with the U.S. Supreme Court.

SUPPORTING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM THROUGH AMICUS BRIEFS

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Defending Families from Religious Discrimination in Maine

Carson v. Makin

The Center filed an amicus brief on behalf of Maine families who choose to send their children to a private, religious school under a state program where Maine pays the tuition for students to attend a different high school - public or private - if students live in a school district that lacks a high school.

Fighting for Religious Prisoners’ Right to Clergy

Ramirez v. Collier

When a prisoner was denied the right to have his pastor pray aloud and lay hands on him during his execution, the Center filed an amicus brief addressing how the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Person Act (RLUIPA) - the law passed in 2000 through the efforts led by the Center - protects the prisoner’s free exercise of religion.

Protecting the Ability of Religious Employers to Hire According to Their Religious Beliefs

Seattle Union Gospel Mission v. Woods

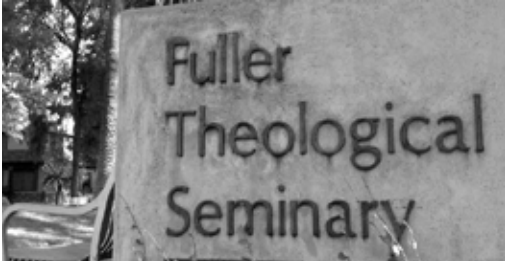
The Center filed a brief in defense of the Christian Legal Aid clinic, which is part of the CLS Christian Legal Aid network, arguing for its right to make its own staffing decisions based on its religious mission.

Defending the Right to Life

Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health

The Center filed an amicus brief urging the Supreme Court to overrule *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, arguing that federalism has long protected liberty and sustained our pluralistic society, while open-ended conceptions of substantive due process undermine the fundamental principles of federalism.

NINTH CIRCUIT



Defending the Right of Religious Universities to Enforce Agreed-upon Religious and Moral Standards

Maxon v. Fuller Theological Seminary

The Center filed an amicus brief in support of the seminary's right to uphold its community standards – including the belief that God created marriage to be the permanent covenant between only one man and one woman – to which students agree in writing to abide by as a condition of continued enrollment. On December 13, 2021, in an unpublished opinion, a unanimous Ninth Circuit found in favor of Fuller Theological Seminary.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND LIFE ADVOCACY

DEFENDING THE RIGHT TO SHARE CHRIST

Ensuring a Mother's Right to Engage in Public Religious Speech in North Carolina

Mary Mason, who does religious outreach with her disabled daughter in Murphy, North Carolina, was told by town officials to stop because groups of two or more are not allowed to assemble without a permit. She contacted CLS for help and retained the Center in dealing with the city. The Center worked with Mary and then sent a letter to the town council explaining that its permit requirement was unconstitutional. The town's attorney responded and acknowledged that the town would change its permitting requirements and not enforce them against Ms. Mason and her daughter.



"We thank the Lord for Christian Legal Society being there when we needed help. And especially thank you for your service to Christ. May the Lord bless you richly in this world and in the one to come."

- Mary

Ensuring Rights to Engage in Religious Speech in Public in Colorado

Worldview at the Abbey, a year-long biblical ministry for high school graduates, contacted CLS for assistance after authorities told them to leave a public park in Colorado where they were sharing the faith as part of their evangelical training. The park was located across from the public high school, and the Abbey students were sharing Jesus with the high school students. After contacting CLS, the Center lawyers wrote a letter on behalf of the students, explaining the right to witness in a public place. The city and the school backed down, and the students were then able to go out to witness. The first time they returned to the park, some of the high school students made a decision for Jesus.



"In my opinion, it could not have gone any better. ... Thanks for your help and sound advice. ... Thank you on behalf of students who hear the gospel."

- Bill

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND LIFE ADVOCACY

DEFENDING STUDENTS ON CAMPUS



Montana Passes Bill to Protect Religious Students

In April, the Montana Legislature passed a bill to protect religious student groups' right to meet on public university campuses. Lt. Gov. Kristen Juras testified in favor of the bill. The Center provided written statements in support of the Montana law.

North Dakota Passes Bill to Protect Religious Students

Also in April, North Dakota passed a bill to protect religious student groups on public college campuses. The Center provided written statements in support of North Dakota bill.

Advocating for Federal Campus Access Regulation

In 2020, CLS and its members, along with other campus ministries, provided numerous strong comments in support of a new federal regulation to protect religious student groups on public college campuses. The final rule was adopted on September 23, 2020. When the new Administration took office in early 2021, the Department of Justice indicated to a federal district court that the Department of Education is reviewing the rule. CLS remained concerned that changes would weaken the rule, either through guidance or new rulemaking. In August 2021, the Department of Education posted on its blog that it is reviewing the Free Inquiry Rule. The campus access regulation, which protects religious student groups on public college campuses, is one component of the Free Inquiry Rule. CLS sent a letter that was joined by 17 organizations and urged the Department to leave the campus access regulation as is. The regulation protects

religious student groups on public college and university campuses, including CLS chapters. We believe this important rule will be the subject of a rulemaking in early 2022 to rescind or weaken its protections.

Defending the Right to Gather for 33 Religious Students Groups at the University of Iowa

In July, the Eighth Circuit held that the University of Iowa violated the First Amendment when it threatened to derecognize InterVarsity and about 32 other religious groups, including the CLS chapter at the University of Iowa because the groups require their leaders to agree with their religious beliefs. The CLS student chapter at the University of Iowa had fought the threat of derecognition for over two decades. CLS filed an amicus brief detailing its long-running battle.

Fighting for Religious Students at the University of Virginia

In August, the Student Council at the University of Virginia announced that all student organizations would have to submit an Identity Inclusivity Disclosure Form in order to participate in the Fall Student Activities Fair. Organizations were to indicate on the form whether they "restrict" membership, leadership, programming, or activities based on the enumerated classes in UVA's non-discrimination policy. The Center sent a letter to the president of UVA outlining potential legal consequences if the Student Council proceeded with the form. The Student Council subsequently removed the disclosure form as a requirement for participation of student groups in the Fall Student Activities Fair.

Defending the CLS Chapter at the University of Idaho College of Law

A group of CLS law students sought to be recognized as a CLS law student chapter at the University of Idaho College of Law. When they made their presentation to the student government, they were questioned extensively about their application, including the Community Life Statement, CLS' religious beliefs regarding LGBT issues, and the relevance of the *CLS v. Martinez* decision. The meeting ended with a motion to ask for more documentation in preparation for further discussion at the student government meeting the following month. The Center sent a letter to the university's general counsel asking that the office provide legal guidance to the stu-

dent government prior to that meeting. The dean of the law responded by returning to the college administration the responsibility of processing all applications for organizational recognition. Shortly thereafter, the CLS law students received notice that they had met the conditions to become a recognized student organization at the law school.

Defending the CLS Student Chapter in South Carolina

When the CLS law student chapter at the University of South Carolina School of Law learned it was not being included in a list of student organizations geared toward minority and religious students that are likely to be strong resources for such prospective students, the chapter leaders reached out to CLS. Center Director Kim Colby, along with LSM Director Anton Sorkin, concerned that the CLS law student chapter was not being included when the project was said to be specifically designed to benefit minority and religious students, met with the chapter leaders and advised them how to proceed. The chapter leaders then met with the student putting the list together and also reached out to the associate dean for diversity, equity, and inclusion. The dean – appreciative that the leaders had reached out – ensured them that CLS would be included on the list.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND LIFE ADVOCACY OTHER RELIGIOUS ISSUES



Protecting Religious Land in Oak Flat

Chi'chil Bildagoteel, loosely translated as "Oak Flat" in English, is part of the ancestral homelands of not only the Apache, but also the Yavapai, Hopi, Zuni, and many other tribes in the

Southwest. In 2016, it was added to the National Register of Historic Places as a Traditional Cultural Property. The Center signed onto a letter to President Biden urging his administration to protect Oak Flat, which the San Carlos Apache Tribe and others hold as sacred, because permitting mining under Oak Flat will permanently destroy this sacred sanctuary and be a loss for religious freedom. The Center also signed onto an almost identical letter addressed to Members of Congress in support of HR 1884 (the "Save Oak Flat Act"), a bill that would protect the Oak Flat area from being destroyed.

CLS Files Comment Letter Opposing Proposed Repeal of Contractor Exemption

In November, the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) announced it was proposing that the contractor religious exemption be repealed. The Center filed a joint comment letter a month later opposing the proposed repeal. The National Association of Evangelicals, the Thomas More Society, and the Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance signed onto CLS' letter.

Defending a Pastor in Iran

Persecution against Christians in Middle Eastern countries, especially those who have converted from Islam to Christianity, is commonplace. Such persecution includes threats, bodily harm, and even death. An Iranian pastor and his family needed to renew their passports but going to the Iranian consulate to do so would put them in grave danger. The Center wrote a letter in support of a California church's petition to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services on behalf of the Iranian pastor and his family.

DEFENDING ATTORNEYS FROM THE "SPEECH CODE FOR LAWYERS"

ABA MODEL RULE 8.4(g)

In 2021, the Center continued to be the leading force in opposition to the American Bar Association's Model Rule 8.4(g). ABA Model Rule 8.4(g) has been condemned by numerous scholars as a speech code for lawyers and poses an existential threat to lawyers who value independent thinking, freedom of speech, and free exercise of

religion. In the words of a federal district court judge who held Pennsylvania's version of the model rule unconstitutional: "Ultimately, the Court is swayed by the chilling effect that the Amendments will have on . . . Pennsylvania attorneys, if they go into effect. Rule 8.4(g)'s language . . . will hang over Pennsylvania attorneys like the sword of Damocles. This language will continuously threaten the speaker to self-censor and constantly mind what the speaker says and how the speaker says it or the full apparatus and resources of the Commonwealth may be engaged to come swooping in to conduct an investigation."

The Center continues its fight against adoption of ABA Model Rule 8.4(g) in the states. Because the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct only serve as a guide to the individual states, and all states are responsible for establishing their own professional rules, ABA Model Rule 8.4(g) goes into effect only if it is adopted by a state supreme court.

Wisconsin

The Wisconsin Standing Committee on Professional Ethics held a comment period in early 2021 regarding a proposal to adopt ABA Model Rule 8.4(g) as a modification to Wisconsin Supreme Court Rule 20:8.4(i). The Center filed a comment letter opposing the proposal in March. No decision has yet been made.

Connecticut

In May, the Rules Committee of the Connecticut Superior Court held a public hearing on proposed new Rule 8.4(7), which would expand the definition of "professional misconduct" to include verbal and physical conduct that a lawyer "reasonably should know" constitutes "harassment or discrimination" on the basis of any one of 15 categories including race, sex, religion, disability, sexual orientation, and gender identity and which would apply broadly to attorney speech in a wide variety of settings, not merely speech during court proceedings or while representing clients. Center Director Kim Colby and several CLS members spoke at the public hearing in opposition to the proposed rule. Previously, in May 2021, the Center filed a comment letter opposing the proposed rule. Despite the Center's efforts, the Rules Committee passed along to the Superior Court its recommendation that the proposed

Rule 8.4(7) be adopted, which the judges of the Superior Court did by voice vote and without discussion a month later. In November, the New Civil Liberties Alliance filed a lawsuit on behalf of two Connecticut-licensed attorneys in the U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut, challenging the constitutionality of Connecticut's newly-adopted Rule of Professional Conduct Rule 8.4(7).

Pennsylvania

In Pennsylvania, the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, which had filed notice of appeal after a federal district court found its new 8.4(g) rule unconstitutional, dropped its appeal to the Third Circuit. A few months later, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania adopted a new, revised version of ABA Model Rule 8.4(g). One justice dissented because the proposed amendments did not "cure the Rule's unconstitutional nature as articulated by" the federal district court. The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania submitted the revised rule to the court without holding a comment period, allegedly submitting it "without publication in the interests of justice and efficient administration pursuant to Pa.R.J.A. No. 103(a)(3)." In August, Zachary Greenberg filed an amended complaint alleging that the new Rule 8.4(g) in Pennsylvania – like its predecessor – violates the First and Fourteenth Amendments. The Center filed an amicus brief in support of Greenberg's Motion for Summary Judgement that the newest version of Pennsylvania's Rule 8.4(g) is unconstitutional.

Idaho

In December, the Idaho State Bar Board of Commissioners voted to support a proposed Resolution (the 2021 Proposed Rule) that would amend Idaho Rule of Professional Conduct 8.4 to include anti-discrimination and anti-harassment provisions. Idaho State Bar members voted on the Resolution by district at the end of 2021. Of the 5,728 members eligible to vote, only 1009 members (roughly 18%) actually voted, with 680 votes in favor of the Resolution and 329 votes against it. The Resolution has been submitted to the Idaho Supreme Court for consideration. A similar resolution was previously rejected by the Idaho Supreme Court in 2018.

A VOICE IN THE DARKNESS

EDUCATION EFFORTS TO ADVANCE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND LIFE

Fighting the “Equality” Act and Efforts to Erode All Americans’ Religious Freedom

In February, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the “Equality” Act, H.R. 5, 224-206. In March, the Senate Judiciary Committee held a hearing on the Act. The “Equality” Act would add “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” as protected classes to the 1964 Civil Rights Act, governing places of public accommodation, employment, housing, and federal financial assistance. The “Equality” Act exempts itself from the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. CLS has called the “Equality” Act “an unqualified disaster for all Americans’ religious freedom, as well as for their individual freedom.” The Center created a webpage of resources and urged its members to write letters to their representatives in Congress opposing the “Equality” Act.

Religious Freedom Restoration Acts (RFRAs)

In 2021, the number of states with state Religious Freedom Reformation Acts (RFRAs) increased to 23 after Montana and South Dakota passed state RFRAs in March and April, respectively. The Center has been the nation’s leader in advocating for state RFRAs since its leadership position in bringing together the coalition to draft and pass the federal RFRA in 1993. State RFRAs are critical to all Americans’ religious freedom.

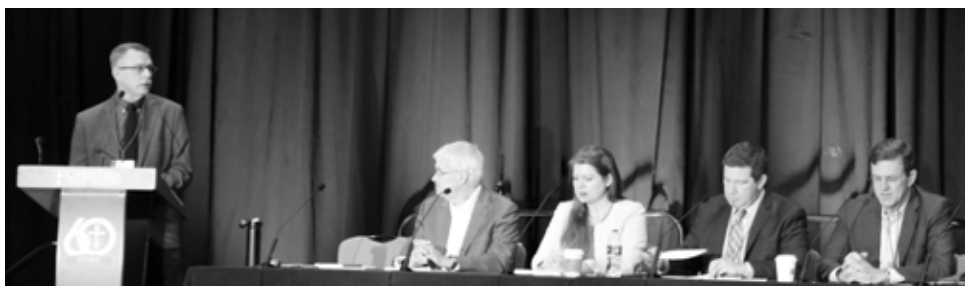


Debate on the “Compelling Interest” Test

Center Director Kim Colby moderated a panel on *Employment Division v. Smith* (where the U.S. Supreme Court held that a law may burden religion if it is neutral and generally applicable but if it is not, then the burden on religion must be justified by a compelling government interest). The panel was part of the 2021 Annual First Amendment Conference at Utah Valley University’s Center for Constitutional Studies in March. Participants included Professor Bill Marshall, Alexander Dushku, and Adele Keim.



CHRISTIAN LEGAL SOCIETY
CENTER FOR LAW AND
RELIGIOUS FREEDOM



Religious Freedom in America
Moderator: Stanley Carlson-Thies
Panelists: Carl Esbeck, Casey Mattox,
Eric Treene, Lori Windham



LAW STUDENT MINISTRIES

LEARNING TO DO JUSTICE WITH THE LOVE OF GOD –
IN THE CLASSROOM, ON CAMPUS, AND IN OUR PROFESSION.

CLS Law Student Ministries (LSM) law student chapters across the nation found their leadership depleted after a year of virtual school and a continuing pandemic, but it was made worse by the lack of opportunity for building physical community and hosting events on campus. And, yet, despite all the challenges we faced, God found a way to help restore the community of believers!

After the first six months of regular in-person classes, LSM chapters found a renewed zeal for on-campus engagement and a commitment to rebuilding chapters across the nation through various forms of community, service, and spiritual discipleship.

CAMPUS VISITS

Staff members hit the road on several occasions in order to live out the model of Paul the Apostle in his desire to visit the churches and offer words of encouragement. As part of this mission, LSM worked closely with other ministry partners and CLS attorney chapters to bring together a spiritual network of mentors that offer students the benefit of having someone local from whom they can learn.

NAMÁRIË FORUM & BOOK STUDY

LSM introduced the Namárië Forum – a national, monthly forum for cultivating the Christian imagination that gives students an online opportunity to study the work of J.R.R. Tolkien and to discuss ministry and life.

LSM also joined an international book study of Tim Keller's "Every Good Endeavor," alongside attorneys and students from Europe to South America.

BUILDING BRIDGES

LSM launched a new initiative that aims to invite various campus group leaders, who embrace a different worldview, to dinner. The purpose is to build community and seek greater understanding through the art of listening to the positions of others and engaging one another in constructive discussions about law, religion, and society.

PARTNERSHIPS

LSM expanded our ministry partner network in 2021, enhancing LSM's on-campus engagement with groups like the Veritas Forum, the Oxford Character Project, Students for Life, G.L.O.B.A.L. Justice, Charlotte Lozier, and Stand Together. The goal of these partnerships is to enhance LSM's work to build a ministry worthy of the gospel alongside those who can enhance the law school experience for students across the nation.

CLS continues and is thankful for its long-standing partnership with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF), which cooperates through student retreats and conferences and in the training of IVCF Graduate and Faculty Ministries (GFM) staff to serve law students in CLS campus groups. LSM visited IVCF partners throughout the country, including those in Sacramento, Palo Alto, Atlanta, Nashville, and Austin, in order to strengthen our commitment to a common mission to share Christ and better serve students in law school.



120 Law School
Campuses Served
in 2021



2,500+
Students Served
in 2021



Law students at the 2021 CLS National Conference.



CHRISTIAN LEGAL SOCIETY
**LAW STUDENT
MINISTRIES**

LAW STUDENT CAMPUSES SERVED



*Visiting the Duncan School of Law CLS Chapter
in Knoxville, Tennessee, in November 2021.*

University of Akron
The University of Alabama
American University
Arizona State University
Ave Maria Law School
University of Arizona
University of Arkansas
- Fayetteville
University of Arkansas
- Little Rock
Barry University
Baylor Law School
Belmont University
University of Buffalo
University of California - Davis
University of California - Irvine
California Western
Campbell University
Case Western Reserve
University
Catholic University Columbus
School of Law
Chapman University
Charleston (SC) School of Law
City University of New York
University Chicago Law
Chicago-Kent College of Law

Cleveland State University
University of Colorado
University of Connecticut
Cornell University
Dallas Baptist University
(Pre-Law)
University of Denver
DePaul University
Drake University
Duke University
Duquesne University
Emory University
Faulkner University Jones
School of Law
University of Florida
Florida A&M University
Florida International University
Florida State University
Fordham University
George Mason University
The George Washington
University
Georgetown University
University of Georgia
Georgia State University
Harvard University
Hofstra University

University of Houston
University of Idaho
University of Illinois
Indiana University
- Bloomington
Indiana University
- Indianapolis
Inter American University
(San Juan, Puerto Rico)
University of Iowa
John Marshall Law School
(GA) University of Kansas
University of Kentucky
Lewis and Clark Law School
Liberty University
Lincoln Memorial University
Duncan School of Law
Loyola Law School
- Los Angeles Loyola
Loyola University Chicago
University of Maryland
University of the Pacific
- McGeorge School of Law
University of Memphis
Mercer University
University of Miami
Michigan State University



Students at the University of San Diego Law sharing about this campus group at a law school event

**Photo courtesy of Darren Ewing*

University of Minnesota
Mississippi College
The University of Mississippi
University of Missouri
- Columbia
University of Missouri
- Kansas City
Mitchell Hamline School of Law
Nashville School of Law
University of Nebraska
New York Law School
New York University
North Carolina Central University
University of North Carolina
University of North Texas
- Dallas
Northern Illinois University
Northwestern University
Notre Dame
The Ohio State University
University of Oklahoma
Pace University
Pepperdine University
University of Pittsburgh
Regent University

University of St. Thomas (MN)
University of San Diego
San Joaquin College of Law
Samford University
Cumberland School of Law
University of Southern California
University of South Carolina
University of South Dakota
South Texas College of Law
Southern Methodist University
Stanford University
Stetson University
Temple University
University of Tennessee
Texas A&M University
The University of Texas
Texas Southern
(Thurgood Marshall SoL)
University of Toledo
Trinity Law School
University of Utah
Vanderbilt University
Villanova University
University of Virginia
Wake Forest School of Law
Washburn University

Washington University
Washington and Lee University
Western New England University
Western Michigan University
(T. M. Cooley - Tampa Bay)
Wheaton College (Pre-Law)
College of William and Mary
University of Wisconsin

CLS LAW SCHOOL FELLOWS PROGRAM



2021 CLS Law School Fellows class

THE MISSION OF THE CLS LAW SCHOOL FELLOWS PROGRAM IS TO ENCOURAGE AND TRAIN LAW STUDENTS TO SEEK AND STUDY BIBLICAL TRUTH AS IT RELATES TO LEGAL INSTITUTIONS AND THE STUDY AND PRACTICE OF LAW.

The 2021 CLS Law School Fellows program was a huge success, and the lives of law students and many law school campuses will be transformed because of it.

The program is designed to train law students in the areas of moral formation, professional identity, and vocational stewardship in the context of the study and practice of law. This year 37 students finished the week of training with a radically new vision for their legal education and eventual law practice.

Our students came from 27 different law schools, including the University of Georgia, Arizona State, the University of Alabama, Ohio State University, and the University of Wisconsin, and they engaged us and one another well to create a unique, scholarly community with an atmosphere that encourages inquiry and depth.

The lectures and discussion sessions, which are designed to help the students unpack the materials together, were amazing. Nowhere in the academy is a lineup like this available on topics that pinpoint the moral and intellectual needs of students seeking to be faithful in their calling to law.

Students reported that they will return to their respective law schools encouraged and enabled to pursue the moral and ethical formation of meaningful relationships with classmates, professors, student groups, and local institutions. In fact, almost every student reported that the week gave them renewed motivation and tools to both “influence the legal profession for good” and “help Christian groups on my campus make a positive change in the overall law school culture.” It was a truly transformative week!



Reflections from 2021 CLS Law School Fellows:

"I cannot express the richness added to my life in discussing the depth of Christian thought regarding the law with the leaders and Fellows. It has helped my roots to stretch deeper so that my zeal will not wane when the scorching sun comes out. Thank you so much. My life and my faith are deeply indebted to you and I will do my best to pay the debt in ministering to others."

"It has inspired me to continually re-consider how to best live out my faith in the area of law."



ATTORNEY MINISTRIES

ATTORNEY MINISTRIES SEEKS TO ENCOURAGE AND TRAIN LEGAL PROFESSIONALS HOW TO INTEGRATE THE WORD OF GOD AND THEIR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST WITH THEIR PROFESSIONAL CALLING.

The core of Attorney Ministries is fellowship. Hebrews 10: 25 (NLT) admonishes us to “not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.” Gathering in fellowship allows CLS members to join other Christian professionals in the legal field to learn, serve, and impact their community for Christ.

CLS' Attorney Ministries is comprised of attorney chapters located throughout the country. CLS attorney chapters provide an opportunity for like-minded Christian attorneys, professors, judges, and other colleagues to connect and grow in their vocational calling. Through our CLS attorney chapters, members can be encouraged, equipped, and inspired in their legal profession.

CLS ATTORNEY CHAPTERS

In 2021, CLS added an attorney chapter - Upstate New York - in Albany, New York, to its chapter network.

Throughout 2021 many attorneys stepped forward to identify cities in which CLS should launch or revive a CLS attorney chapter. This includes reviving CLS' Los Angeles and Maine chapters and launching a CLS chapter in Louisville (KY), Lansing (MI), Knoxville (TN), San Jose (CA), Columbia (SC), Greenville (SC), Hampton Roads (VA), and a few others.

CHAPTER ENGAGEMENT

CLS' Attorney Ministries Director Lakuita Bittle and other CLS directors engaged in speaking with many attorney chapters to fellowship, encourage, and enhance local chapters in 2021. In spite of the pandemic, chapters persevered and continued to find creative ways to gather. In addition to monthly gatherings, CLS' Houston

chapter wrapped up summer with a celebration honoring local law students, and CLS' New York chapter gathered for their annual summer barbeque.

CLS' ONLINE GATHERING

CLS' Online Gathering serves as a national online meeting for attorneys, law students, and others to hear from an engaging speaker on a topic that impacts their faith and the practice of law. In 2021, Attorney Ministries hosted Online Gatherings every other month. January kicked off the year with a session on human trafficking awareness. In March, Ken Starr discussed the challenges of religious freedom and gave us some insight into the Supreme Court. In July, participants learned practical solutions for busy professionals from attorney and headhunter, Anne Winckel. In the fall, Debbie Ausburn wrapped up the series, sharing her insights on “Raising Other Parent's Children” from her experiences in foster care and maneuvering blended families.

CHAPTER LEADER RESOURCES

Attorney Ministries hosts quarterly round table meetings as a resource to attorney chapter leaders where chapter leaders share best practices, discuss a wide array of topics, and provide each other with encouragement. This past year, topics included being a light in the midst of darkness, the purpose of gathering, and mentorship. *The CLS Social*, Attorney Ministries' monthly newsletter, provides updates on CLS national events and activities of chapters nationwide.



Orlando Chapter Meeting, July 2021



49 Cities
Served Nationwide



1 New Chapter
Added in 2021



Over 3,000 Legal Professionals
Reached Through In-Person
and Online Events

"We are in the spiritual relationship business so prayer and developing the network of relationships is the key. Prayer because God is the power behind all our relationships and He is in the super-natural business of drawing people to himself. In our case, and a huge reason why I joined CLS back two decades ago when it re-launched here in San Diego, was faith-work relationships with other Christians in the law."

- Miles Lawrence, San Diego CLS Chapter



CHRISTIAN LEGAL SOCIETY
**ATTORNEY
MINISTRIES**

ATTORNEY CHAPTERS

New York Chapter Summer Gathering



ALABAMA

Birmingham
Mobile**

ARIZONA

Phoenix
Tucson

CALIFORNIA

Inland Empire**
Los Angeles**
Orange County
Sacramento
San Diego
San Fernando Valley
San Francisco
West LA**

COLORADO

Colorado Springs
Denver

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FLORIDA

Jacksonville
Central
Palm Beach (West)**

GEORGIA

Atlanta

HAWAII

Honolulu

ILLINOIS

Chicago

INDIANA

Indianapolis

KANSAS

Topeka
Wichita

LOUISIANA

New Orleans

MARYLAND

Baltimore

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston**

MINNESOTA

Minneapolis

MISSISSIPPI

Central

MISSOURI

Kansas City
St. Louis
Springfield

NEBRASKA

Lincoln

NEVADA

Las Vegas**

NEW JERSEY

Cape May

NEW YORK

New York City
Upstate New York*

NORTH CAROLINA

Wake County

OHIO

Columbus
Willoughby Hills

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma City

OREGON

Salem

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia/
Delaware Valley**
Western PA

TENNESSEE

Chattanooga
Memphis
Nashville

TEXAS

Austin
Dallas
Houston
San Antonio
Williamson County

VIRGINIA

Northern VA
Richmond**

WASHINGTON

Seattle

WISCONSIN

Madison

**New Chapter*

***Currently inactive and looking for
new leadership. Interested? Email
clsq@clsnet.org.*

RESOURCES

In 2021, CLS brought new life to existing publications and even tackled a few new ones.

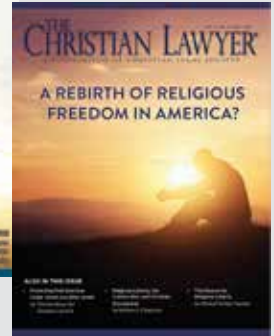
THE CLS BLOG

The CLS Blog is a great resource for the most recent items of interest in the CLS orbit. Posts include updates on recent legal developments, commentaries on articles and events, devotionals, and the latest ministry resources.



JOURNAL FOR CHRISTIAN LEGAL THOUGHT

The *Journal of Christian Legal Thought* exists to equip legal professionals to seek and study biblical truth as it relates to law, the practice of law, and legal institutions. It seeks to bring together a wide cast of thought leaders and legal practitioners to advance the interaction of law, religion, and vocation. In 2021, the *Journal* tackled issues surrounding social justice, critical theory, law and public policy, feminism, and Covid-19 in order to wrestle with the complicated public challenges that come with living out one's Christian faith in public life.



THE CHRISTIAN LAWYER MAGAZINE

CLS' *The Christian Lawyer* magazine has been a staple of CLS' publication resources for over 54 years. In 2021, *The Christian Lawyer* tackled the important issues of life and religious freedom in "Regarding Life: Honoring Christ in Pregnancy Care, Adoption, Foster Care, Elder Care, and the Fight Against Human Trafficking" and "A Rebirth of Religious Freedom in America?" respectively.



CROSS & GAVEL PODCAST

CLS' *Cross & Gavel* podcast, which posts bi-monthly episodes that tackle the interaction between law, religion, and public policy, got a facelift in 2021. Some of the guests included Matthew Kaemingk, Jonathan Rauch, Holly Ordway, and Tod Bolsinger. Check it out at ChristianLegalSociety.org/podcast.

CONNECTED IN 2021



2021 CLS National Conference
San Antonio, TX
October 28-31, 2021



CLS members and friends gathered for the 2021 CLS National Conference in San Antonio, Texas. It was a long-awaited conference with the 2020 event being virtual due to the pandemic. The CLS family was very eager to meet together in-person once again. With record attendance, conference participants enjoyed important moments of reconnecting and career changing fellowship and heard amazing messages from James K.A. Smith, Professor Ruth Okediji, Lee Strobel, and Laudir Lugo.

CLS invites you to join us for the 2022 CLS National Conference in Newport Beach, California, from October 6-9, 2022. We promise it will be an amazing time of fellowship, learning, and fun.



CONNECT IN 2022

2022 CLS National Conference
Newport Beach, CA
October 6-9, 2022



LEAVING A LEGACY



Hearing reflections from one of CLS' founders, George Newitt, at the CLS National Conference.

Christian Legal Society is blessed to celebrate the milestone of 60 years.

In 1961, the Lord shared His vision for CLS with a handful of lawyers. He guided them in their development of this unique organization by which and through which attorneys and law students could serve one another, their profession, their community, their country, and the world.

At the 2021 CLS National Conference, we shared amazing video footage from two of CLS' founders, Henry Brinks and George Newitt. Our only regret was that we had to cut out so much of their story because of its immense length. CLS is flourishing today because these leaders were faithful to His calling. Praise the Lord!

Henry and George, along with CLS' many other faithful founders, followed the call of Jesus on their lives and sought to serve God and others in and through the law. Over the past six decades, they have not only inspired, but also have changed so many lives through that initial obedience to "follow me."

The current CLS team, and those who have served over the last 60 years, are acutely aware of the mission the Lord has given to CLS – to serve in ways only attorneys can serve – and we are all honored to be part of this legacy.

Prior to his passing, George Newitt established the CLS Founders Endowment to support this ministry long into the future. I am honored to report that in this anniversary year, CLS matched George's contribution in pledges and gifts to this endowment.



Henry and George were just ordinary lawyers who chose to follow God's calling on their lives. They saw the need in the legal profession to "clarify and promote the concept of the Christian lawyer." Over the years that followed, CLS began to pursue justice for the poor and needy, find a means of conflict resolution for Christians outside the courtroom through a national Christian Conciliation Ministry, and pursue religious freedom for all Americans and defend the sanctity of human life.

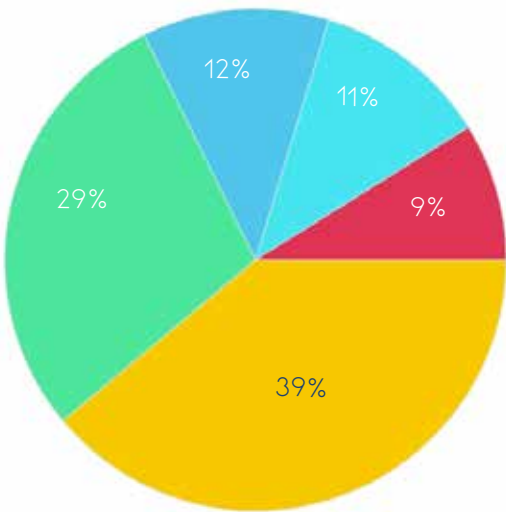
If you are blessed by any of CLS' ministries, it is because of these faithful leaders. If you understand your vocation and calling through the law, it is because they heeded the call before you. If you are serving in an attorney chapter or law student chapter, fighting for those in need, or ensuring all Americans maintain religious freedom – thank you. You are part of this legacy.



Celebrating 60 years at the 2021 CLS National Conference.



FINANCIALS



DONATIONS - YOUR SUPPORT - ACCOUNTED FOR 68% OF CLS' REVENUE IN 2021.

2021 PROGRAM REVENUE

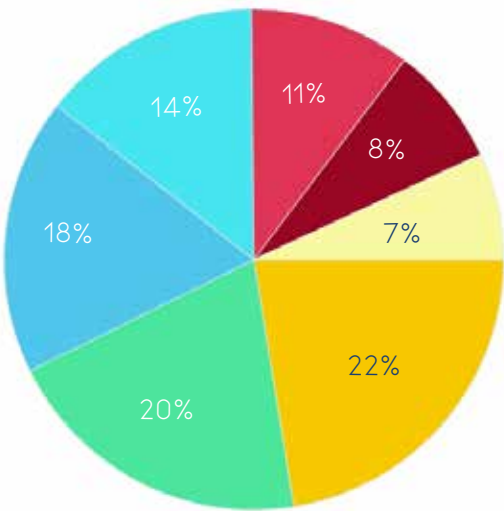
Donations	\$1,253,269	39%
Foundation Grants	\$924,770	29%
Other	\$388,056	12%
Membership Dues	\$367,203	11%
Conferences & Events	\$285,236	9%

TOTAL REVENUE **\$3,218,534**

IN 2021, CLS INVESTED 85 CENTS OF EVERY DOLLAR DIRECTLY INTO MINISTRY PROGRAMS.

2021 PROGRAM EXPENSES

Attorney Ministries	\$447,695	22%
Law Student Ministries	\$403,597	20%
Center for Law & Religious Freedom	\$356,276	18%
Conferences & Events	\$285,236	14%
Christian Legal Aid	\$208,677	11%
Development	\$155,368	8%
Administration	\$137,627	7%



Note: These financial reports for 2021 are pending completion of our annual audit. All information on these pages reflects data from January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021. CLS' Annual Report, IRS form 990, and audited financial statements are available upon request.

WAYS TO PARTNER WITH CLS

PRAY

Please pray for CLS' ministries as we continue to impact our nation for Christ. Our work is possible because of God's provision and your faithful support. CLS firmly believes in the importance of bringing the needs of CLS' ministries to the Lord in prayer.

GIVE

Our work is supported entirely by faithful partners who believe in CLS' mission. Please consider supporting CLS financially in the coming year. You can designate your gift to your favorite CLS ministry if you would like. Please also consider incorporating CLS into your will today. CLS' ability to reach more people for Christ is heavily dependent on the financial support we receive.

SHARE



positive words for our critical ministries.

Please tell your friends, family, and colleagues about CLS. Share the CLS publications with everyone you know. We are always thankful for your

VOLUNTEER



If you are interested in getting involved in CLS in a volunteer capacity, we have many opportunities available including, but not limited to:

- attorneys and administrative staff working at Christian Legal Aid clinics;
- coordination with state lawmakers to protect religious freedom in states nationwide;
- planning and on-site assistance at the CLS regional retreats;
- mentoring law students;
- mentoring young attorneys; and
- leadership and coordination of CLS attorney and law student chapters.

GET CONNECTED



Show up and get involved with a local attorney or law student chapter. Stay connected by following Christian Legal Society on Facebook or Twitter. Read through the

CLS magazine and journal. Sign up for devotionals, monthly emails, and other CLS communications.

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**Joined the Board during 2021*



2021



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