



Hi James,

What a week!! The University of Arkansas in Fayetteville decided yesterday to implement Act 573, whereby they will be posting the Ten Commandments in all public areas, including libraries and classrooms. This was picked up as the top news story on KFSM news (CBS Channel 5), and [we provided a statement](#) regarding this unconstitutional piece of legislation.

"We oppose the government injecting religion into public places. This is a clear violation of the Establishment Clause, as this legislation clearly favors one religion. Our organization, in conjunction with other secular organizations, will continue to push back against Act 573." -Chris Sweeny, President of the Ozarks Chapter of the Freedom From Religion Foundation

Organizations like FFRF.org, AU.org and ACLU will remain steadfast in defending the separation between church & state, but we need to excite, motivate and activate the secular community!! We need your support! How can you help, you ask!??

1) **Participate in thought provoking discussions!** We are hosting our 4th installment of our **2025 Secular Speaker Series** this weekend with **Alessandro Terenzoni** from AU.org (the other organization litigating against Act 573). Alessandro will be speaking about the ongoing legal effort to push back against Christian Nationalism, including Arkansas Act 573 requiring Ten Commandments posters in all public school classrooms.

- **Saturday, October 11th at 2pm** - [Fort Smith Public Library](#) (Community Room). Register [here](#).
- **Sunday, October 12th at 1pm** - [Bentonville Community Center](#) (Magnolia Room). Register [here](#).

2) **Join us at our final tabling event** at the Fayetteville Farmers Market on Saturday, October 25th beginning at 7:30am. Come speak to the community about the importance of separation between church & state.

3) **Volunteer with our group** on the Roadside cleanup scheduled for Sunday morning, November 2nd @ 7:30am.

We welcome everyone to participate, and hope you can join us at one of our upcoming events.

Looking back at last month, our group *TURNED UP* on a lovely fall Saturday morning in September at the Fayetteville Farmers Market. With Notre Dame football in town, the crowd was electric and we had an opportunity to engage with a variety of people. These discussions are always enlightening, empowering and uplifting, and despite some differences, it's amazing how much common ground we have together as a community. Come on out and join us at our next and final Farmers Market event of 2025!



The Ozarks Chapter of FFRF tabling at the Fayetteville Farmers Market on Sunday, September 27th.

Here is our Calendar of events for the next couple of months!

October 11th (Saturday) - 2:00pm to 3:00pm (FORT SMITH)

- **2025 Secular Speaker Series with Alessandro Terenzoni** from Americans United for Separation Between Church & State (AU.org). This event will be held at the **Fort Smith Public Library** Community Room (3201 Rogers Avenue Fort Smith, AR 72903), and costs of \$5 per entrant. Please register [here](#) to secure your seat!

October 12th (Sunday) - 1:00pm to 2:00pm (BENTONVILLE)

- **2025 Secular Speaker Series with Alessandro Terenzoni** from Americans United for Separation Between Church & State (AU.org). This event will be held at the **Bentonville Community**

Center (Magnolia Room) (1101 SW Citizens Circle, Bentonville, AR 72712), and costs \$10 per entrant. Please register [here](#) to secure your seat!

October 25th (Saturday) - 7:30am to 1:00pm

- **Fayetteville Farmers Market** - come visit the secular crowd for our final Farmers Market event of the year!

November 2nd (Sunday) - 7:30am* to 11:00am (*updated time due to Daylight Savings)

- **Adopt-A-Highway Road Cleanup** - because of turning back the clocks one hour, we are now going to meet at **Onyx Coffee** (101 E Walnut Ave, Rogers, AR 72756) at ***7:30am***. We will carpool from downtown Rogers at 8:00am. The 1 mile section of road takes approximately 90 minutes to clean, and we anticipate returning to Rogers by 10:00am. Orange vests and trash bags will be provided by Benton County. For those able to join us, we recommend wearing long pants, gloves, hat, sunscreen and bug spray. While not necessary, "grabber tools" can be purchased online for ~\$10 or so. Please come support the Ozarks Chapter of FFRF by doing good in our local community!

The **Ozarks Chapter of FFRF** serves to bring together the secular community and advocate for separation between church and state. Your support, be it financial or simply showing up to one of our events, makes a meaningful impact and helps grow our cause. Please consider joining us at one of our events, or becoming a member of FFRF National and/or a member of the local Ozarks Chapter (us). We greatly appreciate our followers and supporters, and thank you for protecting the separation between church & state.

Respectfully,

Chris Sweeny

Chapter Leader - Ozarks Chapter of Freedom From Religion Foundation

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