

Faith, Freedom, and Responsibility: The Heart of What I Believe

By Herbert Williams



Being a Conservative Republican, to me, isn't about party politics or chasing headlines. It's about values — hard work, faith, freedom, and doing right by family and community. These principles guide how I live and how I see America.

Being an American means having faith in God, because our nation was built on biblical principles that remind us of moral truth and personal responsibility. Freedom is not something government gives — it's something we are born with and must protect. Those who work hard, make

good choices, and take responsibility for their lives help build stronger families and stronger communities.

Government has its place, but it shouldn't control every aspect of life. People and local communities know their needs better than distant bureaucracies ever could. Too much government weakens independence and slows innovation. Freedom works best when people have the power to make their own decisions. Just as families must budget wisely, government should spend responsibly and respect the taxpayers

who fund it. Living within our means helps protect the future for the next generation.

A safe nation is a free nation. That's why I believe in maintaining a strong, well-prepared military — not to start conflict, but to prevent it. Strength deters threats and keeps Americans safe. Faith, family, and community are the foundation of our country. They shape our values, guide how we treat others, and strengthen our sense of unity and purpose.

The free market is another cornerstone of freedom. It gives people the

opportunity to succeed through effort and creativity. Small business owners are the backbone of our economy. They create jobs, drive growth, and strengthen communities. Government should focus on removing barriers and letting people's hard work and determination lead the way.

Freedom itself lies at the center of American life. We have the right to speak freely, worship as we choose, and live by our convictions. These rights come from God, not from government, and protecting them is every citizen's duty. The rule of law en-

sures fairness and order, and those who serve in law enforcement deserve respect for their courage and commitment to keeping our communities safe.

Patriotism, to me, means gratitude and respect for the country we call home. It doesn't mean pretending America is perfect, but it does mean recognizing how blessed we are to live in a nation built on liberty and opportunity. We have a responsibility to protect those ideals for the generations that follow.

True compassion begins close to home. Local churches, charities, and

volunteers often know people's needs better than any government program ever could. Helping others out of love and responsibility brings communities together and makes our nation stronger.

At the end of the day, being a Conservative Republican means believing in America's promise — a belief rooted in faith, hard work, freedom, and responsibility. These principles have carried this nation from its founding and continue to guide us forward. They're not just political ideas; they're the values that define who we are as Americans.

Submissions still wanted to celebrate Black History Month

February is Black History Month - a time to look back on the people and events that have not only shaped our country, but to also celebrate the diversity this country was built upon.

The official theme for Black History Month 2026 in the United States is "A Century of Black History Commemorations."

This theme marks 100 years since Dr. Carter G. Woodson and the founders of what became the

Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) began the first organized observance of Black history in 1926, the precursor to Black History Month.

The focus is on reflecting a century of national commemorations of Black history — celebrating how these observances have shaped cultural understanding, education, and the recognition of Black contributions and experiences.

The Current plans to celebrate Black History Month 2026 with the commemoration of the former South Fulton Rosenwald High School, its teachers and students.

Those with historical photos, stories, personal anecdotes and more are invited to share them with The Current as part of our 2026 Black History Month feature.

We will be accepting submissions until Feb. 20. Space will be limited and

items selected will run on a "first come, first served" basis.

Submissions may be emailed to benita@thecurrent.press or brought to The Current office during regular business hours, Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. To ensure that we don't miss your visit, it is suggested to call ahead to The Current office at (270) 472-1121 or reach out via email and set up a time to drop by. (Any

photos or documents left with us will be handled with the utmost care and may be picked up at the office the Thursday after it is featured.)

The gymnasium is all that remains of the once-thriving South Fulton Rosenwald School, which closed its doors following the integration of Obion County Schools. The entire campus, except for the gymnasium, was lost to a fire just one year after closing. Nearly six decades later, the legacy of the school will carry on.

For more information on the feature contact Megan Dame at benita@thecurrent.press, (270) 472-

1121, or at The Current office at 214 Main St. in downtown Fulton.

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FISD Board of Education to meet Feb. 11

The Fulton Independent School District Board of Education will meet in special called session on Wed., Feb. 11 at 5:30 p.m. at the Board of Education office located at 304 West State Line.

The meeting is open to the public.

The following items are listed on the meeting's agenda: I. Call To Order; II. Opening Prayer; III. Pledge Of Allegiance; IV. Our Mission; V. Approval

Of The Agenda; VI. Roll Call; VII. Minutes; IX. Communications / Consent Items, A. Top Banana Awards, B. ASAP, C. FRY-SC Activities Update, D. Food Service Report, and E. Fundraising Requests; Adjourn.

X. Personnel, A. Personnel Report; XI. Action Items, A. Frysc CPP, B. Financial Reports And Orders Of The Treasurer; XII. Public Comments Citizens and Delegations; And XIII. Adjourn.

Agenda listed for Feb. 12 Tourism meeting

Fulton Tourism Commission will meet Thurs., Feb. 12, at 5 p.m. in the Fulton City Hall Small Conference room. The meeting is open to the public.

The following items are

listed on the meeting's agenda: 1. Call to Order; 2. Roll Call; 3. Approval of Minutes, Approval of minutes from the previous meeting; 4. Financial Reports; 5. Old Business, Wayfinding Grant

Application, Christmas Event Review, Disc Golf Course Update, First Tournament will be in June of 2026, and 2% Restaurant Tax Updates; 6. New Business, 2026 Tourism Commission meeting dates

published per KRS, Farmers Market certified Kentucky Proud, WIC Program, and Senior Vouchers, and Executive Session in compliance with KRS 61.810; 7. Other Business; and 8. Adjournment.

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