



WE ARE MINNESOTA

Minnesota became a state in 1858. By this, Minnesotans joined themselves to the greatest country on earth, the United States of America.

At that time in US history, debate raged about slavery, culture, economics, taxes—including tariffs. Lines of division ran deeply, eventually fueling the Civil War that took as many as 750,000 lives.

Eighty years before the Civil War, in 1787, Benjamin Franklin answered the question, “What type of government have you given us?” with “A Republic, if you can keep it.” The Civil War tested what type of nation we could and would be.

When our Republic stood on the verge of failure, Minnesotans made the right decision. Even though the existing political parties in Minnesota were so divided that neither would sign its draft of the Minnesota Constitution presented to the US Congress for ratification, Common Sense prevailed. It was Common Sense that propelled our State’s founders to create this Republic, to embody its principles of Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness, and to join with other states as one nation under God.

Minnesota became part of this Union as a “free state” and survived that looming civil war, going on to grow into one of the most vital states in this Republic.

The Preamble of Minnesota’s Constitution states, “We, the people of the State of Minnesota, grateful to God for our civil and religious liberty, and desiring to perpetuate its blessings and secure the same to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution.” Then, as did our Founders, Minnesotans understood that our liberties come from God. They do not come from the government. This is why I am running to be the next Governor of Minnesota.

In 1980, Minnesota and a handful of other States made the wrong decision by not voting for Ronald Reagan as President of the United States. Again, in 1984, only Minnesota and the District of Columbia repeated that mistake. How could that happen? How could these two units within our great republic not see and support Ronald Reagan’s “shining city on a hill,” a reference drawn from both John Winthrop’s 1630 sermon and Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount?

A sinister fog had lulled Minnesotans to sleep, and in that sleep Common Sense

evaporated. This fog continues to delude and invade the common sense of too many Americans, and specifically Minnesotans. However, together we thank Almighty God that the wind has shifted. The fog is clearing. Common Sense is now being restored to this great Union.

A division that has ravaged American politics for decades can now be eradicated if Common Sense prevails. I have written a document called "Common Sense for Minnesota" for your consideration and as the basis for my campaign. But meantime, I trust that excerpts from my personal story will also convince you to support my candidacy.

I humbly believe that, like many others who are being made aware today, God called me to come to the aid of the Kingdom in such a time as this. My father and mother were 60 and 50, respectively, when I was born, the last of their eight children. My father, born in 1892, came to these United States from Slovenia (then Austria/Hungary) before World War I, fleeing tyranny, forced conscription, and a prohibition of marriage for men under 25 years of age. He completed the legal process of naturalization and became a United States citizen, thereby honoring our republican form of government.

All eight of my parents' children and subsequently over 200 descendants extending to the 5th generation enjoy the blessings of our Republic, even while our culture has been collapsing. But now, we have the opportunity to restore our culture and perpetuate our freedoms if we continue to Make Minnesota Great Again, and join with tens of millions across the country pledged to Make America Great Again. It will take hard work and sacrifice, and maybe others, like Charlie Kirk, will give up their life, liberty, and sacred honor to rebuild a great state and nation.

My wife Julia and I have been fighting cultural collapse over our 52 years of marriage, and since our acceptance of Christ as our personal Savior in 1973. Many issues testify to this collapse. Let me highlight two:

The first is **public education**. We chose to homeschool our children after our daughter came home from 2nd grade with a public-school library book, *Heather Has Two Mommies*,ⁱ one of the first LGBTQ stories, which apparently aimed to normalize the mindset defined by its title. I support public education tied to the historic roots of our culture, not to an evolving, morally relative decay.

A second issue is **abortion**, based on a woman's right to choose. Not only has the historic practice of medicine prohibited abortion, but modern medical science has progressively demonstrated the validity of life before birth. Our Declaration of Independence names Life as the first unalienable Right endowed to us by our Creator. It is to secure these rights that Governments are instituted among men. With *Dobbs v. Jackson*, the Supreme Court returned this issue to the States.

This means that Minnesota has the opportunity to protect the life of the unborn, but in 2023, we went far off track on this, with the DFL granting a right to abortion without restrictions up to the day of birth.

I pray that all Minnesotans may experience blessings comparable to those which Julia and I have witnessed: our seven living children getting married, becoming gainfully employed homeowners and taxpayers, and, for the most part, being active in their Christian faith, raising our 30-plus grandchildren and great-grandchildren. To protect our posterity from the abortionists and from cultural collapse, the DFL candidates must be defeated.

I first started following Charlie Kirk and other Real America's Voice participants months ago. That is when I finally began to witness the principles Julia and I have been propagating through our Gospel ministry over the past 50 years... the Kingdom of God in the marketplace of ideas. During these years, we have been encouraging young people to marry, have large families, and bring their Christian culture into all aspects of their lives, including politics.

I do not believe the present slate of GOP candidates for Governor can defeat far-left DFLers, especially Amy Klobuchar. First, anyone who can beat her must either be a follower of Jesus Christ or someone who fully supports and includes Judeo/Christian values as the basic premise of a culture that has secured our freedom and produced our Constitutional Republic. Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness, among other unalienable rights, must be recognized and preserved for all people so that our unique government may continue.

I believe that I am particularly (and providentially) suited to lead the cause for life and liberty in Minnesota. Since our greatest battle has always been cultural and spiritual, we must live by truth, from which common sense is formed. Hence, as I've already mentioned, That is why I wrote a clear statement about all this in "Common Sense for Minnesota."

Concerning the compromise of values, it has been evident in how we view abortion in the civil debate. In the last election cycle, while given the public platform to defend the unborn, Republican candidate Scott Jensen, who was suited both in his Christian testimony and medical/scientific training to protect life, failed to press the case for the truth, of which we hold the high ground both morally and empirically. Our candidate must be prepared to do that.

Regarding COVID and the shutdowns, our previous candidates and existing elected officials should have aggressively initiated and pursued legal action to protect and reinstate our civil and religious liberties. My appeals to them often came back with platitudes rather than action. We cannot use the heavy hand of government to shut down our liberty for months far past what was necessary.

The same extends to the breakdown of law and order in the wake of George Floyd's death. My own denomination, which hosted George Floyd's funeral, gave the Rev. Al Sharpton a platform. It saddened me that the same platform was not given within our denomination to those of us who decried the breakdown of law and order that ensued.

My visit and other appeals to State Legislators concerning the Convention of States initiative fell on deaf ears. Most of the legislators to whom I spoke didn't even understand or were aware of Article V. of our U.S. Constitution. I could not find anyone willing to sponsor the discussion on the Senate or House floor, often claiming they lacked sufficient "political capital" to spend on the issue. And yet two of them promised to be co-sponsors if the other first sponsored it. This is what one faces in Minnesota's political climate.

These and other instances are examples of why our culture must be confronted.

Most recently, Charlie Kirk's assassination is awakening a righteous sleeping giant who, sadly, has slumbered far too often in a complacent culture; that giant represents the common sense of people in Minnesota. Coincidentally, I am endeavoring to defeat another giant, the modern-day DFL and its destructive philosophy. If my dad were living, he would be astonished at the new socialist/Marxist, anti-moral culturalists behind the philosophy of their candidates,

including Amy Klobuchar.

As Governor, I will do so like the shepherd boy David, who could not go forth in the armor of King Saul, but instead donned that which God gave him when he said to Goliath, “You come to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to you in the name of the Lord, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied”. 1 Samuel 17:45.

For those who have been misguided to believe that religious convictions have no place in the political arena, I say to you, study the First Amendment to our Constitution in its historical context. You will find that the establishment clause referred to not allowing a particular Christian sect to be sanctioned by Congress, as was the case of the Church of England in Great Britain. The free exercise clause also refers to Christian thought, which was the most prevalent at the time. The statement “separation of church and state” originates from a letter by Thomas Jefferson to the Danbury Baptist Association in 1802, not from the U.S. Constitution itself. In the letter, Jefferson used the metaphor of a “wall of separation between church and state” to assure the Baptists that the First Amendment protected against the government establishing a national religion.

I am told that two groups in Minnesota hold the power to elect a constitutional conservative as governor of this state. Each of these groups numbers up to 1.5 million. MAGA Republicans constitute the first group. Non-voting Christians constitute the second group. I also believe that there are still Reagan Democrats who have not voted in recent elections. In addition, I will be going into the heart of immigrant communities to educate them as to what American citizenship is all about, in contrast to the propaganda of Ilhan Omar and the unpatriotic views of Catholic Charities and Lutheran Social Services. I will attempt to win the favor of each of these constituencies. I will also go boldly into our metro areas and school campuses with this message because together WE ARE MINNESOTA!

ⁱ Newman, L. (1989). *Heather Has Two Mommies*. Alyson Wonderland.