

**CHARLES COLSON RADIO COMMENTARY**  
**“SAME-SEX MARRIAGE AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY:**  
**WHY THEY CAN’T CO-EXIST”**

(read his radio commentary regularly by subscribing to  
 Prison Fellowship’s free email service at [www.breakpoint.org](http://www.breakpoint.org))

As more states—like Iowa—approve same-sex “marriage,” conservatives are claiming that freedom of religion is in peril. Same-sex “marriage” supporters accuse them of engaging in hysterical gay-baiting. Who’s telling the truth?

Let me share some stories with you from an excellent news broadcast produced by National Public Radio. Then you decide.

Two women decided to hold their civil union ceremony at a New Jersey pavilion owned by the Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association. This Methodist group told the women they could not “marry” in any building used for religious purposes. The Rev. Scott Hoffman said a theological principle—that marriage can only exist between one man and one woman—was at stake.

The women filed a discrimination complaint with the New Jersey Division of Civil Rights. The Methodists said the First Amendment protected their right to practice their faith without being punished by the government. But punish the Methodists is exactly what New Jersey did. It revoked their tax exemption—a move that cost them \$20,000.

Then there’s the case of the Christian physicians who refused to provide in vitro fertilization treatment to a woman in a lesbian relationship. The doctors referred her to their partners, who were willing to provide the treatment. But that wasn’t good enough. The woman sued. The California Supreme Court agreed with the woman, saying that the doctors’ religious beliefs didn’t give them the right to refuse the controversial treatment.

In Massachusetts, Catholic Charities was told they had to accept homosexual couples in their adoption service, or get out of the adoption business. They chose correctly—get out of the business.

In Mississippi, a mental health counselor was sued for refusing to provide therapy to a woman looking to improve her lesbian relationship. The counselor’s employers fired her—a move that was backed up by the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

In New York, the Albert Einstein College of Medicine at Yeshiva University refused to allow same-sex couples to live in married student housing, in keeping with the school’s orthodox Jewish teachings. But in 2001, the New York State Supreme Court forced them to do so anyway—even though New York has no same-sex “marriage” law.

In Albuquerque, a same-sex couple asked a Christian wedding photographer to film their commitment ceremony—and sued the photographer when she declined. An online adoption service was forced to stop doing business in California when a same-sex couple sued the service for refusing, on religious grounds, to assist them.

Convinced? Clearly, homosexual “marriage” and religious liberty cannot co-exist—because gay activists will not allow them to. As marriage expert Maggie Gallagher puts it, same-sex “marriage” advocates claim that religious faith “itself is a form of bigotry.”

Tune in tomorrow, for I want you to learn how you can help protect both our religious rights and marriage itself. I know this may sound alarmist, but it’s true. If we don’t work to stop this juggernaut, we may soon find ourselves hunted down at work, at school, and even at church—as others have been—by those determined to force us to accept as a moral good what God calls evil.

**THIS WEEK AT LOPC May 17 – May 23**

Today	9:00 am - 10:00 am 10:00 am - 10:25 am 10:30 am - 11:30 am 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Sunday School; Nursery Fellowship; Library Open Worship; Children’s Church; Worship/ <b>Communion</b>
Mon	11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Ladies Encouragement Group
Wed	3:00 pm - 5:00 pm 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	“Knit-Wits” (Parlor) Family night dinner & ministries
Thurs	6:30 am - 7:30 am 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Men’s Son-rise Study/Breakfast Home Bible Studies
Sat	7:00 am- 8:00 am	Sat. Prayer Group (CE Bldg)

**CHRISTIAN COUNSELING CENTER**

Here at LOPC, by appointment only (582-5686)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES**

2s and 3s	Vicki Backus
Pre - K	Jinny Keller
Grades 1 - 2	Tom & Margaret Doyle
Grades 3 - 5	Terry & Betty Kennedy
Teens	Charlie Gauger

**Adult Classes:**

- Bible Doctrine* (CE Bldg)
- Christian Living* (CE Bldg)
- Scripture Content* (CE Bldg.)
- Women’s Leadership* (parlor)

**NURSERY**

***During Sunday School***

May 17 – Christy Gauger; Gemma Kibben  
 May 24 – Carol Brandt; Betty Roff

***During Worship (0-2 yrs)***

May 17 – Carol Kirkwood; Martha Mattson  
 May 24 – Maria Osso; Peggy Sprinkle

***During Worship (2-3 yrs)***

May 17 – Sharon Virkler; Caroline Tate  
 May 24 – Jeanne Mejeur; Emily Wade

***Children’s Church (4 yrs-3rd grade)***

May 17 – Teacher-Carol Brandt; Helper – Melissa Myers  
 May 24 – Teacher-Lisa Lennon; Helper- Caroline Tate

**WELCOMING YOU TODAY**

**Greeters:** Jane Burhans; Betty Figari

**Ushers:** Thomas Kauper, Dave Wade, Ron Backus  
 Chris Kibben, John Brandt

**FLOWERS**

The floral arrangement today is presented to the Glory of God.

**Flower dates open: June 14, 28**

**A RECORD OF FAITHFULNESS ... GOD’S and OURS**

Last Sunday, May 10

Attendance	Ministry Fund	Missions Fund	Emergency Fund	Other	Total
247	\$8,953	\$1,703	\$145	\$60	\$10,861

**Honoring graduates** next Sunday morning. Please contact the office this week with names of those who have graduated (either in January or this spring) from high school, college, seminary, or trade school. We want to public recognize them and pray for God’s blessing on their future during our morning worship.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome!** We are glad to have you as our guest today. Please fill out one of the blue cards in the pews and place it in the offering plate. Be sure to log on to our website [www.LOPCA.org](http://www.LOPCA.org). Sunday sermons can be heard by clicking the "Sermons On-Line" link, and CDs may be ordered by calling the church office (582-5686) or by requesting a copy on one of the blue attendance cards. Full text versions of the sermons are also available on the website.

**Pastor Roff's messages** continue with Sunday morning and evening audio available on-line. There are also full manuscripts of the morning sermons.

Morning series – *Nehemiah: rebuilding our spiritual walls*

Evening series – *Essentials of the Reformed faith*

Wednesday series – *The Beatitudes: Christ living in us*

**Evening Worship tonight** will include a number of special elements, including the Lord's Supper. Carl Ashley will show us video of the performance of his anthem in Moscow, and Charlie Gauger and the teens will show us some slides as a preview of their summer mission trip.

**Women in the Church** council members are inviting any/all ladies who would like to join them each Sunday in the Parlor before the 10:30 am service for a time of prayer. **Attention Ladies!** The Wednesday night ladies study will not start again until June 3.

**Wednesday Family Night Dinner and Ministries** begins with our catered dinner at 6 pm. Menu: chicken parmesan w/ spaghetti, salad, garlic rolls and dessert. Dinner price: \$5.00 adult/teens; \$2.50 child 3- 12 yrs; \$15 family maximum. Bring a friend, /neighbor at no cost for first visit! Reservations are always necessary for dinner, and can be made by signing up on the blue card found in the pew or by calling the church office by 10:30 on Tuesdays. Nursery is available.

**Welcoming Our Guests** - Have you noticed the location of the welcome table? The volunteers there are also beginning to make a difference! We need your help, so please contact the Outreach Team (Jay Myers) at 561-434-1537, or email him at [jay.myers@nsn.com](mailto:jay.myers@nsn.com) to volunteer for an occasional Sunday.

**Stamps for Literature Ministry** - we have been informed by the company that received your cancelled stamp donations that this program has been discontinued. We would like to thank all of you who have been faithfully saving and giving stamps over the years.

### **May 24 ... Panico Appreciation Sunday**

Including 6 pm reception in Fellowship Hall

*Join us as we express our gratitude for the wonderful ministry John and Tiffany have had with us and our youth over the last few years*

### **May 31 ... Forester Welcome Sunday**

Including noon picnic in John Prince Park  
Center Pavilion

*Join us as we welcome our new assistant to the pastor  
and director of youth ministries.*

*The deacons are organizing the picnic,  
and will appreciate your signing up in the narthex  
so that they will know how many to expect.*

*Meat and drinks will be provided.*

*You bring the rest as covered dish.*

## LOPC MISSIONS

### MTW MISSIONARIES

Clay Quarterman, <i>Ukraine</i>	Bob Tanzie, <i>Spain</i>
Don Gahagen, <i>Peru</i>	Garry Chambers, <i>Belize</i>
Ramiro Araujo, <i>Ecuador</i>	Alice Hatch, <i>MTW Atlanta</i>
Joe Fitzpatrick, <i>Puerto Rico</i>	Mike McMahan, <i>Ecuador</i>
Howard Shelden, <i>Texas</i>	Jim Patterson, <i>Philippines</i>
David Jones, <i>Sensitive region</i>	Craig Gahagen, <i>Peru</i>
Tim McKeown, <i>US Hispanic ministry</i>	Rick Aschmann, <i>Ecuador</i>

### OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Embers to a Flame

First Care

School Life

Equip India

### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH in AMERICA

Covenant College	Covenant Theological Seminary
Mission to the World	Mission to North America
Ridge Haven	Administration
PCA Chaplain Ministries	
Christian Education & Publications	

### OFFICERS

#### ELDERS

Larry Roff, *moderator*

Jay Myers, *clerk*

John Brandt

Joe Brown

Jim Forester,

David Livanec

Babe Ruth

John Stelter

Buddy Tate

David Wade,

Tom Doyle

*Don Hair, emeritus*

#### DEACONS

Charles Gauger, *chairman*

Pascal Amouzou,

*church treasurer*

Chris Kibben, *secretary*

Bob Lee,

*diaconate treasurer*

Bryan Backus

Ron Backus

Troy Bailes

Henri Dietlin

Thomas Kauper

### WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

*WIC Council*

*Melissa Backus*

*Denise Brown*

*Anna May Kinser*

*Becky Forester*

*Maria Osso*