

January 2012

Pastor-Advisory Board

Rev. Bill Bates
Destiny Christian Center, Centralia

Rev. Earl Bradley
Capital Region Ministries, Olympia

Rev. Randy Burtis
Luis Palau Crusades

Rev. Mike Fogaras
Gateway Christian Center, Olympia

Dr. Stephen Hammond
Cornerstone Bible Church, Enumclaw

Rev. Ted Hanson
Abundant Life Fellowship, Bellingham

Rev. Scott Manley
Flood The Sound, Olympia

Rev. Scott Montagne
Bayside Community Church, Kingston

Rev. Jon Oletske
Stone Church, Yakima

Rev. Ken Parsley
Church on the Move, Yakima

Rev. Jim Ripley
Neighborhood Christian Cntr, Tumwater

Rev. Reuben Sapien
The Sanctuary Church, Lynnwood

Rev. Dan Secrist
Faith Assembly of Lacey

Rev. Tim Taylor
Watchman Ministries International

Rev. Dwain Wolfe
New Horizons Christian Center, Fife

Board of Directors

Paul Middleton
Chairman, Olympia

Jim Winterstein
Secretary/Treas., Olympia

Scott Blanton
Vancouver

Bob Higley
Olympia

Dorsey Holt
Shelton

Jere Irwin
Yakima

Peggy Kirk
Montesano

Dick Raport
Camano Island

Jim Robinson
Spokane

Fred Weiss
Bellevue

Rick Forcier
Executive Director

Staff

George Gauntlett
Data Administration

Beth Davis
Accounting

Julie Gallagher
Prayer Coordinator

Rusty Howell
Field Director

Steve Matthews
Field Director

Marry a Building? Why Not?

Broad acceptance of homosexuality and other sins against one's own body are indicative of a stage IV invasion of a culture. It's not just a bad sign. It's a death rattle. —Christian Coalition, June 2009

Olympia's six openly gay lawmakers may have been too busy to attend an unusual wedding this past weekend. A remnant of "Occupy Seattle" stood outside an ageing warehouse building at 10th and Union in Seattle while Ms. Babylonia Aivaz pledged herself in matrimony. Her newly proclaimed wedded partner is (we're not making this up) the 107-year-old warehouse which is scheduled for razing and replacement with a mixed-use apartment complex.

Babylonia says she is in love with the "historic landmark" and is fighting to keep it standing. She also wants it known that the building she would save is female—making them partners in a loving, committed "gay" marriage.

So, who's to say humans should not or must not marry various and sundry objects of their peculiar "affections," including persons of the same gender? God?

Governor Christine Gregoire views marriage as a civil contract, and feels obliged as the state's chief administrator, to guide its development. She has requested that SB 6239, the "Marriage Equality" bill, be submitted for her approval at the earliest possible moment.

For the record, here is how the Marriage Equality bill starts out: *Marriage is a civil contract between ~~a male and a female~~ (two persons). Every marriage entered into in which either ~~the husband or the wife~~ (person)....*, etc. Do you like it so far?

Same-sex marriage may be a crowning achievement for the Governor, but in fairness, efforts to encourage and reward groups based on their sexual proclivities were well under way before Gregoire came to office—even with gratuitous nudges from her three immediate predecessors.

On Christmas Eve, 1984, Gov. Booth Gardner quietly signed an Executive Order giving special protection to homosexual state employees despite the fact that no known complaints or grievances had been filed by any "homosexual" employee(s). Following Gardner's example, the next governor, Mike Lowry, also in a covert manner, established a gay and lesbian mentoring program for juvenile criminal offenders in state institutions and launched committees to explore ways for homosexual "domestic partnerships" to be recognized by state government.

During Gary Locke's tenure, a Republican-controlled legislature overrode his veto of DOMA, the Defense of Marriage Act (1998), but Locke later retaliated with an Executive Order granting "gay-partner" benefits for state employees. This came about within days after legislators had closed shop and left town for the season—and after he had promised House Speaker Clyde Ballard that he wouldn't do such a thing.

Nevertheless, the current governor is due her day for a veritable cascade of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered (LGBT) bills that have been introduced and enacted on her watch. They include:

- ESHB 2661 (2006) adding “sexual orientation” to the language of state law banning discrimination in housing, employment, and finance
- SB 5336—(2007) creating a domestic partnership registry for same-sex couples and for couples where one person is at least 62-years-of-age, including substantial spousal rights
- 2SHB 3104—(2008) expanding the rights and responsibilities of domestic partners in a variety of areas including community property, estate planning, taxes, and guardianships
- SB 5688—(2009) making domestic partnerships equal to traditional marriages in every aspect of Washington law
- SB 5952—(2009) expanding the definition of “sexual orientation” under Washington Criminal Code to include “transgendered”
- HB 1267—(2011) expanding the definition of parents with regard to domestic partnerships
- HB 1649—(2011) extending domestic partnership status to out-of-state same-sex marriages

Gov. Gregoire can boast, too, that she signed perhaps the most consequential law in Washington’s 159-year legislative history. In 2006, the all-inclusive term “sexual orientation” was added to the state’s civil rights code. References to one’s genetic assignment at conception (male or female) were replaced with gender-neutral terms that allow for *persons* to be “both,” or “none-of-the-above,” as the situation requires. We testified before legislative committees at the time, that the proposal would lead us down a path of no return.

Needless to say, the homosexual lobby is a powerful political force in Washington State, racking up more “wins” in the past five-or-six years than in the previous three decades. Not long ago, it would have been unlikely that a bill like *Domestic partners/parentage* would have received a hearing much less be passed into law. But last year, homosexual activists convinced lawmakers that a child’s parents aren’t necessarily a *mother* and a *father* or even a *man* and a *woman*. The new law now refers to parents as “two adults,” and places “intent of relationships” on a par with biological considerations. Our advice: know your babysitter.

One effort that didn’t work out for radical activists last year was a proposal to legalize for-hire gestational surrogate pregnancies (see “Wombs for Rent,” *Christian Coalition*, April, 2011). But similar to other slow starters such as “anti-bullying” and “comprehensive sex-education” which eventually ignited, *wombs for rent* will be back. It will be useful in advancing and mainstreaming homosexuality and other non-normative behaviors throughout the culture—from the State House to the Court House to the School House.

So now comes “Marriage Equality.”

In 2009, the Legislature passed SB 5688, a landmark 110-page benefits package for domestic partners with the recurring phrase *Marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships* repeated 189 times! Upon passage, any differences between marriage and domestic partnerships vanished. Simply said, all legal entitlements that accrue to a husband and wife in a state recognized marriage also now accrue to a state recognized domestic partnership. Only the intimate procreative act that reproduces in-kind, as well as the blessings of God, are denied state-sanctioned same-sex arrangements.

Face it, the so-called “Marriage Equality” bill now on the table, is not about equality. It’s about force. And it’s about fast-tracking a divisive issue across the parking lot to the State Supreme Court. Will churches be allowed in the name of religion, to treat “engaged” same-sex couples differently than they do other protected minorities that are specifically identified in Washington State’s civil rights code? We don’t have to wonder.

Rick Forcier