



Fall Newsletter 2014



Photo by In the Garden Photography

Protecting the Family Through Prayer and Action

Anniversary of the National Anthem

“... and this be our motto - ‘in God is Our Trust’”

September 12, 2014, marked the 200th anniversary of the composition of “The Star-Spangled Banner.” The circumstances under which it was written demonstrate God’s benevolence toward our nation. Our prayer is that God’s hand will once again rest upon the United States.

It was the War of 1812 when Britain was attempting to regain its hold on the fledgling nation that it lost in 1776. The British had ransacked Washington, D.C.-burning the White House, the Capitol and other buildings. Further devastation would have occurred had Providence not sent a violent thunderstorm and tornado to impede the British vengeance.

British soldiers were next headed for Baltimore to continue the destruction. Interestingly, at a stop along the way, a Methodist missionary named Joshua Thomas was ordered to conduct church services for the troops. Understanding that these British men might be killed in the ensuing battle and this might be their last opportunity to hear the Gospel, Thomas consented.

Prior to the assault on Baltimore, a young lawyer, Francis Scott Key, was commissioned to board a British warship to negotiate the release of American prisoners. While aboard, the attack began on Fort McHenry, which defended the city of Baltimore. High above the fort proudly stood the giant flag of the United States. As the battle proceeded, Key observed, and penned the words of our now famous anthem while he strained to see the flag—the assurance that we were winning. From the “twilight’s last gleaming” and throughout the night “the rockets’ red glare, the bombs

bursting in air, gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.”

Once again, God intervened by sending a heavy rain to obstruct the vision of the enemy and dampen their cannonballs. The British retreated, and the war ended. Later, Parson Thomas was told how dying soldiers had recalled his earlier sermon and trusted in Jesus Christ: “I cast myself on the merits of the Lamb of God, and now feel at peace.” (Marshall/Manuel, “From Sea to Shining Sea,” 1986, Fleming H. Revell, page 156)



“The Star-Spangled Banner” was set to a British tune and quickly became immensely popular as it circulated around the country. The original Fort McHenry *Star-Spangled Banner* is proudly displayed in the National Museum

of American History in Washington, D.C. *The Star-Spangled Banner* officially became our national anthem on March 2, 1931. All know the first verse, but the fourth is particularly inspiring:

*O thus be it ever when free men shall stand,
Between their loved homes and the war’s desolation;
Blest with victory and peace, may the Heaven-rescued
land,
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a
nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just;
And this be our motto ‘In God is our Trust!’
And the Star Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave,
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave!*

Click [here](#) for further information.

- Linda Schauer, State Director

Encourage-A-Legislator Campaign



“... prayers, intercession ... for kings and those in authority.” – 1 Timothy 2:1

In 2015, CWA of South Dakota will begin our 16th year of prayer for our 105 state legislators. You are invited to participate in our Encourage-A-Legislator Campaign by committing to adopt a legislator and praying for him/her daily during the 40-day session. Each week you will send your legislator a CWA-provided postcard. Note your prayers for him/her, then stamp and mail the card.

To become one of 105 faithful prayer warriors, check the box on the enclosed response envelope, call Linda at 605-439-3630, or e-mail director@southdakota.cwfa.org. Please provide your name and address. Early in January, CWA of South Dakota will assign your legislator and supply you with CWA postcards and instructions.

Restoring Religious Rights

Hobby Lobby Case Takes Lead

“Let justice roll on like a river, and righteousness like a never failing stream.” - Amos 5:24

The majority of the U.S. Supreme Court in *BURWELL, SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, ET AL. v. HOBBY LOBBY STORES, INC., ET AL* decided on June 30 that citizens and corporations with religious moorings are endowed by our Constitution's First Amendment with the right to act according to conscience, especially as directed by the foundations of the faith of those who own and manage certain corporations. This 5-4 decision in favor of co-owners David and Barbara Green of Hobby Lobby has become a bellwether for our time.

Justice Ginsburg, who wrote for the dissenting Justices stated, “Indeed, until today, religious exemptions had never been extended to any entity operating in ‘the commercial profit-making world.’” The dissenting justices believe that the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) passed by Congress in 1993, as cited by the majority, was not intended to cover for-profit businesses.



According to Justice Alito, writing for the majority,

“Because RFRA applies in these cases, we must next ask whether the HHS contraceptive mandate ‘substantially burden[s]’ the exercise of religion. ... We have little trouble concluding that it does.” He noted that RFRA **does** apply to “closely held corporations.” Mario Diaz, Esq., legal counsel for Concerned Women for America noted, “There is no question that RFRA is meant to affirm our inalienable right to religious freedom as recognized in the First Amendment.”

Click [here](#) to read the entire opinion and dissent. Also, see [CWA of South Dakota's 2013 Fall Newsletter](#), page 3, for more details about the Obamacare HHS Mandate.

You will recall that this case and nearly 50 other cases defending *for-profit* businesses such as Conestoga Wood, Tyndale Publishers, along with over 50 pending lawsuits brought by non-profit religious organizations such as Little Sisters of the Poor, Wheaton College, and EWTN have been working their way up the courts since 2012. These cases are about the future of religious freedom in the U.S., since we are hearing increasingly that Christians are accused of “discriminating” against people on the basis of religious freedom.”

**Vote on
Nov. 4**

CWA Membership State & National

A donation of \$25 or more has TWO benefits: membership in CWA of South Dakota and membership in CWA national. All donations sent to CWA of South Dakota, P.O. Box 343, Leola, SD 57456 remain in South Dakota for state projects. All donations sent to CWA national in response to their mailings are utilized in Washington, D.C. Make it easy - [Click here](#) and donate online. Your renewed annual membership/additional donation is greatly appreciated. All contributions are tax-deductible.

As part and parcel of their ongoing alleged “war on women” campaign, on July 10, House and Senate Democrats put forth a bill attempting to rewrite the law, according to lead sponsor Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA) “so that the justices can't take away women's ability to make their own health care choices.” Murray’s bill, the "Protect Women’s Health from Corporate Interference Act," requires that employers who provide health benefits to their employees be barred from denying ANY (emphasis ours) specific health benefits, including contraception coverage, for employees or their covered dependents. However, this is a very deceitful use of the term “contraception,” since the four types of birth control covered by the *Hobby Lobby* case are abortifacients and not mere contraceptives. That is, these drugs have the known effect of killing an unborn child at an early stage, rather than preventing the fertilization of an egg by sperm—which is the definition of a contraceptive.

That is exactly why Hobby Lobby and others have qualms of conscience and religious liberty concerns

about providing and paying for such drugs for their employees - it involves both a pro-life and a religious issue, i.e., life begins at conception. Many fear a future requirement that all hospitals perform abortions or doctors prescribe the chemical abortion pill, RU-486.

But as of this writing, at least a small flame now burns for the future of religious liberty, while before *Hobby Lobby*, that flame had seemingly dwindled to a smolder. The Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, who represented the Greens, proclaimed on June 30, “The handwriting is on the wall. The Court has strongly signaled that the mandate is in trouble in the non-profit cases, too.”

We are hopeful that more cases will reach the Supreme Court and have favorable rulings. Let us continue in prayer for all citizens of faith to stand up for freedom when challenged by egregious laws that do not follow the Supreme Law - that of God Our Father, our dear Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

NO on Amendment Q

Amendment Q would allow roulette, keno and craps in Deadwood. The Constitution currently authorizes the Legislature to allow two kinds of games of chance

in Deadwood: limited card games and slot machines.

CWA of South Dakota has consistently opposed expansion of gambling due to its detrimental effect on families and society in general. According to the Attorney General’s explanation, “Under federal law, any games of chance authorized by the Legislature to be offered in Deadwood would also be allowed at on-reservation tribal casinos.”

We urge a NO vote on Amendment Q to deny further expansion of gambling in South Dakota.



Town of Greece v. Galloway

“Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.” - Psalm 33:12

On May 5, South Dakota claimed victory-along with 23 other states who had filed amicus briefs-when the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the right to pray at public, governmental gatherings. South Dakota’s Attorney General, Marty Jackley, was grateful for a clarification of law when he stated in a press release, “... our highest court has held today that this practice may continue with our legislature and other governmental bodies. Today’s decision reinforces that prayer is permissible at governmental gatherings so long as it does not amount to preaching and is undertaken in a manner that does not endorse or disparage a particular religion.”

Penny Nance, CWA's CEO and President expanded on that theme the day the *Town of Greece* case received its 5-4 ruling: “Religious freedom is one of our most cherished freedoms Those who object to these practices do not seek to exercise their religious liberty; they merely feel hostile towards other people’s religious practices and seek to silence ... those with whom they disagree. Everyone wins, including the staunchest atheists, when we allow the free exercise of religion or non-religion according to a person’s conscience.”

Concerned Women for America's legal arm, headed by
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Mario Diaz, Esq., submitted a “friend of the court” brief, as well, which argued that our nation's Founders relied heavily upon prayer to gain the guidance they needed to establish solid foundations for the creation of our nation: “Those who settled this country and gave birth to the First Amendment did not flee their former homes to seek solace from hurt feelings, but from true religious bondage in the form of legal compulsion to support government-favored churches.”

Here in South Dakota, you recall that the city council in Rapid City had previously been under fire by an atheist group—the same group that had targeted Greece, New York—for having a prayer said before meetings. Mayor Sam Kooiker and City Attorney Joel Landeen now believe that the *Greece v. Galloway* decision offers the protection needed to eliminate further threats of lawsuits against Rapid City.

When the first Congress met on September 7, 1774, it

began with an amazing prayer “in the name and through the merits of Jesus Christ, Thy Son and our Savior.” No religious oppression or favoritism followed from that practice, only the blessings of freedom and liberty, including the freedom of religious thought, belief, or even non-belief.

In conclusion, in his *Greece v. Galloway* response to dissenting Justices Breyer, Ginsburg, Kagan and Sotomayor, Justice Samuel Alito noted, “All that the Court does today is to allow a **town** to follow a practice that we have previously held is permissible for Congress and state legislatures.” In other words, the Supreme Court only affirmed what has been historically the case. They did not legislate from the Bench.

View [CWA of South Dakota's May 7 press release](#).

- Cindy Flakoll, Legislative Liaison

Terri Jorgenson

CWA of South Dakota's NEW Education Coordinator

We are pleased to introduce Terri Jorgenson, our new CWA of South Dakota Education Coordinator. Terri hit the ground running with letters in major South Dakota newspapers exposing the latest education threat—Advanced Placement U.S. History framework. Terri and her husband reside in the Rapid City area. Be sure to keep Terri in your prayers as she represents your views all around South Dakota on education issues.

Read Terri's recent letter as printed in the *Rapid City Journal*, *Argus Leader* and *The Daily Republic*.

American History Given the Push

It's time for a Paul Revere warning about the battle for the hearts and minds of South Dakota's students. The latest skirmish is over changes to the Advanced Placement U.S. History (APUSH) course.

The College Board which administers APUSH has taken a five-page outline that complemented state U.S. history standards and replaced it with a 98-page manifesto for AP teachers. In this framework, America is no longer the “shining city on the hill” serving as a beacon of freedom.

This history minimizes the contributions of our Founding Fathers, the dreams of our civil rights leaders and the sacrifices of our military heroes. Instead, it dismisses our founding principles and focuses on failures and social divisions.

College Board President David Coleman, who is also known as the architect of Common Core, defends the new framework. He maintains that educators can teach additional materials in these voluntary AP courses. True. However, only the U.S. history presented in the College Board's version will be tested. If South Dakota teachers focus on America's founding virtues, they risk their students doing poorly on the APUSH.

Sadly, students completing the College Board's version of U.S. history, may respond, “Paul Revere, who?”



God's Model for Marriage Under Attack in South Dakota

"Do not be deceived; God cannot be mocked" - Galatians 6:7

Following the U.S. Supreme Court's 2013 decision in the *Windsor* case, which struck down Section 3 of the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), state marriage amendments in state after state have been challenged and found unconstitutional by district courts. We knew it was only a matter of time before South Dakota's marriage amendment would be contested. The attorney for six homosexual couples filed a lawsuit (*Rosenbrahn v. Daugaard*) in May challenging our South Dakota state marriage amendment.

Just this month, the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear several challenges to state marriage laws in cases from Virginia, Oklahoma, Utah, Wisconsin and Indiana. The Supreme Court has not ruled on the constitutionality of same-sex "marriage," but has merely declined to address the issue at this point in time, and that is actually better than imposing their view of marriage on the whole country.

The problem we have is that some lower courts have overstepped their bounds and ruled several state marriage amendments unconstitutional. That act of judicial activism is overturning the will of millions of Americans who voted for marriage to remain as the union between one man and

one woman. Conversely, other decisions and marriage amendments supporting natural marriage will stand. That means the battle to protect God's model for marriage will continue, and the Supreme Court will have to take the case at some point. We must continue to stand boldly for freedom of conscience and for natural marriage.



"Only marriage between a man and a woman shall be valid or recognized in South Dakota. The uniting of two or more persons in a civil union, domestic partnership, or other quasi-marital relationship shall not be valid or recognized in South Dakota."

--South Dakota Marriage Amendment

According to the Attorney General's office, Mr. Jackley states, "It remains the State's position that the institution of marriage should be defined by the voters of South Dakota and not the federal courts. This longstanding tradition and fundamental principle will now be tested in federal district court and likely the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals." Traditionally and constitutionally, marriage and family law is reserved for the states.

The cases against the various states' marriage amendments have made a mockery of God and His institution of marriage all in the name of freedom and non-discrimination. Try as we may, we cannot break down the barriers and the rules that God has set up between male and female.

PRAYER ALERT: Pray that the Courts and our nation will not defy God's perfect design for marriage. Pray for Mr. Jackley as he defends our state marriage amendment.



Contact Your State Legislators

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When e-mailing your elected officials, be sure to provide your name and mailing address (street, city, state, zip code). They will disregard your e-mail if this information is not included. Please e-mail only one legislator at a time.

The Facts About Common Core

“The philosophy of the school room in one generation will be the philosophy of government in the next.”
—Abraham Lincoln

Have you noticed a difference in your children’s or grandchild’s school work recently? It could be due to the implementation of Common Core.

The Common Core “State” Standards Initiative:

- ◆ **is a governmental overhaul of our education system** to create national K-12 standards.
- ◆ **was created by liberal, private insiders in Washington, D.C.** as an incentive to states in exchange for a waiver of No Child Left Behind requirements.
- ◆ **is not constitutionally sound**, since the power to set education standards is reserved to the states. By accepting Common Core, South Dakota was essentially bribed by the federal government to relinquish this right.
- ◆ **is a “one-size-fits-all” scheme of untested**, unvetted standards never voted on by our state legislature but adopted by the appointed South Dakota Board of Education (SDBOE). Both students and teachers are participating in an absolute experiment.
- ◆ **is a high-tech intrusive system to track student performance and personal data.** *“Hopefully, some day, we can track children from preschool to high school and from high school to college and college to career.”* (2009, Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of Education)
- ◆ **is a lowering of education standards** that will prepare students for low-level programs to produce “workers,”



instead of educating them to be thoughtful, intellectually-sound, well-informed citizens.

- ◆ **is a precursor to a national curriculum and tests.** Bill Gates, the impetus behind Common Core, stated, *“We will only know if this effort has succeeded when the **curriculum** and **tests** are aligned to these standards.”* (July 28, 2009, National Conference of State Legislators)

Common Core standards, curriculum and assessments in math and English language arts have been implemented in South Dakota, and Next Generation Science (Common Core), in use in several school districts, was not officially adopted by the SDBOE.

“The advocates of the Common Core say, if you like local control of your schools, you can keep it, period. If you like your local curriculum, you can keep it, period - and people don't believe them for very good reasons. ... This is a thin end of an enormous wedge of federal power. ...” (May 5, 2014, George Will)

ACT ON THE FACTS:

1. Educate yourself and others.
2. Document your child’s objectionable lessons.
3. Know where the candidates stand.

“Stop Common Core!” Postcard Project

1. Place 34-cent stamp on enclosed postcard.
2. Add brief, respectful note opposing Common Core or telling how it has affected your child.
3. Sign postcard and include your address.
4. Attach postcard to your November calendar as a reminder to mail.
5. Mail postcard to Governor during last week of November (the week the South Dakota Board of Education adopted Common Core in 2010). Address it to The Honorable Dennis Daugaard, 500 East Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501.
6. Contact Linda at (605) 380-6914 or director@southdakota.cwfa.org to obtain additional postcards for friends.
7. Pray this project will greatly impact our Governor.

