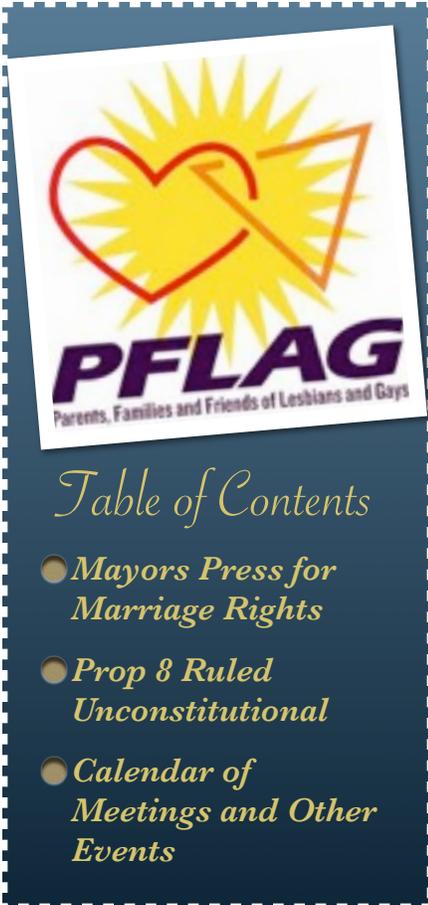


F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 1

PFLAG^{of} Door County

5-6:30PM THE 3RD SUNDAY AT HOPE CHURCH, STURGEON BAY



A UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS DECLARES CALIFORNIA'S PROPOSITION 8 UNCONSTITUTIONAL

A three-judge panel for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ruled the state's ban on same-sex marriage as unconstitutional .

California voters approved Proposition 8 after a California state court legalized gay marriage. Proponents of gay marriage then challenged the constitutionality of Proposition 8, itself, in federal court. A federal district court judge had ruled that a ban on gay marriage as set forth in Proposition 8 was unconstitutional. On February 7, the federal district court's ruling was upheld by the United States Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit.

The ruling read, in part, "Proposition 8 serves no purpose, and has no effect, other than to lessen the status and human dignity of gays and lesbians in California, and to officially reclassify their relationships and families as inferior to those of opposite-sex couples."

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BIG-CITY MAYORS PRESS FOR SAME-SEX MARRIAGE RIGHTS

**By Laura Meckler in The
Wall Street Journal,
January 18, 2012**

The mayors of several big cities, including Chicago, New York, Boston and Los Angeles, are joining together to support same-sex marriage rights, a

move that could put additional pressure on President Barack Obama to do the same.

The effort is being organized by Freedom to Marry, an advocacy group that plans a news conference Friday in Washington, D.C., featuring

mostly Democratic mayors and one Republican, Jerry Sanders of San Diego. Like others, Mr. Sanders has stated his views before, but organizers hope that their effort to join some 70 mayors together will give the issue a political boost.

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A UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS DECLARES CALIFORNIA'S PROPOSITION 8 UNCONSTITUTIONAL

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Supporters of gay marriage hailed the ruling. American Foundation for Equal Rights President Chad Griffin, who formed the group along with director Rob Reiner to wage the court fight against Proposition 8, called the panel's decision "a historic victory."

"The message it sends to young LGBT people, not only here in California but across the country, (is) that you can't strip away a fundamental right," Griffin said.

The three-judge panel voted 2 to 1 in favor of removing the ban on gay marriages. The supporters of Proposition 8 have time to appeal the ruling to larger panel (i.e., 9 judges) of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. Until the deadline passes for that appeal to be filed, the appeals court said that gay marriages cannot resume in California.

Most legal analysts believe that the issue of gay marriages and how far a state can go in regulating them will be decided ultimately by the United States Supreme Court.

BIG-CITY MAYORS PRESS FOR SAME-SEX MARRIAGE RIGHTS

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"By joining the group, mayors hope to expand public and political support for ending the exclusion of same-sex couples from marriage," the mayors' group said in a statement.

The mayors planning to attend Friday's news conference include Annise Parker of Houston, Thomas Menino of Boston, Antonio R. Villaraigosa of Los Angeles and Marilyn Strickland of Tacoma, Wash. Michael Bloomberg of New York and Rahm Emanuel of Chicago, Mr. Obama's first White House chief of staff, have also joined the effort.

Mr. Obama has given mixed messages about the issue, and many suspect he will keep it that way through the November election.

When he ran for president in 2008, Mr. Obama opposed to gay and lesbian marriages. He has said

the matter should be decided by each state-- knowing that most states have banned the marriages. But he has also spoken warmly about those states that have legalized same-sex marriage and passionately about the need to treat gays and lesbians equally. He also directed his Justice Department to stop defending the Defense of Marriage Act, which bars federal benefits for same-sex unions. The President has said his own views on marriage are evolving, leading many on both sides of the issues to

conclude that he now supports marriage rights but is holding back for political reasons.

When pressed for his personal view at a news conference last year, he said he was not going to "make news on that today."

Calendar of Meetings and Other Events

Appleton

PFLAG of Appleton

PFLAG of Appleton meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Appleton Harmony Café, 233 College Avenue at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please email: pflagappleton@gmail.com.

Valued Families

(Support Group for LGBTQ parents with children)

Note: this group disbanded in late 2010. If anyone would like more information about this group or similar groups in the area, please call Jesse Heffernan, 920-734-CAFÉ (2233).

Spectrum

(LGBTQ and allied social group 18 years and up)
Spectrum meets Mondays from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at Harmony Café--Fox Valley, 233 East College Avenue, Appleton, WI 54911, 920 734-2233.

[See also under Green Bay below]



JUNE AND SHIRLEY
"We can't believe they did that!"
on the Packers' loss during the January meeting

Door County

PFLAG Door County

PFLAG Door County meets on the 3rd Sunday of every month at 5:00 p.m. at the Hope UCC Church, 12th and Michigan, Sturgeon Bay. For more information:

www.pflagdoorcounty.org or
Richard_gardiner2001@yahoo.com

GBLT Partnership

(Offers leadership development and support for teens ages 14-18)

GBLT Partnership meets weekly on Tuesdays from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Harmony Café--Fox Valley, 233 College Avenue, Appleton, WI 54911. Tel. 920-734-2233.

[See also under Green Bay below]

Calendar of Meetings and Other Events

Green Bay

Conversation Cafe

The following happens at the Harmony Café (West Mason Street (next to Toys R Us)): Conversation Café takes place every Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., hosted by Cricket. For a complete list of the services provided by the Harmony Café, click on the following link: www.focol.org/harmonycafe/

The Green Bay Transgender Group

(The Green Bay Transgender group meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the Harmony Café.

Spectrum

(LGBTQ and allied social group 18 years and up) Spectrum meets Tuesdays from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at Harmony Café, Green Bay, 1660 West Mason Street, Green Bay, WI 54303. Tel. 920-569-1593.

[See also under Appleton above.]

Manitowoc PFLAG Manitowoc County

PFLAG Manitowoc County meets the 1st Thursday of the month from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the St. James Church, 434 N. 8th St.

GBLT Partnership

GBLT Partnership (Offers leadership development and support for teens ages 14-18)

GBLT Partnership meets weekly on Mondays from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Harmony Café-Green Bay, 1660 West Mason Street, Green Bay, WI 54303. Tel. 920-569-1593.

[See also under Appleton above.]

LaCrosse

PFLAG LaCrosse

PFLAG LaCrosse meets every Tuesday starting at 6:30 p.m. at the LGBT Resource Center of the 7 Rivers Region. www.7riverslgbt.org

Adult-Gay/Straight Alliance of Green Bay

A-GSA, Adult Gay/Straight Alliance of Green Bay, is a new advocacy group located

in Green Bay for families and friends of persons who identify as GLBT.

A-GSA provides opportunities for dialogue about topics related to sexual orientation. All sessions are respectful, nonjudgmental, and strictly confidential. A-GSA charges no fees. All are welcome.

Meetings are 6:00-8:00pm, second Tuesday of the month (September through May)

"The English Room" at the Union

Congregational United Church of Christ

716 S. Madison St. Green Bay, WI 54301

Contacts: Michele Becker, 920-432-1283 or

Robin, 920-468-2521.

Calendar of Meetings and Other Events

Madison

PFLAG Madison

Straight Spouse Group

PFLAG Madison meets the 3rd Sunday every month except June, July and August, from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.

The Straight Spouse Group meets at 4:00 p.m., immediately following the PFLAG Group meeting.

See www.pflag-madison.org for directions and agenda topics.

Point

PFLAG Point

PFLAG Point meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

No permanent meeting place has been determined. Link on the following for more information: www.pflagpoint.com or phone 715-572-6922.

Milwaukee

PFLAG Milwaukee

PFLAG Milwaukee meets on the 3rd Sunday of every month at 5:00 p.m. at the Martin Luther Church in Milwaukee. See the following for more information:

www.milwaukee-pflag.org.

Oshkosh

PFLAG of Greater Oshkosh

PFLAG of Greater Oshkosh meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 137 Algoma Blvd. in Oshkosh. Contact information: pflagoshkosh@gmail.com.

Washburn

PFLAG Washburn

PFLAG Washburn meets on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. on the lower level of the Washburn Public Library, 307 Washington Avenue, Washburn. For further information, please call 715-209-1100.

Newsletter Contact Information:

PFLAG Sturgeon Bay/Door County
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235
920-421-8875

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E-mail: pflag@doorcounty.com

Also find us on Facebook: PFLAG Door County

Editor/Secretary: Beth Mitchell benmitche@mac.com

If you would like to be removed from the PFLAG e-mail list, please let us know by replying to this e-mail and we will remove your address.