

# Religious liberty, SNL from home, and a conversation with John Inazu

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## ERLC PODCAST EPISODE

In this episode, Josh, Lindsay, and Brent discuss what sports will be coming back first, SNL's new set up for social distancing, Apple's new budget iPhone, government restrictions and religious liberty. Lindsay also gives a rundown of this week's ERLC content including a piece from Joe Carter on When will our church buildings reopen, Aaron Mercer on coronavirus testing international religious freedom, Melissa Affolter and Jonathan Holmes on how to help the rise of domestic abuse, and Jeff Pickering with a Q&A for churches on government restrictions with a religious liberty attorney. Also in this episode, the hosts are joined by John Inazu for a conversation about life and ministry.

## About John

John Inazu is the Sally D. Danforth Distinguished Professor of Law and Religion at Washington University in St. Louis. He is the author of *Liberty's Refuge: The Forgotten Freedom of Assembly* (<https://www.amazon.com/Libertys-Refuge-Forgotten-Freedom-Assembly/dp/0300173156>) and *Confident Pluralism: Surviving and Thriving Through Deep Difference* (<https://www.amazon.com/Confident-Pluralism-Surviving-Thriving-Difference/dp/022636545X>), and he authored *Uncommon Ground* (<https://www.amazon.com/Uncommon-Ground-Living-Faithfully-Difference/dp/1400219604>) with Tim Keller. You can follow him on Twitter: @JohnInazu (<http://www.twitter.com/JohnInazu>)

## ERLC Content

- **Joe Carter** with When will our church buildings reopen? (<https://erlc.com/resource-library/articles/when-will-our-church-buildings-reopen>)
- **Aaron Mercer** with The coronavirus pandemic is testing international religious freedom commitments (<https://erlc.com/resource-library/articles/the-coronavirus-pandemic-is-testing-international-religious-freedom-commitments>)
- **Melissa Affolter** and **Jonathan Holmes** with How to help during the rise of domestic abuse due to social isolation (<https://erlc.com/resource-library/articles/how-to-help-during-the-rise-of-domestic-abuse-due-to-social-isolation>)
- **Jeff Pickering** with A Q&A for churches on government restrictions with a religious liberty attorney: Navigating the tension between church and state during a pandemic (<https://erlc.com/resource-library/articles/a-q-and-a-for>)

## Culture

1. Deadly tornadoes sweep across the South on Easter Sunday
2. Amazon announced it is now “creating an additional 75,000 jobs to help serve customers during this unprecedented time.”  
(<https://www.thestreet.com/investing/amazon-hires-additional-workers-coronavirus-pandemic>)
3. Universities begin considering canceling in-person classes until 2021  
(<https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/14/us/university-may-cancel-classes-fall-2021-trnd/index.html>)
4. 22 million Americans  
(<https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/16/economy/unemployment-benefits-coronavirus/index.html>) have filed for unemployment benefits in the last four weeks
5. Large pork processing facility in the US is closing until further notice  
(<https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/12/business/meat-plant-closures-smithfield/index.html>)
6. Walmart CEO says we're in the 'hair color' phase of panic buying  
(<https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/11/business/panic-buying-walmart-hair-color-coronavirus/index.html>)
7. Highest one-day death count  
(<https://twitter.com/ryanstruyk/status/1250235097653133312?s=21>) since coronavirus outbreak in US
8. EU countries take first cautious steps  
(<https://apple.news/Ai0JqKHV4QqCl4cnlbAQMfg>) out of coronavirus

lockdown

9. South Koreans head to the polls

(<https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/15/asia/south-korea-election-intl-hnk/index.html>) despite coronavirus outbreak

10. Apple unveils new budget iPhone

(<https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/15/tech/iphone-se/index.html>)

11. PGA Tour (<https://www.golfdigest.com/story/sources-pga-tour-to-announce-june-restart-to-2020-season>) to announce June restart to 2020

season

12. MLB's plan (<https://www.cbssports.com/mlb/news/mlbs-plan-to-have-30-teams-in-arizona-might-be-most-viable-path-to-2020-season-report-says/>)

to have 30 teams in Arizona

13. XFL files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy

([https://www.espn.com/xfl/story/\\_/id/29030763/xfl-files-chapter-11-bankruptcy-suspending-operations](https://www.espn.com/xfl/story/_/id/29030763/xfl-files-chapter-11-bankruptcy-suspending-operations))

14. Wisdom from Tom Hanks for cast aways and neighbors during the

pandemic (<https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/14/entertainment/tom-hanks-movies-wisdom-project-wellness/index.html>)

15. 'SNL' (<https://www.cnn.com/videos/media/2020/04/12/snl-from-home-tom-hanks-4-12-orig.cnn/video/playlists/business-film-and-tv/>)

airs new episode from cast's homes

## Lunchroom

- **Lindsay:** Getty Family Hymn Sing LIVE – every Tuesday at 7:15 PM CT  
(<https://www.facebook.com/gettymusic>)
- **Josh:** T4G | Southeastern Symposium

- **Brent:** [You Probably Need a Haircut](https://www.newschannel5.com/news/national/coronavirus/hair-getting-long-while-social-distancing-cut-it-yourself-with-the-help-of-this-website)  
(<https://www.newschannel5.com/news/national/coronavirus/hair-getting-long-while-social-distancing-cut-it-yourself-with-the-help-of-this-website>)

## ERLC Inbox

- Q: What do I do if my church thinks our religious freedoms are being threatened?

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([https://www.thegoodbook.com/where-is-god-in-a-coronavirus-world?utm\\_source=US+Newsletters&utm\\_campaign=f61b88e137-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2020\\_03\\_20\\_04\\_36\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_f61b88e137-179839881](https://www.thegoodbook.com/where-is-god-in-a-coronavirus-world?utm_source=US+Newsletters&utm_campaign=f61b88e137-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_03_20_04_36_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_f61b88e137-179839881)[f61b88e137-179839881&goal=0\\_c3179f4b7c-f61b88e137-179839881&mc\\_cid=f61b88e137&mc\\_eid=b53f301586](https://www.thegoodbook.com/where-is-god-in-a-coronavirus-world?utm_source=US+Newsletters&utm_campaign=f61b88e137-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_03_20_04_36_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_f61b88e137-179839881)) by John Lennox  
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## Brent Leatherwood

Brent Leatherwood serves as Chief of Staff. In this role, he directs the office of the President and is also responsible for strategic partnerships and media relations. Before coming to the ERLC, he served as the executive director of the Tennessee Republican Party from December 2012 to December 2016, where he managed the ... [Read More \(https://erlc.com/multi\\_author/brent-leatherwood/\)](https://erlc.com/multi_author/brent-leatherwood/)

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## Josh Wester

Joshua B. Wester serves as the Director of Strategic Initiatives in the Office of the President at the ERLC. He is also pursuing a Th.M. in Public Theology at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Josh is married to McCaffity, and they have two children. **[Read More by this Author](https://erlc.com/multi_author/josh-wester/)**

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## Lindsay Nicolet

Lindsay Nicolet serves as the Managing Editor of Content. She oversees the day-to-day management of our online content from the Nashville office. Lindsay completed her Master of Divinity at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. She is married to Justin and they have one daughter. **[Read More by this Author](https://erlc.com/multi_author/lindsay-nicolet/)**

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## RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

**What a Virginia cemetery case reveals about religious liberty (<https://erlc.com/resource-library/articles/what-a-virginia-cemetery-case-reveals-about-religious-liberty/>)**

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