

Vol 41 No 1 January & February, 2017

START THE NEW YEAR OUT RIGHT! READ GOD'S WORD EACH AND EVERY DAY



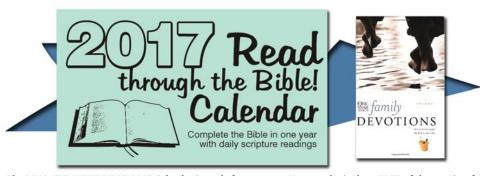












The READ THRU THE BIBLE 2017 Calendar is ready for your use. You can obtain these FREE of charge – just for the asking. Pass them out to friends, at church, Bible study groups, etc. Want to be blessed by God each day? Read His Word and you will be blessed beyond what you can handle. It's like a luscious steak dinner each day; the only difference is God's word lasts forever. Suggested book above is for family devotions. The family that prays together stays together.

News Release

Wounded amputee vet Charlie Linville, who scaled Mount Everest, will be the featured speaker at the Annual Wisconsin Governor's Prayer Breakfast

Charlie had become the first combat wounded amputee to scale Mount Everest, the world's highest mountain. While on the summi, Charlie reflected: What a fantastic feeling to be at the top. I'm thankful I was able to push this war-tom body to it's max. Only five years earlier, he lay in a hospital bed after suffering a severe injury while on duty with a bomb-disposal unit in Afghanistan. He suffered a traumatic brain injury, amputated index and ring fingers, and a mangle right foot that eventually had to be amputated.



"Some people exhaust all their energy to get to the lop," Charlie said soon after his return from Mount Everest. "But the top is only halfway. The goal is not only to reach the summit. Your mission is to get back down alive."

Charlie trusts his venture will encourage other wounded veterans that there's life after injury.

Thursday, May 4, 2017 ~ 7:30-9:30 a.m. ~ National Day of Prayer

For more info: www.WisconsinGovernorsPrayerBreakfast.com

(414) 344-7300 ~ fax (414) 344-7375 ~ PrayerBreakfast@ChristianCourierNewspaper.com

Sponsored by the Christian Courier Newspaper, a division of ProBuColls

Billy Graham: Your New Year's Resolutions Won't Work Unless Your Heart is First Changed



New Year's resolutions are all well and good - but mean nothing without a changed heart.

That's according to evangelist Billy Graham, who, in a recent advice column posted by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association,

shared why so many Americans fail at keeping their New Year's resolutions. In fact, according to statistics, 45% of Americans make New Year's resolutions every year, but just 8% are successful in achieving their resolution.

"We simply don't have the inner strength to carry them out," he said when asked why our resolutions often fail. "Temptations come, and we give into them; discipline is required, but we'd rather do what's easiest. What's right is clear to us, but we give into the pressure of the crowd. Even the Apostle Paul experienced this inner moral and spiritual weakness: 'I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out' (Romans 7:18)."

Continued on page 3

IT'S A NEW YEAR – HOW ABOUT A NEW ME – A NEW YOU – AND A NEW EVERTHING!

by John Fisco



Everyone always thinks of some New Year resolutions. Billy Graham's article on the

front page talks about this. And you must admit, the intentions are ALWAYS good, but as history shows, not too much lasts. Here are a few thoughts. Every Thanksgiving and Christmas you hear of all the food drives, taking place.

Just about every radios and TV station has a

big food drive, then, it's over with. Do people not need food the other ten months of the year? Oh, yes, a small food pantry here and there, but no big food drives otherwise. What do we do to change, thank, and keep feeding those in need all year long? Serve in a soup line once a year. Why not once a month? The food line doesn't shut down. But, we did our annual charity "thing". Many people state they don't send Christmas cards anymore. Why? Just think, a forty nine cent stamp to keep in touch even once a year to old friends, those in other cities, past associates, school friends, etc. Are we too good to be a blessing through a simple card at Christmas time? Oh, you say the card costs too much. Not so, free Christmas cards are available by calling 414-344-7300. Start NOW to be a blessing to those you know. People are too "stand-offish". You send a text, or Facebook-brag, or e-mail. Get personal - sit down and express your feelings and gratitude for your relationships. Careful, the shock may be too great for some people, but worth a try.

Try journaling. Some people are real good at this. Write a letter to God each day in your journal. Wow - what a difference that could make in your life. Try a prayer list. Make a list of all the people you can't really talk to but you can pray for them. Long list - pray for some each day. Some people need correction that you can't touch but you can pray for them and remember God can do anything. A person recently said the ex-one in the marriage was too terrible to even pray for. Wow, since when is God limited to what He can do. Satan loves to shut down the prayer requests than he has more power and keeps more people away from their relationship with God. Praying for your government officials? God's command!

We could go on and on, such as lose weight; save money; stop texting in church; get along better with those I work with; love my neighbors more; tithe more; obey the speed limits as posted; and have a jolly good laugh more often.

God bless you abundantly this great New Year.

And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. ~

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Continued from page 1

This is one reason why we need Christ, the evangelist contended: "When we put our lives into His hands, He comes to live within us by His Holy Spirit and begins to change us from within. He gives us a new desire to do what's right, and a new power to carry it out. The Bible's words are true: 'The Spirit helps us in our weakness' (Romans 8:26)."

As 2017 begins, let's not drift aimlessly through another year, but rather turn to Jesus Christ and commit our lives to Him.

"God loves you, and Christ gave His life for you," Graham said. "Why not give Him your life in return? Not only will He help you cast off the bad habits and sins of the past, but He'll also give you a new desire to live as you should. Open your heart to Christ today."

Another prominent religious leader, Saddleback Church Pastor Rick Warren, also encouraged those hoping to stick to their resolutions this year to first change the way they think, which in turn will change their hearts.

"The battle for sin starts in your mind, not in your behavior," he wrote in a recent devotional post. "The way you think determines the way you feel, and the way you feel determines the way you act. If you want to change the way you act, you start by changing the way you think. In addition, if you want to change the way you feel, you must start with changing the way you think."



the way you think about your kids, about your husband, about your wife, and that will change the way you feel, which will then change the way you act."

Warren argued that you are not what you think you are; instead, what you think, you are.

"The battle to deal with those defects in your life that you don't like starts in your mind," he says. "If you want to change anything in your behavior or anything in your emotions, start with your thoughts and your attitude."

He concluded Changing the way you think will then affect your emotions and your behavior. When I repent, I turn from guilt to forgiveness. I turn from Hell to Heaven. I turn from purposelessness to purpose in life. I turn from no hope to new hope. I turn from frustration to freedom. I turn from darkness to light!"

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy. ~ Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

A Word from the Heart

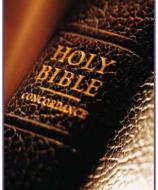
By John Duckhorn

2016 is past. Good riddance! What a year, we are out of breath. Well readers, take a deep breath because 2017 is going to shake the good old US of A down to its very foundation. 600 hundred days of political promises, finger pointing, political Facts checking, stuffed mail boxes, unfriending, fake news and voter fatigue. As usual evangelicals (believers) took a beating. They are the so called "Voting block" that rankles those who believe they alone can enlighten the multitudes.

What is our responsibility as citizens and Christians? I do believe Christians put up with a lot of unjust criticism as well as different ways of entrapment and I expect that to continue. We need to purge our minds and set our hearts on things that matter. The Bible contains phrases that point us

forward with a clear Christian purpose. 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 reminds us of our new birth and purpose in life. Verse 16 says- "From now on" a clear statement as to how we should live. Is it the love of Christ that compels us in living, in our decisions, and life style? Ephesians 4:14 tells us that "we should no longer be children tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine." Of course this is referring to our foundational beliefs and church life. It does show however we can be easily led astray by beliefs that are cunning and deceiving. The criticisms Christians hear ought not to hinder us from living an open Christian life. All we can do with cheap shots is to be open enough to consider if there is any truth to them and ask the lord to help us to understand what we must do. The same chapter of Ephesians verse 17 urges us to no longer walk as the world walks and then gives us a description of how the world thinks and lives. We are not to be ignorant of the affect it has on us. We are in the world but not of the world.

Coming to Jesus Christ as our personal Savior from sins guilt and power, we know He wants our lives to be lived for Him. Our former conduct was strongly influenced by our thinking. The apostle Paul speaks clearly and is unapologetic regarding our need to keep our



mind on the things that matter. Ephesians 4:20-24. He continues with clear examples of sinful conduct that is common even among God's children.

We are told to put away lying, do not mislead your neighbor, beware of dealing in anger; in the home, in the office, and in church fellowship, do not let anger become an attitude of life. It does no one any good. Stealing shows our disrespect for others and our need to work. Notice how Paul shows us what we need to be concerned about. Giving to others and not taking from others. Verse 29 strikes even closer to the conduct of this distinct worldly

Reading and listening to all of the things people said to one another; the put downs, the harsh way

things were said, the innuendoes and outright lies, made last year's political campaign an embrassment.

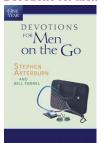
Anger, bitterness, out bursts, and loud quarreling abounded. But bear in mind these exhortations are written to believers and are not to be part of our life style. The Church has other priorities. Those we learn by reading God's word and carrying them out. Because we live in this world and make our living here, we have legitimate political concerns. However, we are redeemed by the precious blood of our Savior and must carry out His purposes. Keep your life balanced, strong in our Lord's grace and submissive to Him in every happening in this year. 2017 is predicted to be a disaster by many political and intellectual pundits. While we may vote with our pocket books, let us keep our hearts rich and full of His grace.

As I finish this article, news of the United Nations pressure on Israel has become a topic of concern among the nations hostile to settling on land that Israel possesses. The UN seems to have little understanding of biblical and secular history regarding God's choice of the land given to Abraham. Makes me wonder what God is doing. Happy New Year!

Books & People

Devotions for Men on the Go by Stephen Arterburn and Bill Farrel

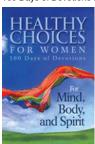
What am I here for? Am I making a difference?



If you are like many Christian men these days, you battle forces and responsibilities flying at you from every angle. Family, faith, career, recreation...the list is endless and so is the swirl of dust in your wake as you hit Mach 5 just to keep up. That's life on the front lines. Balancing your roles is tough. You may be provider, executive, handyman, husband, father, leader. You spend your waking hours making a living...but are you making a life? We all need a strong support system if we're going to figure out what it means to live as God's man. Tyndale Publishing \$14.99

Healthy Choices for Women

100 Days of Devotions For Mind, Body and Spirit



When it comes to your health...god's word should be the final word. Biblically-based principles for making better choices about your physical, spiritual and emotional health. \$7.99

65 Daily Devotions for Teens by Freeman-Smith, LLC



God Can Help you Figure Things out... in Just Five Minutes A Day. 365 Life-Altering Devos for guys and girls on the go. \$16.99

Books reviewed here are available at ProBuColls Books and Gifts at 98th & Greenfield!

SAMARITAN'S PURSE ON GROUND IN GATLINBURG



A well-known Christian ministry is providing aid as thousands of volunteers are needed to help with the wildfire recovery efforts in and around Gatlinburg,

Todd Taylor of Samaritan's Purse tells OneNewsNow disaster relief specialists are in Gatlinburg following the deadly and devastating wildfire that forced thousands to evacuate and damaged nearly 2,000 structures, including hundreds of homes.

"We are helping homeowners sift and sort through their home sites and see if there are those mementos that they can take with them," he reports. "It gives them that closure that they need. And while we're doing that, we're able to show them God's love in a way that they need right now."

Taylor asserts that these homeowners need prayer.

"In 15 minutes, they lost everything -- not to mention that it's also the middle of winter at Christmastime," the specialist points out. "They've got a lot to deal with, and we know that only through Jesus are they going to be able to receive the comfort that they need."

Samaritan's Purse is calling on its vast network of volunteers from around the country to respond and help families in The Volunteer State recover from the fire.

Franklin Graham, Paula White 'Honored', 'Privileged' to Participate in Trump Inauguration



Evangelists Franklin Graham and Paula White have issued statements in response to their announced participation in the inauguration ceremony for President-elect Donald Trump and Mike Pence next month.

In a statement issued Wednesday, White, who is Chairwoman of the Trump Evangelical Advisory Board, said she is "deeply honored and grateful" to participate in the swearing in of Trump and Pence.

"In American history Inauguration Day is one of the most sacred and important celebrations we have as a people, not only because it signifies the peaceful transition of power but also because on this day "We The People' appeal to the favor, blessing and guidance of God on our country, on our people and on our new leadership," she wrote.

The evangelist, who is also pastor of the New Destiny Christian Center in Florida, continued: "I will be humbled to stand shoulder to shoulder on stage with the new administration, other distinguished men and women of faith, and with the great sea of witnesses watching around the country and around the world who continue to pray for God to bless America. On that sacred day, we will ask God to guide our leaders with wisdom and strength and that He would richly bless our extraordinary home, the United States of America."



Prior to Trump's poll-defying win, White told The Christian Post: "Too many Christians have spent way too much time judging Mr. Trump and his relationship with Christ...I've had countless conversations with Donald Trump about the Bible. In fact, I met him because he watches Christian television and he was moved by one of my sermons: 'The Value of Vision.'"

Meanwhile, evangelist Franklin Graham, who will reportedly pray over the January 20th ceremony, said it is a "privilege" to take part in Trump's inauguration.

"I am very thankful that prayer and reading from God's Holy Word will be a part of this important ceremony as the world watches," he wrote. "We need God's blessing and favor on this nation and our new president, Donald J. Trump. I'm praying for that--will you?"

Other religious leaders participating in the ceremony include the Rev. Samuel Rodriguez of the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference, Bishop Wayne T. Jackson of Great Faith Ministries International and Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean and founder of the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

Tom Barrack, the Presidential Inaugural Committee chairman, said in a statement that our "leaders have paid tribute to the blessings of liberty that have been bestowed upon our country and its people" since the first inaugural ceremony.

"I am pleased to announce that a diverse set of faith leaders will offer readings and prayers," he said, adding that the leaders would "honor the vital role religious faith plays in our multicultural, vibrant nation."

The rights of man come not from the generosity of the state but from the hand of God. ~ John F. Kennedy



Billy Graham Ministry Sends Chaplains to Berlin After Christmas Market Attack



The Rapid Response Team from the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association has arrived in Germany to minister to people after a truck plowed through the Berlin Christmas market and killed 12 people.

According to Jeff Naber, manager of chaplain development and ministry relations for the Rapid Response Team, the team will be there to give emotional and spiritual care for the people who will be seeking them in the aftermath of the attack. Their purpose is to share God's love, about how He gave His Son because of His love for the world.

The international team that consists of chaplains from the United States and Canada will be joining other local churches. One of the places where they will provide care is the makeshift memorial where mourners have been placing candles and flowers to remember those who were killed by the act.

The Rapid Response Team has gone to Germany earlier this year after the shooting incident in a mall in Munich. The team was established after the 9/11 to provide support for not only individuals but also communities who have undergone a crisis or tragedy. For this year alone, they have already responded to five international tragedies.

The Islamic State has claimed to be the ones responsible for the Berlin Christmas market although the investigators have not officially stated that it was a terrorist attack, it bears resemblance to the attack on Nice, France which happened last July.

A report by Christian News said that the police is looking for a Tunisian ex-convict who sought asylum in Germany but was denied. Apparently, a wallet containing the man's asylum documents was found in the truck that plowed through the market.

In light of the attack, the German Bishops' Conference held a day of prayer on December 26 and asked Christians to pray for harassed and persecuted Christians. Bishop Gerbhart Furst requests that prayer for the victims and families be offered.

Man Refuses to Deny Christ Despite Being Hanged by ISIS, Tortured With Nails and Barbed Wire

A Christian man from IS' stronghold of Mosul, Iraq has shared, in an attempt to force him to convert to Islam, militants strung him up from the ceiling of a jail cell and violently tortured him with nails and barbed wire - yet he refused to deny Christ.

Carlos, a refugee from Mosul living in Jordan, shared with Christian Aid Mission how, when ISIS invaded Mosul in the summer of 2014, they gave Christians four options: leave, convert to Islam, pay a protection tax (jiyza) or be killed.

When Carlos refused to comply with ISIS' demands, militants took him to a location he did not know and hung him upside down by one leg.

"They tortured me by electric shock, beat me with sticks stuck with nails and bound me with barbed wire," he recalled. "They put salt on my wounds. I was shouting from the intense pain."

The torture continued until he appeared in court, where a judge told him that he had to become a Muslim to save his life.

"I refused and said, 'If I die, I will die proud, because I am a Christian," he said. "The judge responded, 'You will be shot and executed on Sept. 26."

On that date in 2014, they took him to the outskirts of Mosul, but before the execution the militant in charge went to a corner to call a superior. He returned saying he had orders to leave the Christian there. Kicking and hitting Carlos, ISIS members threw him from a car, the young man said.

"I tried to walk, but after a while, my bleeding wounds caused me to fall down and pass out," he said.

Eventually, the young man regained consciousness in a hospital in Kirkuk.

"In Iraq, they could not treat my leg and told me it needed to be amputated," he said. "But then I went to Spain, and my leg was treated in the Spanish hospital through an organization. Thank God I can walk now, but I have nothing to live on here in Jordan."

Although there was over 1.5 million Christians in Iraq before conflict began in 2003, a report released in May revealed that that as much as 80 percent of Iraq's Christian population has fled from their homes, leaving

less than 275,000 believers in the country.



An independent United Nations commission on Syria ruled in June that IS has committed genocide against Yazidis; however, it hasn't yet ruled that the group has committed genocide against Christians.

Speaking to The Gospel Herald, Chaldean American Spokesman Mark Arabo said, "The world has not seen a humanitarian crisis like Iraq and Syria since the Holocaust, it's a full-blown Christian genocide. Our churches are being destroyed, our museums wiped out, women and children wiped out because of their faith. We are hopeful that we will get some confirmation from Washington that President-elect Trump and the new congress will work together to make sure that they end this genocide."

He added, "We need to stay the course and make sure that those in the camps are not forgotten about, and let the world know that history will not be kind to any elected official that does not save the victims of this genocide."

BAT PROBLEMS!

Three Pastors in the south were having lunch in a diner. One of them said, "You know, since summer started I've been having trouble with them flying bats in my loft and attic at church. I've tried everything, but nothing seems to scare them off.

Another pastor said "Yes, me too. I've got hundreds living in my belfry and in the attic. I've even had the place fumigated, and they won't go away!"

The third pastor said, "I baptized all mine, made them members of the church, and I haven't seen one back since!"





Calendar



January

Matters of the Heart January 16 at 9:30am

Davian's Banquet & Conference Center

16300 W. Silver Spring Dr. Menomonee Falls, WI

The Milwaukee West Suburban Women's Connection invites you to brunch with speaker Kathy Bishop from Lodi Wisconsin speaking on "Matters of the Heart" along with Linda Short as she introduces KP Toffee, and herbal tea-a-fun program. Everything for \$15.00, including brunch. Call 262-251-3841 for reservations or more info.

Flatfoot 56 and October Bird of Death in concert

January 20 at 7:30pm

Cup O Joy 232 S. Broadway Green Bay, WI 54303 Call 920-435-3269 for more information

The Seigmann Family in concert January 21 at 7:30pm

Cup O Joy 232 S. Broadway Green Bay, WI 54303 Call 920-435-3269 for more information

"State of Milwaukee" Symposium January 24 from 8am - 12pm

Italian Conference Center 631 E. Chicago Street Milwaukee

The National Christian Foundation invites you to the 7th annual "State of Milwaukee" Symposium. Milwaukee leaders will share neighborhood development success stories. Local panelists & speakers. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$15.00 per person (includes a hot breakfast). Call 262-796-9910 for more info and to register

Jeff Allen Comedy January 27 at 6:30pm & 8:30pm

Cup O Joy 232 S. Broadway Green Bay, WI 54303 Call 920-435-3269 for more information

Mystery Theater at Regis Manor January 27 & 28

Fundraiser for Morning Start Productions. \$20.00 per ticket.

Call 414-228-5220 x119 for more info or for tickets.

Jeff Allen Comedy January 28 at 6:30 & 8:30 pm

Cup O Joy 232 S. Broadway Green Bay, WI 54303 Call 920-435-3269 for more information.

February

Valentine Concert February 1 at 2pm

Primrose

Mount Pleasant, WI
Vocalist Cheryl McCrary performing Valentine Concert.
Cheryl can also be heard
in the Sunday services at
Faithlife Victory International
Church at 10 am, meeting in
Kenosha Woman's Club 6028
8th Ave (use west entrance)
along with Pastor Mwachia &
guest minister Mike McCrary,
Dave Deberg & others.

Newsboys: Love Riot Tour February 2 at 7pm

Milwaukee Theatre 500 W. Kilbourn Ave Milwaukee, WI Newsboys: Love Riot Tour presented by K-Love. For ticket information please visit www.k-love.com and click on events

Jessica Martindale & Bobby Converston in concert

February 3 at 7:30pm

Cup O Joy 232 S. Broadway Green Bay, WI 54303 Call 920-435-3269 for more information

Ryan Stevenson in concert February 4 7:30pm

Cup O Joy 232 S. Broadway Green Bay, WI 54303 Call 920-435-3269 for more information.

No Regrets Men's Conference February 4 from 8:30am to 4pm

Lake Country Campus 1100 Wi-83 Hartland, WI 53029 No Regrets Men's Conference is an annual event. started in 1994, designed to create an environment for men to be challenged in their relationship with the Lord at home, in the workplace, and in their ministry. It is held on the first Saturday of February at the Elmbrook Brookfield campus (this location, sold out) and is simulcast via live HD video to numerous host sites, including Elmbrook's Lake Country campus! Contact Elmbrook church at 262-786-7051 for more details or

GrassCutters in concert February 10 at 7:30pm

to register.

Cup O Joy 232 S. Broadway Green Bay, WI 54303 A bluegrass band. For more info call 920-435-3269

Jim Cole in concert February 11 at 7:30 pm Cup O Joy

232 S. Broadway Green Bay, WI 54303 For more info call 920-435-3269

"Our First Love" Women's Fellowship

February 11 at 12pmWindson Club House
7101 104th Ave
Kenosha, WI

A free event. Come and enjoy a special time of restoration, refreshing, rekindling and renewing in the presence of the Lord. Hosted by Strength & Hone, Inc. Contact Simone Love at blessed-giftsonline.com@gmail.com

Shawn McDonald with guest Ash Bultman in concert Feb 17 at 7:30pm

Cup O Joy 232 S. Broadway Green Bay, WI 54303 Call 920-435-3269 for more info.

Yours, Mind, and His? Feb. 17-26

Eastbrook Church 5385 N. Green Bay Ave Milwaukee, WI

Morning Star Productions presents "Yours, Mind, and His?" at the Theater Space at Eastbrook Church. Steve Koehler (Guys On Ice) and Tiersa Ferraro star in this home grown version of the classic comic family chaos. Russ and Renee have both recently lost spouses. They meet online, fall in love and get engaged. The trouble is they've never told each other about their children from their previous marriages. The families are thrown together in a crash course of

"meet and greet". In the midst of the furor, a divine surprise just might bring them together. All performances are at Eastbrook Church. Tickets range from \$12 - \$23.00 online or at the door. Group discounts available. Please visit www.morningstarproductions.org or call 414-228-5220, ext 119

Women's Brunch February 20 at 9:30am

Davians Banquet & Conference Center 16300 W. Silver Spring Dr.

Menomonee Falls, WI

The Milwaukee West Suburban Women's Connection invites you to brunch. Special speaker is Maggie Imig from Sheboygan Wisconsin speaking on "Seven Significant Men in My Life". Everything including brunch is just \$15.00. Please Call Lois by Feb. 6 at 262-251-3841 for reservations.

Joshua Carswell with guest April Strom Johnson in concert February 24 at 7:30pm

Cup O Joy 232 S. Broadway Green Bay, WI 54303 Call 920-435-3269 for more info.

Fish Stick Improv Comedy February 25 6:30 & 8:30 pm

Cup O Joy 232 S. Broadway Green Bay, WI 54303 Doors open ½ hour early. Call 920-435-3269 for more info.

March

Women's Inspire workshop March 4 from 7am to 4pm

Elmbrook Church
777 S. Barker Rd
Brookfield, WI 53045
Featured guests include
Annie Downs, Megan Fate
Marshman, Jason Webb and
Elmbrook Worship. \$38.00
for Adults & \$20.00 for students. Please visit facebook.
com/elmbrookwomen. For
more information contact
inspire@elmbrook.org or call
262-754-3542

Senior Lunch March 17 at 11:30am

Spring Creek Church
N35W22000 W. Capitol Drive
Pewaukee, WI 53072
Join us for a scrumptious,
homemade lunch at Spring
Creek Church in Pewaukee. Lunch is followed by a
delightful musical concert.
Entertainment by "Sentimental Journey". Reservations
can be made by calling
262-695-2211 or email jana@
springcreekonline.com

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Email your event to: ChristianCourier@juno.com by the 20th of the preceeding month.

The listing of these events does not imply endorsement, but are supplied as a benefit to the reader and those churches or ministries listed.



FOCAL®POINT

Registration is open for the Iron Sharpens Iron March 4th, Beloit Wisconsin.

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'God's Not Dead' Actor-Producer David A.R. White Says Hollywood is 'Waking Up' to Faith-Based Audience

It's not easy being a Christian in liberal Hollywood, but Tinseltown is slowly beginning to open its eyes to the demands of the faith-based audience, according to author and actor David A.R. White.

During a recent appearance on Fox & Friends, the "God's Not Dead 2" producer and actor, who recently penned a memoir, "Between Heaven and Hollywood: Chasing Your God-Given Dream," said it can be challenging to be a Christian in liberal Hollywood. That's why, in 2005, he co-founded Pure Flix, the largest indie-faith film studio in the world - to "make an alternative to what Hollywood was putting out there, to make faith and family films that uplift and inspire the human spirit as opposed to tearing it down all the time."

However, White has received a fair amount of backlash for his films - including "Woodlawn" and the "God's Not Dead" series - from the secular media. Earlier this year, a billboard promoting "God's Not Dead 2" bearing the phrase, "I'd rather stand with God and be judged by the world than stand with the world and be judged by God" was famously banned for being "too political" and "way too incendiary".

But whether Hollywood likes it or not, a number of faith-based films have made large profits in recent years, including "War Room", "The Blind Side", "Miracles from Heaven."

"More and more people are searching for really their foundation," White said. "Our country was really founded upon were these beliefs, these family values. We've gone away from that. And what we've found is that 50 million people go to church once a month - there's a hunger for this kind of content."

Faith-driven consumers comprise 17 percent of the population - 41 million Americans - and spend \$2 trillion annually, Chris Stone, founder of advocacy and marketing group Faith Driven Consumer, told The Gospel Herald.

"You cannot be in a major endeav-

or like the entertainment industry and just turn a blind eye to that many people who spend that much money," Stone said. "Hollywood has realized that this is a viable market, they've realized there's a great craving for this market. You can't find anybody - any other market with that much pent up demand. So, yes, they get it. Not all of them are fans of the market, but that doesn't really matter because the studios are taking it seriously."

While they may not always get it right - "Noah" and "Exodus: Gods and Kings" are two glaring examples of such missteps - Stone encouraged believers to give Hollywood credit for making a "real, sincere effort" to reach the faith-based community.

"I would encourage people - anytime Hollywood makes an effort and they're sincere, we should support that, because how else are we going to get what we need if we don't give a reward when somebody delivers? Faith driven consumers need to make an effort to say, 'Hey, this is what I want.' they need to advocate for themselves and join with us in advocating for the faith-based community."

Nine Members of Trump's Cabinet Identify as Christians

Author and Pastor David Murray posed the question as to whether or not Donald Trump just might have made a recent move that serves as the literal answer to prayers that have been on many Christians' lips these past years: the new President appointed nine members to the White House, each of whom profess publicly to be Christians.

Murray, in a piece for headhearthand.org wrote that, "For many years, we have prayed that God would raise up men and women of God to positions of leadership and influence in our country. However, since the end of the George W. Bush administration, there have been previous few answers to that prayer." The writer continues, wondering aloud, "Who would have thought that Donald Trump might be the answer to that prayer?"

This "answer," in the form of nine new members of the White House staff, Murray further reveals by divulging the names of each, as well as what (including the sharing of direct quotes) announces them



publicly as being people of faith. Among the list is Vice-president elect Mike Pence, who stated, "My Christian faith is at the heart of who I am" and "I'm a Christian, a conservative and a Republican, in that order," Chief of Staff Reince Preibus, Attorney General Jeff Sessions (who also moonlights as a Sunday school teacher at his family's church), Housing and Urban Development's Dr. Ben Carson, Education's Betsy DeVos, newly-announced Secretary of State Rex Tillerson (known to have donated \$5,000-\$10,000 to the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches in 2012), EPA's Scott Pruitt, CIA's Mike Pompeo (whose family attends Eastminster Presbyterian Church), and Ambassador to UN Nikki Haley.

Although Murray himself admits he cannot vouch for, and does not know specifically the personal lives of each new nominee, he does venture to assert that the prospect of this leadership can most likely be assumed as a huge step up from the "further hounding and persecuting of Christians."





Guy Penrod in concert at Victory International Church in Brookfield to a packed house. Great Concert along with the son of Michael W. Smith as his pianist. Look for more concerts at Victory International.



ISIS Leader Gives Life to Christ After Planning to Murder Christian Worker

A high-ranking leader of the Islamic State planned to kill a Christian who was part of a television ministry but surprisingly ended up surrendering his life to Jesus Christ.

Muhammad (not his real name) got connected with a worker of the Christian ministry Leading the Way, which reaches the unsaved through 24/7 radio and television broadcasts of Dr. Michael Youssef's Biblical teaching in multiple languages.

Leading the Way has on-the-ground follow-up teams who are trained to evangelize and disciple those who would respond to the messages.

Muhammad called the number on the screen under the pretense that he was seeking the truth, but he secretly planned to kill the person who would answer him on the phone.

That person turned out to be Peter (not his real name). Muhammad told Peter he needed to meet with him in person. Although members of the follow-up team are trained for security purposes to screen callers who ask to meet face to face, Peter felt God nudging him to go ahead and see Muhammad.

He also sensed God's leading to share the gospel boldly to Muhammad.

When the two met, Peter shared with the ISIS leader the truth about the love of God through Jesus Christ and his offer of salvation to those who believe.

Muhammad was touched by the gospel message, and even after he and Peter parted ways, God continued to speak into his heart. According to

the ministry, God showed himself to Muhammad in a dream.

The extremist leader got convicted of his sins and made a decision to follow Jesus. He shaved his beard to symbolize his turning away from Islam.

He then called Peter and asked to meet with him again, this time not to kill him but to confess what he planned to do the first time they met. He asked forgiveness from God and from Peter.

"This former ISIS leader is now your brother in Christ," Youssef said. "His conversion happened just weeks ago, and by God's mercy and grace, he has been baptized and is already serving Christ where he lives."

THE BUSINESSMAN

A highly successful businessman was once asked to make a substantial donation toward an urgent charity appeal. The businessman listened to the case presented then said, "I can understand why you approached me. Yes I do have a lot of money, and yours is an important cause. But are you aware

that I have a lot of calls upon my money? Did you know my mother needs 24 hour nursing care?"

"No we didn't" came the reply.

"Did you know my sister is struggling to raise a family of eight on her own?"

"No we didn't" came the reply.

"Did you know I have one son in a drug rehab clinic and another doing voluntary work overseas?"

"No we didn't"

"Well, if I don't give them a cent, what makes you think I'll give it to you?!"

Bargains n' More

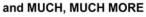
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Family Research Council





Heaven and Hill

If you were surprised by the media's exaggerated (and incorrect) reports of the demise of the political influence of conservative Christians, then you'll be happy to see Pew Research Center's latest poll. According to the report, the Christian faith isn't as rare on Capitol Hill as the media and those on the Left would have you to believe. A whopping 91 percent of the 115th Congress describe themselves as Christians, which is higher than the general population -- and almost the same number as when these stats were first collected in 1961. Of the 293 Republicans who kicked off the new session this week, all but two are Christians (the others are Jewish).

And the faith factor isn't just a conservative phenomenon. Eighty percent of Democrats also call themselves Christians -- in addition to the 28 Jews, three Buddists, three Hindus, two Muslims, and a single atheist. "The group that is most notably underrepresented is the religiously unaffiliated," Pew points out. "This group -- also known as the religious 'nones' -- now accounts for 23 percent of the general public but just 0.2 percent of Congress... [Only] Krysten Sinema (D-Ariz.) describes herself as religiously unaffiliated..." Aleksandra Sandstrom, who authored the report, is as surprised by the findings. "[This] really is telling," she told reporters,

"especially with the changing U.S. population and the very big change in the presidency. Congress is really, at least religiously, staying very, very steady."

Sandstrom can't explain the strong faith presence on the Hill, but the November election may have provided a few clues. At its core, the religious make-up of Congress reflects the increased engagement of Christians in the political process. They understand (sometimes painfully so) the government's role in shaping -- or denouncing -- their values. After Obama's eight-year war on religious freedom and expression, most believers desperately wanted to reverse the damage done.

That was abundantly clear in the overwhelming turnout of evangelicals in 2016 -- which, as most every pundit agreed, is what ultimately propelled Donald Trump (and a host of Republicans) to the most stunning upset in modern history. By the end of that night, the GOP nominee had won 94 percent of engaged social conservatives -- easily outperforming every Republican since Ronald Reagan. Remarkably, 90 percent of them turned out to vote -- which was the result of a lot of hard work from FRC Action, who invested tremendous time and energy explaining the stakes of this election and urging battleground voters to get out and vote. It



paid off. Don-

ald Trump's "largest segment of support," George Barna pointed out, "was the Christian conservative vote." Even Fox News credited our team with moving the needle on evangelical turnout.

Rep. Mark Meadows (R-N.C.), one of the rising stars of the conservative movement, is another case study in evangelical influence. A successful businessman in his own right, he saw the need for principled leadership in Congress after years of involvement with FRC, running for the seat in North Carolina's 11th District where he won in a very crowded primary. Now, he's the leader of the influential House Freedom Caucus and helping to elect other likeminded conservatives. Obviously, our country is looking for leaders who still believe in America's godly heritage. Voters elected a big class of conservative Christians last November. And now that we have more believers on Capitol Hill, maybe we can put more faith in it!

Store Wars: Pro-lifers Strike Back

By Tony Perkins

Shoppers can cross one company off their naughty list this season: Macy's! The department store is proving that it has some wise men of its own with the store's recent decision to stop supporting Planned Parenthood. The news came as a huge victory -- and relief—to pro-lifers who were paying careful attention to the list of the group's biggest corporate backers.

In October, our friends at 2nd Vote released a list of more than three dozen brand giants who've been directly contributing to Cecile Richards's group -- and using consumer dollars to do it. Despite all of the bad publicity -and even worse ethics -- Planned Parenthood continues to cash in on the lie that it offers some of America's best women's health care. For now, at least, Macy's isn't fooled -- and announced that a portion of its dollars would no longer be wired to the bank of America's largest abortion business. "You may remember how four companies (AT&T, Coca-Cola, Ford, and Xerox) publicly distanced themselves from Planned Parenthood last year after our research exposed forty-one companies with direct financial ties to the abortion giant," 2nd Vote's Lance Wray explained in an email about the store's change of heart. "Well, we are happy to report that we can take another company off that list -- Macy's -- who confirmed with 2nd Vote last week that they no longer give nor match donations to Planned Parenthood."

In a month that's seen record pushback against liberal companies like GrubHub, Kellogg's, and Target, and others, at least one retailer is getting the message consumers are sending -- promote products, not politics. "We wanted to share this great news with you because the credit is due to our 2nd Vote members who have engaged Macy's and other companies for their position on the life issue. This victory wouldn't have been possible without your involvement," Wray said. Now, the heat is on the other 36 CEOs who've taken the extreme risk of buying into Planned Parenthood's deadly business model. And not just deadly, the House Select Panel on Infant Lives has decided, but criminal! Just last week, members referred President Obama's favorite "charity" for prosecution for everything from selling baby body parts to violating patients' privacy.

Of course, the most ironic part of these corporate partnerships is that Planned Parenthood doesn't need the money! Apart from the more than half-billion dollar haul from U.S. taxpay-

ers, Cecile Richards's group is enjoying hefty financial support from private donors on top of these household names: Adobe, American Express, Avon, Bank of America, Bath & Body Works, Ben & Jerry's, Boeing, Clorox, Converse, Deutsche Bank, Dockers, Energizer, Expedia, ExxonMobil, Fannie Mae, Groupon, Intuit, Johnson & Johnson, La Senza, Levi Strauss, Liberty Mutual, March of Dimes, Microsoft, Morgan Stanley, Nike, Oracle, Pepsi, Pfizer, Progressive Insurance, Starbucks, Susan G. Komen, Tostitos, Unilever, United Way, Verizon, and Wells Fargo.

And while we are 100 percent supportive of corporations making their own decisions and setting their own policies, we believe that consumers have choices too -- like taking their business elsewhere. That's the beauty of the free market. If CEOs want to enter the culture wars, that's their prerogative. But they shouldn't be surprised when the market fires back. Our hats go off to Macy's and the thousands of you who made the conscious decision to vote with your dollars this Christmas! For more on where your favorite brands stand this holiday season, check out 2ndVote.com.



Sports



The Praying Side of Dak Prescott: Christian Quarterback of Dallas Cowboys



Rising Christian NFL star Dak Prescott was caught on camera praying with a group of people, revealing a side of him that the media has not shown.

The photo, which showed the Dallas Cowboys quarterback with his head bowed and holding hands with the others while they lay their hands on him, was posted to Twitter by a user named Deborah Jespersen.

"This is the Dak Prescott that the media isn't showing you ... so, lets

make it viral! #Cowboys #Prayer #Jesus," Jespersen tweeted.

The NFL rookie has been instrumental in the Cowboys' win with an 11-1 record this season, and fans have noticed it. As the "Dak mania" continues to spread, Prescott just can't seem to help being noticed even with the little things he does, like picking up trash and putting it in the garbage bin.

"What a great leader he is. He's really poised. He obviously plays really well under pressure," a fan named Courtney Lewis said. "I think he's everything that we've been looking for as far as a quarterback is concerned. He's mobile, he's agile. He can pass. He can throw."

Recently, Prescott was spotted shopping in Target at Frisco. When Stuart Newton, an employee, asked if he needed assistance, Prescott admitted he was looking for Christmas gifts for some "angels" from the Salvation Army Angel Tree.

The program, jointly sponsored by the Salvation Army and NBC 5, seeks people who would give gifts and other items for 50,000 children and special needs adults.

Newton's wife Brooke posted to Facebook a photo of him with Prescott.

"And my husband just sent me this..... he was shopping for an angel tree! So amazing," the caption read.

Prescott talked about his faith in an interview with USA Today affiliate The Times. He opened up about missing his mother, Peggy, who succumbed to colon cancer in 2013, and how he coped with her loss.

Prescott said his mother had always encouraged him. She was the one he talked to whenever he lost a game. And with her gone, the hard times could be rough, and he missed her terribly.

Prescott chose to honor her memory by giving his best in every game. On the week of his mother's funeral in 2013, Mississippi State coach Dan Mullen talked to Prescott about the game for that weekend.

Mullen could not forget what Prescott said to him: "Coach, I mean my mother would kick my rear end if I didn't play this weekend."

He continues to miss her. To help him pull through every time he plays, Prescott puts a strip of tape with the word "faith" on his wrists.

"I simply write 'Faith' on there for the faith that my mom showed me; the relationship we built from the faith we had and my faith in God," he said.

Heisman Trophy Winner Lamar Jackson Thanks 'My Lord and Savior Jesus Christ' in Speech

The University of Louisville quarterback Lamar Jackson ended his year with a bang as he received the 2016 Heisman Memorial Trophy in December, and he did not miss the opportunity to thank his "Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

A visibly shaking and surprised Jackson went up the stage at the PlayStation Theater in Manhattan to receive the award. In his acceptance speech, he first of all acknowledged what God has done in his life.

"First and foremost, before I go further along with my speech, I wanna thank my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ," Jackson said. "Without Him, none of us would be here tonight."

The 19-year-old sophomore quarterback is the 82nd and the youngest winner of the Heisman Memorial Trophy, which is given annually to recognize the most outstanding college football player.

"To the Heisman voters, I'm truly honored and humbled to be the 2016 Heisman Trophy winner, to be able to stand up here like all the other former Heisman Trophy winners," he said.

Jackson is the first player in his university to have received the award.

"I'm extremely proud to represent this class in the University of Louisville with their first Heisman Trophy," he said.

He described the moment as "an experience of a lifetime" that he would never forget. He thanked his teammates and said the award is for all of them.

He likewise thanked the school's athletic director Tom Jurich, who he said believed in him when he first came to the university, and the school's head coach Bobby Petrino, who went to his home, talked to him and his mom and offered him the opportunity to play.

Jackson said these people helped him become who he is today.

"Two years ago, I had many choices. Throughout the process, there was one school who stood by my side, and that place I fell in love with immediately, and that's the University of Louisville. They helped me make the greatest decision of my life," he added.

Jackson turned emotional

when he thanked and honored his mother, Felicia Jones, who raised him up as a single mother. He recounted the strength she showed when they lost his father and his grandmother on the same day and how she taught him to be a man in difficult situations.

"She put so much into me," he said. He fought back tears, teasing that, "I told my teammates I'm not gonna cry, but it is crazy right now!"

Jackson has a stunning 4,928 yards of total offense, second only to fellow Heisman winner Ty Detmer's record of 5,022. Last year, he passed for 3,390 yards and 30 scores and had 1,538 yards and 21 touchdowns on the ground.

Jackson is famous for doing amazing hurdles that fans have referred to as the "Lamar leap." He is the first Heisman awardee with at least 30 touchdowns passing and 21 touchdowns rushing. He is also the first to accomplish 3,000 yards passing and 1,500 yards rushing within the same season in the history of the Football Bowl Subdivision.





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Diane Fechter, Author



BEEF BARLEY SOUP

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Add:

Add:

2 cloves garlic, minced

8 c. water

l can (15 oz.) stewed tomatoes

l can (15 oz.) canned diced tomatoes

3/4 c. barley--not instant

l c. chopped celery

l c. chopped carrots

l tsp. dried basil

4 beef bouillon cubes-or Better

than Bouillon equivalent

2 bay leaves

2 tsp. salt

Cover and bring to boil. Reduce heat. Simmer 50-60 minutes stirring occasionally.

1 c. frozen green beans

1 c. frozen corn

Add beans and corn and cook an additional 10 minutes.

For more recipes and tips see www.recipesforafull-filledlife.blogspot.com

NOT THRILLED ABOUT THE FESTIVITIES

Over at Fortitude Holiness Tabernacle, Dexter Rice, the Sunday School teacher, was telling his class the story of the Prodigal Son. Wishing to emphasize the resentful attitude of the elder brother, he laid stress on this part of the parable.

After describing the rejoicing of the household over the return of the wayward son, Dexter spoke of one who, in the midst of the festivities, failed to share in the jubilant spirit of the occasion. "Can anybody in the class," he asked, "tell me who this was?"

Nine year old Olivia Crombie had been listening sympathetically to the story. She waved her hand in the air. "I know!" she said beamingly. "It was the fatted calf."









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MONDAY - FRIDAY MORNING LINE-UP





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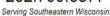
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Lighthouse Christian Radio is a ministry of Souls Harbor Baptist Church in Milwaukee, WI. The Lighthouse was started in 2004, and for four years it aired exclusively on the Internet. In 2009, we were

> able to begin airing in Milwaukee on 1710 AM by way of three "Part 15" AM transmitters. In 2014, the FCC granted Souls Harbor Baptist Church a "Construction Permit" for Low Powered FM radio. We are working towards going on the air in Milwaukee - spring 2017. Our frequency will be 92.9 FM, and our call letters are WBVW-LP.

The Lighthouse Christian Radio Network is here to glorify God (by Evangelizing the Lost Through Gospel Preaching and songs that point to Christ), Edifying the Saints (Through uplifting music and programming that encourages the soul), Equipping the Soldier (Through sound Bible teaching programs), and Educating the Community (with news and information pertinent to our local area and

We strive to encourage you spiritually with beautiful uplifting music selections. Music is chosen based upon the flow of the day including a gradual transition into the nighttime hours. The wide variety of programs & messages are selected and arranged to bring a fresh, clear message with God's convicting power.

Donations to help this new station are being received thru Lighthouse Christian Radio and sent to 3800 S. Howell Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53207. Pastor Paul J. Hoover is the pastor and can be reached at 414-342-1234.

QUEEN ELIZABETH CALL JESUS, CHRISTIAN FAITH HER 'GUIDING LIGHT' IN CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

During this year's Royal Christmas message, Queen Elizabeth referred to Jesus Christ as the "guiding light" of her life and said His witness helps us to see the value of doing small things with great love.

According to a report from the Daily Record, the 90-year-old Queen's annual address, which aired on both the BBC and ITV, was the mostwatched program on the day for the second year running with over 8 million viewers.

In her videotaped speech, released on Christmas Day, Queen Elizabeth said, "When people face a challenge, they sometimes talk about taking a deep breath to find courage or strength. In fact, the word 'inspire' literally means 'to breathe in.' But even with the inspiration of others, it's understandable that we sometimes think the world's problems are so big that we can do little to help.

"On our own, we cannot end wars or wipe out injustice, but the cumulative impact of thousands of small acts of goodness can be bigger than we imagine," said the Queen. "At Christmas, our attention is drawn to the birth of a baby some two thousand years ago. It was the humblest of beginnings, and his parents, Joseph and Mary, did not think they were important."

"Jesus Christ lived obscurely for most of his life, and never traveled far," she continued. "He was maligned and rejected by many, though he had done no wrong. And yet, billions of people now follow his teaching and find in him the guiding light for their lives. I am one of them because Christ's example helps me see the value of doing small things with great love, whoever does them and whatever they themselves believe.'

She concluded: "The message of Christmas reminds us that inspiration is a gift to be given as well as received, and that love begins small but always grows.'



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Upcoming Luncheons: Wednesday, Feb. 22, and Thursday, March 30

Leadership Luncheons are sponsored by ProBuColls Association in cooperation with CBMC and TBN



Chris Pratt Urges Americans to 'Be the Instrument God Uses to Bless Your Community'

Hollywood actor Chris Pratt continues to live out his Christian faith in a public way, giving back to those in need and urging Americans to "be the instrument God uses to bless your community."

The "Passengers" actor recently celebrated the opening of the Boys & Girls Club of Snohomish County's new teen center named in the honor of his late father, Dan Pratt.

On Facebook, the actor shared a photo announcing the news and revealed that his father was "a funny, thick skinned, hard working man who commanded respect for authority." Pratt also gave a charitable donation of \$500,000 check to the center in his hometown of Lake Stevens, Washington and shared that his father "was a pillar of his community" making the name of the center all the more appropriate.

"And now his memorial teen center will help keep kids out of trouble for many years to come," Pratt wrote. "His legacy will live on. #Godisgood."

Pratt went on to acknowledge that 2016 has been a difficult year, noting that "the negative coverage of both presidential candidates has left us divided and bitter."



"The 24 hour news cycle filled our eyes and ears with such incessant negativity and drama," he said. "They are telling us who we are, what we are. The result is we're growing further apart as citizens. And I for one feel the fabric of our society being pulled so tightly apart I worry it may tear."

Despite all the negativity circulated by the media, Pratt urged Americans not to give up, but

to strive to make a difference in their communities: "We are not our government. We are not what those folks on TV say we are. We are our Boys and Girls Clubs, our rotary clubs, our senior centers, our youth sports leagues, made up of volunteers, Americans; altruistic people investing time into our greatest asset, our children."

He concluded: "We're just as strong as our will to give back to the community. We always will be. So get strong. It feels good. Be the instrument God uses to bless your community."

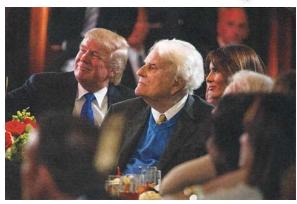
While Hollywood may be notoriously difficult environment for Christians, Pratt has never been shy about his faith. In an interview with People magazine back in 2012, he credited prayers for his young son-who spent a month in the ICU after he was born-with "redefining" his faith: "We were scared for a long time. We prayed a lot ... It restored my faith in God, not that it needed to be restored, but it really redefined it."

He also regularly references Christianity on social media, and visited a children's' hospital with Russell Wilson and Ciara and included Bible verses and prayers in the Instagram captions.

He later shared prayers for one of his fan's young sons who was suffering from an illness with his 3.88 million Twitter followers, praying, "Lord I pray for Sam. May you put your healing hand on him father. May his family find grace in this difficult time."

Pratt also made headlines after erecting a giant cross on a hillside on Easter weekend, explaining to Stephen Colbert, "It's Saturday before Easter, if you think about it, that's what Jesus was doing 2000-something years before on a Saturday before Easter, was carrying a cross up a hill!

Despite being one of Hollywood's biggest stars - he was the highest grossing actor of 2014 - Pratt, who has been married to his wife, Anna Faris, for six years, appears to have his priorities in line, putting his family before fame.



Donald and Melania Trump with Billy Graham in 2013 at his 95th birthday party

First of all, then, I urge that petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all those who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. - 1 Timothy 2:1,2

50 Years Later - Joni Eareckson Tada Talks of On-Going Struggles

After almost 50 years in a wheelchair, Christian author and speaker Joni Eareckson Tada says getting up in the morning is still difficult. "Every single morning when I wake up I need Jesus so badly," she told CBN News, "I just can't tolerate the thought of another day as a quadriplegic with someone else giving me a bed bath and exercising my legs and toileting routines and it all just seems too overwhelming."

Her next thought, said Tada, is to pray "Jesus, I need you. I can't do this. I cannot do quadriplegia but I can do all things through you."

That decades-long struggle motivated Tada recently to write a new devotional book, "A Spectacle of Glory: God's Light Shining Through Me Every Day." Tada writes that those suffering with disabilities can put God's glory on display by committing to not complaining and willingly following God down even the most difficult paths.



Her struggle is also the motivation behind a new study and devotional Bible. The "Beyond Suffering Bible" speaks to those dealing with disabilities, pain and addiction.

Tada says that for her, life is not getting easier. "As I get older, the aches and pains encroach," she acknowledged. "I deal daily with chronic pain." She also battled stage-3 breast cancer in 2010. But Tada says her issues are a good thing because she needs Jesus more desperately than ever. "It's why the Apostle Paul said 'boast in your afflictions, glory in your infirmities, delight in the limitations for then you know--the power of God rests on you."

Tada became a quadriplegic after a diving accident in 1967 at the age of 17. She founded Joni and Friends in 1979 to minister to special-needs families and train churches to help them.

She and her husband Ken married in 1982 and live in Calabasas, California.



nistries



MILWAUKEE (AREA 1)

Agape Harvest Fellowship Ministries Church of Engle-

burg 4620 W North Avenue Milwaukee 53208 Sunday Worship 10AM 414.449.2390 or AHFMC.org

Apostolic Missionary Church 2686 \$ 12th Street Milwaukee 53207 Call for times 414.645.7383

Berean Family Worship Center, Inc. ONE CHURCH IN TWO CITIES

3920 N. 51st Blvd Milwaukee, WI 53216 Sunday 8 am Wednesday 6:30 pm prayer, 7 pm service

Beth Messiah Congregation 9900 W Capitol Drive Milwaukee 53222 Saturday Worship 10AM 414.464.9782

Central Assembly of God 5511 W Burleigh St Milwaukee 53210 Call for times 414.445.0755

Cornerstone Church Milwau-

kee 2223 E. Kenwood Blvd Milwaukee, WI 53211 SundayWorship10am 414.395.7777 or cornerstonemilwaukee.com

Divine Shepherd Lutheran 9741 W Beloit Rd Milwaukee 53227 Sunday Worship 9AM 414.321.0730

Eastbrook Church
5385 N Green Bay Ave
Milwaukee 53209
Saturday 5PM
Sunday Worship 8, 9:30, 11AM 414.228.5220

Grace Christian Fellowship 9900 W Capitol Drive Milwaukee 53222 Sunday Worship 10AM Wednesday 7PM 414.464.9220

Greater St. Lukes 2741 N. 27th Street Milwaukee, WI 53210 11 am Sunday Worship 9 am Sunday School 414-264-8040

Holy Cathedral COGIC 2677 N 40th Street 26// N 40th Street Milwaukee 53210 Sunday School 10AM Sunday Worship 8:30, 11AM, 6:45PM 414.447.1966

Hope Lutheran Church 1115 N 35th Street Milwaukee 53208 Sunday Worship 10:30AM Sunday Bible Study 9:15AM 414.342.0471

Kingdom of Heaven Christian

Min. 9235 W Capitol Dr Lower Level Milwaukee 53222 Sunday 10AM 414.393.1500

Lakeshore Church 1820 E. North Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53202 414-273-2850 Sunday 10:30 am Friday- Bible Study 4 pm

New Beginnings Seed Faith

M.B.C.
138 W North Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53215
Pastor Annie Smith
Service 1:00 p.m.
Sunday School 2:15 pm

New Hope Church
1501 W Lincoln Avenue
Milwaukee 53215
Sunday Worship 10AM & 6PM
Wednesday Bible Study 6PM
414-882-7891

Parklawn Assembly of God 3725 N Sherman Blvd Milwaukee 53216 Sunday Worship 8, 11AM 414.442.7411

Restoration International Min-

istry, Inc. 5017 W. Center Street Milwaukee, WI 53210 414-499-7961 Christian Education Sunday 12:30 pm Worship Service Sunday 1:30 pm

Souls Harbor Baptist Church 3800 S Howell Ave Milwaukee 53207 Sunday School 10AM Worship Services 11AM, 1PM Thursday 7PM 414.342.1234 or SoulsHarborBaptist.

Spiritual Healing & Restora-tion Ministries
2925 W Lincoln Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53215
Pastor Patsy McNeely
First Service 12/04/2016 @
3:00 P.M.

Trinity Community Church 9450 N 60th Street Brown Deer 53223 Sunday Worship 10AM 414.354.6620

Word is God Worship Center 3320 W Vliet St Milwaukee 53208 Sunday Worship 11AM 414.342.1318

Word of Grace Fellowship 4949 West Villard Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53218 Postor Ernie Oby Sunday Service: 10:30am Wednesday Service: 6:30pm 414-464-9643 wordofgrace2@msn.com

SOUTH SUBURBS (AREA 2)

Cedar Hills Church 6911 S 20th St Oak Creek 53154 Sunday School 9:30AM Worship Service 10:30AM 414.761.1880

Cornerstone Bible Church Franklin, WI 53132 Sunday Bible Study 9:30AM Children's/Ir Church 10:30AM 414. 232.3158 or www.cbcfranklinwi.com

Faith Christian Fellowship A Family Church 11010 W. St. Martins Road Franklin 53132 Sunday Worship 10:30AM & Wednesday Bible Study 7PM 414.425.5880

Harvest Community Church 6612 S Howell Ave Oak Creek 53154 Saturday 5:30PM Worship Service 8:45, 10:30A

Jubilee Christian Family Church 3639 W Ryan Road Franklin 53132 Sunday Worship 10AM Wednesday Bible Study 7PM Mon-Fri AM1340 12:45PM 414.423.0700 or Jubilee-Christian.

Milwaukee Victory Church 2110 W National Ave Milwaukee 53204 Sunday Worship 10AM 414.645.7496

Life Restoration Church 2422 W National Ave Milwaukee 53204 Sunday Worship 10AM 414.383.2280

Oak Creek Assembly of God 7311 S 13th Street Oak Creek 53154 Sunday School 9:30AM Worship Service 8, 10:30AM Sunday Evening 7PM

St John's Lutheran Church 4850 S Lake Dr Cudahy 53110 Call for times 414.481.0520

Southbrook Church 11010 W. St. Martin's Road Franklin 53132 Sunday Worship 10:30AM 414,427,1929

WEST SUBURBS (AREA 3)

Beloit Road Baptist Church 8337 W Beloit Rd West Allis 53219 Call for times 414.543.0655

Body of Christ Ministries 5726 W. Oklahoma Ave Milwaukee, WI 53219 Meets Sunday 10 am Bible Study Wednesday 6 pm Healing room availabl

Brookfield Christian Reformed 14135 W Burleigh Rd Brookfield 53005 Sunday Worship 9:30AM, 6PM 262.784.1125

Calvary Bible Church (see ad) 1459 S 81st Street West Allis 53214 Call for times 414.778.2253

Elmbrook Church 777 S Barker Rd Brookfield 53045 Worship Services Sat 5PM Sunday 8, 9:30, 11AM 262.786.7051

Family Prayer & Worship Center 2370 S. 75th Street West Allis, WI 53219 414.216.FPWC (3792) Worship Sundays10AM Wednesday 7PM www.fpwcenter.org

First Baptist Church-New

Berlin 3800 S Casper Dr New Berlin 53151 Sunday School 9:15AM Sunday Worship 10:30AM Wednesday Bible Study 7PM 262.782.7775 or www.fbcnewberlin.org

New Beginnings Fellowship

New Beginnings Fellows Intl. 8650 W National Ave West Allis 53219 Sunday Prayer 8:45AM Sunday Worship 10:30AM Sunday Praise 6PM Wednesday 7PM 414,543,0603 NewBeginningsInternational.net

Faith Christian Church 4800 S. Calhoun Rd

Worship Services Sundays 11:15AM & 6:00PM Wednesday 6:30PM 414-423-5241

New Song Church

Klemmers 10401 W. Oklahoma Ave. Sunday 10AM

Sunday 10AM

Pipeline to Jesus Church
13400 W Beloit Rd
New Berlin 53151
Sunday Worship 10AM
Tuesday 7PM
144.525.0000 PipelineTolesus.org
Poplar Creek Church
17770 W Cleveland Ave
New Berlin 53146
Sunday Worship 7:45, 9,
10:45AM
[5:30PM for 20's/30's)
Wednesday 7PM
262.782.1777
Poplar(reek(hurch.org

PoplarCreekChurch.org

Reformation Hope Church 915 Adelmann Ave., Lower Level Brookfield, W1 53045 Sunday Worship 10:30AM Familly Bible Hour Sunday 1:00PM

www.reformationhopechurchministries.

Risen Savior Bible Church 8556 W National Ave West Allis 53227 Sunday Worship 9AM 414-617-0347 or RisenSaviorBibleChurch.org

Saviour Assembly of God 201 N 121st St, Wauwatosa 53226 Sunday Worship 10:30AM Thursday Eve Bible Studies 6PM 414.259.1228

Showers of Blessing 8544 W National Ave STE #28 West Allis, WI 53227 Sunday School 10:00AM Sunday Worship 10:30AM 414.502.7584

Victory International Fellowship 3285 N Calhoun Ro

Brookfield, WI 53005 262-783-2900 www.vifonline.org

Wauwatosa Bible Chapel 2200 N 67th Street Wauwatosa 53213 Sunday Lord's Supper 9AM Family Bible Hour 10:30AM Wednesday 7PM 414.771.1030 or WaywatosaBibleChapel.org

Weatherstone Church
1500 S. West Lane
New Berlin 53146
Sundays 9am & 10:45am
weatherstonechurch.org

REGIONAL (AREA 4) Berean Family Worship Cen-

ter, Inc.
ON CHURCH IN TWO CITIES
N112 W17655 Mequon Rd
Germantown, WI 53022
Sunday 11 am
Tuesday 6:30 pm prayer, 7 pm

Blessed Hope BIC Church 4949 State Highway 38 Franksville, WI 53126 Sunday at 9:00 am (262) 822-HOPE (4673) http://www.blessedhopebic.org

Christian Life Church of Port Washington
403 W. Foster Street
Port Washington, WI
Sundays starting March 12th at 2:30 pm 262-643-4602 Clcofport.com

Covenant Connection Pellowship Church
2841 Emslie Drive
Waukesha, WI 53188
Worship: Sunday at 10am &
Wednesday at 7pm
www.covenant-connection.org

Delavan Christian Reformed Church 850 Oak Street Sunday Worship 9:30AM 6PM 262.728.6801

Faith Christian Fellowship 1200 Racine St. Racine 53403 262.637-6220 or RacineF(F.org

Faithlife Victory International

Church Sunday worship 10:00am (Temporarily meeting at the Kenosha Woman's Club) 6028 8th Avenue & 60th Street (use west entrance) Kenosha WI 53143 www.faithlifevictory.org

Church
6224 22nd Ave.
Kenosha, WI 53143
Sunday School 10am
Morning Service 11am
Main Service 6pm
262-654-4665 www.fbbckenosha.org

Family Chapel N25 W23050 Paul Road Pewaukee 53072 Sunday Worship 10AM FamilyChapel.org

Grace Bible Chapel
3917 59th Street
Kenosha 53144
Sunday Lord's Supper 9AM
Family Bible Hour & Sunday
School 10:30AM
Wednesday Prayer 7PM Wednesday Prayer 7PM 262.654.9631 GBC-Kenosha.org

Hillside Community Church 593 W30580 County Rd NN Mukwonago 531 49 Sunday Worship 9AM Call for Bible Studies 262.363.8025 or Hillsidemuk.org

Journey Church Burlington 740 Center St.
Burlington, WI 53105
262-767-3649
Sun. 9 &10:45
Wed. 6:30

Journey Church Kenosha 1000 75th St Kenosha, Wi 53142 262-694-3300 Sat. 6pm Sun. 9 & 10:45 Wed. 6:30

Lake Country Bible Church N45W32481 Watertown Plank

Nashotah, WI 53058 Sunday Bible Study 9AM Worship 10:15AM 262-369-8777 LakeCountryBible.org

Northbrook Church 4014 Hwy 167 West Richfield 53076 Saturday 5:30PM Sunday Worship 8AM, 9:30AM, 11AM 262.628.3142

Oconomowoc Faith Bible Fellowship 25 McDowell Court Oconomowoc 53066 Sunday Lord's Supper 10AM Family Bible Hour 11AM 262.567.7234

Orchard Hill Assembly of God N9590 County, Rd ES Mukwonago WI 53149 Sunday Worship, 9:30am Wednesday, Family Night & Youth Ministry, 6:30pm (262) 363-5443 http://www.orchardhillag.com

Praise Fellowship Church Muskego, WI 53150 Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 a.m. Wednesday Service: 6:30 p.m. www.praise-fellowship.org

Summit Harvest Church 888 Thackerway Trail #209 Oconomowoc 53066 Sunday Worship 10AM 262.560.0765 SummitHarvestChurch.org

Terrace Shores Ev Free Church W3278 County Road K Markesan 53946 Sunday Worship 7:45, 9:15, 10:45AM 920.398.2734

Watertown Community Church 106 E Madison St Watertown 53094 Sunday Worship 10AM Call for other meetings/studies 920.206.0599 or WatertownCommunityChurch.org

West Bend Church of the West Bend Church of the Nazarene 609 Sandy Acre Drive West Bend, WI 53090 262-334-7124 www.wbnaz.com Sunday School 9:30 am Morning Worship 10:45 am Monday Ladies Bible Study 10:30 am Wednesday Service 6:30 pm for adults and children

Zion Christian Assembly
Zion Chapel 319 Cedar Street
Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085
Sunday Lord's Supper 9:30AM
Bible Ministry 11:00AM & 6:30PM Wednesday 6:30PM 920.458.4137 920-889-7064 believers@ZionChristianAssembly.org

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MANY CHILDREN BLESSED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WITH OPERATION CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX MINISTRY

Pictures below will show the many areas of hundreds, even thousands of people participating in the recent Operation Christmas Shoe Box ministry where thousands of boxes were collected and sent overseas. Thrilling stories come back to many families from children receiving these boxes and are so thankful for them.

Our hats off to Terry Williams and her husband for having one of the largest "packing parties" in the country. They along with hundreds of volunteers packed 5,500 boxes this year. That is 500 more than last year. WHAT A MINISTRY. This is all done through Divine Redeemer Lutheran Church in Hartland.

Be praying for these boxes as they enter the hands of kids that most times receive nothing throughout the year. Also pray for your involvement for this year. Over 38,000 boxes were received just from southeastern Wisconsin.

