



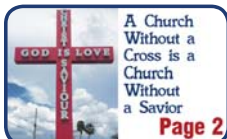
# The Christian Courier

America's Longest Running Christian Newspaper

Vol 42 No 4

July & August 2018

## SUMMER BOOK READING BONANZA!



A Church Without a Cross is a Church Without a Savior

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Free Clothes

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Churches Under Siege

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How to Get to Heaven on your Hog

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### When A Nation Forgets God: 7 lessons we must learn from Nazi Germany By Erwin Lutzer. Moody Publishers

- *When God is Separated from Government, Judgment follows*
- *It's Always the Economy*
- *That Which Is Legal Might Also Be Evil*
- *Propaganda Can Change a Nation*
- *Parents - Not the State - Are Responsible for a Child's Training*
- *Ordinary Heroes Can Make A Difference*
- *We Must Exalt The Cross in the Gathering Darkness*

THE TIME FOR HEROSIM IS UPON US. The exclusion of church from state. An economic meltdown. Laws that circumvent justice and morality. The systematic secularization of media, education, workplace, and popular culture. Experience trumping reason. History revised to serve special interests. The erosion of breakdown of family systems.

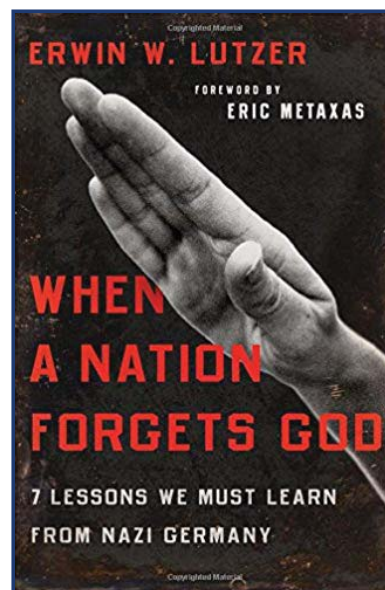
These trends aren't even shocking any more - they're old news. Yesterday's urgencies. Yet, as Erwin Lutzer observes in this riveting book, these same factors have converged once before in recent history, with catastrophic results. Its time to take note and act accordingly.

In "When A Nation Forgets God," Dr. Lutzer reveals seven trends that transformed a society much like our own into Nazi Germany. By offsetting historical example with biblical teaching, he challenges the reader to consider What would I do in that situation? While historic similarities don't automatically result in identical outcomes, they clearly call for attention - and courage.

When Jesus told His followers they would shine as lights in the darkness, He wasn't just speaking poetically. Many of us will be called to stand as hero - fixing our eyes on Him, neither lulled by calm nor deterred by storm - but serving as examples of grace, humility and love in the face of severe opposition. Are we as families, churches, and Christian schools preparing ourselves for that day?

Dr. Erwin Lutzer was senior pastor of The Moody Church and is now Pastor Emeritus. Dr. Lutzer is the author of numerous books. Dr. Lutzer is a renowned theologian and is the featured speaker on three radio programs.

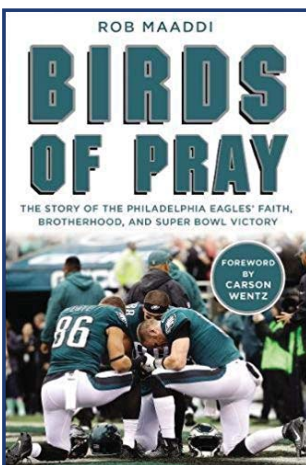
### AMERICA IS UNDER SIEGE. This is a must read book!



Deliver To:

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### BIRDS OF PRAY: THE STORY OF THE PHILADELPHIA EAGLES' FAITH, BROTHERHOOD, AND SUPER BOWL VICTORY

They were the first No. 1 seed in NFL history to enter the playoffs as an underdog. Their star quarterback was out with a season-ending knee injury. Five-time Super Bowl champions the New England Patriots towered over them. But public opinion didn't matter to the Philadelphia Eagles. They believed in each other. The band of Christian brothers on the team believed in the God of the impossible, and they played for an audience of One.

The most extensive book to explore the Christian faith shared by many of the team's players, Birds of Prayer details the incredible inside story behind the Eagles' capture of the biggest prize in professional sports: the Vince Lombardi Trophy. Through exclusive interviews with the players, never-before-seen photos, and insider accounts of the miracle season's most memorable moments, Philly native and Associated Press sportswriter Rob Maaddi reveals a side of the team the world has yet to fully witness.

See pages 8 and 9 for more great Summer reading selections!



## A CHURCH WITHOUT A CROSS IS A CHURCH WITHOUT A SAVIOR:

**Think about it!** by John Fisco

The landscape of the church today, especially of Evangelical churches is changing more per year than it has ever changed. The big emphasis has been how large of a church can we get. Are we the Mega church for our city? And if so, what are all the so called stunts and tricks some of these churches are going through to get this mega-size? Some pastors have written books, spend a quarter of a million dollars of the church money to get on the "best selling" list nation-wide. Wow, that pastor must be great and all the people start flocking to his church. After the rise comes the fall. Man made and not Holy Spirit inspired and soon the pastor is gone. Pick up the pieces and move forward. If the pastor is too tough and preaches about sin? Holy warfare in the membership and he just has to go. You know, we don't like that and others won't either (but satan loves it). The church has become a numbers game. Not how many seats, but how many campuses do we have. Man, that's big time!

A group of pastors meeting talked about their recent 'revival'. One said "we had a full house". Another said "we were packed out", and another "best ever". Finally the last one joyfully and very excited, jumping from foot to foot showed great enthusiasm and said "overflowing, in the isles and out the door". The other pastors looked on (all coming from mega churches) wondered who this new pastor on the block was as he showed great joy in stating their church seats a whole 50 people. Short of the story? It's all about numbers and the one with little showed he was rich in quality not quantity.

Now, getting up to date you will find churches removing their crosses. WHY? Don't want to offend anyone. WOW! Someone isn't



reading their Bible. IT'S ALL ABOUT THE CROSS. NO CROSS - NO CHURCH! Satan will pack your place out and all your present and future campuses.

Many churches in the past wouldn't cover up their crosses when a school wanted to rent the facility for a graduation. Not a problem today, there are no crosses to cover up, they are removed to cater to the "seekers". Yes, the seekers will come and receive NO message about our Savior who died on the Cross and there is no message to be given without the Cross and therefore no Savior to present to their congregation so that they can have freedom from sin and Eternal life with their creator, GOD HIMSELF.

NO CROSS - NO SAVIOR...Think about it.

**For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.**

**1 Corinthians 1:18**

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Fax: 414.344.7375

Email:

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3312 Washington St  
Racine  
(262) 633-8680

**Covenant Christian Resource Center**  
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**Inspiration Ministries**  
Hwy 67 & County Rd F  
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(262) 275-2264

**Lifeline Literature**  
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Waupun, WI 53963

**Martens Reedsburg True Value**  
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Milwaukee, WI 53211  
(414) 963-1393

**Oven Fresh Bakery**  
W5320 County Road FF  
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**Pressing On Toward The Mark, Inc.**  
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# News & More



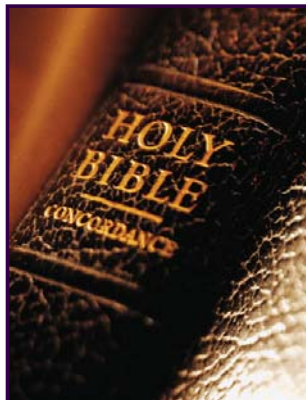
## A Word From the Heart

by John Duckhorn

The 106th Psalm is one of the numerous Psalms that show God's work on behalf of His children and also their failure to acknowledge His works and to give thanks to Him. It shows the propensity of the human heart to forget God's wonderful works on their behalf. The sixth verse says "we have sinned like our fathers". There is an arrogance that points out the sins of previous generations and at the same time excuses themselves from blame for their own faults. It makes little difference if the present generation hopes to re-invent the church or national government; no generation is guiltless.

Their fathers saw the miraculous powers of God in the plagues of Egypt. But their spiritual senses had been dulled by the long stay in Egypt and the idolatry of that kingdom. When our spiritual senses are blunted by the world around us, it is easy to forget who God is and what he is able to do for his people. Be careful of limiting God because you don't understand Him and His ways of working. Each generation must find Christ a living reality and obey Him regardless of our present circumstances.

The inclination of the human heart to not believe is revealed over and over in the scriptures. God will test our faith. Israel was lead by God to the Red Sea. They were hemmed in, mountains on both sides and the sea in front of them. They began to complain to Moses and doubted that God was leading them to the very place. What did they forget? They forgot that they had been miraculously redeemed and now were under His protective covering. They had recently experienced the display of God's powers freeing them from Egypt. How soon they forgot His gracious salvation on their behalf, only to think that their present circumstance would confuse God and limit His power. Think back and remember your salvation and the joy of deliverance from sin through Jesus Christ. Remember the victory you experienced over something that held you captive. It was faith in God that worked for you then, and it is faith that will sustain you in your present trials.



Verses 13-15 of Psalm 106 teaches that forgetting God leads to self-seeking, and faults God for our problems. After the excitement of deliverance from Egypt, they settled down to a day-to-day routine. They soon forgot that God was leading them step by step. They stopped asking for His counsel. (vs.13) The result was a self-seeking life. They settled down to a day-to-day routine. They were eager to have their own way and failed to see what God was actually doing. We do not like waiting for the Lord to give us counsel and guidance. He had provided them with what was sufficient for living in the barren wilderness. God always knew what was good for them. But they said it wasn't good enough and was not fulfilling for their own cravings. Did they miss their old life of subjugation

in Egypt? We love religious exhilaration and feel we deserve a better portion in life from Jesus Christ. This life became a mania with them. Suddenly, the things God provided grew tasteless and they felt they knew better than God. They longed for their sensual needs to be met and were confident that to have those desires satisfied were just what they needed. What is shocking is that God gave them their requests. That He gives us our desires is no proof we are objects of divine favor. The request was granted, but the result was meagerness in their soul. Without God's blessings the meat He provided them became loathsome to them. As your wealth grows does your life weaken? Remember that Israel in the wilderness got what they wanted and were literally "fed up" with it.

As you read this Psalm look up all of the story references and read the entire account of their attitudes and rebellion toward our God. The self-righteous attitudes displayed in society among politicians and various religious groups, come from those that have aligned themselves with "The prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience", and has little right to accuse those who came before us of sins worse than theirs.

### WORSHIP WARRIOR FOR JESUS



The Lord called David Kaap home on Thursday June 28, 2018, at the age of 55 years. David was a remarkable man with an incredible talent as a musician. As a small child, he sat on the lap of his grand-

mother as she played the organ. His interest in music blossomed from that point on. As a young teenager he would write and arrange music. As a result of his talent as a piano player and arranger, he won the National Teen Talent award. He went on to travel with numerous musicians such as Sam Farina, The Spurlows, The Oldhams and the Gaithers. He was a part of the PTL Ministries which was telecast each day. He led worship at family camps at Spencer Lake Bible Camp. He also played at Mitchell Field Airport, Mayfair Mall and numerous retail outlets. He was on staff at Hales Corners Lutheran Church for many years. He most recently was on staff at New Hope Assembly of God Church where he led worship and worked closely with Rev. Kirk Bougher, a longtime friend. He loved Community Outreach and could often be seen playing with the children at these events. He loved life, his family, his friends, his church and most importantly, loved God. He was an inspiration to so many in his lifetime. He will be greatly missed. His music is available at ProBuColls Bookstore, 9733 W. Greenfield Ave or by calling New Hope Assembly of God Church at 414-882-7891

### COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL BOY AMONG 13 RESCUED FROM CAVE; 'THANK YOU TO GOD,' PARENTS SAY



The parents of the boys rescued from a Thailand cave were celebrating, and among them were the father and mother of a boy who is sponsored through Compassion International.

"Thank you so much for all prayers and all the encouragement," the boy's mother said in a video interview posted by the Christian ministry. "Thank you to God. I'm really thankful that they found my son and all 13 [including the soccer coach] are alive. I'm so happy and so thankful to see my son again. Thank you so much to everyone that has been praying for us and the boys and helping us; thank you."

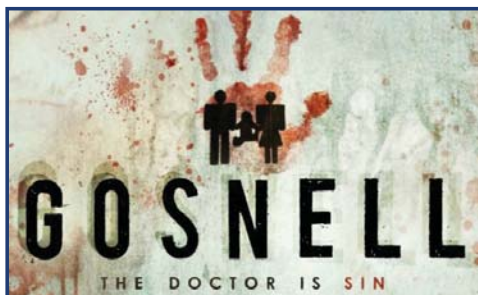
*He lifted me out of the pit of despair, out of the mud and the mire. He set my feet on solid ground and steadied me as I walked along. Psalm 40:2 (NLT)*



# News & More



## After 4-Year Delay, Movie about Abortionist Kermit Gosnell Will Come to Theaters



This October, the film *Gosnell: The Trial of America's Biggest Serial Killer* will hit theaters after a nearly four-year delay. The film, which depicts the trial of infamous Philadelphia abortionist Kermit Gosnell, was made in 2014. But, due to the sensitive nature of the film and its controversial content, distributors stayed away from the movie until this year.

Back in 2016, the film's producers said that Hollywood was avoiding the movie because "they don't want anything that asks difficult questions about abortion." The film draws attention to Gosnell's crimes of murdering infants born in his abortion facility and the corruption that allowed them to continue for so many years. In 2013, a Philadelphia court charged Gosnell to life in prison for the murder of three infants born alive in his

abortion facility and the involuntary manslaughter of one mother.

While the case was under investigation, the media actively avoided covering it. Now, even years after the trial, executive producer John Sullivan says that the story still faces pushback from mainstream culture. "Hollywood is afraid of this content," he explained. "It's a true story the media tried to ignore from the very beginning, so I wasn't surprised to see Hollywood ignore [our film]."

The film also encountered legal issues in 2017. According to *The Daily Wire*, judge Jeffery Minehart, who "presided over Gosnell's trial, sued to stop the film's release." His concern was that the film depicted him as one of the corrupt governing officials who took part in covering up Gosnell's crimes. *The Hollywood Reporter* says that the legal matter is finally resolved, however.

GVN Releasing finally picked up the movie this year, ending the long wait. Now, more than 700 theaters across the nation are slated to show the movie when it comes out in October. The filmmakers hope that the movie will be a fair telling of a story that needs to be told. As one producer put it, "The cover-up stops here."

## A CAMPAIGN TO BLITZ THE COUNTRY WITH 'IN GOD WE TRUST' LAWS TAKES ROOT



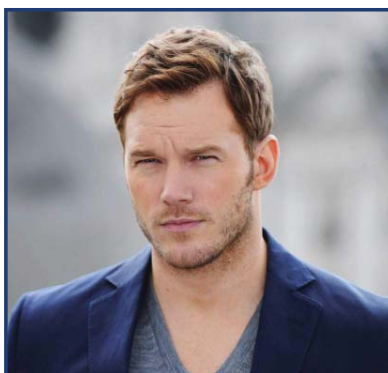
As the summer heat waxes and state legislative sessions wane, the Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation has scored a few small but significant victories.

This year, five state legislatures passed laws mandating that every public school prominently display the U.S. motto, "In God We Trust." The addition of Arkansas, which passed such a law in 2017, brings to six the number of states with public school mandates, including Alabama, Florida, Arizona, Louisiana and Tennessee.

Those laws, mostly sponsored by legislative prayer caucuses in about 30 states, were inspired by the foundation's 2017 manual known as *Project Blitz*, a 116-page guide for state legislators listing 20 model bills of which "In God We Trust" is the first.

For a foundation begun in late 2005 as an offshoot of the Congressional Prayer Caucus, that's an impressive start.

## 'God Loves You': Actor Chris Pratt Delivers Faith-Filled Speech at MTV Movie Awards



Actor Christ Pratt accepted the MTV Movie & TV Awards' Generation Award and proceeded to list "nine rules" to live by – four of which mentioned his Christian faith. He even referenced Christ's atonement.

"God is real. God loves you. God wants the best for you. Believe that -- I do," he said to applause.

The actor known for his roles in *Parks and Recreation*, *Jurassic World*, and the *Guardians of the Galaxy* series has a Christian background. He "gave his soul to Jesus" and worked for Jews for Jesus at age 19, he told *Esquire* in 2014. He discusses his faith frequently.

"This being the generation award, I'm going to cut to the chase and I'm going to speak to you, the next generation," he said, looking at the camera and to a laughing audience.

He then gave his "nine rules from Christ Pratt."

The rules referenced the soul, prayer, God, and the cross.

"Nobody is perfect," he said. "People are going to tell you [that] you're perfect just the way that you are. You're not. You're imperfect. You always will be, but there is a powerful force that designed you that way, and if you're willing to accept that, you will have grace. And grace is a gift. And like the freedom that we enjoy in this country, that grace was paid for with somebody else's blood. Do not forget it. Don't take it for granted."

Following are some of his "rules."

- "Breathe. If you don't, you will suffocate."
- "You have a soul. Be careful with it."
- "Don't be a turd. If you're strong, be a protector, and if you are smart, be a humble influencer. Strength and intelligence can be weapons, and do not wield them against the weak. That makes you a bully. Be bigger than that."

- "When giving a dog medicine, put the medicine in a little piece of hamburger. They won't even know they're eating medicine."
- "It doesn't matter what it is. Earn it. A good deed. Reach out to someone in pain. Be of service. It feels good and it's good for your soul."
- "God is real. God loves you. God wants the best for you. Believe that -- I do." – said to loud applause.
- "Learn to pray. It's easy, and it's so good for your soul."
- "Nobody is perfect. People are going to tell you [that] you're perfect just the way that you are. You're not. You're imperfect. You always will be, but there is a powerful force that designed you that way, and if you're willing to accept that, you will have grace. And grace is a gift. And like the freedom that we enjoy in this country, that grace was paid for with somebody else's blood. Do not forget it. Don't take it for granted."

He ended by telling the audience: "God bless you."



# News & More

## For KING & COUNTRY Declares the Power of 'Joy' Amid Trials

Following the celebration around their RIAA Certified Gold Album, RUN WILD. LIVE FREE. LOVE STRONG., for KING & COUNTRY is gearing up for the release of their highly anticipated third full-length album and the two say they believe the joy of the Lord can help the current state of America.

The musical sibling duo just wrapped up the "joy UNLEASHED" tour where they debuted their new single, "Joy." The song was received with much praise at their Orlando concert at the Amway Center on May 5.

"Joy — a big theme for us over the last few years," Joel Smallbone told The Christian Post backstage at their concert.

The Australian native shared that he became an American citizen last year, during a time when the country is facing a lot of social and political unrest. The group believes joy is the perfect antidote.

"When you're faced with hardships, when you're faced with trials — even as a nation — questions, and division, what do you turn to? Do you turn to finger pointing, do you turn to despair, ... anger? Or just maybe in all of it, we turn to joy!" he maintained.

When asked how they think joy plays a factor in helping the state of the world today, Luke Smallbone explained the power he believes godly joy can truly possess.



"It's easier said than done. I think that's part of the reason why the Bible talks about joy a good bit," he shared. "I don't think Jesus is too concerned with our happiness but I do think He's very concerned about our joy because that's way more attractive."

Luke maintained that there is a distinct difference between happiness and joy, revealing that people who have joy are able to get through the battles of life, still intact.

"Happiness, to me, is when everything is going well for you ... But when you see somebody with joy and then you find out a hardship that that person's been going through ... that must mean that there's something else going on in their life that's trumping all of the noise, and for me, I think it's pursuing the heart of Jesus. I don't know what else breeds joy like that," Luke explained.

"If you're looking for Jesus in things you will find it. And if you're looking for Jesus, in ways, when you find it, to me, that is what produces joy," the younger Smallbone brother concluded.

The successful group were the only artists in Christian music to receive both a Gold album and two Gold single certifications from the RIAA in 2017. The two-time Grammy Award winner's new single, "Joy," is now available and their third album is to follow.



Dear Friend – What a blessing it was to be in your state for the Decision America California Tour. We praise God for the over 57,000 people who heard the Good News of Jesus Christ at these events and for the thousands who responded to the invitation to commit their lives to Him. We're grateful for believers like you who made this Gospel ministry possible.

Rather than just a one-time event, it's my prayer that this will be the beginning of a movement—a movement of prayer! I'm asking God to help Christians across the state to stand strong for Jesus Christ. Will you join me in praying for open doors to share His love with others, and for revival to sweep your community, your state, and our nation? Here are some ways you can "let your light so shine before men, that they may ...glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16, NKJV).

- Make a list of those you know who need to hear the Gospel and pray for them daily.
- Share this simple Gospel presentation through social media and tell others what Jesus Christ has done in your life.
- Pray for what God is doing through the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and Christians like you in communities across our country and around the world.

I thank God for the opportunity to see people in your city – and on every stop of the tour – come forward in response to the invitation to accept Christ as their Savior. We give Him all the glory for changing hearts in California.

May God richly bless you as you stand for Him. ~ Franklin Graham

The 2018-19

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**The rights of man come not from the generosity of the state but from the hand of God.**

**John F. Kennedy**



# Calendar



## July

### Write your Story Workshop

July 14 & 21 at 1pm

Victorious Women in Christ Magazine will be hosting "Write your Story" Workshops. Cost is free. For more info contact Semone at 262-612-3070 and for locations.

### Summer XP

July 15-18 from 5:45 pm - 8:45 pm

Fox River Christian Church  
S46W24130 Lawnsdale Rd  
Waukesha, WI 53189

Summer XP is an adventure like no other. join us for electrifying fun full of slime, games, prizes, friends, laughs, music and MORE SLIME! Together we will learn why God wants each of us to be overloaded with confidence. Summer XP is for kids entering grades 1-5 in the fall of 2018. Free of charge.

### Vacation Bible School

July 16 - July 20 from 4:30 - 8:30 pm

New Testament Church  
10201 W. Bradley Rd  
Milwaukee, WI

Please contact church for more information at 414-365-1690

### Milwaukee Genesis Aglow meeting

July 20 at 9:30am

Zion United Church of Christ  
3301 S. 76th St  
Milwaukee, WI 53219

Join other women and men as we gather this month to enjoy one of AGLOW'S interactive small group sessions led by Mary Shoda. The focus this date is how to get rid of OLD MAN mindsets and negative thinking. For more info call Mary Shoda at 312-636-2262.

### Underground Railroad

July 22-29

Wooded Hills Church  
777 Hwy 164  
Colgate, WI

Morning Star Productions presents the Interactive Experience, Underground Railroad, in July. Patrons have one hour to help a fugitive from slavery escape to freedom on a wooded trail to Canada. Audience members travel back in time to 1852 as they encounter costumed characters who help or hinder them on their journey. Harriet Tubman inspires the group of 10-12 to take up her mission in helping a fugitive to escape. Performance times are Sunday July 22 2:30 - 4 pm, Friday July 27, 6:30-8pm, Saturday July 28, 2:30 - 4 and 6:30-8 pm, Sunday July 29 2:30-4pm. The course takes one hour to complete and groups start every 15 minutes. Tickets are \$12.00. For tickets or more information visit [www.morningstarproductions.org](http://www.morningstarproductions.org) or call 414-228-5220 x119

### Kids Summer Jam

July 23-27 at 6pm

Oak Creek Assembly of God  
7311 S. 13th St  
Oak Creek, WI 53154

"Kids Summer Jam" will be held for ages 4 - 5th grade. Groups will meet based on gender and grade they have just completed. They will meet in large and small groups for games, super hero themed snacks and crafts and lesson times. For more information contact Pastor Joshua Humpa at [jhumpa@oakcreekag.org](mailto:jhumpa@oakcreekag.org) or Carrie Lutter at [clutter@oakcreekag.org](mailto:clutter@oakcreekag.org)

### The Kingdom Project

July 16-20

River Glen Christian Church  
S3W30601 Sunset Dr.  
Waukesha, WI 53189

"The Kingdom Project", a high school event to help students discover what it means to live as followers of Jesus. Students will plan and execute activities throughout the week, serving projects, teaching and even worship. Students will serve each other and the community. For more information call 262-968-5252

## August

### Kingdom Life Conference

August 11 from 8-3pm

St. Ann's Intergenerational Center  
2450 W. North Ave  
Milwaukee, WI

Worthy International Ministries presents Kingdom Life Conference which will feature healing and restoration, prayer, continental breakfast and lunch and workshops. Cost is \$35.00 at the door. For more info contact Sheila Haygood at 414-539-0131 or e-mail at [worthyinternational835@gmail.com](mailto:worthyinternational835@gmail.com)

### BASICS FUN-raiser

August 16 at 7:30 pm

Tee-Aire Golf Range & Mini-Golf

21700 Gumina Road  
Brookfield, WI 53072

Join BASICS at our first ever Mini-Golf & Driving Range FUN-raiser: a fun and interactive time where you will be able to help support and learn more about BASICS! Gather your friends to form a team of five and come enjoy Tee-Aire's Mini-Golf course or Driving Range! There will be a reception with snacks at 6 pm, special contest like Longest Putt and Ball Toss and raffles with fun prizes to win! For more info call BASICS at 414-372-7200

### Milwaukee Aglow

August 17 at 9:30am

Zion United Church of Christ  
3301 S. 76th St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53219

Milwaukee Aglow will be hosting their August meeting with guest speaker Jason Walerstein speaking on "Life as a Messianic Jew". Jason was raised in a classical Jewish household. His mother was raised more religious while his father was more secular Jewish. God used Christians to provoke him to jealousy... and through a supernatural event the Holy Spirit of God brought him to salvation. Currently Jason is attending Beth Messiah in metro Milwaukee as the head Hebrew school teacher. For more info contact Mary Shoda at 312-636-2262

### Write your Story Workshop

August 17 & 18 at 1pm

Victorious Women in Christ Magazine will be hosting "Write your Story" Workshops. Cost is free. For more info contact Semone at 262-612-3070 and for locations.

### Refashion for Life

August 22 at 5:30pm

Callen Construction's showroom  
S63W13131 Janesville Rd.

Charity event: Refashion for Life, fashion show including fashion to wear and fashions for your home. For more information contact Dave Amoroso or Ron Sonntag at 414-354-0200 x 108. This will benefit Commonground Ministry

## September

### Big Daddy Weave

September 9 at 7pm

Fox River Christian Church  
S46W24130 Lawnsdale Rd  
Waukesha, WI 53189

Big Daddy Weave with Brandon Heath: Jesus I believe tour. Contact the church for ticket information at 262-544-6000

### GodStock '18

September 9 from 11:30am - 6:30pm

First Congregational UCC  
815 S. Concord Rd  
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

GodStock '18 is a Christian music festival featuring live bands from south eastern Wisconsin. The concert venue is outside on the beautiful grounds of the First Congregational UCC church in Oconomowoc. Music, food, drinks and activities and FUN for the whole family! Call 618-402-2041 for more information.

### Life Group Open House

September 9 from 10:30am - 12:30pm

Elmbrook Church  
777 S. Barker Rd  
Fellowship Hall D270

Brookfield, WI 53045  
Life group open house. This is your opportunity to find the Life Group that's the best fit for you! At the Open House, life group leaders will be available to provide information and answer questions. You can register that day and begin "Belonging to a Life Group". All Life Groups will be represented - Young adults, Young Couples, Women, Men, Singles, Families, Mixed and Seniors. For more info contact Nancy at [nbrusko@elmbrook.org](mailto:nbrusko@elmbrook.org)

**Space reserved for your next event!**

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Email your event to: [administration@christiancouriernews-paper.com](mailto:administration@christiancouriernews-paper.com) by the 20th of the preceding 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.



### CASTING CROWNS AT STATE FAIR

You won't want to miss this spectacular concert in a beautiful outdoor setting at the legendary Wisconsin State Fair on August 6, 2018. Casting Crowns is a contemporary Christian and Christian Rock Band started in 1999 by youth pastor Mark Hall, who serves as the band's lead vocalist, as part of a youth group at First Baptist Church in Downtown Daytona Beach Florida. Contact the State Fair at [www.wistatefair.com](http://www.wistatefair.com) for tickets.

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# News & More



## Jets Lag during Push for Pastor's Release

What does a new fleet of F-35 fighter jets have to do with Christian persecution? A lot, according to a group of bipartisan senators.

When the latest Joint Strike Fighters rolled off the assembly line at Lockheed Martin, at least 100 of them were earmarked for Turkey, part of what would normally be a routine sale to a NATO-allied country. But the shipment is on hold, at least for now, thanks to Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.) and Thom Tillis (R-N.H.). The unlikely duo is trying to force Turkey's hand in the case of American Pastor Andrew Brunson, who's been held under bogus charges since last October.

If the government refuses to release him, a vast majority of the Senate (66 members, to be exact), will take "measures" to ensure that "the government of Turkey respects the right of law-abiding American citizens to

travel to, reside in, and work in Turkey without fear of persecution." President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who was just reelected, "has continued down a path of reckless governance and disregard for the rule of law," Senator James Lankford (R-Okla.) insisted. "Individual freedoms have been increasingly diminished as Erdogan consolidates power for himself, and Turkey's strategic decisions regrettably fall more and more out of line with, and at times in contrast to, U.S. interests."

Their biggest weapon for blocking the sale is the National Defense Authorization Act, which the Senate approved last week. In an amendment added by Shaheen and Tillis, the Senate version bars the Pentagon from



moving the jets until Pastor Brunson is set free. The House version of the bill also puts a hold on the fighters, but under different terms. In the upper chamber's draft, the Trump administration would have to certify that Turkey "is not threatening NATO," a process that could take months. The difference will be worked out in a House and Senate conference committee.

## Chick-fil-A Tops the American Consumer Satisfaction Index's List of Best Restaurants

Chick-fil-A has once again emerged as America's top-rated fast food restaurant, according to a report from the American Customer Satisfaction Index.

The Christian Post reports that the ACSI rates restaurants on a 100-point scale, and Chick-fil-A scored an 87. The survey polled 22,522 customers.

This marks the third year in a row that Chick-fil-A has topped the ACSI's list. Additionally, before Chick-fil-A came on the scene, no restaurant had scored higher than 86.

In addition to providing delicious chicken sandwiches, Chick-fil-A restaurants prioritize excellent customer service and Christian values, such as being closed on Sundays and playing Christian music in their establishments. ACSI also credited Chick-fil-A's "product focus" as a reason for their continued success.

Although the fast food chain often comes under criticism for these Christian values, it also continues to be popular with customers, as the ACSI report shows.



**America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves. - Abraham Lincoln**

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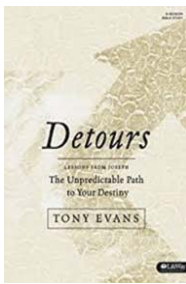


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# Book Reviews

## **Detour: The Unpredictable Path to Your Destiny** by Tony Evans



More often than not, it's a detour, one that can leave you feeling temporarily stalled and slowed down. Which nobody likes. But detours are necessary if any improvements are going to be made on the paths we travel. Or if any speck is going to be cleaned up or a hazard avoided. Detours are designed for our own good, regardless of how we view or feel about them.

Detours are a good thing that often feels bad.

Tony knows a thing or two about detours, and one of the things he knows for certain is that God works through detours to bring about His blessing. To deliver you to the place He has created just for you. Yet what we often do is try as hard as we can to

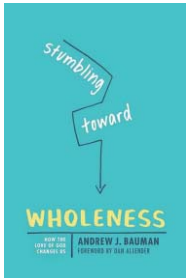
work our own way through the circumstances we believe are best for us.

Using examples from the life of Joseph, Tony will leave readers with answers to the following questions:

- How do you find the destiny God has designed for your life?
- How can you make the most of the detours God has planned for you?
- Is there a way to shorten a detour and speed up your progression in life?
- What is the purpose of a detour?

**B&H Publishers \$22.99**

## **Stumbling Toward Wholeness** by Andrew Bauman

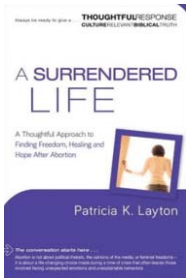


We desire to be transformed, to be grown, more and more like Christ. But our strategies for change don't work. That's because we're focused on the wrong things - our sense of shame, which paralyzes us, and the judgment of God, which demoralizes us. Stumbling Toward Wholeness offers a new strategy for spiritual growth and life transformation; a regular return to the arms of a kind and loving Father.

The story of the Prodigal Son is the story of each of us. But we don't just find ourselves in the Prodigal; we find ourselves in his bitter, judgmental brother - and if we allow God to do his healing work in us, we can find ourselves in a father who absorbs and

redeems every wound and chooses instead to love and live in a culture of love. **Nav Press \$15.99**

## **A Surrendered Life** by Patricia K. Layton



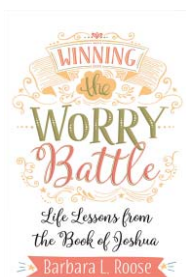
Surrender the Secret and Be Free

An estimated one in three women of childbearing age has had an abortion. You probably know at least one of them. She may be your sister, your daughter, your friend or even your mother. She may be you. After an abortion, many women carry a heavy burden of silence and heartache. Some struggle for years with repressed memories, guilt, shame and depression. Others feel they are not allowed to talk about their experience, especially in church. But healing can happen when the painful secret of abortion is surrendered to God for His glory. In *A Surrendered Life*, you will:

- Understand why women and men make the choice for abortion
- Learn how post-abortion heartbreak can show up in your life or the lives of your loved ones.
- Discover the eight steps to healing from an abortion
- Get practical tools to guide a discussion about abortion

Thousands of women around the world have found healing from the emotional, spiritual and even physical scars abortion leaves behind. This unforgettable book will guide you or someone you love to surrender the secret and find hope for the future. **Baker Books**

## **Winning the Worry Battle: Life Lessons From the Book of Joshua** by Barb Roose



Win over worry in your life!

Have you ever tried to fight worry and felt you were losing the battle? Have comments like "God's got this!" or "Just pray about it!" left you feeling defeated and discouraged? We know we shouldn't worry, and we long for something more than clichés. We need help to fire up our faith to equip us to win our worry battle!

Combining inspiration, humor, and personal stories that resonate across all ages, Barb Roose offers read encouragement for handling life's concerns that cause us to struggle with worry, anxiety, fear, or even complete meltdown. In-

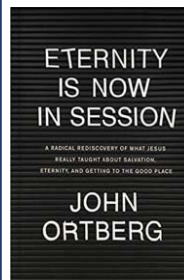
spired by the Book of Joshua, she equips us with Scripture-based, practical tools to bravely battle worry. Applying these tools will help us overcome our daily struggles, and the bigger battles we all face. Winning The Worry Battle provides examples of how God gave the Israelites victory over their enemies and generously blessed them. As we read their story, we too, will also be victorious in our fight of faith so that we not only radically transform our own lives but also unequivocally impact society. **Abington Press \$16.99**

## **Courage, Dear Heart: Letters to a Weary World** by Rebecca Reynolds



Our world is chaotic and often feels dark and devoid of hope. And it's not just the headlines we see every day. Our relationships are broken. A loved one's health is failing. We're disoriented and restless and wrestling with fear. These things are the reality of living in a fallen world. But our God is over that world. He is present in the midst of the daily ache of life. He loves us in the midst of that ache. In a series of eleven letters, Rebecca Reynolds writes to the lonely, the weary, the restless and afraid - anyone who feels the ache of our broken world and their broken life - and provides perspective and hope to find where God is in the midst of it. **Tyndale Publishers \$15.99**

## **Eternity is Now In Session: A Radical Rediscovery of What Jesus Really Taught about Salvation, Eternity, and Getting to the Good Place** by John Ortberg



Something in us is waiting - for what, we don't know. Something different? Something better? For Christians, perhaps the deepest expression of what we're waiting for is found in the phrase "eternal life." But what is eternal life? Why do we want it? And how do we know if we have it?

In *'Eternity Is Now In Session'*, bestselling author John Ortberg dispels the myth that eternal life is something way out in outer space that we can only hope to experience after we die - and that being saved is merely about meeting the minimal entrance requirements for getting into heaven. Instead, John unpacks the reality that the moment we trust Christ, we are initiated into "eternal living" with God as a

here-and-now reality, one that will continue beyond our life on this earth.

Jesus defined eternal life just once, in John 17:3 "that shy may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent." The kind of "knowing God" that is eternal life is an interactive relationship, not just an affirmation of certain fact about God. Once we begin the transformative journey of truly knowing God, we can start to experience His presence, favor, and resurrection power right here on this earth - in the details, tasks, and challenges of daily, ordinary life. And as we begin to know God this way, we will realize that each moment of our lives is a vehicle to the eternity we've been long for all along. **Tyndale Publishers \$17.99**

## **When God Says Go: Rising to challenge and change without losing your confidence, your courage, or your cool** by Elizabeth Laing Thompson



Elizabeth Laing Thompson provides readers with encouragement and courage for answering God's (sometimes terrifying) call

Go: The smallest of words, the biggest of meanings. It is one of God's favorite words. Sometimes life is calm. Secure. Peaceful. Nothing scary, each day much like the one before. That's usually when God shows up. That's usually when God says, "Go." New from popular author and speaker, Elizabeth Laing Thompson, *'When God Says Go'* is designed to help readers face their doubt, regrets, and worries when they feel the nudge of God leading them down a new life path.

Ready or not, God is calling us all to go somewhere new in our walk with Him. When God says, "Go," how can the Bible help us navigate our journey through that often terrifying, uncertain territory, and come out on the other side with wonder, joy, and fortitude? Author Elizabeth Laing Thompson invites readers to walk alongside people of the Bible who were called by God...like Moses, Rebekah, Abigail, Jeremiah, and Mary. Their stories and struggles will provide a roadmap for your own story, helping you face your very own doubts, regrets, and worries - with faith, courage, perspective, and a healthy dose of humor.

Perfectly suited for small groups or Bible studies, each chapter of *'When God Says Go'* highlights a relevant story from the Bible and concludes with suggestions for further study, journal prompts, and a prayer prompt. **Shiloh Run Press, an imprint of Barbour Publishing, Inc. \$14.99**

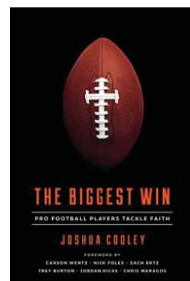




# More Reviews



## **The Biggest Win** by Joshua Cooley



Foreword by Carson Wentz, Nick Foles, Zach Ertz, Trey Burton, Jordan Hicks, and Chris Maragos.

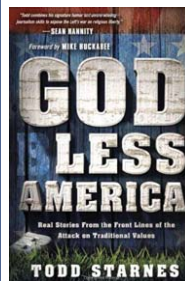
The Biggest Win gives athletes and sports fans of all ages a unique, insider's look into the lives and faith of six Christian NFL players from the 2017 Philadelphia Eagles Super Bowl team Carson Wentz, Nick Foles, Zach Ertz, Trey Burton, Jordan Hicks, and Chris Maragos. Through the ups and downs of their experiences, author Joshua Cooley shows how these high-profile athletes remain committed to God's Word, genuine Christian discipleship, and sharing their faith. Using their voices and stories, The Biggest Win gives sports-minded readers hope and direction for living out their faith while

competing.

The Biggest Win is ideal for pastors, youth, and college leaders to use as a small group resource with students interested in sports. Questions at the end of every chapter will spark helpful conversations about living by faith as an athlete and fan. It is a MUST for coaches to use with every Christian youth sports and school teams. See your youth athletes' faith grow as they hear and learn from the amazing stories of these Super Bowl Champions. Also a perfect book for men's church groups.

The Biggest Win combines biblical truths with practical direction on issues that every Christian faces including dealing with adversity, competition, change, success, failure, and how to thrive by faith in a pressurized world. Encouraging male and female athletes in any sport, The Biggest Win guides them in finding their ultimate identity in Christ, not their athletic achievements, and assures them that their greatest prize is eternal life.

## **God Less America** by Todd Starnes



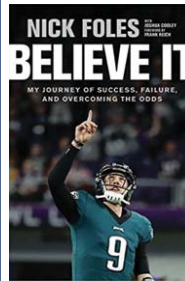
Pay attention, people of faith. Dark clouds are gathering. The winds of intolerance are blowing. There's a great storm approaching.

American Christians are facing uncertain times. Our nation's values are under assault. Religious liberty has been undermined. We live in a day when right is now wrong and wrong is now right. The vicious leftwing attack against the recent traditional marriage stance of Chick-fil-A should serve as a wake-up call to people of faith. It's not about a chicken sandwich. It's about religious liberty. It's about free speech. It's about the future of our nation.

Todd Starnes is the host of FOX News 7 Commentary - heard daily on the Fox News Radio network. Throughout his journalism career, Todd has covered a number of high profile stories, taking him from Wall Street to the White House. **Frontline Publishers \$24.99**

Available at ProBuColls, free of charge for those that stop in.

## **Believe It: My Journey of Success, Failure, and Overcoming the Odds** by Nick Foles



Get ready to defy the odds when everyone's counting you out.

When the Philadelphia Eagle's starting quarterback went down with a torn ACL in week 14 of the 2017 NFL season, many fans - and commentators - assumed the Eagle's season was over.

Instead, Nick Foles came off the bench and, against all odds, led the Eagles to their first Super Bowl victory in history.

How did Nick get it done - winning MVP honors, silencing the critics, and shocking the world? How did the man who was on the verge of retiring just two seasons earlier stay optimistic and rally the

team to an astounding win? How did he stay ready despite. **Tyndale Publishers \$26.99**



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## **ARCHEOLOGISTS DISCOVER BIBLICAL GATE RELATED TO 12 TRIBES OF ISRAEL**



Archaeologists in Israel say they've uncovered the entrance gate to Zer, a biblical city from the Old Testament they say was later known as Bethsaida in the New Testament.

The find in the Golan Heights area was made in the past two weeks and was announced by the Golan Regional Council, according to The Jerusalem Post. Zer is mentioned in Joshua 19:35 as one of the fortified cities for the people of Naphtali, one of the 12 tribes of Israel. The verse reads: "The fortified cities are Ziddim, Zer, Hammath, Rakath, Chinnereth ..."

Archaeologists say Zer was known as Bethsaida in the New Testament. Bethsaida is where Jesus healed a blind man (Mark 8) and fed the 5,000 (Luke 9). It also is where Andrew, Peter and Philip were from (John 1:44).

The gate find was made by about 20 archaeologists working with Hebrew Union College, The Post reported. Rami Arav, director of the Bethsaida Project, is helping lead the effort.



# Watchmen On The Wall



## DOJ to Churches: To Each His Zone

At Ragamuffins Coffee House, owners are probably most famous for this blend: community service and worship. That's because the Maryland spot isn't just another business on Laurel's Main Street. It's run by a church that opens its doors -- and its arms -- to the area's homeless and needy families, offering coffee six days a week and a shot of God everyday, especially on Sunday. It's a concept they hoped would help them connect with the city. And it did -- until Laurel's government got involved.

City officials got a whiff of Redemption Church's plans and informed Pastor Jeremy Tuinstra that he'd have to file for a special exemption -- a slow and expensive process that didn't apply to other non-religious groups. On top of a non-refundable \$2,000 filing fee, the church was told it had to hire an engineer and submit plans to comply with the vague terms of the zoning law. And even when Ragamuffins did that, there was no guarantee the city wouldn't reject it.

"Three days after they first looked through the property and walked through it with a city official, the city started to change its laws," Alliance Defending Freedom attorney Christian Holcomb explained. "First it banned nonprofit organizations and then secondly it changed the law to make houses of worship restricted to...second-class or second tier in their zoning." Redemption complied with the new laws, but officials still ordered Ragamuffins to stop holding Sunday services -- or face a \$250 fine for each day it didn't comply. The church made a different decision -- it sued.

With a tiny congregation and staff, there was no way the church could afford almost \$2,000 in fines every week. Besides, Holcomb points out, "Federal law makes it very clear that cities cannot discriminate against religious uses and allow secular uses." Erik Stanley, who also works for ADF, can't believe the double standard. "Laurel officials allow secular groups such as cinemas, the-

atres, comedy clubs, schools, and health clubs to locate downtown, but not this small church that wants to serve its community. That's not legal or constitutional."

Unfortunately, Ragamuffins's situation is more common than you might think. Churches, home groups, synagogues, Bible studies, and schools have run smack dab into this local intolerance for religious exercise. But, thanks to Attorney General Jeff Sessions, cities who want to exploit or discriminate against faith-based groups will have a lot tougher time of it now. The Justice Department put its foot down against these subtle attacks on religious freedom. In a speech at the Orthodox Union Advocacy Center, Jeff Sessions announced a new "Place to Worship" initiative that would enforce the protections that already exist for churches like Redemption when it comes to buying, building, expanding, or rent facilities.

"The Constitution doesn't just protect freedom to worship in private," Sessions pointed out, "it protects the public exercise of religious belief, including where people worship together. Under the laws of this country, government cannot discriminate against people based on their religion -- not in law enforcement, not in grant-making, not in hiring, and not in local zoning laws." A lot of Americans, he went on, think their religious freedom is under attack.

This feeling is understandable. Religious Americans have heard themselves called 'de-



plorables.' They've heard themselves called 'bitter clingers.' I believe this concern -- this unease.

As part of this new Justice initiative, Sessions's team is also launching a suit against a New Jersey town that blocked a group of orthodox Jews from moving their meetings out of a single-family home into a new building. The city refused their request, turned down construction applications, and even went so far as to seize property that the Valley Chabad tried to buy for a school. "In order to sustain a democracy, it is necessary that we exercise true tolerance," Sessions insisted. "...We shouldn't have to go to court to co-exist in peace."

This is a major step forward for Americans of all faiths. For a year and a half, this administration has shown the world that it's fully committed to defending the freedom of everyone to live and work according to their beliefs. This president is advancing values we care about -- instead of forcing us to abandon our faith just to enter the public square.

Tony Perkins' Washington Update is written with the aid of FRC senior writers.

## 'America's Got Talent' Singer's Goal: Inspire Others 'To Stand Up For Jesus Christ'



A 20-year-old student from a Christian college wowed the judges on NBC's America's Got Talent Tuesday night ... and also survived a few awkward questions about dating and kissing.

Joseph O'Brien, a student at Boyce College in Louisville, Ky., played the keyboard while

singing a rendition of "Hello" by Lionel Richie. O'Brien originally is from Columbia, Tenn.

When done, O'Brien received a standing ovation from the crowd.

"There's so much potential of where you could go with your vocals ... and I absolutely adore you," judge Mel B. told him.

Another judge, Howie Mandel, said he sensed O'Brien was nervous but believed he could go far in the show.

All four judges voted "yes" on his act, meaning he advanced to the next round.

"I absolutely loved it," judge Heidi Klum said.

O'Brien's Facebook page says: "My goal is to write music that is centered around Scripture and inspires a generation to stand up for Jesus Christ!" His father, Michael O'Brien, is a former member of the group NewSong.

Denny Burk, professor of biblical studies at Boyce College, said he, too, was impressed. O'Brien is one of his students. Boyce is a school of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and is affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention.

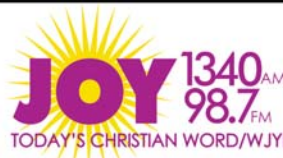




# News & More



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## MONDAY - FRIDAY MORNING LINE-UP

5:00am	John Hagee Today	John Hagee
6:00am	Walk in the Word	James MacDonald
6:30am	Truth for Life	Alistair Begg
7:00am	Focus on the Family	Jim Daly
7:30am	Telling the Truth	Stuart, Jill, and Pete Briscoe
8:00am	Turning Point	David Jeremiah
8:30am	Insight for Living	Chuck Swindoll
9:00am	Enjoying Everyday Life	Joyce Meyer



John Hagee



James MacDonald



Alistair Begg



Jim Daly



David Jeremiah



Chuck Swindoll



Joyce Meyer



The Briscoes



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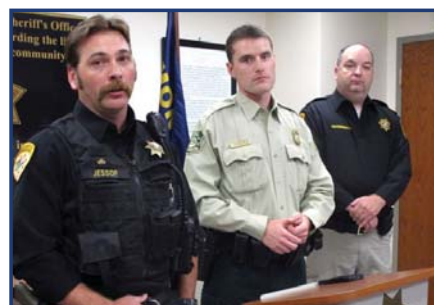
## Sheriff's Deputy Who Found Missing, Abandoned Child Credits God with Helping Him

A sheriff's deputy who found an abandoned baby who was miraculously still alive said "It was the happiest 15-20 minutes of my career."

Missoula County Sheriff's Deputy Ross Jessup and U.S. Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer Nick Scholz had spent hours looking for a missing baby in the woods when they heard a whimper in the darkness.

Jessup found the five-month-old baby boy face-down in a pile of woodland debris.

"I abandoned any police training or any chance of saving evidence there — I didn't care," Jessup recalled. "I scooped



up the baby, made sure he was breathing. He had a sparkle in his eye. (I) warmed him up, gave him a couple of kisses and just held him."

The Stream reports that the baby had been left alone in the woods for at least nine hours before he was found by the officers.

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## In the Kitchen With Diane

Diane Fechter, Author



### FRUITY POPSICLES

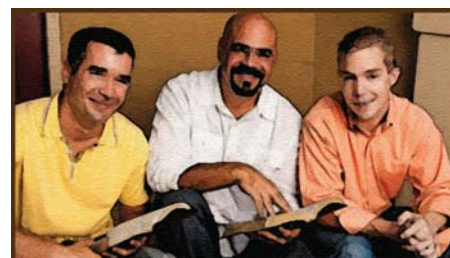
This is a great no-sugar treat.

1 can (8 oz.) crushed pineapple, undrained  
1 can (15 oz.) peaches canned in juice, undrained  
1/2 of a 12 oz. can frozen orange juice concentrate, thawed  
3/4 c. water

Combine all ingredients in blender. Process until smooth. Transfer to popsicles molds and freeze until firm. Makes about 20.  
Tip: Be sure to check for possible peach pit pieces before blending.

If you don't have reusable popsicle molds, use 3 oz. disposable plastic cups. Simply pour blended fruit into cups leaving " for expansion. Cover top with a small amount of foil. Make a small slit to insert a wooden stick. Carefully place in freezer until frozen. Remove from cup and enjoy!

For more recipes and tips see [www.recipesforafulfilledlife.blogspot.com](http://www.recipesforafulfilledlife.blogspot.com)



### City-Wide CBMC Men's Bible Study

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[shininghopeforthevulnerable@gmail.com](mailto:shininghopeforthevulnerable@gmail.com)  
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*One of the special speakers will be a missionary/pastor from Puerto Rico who is featured in USA TODAY NEWSPAPER about how he gathered the Christians together after the major hurricane devastation to help get the power back on as the local government was over taxed.*

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## SPEAKERS CONFIRMED TO DATE:

**Yves Dushime**  
Representing Operation Christmas Child.  
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**Brian Kluth**  
with NAE Financial Health,  
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**Bert Pizarro**  
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**Timothy Throckmorton**  
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# Sports



## RIVAL WORLD CUP PLAYERS UNITE IN PRAYER AFTER SOCCER MATCH



Two soccer players from opposing teams playing in the 2018 World Cup in Russia joined on the field on Monday after a game to pray together.

Belgium player Romelu Lukaku, a Roman Catholic, and Panama player Fidel Escobar, an evangelical Christian, knelt on the field after the match between the two countries. Belgium won 3-0.

"Lukaku and Fidel Escobar kneeling and praying at the final whistle was a beautiful moment for many. Both players may represent different religions and had differing results, yet they found peace in what they were doing," wrote Oscar Flex - Kibet, a digital content creator, on Twitter.

"Love for the game, God above all," he added.

The image of the two soccer players praying after the game was widely circulated on social media. Many called it the "image of the day," according to reports.

Lukaku is the star of the Manchester United English Premier League. He scored two of Monday's winning goals. He has been vocal about his faith, using his Instagram account to talk about it.

Earlier in 2017, British tabloid newspapers said Lukaku was Muslim, but Lukaku had publicly talked about his Christian faith in years before. In 2016, he was featured in a Christian Today article, "Five Christian superstars of Euro 2016" and in 2014, he was quoted in The Sun as posting on his Instagram: "Belief has always been important to me. Live from Lourdes. God is great."

## FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES CAMPS WILL HELP TRANSFORM 100,000+ LIVES FOR JESUS CHRIST



Upwards of 800 FCA Camps Will Kick Off This Summer in Nearly Every State Across America and in More than 40 Countries

Some people at the age of 62 might be looking toward retirement, as they wind down the work days and think about slowing down.

That philosophy, however, is the exact opposite for the popular and immensely successful Fellowship of Christian Athletes' (FCA, [www.fca.org](http://www.fca.org)) Camps program.

Now in its 62nd year, the first FCA Camp was held in Estes Park, Colorado, in 1956 with the theme of "I Am The Way, The Truth, And The Life." More than six decades later, FCA Camps are going full-speed ahead, with incredible growth and impact increasing each year.

This summer, more than 100,000 coaches and athletes will be transformed, both athletically and spiritually, at hundreds of Camps across the country and around the world. With the theme of "Strong," based on the Bible verse 2 Timothy 4:7, Camp attendees will focus on the fact that believers serve a strong God, and how His followers are called to be like Him in every area of their lives—including sports. The coaches and athletes who attend FCA Camps will discover that polishing their athletic skills is important, but strengthening their faith in Christ is crucial.

## THE BASEBALL GAME

*The father of a disabled child told the following story at a fundraiser:*

Shay and his father had walked past a park where some boys Shay knew were playing baseball.

Shay asked, "Do you think they'll let me play?"

Shay's father knew that most of the boys would not want someone like Shay on their team, but the father also understood that if his son were allowed to play, it would give him a much-needed sense of belonging.

Shay's father approached one of the boys on the field and asked if Shay could play. The boy looked around for guidance and, getting none, he took matters into his own hands and said, "We're losing by six runs, and the game is in the eighth inning. I guess he can be on our team, and we'll try to put him in to bat in the ninth inning."

In the bottom of the eighth inning, Shay's team scored a few runs but was still behind by three. In the top of the ninth inning, Shay put on a glove and played in the outfield.

Even though no hits came his way, he was obviously ecstatic just to be in the game and on the field, grinning from ear to ear as his father waved to him from the stands.

In the bottom of the ninth inning, Shay's team scored again. Now, with two outs and the bases loaded, the potential winning run was on base, and Shay was scheduled to be next at bat.

At this juncture, let Shay bat and give away their chance to win the game?

Surprisingly, Shay was given the bat. Everyone knew that a hit was all but impossible. Shay didn't even know how to hold the bat properly, much less connect with the ball.

However, as Shay stepped up to the plate, the pitcher moved in a few steps to lob the ball in softly so Shay could at least be able to make contact.

The first pitch came, and Shay swung clumsily and missed. The pitcher again took a few steps forward to toss the ball softly toward Shay. As the pitch came in, Shay swung at the ball and hit a slow ground ball right back to the pitcher.

The pitcher picked up the soft grounder and could have easily thrown the ball to the first baseman. Shay would have been out and that would have been the end of the game.

Instead, the pitcher took the ball and turned and threw the ball on a high arc to right field, far beyond the reach of the first baseman.

Everyone started yelling, "Shay, run to first! Run to first!"

Never in his life had Shay ever made it to first base. He scampered down the baseline, wide-eyed and startled.

Everyone yelled, "Run to second, run to second!"

By the time Shay rounded first base, the right fielder had the ball. He could have thrown the ball to the second-baseman for the tag, but he understood the pitcher's intentions and intentionally threw the ball high and far over the third-baseman's head.

Shay ran toward second base as the runners ahead of him deliriously circled the bases toward home. Shay reached second base. The opposing shortstop ran to him, turned him in the direction of third base, and shouted, "Run to third!"

As Shay rounded third, the boys from both teams were screaming, "Shay, run home!" Shay ran to home, stepped on the plate, and was cheered as the hero who hit the "grand slam" and won the game for his team.

"That day," said the father softly with tears now rolling down his face, "the boys from both teams helped bring a piece of true love and humanity into this world."





# Ministries



## MILWAUKEE (AREA 1)

**Agape Harvest Fellowship**  
**Ministries Church of Engle-**  
**burg**  
4620 W North Avenue  
Milwaukee 53208  
Sunday Worship 10AM  
414.449.2390 or AHFM.org

**Apostolic Missionary Church**  
2686 S 12th Street  
Milwaukee 53207  
Call for times 414.645.7383

**Berean Family Worship Cen-**  
**ter, 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

**Blessed Deliverance M.B.C.**  
2215 N. 23rd Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53205  
414-344-9645  
Sunday School 8:45 am  
Worship 10 am  
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 pm  
BlessedDeliverance@aol.com

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

**Christian Faith Fellowship**  
**Church East**  
724 S. Layton Blvd.  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53215  
Sunday Worship Time: 10 a.m.  
Sunday Night Ministry Training  
6:00 p.m.  
Wed Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.  
www.cfceast.org

**Cornerstone Church Milwau-**  
**kee**  
2223 E. Kenwood Blvd  
Milwaukee, WI 53211  
Sunday Worship 10am  
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  
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

**Newport Missionary Baptist**  
**Church**  
2237 N. 11th St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53205  
Sunday School: 9:30am  
Service: 11am  
Wed Nite Bible Study: 7pm  
414-265-5881  
newportmissionarybaptistchurch@gmail.com

**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.org

**Spiritual Healing & Restora-**  
**tion Ministries**  
2925 W Lincoln Avenue  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53215  
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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 Villet St  
Milwaukee 53208  
Sunday Worship 11AM  
414.933.4744

**Word of Grace Fellowship**  
4949 West Villard Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53218  
Pastor 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**  
11321 St. Martins Rd.  
Franklin, WI 53132  
Sunday Bible Study 9:30AM  
Children's/Jr Church 10:30AM  
414.232.3158 or  
www.cbfranklinwi.com

**Faith Christian Fellowship**  
A Family Church  
11010 W. St. Martins Road  
Franklin 53132  
Sunday Worship 10:30AM &  
6PM  
Wednesday Bible Study 7PM  
414.425.5880

**Harvest Community Church**  
6612 S Howell Ave  
Oak Creek 53154  
Sunday School 10AM  
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 AM 1:30 12:45PM  
414.423.0700 or Jubilee-Christian.org

**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 available

**Brookfield Christian Reformed**  
14135 W Burling Rd  
Brookfield 53005  
Sunday Worship 9:30AM  
262.784.1125

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

**Elmbrook Church**  
771 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 Sundays 10AM  
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

**Honey Creek Church**  
8200 W. Bluemound Rd.  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213  
(414) 475-1234  
Sunday Worship - 10:30 am  
Honeycreekchurch.org

**Lifeline Church**  
3285 N Calhoun Road  
Brookfield, WI 53005  
262-783-2900  
www.vifonline.org

**New Beginnings Fellowship**  
**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,  
New Berlin  
Worship Services  
Sundays 11:15AM & 6:00PM  
Wednesday 6:30PM  
414-423-5241

**New Song Church**  
Klemmers  
10401 W. Oklahoma Ave.  
Sunday 10AM

**New Vintage Church**  
6626 W. Beloit Rd.  
West Allis, WI 53219  
Sunday 10AM  
Wednesday 7PM  
414.400.8320  
www.newvintagewi.org

**Pipeline to Jesus Church**  
13400 W Beloit Rd  
New Berlin 53151  
Sunday Worship 10AM  
Tuesday 7PM  
414.525.0000 PipelineToJesus.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  
Poplarcreekchurch.org

**Reformation Hope Church**  
915 Adelman Ave., Lower Level  
Brookfield, WI 53045  
Sunday Worship 10:30AM  
Family Bible Hour Sunday  
1:00PM  
www.reformationhopechurchministries.com

**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

**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  
WauwatosaBibleChapel.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  
service

**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  
lclaport.com

**Covenant Connection**  
**Fellowship 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 RacineFCF.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

**Foundational Biblical Baptist**  
**Church**  
6224 22nd Ave.  
Kenosha, WI 53143  
Sunday School 10am  
Morning Service 11am  
Main Service 6pm  
262-654-4665 www.fbckkenosha.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  
262.654.9631 GBC-Kenosha.org

**Hillside Community Church**  
593 W30580 County Rd NN  
Mukwonago 53149  
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 Rd  
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 E5  
Mukwonago WI 53149  
Sunday Worship, 9:30am  
Wednesday, Family Night &  
Youth Ministry, 6:30pm  
(262) 363-5443  
<http://www.orchardhillag.com>

**Praise Fellowship Church**  
W195 59912 Racine Avenue  
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

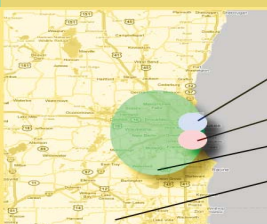
**Terrace Shores Ev Free Church**  
W3278 County Road K  
Markesan 53946  
Sunday Worship 7:45, 9:15,  
10:45AM  
920.398.2734

**Transformational Ministry**  
1123 Center St.  
Racine, WI 53403  
Sundays Worship: 2pm  
224.656.1803

**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**  
**Nazarene**  
609 Sandy Acre Drive  
West Bend, WI 53090  
262-334-7124  
www.wbncz.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



**Color-coded**  
**Church Locations in**  
**Directory**  
Area 1 -  
Metropolitan  
Milwaukee  
Area 2 - Southern  
Milwaukee County  
Area 3 - Western  
Suburbs  
Area 4 - Region  
Beyond Greater  
Milwaukee

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Email: [info@midwestmensretreat.com](mailto:info@midwestmensretreat.com)

[www.midwestmensretreat.com](http://www.midwestmensretreat.com)

"Go to the ant, thou sluggard; Consider her ways, and be wise: Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest."  
(Proverbs 6:6-8)

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