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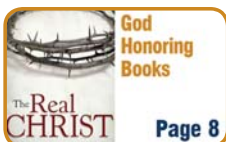
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2020 Wisconsin Governor's Prayer Breakfast

The Annual Wisconsin Governor's Prayer Breakfast will be held on Thursday, May 6, which is also the National Day of Prayer. This event is being held this year at the Wisconsin Club, 900 W. Wisconsin Ave., in downtown Milwaukee with ample free parking for everyone. It is open to the public and is a non-political event.



Bob Doll

Currently between employers himself, the special guest speaker is Bob Doll who has spent forty years on Wall Street in the investment management business. Most recently, Bob was the Senior Portfolio Manager and Chief Equity Strategist at Nuveen Asset Management. Bob has also worked for Oppenheimer Funds, Merrill Lynch Investment Managers, and BlackRock. He is a CPA and a CFA. Bob has appeared regularly on CNBC, Bloomberg Television, and Fox Business News discussing the economy and markets. He is a highly respected authority on the equities markets among investors, advisors, and the media. As the author of widely followed weekly commentaries and annual market predictions, Bob provides ongoing, timely market perspectives.

For ticket information, go to the website www.wisconsinforgovernorsprayerbreakfast.com. A ticket order form is available on the website and on page 4 inside. You are encouraged to obtain your tickets early this year. Tables consist of six people each. For further information, email info@wisconsinforgovernorsprayerbreakfast.com or call 414-344-7300.



Tony Neal

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS CONFIRMED TO DATE:

- Jeremiah Behling, Managing Partner Behling, Utmost Capital Connection
- Mark Bruce, DO, Emergency Physician, Edgerton Hospital
- Thomas Gale, Senior Advisor, SVN, Hintz Commercial Real Estate, Inc.
- Elaine Guzman, Administrator, Academy of Excellence
- Nancy Hodges, President, National Spring, Inc.
- Mark Lieberthal, Manager of Provider Data and Benefits Management, Skygen USA
- Earnell Lucas, Milwaukee County Sheriff
- Tony Neal, Payroll Supervisor, V&J Holding Companies, Inc., and Gospel Artist.
- Howard L. Honett, PE, President, Bon Heating and Veteran, US Naval Air Corps (1943-1945)

Grand Opening of CrossWay NorthShore

By Bob Conklin

Be watching for the Grand Opening of CrossWay NorthShore (crosswayc.org) at 2500 W. Brown Deer Road. Under the leadership of Lead Pastor Jason Esposito, in addition to the campus on Pilgrim Road in Germantown and

helping promote this exciting new congregation. CrossWay NorthShore will offer programs for kids aged birth through 5th grade.

The Worship Pastor will be Nathan Boyd. A longtime member of Eternity men's quartet (Milwaukee's own Southern Gospel mix of Ernie Haas & Signature Sound combined with the Booth Brothers), Nathan has been a worship leader within area Christian & Missionary Alliance CMA churches.

Carrying on a great legacy, CrossWay NorthShore has gone to great



Campus Pastor Josh Koskinen

the Sussex campus, this location will represent the third campus for CrossWay Church. CrossWay NorthShore Campus Pastor Josh Koskinen has announced Sunday March 21st at 10 am will mark their first meeting. Preceding Easter Sunday, NorthShore will be holding an egg hunt on Saturday April 3rd. Communications Director Jenny Hendricks is



Worship Pastor Nathan Boyd

lengths to maximize the function of this beautiful building formerly home to Hillpoint Church and prior to that, Mayflower Congregational Church. Working in concert with the prior membership, Nathan and his carpentry crew have logged many hours to preserve the traditional interior of the sanctuary and classic wood pews while modernizing the sound system. They brought the sound booth down to the main floor from the balcony, have added screens and lighting as well as installing acoustic panels in the bright sanctuary that will improve the sound for all ages!

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Commentary

Three Cheers for the Red, White, and Blue

By Bob Conklin

Bible prophecy teachers say that eventually we are going to have a one world government and a cashless society. Could it finally be happening? Right now, right here before our very eyes?

Let's look at the one world government. What needs to happen for this to materialize? Well of course, the world's leading nation must be gotten out of the way. Has there been any greater nation of late than the United States of America? If the USA has been that world leading nation, wasn't president Donald J. Trump the world leader who also needed to be removed from the scene?



USA gone. Trump gone. USA gone? President Trump, that night in November he spoke from the White House said, "If we don't get a handle on these elections, we don't have a country anymore."

Onto the cashless society. Read the signs going up at the bank lately? One says, "We can temporarily help you make deposits to non FDIC insured investment accounts..."

Another sign says, "Limited supply of new bills – the Federal Reserve has announced that they won't be providing new bills. We apologize for this inconvenience."

Also, we've all seen the signs at the grocery store and elsewhere saying "Debit or credit card only, or "We are not accepting coins due to the shortage thereof."

We know God causes nations to rise and fall according to his plan and will. If America is being reduced on the world stage to make

room for other leadership, it's only appropriate we reflect on the great nation the USA has been. Think of Stars and Stripes Forever by John Philip Sousa. By an act of Congress in 1987 it is the official National March of the United States of America.



Watch and listen to the Battle Hymn of the Republic sung by the United States Army band. The lyrics say so much about what America has meant to the world and how we have served and honored God. How about God Bless America and the Star-Spangled Banner? Truly we have let freedom ring around the world!

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. If we see Old Glory start to fade, stand beside her and let us look to Christ, waving the Christian flag (shown above) of the church. The Cross of Christ will endure to the end.

First Timothy 2:1-4 says to pray and intercede for kings and all that are in authority. Our National Day of Prayer is fast approaching. Mark your calendars for Thursday May 6th at 7:30 a.m.. Join us on site, or virtually as we gather at the Wisconsin Club for Wisconsin Governor's Prayer Breakfast. Call 414-344-7300 or visit the website to purchase tickets. Seating is limited. In the meantime, Happy Resurrection! Be sure to tune into Pastor Julius Malone's annual Good Friday message at www.newtchurch.org.

Bob and Howard in Madison personally delivering Gov. Evers his invitation to speak at this year's Governor's Prayer Breakfast.



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News & More



A Word From the Heart

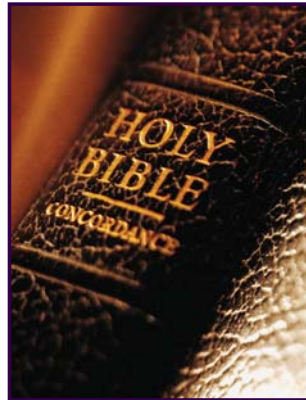
By John Duckhorn

The church in Thessalonica was barely a couple of months old when the Apostle Paul had to flee for his life. Acts 17:5-10. These new believers were being confused by false teaching and misunderstood some things that Paul taught on the coming of our Lord. That was bad enough but there were unruly believers who, for whatever reason, "began to mooch off of fellow believers". The people were influenced by "busy bodies" and were of no help to the spiritual maturity of the church.

In chapter 5:12-14, the apostle Paul gives some insights to the congregation by teaching them to know how to recognize those who were serving among them in a Christ-like manner. How easily they could be fooled by gifted yet unqualified men. It is not the most active or spectacular person that would qualify. Humble service and care for others is easy to overlook in strong opinionated society.

Everyone was to look out for each other. Our society shows little of that and enjoys bringing harm to those who do not agree with them. Paul mentions three types of individuals that needed some looking after. "Now we exhort you brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient toward all." (5:14)

Notice that each person is to be treated according to their needs. The unruly is to be warned. The one who is always out of step needs to be urged to walk in step and stay in ranks. Warning someone can cause



resentment on their part. Discipline is never pleasant. We need to appeal directly to their conscience, reminding them of what they are in danger of forgetting. Do not forget to deal with the issue and don't drag out a list of errors done over the years. One reason for that is the past issues were to be taken care at that time and not saved up for a more appropriate time.

The next point of concern is "comfort the faint-hearted". The word used in the Gospel of John 11:19,31 is to comfort the bereaved. Has a loved one just died? Are they downcast or disheartened? We bring comfort to them by helping them to continue the battle. Some are discouraged on account of various trials and troubles. They need to be cheered up and stimulated. To be harsh with them will do little good. Judging others is a common Christian habit. The fainthearted must be encouraged and braced up by fellow believers.

The last one on the list is "the weak". Those without strength. This of course is not just the lack of physical strength but rather the morally or spiritually weak. They are in need of sympathetic assistance. To uphold is the idea of supporting another by keeping one's self "over against" the weak so as to sustain them. Put your arms around the weak and uphold them. True shepherding is far more than managing programs and overseeing a smooth-running machine. It is taking time for people. Time that may actually cause us to pay attention to what the Holy Spirit wants to do among us.

New York Church Installs 'Blessing Box' For Neighbors Surviving Harsh Winter Amid COVID Lockdowns

By Michael Gryboski



A congregation in New York has installed a "blessing box" on their church property to provide food and clothing for those in need during the COVID-19 lockdowns.

St. James Episcopal Church of Batavia installed the box on Tuesday and filled it with various items, including food, toiletries, hats, gloves, socks, and face masks on Wednesday.

The box was the product of a collaboration between St. James Episcopal and three other nearby churches: Batavia First Presbyterian Church, First Baptist Church of Batavia, and Resurrection Roman Catholic Church.

In comments emailed to The Christian Post recently, St. James Episcopal Deacon Diana Leiker said the blessing box derived from members of the congregation feeling "that a ministry to serve the un-housed and underserved population was needed."

"The city of Batavia has people who are trying to survive in the middle of a Western New York winter during times that are more challenging than ever," said Leiker.

In addition to the other churches' involvement, St. James Episcopal also applied for and received grant money for the project from the Episcopal Diocese of Western New York.

Aside from the various food, clothing, and other items available, the blessing box also includes a prayer box with a slot where people can place prayer requests written on index cards.

"One person will collect the requests twice a week and share them with the larger group, so we can hold people up in prayer on our own and on church prayer lists," Leiker added.

"There are also cards that contain resources and places to go for help throughout the

community of Batavia, for people who don't have access to media."

As part of the effort to continue to fuel support for the blessing box, a Facebook group was created to help keep people informed about what supplies are needed.

"There is a new structure in front of St. James Episcopal Church on East Main Street in Batavia. It is quite a bit smaller than the church, but don't let the size of this Blessing Box diminish its mission," stated the group.

Leiker believed that the box was "a way for all of us to let our neighbors know we 'see' them and they are not forgotten," referencing a Zulu greeting called "Sawubona," or "I see you."

"This is what we are doing when we respond to Matthew 25:35, 'for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,'" Leiker added.

"We are working with each other, united in purpose, to be Christ in the world and we are blessed by collaborating and meeting new people along the way."

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. Matthew 25:35,36



News & More



South Carolina Legislature Passes Heartbeat Abortion Ban; Governor Expected to Sign

By Michael Gryboski

The South Carolina House voted overwhelmingly to support a ban on abortions once a fetal heartbeat is detected, which can be as early as six weeks into a pregnancy.

Known as the "South Carolina Fetal Heartbeat and Protection from Abortion Act," the House passed the bill on February 17th by a vote of 79-35, having already passed the state Senate.

The proposed legislation prohibits "an abortion on a pregnant woman before a physician determines ... whether the human fetus the pregnant woman is carrying has a detectable fetal heartbeat."

Governor Henry McMaster has been a supporter of the legislation and is expected to sign it, making South Carolina the latest in a series of states to pass similar legislation.

Lisa Van Riper, president of the pro-life group South Carolina Citizens for Life, celebrated news of the bill's passage in a statement released Wednesday.

"This is an historic day in South Carolina when the House and the Senate have re-established the heartbeat as the scientific, objective standard as the sign of life for the unborn," stated Van Riper. "[The Act] protects not only the unborn but the medically fragile members of our human family."

Groups like the South Carolina chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union denounced the legislation as a de facto ban on abortion, claiming that it is unconstitutional.

Continued on page 5

2021 Governor's Prayer Breakfast Ticket Order Form

_____ Individual Ticket(s) for a **\$40.00 donation each**. Seating at a non-reserved table.

_____ Reserved Table(s) of 6 for a **\$240.00 donation each table**.

_____ Priority Seating Reserved Table(s) of 6 for a **\$300.00 donation each table**.

_____ SPONSOR/PRIORITY Seating Reserved Table(s) of 6 as follows:

One table for a **\$420.00 donation**

Two tables for a **\$390.00 donation each table**

Three or more tables for a **\$360.00 donation each table**

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News & More



Nearly 3-In-10 Americans Say COVID-19 Pandemic Has Strengthened Their Faith

By Michael Gryboski

More than one-quarter of Americans say that the COVID-19 pandemic has strengthened their faith, giving the United States the highest percentage among 14 developed countries analyzed for a new Pew Research Center report.

In a report published recently, Pew found that nearly three out of 10 Americans (28%) say that their faith has grown stronger during the pandemic, while nearly four out of 10 say the pandemic has helped strengthen their family bonds.

The Pew report drew from data collected via its Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, which was built on interviews conducted among 480,000 individuals in 91 countries. The survey is based on national samples. The U.S. sample consists of a plus or minus 3.7-percentage-point error margin.

Spain had the second-highest percentage of respondents, saying that the pandemic had strengthened their faith at 16%

From there, it was Italy at 15% and Canada at 13%. Australia, France, South Korea and the United Kingdom in a four-way tie at 10%.

Additionally, 28% of American respondents also said they believed the pandemic had strengthened people's religious faith in their country, which was also the highest percentage among the surveyed developed countries.

At the bottom of the surveyed industrialized nations was Denmark. Just 2% of Danish respondents said their religious beliefs were strengthened during the pandemic.

In Italy, 19% of respondents said that they believed the pandemic had strengthened the religious faith of people in their country.

After Italy, Spain and Netherlands tied with 17% of respondents who said that the faith of the people in their country were strengthened.

At the bottom was Japan, in which only 5% of respondents felt that the people's religious faith in their countries had been strengthened. Additionally, only 5% of Japanese respondents said their own reli-



gious beliefs were strengthened during the pandemic.

"The United States recently has experienced some trends toward secularization, including a growing share of the population that does not identify with any religion and a shrinking share of people who say they regularly attend a church or other house of worship," the report reads.

"Still, religion continues to play a stronger role in American life than in many other economically developed

countries."

When asked how the pandemic has impacted their family lives, Pew notes that about four-in-10 adults surveyed in Spain, Italy, the U.S. and the U.K. said that their relationship with family had been strengthened. In Germany, Japan and South Korea, only about two out of 10 people said the same.

Much has been made about the probable long-term impact on religious communities due to the coronavirus pandemic and subsequent shutdowns.

While some have pointed to many churches facing possible closures due to drops in giving and participation, others have noted a growing interest in spiritual matters.

Last November, the legal nonprofit Becket released a Religious Freedom Index report stating that Generation Z Americans have relied on faith more than other generations during the pandemic.

Drawing from a sample of 1,000 U.S. adults conducted Sept. 30 to Oct. 8, the index found that 74% of Gen Z respondents said faith was "at least somewhat important" during the pandemic, putting them above the 62% average of all generations.

The Silent Generation, or those born before the end of World War II, were the second most likely to see faith as "at least somewhat important" at 64%. Generation X was the lowest at 56%.

Continued from South Carolina, page 4

"This legislation places both medical providers and their patients at risk. It imposes criminal sanctions on abortion-providing doctors unless the procedure is intended to prevent death or serious risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function," stated the ACLU back in January.

"This legislation is unconstitutional. The Fourteenth Amendment to the US Constitution guarantees a right to privacy, and the United States Supreme Court has repeatedly reaffirmed that this right includes a person's ability to make decisions about their healthcare."

Over the past couple of years, multiple states have passed laws that prohibit abortions in most circumstances if the heartbeat of an unborn baby is detected.



These measures have been successfully challenged in the courts, with judges concluding that they violate the right to abortion as laid out in the United States Supreme Court decision *Roe v. Wade*.

Last July, Tennessee Governor Bill Lee signed a similar measure into law, only to have U.S. District Court Judge William Campbell stop it from being enforced.

"The Act will immediately impact patients seeking abortions and imposes criminal sanctions on abortion providers. The time-sensitive

nature of the procedure also weighs in favor of injunctive relief pending a preliminary injunction hearing," ruled Campbell.

For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. Song of Solomon 2:11-12



News & More



CONSIDER

By Linda Oberbrunner, Author of *Mercy Extended*



The other day I became quite intrigued to consider examining the word, consider. First I read through various synonyms on the Merriam-Webster Thesaurus website which included: chew over, cogitate, contemplate, debate, deliberate, entertain, eye, kick around, meditate, mull (over), perpend, ponder, pore (over), question, revolve, ruminate, study, think, (about or over), turn, weigh, and wrestle (with). Wow, what a richly-defined word!

It definitely describes an action many of us are doing automatically as our senses of sight and hearing become bombarded daily with texts, spam messages, newscasts, emails, podcasts, news articles, sermons, phone calls, Face Time, Facebook, Parler, advertising, and more. We may consider every message that enters our mind and allow it to take root or completely ignore the content. Regardless, each interruption means we have been intercepted, invaded, inconvenienced, influenced, irritated, informed, and maybe even infected. Consideration takes time and effort and can be worthwhile.

In fact, the word, “consider” shows up quite commonly in 89 verses of God’s Word in the English Standard Version Bible. It can be found in 32 books of both the Old and New Testaments. While reading, studying, and thoroughly considering each of the 89 passages, a new appreciation developed in me for God’s inspired writers and real-life examples (including Moses, Samuel, Abigail, Jehoshaphat, Job, David, King Solomon, the woman of Proverbs 31, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Haggai, Matthew, Luke, and Paul).

For example, in Luke 12:27, we are challenged with the words, “Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.”

Dr. Luke encourages us in this verse to place our complete trust in God for every situation, fear, or anxiety we may encounter. This is especially relevant for these uncertain times. Consider how God, as our Benevolent Father, is using the Spring of 2021 to usher in new beginnings and bring fresh hope along with the anticipation of the glorious message of Easter.

In preparation for Easter this year I encourage you to **CONSIDER** Jesus’

- betrayal by one of His disciples,
- abandonment by many, including me and you
- enduring of a horrible calculated scourging
- undergoing a public mockery and cruel placement of the crown of thorns
- experiencing the forcefully driven nails into His flesh
- agonizing three hour death
- ultimately being forsaken by God His Father

Then **CONSIDER** the reality of where would we spend eternity if Jesus did not willingly submit to the will of His Father by offering Himself as the perfect substitutionary sacrifice for our sins and the sins of the entire world?

The Good News is: “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because He has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.” John 3:16-18

Consider the truth of His word.

If you have no JOY, there’s a leak in your Christianity somewhere.
~ Billy Sunday

West Sound Youth For Christ: Bringing Hope to Kids Feeling Hopeless During the Pandemic

In a community partnership with North Point Church, West Sound Youth For Christ (YFC, www.yfc.net) will be opening a teen center in the heart of Poulsbo, Washington this March. Located right across the street from both North Kitsap High School and Middle Schools, the new teen center will serve teens in the area and provide them with a safe location to visit after school.

Phil Daubenspeck, West Sound Youth For Christ’s executive director, is grateful for this partnership with North Point Church, and with the partnerships that West Sound YFC is building with other churches and organizations in the area. “This new location will give teens a place to see friends in a safe environment. Many of these kids aren’t back in classrooms yet due to the pandemic – this is a chance for them to connect with each other, to experience the YFC program. It’s a



chance to bring them hope at a time when they feel hopeless.”

Adam Smith, West Sound YFC’s development director, echoed the need to bring hope to teens in the local community. “If

a teen’s life was hard before COVID, it has become increasingly harder during the pandemic. We’re seeing a lot of kids really struggling emotionally with the isolation ... they are hurting badly right now, so much so that some kids are turning to drugs to try to numb the pain that’s in their lives.”

West Sound YFC seeks community transformation through holistic and relational outreach to kids and families of all backgrounds and beliefs. Each month, throughout Kitsap and North Mason Counties, the ministry engages with kids in schools, juvenile institutions, coffee shops, and local hangouts. Whether at the skate park, the detention center or coaching a teen mom through the struggles of parenting, YFC staff and volunteers show the love of Christ in tangible ways.

Smith, who holds an art degree, has recently been volunteering with a YFC teen art

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Koinonia House Brings Gospel Hope to Forgotten Prisoners Amid COVID Lockdowns

By Jackson Elliott

Prisoners in Illinois, Mississippi and Louisiana have endured stricter lockdowns due to COVID-19, but thanks to the Christian ministry Koinonia House, professing prisoners have received spiritual encouragement.

Since March 2020, prisoners in Illinois and other states have been in lockdown, said Koinonia House Executive Director Manny Mill to The Christian Post. Mill knows prison from the inside. He became a Christian while hiding from the FBI in Venezuela. When he found God, he returned to the United States, turned himself in, and served two years in prison.

"Very few Christians care for the prisoner. Most of our churches don't even mention it, when in fact the Bible is filled with it," he said. "When you think of the characters in the Bible — Joseph became a prisoner; Moses became a killer; King David was a former rapist and a killer; Abraham was a pimp and a liar; and Paul was a serial killer."

People always struggle in prison, Mill said. But constant lockdowns and COVID-19 restrictions on the few freedoms prisoners have made it even harder.

"It's very unusual," he said. "Usually, [prisoners] have [freedom of] movement. Depending on the level of the facility, even in a maximum-security they have movement. The movement may be guarded by an officer, but they have movement. They can go to the yard, to school, to a religious service, they can go to eat, but in this time all of those things have not happened."

Prison means constant surveillance, he said. Officers counted Mill seven times a day during his own time in prison. To endure difficult conditions in prison, inmates depend on following a routine.

"Lockdowns take you out of your routine. Prison is all about routine," he said. "If you get locked down in a situation like this with the fear that you can die, it will bring a complete disruption to your routine. Fear can set in. It can also paralyze you. That's where people commit suicide."

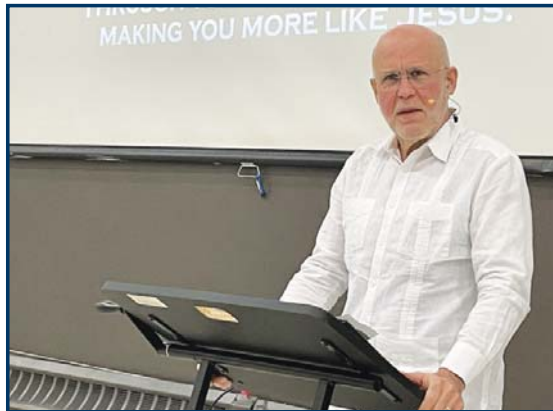
Lockdowns create a prison within the prison, he said.

"Officers go out to the parking lot and get a gun from their car and blow their brains out. It can bring you to the point of despair. And then you have no hope. If you have no hope, you have no life and no reason to live," Mill stressed.

COVID-19 blazes through the prison population four times faster than it goes through the rest of society. Prisoners can't escape the disease.

Since the pandemic began, more than 270,000 prisoners and more than 59,000 correctional employees have been infected with the coronavirus, according to the COVID Prison Project.

To give hope to these prisoners, Koinonia House created DVD videos that prisons could play for inmates. They also hosted online services that prisoners could attend by Zoom. Their most recent video, titled



"Dare to Hope," features worship music and testimonies from former prisoners on how they found Jesus. Mill's group also donated soap, shampoo, coats, backpacks and books to prisoners.

A former prisoner named Eddie testified in the ministry's video, "It was there in prison, where I rededicated my life to the Lord. The Bible tells you in 2 Corinthians 5:17 that if any man be in Christ, he's a new creation. It was that scripture that resonated in my heart."

When he became a Christian, his desires to do evil things left him.

"There is nothing too hard for God. Nothing too hard for God," he declared.

Mill said his ministry does not refer to prisoners by their last names to avoid attaching them to the shame of their crime.

Koinonia House finds various ways to help prisoners because group members love prisoners, said Mill.

"Love is creative," he said. "When we face a challenge, when we face a test, when we face a trial, love always triumphs. We have to love creatively. We have to find a way of loving."

Mill recently led a discipleship group of 36 people at Compass Church in Wheaton, Illinois. Ten attendees were on Zoom, some of whom were current prisoners.

Mill asked one man in prison for life, Joachim, to lead the closing prayer. Prisoners often feel lonely and forgotten by the outside world, Mill said.

"If you're a man [in prison], your wife will usually divorce you. Half of the men in prison never get a visitor. About 35% of them never get a piece of mail. They feel that they are forgotten. When they watch these videos, they know that they are being remembered. It's good to be remembered. That's why we send out Christmas cards," he said.

The Church often doesn't obey Jesus' commands to care for and visit prisoners, Mill lamented. Jesus said that His followers will be known because they visited prisons when others didn't. But most churches never even talk about prisoners.

"We are the Church. We are commanded by God's Word to be a voice to the voiceless. We cannot forget the prisoner," he said. "Therefore, if we're going to proclaim a credible Gospel, we have to include that Jesus Himself became a criminal. We must live a Gospel that includes the prisoner."

Christians can help prisoners by reading their Bibles and asking God to make them more compassionate, Mill said. Then they can work with local Christian groups that work with prisoners.

"Become sensitive. Become less judgmental. Know and think that everybody can make it to prison," he said. "When you bless the prisoner, God will open the gates of Heaven for you. That is when you make God the Father the happiest."

This is your garden, Creator God, a thing of beauty beyond understanding, a poem that is being written not in words but in colors, wind's whisper, soaring bird, snowdrop's petal, gentle rain, sunlight's warmth. This is your garden, Creator God. A thing of beauty beyond our understanding. ~ faithandworship.com

Books & More

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MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

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Oscar Johnson - 414-350-3514

7 am CBMC Bible Study

Thursdays - Meyers Restaurant, 4260 S. 76th St, Milwaukee
Bob Pratt - 414-425-0424

6:45 am CBMC Bible Study

Fridays - Chuck's Place, 406 N. Main St, Thiensville
Howard Honett - 262-618-2753

7:30 AM Saturday Men's Bible Study: Exodus

Brookside Baptist Church, 4470 Pilgrim Rd, Brookfield, WI
Pastor John - 920-445-1899

8 am Faithwalkers

Saturdays - CrossWay NorthShore Church
2500 W. Brown Deer Rd, Milwaukee
Stan Lind - 414-305-8383

Christian Book Reviews

Imprints The Evidence Our Lives Leave Behind by Patrick Gray and Justin Skeesuck



The world is broken - you can help it mend. Our words and actions have lasting consequences. Each choice we make can spread joy or pain, light or darkness, heaven or hell, to those around us. We all have the power to change the trajectory of another person's life through who we choose to be. Examining our influence through the lens of love and compassion, Imprints reminds us that the impact we make on others is evidence of the life we have lived, the legacy we leave behind.

Patrick Gray and Justin Skeesuck have been best friends all their lives. Authors of I'll Push You and The Push, they run Push, Inc., a company dedicated to helping individuals and organizations achieve

more through the power of relationships and community. **Compassion imprint of Tyndale Publishing, Inc. \$15.99**

Free: Rescued from Shame-Based Religion, Released into the Life-Giving Love of Jesus by J. Kevin Butcher



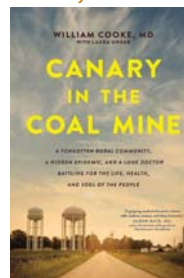
In perhaps the most pointed moment of his last hours with his followers, Jesus says, "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love" (John 15:9). In discussions with church leaders, J. Kevin Butcher made a discovery: the prevalence of shame-based, try-harder Christianity - know more, do more, be more—has left many believers exhausted and discouraged, passionately longing to experience and live in Jesus' love. Their question: how?

Free: Rescued from Shame-Based Religion, Released into the Life-Giving Love of Jesus is about how to fall in love with Jesus—and how to walk with him surrounded and empowered by His love. De-

void of "lists and shoulds," Free unveils a relational pathway of spiritual healing, intimacy, and freedom, showing from Scripture and real-life stories how to embrace a love that powerfully gives birth to our worship, obedience, and willingness to surrender all to Jesus.

J Kevin Butcher, a graduate of Taylor University and Dallas Theological Seminary, was a lead pastor for 35 years—the last 17 in urban Detroit—and is now the founder and executive director of Rooted Ministries, Inc., a nonprofit designed to come alongside isolated, wounded, discouraged pastors and their families. **NavPress \$15.99**

Canary in the Coal Mine: A Forgotten Rural Community, a Hidden Epidemic, and a Lone Doctor Battling for the Life, Health, and Soul of the People by Dr. William Cooke



He was the town's only doctor, fighting a silent epidemic that threatened the future of the community...and he exposed a hidden crisis in rural America that is a growing peril to us all.

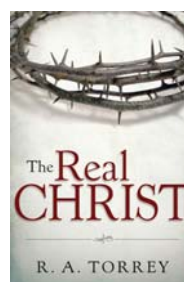
When Dr. Will Cooke, an idealistic young physician just out of medical training set up practice in the small community of Austin, Indiana, he had no idea that much of the town was being torn apart by poverty, addiction, and life-threatening illnesses. Soon, however, he would find himself at the crossroads of two unprecedented health-care disasters: an opioid epidemic and the worst drug-fueled HIV outbreak ever seen in a rural American community.

Once confronted with Austin's hidden secrets, Dr. Cooke decided he had to do something about them. But in taking up the fight for Austin's people, he would have to battle some unanticipated foes: prejudice, political resistance, and entrenched bureaucracy—and the dark despair that threatened to overwhelm his own soul.

Canary in the Coal Mine offers inspiration for anyone facing daunting obstacles—and a road map of hope for those concerned about our nation's preparedness to deal with ever more deadly outbreaks of disease.

William Cooke, MD, FAFAP, FASAM, AAHIVS, is a fellow of the American Academy of Family Medicine and the American Society of Addiction Medicine, specializing in family medicine, addiction medicine, and HIV medicine. In 2019 he was named Physician of the Year by the American Academy of Family Physicians and received the Ryan White Distinguished Leadership Award. **Tyndale House Publishers, Momentum imprint. \$25.99**

The Real Christ by R.A. Torrey



The representations of Christ by many poets, essayists, and preachers, while not so grossly false, are nevertheless unsatisfying," said R.A. Torrey. Almost everyone we talk to has a different interpretation of the person of Christ—who He was and what he stood for. This prompted Torrey on a journey to discover the real Christ—the Christ whom God reveals to us in His Word. Through this book, you will encounter....

- Christ's love for the Father
- His love for men
- His humility, manliness, and compassion
- His prayerfulness

Join R.A. Torrey on a journey to discover the real Christ, not the Christ of Western society or the one we often fabricate in our minds. Learn who the real Christ is, the Christ of God's own appointment, whom Christ reveals to us through the written Word. Not a new book, but a classic. **Whitaker House \$12.99**

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



News & More



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Elmbrook Church Boys Club legacy. Shown here: Rangers: Jeff Vanderkin, Brad Sabina, Stu Caddell, Lou Brown, and Bob Conklin

NO REGRETS

In 1904, young William Borden traveled the continents, feeling a growing burden for the world's hurting people. In his desire to be a missionary after college, he wrote two words in the back of his Bible:

"No Reserves"

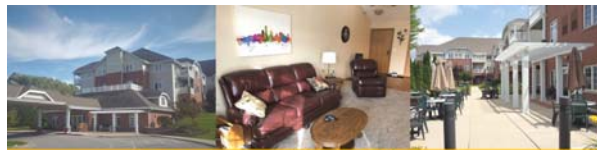
Heir to the Borden Dairy fortune, he went to Yale University where he led Bible studies, and volunteered whenever he could. His motto during his college years was "Say 'no' to self and 'yes' to Jesus every time." Upon graduation from Yale, Borden turned down high-paying Job offers. In his Bible, he wrote two more words:

"No Retreats"

Borden went on to do graduate work at Princeton Seminary, and then promptly set sail for China. At a stopover in Egypt, he contracted spinal meningitis. Within a month, 25-year-old William Borden was dead. Was Borden's untimely death a waste? Not in God's perspective. Prior to his death, Borden had written two more words in his Bible. Underneath the words "No reserves" and "No retreats," he had written:

"No Regrets"

Excerpted from "Borden of Yale" by Moody Press. With thanks to Diakonos Designs, Stoughton, Wisconsin.



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Information above provided by Church Mutual customer Cape Cod Bible Alliance Church, Brewster, Massachusetts.

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News & More



Twitter Suspends Christian Magazine for Saying Biden's Trans Nominee Is A Man, Not A Woman

By Brandon Showalter

Twitter has suspended a Christian magazine's account for reporting that one of President Joe Biden's nominees is a man who believes he's a woman.

The Daily Citizen, a publication of the Colorado Springs-based Focus on the Family, tweeted on Jan. 19 that Biden's nominee for assistant secretary of health, Rachel Levine, "is a transgender woman, that is, a man who believes he is a woman," along with a link to an article about the nomination.

As a result, the social media giant locked the magazine out of its account, informing the publication that the tweet violated Twitter's user rules forbidding "hateful conduct."

The Daily Citizen appealed the suspension but was informed that its account will remain locked until it deletes the tweet.

Twitter wrote in a subsequent email to the magazine: "Hi The Daily Citizen, your account, @FocusCitizen has been locked for violating the Twitter Rules. Specifically for: Violating our rules against hateful conduct. You may not promote violence against, threaten, or harass other people on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, religious affiliation, age, disability, or serious disease."

"Please note that repeated violations may lead to a permanent suspension of your account," the email said. "Proceed to Twitter now to fix the issue with your account."

The Daily Citizen said in its reply to Twitter that numerous media outlets have reported on the nomination and wrote in their articles that Levine was born male and remains a man who believes he is female. Levine has undergone elective cosmetic surgery and taken cross-sex hormones in an attempt to look more like a woman physically.

The magazine has insisted that it never promoted violence and rejected Twitter's claims that it violated its rules.

"As a Christian organization, we would never do so. We simply explained to our readers the appointment and defined what transgen-



der women are — those born male who believe they are a woman, regardless of whether they have had opposite-sex hormones or surgeries."

"We believe Twitter's blocking of this tweet and lockdown of our account discriminates against Focus on the Family's The Daily Citizen on the basis of our religious affiliation."

Twitter has persisted in its insistence that the publication violated its user rules and rejected the publication's appeal. The platform said the ban would not be overturned.

Big tech's censorship of voices who state biological facts in the context of transgender issues and policies has not been limited to religious or philosophically conservative accounts on the platform.

In November 2018, Twitter updated its policies to prohibit users from tweeting the birth names of trans-identifying people — which transgender activists refer to as "dead-naming" — or from using biologically accurate pronouns when tweeting about trans-identifying people.

Transgender advocates call the use of "he" to describe a male who identifies as female "misgendering." Both dead-naming and misgendering are akin to "abuse" and "violence," according to trans-activists.

For example, Twitter permanently booted radical feminist journalist Meghan Murphy from the platform after she tweeted that "men aren't women." Twitter took this action days before it instituted its trans-activist policy.

Murphy wrote in an editorial at the time that "while Twitter knowingly permits graphic pornography and death threats on the platform (I have reported countless violent threats, the vast majority of which have gone unaddressed), they won't allow me to state very basic facts, such as 'men aren't women.'"

"This is hardly an abhorrent thing to say, nor should it be considered 'hateful' to ask questions about the notion that people can change sex, or ask for explanations about transgender ideology," she said.

IVOTERGUIDE RESPONDS TO PRESIDENT BIDEN'S TURNING TO FAITH AT THE 69TH NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST



In February President Joe Biden participated in the 69th National Prayer Breakfast, which was held virtually this year due to the pandemic. It featured messages from every living president except former President Donald Trump. President Biden said, "For so many in our nation, this is a dark, dark time. So where do we turn? Faith."

The President shared a message of uniting around faith to tackle issues such as the pandemic, racial injustice, evictions, and hunger. Biden stated, "For me, in the darkest moments, faith provides hope and solace, faith provides clarity and purpose as well. It shows the way forward as one nation and a common purpose to respect one another." Biden, the nation's second Catholic president, quoted Psalm 30:5, "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning (KJV)."

iVoterGuide President Debbie Wuthnow stated, "There is no group that needs wisdom

and an attitude of love and forgiveness more than those we have elected to serve us at the federal and state level. President Biden said that we need to turn to 'faith.' Faith in what? Or whom? It is only faith in our sovereign creator God that will get us through. We must pray for all those in authority, for while we elected them to represent us, they are all under God's authority. While they are answerable to 'We the People,' ultimately, they are accountable to God. It's why iVoterGuide always says, 'Elections DO matter!'

iVoterGuide created Pray for Leaders (<https://ivoterguide.com/pray-for-leaders/>), an easy way for voters to pray by name for nine (9) officials that they personally have the authority to elect. Each workday, iVoterGuide distributes an email with a picture and information on one of the recipient's elected officials — plus a suggested prayer.



News & More



Focus on The Family Parenting Director Provides Tips On How To Raise Pro-Life Kids

By Ryan Foley

As parents who believe in the sanctity of human life face challenges in their quest to raise pro-life children at a time when mainstream society is exposing kids to pro-abortion points of view, a parenting expert has shared tips on how pro-life parents can influence their kids from an early age.

As January marks Sanctity of Human Life Month, Dr. Joannie DeBrito, the director of parenting and youth at the Christian conservative organization Focus on the Family, spoke with The Christian Post on the 48th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade U.S. Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion nationwide.

DeBrito, who is a mother and grandmother with over 30 years of experience as a parent educator and family life educator, assured that parents have the “greatest influence on their children” from the time they are young.

She encouraged pro-life parents to begin to “instill a value of all life” in their children from an early age. Instilling a value of life in children, she said, should go beyond teaching them the importance of pre-born life but life at “all ages.”

This includes, she said, learning to value people who “might not be seen by some people as valuable” because they have disabilities or because of their old age.

“So, it’s really helpful from the time your children are very young to instill that value of all life, that all life comes from God and is created by God and is valued by God,” DeBrito said.

“And so we can do that by obviously allowing our kids to have exposure to a variety of people at different ages and people with disabilities and so forth, and modeling that we value them, and modeling that we recognize them as being valuable as well.”

DeBrito shared a personal anecdote about the impact a girl with disabilities, who could not walk or talk, had on her daughter when she was younger.

“It had such an amazing impact on my daughter to actually sit and talk with her and hold her hand. And this little girl would respond to my daughter. She’d come up, and she’d say hi ... and say her name and stroke her,” she remembers. “And this little girl would be staring off and then all of a sudden, she’d make eye contact with my daughter and smile. And my daughter would sing to her.”

“My daughter from that point on ... just really had that sense of ... she is also a creation of the Lord and she is to be valued like everyone else,” DeBrito added.

The Focus on the Family director suggested that parents should plant a seed with their small children as an important first step. As kids watch the seed turn into a plant, they learn the value of life that may seem insignificant at first.

“Finally starting to see that little piece of green poke through the dirt and eventually develop into a plant or a flower, that’s a really great way to show that this teeny, tiny little seed that looked like it might be insignificant to the naked eye actually developed and blossomed into a beautiful plant or a beautiful flower,” she detailed.

“If you look under a microscope maybe at cells as conception and fertilization has occurred, it may appear to someone as if that isn’t life,



it’s just a cluster of cells. But in fact, it’s the beginning of a beautiful life and of God’s creation of life. So, that’s a great thing that you can do with kids who are younger.”

DeBrito advised parents to also expose their children to other people “who might be struggling” by doing charitable activities such as serving at a soup kitchen.

“[T]hey begin to understand that even though people may be struggling, that doesn’t necessarily mean that they aren’t of value,” she expounded.

DeBrito maintains that when it comes to teaching older children about abortion, it is best to stay ahead of the curve and expose them to the topic before they get to high school, where they may experience friends dealing with an unplanned pregnancy by “talking them through the kinds of things that might happen to people when they are dealing with an unplanned pregnancy.”

One of those realities, she said, is that those faced with unplanned pregnancies will “choose abortion” or be “really encouraged to choose abortion.”

“That’s a great time to talk very openly with your children about abortion, what it is,” DeBrito, who formerly served as director of university counseling services at Colorado Christian University, said.

Additionally, DeBrito stressed the importance of making sure that children know the consequences of abortion.

“Many, many people, probably a majority of people who have been impacted by an abortion either as a ... female who’s terminated a pregnancy or a man who has been part of that decision go on to regret that decision to feel a lot of shame, a lot of guilt,” she contends. “Sometimes, people get depressed, etcetera. So, it’s not just the loss of that life, it’s the damage that tends to be done for people who are impacted by abortion as well.”

DeBrito warned that there can be physiological issues when it comes to abortion depending on what type of procedure is done.

“There are plenty of risks involved in abortions,” she said. “And those are the kinds of things that are good to present to kids, obviously, as age-appropriate.”

The exact age that a parent should introduce a child to the concept of abortion depends on “the maturity of the child,” according to DeBrito.

Generally speaking, the Focus on the Family director concluded that an “upper elementary age is where you can talk about it a little bit more.”

As a former director of counseling on a Christian college campus, DeBrito recounted arguments made by abortion advocacy groups that stuck with college students. One of the arguments was that the unborn child constituted nothing more than “a blob of tissue.”

She considered such an argument to be a fallacy and dismissed it by circling back to the example of how a seed becomes a plant even when embedded in dirt within a Dixie cup. “It may look insignificant at the beginning but it grows into something beautiful. What if you had just looked at that and thrown that little seed in the trash?” she asked. “You would have never had what developed — the plant or the flower that blooms.”



News & More



Russell Wilson Named Walter Payton NFL Man of The Year, Quotes 1 Corinthians

By Anugrah Kumar

Seattle Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson paraphrased a line from the New Testament when he accepted the 2020 Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award for his COVID-19 relief efforts and other charitable causes during the pandemic.

"To America, to the world, love is patient, love is kind, love changes things," Wilson said, incorporating part of 1 Corinthians 13:4 into his acceptance speech during the NFL Honors show that aired on CBS the night before Super Bowl Sunday.

The award is given to a player in recognition of his "outstanding community service activities off the field, as well as excellence on it."

Wilson recalled the impact his father, who passed away in 2010, had on his life.

"Dad, I can remember you telling me in the car one day, 'Son, love changes things.' Well, dad, you were right. I wish you were here to tell the world that in the toughest of times. 2020 was the most difficult time in history," Wilson stressed.

"Dad, I know one of your favorite athletes of all-time was Walter Payton. The player he was, but more importantly the man he was, the leader, the giver, the person. Man, dad, I wish you were here for this award," he added.

Wilson quoted Payton, the hall of fame running back who passed away in 1999, as once saying, "We are stronger together than we are alone."

"Dad, I think Walter was right," the Pro Bowl quarterback said. "To the young boy or girl who has a dream, who wants to make a difference. Remember this one thing: love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love changes things. Thank you."

The Walter Payton Man of the Year Award is one of the most prestigious honors given to an NFL Player. The award was established in 1970 to recognize excellence both on and off the field.



Every season, each of the NFL's 32 franchises nominates one player to receive the award. As the winner, a \$250,000 donation will be made to Russell and Ciara Wilson's Why Not You Foundation, founded in 2014 to fight poverty through education and youth empowerment.

With 2020 plagued by the COVID-19 pandemic, Wilson directed his charitable efforts toward feeding children, families and the elderly.

Early in the pandemic, Wilson and his wife, Ciara, donated 1 million meals to Feeding American and Food Lifeline. Wilson also launched the Meals Up campaign in partnership with the aviation company Wheels Up. The program raised the equivalent of more than 50 million meals, according to Seahawks.com.

Wilson's Why Not You Foundation partnered with Door Dash, Rockefeller Foundation and United Way Worldwide to bolster the Ride United initiative to deliver supplies and food to 175 communities nationwide.

"Our Why Not You Foundation will continue to lead with love," Wilson said in his speech. "We will keep fighting poverty through education and empowering the youth to have a 'why-not-you' attitude."

Wilson's charitable efforts are not new. As NFL.com reports, Wilson has visited Seattle Children's Hospital every Tuesday during the football season since his 2012 rookie season.

The 31-year-old star, who came to Christ as a teen, has been outspoken about his faith from the very beginning of his football career and regularly says he plays for a higher purpose.

"Jesus is love! At the end of the day, we are all looking for someone to comfort us, somebody to be there for us at all times," he said in a 2014 interview. "When we are at the worst times of our lives when we are battling with something, or struggles, whatever it may be, when we are at our highest point as well, when things are going really well, we want somebody to comfort us and be there for us and to say, 'Well done.' That's Jesus!"

NFL Star Sam Acho On Living Authentically for Christ: 'When God Gets The Glory, The World Thrives'

By Leah MarieAnn Klett

Former Bears linebacker Sam Acho is on a mission to encourage Christians to live boldly and transparently for Christ in a world that promotes superficiality and deception.

"When God gets the glory, people around you benefit and the world around you thrives," Acho said during a recent interview on "The Crazy Happy Podcast," hosted by Pastor Daniel Fusco and Billy Hallowell.

"When you're who God created you to be, when you're not faking or pretending or hiding and you're using the gifts God gave you, He gets glory because of that," he continued.

After several years in the NFL, Acho is today the vice president of the NFL Players Association, a bestselling author, a philanthropist, and host of the "Athletes for Justice" podcast. Passionate about issues of justice and equal-

ity, the 32-year-old athlete often shares how his faith influences every area of his life.

The son of Nigerian immigrants, Acho grew up taking medical mission trips to Africa along with his family, including his brother and fellow NFL star Emmanuel Acho. Today, he carries on that tradition of service, serving as an ambassador for Living Hope Christian Ministries, which provides medical attention to local Nigerians.

"[For] our parents, the foundation was education, it was hard work, but also faith in Christ and faith in Jesus, saying, 'I don't care what circumstance you're in, God is greater than those circumstances,' which is why we did those medical missions trips to Nigeria," he recalled.

But living out his faith as an NFL star — a role he said he "fell into" through a series of



events — came at a "cost." Acho shared how, uncertain of how to boldly live out his faith in a highly competitive, sometimes violent sport, he would "hide."

"[But there was a] cost of hiding who I really was, not only on the football field but in the community," he admitted. Acho encouraged others who may be hiding who they are in Christ to live boldly, offering the reminder that God gave them certain gifts and talents "for a reason."

continued on next page



News & More



30 PIECES OF SILVER

by Howard Honett

There once was a Christ centered man who was left with little of the goods of this life except the clothing in his closet. Mr. H was in his 90's and knew nothing about the internet, but he had a dear daughter who was competent in such things and sent out a call: "Could you help my dad? Etc. etc." An avalanche of calls came to her phone and she had to remove her request in the first hour. Offers of toaster ovens, microwave ovens, furniture, and silverware came in.



The daughter made arrangements to drive by the givers homes on the next Saturday morning. So dad and daughter took a large station wagon and made the rounds. At one home were a man and a year old baby. A divorce and an eviction notice were in process. A drawer was pulled out which was loaded with silverware. "Help yourself. Take all you need." The angry wife walked in and filled the air with language that can't be repeated here. Mr. H took about 30 pieces of silver and left for home as this was the last pick-up. There was a burden that fell on Mr. H's daughter and family to offer lodging for

a few days to the giver of the silver whose wife had picked up the baby and disappeared, and he was evicted. Over the next two days we moved all that we could to Mr. H's attic over a garage. The giver of the silver had an advanced case of MS and one day fell 6 times and didn't have enough strength in his arms and legs to pull himself up on a sofa. He did have a sharp mind and conversed with Mr. H regarding heaven and hell. Within 48 hours he declared his need for a Savior and received the eternal gift of salvation. Since none of us are medically equipped or trained, our friend Jacob had to go to ER and could not return to any of our homes.

Fast forward to the 2020 Christmas Season: A card came to Mr. H's mailbox from a stranger in Illinois. I am giving you the message word for word as I received it:

THE LETTER

I am writing you in regard to Jacob Beyer. I would like to inform you that on August 13, 2020 at 6:10 PM our Lord God called him home. As his oldest sister it was a great honor to be by his side to his last breath. I was going through his belongings and found your card. It warmed my heart that you were there to celebrate Jake's new spiritual birthday. I want to thank you. My brother is at peace now. Multiple Sclerosis took his body but not his soul.

For this God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even to the end. Psalms 48:14

Brandis

Here is a snippet out of the life of a man who exchanged 30 pieces of silver for an eternity in heaven with the Lord Jesus. One never knows when the hound dog of heaven wants you to exchange your pittance for His abundance, but I'm guessing it is today.

continued from previous page

"You can't please God and please man," he declared. "You can't serve God and serve your money or your fame or your fortune. Pick one or the other. The benefit of God is God ... He is the reward."

Acho recently released his latest book Let The World See You, which he clarified is "not an autobiography, but a book about what it means to be seen, known, and loved."

"It's a book for anybody who's ever felt ashamed, anybody who's ever felt like they had to hide for whatever reason," he said. "It's a book about what it means to be free so people around you benefit, and lastly the world around you thrives. When we all start being who God made us to be, the world will continue to thrive."

Acho explained that failing to live authentically often stems from the "fear of man," something Scripture repeatedly warns against.

"Jesus wants our companionship, wants our friendship," he said. "What I'm learning is that He loves us, He loves me, and not only does Jesus love me, Jesus likes us."

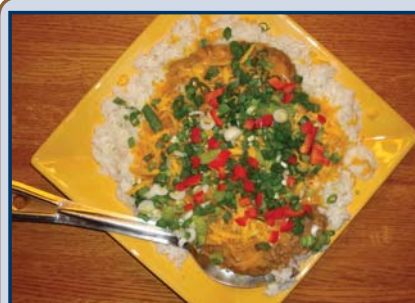
"I've always had this deep desire to be loved for who I really am," he said, "not for the things I can do, not for my highs ... but will you love me even in the bad?"

The athlete revealed that shortly before his friend died, he shared powerful words of advice with him that guide his thoughts and actions today.

In the Kitchen With Diane



Diane Fechter, Author



REFRIED BEANS

This bean recipe is "from scratch". Canned refried beans can be substituted.

- 1 pound dry pinto beans**
- 1 1/2 tsp. cumin**
- 1 1/2 tsp. chili powder**
- 1/2 tsp. pepper**
- 1 large onion chopped and saut ed**
- 1-2 fresh garlic cloves, minced**
- 1 1/4 tsp. salt**

Sort pinto beans, checking for stones/dirt. Wash in a strainer by running under cold water. Place beans in a pot, cover with water and soak overnight.

The next day, drain water. Cover beans with fresh water until just covered and cook until beans are soft and most of the water is absorbed, about 3 hours. Mash beans, leaving some whole. Combine remaining ingredients, stir to beans.

Serve beans over cooked rice, and top with shredded cheese, sliced green onions and chopped colored bell peppers.

For more recipes and tips see www.recipesforafulfilledlife.blogspot.com

"He said, 'There is no greater joy than you will have on this earth, and God gets no greater joy than when you get to know Jesus,' Acho said. 'He said, 'Sam, the second thing I want you to know is that you are worth getting to know.'"

"Even in our insecurities, God still accepts us," he said. "Even in our fear, God still loves us ... God is like, 'I'm with you. I still see the best in you.'"

"We're all beautiful and broken; life is full of ups and downs. There's a time and a season for everything."



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Continued from West Sound Youth for Christ, page 6

group. "As we are teaching the kids about cartooning or other fun art techniques, the teens are becoming familiar with me and my fellow volunteers. They're getting to know an adult leader through a positive experience. There are moments when a teen will have a faith-based question, and now we're in proximity to really mentor, and guide them through areas where they're struggling. It's a positive experience for all involved."

While their faith motivates them to action, the West Sound YFC programs are open to young people of all backgrounds and beliefs. Through its programs, the ministry seeks to provide an environment for positive youth development thereby enabling these students to reach their full potential in life. There are three programs under the umbrella of West Sound YFC: Campus Life, Juvenile Justice, and Parent Life.

Having such a positive organization like West Sound YFC in the area is a blessing for the teens – and the adults. Many adult members of the local community have already offered to get involved in the various programs – but there is still so much needed. "Those in the area can offer prayers, volunteer with food/snack donations, volunteer with their time, or even providing financial support if they can," stated Daubenspeck. "We are always looking for community partners!"

Smith added to Daubenspeck's sentiments, "We are dealing with a somewhat heated political climate these days. Many neighbors in the community are at odds with each other when it comes to politics. But if the adults in the community can put their political differences aside, and come together to volunteer with us, they would see that they all agree on bringing hope to these teens. They'll be making a difference in the lives of these kids."



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News & More



THE SCHOLAR'S CORNER: The Return of The Master



By Basil Jackson

**Psychiatrist,
Child Psychiatrist,
Psychoanalyst, Attorney,
AND STUDENT AND
LOVER OF THE WORD**

It used to be that one of the commonest sermons heard from evangelical pulpits dealt with the second advent of Christ. This may have been related to the freshness of a recently rediscovered doctrine, for example, the increased interest in evangelical theology which followed the rediscovery of the doctrine of justification by Luther. It may also have been related to the global terror of the wars and almost continuous rumors of wars as predicted in the Sacred Oracles. We have seen, to a lesser degree perhaps, a renewed interest in the doctrine of the second advent following the wars and global crises in our own times. However, in spite of such awesome global turbulence, today the doctrine of the second advent is heard less and less, although a variety of para-church ministries have filled this void in Biblical teaching and Christian experience.

It is clearly enunciated in Scripture that God's promise of "I will come again" must be viewed as certain as if it already had been fulfilled. It is also clear that the effect of the promise of Christ's return is to give Christians a hope which will be life modifying and transforming. If I really believe that Jesus will return it will change the way I live and work for the master.

The Advent of Christ for His Body The Church involved a new revelation of the resurrection of those of His Body who are "dead in Christ". One highly respected scholar has written thus:

The resurrection of Jesus is the resurrection that all who are His, will likewise be raised. Until Paul received this revelation the only resurrection of the saints was the

"resurrection unto life" (John 5:29) called the "former resurrection" (Rev. 20:5), at the beginning of the thousand year reign, after the judgment period. Then the Lord comes down, comes to earth.

The understanding of some details of prophecy tends to be rather nebulous and subjective. No area of theological hermeneutics is so luculent an example of an old Irish adage, "Wonderful things in the Bible I see, many of them put there by you and by me". No area of theological or Biblical studies is so susceptible to subjectivism as Biblical prophecy.

Today the word "Rapture" has become commonplace as even non-Christians discuss "the end of the world" or "the end times". The word 'rapture' is not found in Scripture. It comes from the Latin word 'raptio' used in the Latin Vulgate and is the translation of the Greek word for 'snatched away' in 1 Thessalonians 4. Here Paul gives us some previously cryptic details of what will occur when Christ returns and the impact it will have various companies both living and in repose. There are a number of raptures in Scripture such as that of Elijah (2 Kings 2), but the rapture that Paul depicts is perhaps the best known. It is important to note that while Scripture teaches that Christ will return and set his feet on the Mount of Olives (Zechariah 14:4) this occurrence is not what is described and revealed in 1 Thessalonians 4, where the new revelation given to Paul is that Christ will return 'to the atmosphere' and will rapture or snatch away a special group of the redeemed, namely, those who are members of the Body of Christ, and will usher them into the presence or 'parousia' of Christ. Contemporaneously those who have previously fallen asleep in Jesus will be resurrected with spiritual and sensate bodies and will join the ascending throng. A significant amount of confusion has arisen from failure to recognize that 1 Thessalonians chapter 5 verse 1 begins an description of

events which will occur after the rapture of the body of Christ has been accomplished.

It is worthwhile to note that the word used to describe the 'coming of Christ' is 'parousia' or 'presence' This reminds us that the 'coming' is only the mechanics or activity which places us in the presence of Christ Himself, our hope, our expectation, and our joy. It is when He shall have arrived that His presence shall be enjoyed by those who meet Him in the upper atmosphere. There is a natural tendency for humans to want to know more details than what God has revealed. This can be a snare in the fantasies of the mind based on a foundation of corrupted hermeneutics or psychological wish fulfillment of a 'wannabe' expositor focusing on fantasied imaginations which have nothing to do with sacred scripture. This type of incompetence is seen most often in attempts to exegete the Apocalypse, often resulting in the development of various cults seen today. The aim and responsibility of the student of Scripture is to learn all that God has revealed and to add nothing from our own biases or imaginations.

Having said this it is important to point out that there is a diversity of views and a plethora of opinions on the chronology of the events subsequent to the rapture and precipitating The Tribulation period. Some excellent scholars and respected exegetes believe that the Rapture will occur before The Great Tribulation, some during this period and some at the close of this period of judgment. This is not something to fight about as long as we believe that He is coming again!

Similarly, some good men believe different details on the various judgments cataloged in Scripture and the ushering in the 1000 year of Christ on the earth, which will be a period of relative peace. Even this period which will have enjoyed rule by the Master Himself will terminate in a rebellion as a last gasp of the devil and his hordes. We have no need to be concerned because the future will hold a new heaven and a new earth for this abused planet and the ultimate consummation when God will be All in All. Should it surprise us that the last words of Scripture are "Even so come Lord Jesus"?

ADF TO US SUPREME COURT: AMERICANS SHOULD BE FREE TO SUPPORT CAUSES WITHOUT HARASSMENT

Alliance Defending Freedom attorneys representing a Michigan-based nonprofit filed their first brief recently with the U.S. Supreme Court since it agreed to hear the case Thomas More Law Center v. Becerra. The high court agreed to hear the case after the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit ruled that Thomas More Law Center—and all other nonprofits who solicit donations

in California—must disclose the names and addresses of major donors to the California attorney general on an annual basis.

The 9th Circuit's ruling reversed a district court's decision following a trial, which found that the California attorney general's office has no compelling need for the information. In addition, the office publicly exposed confidential donor information on the internet and created a perfect target for hackers by uploading thousands of confidential documents to the cloud, where they were easily discovered.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

During a Sunday school lesson, a child learned about how God created human beings. The child became especially focused when the teacher explained how Eve was created from Adam's ribs. Later in the week, the boy's mother saw him lying down on the floor, so she asked him what was wrong. His reply was priceless: "Mom, I have a pain in my side—I think I'm getting a wife."





News & More



COVID-19 PANDEMIC: A Newly Developed Weapon of Mass Destruction

By Dave Oblak



I do not believe God ever intended His people to be distracted and focused on keeping themselves healthy. I have always believed that was His department. It is written: "Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?" And yet, as I observe the conduct of millions of Americans, particularly those people who claim the title of "Christian," I see an overarching distraction and preoccupation with keeping themselves safe and healthy. Thousands of churches are choosing to assembly "virtually" and not in person as a means of maintaining social distancing, a term that is actually contradictory, to the biblical definition of the term 'fellowship.' Churches and families are dividing over the whole issue of whether to wear or not to wear a mask, whether to wear or not wear a mask, whether to take "the vaccine" or not to.

For me personally, I have not and do not wear a mask. Neither do I practice "social distancing." I'm a hugger and I don't hesitate to give a friend or family member a hug. And I vigorously oppose the vaccine. Those are my own personal convictions on the matter.

From my perspective, the power of the Covid-19 "Weapon system" is not in the virus itself. According to statistics, far less than 1% of the people who get the virus die from it. Those facts in themselves are important to ponder.

The power of the Covid-19 weapon system is found in the insidious use of fear that has

literally taken much of the world's population captive. And the "virus" of fear is doing catastrophic damage to nearly every aspect of society. Business shut downs, churches closed, lockdowns that keep elderly people isolated from their loved ones for months on end. Fights over masks are a constant source of news reports. And the impact goes on and on and on and on.

What is at the heart of this "fear pandemic?" I submit to you it is The Fear Of Death.

In a nutshell: All the precautions and so called protections are designed to keep us alive. The fear of death is the Damocles sword that has overshadowed the human race since the fall of mankind in the garden.

It is time that we face the facts. And the facts are these: Life on planet earth is 100% fatal. No one gets out of this thing called "life" alive. No exceptions. It is written: "It is appointed unto men, once to die and after this, the judgment." Sounds pretty all inclusive to me.

There is one glaring exception to this rule and that is the person of Jesus Christ. The only human being to experience death, die, get buried, and 3 days later come back to Life. And that is because God Himself became a human being so as to experience death for everyone so that all who turn to Him in repentance can receive God's Spirit into their mortal bodies. In so doing, their soul and spirit come alive forever and even though their bodies will get old and die they will be alive forever in a brand new death-proof body.

Each and every one of us needs to face our own mortality before The Father of all life, surrender to the fact of your inevitable death before Him and receive the gift of His resurrected life inside your heart and live out your remaining days under His guidance and protection. No man truly lives until he comes to terms with his own inevitable death and makes peace with his Maker. It is written, "If the son shall make you free, you shall be free indeed." And there is no freedom like

that of a life that is securely settled in the arms of its maker.

The fear of death is manifesting itself in another arena besides the "danger" of the virus itself. That arena is the ever increasing control and pressure the government is pushing upon the masses. And this is without a doubt—the far more sinister and powerful aspect of the "Covid-19 weapon system." The continuing rollout of the more restrictions, forced lockdowns, tracking of every citizen, ever constant monitoring, increasing peer pressure and the threat of a mandatory vaccine. A vaccine that is being released on a population that by-passed all the prerequisite trials and tests of what has been the benchmark of agencies like the FDA. The government usurping of nearly every right and freedom granted under the Constitution is being pushed aside in the name of health and safety. The government's "use" of this crises is like the effects of gamma radiation after multiple nuclear detonations—the initial blast—the virus itself is nothing compared to the every growing fallout of a government gone mad with the bloodlust of ultimate power and control.

In closing, I believe the 'Covid-19 Weapon System' is a tool of the devil. A masterful design, a perfect storm to prepare the masses to bow the knee to the antichrist system. A system that says: Take our cure or we will take your life from you. And in his insidiously evil appetite, he will take your life from you one little bite at a time. First your freedoms, then your ability to buy and sell the very basics in life and eventually your very life itself. Because if there is one thing the devil enjoys most, it is watching a long slow, painful, death. His highest form of entertainment.

The people of God in America must repent of their love affair with this world system and make a final stand for life, liberty, and the pursuit of God—the pursuit of happiness unfortunately has gotten into the place we are in right now.

EMERGENCY FOOD AIRLIFTED TO ETHIOPIA FOR HUNGRY CHILDREN

The Samaritan's Purse DC-8 cargo jet left North Carolina on Friday carrying tons of urgently needed food for suffering children in northern Ethiopia. Months of internal conflict have forced millions of Ethiopians to flee their homes, leaving them without access to basic necessities. Tens of thousands of children are at risk of acute malnutrition if they do not receive emergency relief.

"Ethiopian families in Tigray are in trouble. They are struggling to feed their children after months of endless conflict depleted local resources. We are seeing extreme needs—



children are malnourished, families are hungry, and millions are suffering. Please pray for these families—that we can reach the most vulnerable people with life-saving support, feed the hungry, and do it all in Jesus' Name."—Franklin Graham

The airlift includes a 30-day supply of ready-to-use supplemental food to meet the vital nutritional needs of 18,000 children. In addition, we are distributing food baskets that will feed 1,000 families for a month.

A Samaritan's Purse disaster response team is already on the ground in Ethiopia, working alongside local church partners. Please pray for them and for the millions of people who are suffering.



News Shorts



REPORT: CHINA LEADERS FEAR CHRISTIAN POPULATION MAY REACH 300 MILLION BY 2030

According to the Christian charity Open Doors, the prospect that China's Christian community could reach a staggering 300 million people by 2030 has unnerved communist leaders who fear "they'll have to share power" as the Church increases in size and influence. The Chinese Communist Party, led by President Xi Jinping, is becoming increasingly concerned about the Christian population's growth and is cracking down on religion as a result.

"Even for those who already believe the Bible, it is still astonishing to see the power of the Gospel play out in our world today in an oppressive environment like Communist China," stated Ed Vitagliano, executive vice president of the American Family Association (AFA, www.AFA.net).

"What has been happening in that nation over the last 70-plus years has been nothing short of miraculous. Christians in the free world should take great encouragement from the church in China and remember to preach the gospel to our own neighbors because we can—freely and without fear," continued Vitagliano. "And let us not forget to pray for our brothers and sisters in China and elsewhere, as they endure tremendous pressure and persecution as they live faithful Christian lives and bear witness to the great love God has poured out to mankind through Jesus Christ."

KENYA: ARSONISTS BURN FIVE CHURCH BUILDINGS

Unidentified arsonists in western Kenya burned five church buildings and threw feces at their smoldering ruins, Morning Star News reports. All of the crimes were carried out from January 20 to January 24 in Otamba village, in the Nyarabari Chache area of Kisii County.

St. Monica Church's building was burned on January 20, Morning Star News reports. On January 21, arsonists burned the Seventh-day Adventist Worldwide Church buildings and the Legio Maria building. Then, on January 24, arsonists burned the building of a 250-member Pentecostal Church, Morning Star News reports. Daniel Ratemo, chairman of the Pentecostal Church has reportedly asked for financial support and prayers.

Speaking to Morning Star News about the spate of attacks, a local source said: "Apart from setting the churches ablaze, the arsonists also committed the heinous acts of scooping human feces onto the buildings to discourage the faithful from attending their ruined churches." Damage valued at millions of Kenyan shillings has been done to the buildings and furniture, the source added.

CALIFORNIA CHURCHES FREE TO MEET INDOORS AFTER US SUPREME COURT ORDER ON COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

The following quote may be attributed to Alliance Defending Freedom Senior Counsel and Vice President of U.S. Litigation David Cortman regarding the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *South Bay United Pentecostal Church v. Newsom* and order in *Harvest Rock Church v. Newsom* that halt California Gov. Gavin Newsom's COVID-19 restrictions preventing churches and other religious congregations from meeting indoors as other groups are permitted to do. The decision and order

also allow churches to present new evidence in district court that the governor's 25% capacity limitation and other restrictions are not being applied at least equally with other activities:

"The Supreme Court's decision is a significant win for ensuring that government officials do not exceed their authority by bypassing the First Amendment when implementing coronavirus restrictions. Churches in the state may once again meet indoors, and the justices indicated that the other restrictions to which religious gatherings are wrongly subjected may face significant legal and constitutional hurdles going forward. Gov. Newsom has a duty to respect the First Amendment, so he can't single out church worship services and other religious meetings for the draconian COVID-19 restrictions that many secular activities haven't faced in California. The Supreme Court is reinforcing what it has affirmed in previous orders: Disparate treatment is both illogical and unconstitutional."

INTERNATIONAL EVANGELIST LUIS PALAU PASSES AWAY

Luis Palau, the international evangelist who preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ to more than 1 billion people through media and evangelistic events, died March 11th, his family confirmed. The 86-year-old preacher, a close friend of the late evangelist Billy Graham, passed away after a decision to stop all treatment for his incurable lung cancer.

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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 Ministry, Inc.

5017 W. Center Street
Milwaukee, WI 53210
414-499-7961
Christian Educ 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 & Restoration 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

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
WOGFmke@gmail.com

Ministries

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.cbrfranklinwi.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
Worship Service 9AM, 10:45AM

Jubilee Christian Family Church

3639 W Ryan Road
Franklin 53132
Sunday Worship 10AM
Wednesday Bible Study 7PM
Mon-Fri AM 1340 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 6PM

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

KimSargentMinistries.org
Radio Ministry
Sundays 6-6:30 pm
Joy 1340 AM and 98.7 FM
Prayerline: 414-587-9899

Brookfield Christian Reformed

14135 W Burleigh 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

777 S Barker Rd
Brookfield 53045
Worship Services Sat 5PM
Sunday 9, 10:45AM
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.vilonline.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

A Mighty River Ministries

5933 W National Ave.
West Allis, WI 53214
Sunday Prayer 4:30PM
Sunday Worship 5PM
Friday Bible Study 6:30PM
414-306-5672

New Song Church

2323 S 109th St.
West Allis, WI 53227
Sunday 10AM
414-546-1234

New Vintage Church

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

Northtown Church

A multi-ethnic church
7000 N 107th St
Milwaukee, WI 53224
Sunday Worship and Bible
classes 10 am
414-353-5588
www.northtownchurch.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 9:30 Traditional,
9:00 and 10:45 Contemporary
Wednesday 6:45PM
262.782.1777
PoplarCreekChurch.org

Reformation Hope Church

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

RightWay Church Ministries

POBox242232
Milwaukee, WI 53225
Meeting at Comfort Suites
10831 ParkPlace
Milwaukee, WI 53224
Sunday School 9am
Worship Service 10am
414-369-3359
rightwaychurchministries@yahoo.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 Center, 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
clcfport.com

Cornerstone Church Lake Country

354 N. Oakwood Ave
Oconomowoc, WI 53066
Sunday Celebration 10am
Wed. Catalyst Youth Group 7pm
262-569-0001
cornerstonelakecountyrn.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

Eagles Wings Nazarene Fellowship

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

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

S93 W30580 County Rd NN
Mukwonago 53149
Sunday Worship 9AM
Call for Bible Studies
262.363.8025 or Hillsidecmuk.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 4:30PM
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

Open Door Church

3420 County Road LL
Port Washington, WI 53074
Sat Worship Service 5:30pm
Sun Worship Services 8am & 10:45
Sun School/Adult Bible 9:30am
262-284-0711
www.ODBport.org

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

W195 S9912 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

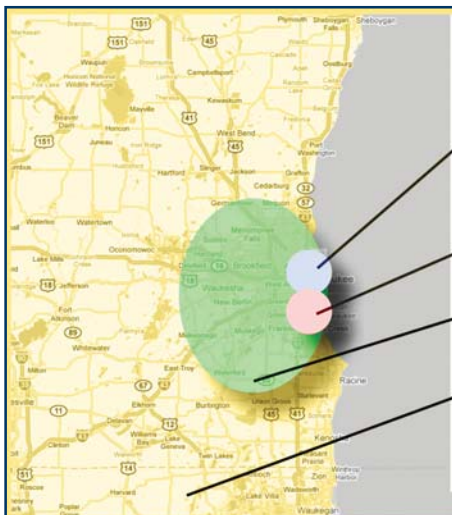
1123 Center St.
Racine, WI 53403
Sundays Worship: 2pm
224.656.1803

Watertown Community Church

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

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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Abraham Hamilton, III Examines Why America Has Stopped Believing in God

*American Family Radio Host of 'The Hamilton Corner':
'Almost All of It Is Attributable to Education'*

Abraham Hamilton, III, host of The Hamilton Corner radio program on American Family Radio, is passionate about discovering the root cause of America's cultural demise. A grave concern and recent show topic was "Why America Has Stopped Believing in God." Hamilton points to Lyman Stone's American Enterprise Institute research. "Religious conservatives would probably cite the loosening of the country's morals that began in the sixties and seventies," says Hamilton, American Family Association (AFA, www.afa.net) general counsel and public policy analyst. "Secular progressives might mutter something about the on-ward March of science and reason over time. But the data seemed to show that the main driver of secularization in the United States has been an acceleration of government spending on education and government control over the curricular content taught in schools."



"Now the study wasn't focusing on American education," explains Hamilton. "The study was based on the effort to determine statistically and with empirical analysis, how did America become so secularized? The facts drove the American Enterprise Institute researchers toward education. I have said numerous times education is discipleship. The concept of separating academic matriculation and the spiritual development is an unbiblical concept."

"And I know there are exceptions to this. There are godly men and women who are teaching in schools across our country. And there are people, children who have become faithful to Jesus Christ surviving these government indoctrination centers. But if we were to be honest, we would have to admit that those are exceptions and not the rule. And one of the evidences of this normalization of godlessness is that we often endeavor to try to treat the exceptions as if they are the rule, but it is high time for us to be honest as to what's happening in our country, we didn't get here overnight."

Stone cites the seminal work of Raphael Franck and Laurence Iannaccone on this point, who meticulously tracked religious behavior over time in their own work. According to Franck and Iannaccone, "higher educational attainment did not predict lower religiosity: More and less educated people are similarly religious." Nor did they "find that industrialized, urban life reduces religiosity: A more urban and industrialized population was associated with greater religiosity." The link between intellectual progression/modernization and secularization is non-existent.

Stone's data suggests that, by and large, kids brought up in religious households stay religious and kids who are not, do not. Consequently, childhood religiosity has been, and remains, the most important indicator of America's religious trajectory. The story of religious decline in America is not the story of adults consciously rejecting the faith of

their forefathers: It is the story of each generation receiving a more secular upbringing than the generation preceding it. What accounts for this secularization of childhood over time? Taxpayer dollars.

"American secularization did not occur because those who are overtly atheist and agnostic continued to proliferate in American society," Hamilton explains. "Through the secularization of education, Satan has gained entree into the church and carried off as captives the offspring born into Christian families. Each generation in America within the family became more and more secularized among the ranks of the church attending."

According to Stone, children learn more at school than reading, writing, and arithmetic. The government run education system imbues a whole set of implied assumptions about what is important in life by excluding religious instruction from public schools. The education system tacitly teaches students that religious commitments are not a first order priority in life.

"We must have our eyes targeted toward the root, not merely the fruit," Hamilton says. "What do you think the consequences will be? If generation after generation of Americans are taught that God is nothing more than a take it or leave it proposition when He himself says, 'I am the Lord, your God, you shall have no other gods before Me.' By excluding religious instruction from public schools, the government run education system tacitly teaches students that religious commitments are not a first order priority in life. Faith in God becomes a sort of optional weekend hobby akin to playing tennis or video games."

The content of education matters, Stone reported. Evidence that education reduces religiosity is fairly weak: American religiosity rose considerably from 1800 until the 1970s, despite rapidly rising educational attainment. But the evidence that specifically secular education might reduce religiosity is more compelling. Indeed, statistically, most researchers who have explored long-run change in religiosity find that education-related variables, which Stone has argued are a proxy for secular education, can explain nearly the totality of change in religiosity.

"All the changes that many of us have witnessed in the moral fiber of America, the Christ receptivity versus the Christ diversion, almost all of it is attributable to education."

"There has been a normalized godlessness to such a degree in our country. We've been all too willing and comfortable to abide in that godlessness – so it's only a matter of time to when the rebellion says, 'Oh, so you all are comfortable with that? Let's just push a little further.' We didn't get here overnight. There's only one way out to repentance."

Happy Spring from ProBuColls Books and Gifts and the Christian Courier!