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100,000
Prisoners
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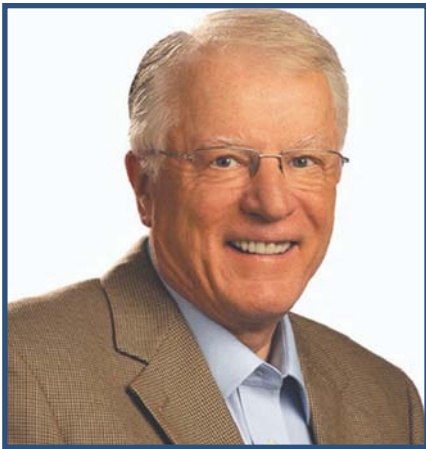
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Jason
Crabb's
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Pastors and Christian Workers Appreciation Breakfast (PACWAB) Coming Soon!



Dr. Erwin Lutzer, Author of *We Will Not Be Silenced, Pandemics Plagues and Natural Disasters* and *When A Nation Forgets God*

Sponsored each year by ProBuColls and the Christian Courier Newspaper, we are glad to announce our line-up for the PACWAB this year. Coming to us from The Moody Church in Chicago, Pastor Emeritus Erwin Lutzer will be our keynote speaker.

Pastor Lutzer is Pastor Emeritus of The Moody Church in Chicago, where he served as Senior Pastor for 36 years. He has written numerous books and his radio program *Running to Win* is heard on several hundred radio stations in the United States and in several other countries. Visit Moodymedia.org for more info.

The PACWAB will be from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday October 26, 2021.

The event will again be held at the Wisconsin Club 900 W. Wisconsin Avenue in downtown Milwaukee. Other featured speakers include the Pastor of Sunrise Bible Church in Henderson, NV Billy Crone [\[talifemedia.com\]\(http://talifemedia.com\) and from Plano, TX First Liberty Institute Attorney Lathan Watts \[www.firstliberty.org\]\(http://www.firstliberty.org\).](http://www.ge-</p>
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FREE by Reservation Only! Call 414-344-7300 and/or email: goodnews316@icloud.com. Pastors, we set aside October each year to say, “We need you!” Happy Pastors Appreciation Month! Our theme verse for this year is: “Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.” Titus 2:13



Director of Public Affairs for First Liberty Institute Attorney Lathan Watts



Billy Crone (right) being interviewed by Gary Stearman of Prophecy Watchers

NATIONAL RELIGIOUS BROADCASTERS CONVENTION “NRB” READIES ATTENDEES TO PREACH CHRIST

Dallas, TX This year the NRB was held at the Gaylord Texan in Grapevine, TX. The NRB Convention is the World’s Largest Gathering of Christian Communicators. The slate was full with leaders from the USA and beyond.



The Milwaukee contingent representing the Christian Courier Newspaper: Tyler Peck (Groton, MA), Bob Conklin, Joann Harden, Pastor Mike Harden Sr. Pastor of New Testament Central City Church (pic by the Hardens)



President of Moody Bible Institute Mark Jobe explains how in Luke 5:17 and the story of Jesus healing a Paralytic, the Church today needs to draw close to Christ to receive the strength and power to persevere in these challenging times. Jobe said, “God has a sovereign plan. He hasn’t lost control. After times like these, typically, spiritual awakening comes.”



Paula Faris, author of her book *Called Out*, talks about how God called her to move on from big TV in New York City. Co-host of *The View* and *Good Morning America*, Paula was called to prioritize her life as wife and mother, so the family moved to South Carolina. Now, Paula is a popular podcaster encouraging women and girls in godliness and virtue.

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Commentary



Stuart Briscoe Draws a Crowd at Elmbrook

By Bob Conklin



Stuart (90) speaks at the Elmbrook Chapel while Jill (86) looks on along with Kelly Andaloro who convened the event.

Monday evening July 26th, the CARE Ministry at Elmbrook Church hosted a night of testimonies followed by talks from both Jill and Stuart Briscoe. There was no shortage of British humor from Stuart recapping some of his many times over the years of being introduced to an audience. The Briscoes brought over an hour of combined wisdom. Their memory, recall of Scripture and wit still sharp!

Jill shared poems she has compiled over the years as well as the poem she wrote to be shared with her sister overseas who spent her final days of this life in the hospital last year. "See you soon dear." She also shared with the audience that you're only a prayer away

you know, and you can go anywhere on your knees. Jill shared her personal testimony of the fear she had as a little girl during bombing raids and coming to know Christ at 18 years of age in Cambridge through a fellow patient named Jenny. Jenny challenged and disciplined Jill encouraging her to win people for Christ.

Stuart answered the often asked question, "How are you two health wise?" Stuart said, "Some days are good, others not so much. We're not asking for your pity, we are asking for your prayers." Stuart went on to teach about "Finishing well." Before 90, Stuart said he had rarely seen the inside of a hospital. Now, he is making up for it! No flying or large crowds for the last year and a half came at a good time. Being confident of this very thing, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion. Philippians 1:6. Turning to Genesis, Stuart said God is calling us to live and behave like we were made in the image of God. Subdue the created order, multiply it and care for it. As Jesus is the express image of God, we are the express image of Christ. God made us each useful in the divine likeness of Christ. We are the image bearers of Christ.

Stuart concluded with this, "There were three points to this message, but the old preacher who used to preach here was known for never getting to his third point :). This is your homework, live through to completion. I haven't yet been saved from the presence of sin. The Day of Christ will come, then I will and you will be presented with Him like a chaste virgin. When we see Him, we will be like Him. Mission complete, accomplished, and a new body for me and you. Everything will be put right."

Congratulations 2021 NBA World Champions Milwaukee Bucks!



John Fisco, Milwaukee Bucks Asst. Coach Vin Baker and Bob Conklin at 2018 WI Governor's Prayer Breakfast at the ICC



Mark Your Calendars for Milwaukee LifeChain: Sunday October 3, 2021 2 pm to 3:30 pm along Hwy 100/Mayfair Road and Bluemound. Call ProBuColls Christian Courier 414-344-7300 for information.



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News & More



A Word From the Heart

By John Duckhorn

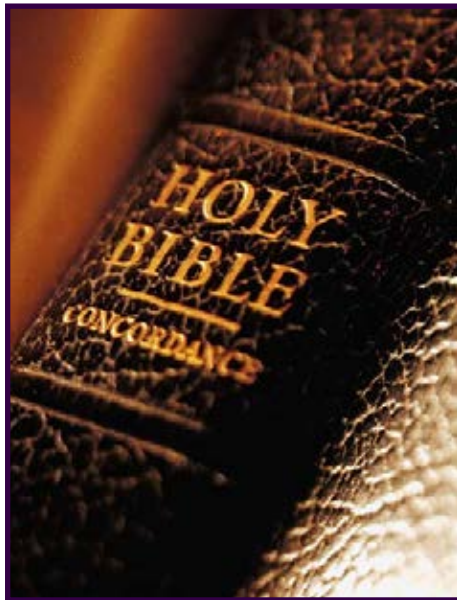
ABIDING IN THE SHADOW OF THE ALMIGHTY

Originally published September 2001

Psalm 97 is said to have been written by David when he fled from Saul into the cave. There are two possible locations for this Psalm. In I Samuel 22, David fled to the cave of Adullam. He was not alone for too long. He was joined by his family and others described as those in distress, in debt and discontented. This motley crew of discontents acknowledged David as the future king of Israel. They had changed kingdoms, from Saul to David, and they too will be pursued by Saul. “Stay with me; do not fear. For he who seeks my life seeks your life. But with me you shall be safe” (I Samuel 22:23).

The other possible location is when David hid in the caves of Engedi. Saul had been called away to defend Israel from an invasion, but he returns more determined to kill David. Yet in God’s sovereign power Saul is placed where David could have easily killed him.

David writes Psalm 57 while he hides in the darkness. His soul thirsts for God “and in the shadow of your wings I will make my refuge....” The “shadow” here is not protection from the hot sun, as



is described in other Psalms. David sees the dark places that hide him as a metaphor of the abiding under God’s protection. He knows all too well that there is no running from what he calls “calamities.” What comfort David derives from this location. God cares for him and protects him and can, in His mercy, deliver him from all “whose teeth are spears and arrows and their tongue a sharp sword.” Lies have been spread, misunderstandings abound, and his actions are misrepresented.

When we come to Jesus Christ for comfort and rest, we know our hearts are safe, our thoughts are focused and we are secure. Psalm 57:7 shows that David has struggled to remain focused. “My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast; I will sing and give praise.” His heart is fixed, he is resolved to look to God and trust Him in all his calamities.

David looked at the situations of his life and realized that Saul would never learn nor give up his pursuit. The shadows of the cave, instead of being a metaphor for darkness and gloom, became instead a reminder that he is cared for by the Lord of his life. David’s circumstances did not change but his heart was fixed and free. Do not doubt in the dark what you know to be true in the light.

‘Major Victory’: Wisconsin Can’t Force Private, Religious Schools to Shut Down

By Anugrah Kumar

The Wisconsin Supreme Court has ruled that local health departments can’t ban private and religious schools from holding in-person classes during health emergencies like the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

In a 4-3 decision, the court also ruled recently that Public Health Madison & Dane County infringed on constitutional religious rights, Fox6 reported.

Writing for the majority, Justice Rebecca Bradley said the law that authorizes local health departments to take preventive measures during a health emergency “cannot be reasonably read as an open-ended grant of authority.”

The lawsuit was filed in response to Dane County’s amended health order issued last September that sought to ban in-person, in-classroom education by private and religious schools. The restrictions do not exist any longer and the school year ended this week, but the ruling is significant as it limits the powers of health departments in the future.

The conservative legal group Thomas More Society called it “a major victory to the private schools and parents” of Dane County, in which the state capital of Madison is located.

“This has been an overreach of major proportions by a local health official who ignored the fundamental constitutional right to the free exercise of religion for parents, students, and school personnel by ordering these institutions to shut down and prohib-

iting in-person education,” the group’s Special Counsel Erick Kaardal said in a statement. “It was a slap in the face to educational choice, an affront to families who believe that children should be in school, and a direct violation of parental rights.”

Last September, the Supreme Court had temporarily put the health order on hold.

Schools that educate students in grades three through 12 had been ordered by the county to educate students virtually. But after the court ruled in favor of a coalition of private religious schools that challenged the order, many private schools prepared to restart in-person learning for their students, Wisconsin Public Radio reported at the time.

The court’s opinion declared that the petitioners “have substantial interests in advancing childhood education and providing students a stable and effective learning environment.” It also noted that they “went to great lengths — and expended non-negligible sums — to provide students, teachers, and staff the ability to resume in-person instruction with safety precautions in place.”

On Friday, the court noted in its ruling that “the framers of the (Wisconsin) constitution, backed by Wisconsin residents, chose to describe the religious freedoms that they should be entitled to in greater detail than were given in the federal constitution,”



stressing that the framers used “the strongest possible language” to protect those freedoms.

“The right of every person to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of conscience shall never be infringed...nor shall any control of, or interference with, the rights of conscience be permitted.”

The legal group’s Executive Vice President and General Counsel Andrew Bath said the petition was against “an illegal order by a local public health officer, and the court saw that right away, first issuing a preliminary injunction in September 2020 that prohibited the county from enforcing it, and now settling the matter decisively.”

Bath added, “They have declared it both statutorily and constitutionally unlawful and have additionally affirmed that local health officers do not have the statutory authority to close schools.”



News & More



Supreme Court Rules 9-0 in Favor of Catholic Foster Care Agency

By Joshua Martin

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled 9-0 in favor of a Catholic adoption agency in *Fulton v. City of Philadelphia*, a closely watched case with major implications for religious adoption agencies and nonprofit organizations.

“The ruling today is an incredible victory for religious freedom,” said NRB CEO Troy A. Miller. “The court once again recognized that the First Amendment protects the rights of people of faith from government overreach, and did so unanimously. This is a win both for faith-based adoption agencies and for the communities and children they serve.”

How did this case begin?

For Philadelphia, foster care is carried out by the city but the city contracts with outside organizations to screen potential foster care parents. One of those organizations is Catholic Social Services (CSS). The CSS is a religious-based organization that seeks to “serve the most vulnerable and most at-risk members of society.” One of their most prominent functions is foster care.

In 2018, the city refused to continue their contract with CSS, which is a taxpayer-funded agency, because they believe CSS were discriminatory in their refusal to screen same-sex couples. As a religious organization, CSS believes that marriage is between a man and woman. CSS sued the city for violating its first amendment rights under the free exercise clause of the Constitution.

In July of 2018, the district court sided with the City stating that the city did not violate CSS’s first amendment rights. The United States



Court of Appeals, third circuit, affirmed the district court’s opinion. CSS appealed to the Supreme Court, and they agreed to hear the case.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) filed an Amicus Curiae brief on behalf of the city and same-sex couples. The former Department of Justice under the Trump Administration voiced their support for the Catholic Foster Care agency.

What did the court decide?

The justices were asked to decide whether the City of Philadelphia violated the First Amendment rights of CSS by forcing them to screen potential same-sex foster care parents.

In a surprisingly unanimous decision, the Supreme Court sided with CSS, therefore, reversing the lower court’s decision.

Chief Justice John Roberts stated, “The refusal of Philadelphia to contract with CSS for the provision of foster care services unless it agrees to certify same-sex couples as foster parents cannot survive strict scrutiny and violates the First Amendment.”

What does this case mean going forward?

Fulton v. City of Philadelphia is a decisive victory for people of faith. Most importantly, it’s a victory for vulnerable children, allowing religious organizations to participate in meeting real human needs. In a case that many thought could go either way, all nine justices came to the same decision, unquestionably reaffirming the rights of religious organizations under the First Amendment of the Constitution.

IRS Denies Tax-Exempt Status to Christian Organization Accused Of Being Too Political; Appeal Filed

By Michael Gryboski



A general view of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) building in Washington. | REUTERS/Jonathan Ernst

A Christian group is appealing a decision from the Internal Revenue Service denying nonprofit exemption status due to the government believing that its endeavors are too political.

Christians Engaged filed an appeal recently to a decision by the IRS denying the organization an exemption under Section 501(c)(3), which would allow the group to be legally considered a charitable organization and receive benefits like tax-deductible contributions.

The organization filed for the status in 2019 and received a notice of denial from IRS Exempt Organizations Director Stephen A. Martin on May 18.

The appeal argues that the IRS’ argument is flawed in three ways, namely that it invented “a nonexistent requirement that exempt organizations be neutral on public policy issues.”

The appeal contends that the agency wrongly assumed that “Christians Engaged primarily serves private, nonexempt purposes rather than public, exempt purposes because he thinks its beliefs overlap with the Republican Party’s policy positions.”

First Liberty Institute, a conservative legal nonprofit that often handles religious freedom litigation, filed the appeal on behalf of Christians Engaged. The appeal argues that the IRS engaged “in both viewpoint discrimination and religious discrimination.”

“Only a politicized IRS could see Americans who pray for their nation, vote in every election, and work to engage others in the political process as a threat,” said First Liberty Counsel Lea Patterson in a statement.

“The IRS violated its own regulations in denying tax exempt status because Christians Engaged teaches biblical values.”

Last month, the IRS argued in a letter that the group was too political in its goals.

“You engage in prohibited political campaign intervention,” Martin wrote.

“You are also not operated exclusively for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3), because you operate for a substantial non-exempt private purpose and for the private interests of the [Republican] party.”

Martin further argued that the Christians Engaged is precluded from tax-exempt status because the group works to instruct people on what the Bible says about issues such as the sanctity of life, marriage and justice that “generally distinguish candidates and are associated with political party platforms.”

However, First Liberty Institute argues that Christians Engaged “does not produce voter guides or otherwise suggest that recipients should vote for or against any particular candidate or candidates.”



News & More



Why So Many Empty Churches? A Reminder and Warning For Southern Baptists

By Mark Creech

In my hometown, prominently sitting high on a hill, is an old and empty Episcopal church. No one attends there anymore. It's a historic edifice, which serves no purpose for the community except to reminisce about the way things were. For me, that old church depicts both a reminder and a warning.

In an interesting article for The Atlantic, Jonathan Merritt writes about "America's Epidemic of Empty Churches." Merritt says:

"Many of our nation's churches can no longer afford to maintain their structures – 6000 to 10,000 churches die each year in America – and that number will likely grow. Though more than 70 percent of our citizens still claim to be Christian, congregational participation is less central to many Americans' faith than it once was. Most denominations are declining as a share of the overall population, and donations to congregations have been falling for decades. Meanwhile, religiously unaffiliated Americans, nicknamed the 'nones,' are growing as a share of the U.S. population."

Merritt's assessment matches a recent report by Yonat Shimron, a Religious News Service reporter, who notes a study from the Center for Analytics, Research, and Data, affiliated with the United Church of Christ. That study says "that in the decade ending in 2020, 3,850 to 7,700 houses of worship close per year in the United States, or 75 to 150 congregations per week." Shimron added these figures are expected to "double or triple in the wake of the pandemic."

Many reasons could be offered as to why such declines are occurring, but most of them, I believe, would only address symptoms and not the root cause.

In an article for ChurchLeadership.org, Dr. Richard J. Krejcir makes an astute observation:

"What we hear as responses from most of our church leaders are the excuses of 'cultural decay' and 'changing values' and that 'the average American views the church with little regard.' These are authentic factors, but they are just symptoms. The bigger question seems to be what led up to these 'symptoms?' What led to the problems of cultural decay and the downgrading of moral absolutes? There is more to it than changing values; after all, a change in values has a root cause. A symptom is usually caused by a systemic disease or an explicit psychological problem."

It may sound like an oversimplification of the dilemma, but I believe the real issue has to do with the sincerity and earnestness of our love for Christ.



In Revelation 2 is recorded Jesus' letter to the church of Ephesus. The letter commends the church's good points, such as their labor, patience, intolerance of those who worked evil, and their discernment of religious fraud. Nevertheless, said Jesus, "I have this against you, that you have lost your first love" (Rev. 2:4).

Some scholars say it's unclear whether the reference talks about their diminished love for God or their love for each other, but it's hard to read the Scriptures and not conclude that the two passions hang together.

Thus, Christ commands them to return to their first love, or He will remove their lampstand from its place, which speaks to the power of their

influence.

In his commentary on the book of Revelation, Dr. Henry Morris says that in Ephesus, "the warmth of their original love – for one another, for the lost, for the Lord was beginning to cool. But this sad testimony can be applied to multitudes of churches in every age, and every church needs continually to search its heart and test its love... the Ephesian warning still applies."

Today, there is no church in the Turkish location once known as Ephesus. In fact, there is no Ephesus. Islam has been firmly established in the region—a region the apostle Paul himself once thoroughly evangelized. One can only wonder what that area might be like now if only the church had maintained and practiced its first love.

Do you remember what first love was like when you fell in love with your wife or husband? You could barely do anything but think of him or her. You were thrilled at your newfound relationship. You wanted to tell everyone. You couldn't do enough for the one you loved. You took every opportunity to be with your beloved. Such is first love, which tends to wane if we're not careful.

It can be this way in our churches too.

"We can build our lovely buildings and make them worshipful and comfortable. We can sing the sweetest music and listen to the most orthodox sermons," wrote the late Southern Baptist preacher, W. Hershell Ford. "We can have everything just right, but if it is not all done in love for Christ, it means nothing, and God is greatly displeased. Every true church is started in love. The people have a love for Christ, making them work and sweat and pray to get the church going. Then when things are running smoothly, the danger of leaving love out arises."

VIETNAM GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES ACCUSE CHRISTIANS OF SPREADING COVID-19

Recent accusations by Vietnamese government authorities that Christians are responsible for spreading COVID-19 in the country may have caused long-lasting damage to Vietnam's Evangelical community, Morning Star News.

Accusations against the Revival Ekklesia Mission evangelical church (REM) in Vietnam began to be disseminated through state media and government agencies after two Christian REM members tested positive for COVID-19 on May 26 this year, MSN reports. A total of eight REM Christians ulti-

mately became infected with COVID-19, and all recovered.

Vietnam currently ranks as the 10th best country for battling COVID-19, with fewer than 10,000 cases until now, MSN reports. However, Vietnam has seen a surge in the infection rate, in what has been described as a severe setback for the country.

According to Morning Star News, the Vietnamese government may be seeking to use the pandemic as an excuse to suppress evangelical Christianity in the country. "[Vietnam's] frustrated



authorities seem to have found a scapegoat in the REM church outbreak," MSN said.

"State media, social media and the public engaged in what evangelicals have described and experienced as anger, hate, cursing, insults, slander, innuendo and lies," MSN reports. "The greater evangelical community in Vietnam and abroad is supporting and helping the beleaguered REM congregation and trying to counter the disinformation campaign against evangelicals," MSN added.



Selfie to Selfless

By Linda Oberbrunner, Author of *Mercy Extended*



After making a hair product purchase, I walked to my car and glanced over the fairly empty parking lot. Many stores in this expansive shopping center were without tenants; apparently post-pandemic casualties. Yet, in one far corner a large white rectangular sign sat atop a newly occupied store. The dark capital letters captured my attention: SELFIE WORLD. Really? I wondered, “What kind of products could occupy so much square footage of an entire store promoted by those two words”?

In 2013, the word SELFIE received the distinction of Word of the Year from the Oxford English Dictionary. Frequency of use soared to a whopping 17,000% increase over the previous year. My curiosity drove me in two opposing directions ~ the Bible and Google.

God’s Word on selfish living is very clear:

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.” Philip-
pians 2:3-4

“But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy.” 2 Timothy 3:1-2

“Then Jesus said to them all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.” Luke 9:23

However the reality is, it is impossible to live a selfless life apart from embracing the finished work of Jesus Christ. Miraculously any person, regardless of age, who acknowledges they are a sinner liv-

ing life selfishly, and condemned to hell for eternity, can receive the forgiveness, grace, and mercy from our Savior. Immediately, God can begin the transformational work from self-centered living to a God-centered life that is impactful and effective.

Ironically, as we follow Christ, the natural desire to serve others becomes greater than serving ourselves. Why is this?

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:10

In changing the perspective from living selfie-style to God-gazing and others-oriented, a few practical applications are offered:

- generous with time
- experiences for others (fishing, golfing, hiking)
- meal sharing & hospitality
- teaching, reading, painting, singing, playing an instrument
- physically mailing encouraging cards (Dollar Store) each week
- planting extra vegetables or flowers in your garden to share throughout the summer
- purchasing little items on sale or clearance throughout the year to place in the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes
- volunteering at many places that stretch one’s comfort level
- delivering an unexpected treat to a neighbor or confined friend

What are some of your own ideas you could begin implementing? Whose life can you bless today?

For more information about Linda Oberbrunner and her work, visit lindaoberbrunner.com

Museum Of the Bible Unveils Magna Carta Exhibit, Highlights Influence On America’s Founding Documents

By Ryan Foley

The Museum of the Bible is set to unveil a Magna Carta exhibit Friday, which will examine “the role of the church and the Bible” in the formulation of the centuries-old document.

On June 22, the Museum of the Bible announced that it would be debuting a major new exhibit called “Magna Carta: Tyranny. Justice. Liberty.” The exhibit, a partnership between the Museum of the Bible and Hawkwood International, will be on display on the museum’s fifth floor from July 2 to Jan. 2, 2022.

As noted in the Museum of the Bible’s statement announcing the exhibit, “The Magna Carta is widely considered a major inspiration for the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights, the United Nations’ Universal Decla-



ration of Human Rights and the British Human Rights Act.”

The exhibit will feature an original 1217 Magna Carta, one of only four in existence, as well as the King’s Writ, an initial agreement between England’s most powerful barons and King John to restore their “ancient liberties.”

The exhibit illustrates how “The king and rebel barons gathered at the ancient site of Runnymede,” where a “treaty in the form of a charter was crafted over several days in June 1215.” However, John, described as a “tyrant” in the exhibit, quickly broke the promises in the King’s Writ and the Magna Carta did not come to fruition until 1217, after King John died.

Prior to the exhibit’s opening, a press preview was held for the media. At the event, Jeffrey Kloha, chief curatorial officer of the Museum of the Bible, elaborated on how the Museum of the Bible’s Magna Carta exhibit advances its mission as a “global, innovative, educational institution whose purpose is to invite all people to engage in the transformative power of the Bible.”

Kloha explained that the exhibit is designed to “highlight the role of the church and the Bible in the background of Magna Carta,” specifically noting that the first clause features a “religious freedom element to the Magna Carta” that “actually guarantees the liberty of the English Church.”

In a statement, Kloha predicted that “In ‘Magna Carta: Tyranny. Justice. Liberty,’ visitors will encounter these early, foundational documents in an interactive and engaging exhibit.” Additionally, he said, “They will leave with a greater understanding of the relevance of the Magna Carta, the enduring importance of the rights that developed from it, and the central role played by the church and the Christian faith in its creation and longevity.”



News & More



3 Approaches to an Encounter With Jesus

By Nick Hall



How we respond to an encounter with Jesus says a lot about the state of our heart.

We can look to the story of Mary Magdalene's first encounter with a risen Jesus to see an example of exactly how we should respond. In John 20, it says Mary Magdalene saw the empty tomb and went "running to Simon Peter." After she saw Jesus, she went directly to the disciples to tell them everything.

When Mary Magdalene encountered Jesus risen in the empty tomb, she had to testify! Do you feel this intense need to testify? Do you long to tell the lost about the good news of Jesus?

Jesus' purpose was the same. Luke 4:43 tells us he came to seek and save that which was lost and to go to the nearby towns and do the same.

Our loved ones may die without knowing Jesus simply because no one ever told them. We must have the courage and urgency to run to them the same way Mary Magdalene ran to Simon Peter.

But the good news of Jesus is unchanging. So how do we bear witness to people of different backgrounds?

THE PRODIGALS

Some of us may have people in our lives who used to go to church or previously had a close relationship with God but now have drifted away. In Luke 15, the parable of the prodigal son shows us God's heart for people who have drifted.

This parable is about a son who asked his father for his inheritance early. The father gave it to him and immediately, the son left and squandered his wealth. At his lowest, he thought perhaps he could get a job as a servant in his father's house. So, he got up and went.

The Bible says that while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and ran to him. The son didn't even have a chance to beg, he was immediately welcomed home.

God truly is the good father who wraps his arms around the prodigal son, loves him, meets him where he is and welcomes him to come back home. No begging needed.

If there are people in your life who are similar to this prodigal son, focus on sharing the grace and love of God. He wants to welcome them back home.

THE PHARISEES

The book of James talks about how God deals with religious people. In the Gospels, there are many accounts of Jesus encountering religious rule followers, known as "Pharisees", that didn't believe in the Messiah.

Maybe you have people in your life who appear religious but don't know Jesus. Maybe they follow the Ten Commandments but don't love others. Maybe they even read and know their Bibles but they don't have a personal relationship with Jesus.

I want to encourage you to find a time to get together with them and simply ask them about their faith journey. Something happens when we take a genuine interest in others and hear their stories.

It's from that place where we can talk about how Jesus offers freedom from religion.

Every other religion on earth calls humanity to do good things to get to God. The difference with Jesus is that he reveals God's perfection and our inability to do enough. Jesus, then, does on our behalf what we were

powerless to do by dying on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins.

If you have friends or family that follow strict religious guidelines but lack a genuine faith and relationship in Jesus, listen to their story and share yours. Show them the freedom from religion that you found in Jesus.

THE WEARY

You may also know people in your life who are a little discouraged right now. Perhaps they are weary or depressed.

The good news is that God isn't looking for perfect people. In fact, he's looking for broken people, for people humble enough to know they need help.

In Matthew 11, Jesus tells us that if you are weary or burdened to come to him and he will give you rest. He longs to give us rest and to comfort us in trying times because he's a good father.

All of us came out of the last season a little beat up. Whether due to economic uncertainty, job changes, loss of loved ones or the global pandemic, most of us were feeling sad and discouraged. But God loves to meet people in their pain. He suffered on our behalf, so he understands.

Reach out to people in your life who are hurting right now. Don't worry about finding the right words. Sometimes all people need is someone who cares. Tell them you love them and that God is for them. Show them the Jesus that suffers for and with them. Remind them that "we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin" (Hebrews 4:15).

I hope you are reminded of the immense love God has for you and encouraged to share your faith with those in your world. Once we have encountered the risen Jesus, how can we not run to others? Together, we can set the world free by the power of his love.

NEW LAW REQUIRES FLORIDA STUDENTS TO BE TAUGHT ABOUT 'THE EVILS OF COMMUNISM'

High school students in Florida will be required to learn about "the evils of communism" under one of three bills Gov. Ron DeSantis signed recently.

DeSantis signed the bills at a news conference at Three Oaks Middle School in Fort Myers. Two of the bills—HB 5 and SB 1108—focus on civics education, and the third—HB 233—requires freedom of expression at state colleges and universities.

Specifically, HB 5 requires the Florida Department of Education to develop an integrated K-12 civic education curriculum that

includes teaching students about citizens' shared rights under the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

The measure also adds a requirement for public high schools to "include a comparative discussion of political ideologies, such as communism and totalitarianism, that conflict with the principles of freedom and democracy essential to the founding principles of the United States."

In short, high schools must provide "instruction on the evils of communism and totalitarian ideology," DeSantis said, noting that there are Florida residents who have escaped totalitarian regimes and communist

dictatorships, such as from Cuba and Vietnam, to live in America.

"We want all students to understand the difference," he said. "Why would somebody flee across shark-infested waters ... why would people leave these countries and risk their lives to be able to come here? It's important that students understand that."

HB 5 will also provide a "Portraits in Patriotism" library with resources that include personal stories of "real patriots who came to this country after seeing the horrors of these communist regimes," DeSantis said.





Books & More



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MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

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Tuesdays - Pallas Restaurant 1657 S. 108th St, Milwaukee
Bob Conklin - 414-342-1550

8:30 am Breakfast of Champions
Tuesdays - 10201 W. Bradley Rd, Milwaukee
Oscar Johnson - 414-350-3514

7 am CBMC Bible Study
Thursdays - Meyers Restaurant, 4260 S. 76th St, Milwaukee
Bob Pratt - 414-425-0424

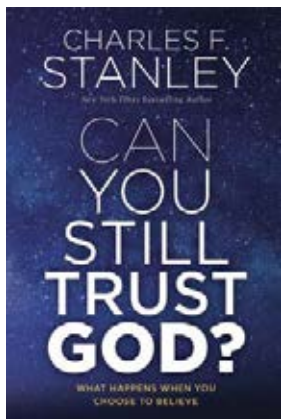
6:45 am CBMC Bible Study
Fridays - Chuck's Place, 406 N. Main St., Thiensville
Howard Honett - 262-618-2753

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

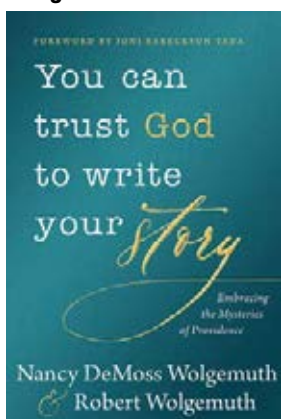
Can You Still Trust God? by Charles F. Stanley



"My hope is that after reading this book your faith will be strengthened and you will be completely confident in the future God has planned for you.

"Whatever trials you face, the truth you must hold on to with all your heart is this: God can be trusted. Even when the world falls apart and it looks like you're in it alone, you can be absolutely assured of the fact that the Lord God is with you. He loves you. He defends you. He provides for you. And when you place your trust in Him and obey Him, it doesn't matter what your circumstances appear to be—brighter days are ahead and many blessings will be yours." Dr. Stanley **Thomas Nelson \$28.99**

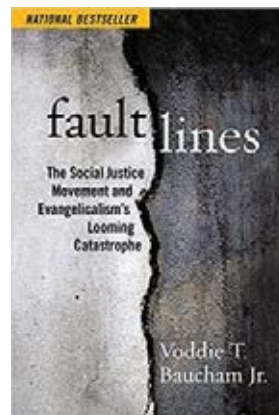
You Can Trust God To Write Your Story by Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth & Robert Wolgemuth



No story ever told could compare to God's great Story. None is as compelling, transforming, or hope-given. And your story is part of it.

"This is a unique and charming book, integrating stories of God's providence from His people and His Word. Nancy and Robert write personally and beautifully, infusing readers with a Christ-centered vision, hope, and trust for the future." -Randy Alcorn. Forward by Joni Eareckson Tada **Moody Publishers \$19.99**

Fault Lines: The Social Justice Movement and Evangelicalism's Looming Catastrophe by Voddie T. Baucham, Jr.

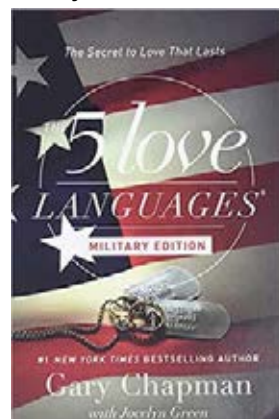


The theological work is precise; the personal narrative is arresting and moving; the cultural analysis is razor sharp and driven not by buzzwords but by data. Even as Baucham renders critique, he does so in love, with a spirit of upbuilding." -Owen Strachan, Ph.D., Assoc Professor of Christian Theology at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Whether you're a layperson who has woken up in a strange new world and wonders how to engage sensitively and effectively in the conversation on race or a pastor who is grappling with a polarized congregation, this book offers the clarity and understanding to either hold your ground or reclaim it.

Salem Books, an imprint of Regency Publishers **\$24.99**

5 Love Languages, Military Edition by Gary Chapman with Jocelyn Green



The Love Languages series is well known, but perhaps not this title.

Drawing on examples from every branch of the military. Gary Chapman and Jocelyn Green will help you:

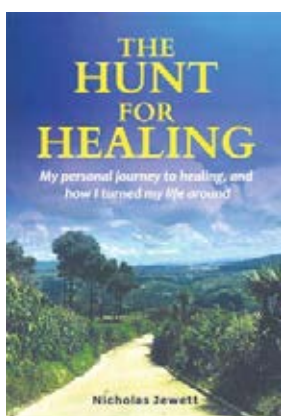
- Build intimacy over long distances
- Reintegrate after deployment
- Unlearn harsh military-style communication
- Rebuild and maintain emotional love
- Help your spouse heal from trauma

Helpful for military families, even if the deployment has been over for some time. **Northfield Publishing \$13.99**

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

Check out this great local author!

The Hunt for Healing by Nicholas Jewett



The Hunt for Healing demonstrates how it's possible to overcome tremendous adversity and pain, and live a fulfilling existence. This story of one man's life offers powerful insights, lessons learned, and helpful tips to things such as unhappiness, limiting beliefs, low self-esteem, stress, and feeling unfulfilled.

Nicholas Jewett is a certified life coach who loves God, adventure, learning, cars, playing sports and helping others. He enjoys sharing the many challenges he's overcome to help educate and inspire others to succeed and achieve their dreams.

MILWAUKEE AREA LifeChain Sunday

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News & More

BILLY GRAHAM TRAUMA CHAPLAINS, CHRISTIAN GROUPS BRING COMFORT TO DISTRAUGHT FAMILIES OF 150 MISSING IN FLORIDA TOWER COLLAPSE

As rescue crews searched for survivors, trauma counselors with the Billy Graham Rapid Response Team and other Christian groups ministered to the families after a 12-story beachfront condo building in Florida partially collapsed



As the community grapples with the tragedy, crisis-trained chaplains from the BG-RRT are in the area “to offer emotional and spiritual care to first responders and the heartbroken community,” the ministry said.

“Our crisis-trained chaplains are available to listen, and we want all of those who were impacted — including the first responders who are part of the search-and-rescue efforts — to know that God still loves them and cares about them, even in the midst of such pain and sadness,” CBN News quoted BG-RRT assistant director Josh Holland as saying.

“Rescuers are risking their own lives working below ground and some are being hit by falling debris,” Franklin Graham wrote on Facebook. “Let’s lift these workers up in prayer, asking God to help and protect them. Also pray for every missing person and their family members awaiting word. This catastrophe has devastated so many.”

Graham quoted Psalm 46:1, “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”

BLOOM WHERE YOU’RE PLANTED

by Lud Golz : Pastor for over 50 years, Teacher on the daily radio program, Getting God’s Message, Author of 8 books.



As we closed out 2020, a year where everything changed because of Covid-19, we took a trip for a brief respite. After a couple of weeks we cut the trip short and were led to drive 13 hours to get home. I wasn’t feeling well so Mur did most of the driving. On January 7 we got essential personal banking done as well as for our ministry. Late afternoon we went to an emergency room for Lud to get a Covid-19 test, Mur had to wait

in the car. When he tested positive, they kept him there until they found an available room in another hospital. He called Mur and said she couldn’t see him, so encouraged her to go home. Lud waited eight hours in the holding room until at 1 AM they transferred him to another hospital. His first room was a regular room until an ICU bed was available. He spent seven days in ICU to get his condition turned around. From there he was transferred to another hospital where he started recovery therapy for 11 days. It was amazing to see how our kids pulled together to support Mur and set up a way of communicating how things were going, since no one could visit me. Mur and I want to thank all of you for your faithful prayer support for us and our family. You

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Bryon and Judy, Steeple View residents

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah. Psalms 46:1-3

are a great encouragement to us as we seek to do the work Jesus has assigned us to do, while we still can. “Night is coming when no one can work!” (John 9:9) On January 19 Lud joyfully returned home. Whew, what a fascinating three week adventure!

Let me, Lud, explain why I call this a fascinating adventure.

The first night, when I settled into the hospital bed I didn’t know how badly I needed oxygen. For the next four days I was slowly going downhill, waiting for an ICU bed. When a bed in ICU was available they immediately moved me in. The technician on duty the first night suggested I try wearing a mask to get a stronger flow of oxygen rather than wait until they put a breathing tube down my throat and then maybe go on a respirator. I took his advice, even though the process of breathing with the mask on was tough,

because I also had the hick-ups. I struggled through it for three nights. When sufficient progress was achieved they slowly cut back the amount of oxygen, and together with attacking my condition with a variety of medications, that was the beginning of a turnaround. After seven days in ICU I was doing well enough for them to transfer me to a hospital that provided recovery therapy. 11 days later I returned home. PTL!

Earlier in this update I called the experience a fascinating adventure. Here is why. Massive amounts of prayers were offered in behalf of me and my family. In the midst of all that was going on I felt content and confident in Jesus. I hardly turned the TV on. Fortunately, over the years I’ve memorized large portions of Scripture, so when isolated, I spent my time reviewing and meditating on it. I spent a lot of time praying

Continued on page 15



News & More



100K Bibles Distributed to Prisoners Nationwide During COVID-19 Pandemic: 'God-Inspired'

By Emily Wood

The nation's leading prison ministry has given over 100,000 Bibles in the past nine months to incarcerated men and women across the country amid heightened demand for God's word during the COVID-19 pandemic.

James Ackerman, CEO of Prison Fellowship, the leading Christian ministry serving prisoners and their families, told The Christian Post in an interview that the scale of the Bible distribution is "nothing short of God-inspired and miraculous."

He explained how the hopelessness of the pandemic created a high demand for Bibles among many prisoners. Ackerman assured that Prison Fellowship has never seen this level of demand for the Gospel inside prisons in its 45-year history.

"During a time when prisons had shut down, and incarcerated men and women had to go without visitations or programming, there's this sense of hopelessness in prisons," he said.

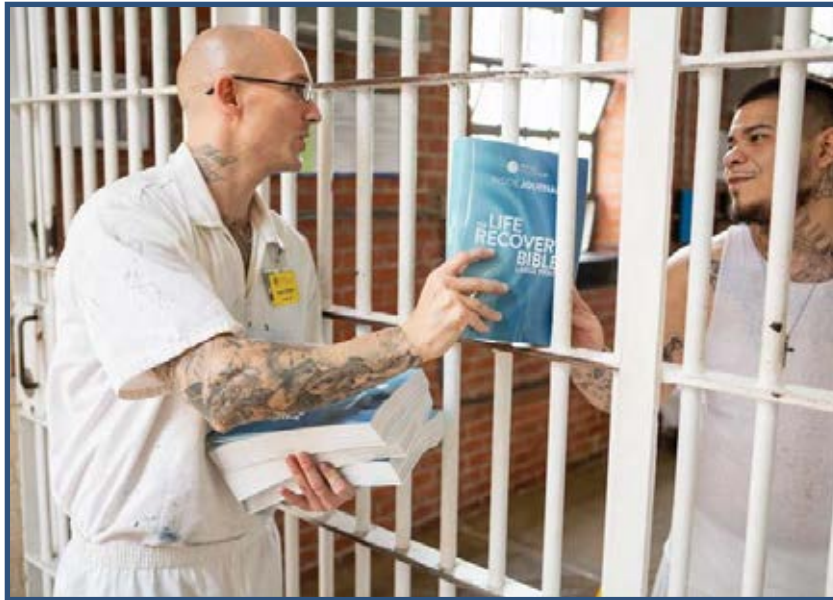
"God put on people's hearts and encouraged chaplains to promote the Word of God. And [the fact] that hope of the Gospel found itself in such high demand is so encouraging to me."

Ackerman, who became president of the ministry founded by the late Chuck Colson in 2016, believes that God created "greater demand for His word" and "provided the resources we needed to meet that demand."

Prison Fellowship partnered with Tyndale House Publishers in 2018 to provide the New Living Translation of The Life Recovery Bible to prisoners at no cost.

The Life Recovery Bible was co-branded with Inside Journal, Prison Fellowship's quarterly newspaper published for the incarcerated.

The Bible has special devotional content based on the 12-step recovery model. It helps men and women overcome addictions and strongholds while pointing to "God himself as the primary source of recovery with essential tools and features that help free people from the grip of addiction."



Prison Fellowship, founded in 1976, has always distributed Bibles. But the ministry teamed up with Tyndale House to provide large-print Bibles with content to guide people dealing with addiction recovery, which is prevalent among prisoners.

"Having a Bible that speaks to addiction recovery and needs was also a priority for us," Ackerman said. "The Life Recovery Bible by Tyndale was the perfect fit for what we were exploring."

Around 65% of inmates in the U.S. meet the medical criteria for substance use and addiction, yet only 11% receive the treatment they need, according to the behavioral healthcare system Vertava Health.

"[The Life Recovery Bible] brings the opportunity to step into new beginnings with Jesus. And because it's a recovery Bible, it's also speaking directly to the journey and narrative that's consistent with so many of the lives of these men and women," Ackerman said. "[The aim is for] people who have struggled with addiction and that addiction [led] to other unproductive activities in their life to realize that they can be healed of that addiction, that Jesus wants to heal them of that addiction and to allow them to start a life of new beginnings."

A Prison Fellowship survey of prison chaplains showed that most prisoners do not have easy access to their own Bible or have a Bible in a difficult-to-read translation or small font.

"We rejoice with Prison Fellowship in reaching this milestone of distributing 100,000 copies of The Life Recovery Bible in just nine months," Tyndale House Ministries CEO Scott Mathews said in a statement.

"We value their partnership and are grateful for their efforts in getting God's Word into the hands of prisoners who need the freeing power of the Scriptures," he continued. "Tyndale shares this mission of making the Bible accessible for everyone."

Prison Fellowship has distributed over 162,000 Bibles to men and women in prison since partnering with Tyndale in 2018.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX CAMPAIGN BACK IN FULL SWING!

by Terry Williams - Church Relations, OCC

I know a lot of you have been involved with Operation Christmas Child for many years. This will be my 20th year being involved. I am so happy to say I have never been so blessed to be involved with Operation Christmas Child and so many wonderful people than this year. Even though we had the

Covid last year, we packed 8.8 million shoeboxes and hoping to do more in 2021 by sharing the love of Jesus Christ through these special shoeboxes.

I am inviting you to a workshop for Operation Christmas Child Saturday Sept. 11, 2021 from 9:30 - 11:00 at Thirst 4 Jesus

in Oconomowoc W360N7077 Brown Street. There will be shoeboxes to be picked up, prizes, snacks and a lot of information for either having a packing party or for your church packing boxes.

Also this year we will be having a packing party at the YMCA

Oconomowoc, Sunday, November 14, from 11:00-4:00. We will be looking for and collecting donations. We hope we see you at the workshop Sept 11.

For more information please call me at 414-254-3651 or terrywilliams100@hotmail.com.



News & More



Being An Activist Without Being Political

By David Rong



In the wake of recent events, the pandemic, global tensions between countries, racial tension and conflict at home, churches have had to balance between being too politicized and tone deaf to the issues affecting their congregants and the larger community. As a pastor of a church whose congregation is predominantly Chinese-American in New York City, I have also struggled and pondered this delicate balance in the maelstrom of anti-Asian racism and violence.

Indeed, I have observed an intensification of churches becoming “political” while in pursuit of activism on important issues. I believe this approach is wrong-headed and self-defeating. To begin with, I am not suggesting churches do not have a place in the polity of a country. Indeed, to suggest otherwise, is tantamount to living out the old adage of burying one’s head in the sand. To paraphrase one pastor, “In the concept of separation of church and state, the church may have chosen to separate itself from the state, but the state has never separated itself from the church, it has always been involved in the affairs of the church.”

Being involved in your community and fighting for things that matter to your community and your church is political but also biblical. Indeed, God Himself rebuked the prophet Jonah with this statement, “And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?” (Jonah 4:11). If being political means being active in issues that concern your church and community, then I think we should all be political for it broadens our ministry beyond the four walls of our churches (physically as well as spiritually). Yet what I find unsettling is churches allowing secular politics to determine the reach of their ministry and care, permitting outside political considerations to narrow the scope of their visions and missions. Political leanings and positions would determine which causes they champion or emphasize in their churches, which people groups they are passionate about, and which protests or rallies they encourage (explicitly or implicitly) their congregants to join.

In one Latin American country, I know of a resistance by church leaders to plant churches in wealthier neighborhoods because they believed the rich have everything in this life and therefore do not need the Gospel and eternal life. While from the opposite political and economic spectrum, this example is not exactly dissimilar from wealthy American churches in the 19th and 20th centuries who excluded immigrants, the poor, and others from their congregations. This type of politicization of the church is unbiblical and fatally flawed.

While Christ may have shared some of the same goals as the politicians and special interest groups of His day, He was ultimately guided by His divine mission. While His goals may have aligned at times with the world’s, Christ’s process and means were entirely different. As exemplified by Christ’s response to the question of whether Jews should pay taxes to their Roman occupiers, “So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s” (Matthew 22:21). While Christ was not discounting the evils of the Roman Empire, He was focused on an allegiance far more eternal and important than any earthly political or ethnic affiliation. Christ never allowed the world’s political considerations to determine the scope of His vision or ministry because ultimately, He knew the Gospel and the Church would not flourish but die if they were constrained to one cause or one group. God’s vision and ministry is always greater, always transcendent above human visions and considerations.

Following the example set by Christ, our “forerunner” (Hebrews 6:20), the Church can be active as a member of the general polity without becoming beholden to the political currents of the time. While we may share the same goals as the world from time to time, we must vigilantly guard the independent process and means by which we arrive at those goals. Any intellectually rigorous as well as biblically faithful church should dread to do otherwise. As the Apostle Paul noted, “Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe” (1 Corinthians 1:20-21). In this way, we can assure our goals are always closely aligned with God’s goals and the reach and scope of our vision and mission are not constrained by the political winds of the time. We will not be a poor or rich church, conservative or liberal church, we will simply be God’s church.

Will Graham: Through Life’s Storms, God’s Love Never Fails

Our God is faithful! In the midst of the storms of life, His love is never-failing. “Through the Lord’s mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not” (Lamentations 3:22, NKJV).

I just returned from the Pacific Northwest, where we held two appreciation dinners for law enforcement officers in the Portland, Oregon/Vancouver, Washington and Seattle areas. During these events, I spoke with many of these men and women who serve in such volatile times.

There are all too many reminders in the news every day of the dangers they face. Following the murder of four people—including two law enforcement officers—in Boone, North Carolina, the Billy Graham Rapid Response Team (BG-RRT) deployed crisis-trained chaplains to minister to the Watauga County Sheriff’s Office and the community at large.

Boone is where I was raised and where my parents still live. This tragedy hit very close to home. The morning after the standoff, I traveled there to pray with law enforcement officers and with the BG-RRT chaplains. The grief was palpable and overpowering, but in the darkness, light shines even brighter (see John 1:5). I’m proud of our chaplains who are willing to leave behind the safety of home and run toward disaster, carrying the hope and comfort of Jesus into incredibly hard situations.

One woman at the memorial pulled the chaplains aside to share her story. She had recently become so depressed that she had considered harming herself. She told her daughter, who then contacted the Watauga County Sheriff’s Office. Two officers—Depu-

ty Fox and Sergeant Ward—were dispatched to make a welfare check. She recalled how they both talked with her and helped her understand her life was important. A few days later, their lives were taken in this horrible tragedy.



This is a stark reminder of the impact and importance of the law enforcement officers in our communities. In addition to the dinners in the Portland and Seattle areas, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA) has been hold-

ing retreats and appreciation events across the country for officers and their spouses. We have made an ongoing commitment to support and encourage these brave men and women who sacrifice so much to protect our communities.



News & More



8 Reasons Why We Can't Follow Jesus Apart From The Church

By Joseph Mattera

Famous rapper Lecrae recently tweeted, "I love Jesus, but I'm not churchy. I used to be embarrassed by that, but now I realize it is okay to love God but not fit in with Church culture."

I will agree with Lecrae if he is alluding only to a religious, legalistic, church culture. However, if he is referring to not participating in a local church, I strongly disagree. This sentiment exhibits a growing trend of Christians who do not see the importance of being affiliated with a local church. Is this healthy? Can a Christ-follower truly follow Jesus apart from a local church?

Let me ask this question: Can you cut off your finger and expect it to live, fulfill its purpose, and function properly?

I believe the greatest challenge we have in evangelical circles is a lack of biblical ecclesiology. Because of this, we have seen rampant individualism amongst Christians, unaccountable social media teachers, and so-called prophets. We see the blind leading the blind as these believers aimlessly attempt to fulfill their purpose.

Here are 8 reasons why Christ followers need to function in a local church:

1. In the Gospels, when people followed Jesus, He immediately brought them into His community.

Jesus had his 12 disciples and then another 70 (Luke 9:1, Luke 10:1). With this community, He said He was building His church (Matthew 16:18). Hence, at the very least, this shows the church in its nascent form. This debunks the notion that Jesus made disciples without the local church in mind.

2. The Church is inextricably connected to Jesus.

The apostle Paul called the Church the fullness of Jesus as the body of Christ (Ephesians 1:22-23). Hence, those who follow Jesus apart from the Church are attempting to follow a head without a body!

3. The Church is the visible manifestation of the invisible Christ.

The Apostle John said, "as He is [in heaven] so are we in this [present] world (1 John 4:17). He also equated loving the invisible God with loving the visible Church (1 John 4:20). Thus, there is both a mystical body of Christ and a visible body (Hebrews 12:23). It is mystical partially because there is a church in heaven, and in this life. (We don't always know who all the true Christians are). However, there is also a physical corporate church with members who participate in doing life together as a family of families. We see this in all the New Testament Epistles (1 Timothy 3:15).

4. The promises of God assume a corporate body.

When we read both Testaments, the promises and prophetic utterances were given in the context of the nation of Israel or the corporate Church. Individuals never assumed scripture was just for them. Since people didn't walk around with Bibles during the early Church, they would not have even known the word of the Lord if they weren't either in a synagogue or hearing somebody read a letter from one of the Apostles in a local assembly (Luke 4:16-20). A promise about God completing the good work He started in you was given to a church, not merely an individual (Philippians 1:6). Consequently, people in biblical times could not conceive of following God apart from a community of believers.

THE HUMMINGBIRD

Once there was a great forest fire.

All the animals fled to the edge of the forest and froze in fear not knowing what to do. They watched as the flames began destroying the beauty of their home.

Finally a tiny hummingbird flew to a body of water and took a few drops into its beak.

It then flew quickly toward the fire allowing the drops to fall on the roaring flames.

Over and over the tiny bird continued.

Drop by drop.
Back and forth.
Again and again.

The other animals watched from the edge of the forest, and called to the little bird, "What are you doing?"

The hummingbird replied, "I am doing what I can."

How often we can become overwhelmed by fear or the sheer size of problems and become paralyzed to do nothing. Or we may compare ourselves to others and feel too small to matter. The world says, "Bigger is better!" God says, "Small is important."



5. You cannot be a disciple apart from the Church.

In Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus said that the way a person can be disciplined is by being baptized. Since baptism was the initiation rite to officially join the Jesus community, it means that Jesus commanded people to join His Church to follow him.

6. You cannot hear the whole counsel of God apart from the Church.

In the book of Revelation, there are seven times where Jesus admonished us to hear what the Spirit was saying to the Churches (Revelation 2:7, Revelation 3:6, Revelation 11, Revelation 13, Revelation 17, Revelation 29, Revelation 22). Hence, people in their city could not hear the Lord's word regarding the destiny of their city without participating in their own local church.

Also, it was interesting that when Jesus wanted to speak, He spoke through the messenger of a particular church, which likely was the overseeing Bishop of that region. He also assumed spiritual and apostolic alignment with the local church for a Christian to hear His word and walk out His message of warning, correction, and edification.

7. Jesus is coming back for His bride.

8. We need the gifts and abilities of a committed congregation to function.





News & More



A Quick Update on Bible Translation And Our Family

From Tim & Sharon Scanlon

As we head into the summer months we wanted to let you know about a few updates in our Wycliffe ministry and to share some pictures of our family.

The first time God put the idea of missions in my heart I was in college sitting in the library studying. I remember praying and thinking, “I can’t think of anything I would rather do with the rest of my life than to help others who have no access to God’s Word and the Gospel to be able to receive them”. It is an extreme joy to have the opportunity to serve with Wycliffe and be involved in helping to reach the Bibleless.

Thank you for your prayers and partnership with us in this work.



NEW LANGUAGES RECEIVING THE BIBLE

Please join us in praising God for these Scripture dedications that recently took place!

Pray that God will transform lives as people begin to hear and read God’s Word for the first time.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huichol New Testament
Location: Mexico
Number of Speakers: 52,000. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ura New Testament
Location: Papua New Guinea
Number of Speakers: 5,000 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ndut New Testament & Genesis
Location: Senegal
Number of Speakers: 52,000 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C’Lela New Testament
Location: Nigeria
Number of Speakers: 965,233 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hawaii Pidgin Old Testament
Location: Hawaii
Number of Speakers: 600,000 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mango New Testament
Location: Chad
Number of Speakers: 160,000 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ndali New Testament
Location: Tanzania
Number of Speakers: 193,000 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minangali Kalinga New Testament
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JASON CRABB’S NEW EP ‘BORN OUT OF ADVERSITY’ IN MIDST OF COVID-19

Two-time Grammy Award-winning Christian artist Jason Crabb shared the real-life battles that he confronted during the making of his new EP, Just As I Am.

The five-song EP marks a new chapter for the singer as it’s his debut release on the Red Street Records label founded by Jay DeMarcus, a member of the beloved group Rascal Flatts. Demarcus is also listed as a producer for Crabb’s latest project.

Crabb, who has won 22-time Dove Awards and has been in the music business for over 25 years, described Just As I Am as a powerful declaration of “faith in the One who is constant and sure, even in the midst of uncertainty and hardship.”

“Whenever I begin to work on a new project, I ask God for His direction and wisdom,” Crabb said in a statement to The Christian Post. “I remembered something my Grand-

mother Richardson instilled in me: No matter what happens, you can trust God. He’s got it under control. She used to tell me, ‘When you get to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hold on to God.’ So holding on to God, the project of making Just As I Am began.”

“This record was born from adversity,” he revealed. “Just about the time we went into the studio, the pandemic hit and the world stopped. I caught the virus; friends and family became sick, and we knew people who died.”

Crabb said it was a “very discouraging time.” He quoted Isaiah 61:3, which says, God will “give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness ... that He may be glorified.”



In March 2020, the Nashville resident encouraged his followers to fight off fear during a Facebook Live chat. Joined by his wife, Shellye, and their daughters, Ashleigh and Emma, the musician cited scripture, shared motivational words and a song as a response to the fears surrounding the global COVID-19 outbreak.

“That’s the wondrous thing about Christ — He takes

what was meant for harm and turns it into good,” Crabb testified.

The new EP features his title track single, which is ranked among the Top 30 on Billboard’s AC Monitored chart. “Just As I Am” also released a special video to honor NASCAR driver Natalie Decker who was featured in the video along with her race car.

In the Kitchen With Diane



Diane Fechter, Author



BLACK BEAN SALAD WITH FETA CHEESE

This salad featuring high-protein black beans is one of our summer favorites.

- 1 jar (12 oz.) marinated artichokes hearts, drained and chopped
- 1 c. black beans, rinsed and drained
- 6 green onions, sliced
- 2 c. grape tomatoes, halved
- 1 c. black olives, sliced
- 2 Tbsp. Italian dressing
- 1/4 - 1/2 c. feta cheese

In a bowl, combine artichokes, beans, onions, tomatoes, olives and dressing. Sprinkle top with feta cheese. Serves 3-4

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



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Acts 2:27

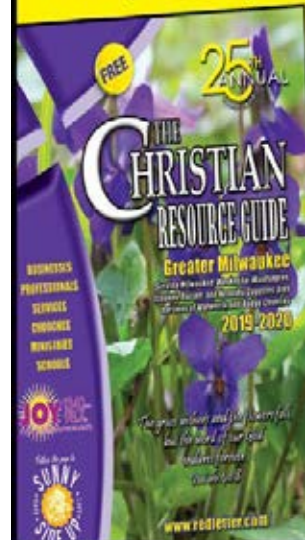
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Continued from "Bloom Where You Are Planted" on page 9

for others; my family, friends and those God brought to mind. When nurses tried providing other things to pass the time I shared what I was doing. That opened some opportunities to share that because of Jesus I felt secure and confident in Him, no matter what the outcome might be. During the first 4 days, as my condition was worsening, I had a brief conversation with my 75 year old room-mate, who prayed with me to receive Jesus as his Savior. In the ICU room I had many conversations with staff, and again, one night one of the nurses prayed to receive Jesus as her Savior. A number of others made time to talk about spiritual issues. Then, in the final room where I was beginning the slow climb out of where I had been, one nurse came in one morning obviously heavy hearted. As I shared how Jesus could make a difference she started wiping tears from her eyes. Within minutes she

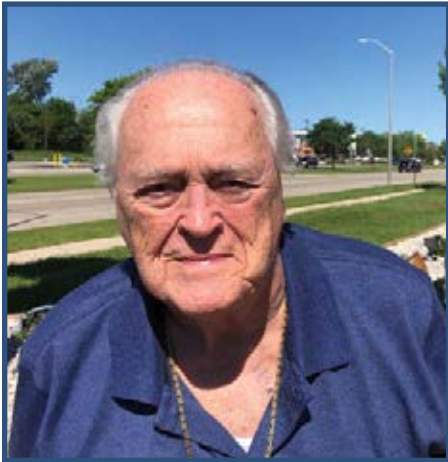
was ready to pray, asking Jesus to be her Savior.

Each day I began asking God with a smile, "What's up today? I'm available. I realize I'm on assignment. Enable Christ's light to shine through me." I began to feel like what Paul wrote while in prison in Rome. Paul felt, according to Philippians 1:16, he was put there to share the Gospel. He didn't choose his confining circumstances, but made himself "available," and considered himself to be "on assignment," to be "an ambassador for Christ." He knew the prayers of fellow Christians were making a difference. He concluded in verse 27, "Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ." That perspective changes everything and allows God to work in and through us to reach hearts He brings our way.

(I encourage you to prayerfully read Philippians 1:3-30)



THE SCHOLAR'S CORNER: Anticipation in John's Gospel (Part 1)



By Basil Jackson

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

For a moment it is worthwhile to consider the special significance and purpose of John the Evangelist's Gospel and note the significant difference between it and the other three accounts. As we have seen John the Baptist's ministry was to herald the Gospel of "the Kingdom of Heaven" and to call on the nation of Israel to "repent" as a prerequisite to the restoration of the Kingdom promised to Israel.

In The Baptist's restricted ministry to Israel, the Lord is presented to the nation in the capacity of the promised Messiah, the King of David's line. The Messiah had appeared and it was to be expected that the Kingdom was at hand and that the hope and consolation of Israel could be anticipated.

In John's Gospel, on the other hand, we have a very different aspect presented:

John's Gospel does not

1. Speak of John the Baptist as "the Baptist"
2. State that he "heralded" or "preached"
3. Mention that John came to turn Israel to the Lord
4. State that he warned Israel to repent

John, in his Gospel, clearly states the purpose of the advent and the arrival of the Word, the Son of God. John the Evangelist's purpose and his intention, as indicated in his emphasis on eight instructive signs, is clearly stated:

"But these are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life in His name." John 20:31

It is important to note that John the Evangelist's message, in contrast with the message of John the Baptist, is worldwide, not just to the nation of Israel. The Gospel of John was probably the last Scripture to be written, at which time John the Baptist's proclamation of his Kingdom message was passe. For years to come the nation of Israel had missed its opportunity. As a result the message at this time was not specifically related to Israel but to the whole world. John presents a comprehensive all-embracing witness to the whole world of the Lord as the one who dies to take away the sin of the world and who gives eternal life to all who believe.

It is worthy of notice that John the Evangelist's account was not written until after the ministry of the other apostles was completed. In all probability the other apostles, even Paul, never saw it. Being given after the im-

mediate and present aim and need, as enunciated in the message of John the Baptist was past, it seems that the message of John the Evangelist develops an eschatological dimension and was intended for and looked forward to the day when Israel would finally accept the message of John the Baptist, especially in the Millennial era. It focuses on eight signs which will find their complete fulfillment in the Day of the Lord.

The eight signs are all signs or evidences that apart from their Messiah, Israel could have no joy, no supplies, no blessing, no glory. The discourses which followed the signs indicated that this spiritual cachexia could be supplied only by divine gifts, such as will occur during the millennial period. In the interim however, it is most important to note that the Lord constantly engaged in activities which had a deeper significance and meaning than appeared on the surface. This same methodology of communication is apparent in the parables in which The Lord communicates a cryptic message which may be understood and appreciated only by those with the spiritual insight which is Holy Spirit given.

The eight signs are as follows:

1. A Joyless Marriage in Cana. 2:2-11

"They have no wine"

The Messiah, however, could supply that need. He alone would be the supplier of joy that the new wind would bring in the future Kingdom.

"And wine which gladdeneth the heart of man, making (his) face shine with oil; and with bread he strengtheneth man's heart." Psalm 104:15

This first sign was an indication of the lack of spiritual joy and nourishment in the nation of Israel at the time.

2. The Ruler's Son at the Point of Death. 4:46-50

A soldier's son was "about to die."

Here the sign is of the death and the destruction of the national life of Israel as was manifested in the first part of His ministry, at which time complete rejection of the king had not yet occurred. Proleptically the nation was about to die spiritually with the rejection of the King eventuating in the spiritual death of the dispersion. At this stage

such spiritual death was near; the nation was 'about to die.'

3. Paralysis and Impotency. 5:1-47

In this sign the condition of Israel is seen as chronic and hopeless. The Messiah is the only source of help and healing and the giver of life. Man cannot save himself! Only the Messiah will be able to induce life in the nation and lead them into true rest and Sabbath-keeping that remains and eschatological hope. In this case the Messiah takes the initiative where in the first and second sign He was sought by another. It may be significant that this sign was associated with a pool (5:2) which may reflect the pool of spiritual cleansing which in a future day will be "opened to the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and uncleanness." (Zech. 13:1)

4. Hunger Satisfied for 5000. 6:1-14

This sign with sign number five is especially significant because these two signs are the only signs which are recorded in the other three Gospels. An emphasis by the Holy Spirit! Here we have a depiction of the Creator as the only source of supply for His peoples' need for sustenance. In this sign the condition of Israel is seen as chronic malnourished and hopeless, spiritual anorexia nervosa. The Messiah is the only source of help and healing. Here the Messiah takes the initiative, where in the first and second sign He was sought by another, a representative of the nation of Israel. It may also be significant that this sign, too, was associated with a pool in Jerusalem (5:2) which may reflect the pool of spiritual cleansing which in a future day will be made available to the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and uncleanness.

"In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and uncleanness." (Zech. 13:1)

5. Walking on the Sea. 6:1-14

In this sign the Lord is demonstrated to be the Lord of the universe, the creator and the Sovereign of the Kingdom of God. The material universe responds to the Creator while his chosen people did not. Just as the Creator supplied an ample supply of water in the defeat of the King of Moab, He still retains control of all of His creation (2Kings 16). Nothing is too hard for the God of Israel!

6. Impaired Visual Perception. 9:1-14

This is a repeat of much of the significance of the third sign. In this sign the condition of Israel is seen as chronic and hopeless. The Messiah is the only source of help and healing. In this case the Messiah, as in sign number three, takes the initiative where in the first and second sign He was sought by



News & More



the diseased representative of Israel. Here the Master did not have to be asked for help. He personally took the initiative and out of his love and mercy provided healing. It may also be significant that this sign, as is sign number three, was associated with a pool (5:2) which may reflect the pool of spiritual cleansing which in a future day will be 'opened to the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and uncleanness.' (Zech. 13:1)

7. The Lazarus Phenomenon. 11:1-44

Here the sign is of death, full and complete death, for the Messiah had by this time been fully rejected. From the spiritual point of view the nation at this stage was as good as dead. Only the Messiah in a coming day

could raise the nation to spiritual life and health again. (Ezek. 37)

"And he said unto me, Son of Man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off! Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus said the Lord Jehovah: Behold. I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, O My People, and bring you into the land of Israel...And I will put my Spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I will place you in your own land."

8. Fish by the Boat-load. 21:1-14

"Jesus therefore says to them, "Children, Have ye anything to eat?" They answered Him, 'No' ".

This eighth sign is distinct from the other seven signs in that it is post-resurrection. They had no meat. However the Messiah could supply that need. This may be considered a reference to the future gathering of His scattered people of Israel. At that time an abundance of spiritual food will be supplied by Him who is the bread of life. Here we have the sad and painful tragedy, but also the final outcome, of the rejection of the King, designated Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God and Prince of Peace!

Our empathic affective response must be to Worship!

UK Council Apologizes for Censoring Franklin Graham Event Ads; Pays Over \$150K In Damages

By Michael Gryboski

The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association has been awarded a financial settlement and received a public apology from a British council that censored the Christian group's ads.

Along with issuing an apology recently for pulling the ads because they opposed the evangelical group's conservative views on LGBT issues, the Blackpool Council in Lancashire also agreed to pay damages of over \$150,200 (£109,000).

Councilor Lynn Williams, head of the Blackpool Council, explained in the apology that the council accepts "that the advertisements were not in themselves offensive."

"We further accept that in removing the advertisements we did not take into account the fact that this might cause offense to other members of the public and suggest that some voices should not be heard," Williams added.

"We sincerely apologize to the organizers of the event for the upset and inconvenience caused ... We have learned from this experience.

We are committed to ensuring equality of access and opportunity for the population of Blackpool and providing and improving quality services for all."



Williams also stated that the local government has "now introduced clear and transparent policies that will ensure no repeat of events such as these."

As part of the settlement between the council and BGEA, the council will pay roughly \$115,700 (£84,000) to cover taxes and legal costs and over \$34,400 (£25,000) in "just satisfaction" damages.

"This is an important moment for religious freedom in the U.K.," said BGEA President the Rev. Franklin Graham in a statement released Friday.

"We're grateful to God for the final outcome of this case, and for what it will mean for churches and Christians across the U.K. in the years ahead."

NEARLY 2K VOLUNTEER FOR EVANGELICAL CHURCH'S 'HEART THE CITY' WEEK OF SERVICE IN OHIO, KENTUCKY

Hundreds conduct service projects during weeklong volunteer effort

Nearly 2,000 volunteers from the two-campus 7 Hills Church based in Cincinnati, Ohio, participated in a week of service conducted annually to benefit communities in the greater Cincinnati area and Northern Kentucky called "Heart the City."

From Sunday, June 20 to Saturday, June 26, roughly 1,817 volunteers participated in serving 186 organizations for a total of 11,783 hours, according to the church.

The service projects included landscaping, painting, organizing, cleaning, food distribution and more in various neighborhoods.

Over 15 years ago, when Pastor Marcus Mecum founded his nondenominational

church, he said the one word which weighed heavy on his heart was "better."

He told The Christian Post his primary desires were to ultimately improve marriages, schools and local businesses within Cincinnati to better the whole city.

"Our prayer hasn't been, 'God give the city to us,' but rather our prayer has been, 'God give us to the city.' And that's what we've been committed to do for over 12 years now through our 'Heart the City' initiative," Mecum, a Florence, Kentucky resident, told The Christian Post.

"What I love about our church is that we don't just say, 'I love people,' but we prove it through our actions. We roll up our sleeves and we serve our city all year-round. ... We want to make a difference."

The pastor said the "Heart the City" week is a time for the congregation to meet the community's needs by first finding out what the needs are and then manifesting the vision to meet the needs. Ultimately, he said, his

church takes pride in maintaining lives led by the example of Jesus, who "didn't come to be served, but to serve."

With every passing day of service, Mecum said, hundreds of volunteers started around 8 a.m., and the latest projects ended around 8 p.m. There were 993 more volunteers in 2021 than in 2019, which allowed for an additional 11 organizations to be served.

When Mecum read through the Bible, he said he found it amazing how Jesus seemed to think about other people frequently.

"There were times where Jesus would look over a city and weep. ... Even on the most difficult day of His life on the cross, He was thinking about people when He said, 'Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing,' Luke 23:34," Mecum said. "Jesus constantly thought about people. Our church isn't perfect, but people are always on our mind."



News Shorts



STUDY SHOWS DROP IN SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL AMONG US EVANGELICAL YOUNG ADULTS

A new study shows a sharp drop in support for Israel among Evangelicals aged 18 to 29 that could have “dramatic implications” on long-term US-Israel relations.

The study: “Change of the Guard: Young Evangelicals and [the] Israeli-Palestinian Dispute” shows that from 2018 to 2021, the rate of Evangelical young adults’ support for Israel dropped from 69% to 33.6% while support for the establishment of a Palestinian state rose from 35% to 44.7%.

AID WORKERS RUSH DRY FOOD TO PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS AMID STARVATION

Christian aid workers are rushing dry food parcels to several nations amid concerns that many Christians face starvation.

“It is estimated that in 2020 at least 155 million people were ‘acutely food insecure and in need of assistance in 55 countries, the highest level of need for at least five years. With the devastating impact of [the] COVID-19 [pandemic] on the global economy, that need will only become worse,” said the Britain-based Barnabas Fund aid group.

“Anti-Christian discrimination can mean that Christians are the last to receive help from their government or international aid,” the group told Worthy News.

‘MIRACLE BABY’: GIVEN ZERO CHANCE OF SURVIVAL, WORLD’S MOST PREMATURE BABY CELEBRATES FIRST BIRTHDAY

When Richard Scott William Hutchinson was born nearly four months early, he was given a zero percent chance of survival. He was so small, he could fit into the palm of one of his parent’s hands.

Not only did he beat those extreme odds, but he’s also made history and earned a spot in the Guinness Book of World Records, all before celebrating his first birthday.

He weighed only 11.9 ounces at birth. That’s one-tenth the average weight of a full-term newborn, according to Guinness.

BOMB DESTROYS BRAZIL BIBLE MEMORIAL; MORE ATTACKS EXPECTED

A bomb attack seriously damaged the Memorial to the Bible in northeastern Brazil amid mounting anti-Christian sentiments in the South American nation, Christians say.

Security camera footage obtained by Worthy News showed the June 19 explosion destroying the Memorial to the Bible in the city of Campina Grande in Paraiba state.

People use the one-room building to read the Scriptures in several languages, including Portuguese, Greek, and Hebrew, and Braille for the visually impaired.

The June 19 bombing destroyed the glass door and one of the walls of the building. Nobody claimed responsibility, and there were no reports of injuries.

The Center for Studies in Politics, Citizenship and Christian Worldview said in published remarks, “It is believable that it was an attack motivated by anti-religious sentiment. Therefore, we would describe the act as religious intolerance, Christophobia, and terrorism.”

CUBA PROTESTS: CHRISTIAN LEADERS BEATEN, IMPRISONED IN GOVERNMENT CRACKDOWN; CALL FOR CHRISTIANS WORLDWIDE TO PRAY; “HELP US!”

Christian pastors are among at least 100 people who have been beaten and imprisoned by the Cuban government amid nationwide protests against systemic rights violations, the severe economic crisis, and the surge in COVID-19 cases, the Christian Post reports. Pleading for help from the international community, the wife of an imprisoned pastor has called on Christians worldwide to pray for Cubans suffering government violence.

‘HIGH HOPES’: EVANGELICAL LEADERS REACT TO ISRAEL’S NEW PRIME MINISTER

Israel’s new government that pushed out former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu after over a decade in power has received praise and condemnation from prominent pro-Israel evangelicals, with many saying they will continue to support Israel no matter who is in charge.

MINISTRIES DIRECTORY

MILWAUKEE (AREA 1)

Agape Harvest Fellowship Ministries Church of Engleburg

4620 W North Avenue
Milwaukee 53208
Sunday Worship 10AM
414.449.2390

Apostolic Missionary Church

2686 S 12th Street
Milwaukee 53207
Call for times 414.645.7383

Berean Family Worship Center, Inc.

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

Beth Messiah Congregation

9900 W Capitol Drive
Milwaukee 53222
Saturday Worship 10AM
414.464.9782

Blessed Deliverance M.B.C.

2215 N. 23rd Street
Milwaukee, WI 53205
414-344-9645
Sunday School 8:45 am
Worship 10 am
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 pm
Blessdeliverance@aol.com

Central Assembly of God

5511 W Burleigh St
Milwaukee 53210
Call for times 414.445.0755

Christian Faith Fellowship Church East

724 S. Layton Blvd.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53215
Sunday Worship Time: 10 a.m.
Sunday Night Ministry Training 6:00 p.m.
Wed Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.
www.cffceast.org

Cornerstone Church Milwaukee

2223 E. Kenwood Blvd
Milwaukee, WI 53211
Sunday Worship 10am
414.395.7777 or
cornerstonemilwaukee.com

Divine Shepherd Lutheran

9741 W Beloit Rd
Milwaukee 53227
Sunday Worship 9AM
414.321.0730

Eastbrook Church

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

Grace Christian Fellowship

9900 W Capitol Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53222
Sunday Worship 9AM, 10:45AM
Wed. Youth Programs 7PM
414.464.9220

Greater St. Lukes

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

Holy Cathedral COGIC

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

Hope Lutheran Church

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

Kingdom of Heaven Christian Min.

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

Lakeshore Church

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

New Beginnings Seed Faith M.B.C.

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

Newport Missionary Baptist Church

2237 N. 11th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53205
Sunday School: 9:30am
Service: 11 am
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
WOGF.mke@gmail.com



Ministries



SOUTH SUBURBS (AREA 2)

Cornerstone Bible Church

11321 St. Martens Rd.
Franklin, WI 53132
Sunday Bible Study 9:30AM
Children's/Jr Church 10:30AM
414. 232.3158 or
www.cbfranklinwi.com

Faith Christian Fellowship

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

Harvest Community Church

6612 S Howell Ave
Oak Creek 53154
Worship Service 9AM, 10:45AM

Jubilee Christian Family Church

3639 W Ryan Road
Franklin 53132
Sunday Worship 10AM
Wednesday Bible Study 7PM
Mon-Fri AM1340 12:45PM
414.423.0700 or Jubilee-Christian.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
Sunday Worship 10AM
414.543.0655
www.BRBCMke.org

Body of Christ Ministries

KimSorgentMinistries.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 Sundays10AM
Wednesday 7PM
www.fpwcenter.org

First Baptist Church-New Berlin

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

Honey Creek Church

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

Lifeline Church

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

New Beginnings Fellowship Intl.

8650 W National Ave
West Allis 53219
Sunday Prayer 8:45AM
Sunday Worship 10:30AM
Sunday Praise 6PM
Wednesday 7PM
414.543.0603
NewBeginningsInternational.net

Faith Christian Church

4800 S. Calhoun Rd,
New Berlin
Worship Services
Sundays 11:15AM & 6:00PM
Wednesday 6:30PM
414-423-5241

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

Poplar Creek Church - Wauwatosa

201 N 121st St,
Wauwatosa 53226
Sunday Worship 10:00AM
262-782-1777

Reformation Hope Church

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

RightWay Church Ministries

POBox242232
Milwaukee,WI53225
Meeting at ComfortSuites
10831ParkPlace
Milwaukee,WI 53224
SundaySchool 9am
WorshipService 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

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
Clcofport.com

Cornerstone Church Lake Country

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

Family Chapel

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

Grace Bible Chapel

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

Journey Church Burlington

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

Journey Church Kenosha

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

Lake Country Bible Church

N45W32481 Watertown Plank
Rd
Nashotah, WI 53058
Sunday Bible Study 9AM
Worship 10:15AM
262-369-8777 LakeCountryBible.org

Northbrook Church

4014 Hwy 167 West
Richfield 53076
Saturday 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

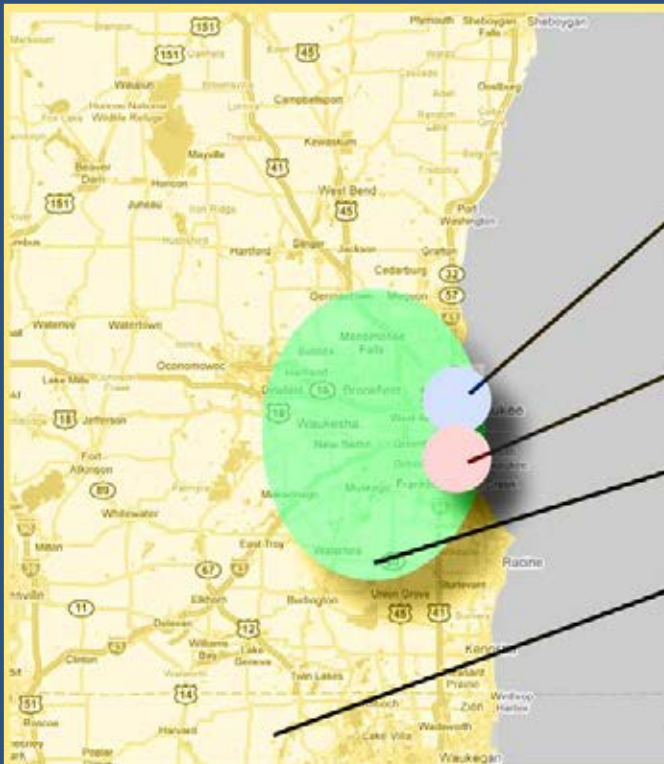
1123 Center St.
Racine, WI 53403
Sundays Worship: 2pm
224.656.1803

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

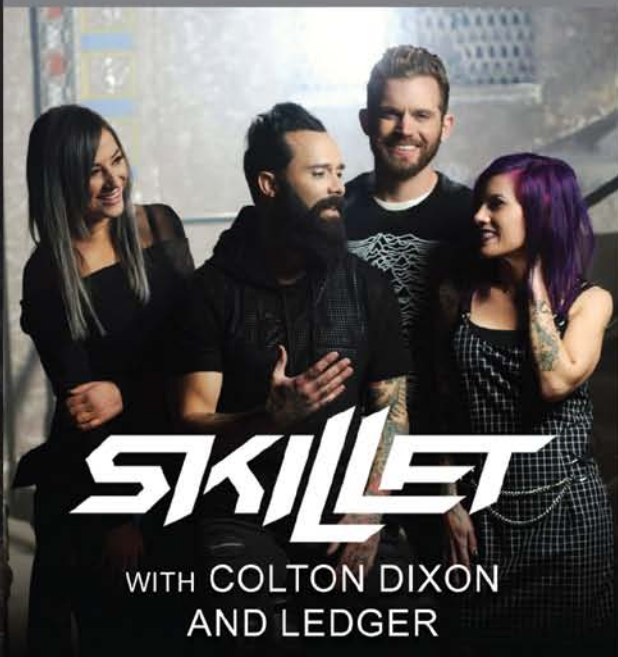


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If you purchase tickets from any other source, WSFP cannot guarantee the validity of the tickets and you risk being denied admission, refunds and/or exchanges.

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9733 W. Greenfield Avenue, Milwaukee, WI

Phone 414-344-7300 ~ pbcbooks@christianproducts.org
www.probuolls.org

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Phone: 414-344-7300 / www.BargainsnMore.org / Info@BargainsnMore.org

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