

P3

**BIBLICAL Voter**

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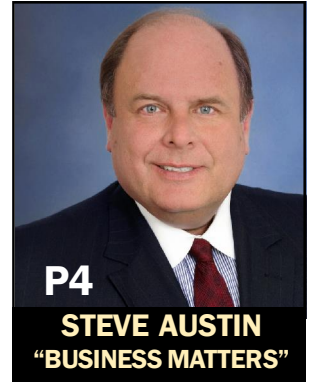
**DRAN REESE**

*"A Voice for the Christian Community"*

# Christian

San Diego County **NewsMagazine**

**THE BUSINESS FORECAST IS LOOKING VERY HOPEFUL**



P4

**STEVE AUSTIN**  
"BUSINESS MATTERS"

Volume 1 Issue 12

**"Fiercely Local and Independent"**

[www.TheSanDiego.News](http://www.TheSanDiego.News)

## BEHIND the HEADLINES



**MEDIA MATTERS**

**Building a United Christian Voice! P2**

**Stacey Hyatt**  
Salem Surround



**Artificial intelligence is no longer a futuristic P7 concept; it's a reality!**

Stefan Jungmichel - AI Lab - Biola University



**I'm Senator Mike Morrell (ret.) and I'm running for Chair of the CAGOP and I need your prayers and support P13**

# Truth Always Percolates to the top

The most recent election is a great example of how Truth ultimately makes its way to the surface and shines in the Daylight of our lives.

These past 4 years have been a disruptive example of how lies and falsehoods have been manifested as "the truth", and anyone who rejects those ideas is sadly mistaken.

The most recent example is that of the opening of our Southern (and Northern) borders . . . **SEE PAGE 4**

**By: Steve Austin - MBA, CPA, Swenson Advisors Managing Partner and Save America Now PAC Founder**



**LOCAL VIEW**

**New East County Grassroots Matters! P11**

**AFAF KONJA**



**LEGAL VIEW**

**Advance Parental rights President of PJI (Pacific Justice Institute) P13**

**BRAD DACUS**



**EDUCATION MATTERS**

**Now you can opt-out by just going online P3**

**LARRY PEGRAM**

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# BEHIND the HEADLINES



Our mission is to protect black life from conception to death by confronting injustice and...

Neil Mammen



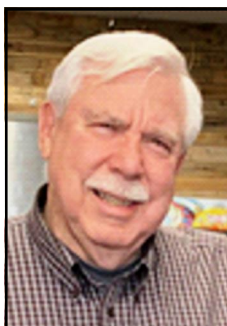
**VISION: To help individuals in the Black community grow and prosper in mind, body and Spirit by eliminating disproportional injustices that hinder Black advancement. P6**



**Article: Preferred Pronouns & Jesus**  
Author: Johnny Zacchio Jr. Faith Community Church in Carlsbad, CA

Johnny Zacchio Jr. P14

## Rethinking Thanksgiving and Christmas



It is the holiday season again and I often ponder the question of who are we, as a nation, giving "thanks" to?

R. Ellington Smith P16

# County Views

## Christian News-Magazine delivers the power of two

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### A POWERFUL STORY OF FAITH AND DEFIANCE

**Director Todd Komarnicki's Bonhoeffer:** Pastor. Spy. Assassin. (2024) masterfully brings Dietrich Bonhoeffer's remarkable story to the screen, portraying his courageous stand against Adolf Hitler with emotional depth and historical precision.

**The film follows Bonhoeffer (Jonas Dassler),** a German pastor grappling with the rise of Nazism and the Church's complicity. His evolution from theologian to conspirator in the plot to assassinate Hitler is explored with sensitivity, highlighting his moral dilemmas and enduring faith. Dassler delivers a riveting performance, portraying Bonhoeffer's intellectual passion and human vulnerability.

**Komarnicki weaves historical drama** with the tension of a wartime thriller, balancing theological introspection with the urgency of resistance. Stunning cinematography contrasts the oppression of Nazi Germany with moments of hope.

**At its core, the film examines faith** as a catalyst for justice. Bonhoeffer's "costly grace" inspires viewers to consider the moral courage required to confront oppression, making this timely and thought-provoking drama unforgettable.



### Empowering Businesses and Strengthening Communities: Meet Stacey Hyatt of Salem Surround

In today's media landscape, where the right exposure can make all the difference, Salem Surround stands out as a powerhouse for conservative and Christian radio. With over 120 stations across the country, Salem Surround offers unmatched reach and influence. At the forefront of this dynamic organization is Stacey Hyatt, a dedicated media technician whose expertise is transforming how businesses grow and connect with their communities.

**Salem Surround operates a robust network** that includes notable stations like The Answer San Diego (<https://theanswersandiego.com/>) and KPRZ (<https://kprz.com/>), serving the San Diego market with a clear and impactful voice. However, the influence of Salem Surround is not confined to a single region; it spans the entire United States, providing clients with a nationwide platform to amplify their messages and tailored strategy that reflects their unique needs and objectives.

Stacey Hyatt can be reached at 619-733-2736 for a complimentary consultation. Her dedication to client success.

**Stacey Hyatt can be reached at 619-733-2736**

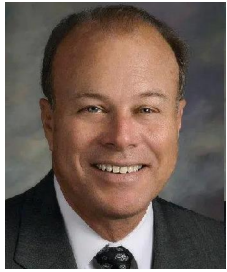


## OPT OUT is now available to every parent of a public school child in California!

Informed Parents capability to deliver an OPT OUT Notice prepared by Pacific Justice Institute for a parent having a child in every public school in California.

**GO TO OUR WEBSITE: [www.ip-ca.org](http://www.ip-ca.org)**





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LARRY PEGRAM

# Informed Parents Launches OPT OUT Statewide!

[www.ip-ca.org](http://www.ip-ca.org)

**OPT OUT is now available to every parent of a public school child in California!**

Parents rights activists are heralding the Informed Parents capability to deliver an OPT OUT Notice prepared by Pacific Justice Institute for a parent having a child in every public school in California. Now every parent of a public school child may OPT OUT his/her child from non-family friendly sex education, intrusive surveys, and non-parent approved counseling.

**When a parent visits the Informed Parents website, [www.ip-ca.org](http://www.ip-ca.org), completes the Registration form, the powerful and unique OPT OUT Notice created by Justice Institute will be sent by email to the child's school principal and the superintendent of the child's school district...all in less than two minutes.**

**Literally, all a parent need do is visit the Informed Parents website, [www.ip-ca.org](http://www.ip-ca.org), click on the Green OPT OUT button In the upper left corner of the site, scroll down to the Registration form, fill in the necessary information,**



DocuSign at the bottom, and click submit. That is all it takes! Spread the word! Forward this article to parents of children in the California public schools. Help parents protect their children from inappropriate teaching and practices. After all, parents should determine what their children are taught and exposed to in school.



**DRAN REESE** President  
Salt & Light Council

## WHO IS THE SALT & LIGHT COUNCIL?

**We are a non-political, non-partisan 501c3, dedicated** to promoting biblical moral values in the public sector. Further, we are a coalition of cross-denominational churches with active Salt & Light Biblical Citizenship Ministries working to rebuild our

**Judeo-Christian heritage in America.**

We mobilize Christians at the grassroots level, helping them to live out their responsibility to influence government and civic affairs for good. History has clearly shown that without a strong, godly influence to overcome the natural tendency toward evil, governmental authority will destroy God-given rights, including the right to hear and speak His truth.

**We seek to love and care for all of God's people,** transforming hearts and minds through prayer, education and action.

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**EDUCATE**

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**Terry & Georgia Wild**  
Founders/Publishers

Encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

**Publishing *Christian NewsMagazine* is deeply meaningful to both my wife, Georgia, and me.** It represents over fifty years of following Jesus Christ and striving to align our lives with His will.

**As we begin to explore Orange County, we're delighted** by the warmth of the people here and feel increasingly blessed to be working with Hope Howell and her team.

**Why are we publishing *Christian NewsMagazine*?** Simply put, we believe God has called us to provide His people with a voice in the community—and in doing so, to give God a voice in the community. Our greatest mission on earth is to proclaim who Jesus Christ

truly is: the Son of God, who loves humanity so much that He sacrificed His life to save us from our sins.

As Christians, we are part of God's family, the Body of Christ. In these challenging times, marked by upheaval and the presence of what can only be described as pure evil, we need one another more than ever. A sense of unity and belonging is essential as we navigate these trials together.

Now, more than ever, we need a voice of calm and encouragement—a reminder to seek God and draw strength and comfort from one another. Life is also about joy, laughter, and uplifting those in need, and Orange County has a long tradition of Godly people doing just that.

Georgia and I are especially grateful for Hope Howell, the Orange County Publisher of *Christian NewsMagazine*. Working alongside such a talented and Godly individual has been a privilege, and we pray that God will richly bless this relationship.

Our mission with *Christian NewsMagazine* is to remain faithful to God's Word and His people. We look forward to building relationships with all of you and becoming a part of the family of God in this wonderful community.

God bless you all,

**Terry and Georgia Wild**

[terry@ChristianNewsMagazine.com](mailto:terry@ChristianNewsMagazine.com)

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

# BUSINESSMATTERS



**THE BUSINESS FORECAST IS LOOKING VERY HOPEFUL**

## Truth Always Percolates to the Top (Ultimately)

**By: Steve Austin, MBA, CPA, Swenson Advisors Managing Partner and Save America Now PAC Founder**

. . . the notion that America is a global nation without borders and national sovereignty is a thing of the past. Well, after several months, and then years, the falsehood of that idea brought down the Biden and Harris team and handed them a solid defeat in 2024.

**The truth about the criminals and thousands** of unvetted others came to the surface in the case of deaths to Americans, e.g. the loss of life at my alma mater, University of Georgia, of a precious nursing student out for a run. Athens, Georgia, once a conservative town when I was working towards my MBA, turned into a sanctuary city, and effectively welcomed a vile murderer from Venezuela. Ultimately, the responsibility for these types of tragedies lies in the hands of a president, vice president and homeland security chief.

**When Biden took over in January of 2021**, inflation was not a “thing”. Within 10 months or more and several presidential directives to shut down or reduce our energy supply, we doubled the price of gasoline and fuel. The effect on citizens across the country was to spend \$100 dollars to fill their tanks once

or twice a week and work overtime at second or third jobs to afford going to work.

**“ The US ended up buying oil from countries at war with our core principles, e.g. Venezuela. High energy prices drove many of the other costs of living such as food on the table and almost everything that required transportation to get to the consumer. ”**

Finally, Americans realized that the insane decisions of the Biden and Harris administration were the core reasons for such an impact on our economy and lifestyle. Furthermore, the underlying falsehoods of climate change are percolating to the surface, with many scientists and Nobel Prize winners pointing out that the underlying assumptions are weak and unsustainable.

**The Trump administration and its planned changes** with the SEC Director will unwind most of the proposed carbon-related measurements and disclosures in the Form 10Ks and 10Qs due to lack of substance and cost benefit. The electric vehicles mandate will morph into an option for the consumer, and gas-powered vehicles and trucks will still be a significant part of our transportation system and the related 2 fuel distribution system. Planning a cross-country trip in an EV will not be needed, and its 25-30 stops to recharge in limited locations will be a fear of the past.

**In additional articles we will explore more of** the insanity as it relates to abortion and transgender mutilation of our children, all based on falsehoods and a lack of respect for God’s design.

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# OUR COUNTRY **NEEDS A CHANGE...** *NOW!*



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Our mission is to protect black life from conception to death by confronting injustice and...

Neil Mammen



Morality, Laws and Politics- Part 1.

“If there is no objective morality why was Hitler wrong?”

If there is an objective morality, why do you get to decide what it is and not Hitler?”

This is the opening salvo in my conversation with individuals who ask me what right I have to impose my morality on them. How dare I argue that abortion is wrong or transgenderism is wrong, they ask in a huff. “You might think abortion is wrong but don’t impose your morality on me.”

But most of them don’t have an answer to the question. It’s a dilemma they can’t resolve. You can rephrase this question for the younger generation as:

If there is no objective morality why is racism wrong?

If there is an objective morality, why do you get to decide what it is and not a white supremacist?

You see the moment you say something is wrong or something is right, regardless of which side of the issue you are on; we have to ask “why?” Why is abortion OK, but racism not?

For the left, that answer is: Because that’s what the tribe says so, not because it makes sense. Just a few years ago, the tribe said that men pushing women out of jobs was bad, men taking women’s opportunities was bad, men going into women’s restrooms or being peeping toms was bad. Today it’s not. Today, men saying they are women and pushing women out of sports, replacing women in Miss Universe competitions, taking women’s opportunities to be to woman of the year, going into women’s restrooms and watching girls in their locker rooms, suddenly all that is good. It makes no sense. Why did it change? It changed because that is what the tribe thinks now.

Wait, what are tribes? Well, the left works as a tribe. A group of people who want to be told what to do, how to think, what to say. They want to be like the other cool people in their tribe, so they comply.

But who decides what the new tribal belief is? Nobody knows. Some unknown influencer of the tribe decided this is what the tribe was going to believe and those who are woke just blindly follow. They don’t know who made the rules, and the justifications are mindless, but they just blindly follow it. Why? So, they can be one with the tribe and not be ostracized or left out or vilified if they think for themselves. It’s like a mass hysteria. Kill the pig, cut its throat. Guillotine them. Release Barabbas. Crucify Him. We have no king but Caesar. Really? Last week you hated Caesar!

The mob moves by the puppet strings of some puppet master and the left are the willing puppets.

Once you understand that they are into tribe think, into concession morality, into not thinking for themselves, then you understand why it is so hard to change their minds.

But what’s the answer to the question.

“If there is no objective morality why was Hitler wrong?”

If there is an objective morality, why do you get to decide what it is and not Hitler?”

It’s the same answer as to why we hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men are created equal, endowed by whom? By their Creator, with certain unalienable rights.

You know the thing.

You see, only an authority can tell people what to do, only an authority can tell every person they must treat every other person as equals. Only an authority can say there is no slave or free, Jew or gentile. All are precious in His sight.

Who is the only authority over every single human being? That’s the answer to the question.

There is an objective morality and only God determines it, not you or Hitler.

But that’s just the beginning. There are new questions we must address now, like which God and what is His morality. We will address some of them in the months to come. In the meantime you can find answers at www.J3IP.com and www.NoBlindFaith.com



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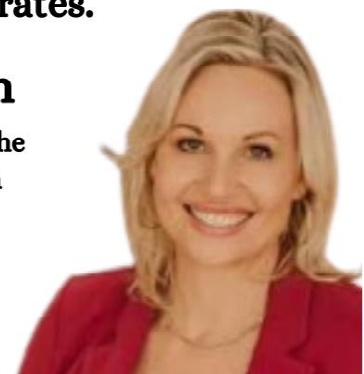
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**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1: AI for God's Kingdom: Transforming Christian Ministry**



**STEFAN JUNGMICHEL**  
**Biola University**  
**-AI Lab at Biola**



**My name is Stefan Jungmichel. I'm 27 years old, born in Germany, a former track and field athlete, and co-founder of the AI Lab at Biola University. I have been in the U.S. for six years and work full-time as the Associate Director in the AI Lab. My interest in AI was sparked by the launch of ChatGPT 3, and my goal is to position Biola University as the leading Christian institution in AI. I feel a strong calling from God to help align the vast powers of AI with biblical values such as transparency, integrity, and honesty.**



**AI has already demonstrated its ability to revolutionize industries.** Amazon, for example, has used AI to save an astounding 4,500 years of developer work, while The Chosen, the popular TV series based on the life of Jesus, is now the most translated show in history, with plans to reach 600 languages through AI-assisted technology.

**“ For Christian ministries, these advancements offer a glimpse into how AI could be harnessed to amplify impact and streamline operations. ”**

**At Biola University, this vision has led to the creation of two major initiatives:** the AI Lab and the AI Studio. The AI Lab focuses on the ethical use of AI, conducting research and offering educational resources to ensure Christian organizations can adopt AI in alignment with biblical values. Meanwhile, the AI Studio provides

practical, hands-on support to help ministries and nonprofits develop AI-driven solutions that meet their specific needs. These initiatives reflect Biola's commitment to helping Christians leverage AI to further God's Kingdom.

**The benefits of AI for Christian organizations are clear.** AI can handle time-consuming administrative tasks such as scheduling, data processing, and content generation, freeing up staff to focus on building relationships and community. It can also be used to brainstorm innovative outreach strategies, target specific audiences more effectively, and manage donations with greater precision.

**However, the adoption of AI is not without its challenges.** Many within the Christian community have expressed concerns about whether AI could replace human creativity or detract from the personal nature of ministry. Biola University takes these concerns seriously, continuing to

research and explore the ethical implications of AI's role in the church. While these are valid considerations, Biola's experts believe AI can enhance, rather than diminish, our God-given abilities to serve others.

**This transformation is already underway, and the opportunities** it offers for Christian organizations are profound. By embracing AI, ministries can expand their reach and impact, helping more people while remaining true to their core values.

**For those interested in learning how to bring this technology into their ministry,** the AI Lab at Biola University is hosting a 1.5-hour workshop to explore how AI can empower Christian organizations. The event will showcase practical ways to excel in creating custom AI projects, content creation, enhance donation management, and more. Gain insights into how AI can support your mission, giving you more time to focus on relationships and community-building while letting AI handle the background tasks.



## New Years America First Victory Parade Car Rally

**Sunday, January 5, 2025**  
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**Movie to follow at 2:00 PM**

Bring your American Flags and Trump Flags and car paint to decorate your vehicles. Let's celebrate this epic victory and give all the Glory to God! The route will begin and end at the Christ Community Church Parking lot: 777 W Felicita Ave, Escondido, CA 92025

**Contact Paul for more information:**  
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# Letters TO THE Editor



## WHAT IS A LETTER TO THE EDITOR?

**You feel strongly about an issue, and you want to let people know what you think.** You believe you can even influence people to take some action if you speak your mind. But, you want to reach an audience larger than just your friends or your group membership. Letters to the editor can be an effective way to get the word out.

**A letter to the editor is a written way** of talking to a newspaper, magazine, or other regularly printed publication. Letters to the editor are generally found in the first section of the newspaper, or towards the beginning of a magazine, or in the editorial page. They can take a position for or against an issue, or simply inform, or both. They can convince readers by using emotions, or facts, or emotions and facts combined. Letters

to the editor are usually short and tight, rarely longer than 300 words.

**Using a few carefully placed letters,** you can generate plenty of community discussion. You can also keep an issue going by preventing it from disappearing from the public eye. You can stimulate the interest of the news media and create more coverage for the matters you're working on. You can also send a "good news" letter to bring recognition to people who deserve it or acknowledge the success of an effort.

## WHY SHOULD YOU WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR?

**Letters to the editor are among the most** widely read features in any newspaper or magazine. They allow you to reach a large audience. You can probably think of many more specific reasons why you might want to write to the editor, but here are a few general ones:

- You are angry about something, and want others to know it.
  - You think that an issue is so important that you have to speak out
  - Part of your group's strategy is to persuade others to take a specific action.
- Or you want to:**
- Suggest an idea to others
  - Influence public opinion
  - Educate the general public on a specific matter
  - Influence policy-makers or elected officials directly or indirectly

■ Publicize the work of your group and attract volunteers or program participants

## WHEN SHOULD YOU WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR?

**Letters to the editor can be written any time** you want to shape public opinion, tell others how you feel about people, programs, or ideas, or just inform the public on a certain issue. They are a great way to increase awareness of the issues that you or your organization are working for, as well as to advocate for your cause.

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## Client Review



Buying and selling a home in this current...market could have been a disaster if it wasn't for our agent, Hope Serena Howell. Because Hope is known for her hard work ethic and has a reputation for being trustworthy, she could call on an accountant, attorney and loan officer who dropped what they were working on and helped achieve our needs. This is the kind of person one wants working for them. Hope's marketing skills and expertise helped us to receive an unbelievable \$285,000 over our asking price. Both buyer and seller were delighted with this outcome. When you have an agent who is passionate about her career you will become the beneficiary. Marketing strategy that brings several hundred people to your open house, which fields dozens and dozens of offers leaves you with an assurance you will have the best possible outcome. I have the utmost confidence in Hope and would highly recommend her to anyone entering a real estate transaction.

Would Recommend





# Senior Lifestyle **.SERVICES**



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*We feature professionals like doctors, attorneys, financial planners, and many other local experts to enlighten our readers with a host of topics. We give our senior readers information needed to experience Orange County to its fullest.*

*Local senior news, lifestyles, businesses, editorial, letters to the editor, and more. Find information on the local business scene, the best senior friendly places to dine, the real estate market, the local buzz, the senior job network, local bargains, auto guide, senior health and fitness, and profiles of people who shape the region.*

## The Holidays and Seniors: A Time for Reflection and Joy

**By Rex Ledesma**

**Administrative CORE Specialist**  
**memorycaresupport.com (949)**  
**287-8927**

**The holiday season is a special time for people of all ages**, but it holds unique significance for seniors. It is a season filled with opportunities to reflect on cherished memories, connect with loved ones, and celebrate traditions that have shaped their lives. However, the holidays can also bring challenges, making it essential to ensure that seniors feel supported, valued, and included during this time.

**The holiday season represents time with family**, football and eating a lot of food! For the senior population, this can be a scary or lonely time, even when surrounded by family, especially if facing memory impairment conditions like Alzheimer’s or other forms of dementia.

**When a loved one with dementia is experiencing** the holidays, it's important for us to "enter their world" and try to understand what they are feeling and going through. Here are some issues to consider when including your loved one during this season, along with some solutions that can help:

■ **Disruption of Routine** – Gathering together during the holidays involves big changes in routing, which can be

disorienting, and be extremely stressful for seniors, especially those living with dementia. The sensory overload can lead to confusion, anxiety, agitation, or unwanted behaviors. Remember, your loved one may not be able to articulate their thoughts, so they may communicate their feelings through action. It is important to be aware of these behaviors, and not dismiss these actions as defiance or being difficult.

■ **Overstimulation** – large family gatherings can be overwhelming. There is a lot of noise, crowded gatherings and activity that is ‘out of the ordinary’. Offer a quieter, less crowded alternative (while not isolating them) during family gatherings. This is a common and effective strategy to reduce sensory overload, which is often a trigger for distress. This approach is supported by caregiving guidelines and recommendations from dementia care specialists.

■ **Dietary Changes** – This can be particularly difficult. The holidays is a time when the family eats a lot of rich, comfort food. However, seniors with health issues may have dietary restrictions that can make preparing a holiday meal difficult. Rich or unfamiliar foods can lead to digestive problems, allergies, or bad interactions with medications. Seniors with dementia may also forget about their dietary needs or have trouble communicating them. Remember to check

with their doctor, for any special food needs.

■ **Social Isolation** – As much as overstimulation is an issue, you also want to avoid under-stimulation. Thanksgiving can give some people feelings of loneliness. If a senior has lost a loved one, or has limited social networks, they may find it difficult to be in a family gathering where there is more extended family. Try assigning a family member or close friend to stay with the senior throughout the gathering. This “buddy” will provide the social connection or engage them in simple activities that are not stressful. Encouraging a senior to do a small task to help prepare the food is helpful in providing purpose and combat any isolation.

■ **Memory and Cognitive Issues** – Seniors with dementia may have difficulty remembering family members or understand the significance of the holiday. They may also find it difficult to follow conversations. This can lead to disconnection. If a senior is having a cognitive issue, don’t make them feel bad by correcting them. Enter their reality and redirect their attention. For example, if a senior says that he needs to pick up his mother (who has long since passed away) to get her to the family event, simply tell them that his mother called and said she will be coming by in a couple hours. Do not correct him and say his mother passed away years ago. This will prevent the person with dementia from experiencing that pain of loss. You will

then be able to redirect their attention to something happier in the present moment.

■ **Physical Limitations** – There may be physical limitations for a senior that need to be considered for a Thanksgiving gathering. As seniors age, they may face mobility issues, pain, or fatigue that makes it difficult for them to enjoy the festivities or take part in the activities. Simple things like preparing meals or sitting for long meals difficult. Adjust the environment and activities to accommodate their needs while still involving them in the celebration. You may need to use adaptive tools or assistive devices like easy-grip utensils and jar openers. Or it may be as simple as encouraging shorter, more frequent breaks from the festivities.

Above all, give your senior loved one choice. Know their needs if they like social gatherings or not, or if they can eat certain foods or not and give them options. Being mindful of these challenges and making accommodations, like maintaining routines, offering quiet spaces, providing assistance with meals, or keeping the gathering smaller and more manageable, can help seniors have a more enjoyable holiday season.

**Rex Ledesma is the Administrative CORE Specialist at Memory Care Support. He has worked in senior living for over 10 years. For more information, visit [www.memorycaresupport.com](http://www.memorycaresupport.com).**



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Local plumbers are deeply rooted in the communities they serve, making them much more accessible and responsive during emergencies. Unlike large, nationwide companies, a local plumber is often just a phone call away and can arrive quickly to address issues before they escalate. This proximity is especially crucial in winter when plumbing problems, like burst pipes, need immediate attention to prevent extensive water damage.

Another benefit of using a local plumber is their familiarity with the specific needs of homes in your area. They understand the unique climate challenges and infrastructure characteristics, allowing them to provide tailored solutions. For instance, a local plumber knows which pipes are more susceptible to freezing and can offer proactive measures, such as insulating vulnerable areas, to help you avoid costly repairs later.

Choosing a local plumber also supports the community. By hiring a trusted professional from your area, you contribute to the local economy and foster relationships with businesses that prioritize personalized service and customer satisfaction. Unlike larger companies that may cycle through employees, local plumbers often build long-term relationships with their clients, which translates into a higher level of trust and accountability.

During the winter months, reliability and honesty are essential in a plumber. Local plumbers often have a reputation to uphold in their communities, ensuring they deliver quality work at fair prices. You can rest assured that their goal is to solve your problem effectively, not upsell unnecessary services.

In summary, choosing a local plumber during the winter months ensures timely, knowledgeable, and trustworthy service. Whether it's a minor fix or an urgent repair, a local professional will help you keep your home safe and comfortable all season long.

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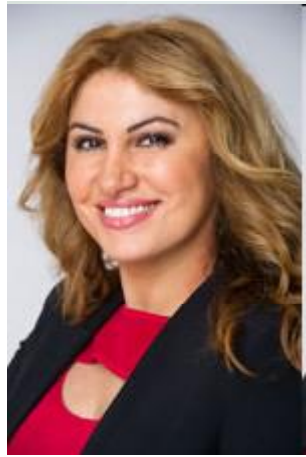
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# EAST COUNTY MATTERS

**Afaf Konja,**  
**President of**  
**Empowerment One &**  
**Former Spokesperson**  
**for the President of**  
**the UN General**  
**Assembly**



## New East County Non-Profit Got New Voters to the Polls During a weekly leadership meeting in San Diego's East County City of El Cajon,

three U.S. citizens and natives of Iraq decided to roll up their sleeves and get their family members and community leaders to help get as many of their friends and family voting on November 5th. Only a year and a half young, Empowerment One sought to galvanize what they called the 'Voter Adoption Initiative' throughout East County by uniting with local community leaders, other non-profit organizations, neighborhood businesses and as many local church leaders they could meet to help

residents register to vote for what has been called the most important election of modern history—The 2024 General Election.

The grassroots effort set out to recruit 500 adopters who would help ensure their 20 closest friends and family members register to vote, there by aiming to reach ten thousand new voters across East County San Diego, ahead of November 5, 2024.

**The initiative began in late July 2024,** when Empowerment One invited several of its leading community members to unite in a concerted effort to help better educate its conservative residents on the many issues at hand and help those who needed support with registering to vote.

**Vote teams went to local day care centers, bingo nights,** community festivals and arranged voter registration events to help encourage community members to register to vote, while boosting its grassroots model by building a software program with a text messaging component created to help build a database with follow-up applications that make sure everyone on it register to vote—and then vote. The software application was developed in-house by two fellow community members, one of whom is a co-founder of Empowerment One, Mohammed Almousawi. A newly naturalized U.S. citizen himself and tech professional, who has his heart set on seeing his fellow Iraqi and broader Middle East and North African community members live safe and successful lives and be able to offer that better future to their children.

Awareness building meetings also helped East County residents better understand the critical issues facing the Chaldean/Assyrian and broader Middle Eastern communities, from the

sexualization of school children and the transgender agenda creeping into kids' classrooms to unaffordable housing and skyrocketing prices of consumer goods; along with the ever-growing homelessness and drug crises negatively impacting residents and business owners.

Empowerment One is grateful to all of its partners, donors, volunteers and vote managers, including the Save America Now Pac, the Christian News Magazine, Cash and Carry Grocers, the Chaldean Community Council, El Cajon Adult Day Health Care, as well as the many Christian churches that opened their doors to help us help thousands of our community members register to vote for the very first time, ahead of what may have in fact become the most important election of our lifetime.

Afaf Konja, President of Empowerment One & Former Spokesperson for the President of the UN General Assembly

Website:

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### SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE



**Brad Dacus**  
**President of PJI**  
**(Pacific Justice**  
**Institute)**

*PJI Press Release*

**President and Founder of PJI, Brad Dacus, expresses his enthusiasm about the new initiative, saying,** “The integration of Informed Parents’ comprehensive database—encompassing every city, county, and school official—with PJI’s school opt-out forms creates an unprecedented tool in our fight against ‘wokeness’ in education. This powerful combination allows us to pinpoint problematic school districts and enables parents to formally notify their child’s school representative of their intent to unenroll. Coupled with our opt-out forms, this approach ensures that parents can legally and effectively remove their children from these programs without undue interference from the state. We are excited to take this stand and push back!” Dacus said. Informed Parents Founder and President, Larry Pegram, shared his excitement for this unique partnership. “We have combined the strengths of two dynamic organizations to help parents protect their children, maintain their rights and control, and foster transparency between the schools and home...We urge every parent in California to take advantage of this unique capability. After all, if we don’t protect our children, who will?”

**Visit the Informed Parents website, [www.ip-ca.org](http://www.ip-ca.org) to learn more.**



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**PJI Partners With Informed Parents-CA: A Strategic Move to Advance Parental Rights**

**Media Contact: Brad Dacus, (916) 857-6900**

**Los Angeles, CA – As public schools increasingly incorporate radical gender and "woke" ideologies into their curricula,** it is essential for parents to have viable options. That’s why PJI is excited to announce a unique partnership with Informed Parents of California (IPCA), a nonprofit organization dedicated to child-centered education. Together, PJI and IPCA are launching an initiative to reclaim parental rights and empower parents to raise their children according to their values.

**With PJI's specialized public school opt-out forms** and IPCA's advanced technology, parents can easily and efficiently submit opt-out requests to their children's school's, ensuring their children are exempt from harmful indoctrination.

**To discover how you can directly reach out to your child’s school representative and issue opt-out forms in a legal and secure manner,** visit [www.ip-ca.org](http://www.ip-ca.org). There, you will find comprehensive guidance to help you navigate the process effectively and regain control over your child’s educational experience.

**Court Reopens Case: Firefighters Stand for Religious Rights**

**San Jose, CA – Firefighters working for the City of San Jose were placed on unpaid leave for over a month because they declined to be vaccinated for COVID-19 per a public health order.** Due to religious convictions, these employees were not able to comply with the mandate.

The firefighters reached out to PJI for representation. A lawsuit was filed in the Santa Clara superior court where the employees claimed that unpaid and indefinite leave was an adverse employment action. The City disagreed. The trial court dismissed the case and the firefighters appealed. “This is a clear example of how municipalities disregard the religious rights of faith based individuals who solely want to be able to live by their Christian beliefs.

**PJI is committed to the protection of those rights and we will not stop fighting” stated** PJI Founder and President Brad Dacus. In a unanimous decision the California Court of Appeal reversed the lower court and awarded costs. “Public safety requires that all first responders be available for service. The City exercised poor judgment by keeping firefighters sidelined,” said Kevin Snider of PJI who argued the case.

*Pacific Justice Institute is a non-profit 501(c)(3) legal defense organization specializing in the defense of religious freedom, parental rights, and other civil liberties. Pacific Justice Institute works diligently, without charge, to provide its clients with all the legal support they need. “Through our dedicated attorneys and supporters, we defend the rights of countless individuals, families and churches...without charge.”*

**Media Contact: Lana Chea, 916-616-4126**  
 – Brad Dacus



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# Article: Preferred Pronouns & Jesus



**Author: Johnny Zacchio Jr. (MA, Covenant Baptist Theological Seminary) is a disciple of Christ, father, and husband, and serves as one of the pastors of Faith Community Church in Carlsbad, California.**

**As a pastor, I get many questions. In recent days, I've gotten the question, "Are there any circumstances where Christians should use the preferred pronouns of their non-Christian loved ones or friends?"**

Answer: Christians should not use one's "preferred" pronouns in any situation.

The Biblical basis for my argument is:

? Matthew 19: Jesus' positive affirmation of the gender binary.

? Exodus 20: God's command to not bear false witness against our neighbor.

## Jesus & Gender

"Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'"? (Matthew 19:4-5)

**This is Jesus echoing and quoting from Genesis chapter 2.** From the beginning, gender or sex was determined by God and is what composed the "image of God." What it means for man to be made in the image of God is to be created as male and female—Both sexes are equal and dependent upon one another but distinct in many ways.

**Mankind by nature,** then, is either male or female determined at birth by their sex and chromosomal makeup. In other words, there is no such thing as gender fluidity; therefore, personal pronouns, by nature, cannot be preferential. God Himself uses the pronouns "he" or "she" to refer only to those who received that particular sex at birth.

## Bearing False Witness

Flowing from this, when God gives His law in Exodus 20, he commands His people not to bear false witness against their neighbor. If the second table of the law is our duty to our fellow man, and His law guides us in how we love our neighbor, it follows that it is inherently unloving to perpetuate someone else's delusion regarding their gender and inner feelings. To do so would be to bear false witness. Plus, even if you assure the person by saying, "I'll use your preferred pronouns even though I do not agree with your lifestyle," that statement would be unacceptable because to be against their lifestyle or inner feelings, they claim, is to be against them as an individual since they tether their identity to their sexual feelings.

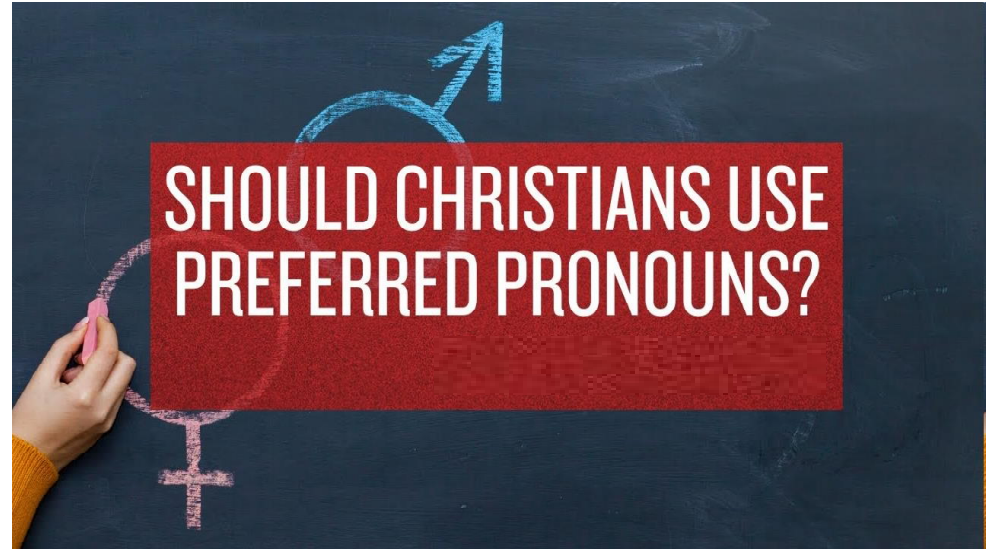
**Furthermore, In God's civil law** to Israel, we see the outflow of the gender binary God set up in the creation order as it relates to cross-dressing.

**"A woman shall not wear a man's garment,** nor shall a man put on a woman's cloak, for whoever does these things is an abomination to the Lord your God" (Deuteronomy 22:5).

**If a man wearing a woman's garment was an abomination to the Lord,** It's safe to conclude that to change your pronouns to "she" when you're a "he" is equally abominable. If something like this is an abomination to the Lord, and I affirm someone in that delusion, then I perpetuate something that is bringing the wrath of God upon that person. Again, this is unloving.

## A quick word about people born Intersex or Sexually Indeterminate:

**We ought to be compassionate and gracious** when encountering these hard situations. Nevertheless, this is a medical anomaly. The fact is, most people in our day who are asking to have their preferred pronouns used are not those who are born intersex. In a fallen world, of



course, we can expect chromosomal flaws and intersex people. At that point, it's a conversation to be had with that person with compassion and gentleness. I would say the person's life story, the guardians who raised them, and medical history (such as which sexual organs were more prominent and functional) should be considered rather than just what they "feel" they are. Our feelings can misfire.

We should not use the example of a medical anomaly to make void the Word of God or "negate objective categories of personhood."<sup>1</sup>

The days ahead are not going to be easy. I'm burdened for fellow brothers and sisters who have to deal with such difficulties, especially with immediate family members and co-workers. But to use their "preferred" pronouns would bear false witness against those we love, perpetuating a lie that they are trapped in and need to be rescued from. And worst of all, we would be untrue to our Master who only gave two options for gender. May our trust in God's truth be fruitful and cause us to give gospel hope to those trapped in their sin.



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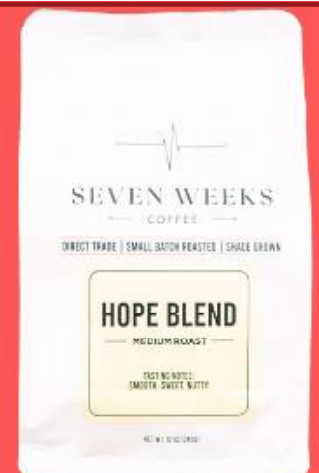
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# Rethinking Thanksgiving and Christmas



**R. Ellington Smith**

*It is the holiday season again and I often ponder the question of who are we, as a nation, giving “thanks” to? Our forefathers formed this Nation based on religious principles of “God” and knew who to thank based on their faith. My “thanks,” without faith, seems empty because there is no recipient.*

**Thanking one another helps show gratitude** within family and friends, but we are a nation that was formed by many sacrifices, all so we can enjoy freedom within the boundaries of constitutional law.

**This is driven home by my visit after the local Veterans’ Home** and trips to the Veterans’ Hospital. There, I see lives impacted forever by their service for this country. Thanking them for their service doesn’t seem to be enough. On Thanksgiving and Christmas Day many eat in the dining room alone, no family, no visitors except for brother veterans.

**As I sat there with Dave, a veteran friend noting another vet** setting at a table. Dave told me to watch him. He positioned himself and began tightly folding his paper napkin. David asked me if I knew what he was doing, I didn’t. He was making a fuse for explosives. He did that at every meal. He never spoke to anyone, a soul lost to his existence.

**When I think of this season, I reflect back to grammar school** where we learned about the Pilgrims, the American Revolution and the Thirteen Colonies. But there is a whole history that has never been taught and that is the “Black Robe Regiment.”

The first move toward American democracy was instituted by ministers.

**Early settlers, who arrived in Williamsburg in 1619** included a group of ministers who helped form the first representative government, the Virginia House of Burgesses. They met in a church in Jamestown and were led by Revs. Burke, Mease, Whitaker, Wickham and Hunt. From there, they elected representatives for the people.

**Massachusetts was established as a colony in 1620** by pastor John Robinson. He had a radical departure from the role of civic leaders in that he eliminated special privileged status between the governing leadership and the governed, leading to a representative government. In 1636 they formed the first American citizens’ Bill of Rights. In 1641 the Massachusetts Bay Colony established their Bill of Rights under the direction of Rev. Nathaniel Ward. In 1636 Rhode Island Colony did the same under the direction of Rev. Roger Williams with Connecticut following suit under the direction of Revs. Thomas Hooker, Samuel Sone, John Davenport and Theophilus Eason. These reveren founded Connecticut on three Biblical principles.

**In 1636, the Rev. Roger Williams established** the Rhode Island Colony and its representative form of government, explaining that “the sovereign, original, and foundation of civil power lies in the people.”

**That same year, the Rev. Thomas Hooker** (along with the Revs. Samuel Stone, John Davenport, and Theophilus Eaton) founded Connecticut. They not only established an elective form of government but in a 1638 sermon based on Deuteronomy 1:13 and Exodus 18:21, the Rev. Hooker explained the three Biblical principles that had guided the plan of government in Connecticut.

**These ministers led their men into battle** against the British Redcoats and the British feared them naming them the “Black Robe Regiment.” They spoke courageously about liberty and the rebirth of patriotism from the pulpit.

**Driven by the overreach of government to shut down churches during the Covid-19 scare**, along with government sponsored anti-Christian culture (Christian Nationalist classified as a terrorist group by the Southern Poverty Law Center), a new National Black Robe Regiment has formed. Its purpose is to equip and empower pastors to engage in their historical Biblical role to stand righteously and transform society through spiritual and cultural engagement.

**Much of today’s struggle for the heart and soul of America** is due to the fact many pastors have not taking a stand from their pulpits. They have allowed wokeness and passiveness to replace America’s moral culture in their churches. Attendance and finances have replaced actions from messages/sermons. The expansion of socialist/communist ideologies have set in motion a few hundred pastors taking a stand from their pulpits resulting in the “New Black Robe Regiment” to reclaim America.

**As for Christmas, we put the greatest gift** to mankind on the back burner which is God’s son. We exchange gifts without the thought of committing our lives back to God through His son Jesus Christ, which is an experience and not an exchange of objects. Additional gifts given to believers are the “gifts of the Holy Spirit.”

**The gifts of the Holy Spirit (found in Corinthians)** are to the individual believers while other gifts are given to the Church for service like teachers and pastors. The Holy Spirit empowers the believer in ways that enrich the witness of a Christian walk. Many churches/denominations have convoluted the message and works of the Holy Spirit within churches as well as works within believers resulting in diluted witness of the “Truth” of faith and gift of God’s son, Jesus Christ.

**The second most gift to mankind is “life.”** This has been brought home by my two experiences with death.

The last experience happened in 2009 when I collapsed working out at Inshape in Porterville, CA. No vital signs in the ambulance all the way to hospital.

**While I came out of it in emergency, the ambulance medic** came in and said he never had seen anything like it. Five doctors stood around me asking each other if they have ever seen anything like it. Answers were no, but the cardiologist on duty (Dr. Reedy) thought it was the vegus nerve shutting down for which there are no drugs that work with the vegus nerve. The important thing was I met, and experienced, God first hand.

**This experience put a whole new meaning** on faith and God’s gift of His son we celebrate at Christmas. For me, church denomination pettiness in differences in Biblical principles vanished because the basics became reality. To experience “Love” to an unexplainable level and intensity solidified the purpose of God’s gift of His son Jesus. Yet, I fall short of living the full experience that was revealed to me.

**I can only try and convey to both church goers, non-believers, and atheist** to seek a relationship with God through His son Jesus Christ, the greatest gift to mankind and keep to the basics.

**Remember! Social powers, government and elites** celebrate Christmas as a time when merchants reap huge sales while the definition and purpose of Christmas fade into the twilight zone, materialism grasps a hold on society. These powers to be are extracting Christ from the purpose of Christmas when He was the “First Gift” to mankind that formed a time set-aside to celebrated Him.

**My Thanks is to God for giving us men who sacrificed so much taking a stand against evils.** We must not let evil overtake our nation founded on good Biblical principles. May the Black Robe Regiment really take hold and our Christmas celebration be a deeper spiritual experience.