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# The Good News

MARCH 2023

# TODAY

Vol. 21 No. 4

... but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. • Galatians 6:8 •

## Faith & Election Integrity A Nation in Name Only...

By Fred Comella

There are a couple of constants which are indisputable when we speak of the greatest nation on planet earth. First, a nation without borders is no nation at all. And second, but no less important, is a nation where "We the People" cannot voice our choices by way of free and fair elections, is nothing more than a collection of sheep, ripe for the fences.



Jessica Drew-Day

2020 really gave us some insight into how compromised our elections really are, and how vulnerable to manipulation the entire system can be. I suspect it's been that way and getting worse for decades. Advances in technol-

ogy, as well as certain convenient "pandemics", and a corrupt news media haven't made things better to be sure. But I digress. Those discussions and debates should be reserved for those not easily brain-washed and/or susceptible to the promotion of one narrative, in spite of truth and reason.

Nevertheless, when we look back on history, we find that from the time of the Mayflower Compact to the present, representative government, aligned with Biblical principles of character and action, are paramount to the success of a republic under

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## How Should We Then Give?

By Troy Titus

Francis Schaeffer's *How Should We Then Live?* is a wonderful, thoughtful book. It is a challenge to us all.

*How Should We Then Give?* is a challenge as well, a poignant question demanding answers and action. God's Word provides much instruction regarding giving. I have often asked myself whether or not I have taken His commands regarding giving seriously. For before being sentenced to a 30-year prison term, I'd been a "big giver" to the church and considered myself generous with my income and property. But was I giving in accordance with God's will? I think not.

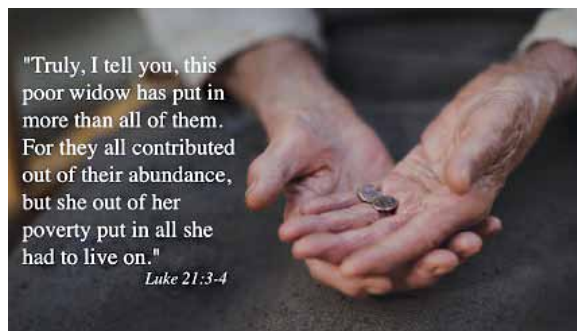
For nearly 14 years, I've lived in a prison cell. The prison pays me about \$40 a month

to work in the carpentry shop. I earn a modest amount helping other inmates with their legal work. Friends and family

have been generous to give me more than I need. I spend about \$150 a month at the prison commissary, and I pay \$100 a month towards my restitution. All of my earthly possessions fit inside a small locker inside of my cell. I don't have much, but I am required to give, and I do.

If I were asked to deliver a three-part sermon on this subject, I'd say that we are commanded to give obediently, wholeheartedly, and sacrificially. Giving is not an

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"Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."  
Luke 21:3-4

## Let's have some real talk about this whole Asbury revival thing

By Joel Abbott · NottheBee.com

There's a scene in Netflix's new adaptation of *All Quiet On The Western Front* that absolutely chills me to the bone.



No, it isn't when a man gets cooked alive by a French flamethrower. It isn't seeing a man's torso rotting at the top of a tree. It's the wide-eyed, hopeful zeal of young men who are excited to head off to war with no realization of what is about to happen to most of them.

With that in mind, let me prime you on what's happening at Asbury University in Kentucky. From blogger Samuel Sey:

The Asbury "revival" started after a 10 am chapel service last week Wednesday when a group of about 20 students and the worship team said

they felt prompted by the Holy Spirit to continue worship past the end of the chapel service.

According to one of the students I talked to, a few hours later, the president of the seminary sent an email to the students encouraging them visit the chapel to join the 20 students on what he described as an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Apparently 200 students arrived for worship at the chapel soon after, and there has been non-stop worship ever since.

The student maintains the "revival" wasn't planned. But it's worth noting that Asbury University is part of what

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## 'How sweet the sound': Classic hymn by slave-trader-turned-pastor inspires praise to God after 250 years

By Brian Koonce

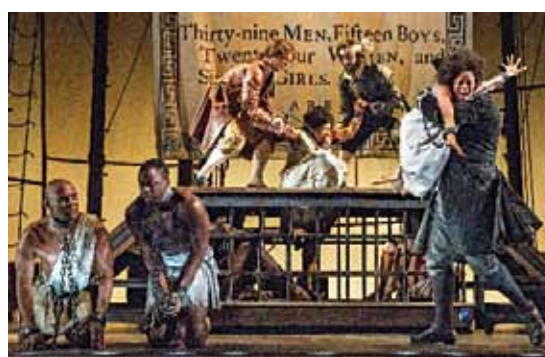
KANSAS CITY (BP) – Most preachers wouldn't dare to tackle writing a sermon and a hymn for their congregation, but that was par for the course for Pastor John and his peers. On New Year's 1773, he was preaching through 1 Chronicles 17, expositing God's promise to David.

"Who am I, Lord God, and what is my family, that you have brought me this far?" David asks in his prayer. "And as if this were not enough in your sight, my God, you have spoken about the future of the house of your servant. You, Lord God, have

looked on me as though I were the most exalted of men. What more can David say to you for honoring your servant? For you know your servant, Lord. For the sake of your servant and according to your will, you have done this great thing and made known all these great promises."

David and Pastor John both were overwhelmed by God's grace. Amazing grace, even. And so David's prayer in the hands of a slave trader-

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Scene from the Broadway Musical *Amazing Grace* depicting the true story of John Newton's awakening

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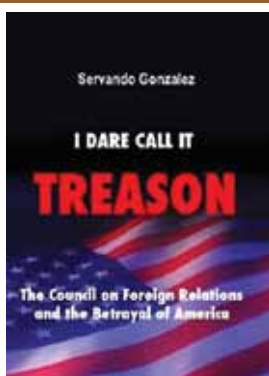
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*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

John 3:16

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**Faith from Page 1**

law. Moreover, the people must choose who will carry these tenets before a collective body, and feel confident their voices have been heard, and that the representatives they have chosen will do just that, represent them, honorably and without malice. John Kennedy, on those who serve the people, 1962: "We are all dependent on their sense of loyalty and responsibility, as well as their competence and energy".

As President Kennedy said many times, "In the final analysis", the sacredness of the ballot box, and the manner in which we choose our public servants, must not only be the most important/civic responsibility of every American citizen, but also, every person who swears an oath, or who is appointed by same.

With all this in mind, what we are seeing in our country today, would rock the worlds of those who came before us and laid the simple but intrinsic groundwork for a system of government the likes of which the world hadn't known before.

Labels like "election denier" and "insurrectionist" are now assigned to any who dare question the security and validity of things like mail in ballots, proper ID for voting and drop boxes. What has arguably become a ruling class of political hacks, intent only on power and money, (and I'm not talking about any specific party), is working diligently to ensure the likes of Donald Trump, or any other outsider with intentions to "drain the swamp" if you will, will never again hold high office. This is their goal, and they will do whatever it takes to achieve it. Add in, a supposed "free press", called out by that outsider who would catch them off guard and become president, and you have a recipe for "fundamental change", but not the good kind.

I'm telling you all of this today, because it appears we are at the crossroads I've been writing about these past 20 or so years. Prophecy seems closer than I ever could have imagined, and our children's and grandchildren's futures are in flux. Now the only battle I can speak to is the human one. For only He knows the "day and the hour". But in between now and then, "We the People" have a duty to preserve and pass on this "greatest arrangement for mankind under God", to the next generation. And it simply cannot look like it does today.

"The Good News Today" is, America seems to be awakening and acknowledging the threat. And there are players in action who are not intimidated, and who understand the freedoms and rights, endowed them by their Creator as "unalienable".

My former home state of Rhode Island is still a very special place for me. Despite being a micro-

cosm for all that is wrong in our country today, I still visit and enjoy the beauty of New England, while envisioning the extraordinary history which played such a pivotal role in our nation's beginnings.

My editor thought it would be a great place to join the debate. Accordingly, I spoke to Jessica Drew-Day, who ran for state rep in District 33 this past November, covering South Kingston and Narragansett, two of my favorite spots. Jessica and some like-minded patriots are leading the charge in Rhode Island to ensure that elections are free and fair.

From her candidate web page: "A native Rhode Islander with an independent, faith-filled spirit. Jessica has worn many hats, including wife, mother, business owner, landlord, homeschooler, fisherman, gardener, forager and farmer. A concerned citizen, tired of staying on the sidelines while an extreme political class destroys the state she loves, Jessica refused to be silent".

Jessica and I shared a conversation via tele conference with Magan Brillo, another staunch defender of free and fair elections for all, and who together with Sara Vieira have been coordinating at the state and national level with organizations like RI Elections and Education <http://rifairelectionsandeducation.com>, The Election Integrity Network,



Jessica with her husband Michael and their children Isabella & Alexander, taken at the corn maze at Clark's Farm in South Kingstown, RI

<https://whoscounting.us> and Rhody For Integrity, <https://Rhody4integrity.com>. These patriots understand the game and how it has to be played. The opposition, in the form of groups like "Let Rhode Island Vote", are engaged and networking on a number of levels, pushing every avenue and talking point, up to and including an entire re-write of the founding Documents, in order to cheat their way to victory. Actually, competing in the arena of ideas never goes well for them.

During our conversation, Jessica and Magan spoke of their efforts and meetings on Smith Hill, where they witnessed firsthand the treachery and deception that have become hallmarks of Rhode Island politics. Bills like (2022-H 7100A, 2022-S 2007A), very clearly speak to the intention of law makers in the Ocean State, and again, are a microcosm of efforts by the Leftist machine across the country. This is straight off Governor McKee's web page. Let this sink in and ask yourself, is this free and fair, or manipulative cheating to force a desired outcome?

(2022-H 7100A, 2022-S 2007A) makes mail voting easier by allowing online mail ballot applications, and permitting any voter to use a mail ballot or an emergency mail ballot without needing an excuse for why they can't visit their polling location on Election Day. It also drops the requirement that mail ballots be either signed by two witnesses or notarized. Instead, voters' signatures will be verified using their registration records using a four-tiered verification process. The bill requires every municipality to maintain at least one drop box where voters can deposit their ballots securely through the close of polls on Election Day. Additionally, the act allows nursing home residents to opt in to automatically receive applications for mail ballots for every subsequent election.

Jessica did tell me about their own efforts and those of the above organizations. She spoke of networking and coordination that she hasn't seen before, and that is reaching thousands of voters across the state and across the nation. People are beginning to understand the importance of these elections, and that if they are compromised, then our country is compromised.

Jessica and Magan talked about the push in RI for the "Ranked Choice Voting" system in use in states like Alaska and Maine, which allows voters to rank multiple candidates in order of preference, triggering a sort of instant runoff, if no candidate gets over the 50 percent mark. Sounds good, but as we read more about "RCV", as it's called, it smacks of voter manipulation, and a system whereby you keep counting until you get the desired result.

Jessica also said something that really got my attention. Mainly because I've been screaming about it for years. She told me she held countless events, spoke to thousands of voters, and knocked on no less than five thousand doors and still lost the election. I was shocked, even for a leftist state like Rhode Island. And then she explained that she talked to many Christians who told her that they simply don't vote! This has been a sticking point for me for years, as I've talked to many Christians myself, who believe their faith is all they need, and that Jesus will do the rest. Now this is all well and good, but it's also a dangerous and even selfish way of thinking. There are many passages in the Bible where government is foremost in the discussion, and many others where Jesus even tells followers to adhere to government rule, and to "render unto Caesar what is Caesars."

In any event, if Christians simply get in the game, and support Godly candidates of character, then turning this ship in the right direction

would clearly be much easier.

My conversation with Jessica and Magan was both enlightening and



Pastor Mark Benson of Joy Fellowship in Bradford, Rhode Island requested the ladies of the church pray for Jessica when they heard she was running for office

maddening. Everything from how foreign workers votes are now outpacing military votes overseas, to USPS whistleblowers alleging the beleaguered agency is most certainly using its role in the mail-in ballot system. From manipulate the tally to crooked poll workers and voter addresses coming back as business addresses. And of course the ones we hear about all the time, like dead folks coming back from the grave to vote. The bottom line, the American Election System is in disarray. And if you think that our enemies don't see it and are actually helping to promote or fix it, then you're not being intellectually honest with yourself, or anyone else for that matter.

In the end we talked about many of the issues facing our country today, from parental choice and the whole "trans" issue, to abortion up to birth. Ultimately, the common denominator in fending off these assaults on the values that made this nation the greatest in human history, is electing men and woman who will carry our banner to the school committee, the mayor's office, the state legislature, and to DC and the White House. Only when we have confidence in that process, will "We the People" be on the right course.

So to Jessica and Magan, and all the other patriots who can see the danger, and who have decided to

engage in our stead and on behalf of our children, we thank you. And we also pledge our support, both in faith, prayer and deed.

In closing, I did talk ask Jessica and Magan about what is needed for this fight. And they both agreed that foremost is prayer. But they also are in need of a good lawyer to guide them through the legal weeds that grow in the political fields, often choking out the message. So, if there is a likeminded attorney out there, who can also read the writing on the wall, and is willing to join and engage, please reach out

to Jessica, Magan, Sarah, or all three. Your service is sought and appreciated.

Also, and I'm talking to my Christian brothers and sisters out there, your prayer is always welcome and needed. But you've also got to get out to that polling station and bring that faith with you, as you support candidates who have you and your family's best interest in mind and at heart. Together we can make a difference. Together we can beat back the tide of socialism and woke culture being forced down our throats every day and through every media avenue out there, polluting the minds and souls of our young ones. Together we can bring GOD back into government, as it was intended from the beginning, and save our children's America.

Please reach out by way of the links below my friends. If the events of the day are telling us anything, it's likely that our time is not infinite, and that we may not have much of it left. Wake up, and let there be a sense of urgency in your efforts...

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**Guest writers** Amy "SIRI" Gardner, Charles Gilbert, Barbara McKenzie

**Advertising** 401-619-0418  
**Circulation** 16,000

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## Why Are So Many Denominations Catering To The Depraved Philosophies Of Our Day?

By Ken Ham

What happens when a professing church becomes more concerned with pleasing men and bowing to the current cultural fads than with pleasing God and “rightly handling the word of truth”? 2 Timothy 2:15 Well, what happens is a quick slide into error, false teaching, and—eventually—apostasy. And that’s happening to so many denominations right before our eyes. Consider this headline: “Church of England explores gender neutral God.”

According to reports, “the Church of England will look into the use of gender neutral terms to refer to God in prayers” after “a priest asked about developing more inclusive language in authorized forms of worship and sought options for those who wish to speak of God in a ‘non-gendered way.’” Reportedly, a church spokesperson said:

Christians have recognized since ancient times that God is neither male nor female. . . . Yet the variety of ways of address-

ing and describing God found in scripture has not always been reflected in our worship.

Now, this spokesperson is either intentionally or ignorantly misrepresenting what Christians from “ancient times” have believed. No, God is not male or female in the human way we think of sex and gender. After all, “God is spirit” (John 4:24) and doesn’t have a body like us. But recognizing that God isn’t like us isn’t the same as saying God “is neither male nor

female” because God has chosen to reveal himself to us—and he did so in the masculine! As we write in (the Answers In Genesis) statement of faith,

The Triune God has revealed himself in Scripture in the male gender with masculine pronouns and masculine titles such as Father, Son, God, King, Priest, and Prophet (Psalm 5:2; Matthew 28:19; John 14:26).

And, no, there are not (as the Church of England spokesperson claims)

varieties of ways (in the way he means it!) of addressing and describing the biblical God that Christians haven’t used in our worship, because God did not reveal himself to mankind in a gender-neutral or feminine way. He chose to reveal himself in the masculine, culminating, of course, in the arrival of the God-man (not God-woman or God-nonbinary person!). And this isn’t some trifling point! Adam, the first man, is the head of the human race, and in him we all sinned and now die. Jesus came as the “last Adam,” who, through his death, brings life to all

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### Give from Page 1

option for those who follow Christ. We are compelled to give. It is our obligation. It is our duty.

To give obediently, we begin with our tithe. We are all familiar with the charge of Malachi 3:10, “Bring all of the tithes into the storehouse!” In Malachi’s first chapter we are also admonished to give God our best, the first of our fruits, not the dregs, remnants, rejects, and defects. For God is owed His Share. In Matthew 21:33-29, Christ’s parable of the tenants demonstrates God’s relationship with us. It reminds us that He owns it all, and we are simply using His property with His (revocable) permission. This same parable as relayed in Luke 20:9-14 reveals the ultimate conflict at issue as those who possessed God’s property mistakenly came to the belief that they could take it for themselves, saying “then everything will be ours!”

But we don’t own anything. Our very life, our bodies, our health, our ability to earn income, our possessions—all of these things come from God and are owned by God.

Start with that when you ask the Lord how He wants you to give. For it already belongs to Him, all of it. What does He want you to do with that which is His?

When we are giving obediently, we are giving to the church, He requires that we give to those who are good stewards. Luke 12:42-46. A portion of what we give is designed to pay our leaders for their work as we advance the Kingdom of God together. 1 Corinthians 9:3-14. Some of it is to care for the poor, orphans, and widows. James 1:27; Galatians 2:10. We are to give in a manner consistent with the Lord’s desires. 2 Corinthians 8:5. We are to be honest with ourselves, with God, and with the church about our giving. Malachi 1:14; Acts 5:1-11.

To give wholeheartedly, we must give gladly with joy. He wants us to give generously. 2 Corinthians 8:1-15. God wants us to give cheerfully. He wants us to give willingly. 2 Corinthians 9:7. He reminds us that when we are giving to the church to provide for the needs of others that we are giving to Him, meeting His needs as if He were the one needing shelter, clothing, food, or water. Matthew 25:31-46.

When we are giving wholeheartedly, we are giving as an act of worship. The woman who poured expensive perfume on Jesus was demonstrating her devotion to Him, declaring His value to her, and expressing her subservience to her Master in the extravagance of her act. Luke 7:37-38.

We are giving wholeheartedly when

we are exercising our faith, demonstrating our complete and utter trust in the Lord as we show Him and others that we depend solely on Him as our Source; that no matter how much we give to Him, He will always provide more. Ecclesiastes 11:1; Luke 6:38.

To give sacrificially, we emulate the widow who gave her last penny.

The widow’s mite of Luke 21:1-4 forces us to see that no matter how little we may possess, we are to give it to Him. Jesus remarked of her, “She put in everything. She has nothing left to live on.” Is this our own practice in giving?

When reading the story of Christ’s interaction with the rich young ruler in Luke 18:18-30, we too often focus on the struggles of the wealthy without asking whether or not we are held to the same challenge. Has God asked of us the same? That we sell everything that we have and give it to the poor in order to follow Christ?

But this is exactly what Jesus asked of His disciples as well. In Mark 8:34-36, He told them to take up their cross and follow Him, to lose their life here on earth if they

want to save it. In Luke 14:27, He admonished them that “whoever doesn’t” give up everything to follow Him “cannot be my disciple.” Is this something that we have taken seriously? Have we actually given up everything to follow Him? I know believers who have.

When we are giving sacrificially, we are becoming totally dependent upon Him.



In Luke 9:57-58, Jesus reminds us that He had no home: “Foxes have holes, but the Son of Man has no

place to lay his head.” In Acts chapters 2 and 4 we are given a glimpse of the early church taking this to heart in that they “shared everything.”

Christ gave us an example of how to live. He is our example of how to give. He gave up everything for us. In Philippians 2:5-11, we are reminded just how much Jesus gave up in order to take upon the form of man for 33 years, divesting Himself of His authority and power for a time, living with us, suffering torture and death in a way that most of us will never experience, not even close.

We shouldn’t worry about our

needs, for He supplies all of our needs. Luke 12:22-34. In Matthew 6:19-34, He tells us not to “store up treasures for yourselves on earth,” not to serve Money, and to “seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness.” Malachi 3 comes with this startling challenge: “Test me in this!”

While writing this the Lord provided me an opportunity to give to another a small portion of what He has given me. I did, quickly and obediently, but I was not cheerful about it. In fact, I complained to the Lord about the oblivious selfishness of the recipient of my giving. As the Holy Spirit chastised me for my attitude, helping me realize that I had failed to do the very thing that I was in the middle of writing about, I laughed--then repented. I have a lot of work to do in this area. For even though I don’t have much, everything that I have is His. How dare I resent giving a small portion of it away to someone that I considered undeserving. I was tested and failed.

Perhaps next time I will not fail. I think most of us have failed to give in the manner in which we should. Perhaps from this point forward we will not fail to give Him what He is owed.



### Asbury from Page 1

is known as the revivalist movement — a group of Charismatic Christians who consistently attempt to produce revivals.

People from all over the nation have been flocking to this ongoing worship service at the college’s chapel — and it’s inspired a lot of feedback. There’s two large groups of people arguing on social media about this whole thing right now. One is the milquetoast, kill-’em-with-kindness crowd. The other is the battle-hardened Christian who has been in the trenches the last decade or so.

You know, the type of person who has tried to warn the skinny-jean-wearing megachurch pastors (who talk about broksi Jesus) about the doctors castrating kids, the teachers grooming kindergartners in the finer details of gay sex, the churches trotting out corrupt NIH directors to Christianize government propaganda, and the president sending the FBI after pro-life dads.

The latter group of believers has been at war for some time, and the right kind of war at that. They are the ones sounding the alarm about

the devil’s absolutely debauched plans to sink an already-sinking ship called Western civilization.



Mad-Eye Moody from Harry Potter

As any man who has experienced war can tell you, you don’t come off the battlefield into the niceties of pleasant society without appearing like Mad-Eye Moody. Oh no, you think. This gent just made a reference to Harry Potter! Deal with it.

I lived through a “revival” that began sweeping college campuses across the nation during my time at university. It was the late 2000s, and as social media exploded and the millennials started going to college, they had serious questions about faith, life, and destiny.

I joined InterVarsity Christian

Fellowship and quickly saw the campus ministry quadruple in size in just a year or two. This happened with other ministries such as Cru — and not just on my Michigan campus, but around the nation. Christian college conferences were packed to the gills with people who were sold out for Jesus.

I grew up in the church and had a father who disciplined me in everything from the Psalms to the finer points of systematic theology presented in Paul’s letter to the Romans. I grew up in a variety of churches — Lutheran, old-school Baptist, new-school Baptist, Reformed, and Covenant congregations. When I entered college, it was with a decade or more of knowledge of the faith, the history of the Church, and immersion in the Christian subculture of the ‘90s and ‘00s that so many of us still remember today. But not everyone had that.

Many of my friends in college became Christians after plugging into ministries on campus.

Others had grown up in churches that never catechized them in the faith. These kids loved being part of the 4-hour worship sets and the 2-hour intensive prayer meetings. It was experimental and emotional: Exactly what a vanilla Midwest kid needed to feel like he or she was coming closer to the God of the universe. These kids were reaching out for authenticity and a sense of deeper purpose. Untethered from tradition or history, they began to develop their own traditions or copy things that seemed to “enhance” worship. People would bring shofars and cymbals to gatherings. People would “dance in the Spirit.” People would come over to me and start babbling randomly in an attempt to whip themselves into a spiritual fervor and prove they had the gift of tongues.

When I came across all of this, I identified it as the growing pains of young believers. These kids didn’t have a church framework to fit into. They were a bunch of 18-22-year-olds just figuring out how the world works. They had

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**Why So Many from Page 4**

who will believe. Since death came into the world by a man, the atonement for death needed to be paid by a man (see 1 Corinthians 15).

Now, the priest asking the church to consider “gender neutral” liturgy is seeking such language for those “who wish to speak of God in a ‘non-gendered way.’” But wait - isn’t our culture supposedly all about using each person’s preferred terms, pronouns, and titles? Isn’t ignoring their preferred pronouns and instead using the ones we prefer “transphobic” and “hateful”? But these people want to do the very same thing to God by ignoring how he has revealed himself and calling him whatever they want!



This just shows that those requesting this new liturgy don’t really believe God is who he says he is. I would go so far as to say that many leaders in this denomination don’t care how God has chosen to reveal himself because they probably don’t truly believe he even exists. They don’t really care about God at all.

What they really care about is their own opinions about the world and therefore about God. And those in leadership care about catering to the depraved philosophies of our day so they can appear “inclusive” and “loving” (by our world’s definitions) - it’s fear of men, rather than fear of God! And it does not one any good!

Those coming to these “gender neutral” church services are not going

to hear the biblical gospel - the most important message, which saves people for eternity! - explained. Think about it: if a leader or congregation is too afraid to use the pronouns and titles God has chosen for himself because some might be offended, they certainly aren’t going to preach the message that everyone is a sinner and that they cannot do anything to save themselves! That’s the most offensive message of all!

This question of who gets to decide which pronouns we use for God (and for people, made male or female in his image) comes down to a question of authority: is God or is man the ultimate authority? If we start with God’s Word, then God is the authority and we refer to him in the way he has chosen to reveal himself to us. If we’re the authority, then God’s Word doesn’t matter, and we can do whatever we want!

**How Sweet from Page 1**

turned-pastor named John Newton became the lyrics to one of the most sung hymns - or songs of any sort - ever. “Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me.” The seeds for each verse are in 1 Chronicles 17 for those who read closely.

**‘How sweet the sound’**

2023 marks the 250th anniversary of the hymn, a song synonymous with Christian victory in the face of dangers, toils and snares, as well as man’s overwhelming sin.

“‘Amazing Grace’ is a timeless hymn,” said Matt Swain, the assistant dean of Worship Ministries at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (MBTS). “It spans the ages and it had spoken to generations and people from all different walks of life. Even people who are not Christians or religious at all know the tune and the text to ‘Amazing Grace.’ What’s interesting is that even though everybody just seems to know it, they don’t necessarily quite understand what it is that the hymn is really about, which is somewhat ironic.”

**‘I once was lost’**

There can be no doubt that Newton knew of what he preached and wrote. In his youth, he famously took to the sea and was heavily involved in the slave trade. He neglected his faith and mocked God and those who believed. As if that wasn’t bad enough, he had a bad reputation... among slave traders. He was a foul-mouthed, insubordinate wretch, even to the point of being imprisoned while at sea, chained alongside the slaves he was transporting. It would take amazing grace, indeed, to save him.

In March 1748, while his ship was tossed by a violent storm in the North Atlantic, a crew member

who was standing where Newton had been moments before was swept overboard. He and his crewmates labored for hours to pump water from the ship, and expecting to be capsized at any moment.

The ship did not sink, and two weeks later when it limped into the harbor, Newton began to ponder the mercy he’d been shown. Was he worthy of God’s mercy? Was he redeemable?

**‘But now I’m found’**

His conversion was not immediate then and there, but the seed of the gospel was taking root and making his need for forgiveness impossible to ignore. “I was greatly deficient in many respects,” he wrote. “I cannot consider myself to have been a believer in the full sense of the word, until a considerable time afterwards.”

He continued sailing in the slave trade between Africa and the New World, but he also got married and soon found himself physically unable and unwilling to meet the demands of life on the open seas. Returning to the teachings of childhood, he began to teach himself Latin, Greek and theology. He and his wife, Mary, threw themselves in the church community, and by 1764 he was offered a pastoral role in Olney, a village of about 2,500 people about 50 miles north of London.

It was there he began preaching and presenting poems and songs to reinforce the message of his sermons. A few years later, “Amazing Grace” was born.

“This song really came out of a life of hopelessness, Matt Swain said.

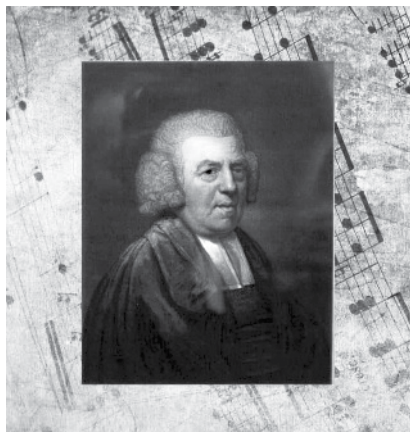
“As a sinner - as a wretch - he was radically saved and started a life of ministry and servitude unto the Lord by grace.

“This is just conjecture on my part,” Matt said, “but I don’t know how he could not have been impacted when he looked back on his life, much like David, by seeing the miraculous things that God has done. In some ways it’s testimonial, but I don’t know that it was overtly meant to be testimonial so much as it’s just how grace works in the life of the believer. But you can’t just read through the hymn and know his story and not think, ‘Wow, he had to have had that on his mind.’”

**‘Grace will lead me Home’**

But Newton was more than just a redeemed hymn writer with a dark past. A few years after “Amazing Grace,” in 1779, he moved to London where he continued preaching. He was one of only two evangelical Anglican priests in the capital, and he grew in popularity, even among the Methodists and Baptists of the time.

It was during this time he connected with William Wilberforce, a young member of Parliament who was struggling with staying in office while seeing evil in the world such as slavery. When he sought Newton’s advice, he advised him to “serve God where he was.” Wilberforce followed his advice, and his political views were informed by his faith and by his desire to promote Christianity and Christian ethics in private and public. That included a vocal and active fight for the abolition of slavery, one that Newton joined.



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2 Corinthians 11:13-15 KJV -

“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.”

“In many ways, John Newton was kind of like the Billy Graham of his day,” said Angela Swain, associate professor of music at MBTS. “If you think of how Billy Graham was to many of our presidents, that’s how John Newton was to William Wilberforce.”

Three decades after he had retired from the slave trade, Newton published a pamphlet called, “Thoughts Upon the Slave Trade,” describing the horrific conditions of the slave ships during his service as crew. The confession and apology, he wrote, “will always be a subject of humiliating reflection to me, that I was once an active instrument in a business at which my heart now shudders.”

Thanks in part to both men, the Slave Trade Act of 1807 brought British involvement in slavery to an end.

While the end of slavery in the New World was still decades away, “Amazing Grace” and its gospel message were taking hold in Britain.

**‘No less days to sing God’s praise’**

As profound and simple as it is, Newton’s song didn’t exactly catch on at home, and Newton was ready the next week to write a new song.

“It only became popular later in the United States,” Angela said. “Irony of ironies.”

It caught on in the U.S. in part due to its musicality and folk-melody, but largely, the Swains believe, due to its message during the Second Great Awakening.

“Theology leads to our doxology,” Angela said.

Portrait of John Newton (above)

“It’s so plainly a song about the gospel,” Matt continued. “Whether we were saved from something like the slave trade, or if our conversion was less notable than John Newton’s, it still speaks of the power of God unto salvation. For those that experience that grace, we are being brought from death to life, and that in and of itself is a radical thing.”

That popularity lives on, even two and half centuries later.

“Lots of people embrace the hymn,” Matt said. “I mean, Elvis Presley sang it.”

But beyond the music and at its foundation, “Amazing Grace” is still about the gospel, and that’s potentially what has made the hymn stick around in the cultural consciousness.

“Strong hymns have strong theology,” Matt said. “It’s the grace we’ve been given that gives it that power for those of us who have been saved through the blood of Christ. It’s an even more powerful testimony to know the life of John Newton, to see what the gospel can do in his life of sin.”

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## National News

### Evidence Shows the Asbury Event Wasn't Spontaneous, But Planned Weeks in Advance

By The Dissenter

One of the things I keep hearing about the Asbury so-called "revival" is that it was a spontane-

coincidence? Or did Francis Chan know about this planned event ahead of time? After all, Francis Chan is well-



known at Asbury and appears to be friendly with the leadership and well-promoted at the school,

ous unplanned event that just happened, a move of the Holy Spirit, that sparked a movement among college students during a chapel service that has brought thousands upon thousands of kids to their knees in repentance and faith. And though it's possible that many of these kids have repented and come to Christ, as the Holy Spirit can use any means He pleases to carry out His purposes, the question we should be asking is if this was truly as spontaneous as they claim it was.

according to a Google search. Did Francis Chan ask the leadership at Asbury to emotionally manipulate the students into a so-called "revival" so that he could have a nice backdrop from which to launch his "day of prayer" simulcast from on February 23? It makes perfect sense - to sensationalize the day of prayer with what appears to have been a move of the Holy Spirit going on for two weeks prior.

In a video found at <https://youtu.be/WUVGQQn4b00>, you can see Francis Chan speaking about coming to Asbury University on February 23 for the Collegiate Day of Prayer.

But there's more. There was another video posted over two months ago by Francis Chan saying essentially the same thing. This one was posted on November 28 of 2022 and called for a "day of prayer and spiritual awakening" on February 23, 2023.

In this video, Chan speaks about the revival event that happened 50 years ago at Asbury and then talks about how such a moment of revival happened to him in the past and how he wants to see the same thing happen to so many people in this generation. In the video, he talks about how all the various denominations set their differences aside and come together for a day of prayer and revival and talks about how he will be simulcasting live from the Asbury campus on Feb 23.

Call me cynical, but this just seems too well-planned to have been spontaneous. I mean, it's possible it's a coincidence, but Francis Chan is a false teacher who has abandoned the gospel for ecumenical alliances with false teachers, false churches, and false doctrines all throughout Christendom. I have my doubts that the Holy Spirit is working through a false teacher to bring revival...but again, I suppose God can do whatever he pleases.

But here's the kicker - this video was posted over a week before the so-called revival at Asbury started. This video was posted on February 1, 2023. The Asbury "revival" started on February 8.

Further, both Asbury University and Asbury Seminary are given to aberrant social justice movements, hold to seriously compromised theology, and are aligned with sub-biblical denominational entities and movements. So far, there has been no repentance from any of that.

So, here's the question: is this just a

### She Was Punished for Refusing to Kneel, Won \$100K in Court

By John Friend

A former standout Virginia Tech women's soccer player who alleged the team's head coach persecuted and targeted her for refusing to kneel in support of Black Lives Matter (BLM) in the fall 2020 season will receive a \$100,000 settlement as part of an agreement to dismiss the federal lawsuit she filed against the coach.

Kiersten Hening filed a federal lawsuit against Virginia Tech head women's soccer coach Charles "Chugger" Adair, claiming he removed her as a starter on the team and reduced her playing time in an attempt to force her to quit the team due to her criticisms of the BLM movement. Hening was a junior during the 2020 season and had been one of the team's top defenders her previous two seasons as a freshman and sophomore where she started the vast majority of games.

The suit argued that Hening was a "talented defender" who had the most minutes played on the entire team as the 2020 season started. She was even selected to represent the team to media outlets before the season began.

On Sept. 1, 2020, shortly before

the start of the season and in the immediate aftermath of the BLM uprising that began with the death of George Floyd earlier that year, an advisory committee of student athlete representatives discussed ways of supporting the BLM movement, including by wearing BLM-themed face masks, wrist and armbands, and warmup attire.

In the lawsuit, Hening alleges that most of the women's soccer team players supported the initiative, including head coach Adair. Adair



Kiersten Hening

also suggested replacing "Hokies," the name of Virginia Tech athletic teams, emblazoned on the back of the soccer team's uniforms with the names of alleged victims of police

misconduct and wanted players to kneel before games in a display of solidarity with the BLM movement.

Hening did not support these initiatives, expressing her reservations with other players on the team through text messages, which ultimately came to the attention of Adair. On Sept. 3, two days after the advisory committee's recommendations, Hening's teammates insisted coach Adair address "the fact that some of his players were 'racist' and did not support BLM," according to the lawsuit.

Hening refused to kneel with the rest of the team's starters during the opening match of the season on Sept. 12, 2020, resulting in her being the subject of a tirade launched against her by Adair. That began a "campaign of abuse" by the head coach, coupled with reduced playing time, that ultimately resulted in Hening's decision to leave the program on Sept. 20, 2020.

Hening insisted in the lawsuit that she supports social justice, but "does not support BLM the organization," disagreeing with the "tactics and core tenets of its mission statement, including defunding the police."

### Secret Service Threatens Minister with Arrest for Peacefully Demonstrating on a Public Sidewalk

By Christian Defense Coalition

WASHINGTON - Rev. Patrick Mahoney, Director of the Christian Defense Coalition, was recently told by the Secret Service the sidewalk was not public because Chinese officials said it "was Chinese property."

The Secret Service went on to say Mahoney would be arrested and charged with unlawful assembly because he would be demonstrating on "Chinese property." It was shocking and stunning to see America's Secret Service being bullied by the Chinese government to shut down free speech in the public square.

Rev. Mahoney informed Secret Service the sidewalk was public and not "Chinese property" and he began to peacefully demonstrate in spite of the threat of arrest and

being jailed. Later during the protest, a captain with the Secret Service had a discussion with his officers and Rev. Mahoney and said the sidewalk was indeed public and no arrests were made.

Rev. Mahoney was at the Chinese Embassy as part of a peaceful protest to confront the Chinese government on their failure to protect human rights and freedom in China and their violation of US sovereignty by sending a spy balloon across America.

Rev. Patrick Mahoney, Director of the Washington, D.C. based Christian Defense Coalition, states;

"It was hard for me to believe Secret Service agents would come up to an American citizen and threaten them with arrest for peacefully demonstrating on a



Reverend Mahoney demonstrating on the public sidewalk in front of the Chinese embassy.

public sidewalk. What makes this even more troubling, is the fact they were responding to the Chinese government's claim that the sidewalk in front of their Embassy was now 'Chinese property.'

"It was also shocking and stunning to see Secret Service being bullied and intimidated by the Chinese government to shut down

free speech in the public square. Instead of responding to the outrageous demands of the Chinese Communist Party to censor and crush free speech, American federal law enforcement should be standing up and protecting the First Amendment and their citizens.

"Although I was not arrested, I am now working with the American Center for Law and Justice to decide what my next steps might be in ensuring no American ever has to face these kinds of threats and intimidation by their own government."

who spent 15 years working for North Point as a worship leader/communicator and later at WCC as the InsideOut Director, Andy Jones, the Middle School Director, and Britney Kafer, the Programming & Events Producer at Buckhead Church, another North Point church.

### Andy Stanley's Church Celebrates Coming Out of Transgender Person

By The Dissenter

In case you've missed it, there's a big kerfuffle going on over at Andy Stanley's Northpoint Ministries and its various massive campuses. Apparently, Andy Stanley is a lot more pro-LGBTQ than folks thought. For the last several weeks, he's been all over the headlines after a sermon of his resurfaced where he basically said that homosexual people who love Jesus have more faith than most Christians. I know, it sounds crazy, but it's true.

And, there's more. We posted a clip on Twitter of a really flamboyant homosexual bragging about being baptized at one of Northpoint's campuses, Buckhead Church. He's talking about how the church was super accepting of his lifestyle. It gets worse, though. There are some

Southern Baptist pastors who are deep in the mix of several North Point-affiliated pro-homosexual ministries, which are all about affirming not just the fact that someone is queer, but also the unthinkable actions that come with satisfying these aberrant desires.

This pro-homosexual ministry is being guided by groups, one in particular that's closely tied to Northpoint called Embracing the Journey. It's run by a licensed counselor at Northpoint named Debbie Causey, who's also an ordained pastor at her church. Causey and her ministry, Parent Connect, are all about teaching parents how to be supportive of their kids if they come out as gay. And, they're linked up with the Reformation Project, a group that's all about promoting gay Christianity.

Now, we've discovered that basically all this time, the leaders at Stanley's churches haven't just been accepting, affirming, and counseling the lifestyles of the sexually aberrant, but publicly applauding and celebrating them.

We've discovered at least one "transgender" person who came out on their Instagram page giving himself self-praise for taking thousands of pills, having surgeries, and more to deceive himself and others into believing that he is a female.

After posting that he has taken 3,576 pills, 16 shots, had two surgeries, and two years of hormones, he writes, "I year ago I came out to the world and started living life as myself." So, who liked these posts? Well, for starters, Woodstock City Church, a North Point campus,

itself liked the post as discovered by our friends at Protestia:

Also, as discovered by Protestia, Several other North Point Ministries leaders liked and positively commented on this person's Instagram post.

Among the leaders who liked the updates are Mitchell McGhee, a former worship leader who still performs at WCC on occasion, Jennifer McGhee, the Director of Transit, Ericah Stokes, the Executive Assistant to the lead pastor Samer Massad, Meg Davidson, the Community Relations Director, Andy Kafer, who spent seven years working at WCC and North Point as Production Director, Scott Kitchen, the SPD in charge of service programming for youth events, Trey McKnight,

## China Demands US “Explain Itself to the World” Over Nord Stream Attack Story

By Paul Joseph Watson

Beijing unsatisfied with dismissal of Seymour Hersh bombshell.

China has demanded that the United States “explain itself to the world” if the revelations in Seymour Hersh’s story about US intel being responsible for destroying the Nord Stream gas pipelines are true.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative journalist published an article recently in which he asserted that the pipelines were destroyed by the US as part of a covert operation.

According to Hersh’s sources, the explosives were planted in June 2022 by US Navy divers under the guise of the BALTOPS 22 NATO exercise and were detonated three months later with a remote signal sent by a sonar buoy.

One source told Hersh that the plotters knew the covert operation was an “act of war,” with some in the CIA and State Department warning, “Don’t do this. It’s stupid and will be a political nightmare if it comes out.” Now Beijing is demanding that the White House

address the issue, seemingly unimpressed with the Biden administration’s rather weak response to merely label the story “false”.

In mid-February, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning asserted that Washington would have to bear responsibility if the report is confirmed as accurate. “If the conclusions of the investigation are true, then the US behavior is unacceptable,” the diplomat told reporters, adding that the US would



need to “explain itself to the world community.”

The Kremlin also responded to the report by demanding a fresh international investigation into the attack, which was preceded by both Joe Biden and Victoria Nuland asserting that the pipelines would be taken out if

Russia invaded Ukraine.

Kremlin Press Secretary Dmitry Peskov said Hersh’s article showed “the need for an open international investigation into this unprecedented attack on this critical infrastructure.”

“It’s a very important piece, which... must provoke the acceleration of the international probe. But we, on the contrary, witness attempts to silently wind down such international investigation,” he added.

Meanwhile, in Germany, the Alternative for Germany (AfD) party is also calling for a full inquiry. “The Pulitzer Prize winner’s suspicions must be investigated,” wrote co-chairman of the AfD parliamentary group, Tino Chrupalla.

“Has NATO’s leading power carried out an attack on our country’s vital critical infrastructure in European waters? Then one would have to question whether the alliance guarantees security in Europe or rather endangers it. The consequence would be the withdrawal of all U.S. troops.”

active decisions in recent weeks. In January, it shamelessly displayed a pride flag at the altar in St. Nicholas Church in Leicester. Also taking place this week in General Synod is a vote on whether or not bishops should bless same-sex “marriages.”

The Bible says: God’s Word is very clear on the fact that He is a Father. Jesus Christ said in Matthew 15:9, “[I]n vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.”

## Almost 900 million foreigners want to relocate

By Sharyl Attkisson

A recent Gallup poll demonstrates the folly of open borders or allowing people to immigrate into the US illegally, virtually unrestricted.

It shows that 900 million people would relocate from their countries if they could. The number one country they choose is the US, with around 160 million adults picking America. Those adults, if permitted, would come with children and other family members.

The current US population is roughly 331 million. That includes millions of illegal immigrants and other illegal border crossers who have already been allowed to enter in recent years. A record number are coming in through the US southern border virtually undeterred under the Biden administration.

The following is an excerpt from Gallup News:

The Covid-19 pandemic severely disrupted people’s mobility worldwide, but it didn’t stop them from wanting to move.

In fact, Gallup surveys show that in the second year of the pandemic, people’s desire to migrate reached its highest point in a decade.

In 2021, 16% of adults worldwide -- which projects to almost 900 million people -- said they would like to leave their own country permanently, if they could.

Gallup’s latest update on adults’ desire to move to another country is its first global estimate available since 2018. The 2021 figures are based on interviews with nearly 127,000 adults in 122 countries.

The list of countries where potential migrants say they would like to move -- if they could -- has generally been the same since Gallup started tracking these data in 2007, with the U.S. topping the list of the most desired destinations every year. This was true in 2021 as well. Just under one in five potential migrants (18%) -- or about 160 million adults worldwide -- named the U.S. as their desired future residence.

## World News

### Abrahamic Family House Opens - One Word Religion?

By Good News Today Staff

On Thursday, Feb. 16, the United Arab Emirates officially opened the Abrahamic Family House, consisting of a mosque, church and synagogue that face one another on the same square in Abu Dhabi.

Beside each one stands a tall pillar illuminating an Islamic crescent, Christian cross and a Jewish menorah, respectively, shining a hopeful light for interfaith tolerance and understanding.

The road to Thursday’s opening began with Pope Francis’ February 2019 trip to the UAE, where he met with the grand imam of al-Azhar, Ahmed el-Tayeb, leader of the oldest Islamic educational institute in the world. Their meeting ended with their signing of the Document on Human Fraternity, which set ambitious goals to foster interfaith understanding.

Four years later, Muslims, Christians and Jews gathered to inaugurate the three worship centers, each representing one of the three Abrahamic faiths, and a representative from each faith provided inaugural remarks.

The president of the center, Mohamed Khalifa Al Mubarak, spoke of a “new landmark” in the country, built within sight of the six-year-old Louvre Abu Dhabi. The three worship sites, he said, stand for hope “for peaceful coexistence and understanding.”

The president of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, Cardinal Miguel Ángel Ayuso Guixot, noting that “fear is the outcome of a lack of knowledge,” referred to the center as a “beacon of mutual understanding.” The cardinal said that believers do not need to walk away from their deeply held beliefs to befriend others and to visit their houses of worship. “Without renouncing different spiritual resources,” he said, “each has a command to live with brothers and sisters whatever their religion.”

Lastly, the chief rabbi of the

United Kingdom, Ephraim Mirvis, referred to the moment as “historic,” seeing the “children of Abraham gathered... to build a new world.” He challenged the audience to “recognize the part of the divine in every



person” so we can “shape a new world built from loving kindness.”

But while the center is novel, the UAE has been promoting tolerance for several years. The Abrahamic Family House joins other initiatives, including a special ministry of tolerance, and hosts the Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace. The UAE has also demonstrated a commitment to promoting tolerance outside its borders, supporting UNESCO’s effort to reconstruct a historic mosque and two nearby churches in Iraq’s second-largest city, Mosul, after they were destroyed by ISIS.

Some have questioned the sincerity of these types of efforts, seeing them as a way to distract from the region’s rough politics or deficits when it comes to democracy. But such work can simultaneously reflect a country’s interests and values. The UAE’s leadership has also focused on countering ISIS’ ideology and the Muslim Brotherhood, and the Abrahamic Family House can be seen as a positive flipside to these darker battles.

Soon a new Hindu temple will open in Abu Dhabi, further diversifying the religious landscape. But with the proliferation of good things, observers have questioned how far the tolerance initiative will expand. Will the welcoming spirit include converts from Islam, nonbelievers and other communities persecuted in nearby countries, such as Bahá’ís and Ahmadis? Do the overlapping initiatives reinforce each other, or duplicate or dilute the overall impact? With all the world’s challenges, can the new complex foster an environment respectful of different beliefs or is it the beginning of the end times One World Religion revealed in scripture?

## Church of England wants to change God’s pronouns to be gender-neutral

By Gerald Flurry

The Church of England announced a new project this week to use gender-neutral terms when referring to God in church services. This announcement has roused strong feelings on both sides of the aisle, as conservatives defend the titles by which God is named in the Bible and liberals rally around the more “inclusive language.”

The issue was raised at the church’s legislative body, the General Synod, where Joanna Stobart asked bishops “to provide more options for those who wish to use authorized liturgy and speak of God in a non-gendered way, particularly in authorized absolutions where many of the prayers offered for use refer to God using male pronouns.”

We have been exploring the use of gendered language in relation to God for several years, in collaboration with the Faith and Order Commission. After some dialogue between the two commissions in this area, a new joint project on gendered language will begin this spring. - Michael Iprgrave, vice chairman of the Liturgical Commission

In practice, this change would mean priests no longer using “He” or “Him” in prayers or in service. It would even extend to dropping God’s title as “Father” and removing it from the so-called “Lord’s Prayer.”

[W]e believe that a theological misreading of God as exclusively male is a driver of much continuing discrimination and sexism against women. - Women and the Church,

national campaign group

The General Synod would need to approve this change in doctrine, but a consensus has not yet been reached.

This shift in terminology should come as no surprise based on the Church of England’s other provoc-

to relocate to Canada.

Gallup’s data suggest the Covid-19 pandemic did not dampen people’s desire to move -- which is likely an important factor in why migration has been able to rebound so quickly in many places, including in countries such as the U.S.

From 2021 to 2022, net international migration exceeded 1 million residents, suggesting that migration patterns may be returning to their pre-pandemic norms.

Read the full analysis at [news.gallup.com/poll/468218/nearly-900-million](https://news.gallup.com/poll/468218/nearly-900-million)

The Good News TODAY

# Health

## ‘Protecting Kids From Harmful, Permanent Medical Procedures’: South Dakota Passes ‘Help Not Harm Act’

By Decision Magazine

South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem on Monday, Feb. 13, signed into law a bill that prohibits healthcare

professionals from using drugs, hormones or surgery to alter the appearance of the sex of a minor.



South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem on Monday, Feb. 13, signed into law a bill that prohibits healthcare

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South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem on Monday, Feb. 13, signed into law a bill that prohibits healthcare

Under the “Help Not Harm Act,” healthcare professionals who violate the law will lose their professional license or certificate. If they have already begun a course of treatment on a minor, that treatment must stop. If immediate termination of the treatment would harm the minor, the treatment may be “systematically reduced,” but it must end by Dec. 31, 2023.

“Scientific evidence has not shown that cross-sex medical treatments are beneficial to children or adolescents. The research making these claims is not scientifically reliable. In fact, there is evidence of harmful impact.

“Research does not show that medical gender transition is necessary to prevent suicide. In fact, there is evidence that medical transition procedures may increase suicide risk in gender-confused teens.

“Research shows gender dysphoria in children usually goes away on its own by young adulthood, if ‘transition’ is not encouraged. This avoids the harmful effects of cross-sex medical interventions.”

“South Dakota’s kids are our future,” Noem said. “With this legislation, we are protecting kids from harmful, permanent medical procedures. I will always stand up for the next generation of South Dakotans.”

South Dakota joins Alabama, Ari-

zona, Arkansas, Texas, Florida and Utah in moving to protect minors from such treatments.

Although many of the mainstream medical associations approve of these treatments, a growing number of scientific agencies do not recommend them, according to a

report by the Institute for Research & Evaluation. Among the report’s findings:

## Rite Aid Is the Latest Pharmacy to Hand Out Abortion Pills

By Christian Life Daily

In the past, a woman would need to jump through a lot of hoops in order to get an abortion pill. Now, all she has to do is go to the local drug store, pick up the pill, and pay for it like it’s no big deal.

To start – the pro-abortion crowd is doing everything they can to make it easy for women to kill their babies – especially in a post-Roe America. From unmarked vans ushering women across state lines – to “telehealth” options – literally any woman at any age can get an abortion – no questions asked. And thanks to Biden’s latest push – new FDA regulations allow retail pharmacies to sell abortion drugs.

As previously reported, CVS and Walgreens already announced they will sell the drug – and now Rite Aid has jumped on board too. Reuters reported: “We are committed to ensuring equitable access to customers prescribed this product”, Rite Aid said in an emailed statement.

Earlier in January, rivals Walgreens Boots Alliance Inc (WBA.O) and CVS Health Corp (CVS.N) said that they planned to offer abortion pills following the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s decision to allow retail pharmacies to offer the drug in the country for the first time.”

wants to make the horrifying reality of abortion seem as easy as “popping a pill” ...not preparing women for the trauma they will experience. Instead of encouraging women to get ultrasounds or directing them to organizations that will walk alongside these pregnant and vulnerable moms – government bureaucrats push abortion and encourage them to kill their babies.

Even more horrifying – while profilers work faithfully to combat the darkness of abortion and provide life-saving options – they are being targeted for standing for life. Pro-life organizations have been firebombed and vandalized. And in some parts of the world – even PRAYING silently outside an abortion center is grounds for arrest.

Abortion is the greatest human rights violation our world has ever seen – and it’s unconscionable that women are being encouraged to kill their babies – with some like President Biden selling it as “moral” and “good”!

As Christians, we must stay involved in the fight for life and not give up advocating for our most vulnerable – and expendable – members of society. Their lives literally depend on it.

Of course, the abortion industry

## Former WH doctor for Trump, Obama blasts ‘alarming’ Biden health report: ‘The cover-up needs to end’

By Kyle Morris, Brandon Gillespie

Texas GOP Rep. Ronny Jackson, a former White House physician, is calling for an end to the “cover-up” of President Biden’s health after the president’s physical earlier this week claimed that he is healthy and fit to serve as commander in chief.

“The majority of Americans can see that Biden’s mental health is in total decline, yet there is no transparency from the White House on what’s going on, if anything, to address this issue and his inability to do his job,” Jackson told Fox News Digital. “Yesterday’s written physical exam report released by Biden’s physician, Kevin O’Connor, further confirms that this administration is still adamant about concealing the truth.”

Jackson also took issue with the fact that the report from Biden’s physical, the second one he’s taken since entering office, made no mention of the president undergoing a cognitive test amid his “deteriorating mental health.”

“Nowhere in the report was there mention of Biden’s deteriorating mental health,” Jackson said. “This is alarming, considering I have already sent three letters to the White House demanding that Biden receive a cognitive test and that the results be made public, all of which have been ignored. Everyone can see something is wrong — the cover-up needs to end.”

Jackson, who previously served as the White House physician to

former Presidents Barack Obama and Donald Trump, faced criticism from Obama for his critique of Biden’s cognitive health on the 2020 campaign trail.

In his 2022 memoir, Jackson detailed a stern and “scathing” email he received from Obama about comments he had made on Twitter about then-presidential candidate Biden’s mental state. “I have made a point of not commenting on your service in my successor’s administration and have always spoken highly of you both in public and in private. You always served me and my family well, and I have considered you not only a fine doctor and service member but also a friend,” Obama wrote in the email to Jackson.

“That’s why I have to express my disappointment at the cheap shot you took at Joe Biden via Twitter. It was unprofessional and beneath the office that you once held. It was also disrespectful to me and the many friends you had in our administration. You were the personal physician to the President of the United States as well as an admiral in the U.S. Navy. I expect better, and I hope upon reflection that you will expect more of yourself in the future,” Obama added in his message to Jackson.

In a memo released Thursday, White House physician Kevin O’Connor, a retired Army colonel who has served in the role since January 2021, wrote: “President Biden remains a healthy, vigorous 80-year-old male who is fit to successfully

execute the duties of the presidency.”

One lesion was discovered on Biden’s chest and removed, according to the report, and the president still experiences a stiff gait, but it hasn’t worsened since last year. Biden continues to experience symptoms of gastroesophageal reflux, primarily having to clear his throat more often, mostly after meals, the report said. O’Connor said the reflux is the source of Biden’s throat clearing and coughing.

O’Connor noted that the main medical event for Biden in the past year was his upper respiratory infection from COVID-19 last summer. He said that Biden’s oxygen levels never fell below 97%.

The results come as the president faces questions about his age amid speculation that he will seek reelection in 2024, though he has not yet announced his official decision.

Republican presidential candidate Nikki Haley took aim at the president, as well as his predecessor, former President Trump, on Wednesday, saying that politicians over the age of 75 should have to take a mental cognitive test before assuming office.

In 2021, Biden was evaluated by O’Connor, who wrote at the time that the president “remains a healthy, vigorous, 78-year-old male, who is fit to successfully execute the duties of the Presidency.”

## CDC Adds Original COVID mRNA Vaccine to Childhood Schedule Despite Known Harms

By Brenda Baletti, Ph.D.

(The Defender) - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on Thursday added COVID-19 vaccination to its routine immunization schedule for children and adults.

Although the CDC does not have the authority to set requirements itself, the agency’s immunization schedule provides formal guidance for state and local public health officials who set the rules for which vaccines are required to attend school. The schedule also is the basis for vaccine recommendations made by most physicians.

“Given all that we have learned about the dangers and ineffectiveness of COVID-19 shots over the last two years, it is horrifying to see the CDC now recommend this as a routine shot to children,” Mary Holland, Children’s Health Defense (CHD) president and general counsel told The Defender. “Although it is unsurprising given the agency capture, it is nonetheless tragic,” she added.

Thursday’s move formalized the recommendation by the agency’s vaccine advisory committee, which on Oct. 20, 2022, voted unanimously (15-0) to recommend adding COVID-19 vaccines for children as young as 6 months old to the new Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule.

Under the new guidelines, the CDC recommends healthy children 6 months to 11 years old receive a pri-



mary series of two doses of the mRNA Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech monovalent COVID-19 vaccine, followed by a booster of the bivalent shot.

It recommends that healthy people age 12 and older receive two doses of either the Moderna, Pfizer or Novavax vaccine followed by a bivalent booster.

All COVID-19 vaccines being administered in the U.S. to people under 18 are Emergency Use Authorized (EUA) products. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) did grant full approval to Pfizer’s Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine for ages 12 and older, however, the Comirnaty vaccine is not available in the U.S. — which means all children who get the Pfizer vaccine are getting an EUA product.

In the congressional hearing on the Biden administration’s response to COVID-19, Rep. Dan Crenshaw

(R-Texas) asked CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky, why the CDC broke with its own norms and put an EUA vaccine on the childhood immunization schedule for a disease that poses very little risk to children and for which the vaccine poses many potential side effects without preventing transmission.

Walensky responded: “The reason that the ACIP [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices] recommended the CDC put the COVID-19 vaccine on the pediatric schedule was only because it was the only way it could be covered in our ‘Vaccines for Children’ program. ... It was the only way that our underinsured children would be able to have access to the vaccines ... That was the reason to put it there.”

Data collected by the CDC through its Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) and a growing number of other sources indicate serious health risks associated with COVID-19 vaccination for children.

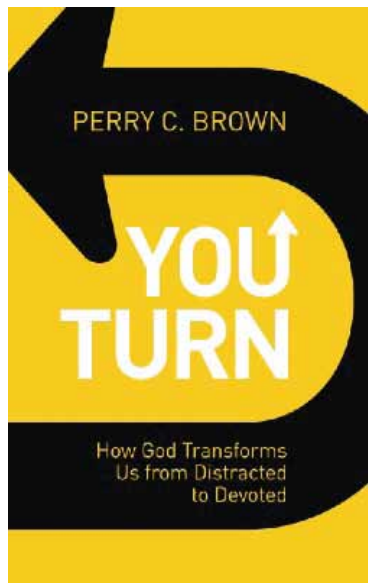
“The COVID vaccines have not been shown to be either effective or safe for children,” CHD argued in an amicus brief filed in Louisiana last year. “The benefits to children are minuscule, while the risks — including the risk of potentially fatal heart damage — are ‘known’ and ‘serious,’ as the FDA itself has acknowledged.”



## Revival Basics are Revisited in the New Book 'You Turn'

By Good News Today Staff

DALLAS - Christian revival headlines religious news lately, but what does true revival look like?



"You Turn: How God Transforms Us from Distracted to Devoted" from author and Bible teacher Perry Brown (ThM Dallas Seminary) revisits the compelling Old Testament account of a nationwide revival after the straightforward message of the prophet Haggai. Haggai's account suggests a template for what must happen when God's people are transformed during revival.

Written over 2,500 years ago, the Bible book of Haggai still gives us amazing insight into the miraculous U-turn from spiritually distracted back to spiritu-

ally devoted. Legitimate revival certainly includes a deeper walk with God, but as Haggai suggests, it begins by dealing with personal sin and it continues with a renewed commitment to the Lord's work in the world. Haggai is no simplistic shake-and-bake recipe for success, but rather a non-holds-barred

confrontation that issued in sincere repentance and an extraordinary return to focused work for the Lord.

No prophet's message was so needed, no prophet's message was so successful, and no message could serve as the template for

contemporary revival.

Perry challenges his readers, "There is much we can learn from old Haggai. If we expect to be fruitful for our Lord and if we long for His 'Well done, good and faithful servant,' we must relearn those lessons from ages past. So still today in the 21st century Haggai speaks once more and implores us,

## Books

"Thus says the Lord of hosts, 'Consider your ways'" (Haggai 1:7).

"You Turn: How God Transforms Us from Distracted to Devoted" is available at Amazon and wherever good books are sold.

## I Dare Call It Treason: The Council on Foreign Relations and the Betrayal of America

By GNT staff

The Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) describes itself as a sort of social club where the rich and powerful get together to discuss national and international politics from a rational, non-partisan, patriotic perspective. But, really, what is the Council on Foreign Relations? The CFR is many things.

It is a millionaires club, a communo-fascist party in power, an intelligence agency, a think tank, a criminal gang, an association of assassins and mass murderers, a cabal of sociopaths and psychopaths, a sect involved in the occult and a pirates' den.

Moreover, the CFR is the visible

head of the Invisible Government of the United States. Its core nucleus is composed of international bankers, oil magnates and CEOs of transnational corporations. But, most importantly, the CFR is the true axis of evil in the world.

The CFR's main enemy is the people of the world, particularly the American people. This explains why, behind every single act of treason against the American

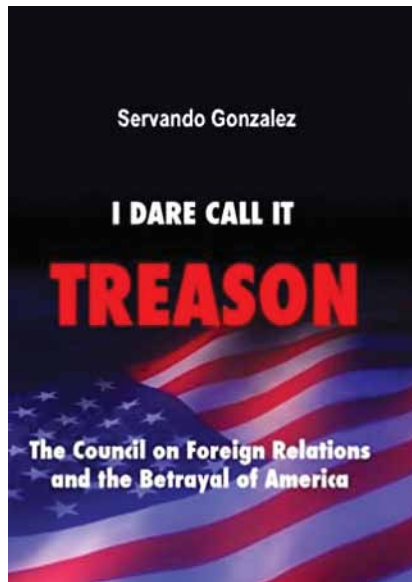
people, you can always find, hiding in the shadows, one or more members of the Council on Foreign Relations.

The CFR's true, secret goal, is the elimination of 85 percent of the

world's population as the first step in establishing a New World Order — a communo-fascist totalitarian dictatorship with just two social classes: the all-powerful masters, living in opulence, and the other 99 percent of the population, made up of oppressed serfs, with no rights at all, living in the most abject

economic and moral poverty under a total surveillance police state. Is it time to overthrow the Invisible Government of the United States?

Read *I Dare Call It Treason: The Council on Foreign Relations and the Betrayal of America* and reach your own conclusions.



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## Eagles QB Jalen Hurts sets Super Bowl records in loss, aims to 'be what God called me to be'

By Kevin Mercer

Moments after the Kansas City Chiefs defeated the Philadelphia Eagles, 38-35, on Sunday night



Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Jalen Hurts scores one of his three rushing touchdowns during Super Bowl LVII, Feb. 12, 2023. (AP Photo/Ashley Landis)

in Super Bowl LVII, Eagles quarterback Jalen Hurts was already thinking about the future.

"You either win or you learn, that's how I feel," Hurts said in his postgame press conference. "Win, lose, I always reflect on the things I could have done better — anything you could have done better to try and take that next step." He expanded later, "It is a tough feeling to come up short. It's a very tough feeling, but I know the direction is to rise, and that will be the M.O. going forward."

Aside from a second-quarter fumble that was returned for a touchdown, Hurts played one of the best games of his life on the biggest stage. He threw for 304 yards and a touchdown on 27-of-38 passing, and ran for 70 yards and three touchdowns on 15 carries, setting records for the most rushing yards and rushing touchdowns ever by a quarterback

in the Super Bowl. His three rushing TDs tied the most in a Super Bowl by any player, regardless of position.

"To me, [Hurts] played the best game I've seen him play in the two years that we've been together. He was outstanding," Eagles second-year head coach Nick Sirianni said in his postgame press conference. "I really thought he was in complete control. He did things with his legs in the run game. He did things with his arm in the pass game, made some unbelievable throws, unbelievable reads. I

thought he played outstanding. ... I'm sure glad he's our quarterback."

Hurts' maturation as a quarterback is a big reason why the Eagles won 14 regular-season games this year and earned the NFC's No. 1 seed in the playoffs. He tossed 22 touchdowns with only six interceptions, while rushing for 760 yards and 13 touchdowns in 15 regular-season games. The Eagles were 16-2 (including the playoffs) this year with Hurts as the starting QB.

His threat as a runner and a passer led a Philly offense that trailed only the Super Bowl-champion Chiefs in scoring offense this season, a far cry from where the Eagles were only two short years ago when they finished 26th. Hurts was a rookie and only played sparingly then.

Amid his rapid rise to NFL superstardom, the third-year pro has remained vocal about his faith in

God. During a press conference in the days leading up to the big game, Hurts was asked about his faith. "I really lean on Him and I try to keep Him in the center of everything that I do, because I know without God, I wouldn't be where I am today," Hurts responded. "I wouldn't be the man I am today without having that faith in Him, without integrity and leadership

## 'All Glory to God': Super Bowl Champ Harrison Butker Praises the Lord, Delivers Powerful Message About Faith and Identity

By Billy Hollowell

Kansas City Chiefs kicker Harrison Butker is giving God all the glory after booting the winning field goal that secured his team's 38-35 win against the Philadelphia Eagles during Sunday's Super Bowl LVII.

Butker said during a postgame press conference it's essential for players to hit the field and focus on what they can control. "I kind of had the easy job there," he said. "Offensive line did a great job blocking, great snap, great hold, and thankfully the ball went through, and all glory to God."

Butker also spoke with Sports Spectrum's Jason Romano, sharing the importance of faith and prayer in his life. The star player said it was a "blessing" to be at the Super

and diligence and all those things.

"I think the biggest thing is you get so influenced by so much around you, you just want to pray that you're the person that God calls you to be. So that's what I'm gonna do — be what God called me to be."

Hurts is still only 24. With him, a good young nucleus of players around him, and a fiery 41-year-old head coach, the Eagles are optimistic about the future. Still, Hurts

Bowl a third time in four years, and said he is resolute about putting first things first.

"It's the most important thing," he said of his Christian faith, adding he



Kansas City Chiefs place kicker Harrison Butker (7) watches his game-winning field goal during the NFL Super Bowl 57 game against the Philadelphia Eagles in Glendale, Ariz. (AP Photo/Kyusung Gong)

knows his identity can't be placed in football and must come from the Lord. "If I didn't have faith in God, I don't think I'd be the father I am, the husband I am, the kicker I am. That kind of sets a tone for everything else...that gives me the strength to

## Sports

knows nothing is guaranteed, and nothing happens outside of God's sovereign will. It's a truth he can rest in.

"My strength comes from God. I know the importance of faith," Hurts said during last week's Super Bowl Opening Night. "I know what my foundation is with my faith, and nothing goes on without God."

go do everything I need to."

Butker added, "I know I'm a child of God."

Chiefs linebacker Nick Bolton also shared in a postgame presser a dream he had a few nights before the Super Bowl — a vision that came to full fruition during the game when he scooped up a fumble and made it 36 yards to score a touchdown.

It was one of the most memorable moments of the night, as Sports Spectrum noted. "I actually had a dream about scooping and

scoring in the Super Bowl two nights ago," Bolton said after the game. "For it to happen is surreal. I just thank God, my family, teammates and coaches, and my community and Chiefs Kingdom. They all played a part in this win for sure."

The Good News TODAY

**COMMUNITY NEWS**



**Joe Biden claims, “Food prices at grocery stores are coming down.”**

In fact, food prices have risen every month of Biden’s presidency and grew by 10.5% in 2022—the worst food inflation in 40+ years.

**CBS News contributor Dr. Celine Gounder claims that a 30% increase in heart attack deaths among young adults in 2020–21 “might” be because they were “less likely” to mask and take “other mitigation measures” against C-19.**

In fact, media outlets grossly exaggerated the risks of C-19 to young people while pushing lockdowns and other ill-informed measures that cause anxiety and heart attacks. Now CBS is blaming youthful laxity to C-19 for their heart attack deaths.

**Elon Musk claims that “wind & solar, combined with batteries, will solve sustainable energy for Earth.”**

In fact, wind, solar & batteries are far more costly than fossil fuels. When governments mandate these nominally “green” products, they drastically raise energy costs, which impoverishes citizens and enriches tyrannical regimes like Russia & China.

**Cal Berkeley professor Robert Reich claims, “One of the biggest reasons the federal debt has exploded is that tax cuts on the rich have reduced government revenue.”**

In fact, the share of the U.S. economy collected in federal taxes has been roughly level for 80+ years. What Reich calls “tax cuts” are often “tax evens” that correct for laws which raise taxes over time. Runaway spending is to blame for the debt, not “tax cuts.”

**CDC Director Rochelle Walensky claims the CDC didn’t conduct any gold standard randomized controlled trials on masking “because there were so many studies that demonstrated time**

**and time again ... that masks were working to prevent transmission.”**

In fact, no credible study proves masks work, but the CDC misused poor-quality studies to push masks and deny their harms. Worse than that, the CDC and WHO recommended masking based on an ignorant assumption that C19 is not spread by aerosols, a falsehood that killed multitudes.

**NJ Governor Phil Murphy (D) claims there is “systemic and insidious racism facing Black Americans.”**

In fact, there is no legitimate evidence of systemic racism in the U.S. However, there are strong correlations between leftism and social ills that afflict a greater portion of blacks than whites. This applies to education, poverty, violence, health & more.

**U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders claims it is wrong “that billionaires get massive tax breaks while teachers in this country have to work a second job just to make ends meet.”**

In fact, non-school jobs account for only 2.7% of public-school teachers’ total salaries, and taxpayers spend an annualized average of \$134,693 on salary & benefits for each public school teacher. Also, billionaires pay much higher tax rates than leftists claim.

**Boston’s SatanCon: A Weekend of Blasphemy and Remembrance?**

With the Satanic Temple’s headquarters located in Salem, MA, it is no surprise that Satanists have decided Boston will be home to their second national conference—dubbed ‘SatanCon 2023’—this coming April.

Advertised as the “largest satanic gathering in history” and “a weekend of blasphemy and remembrance,” SatanCon is planning to feature Satanic rituals, a Satanic marketplace, and even a Satanic wedding chapel (which is particularly ironic given that Satan was the original being to first attack marriage by destroying Adam and Eve’s Edenic harmony with God.) A promotional video also displays the Latin phrase Sicut Matribus, Sit Satanas Nobis, roughly translating to Let Satan be to us as mother.

Temple (TST) isn’t just hosting SatanCon due to its proximity to Salem. Believe it or not,

Mayor Michelle Wu of Boston has attracted the ire of TST in her time as City Councilor, earning her a “dedication” from event leaders as a champion of “religious discrimination.”

TST the opportunity to give a satanic invocation at a Boston City Council meeting, where council members would give an invite-only opportunity to faith leaders for opening prayers. In response, TST sought to subpoena Wu for a deposition intentionally scheduled on Election Day. A federal judge rebuked the organization for its “tactics... to get the attention of the public.” This pattern of “tactics” also seems to be at play with its request to fly a satanic flag after the Supreme Court ruled in a historic victory that it was unconstitutional for Boston to deny the flying of a Christian flag. The satanic flag has not been flown as the flag-raising program in Boston has been suspended.

While TST seems to be distinct from the Church of Satan as one that does not “worship Satan” nor believe in his existence, that doesn’t seem to stop those embracing the name of the Lawless One from being particularly concerned with the law, especially where it intersects with faith.

The Satanic Temple has filed several lawsuits against various cities and states to try to force them to recognize satanic practices or at least to reject Christian ones. For example, TST sued the state of Arkansas for refusing to allow it to put up a large statue of Satan at the state capitol. TST

In 2021, Wu declined to offer



However, it seems that The Satanic

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Rev. Doug (center with red jacket) with members of the Crusaders Ski Team.

**Outreach to the April 28-30 Satanic convention in Boston**

On the dates of April 28th through the 30th 2023 the Boston Satanic Temple is having what they are calling Satancon. They are boasting that this will be the largest Satanic gathering ever.

As soon as I heard that this was going to take place literally in our backyard, I felt the leading of the Lord to immediately contact as many congregations who would join together in an outreach to the people attending this event.

I need to emphasize that this is not a protest but an outreach. We had our 1st planning meeting on Jan 5th with a great showing locally from pastors and their congregants. Many pastors have contacted me since then and want to be involved.

We need as many as will to come and join in this outreach to Boston on the dates of the convention. But

we are not just looking for warm bodies we need people who are called and qualified to preach and witness in a very dark situation. We need prayer warriors who will stay vigilant in prayer. We need Pastors who will help organize and vet their people for spiritual service and many other tasks. We need musicians who understand their calling to lead in praise. We need evangelists, security people and so much more.

We have a tentative agenda that is being cleaned up with the details and it will be posted very soon. So please pray about your role in this outreach for the Lord. Ask your pastor to get involved and let’s win a victory in Satan’s front yard.

Please visit [www.themessianic-congregation.com](http://www.themessianic-congregation.com) to learn more.

Shalom Uvracha b’Yeshua  
Rabbi Henry

argued that because Arkansas had erected a monument of the Ten Commandments, they could not discriminate by rejecting a satanic monument. In another case, TST sued Texas and Missouri for their laws restricting abortion, arguing that satanists in those states have a “religious right” to practice “abortion rituals.” In a letter to the FDA, TST’s lawyer even stated that TST’s “Satanic Abortion Ritual is a sacrament.” As mentioned earlier, closer to home, TST sued the city of Boston for refusing to invite a satanist leader to offer the opening prayer at a Boston City Council meeting. TST has yet to win any of its cases.

The Satanic Temple’s cases, like many of its other schemes, seem to be less about advancing satanism than they are about inhibiting Christianity in the public square. TST might be more accurately described as an anti-Christian

trolling group than as a pro-Satan activist group. But like the Freedom From Religion Foundation and other organizations, TST is hell-bent on eliminating any reference to Christ in public spaces and removing Christian morality from American law. Therefore, whether or not its members truly worship Beelzebub, it’s not a stretch to say that they are doing the devil’s work.

The event has drawn national concern from Christians. Local pastors have responded with the announcement of a revival campaign of worship and prayer over the same weekend, gathering Christians from Boston and beyond to unite against SatanCon.

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## Spirit-Filled Christian Detained in Psych Ward for Testimony

By James Lasher

The freedom to worship and testify about one's faith and the workings of God in their life is central to the founding and uniqueness of America.

So, when an award-winning principal, who shares publicly how the Holy Spirit has filled her heart and she received the gifting of tongues, is summarily detained by law enforcement against her will, it shows something has shifted in the spiritual atmosphere of America.

Mary Fulp is the principal of Colony High School in Palmer, Alaska, and the 2022 Alaska Principal of the Year.



Mary Fulp

Yet, it was not until she shared a Facebook Live video of her radical encounter with God that filled her with the Holy Spirit and she started speaking in tongues, that she was viewed as mentally ill. Her family became concerned with her mental state and confronted her about this revelation that she shared publicly.

After, Fulp said, the conversations became unproductive, she asked her family to leave. They refused and called a state trooper to the house who reported Fulp was of "sound mind and body when she met with me."

"She asked me if I wanted them trespassed and I said, 'If they don't leave, then we can have that conversation, but please ask them to leave,'" Fulp wrote on Facebook. As reported by the Alaska Watchman, "After the children left, Fulp later received a visit from two other troopers who said they had a court order to take her to

them trespassed, and I said, 'Only if they don't leave.' So, they left and came back, and this is what I get.

"I'm getting taken to the hospital for claiming that Jesus is King and claiming that I stand with the Martin Luther King civil rights movement ... So, I would like to see this show up in the news,"

Fulp continued. Fulp's video ends when they arrived at the hospital, with the officer instructing her to stop recording due to the sensitive information held within the hospital.

"I mean, I'm claiming all of the biblical principles, and this is where I go – to the hospital because they think I'm crazy, because the world is such a mess that it takes someone bold to say, 'You got to put things back in their proper order,'" Fulp said. "And so here I am getting a psych eval because I love Jesus."

Except she was subject to more than just an unlawfully given psych test. According to a statement released by the Anchorage-based Thompson Law Group who is representing Fulp, her treatment at the hands of hospital staff was representative of a horror film. "She was strapped to a gurney, held down by several staff and

Mat-Su Regional Medical Center for a mandatory psychological evaluation."

Fulp recorded the entire situation on her phone and streamed it onto Facebook Live. "It's called an ex parte order, which means they got the order without your input," one of the officers explained to Fulp. "So, they got the order without my input, because I just set some very clear boundaries that I wanted them to back off," Fulp explained to the officers. "They didn't honor those boundaries. A trooper came by earlier and asked me if I wanted

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forcibly injected with psychotropic medication without her consent and without a court order authorizing the administration of such medications.

"She spent days in a cold, dark mental health hospital room, during which time staff breached her federally protected HIPAA rights by disclosing their 'opinions' as to her circumstances to individuals who did not possess any authorization to receive her federally protected HIPAA private mental health information. This traumatic experience is a free citizen's worst nightmare, and this broken system has caused her, and her children, inexcusable and immeasurable harm."

All because she is a professing, Spirit-filled Christian. The ease with which a Christian was able to be taken from their home, committed to a mental institution and summarily injected with psychotropic drugs is shocking. Never mind the

fact that it took place within the United States of America.

Christians must wake up to the wave of persecution that is on its way. All signs point to the devil and his forces influencing policies and officials at all levels of government. If they do not, and their faith is not built upon the solid rock of Christ, faith will waver, and a wave of apostasy will wash across the country at a rate much greater than what it already is.

But even in the face of such persecution and censorship, the light of Jesus can still shine and radically change the lives of those who have opposed the gospel message.

After these enduring attacks of the enemy, brave souls like Mary Fulp need the prayers of fellow believers to endure and overcome the spiritual assault they are subjected to, and that in the face of persecution, revival may break out with an outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

## Join Global Ventures in Taking the Gospel to 67 Percent of Humanity Who Has Never Heard of Jesus

By Global Ventures

TULSA, Oklahoma - Each day, 70,000 people die never having heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Since AD 30, 67 percent of all people have never heard the name of Jesus. Today, a third of humanity have no opportunity to hear the Gospel where they live.

Desiring to bring the Gospel to the unreached regions of the earth, Global Ventures Founders John and Martine Smithwick have a lifetime goal to raise up 1,000 front-line evangelists and through their combined efforts reach 1 billion souls for Christ.

During their time in ministry, this venture has taken John and Martine face to face with millions of people ranging from remote village tribal members to shamans saturated in the dark arts of witchcraft and voodoo to a diversity of humanity across many countries and cultures.

In 25 years of ministry, they along with their team members have encountered amazing adventures,

miracles that transformed masses of people, along with a myriad of mission memories that would stir anyone's heart for the world.

If you would like to become one of their evangelists or join the ministry in helping to accomplish this goal, you're invited to attend Global Ventures' 25th anniversary banquet night of celebration and vision casting March 7 at the Renaissance Tulsa Hotel & Convention Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Tickets are limited. For those who live out of state and are willing to travel, special tickets are available while supplies last. Find out more by calling 918-266-5764.

As surprising as it may be, 4 billion people on earth have never heard the Gospel of Jesus and 2 billion have zero access to Bibles, Christian churches, and literature. Most of this group lives in predominantly Muslim, Hindu, and Buddhist areas.

For a quarter of a century, Global Ventures' primary mission field has



been the 10/40 window, an area with the highest concentration of unreached people and poverty and the lowest percentage of Christian missionary activity.

"Our heartbeat is to facilitate a global evangelism movement by raising up an army of front-line harvesters," says Global Ventures Founder John Smithwick. "We exist so that all may know the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Since 1998, Global Ventures has seen 2.4 million decisions for

Christ, handed out 684,000 pieces of gospel literature, documented 26,000 healings, sent 2,600 missionaries, and planted and sponsored 43 churches. All are accomplished by the Holy Spirit through short-term missions' teams, citywide festivals, service projects, church planting, missions training programs, and their media ministry.

"Taking a trip with Global Ventures was the experience of a lifetime," says Rico Gonzales. "Global Ventures is kingdom-focused, providing excellent systems and tools to prepare and equip you. There is nothing like getting the chance to pray with people receiving salvation, healing, and knowing that one day you'll see them again in Heaven."

"On the mission field, you literally get to watch the Bible come alive like a pop-up book," says one of Global Ventures' mission-

aries, Teresa Burnett.

The world's population is accelerating, necessitating a greater strategy from the Holy Spirit to reach them. Global Ventures implemented it in Nepal in 2015. With 117 people and eight target regions, 150,141 Nepalese were reached face-to-face with the gospel, with a TV broadcast blanketing the rest of the country.

"We want to multiply the evangelism campaigns, targeting multiple cities and regions in a shorter window," says Martine Smithwick. "Our expanded vision is to see 1,000 team members go into the field, 500,000 decisions for Christ, and to train over 100 students to reach the world for Jesus every year."

"We are focused on using all the tools at our disposal," declares John Smithwick, "to raise up and mobilize missionaries to go into these countries."

Find out more about Global Ventures at [www.globalventures.tv](http://www.globalventures.tv)

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# Entertainment

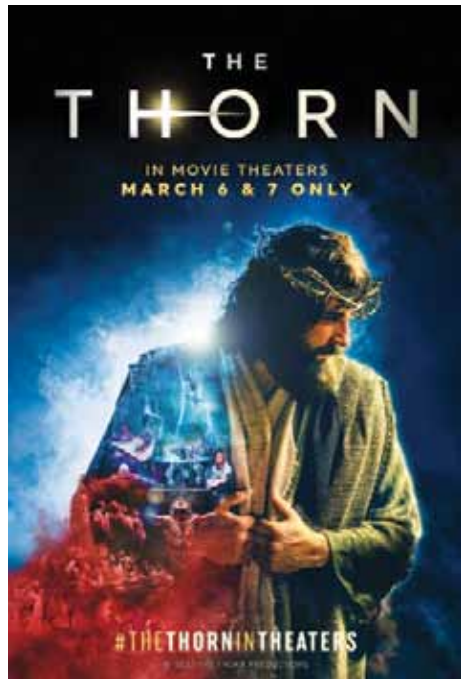
## 'The Thorn' Announces Fathom Events Release

*Cirque Meets the Passion in Theaters This March as Live Action Stage Show Hits the Big Screen*

By Troops & Allies

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. - For 25 years, over 1 million people have experienced "The

through the immersive and creative medium of 'The Thorn,'" said Producer John Bolin. "We're thrilled to partner with Fathom Events to bring this life-changing experience to the big screen."



"Through sound, dance, and visual arts, 'The Thorn' inspires the God-given creativity within each of us while proclaiming the Gospel. This has led to over 150,000 people making a commitment of faith, with countless stories of people experiencing lives changed from family restoration to freedom from addiction," said Bolin.

Tickets are on sale now at Fathom Events or at participating theater box offices. For a complete list of theater locations, visit [www.fathomevents.com](http://www.fathomevents.com) (theaters are subject to change).

Thorn," a live stage experience of movement arts and visual effects portraying Jesus's life, death, and resurrection. Think, cirque meets the Passion. This audience enthusiasm has launched the stage show onto the big screen for a special 2-night Fathom event. Moviegoers nationwide can experience the transformative story for themselves on Monday, March 6, and Tuesday, March 7.

"The Thorn" features a cast of 40 world-class performers who are masters of music, movement arts, and visual effects. And now, masters of film have captured the stage performance, editing down hundreds of hours of 4k footage to allow movie theater audiences to feel as though they're immersed in the live performance.

"For over two decades, it's been our honor to share the Gospel

## Kelsey Grammer Brought to Tears While Talking About the 'Jesus Revolution' on 'Live with Kelly and Ryan'

By Steve Warren

Actor Kelsey Grammer became emotional while talking about his portrayal of Pastor Chuck Smith in a new motion picture titled "Jesus Revolution" during a recent appearance on the syndicated program "Live with Kelly and Ryan."

Grammer's comments came after the show aired a clip from the film. "I love this movie," Grammer said through tears. "I really love it."

He added that his wife Kayte Walsh, loved it too when they both sat down in their home to watch the first cut of the film. "When Kayte saw it she said, 'Oh my God, it's the best thing you've ever done,'" he recalled. "She started crying."

Becoming emotional, Grammer told hosts Kelly Ripa and Ryan Seacrest that his character "is a man looking for his own faith and finds it as well. A man whose church is empty. He can't get traction and he's started to think he's going to be fired from his job as a pastor."

"This hippie comes into his life," he continued. "And he finds new purpose and started a movement that's still going. It's extraordinary." Ripa asked Grammer if the film was a true story. "Yes, it's a true story," he replied.

Grammer then told Ripa and Seacrest that he has been approached by a number of people, who said, "You're playing Chuck Smith! Oh, I listened to him all the time." Or they'd say, "He married us" or "I was baptized by Chuck Smith."

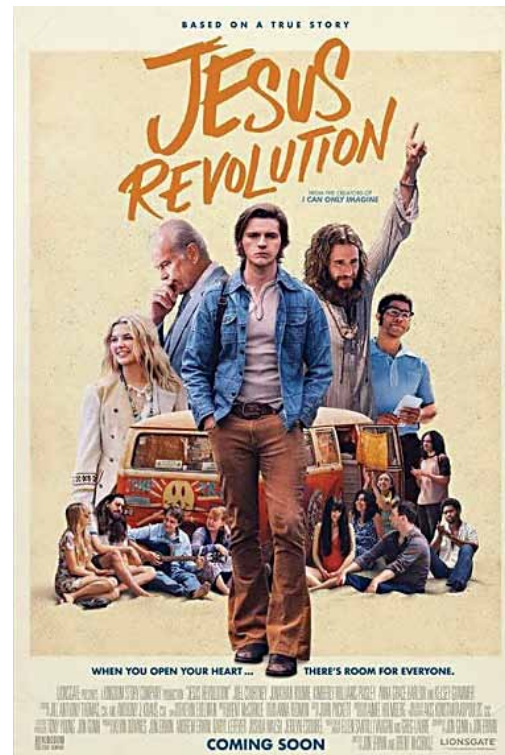
"You can see this light in their eyes," he said before breaking into tears again. Grammer, 67, is a Christian. He's well known for the

dom Story film in collaboration with Lionsgate. Filmmaker Jon Erwin of I Can Only Imagine and American Underdog directed the new film. Other members of the movie's cast include Joel Courtney, Anna Grace Barlow, and Kimberly Williams-Paisley.

The story of Pastor Greg Laurie is also included in the film. Laurie was a teenager at the time of the Jesus People Movement of the 1970s, but he went on to found Harvest Christian Fellowship, in Riverside, California, one of the largest churches in America.

In the film's special feature posted to YouTube, Laurie explained, "The Jesus Movement was an awakening. Not only was it the last great American awakening, I think it may have been the most significant of all."

Courtney, who plays the teenage Laurie in the movie, agrees but thinks another great movement could be just around the corner. "Our country and the world is primed for another revival," he said.



character of Frasier Crane whom he played for 20 years in the television series Frasier and Cheers.

"Jesus Revolution" is a King-

## New Inspirational and Soulful Music Film SOUTHERN GOSPEL in Theaters Nationwide Beginning March 10, 2023

By Good News Today Staff

LEESBURG, Fla. - Kingstone Studios announces the release of NO VACANCY on all major digital platforms, including Prime Video, Apple TV, VUDU and Pure Flix. Starring Dean Cain (GOD'S NOT DEAD, "Lois & Clark: The New Adventures of Superman"), T.C. Stallings (COURAGEOUS, WAR ROOM) and Sean Young (DUNE, BLADE RUNNER), NO VACANCY had a successful theatrical debut nationwide through Fathom Events, landing #10 overall at the domestic box office on its release day. It currently has a 95% audience score on Rotten Tomatoes and 8.1 out of 10 on IMDb.

Based on true events, the film follows news reporter Brandi Michaels who finds the 2007 economic and housing collapse in central Florida an apt metaphor for her turbulent life. If a looming divorce and her mother's Alzheimer's were not enough, her journalistic dreams are devastated when she is demoted from Orlando to a rural outpost. But when her editor sends Brandi to cover a story on a church struggling to purchase a motel for homeless families during the Great Recession, she finds her cynical news persona challenged as she encounters Cecil, a winsome former drug addict, and sees for herself the selfless and epic struggle of the church as it seeks to take care of the homeless

in their community. Her coverage of the story eventually helps the church overcome the opposition to acquire the motel and also plays a role in Brandi's personal redemption as she witnesses first-hand the stories of all those involved. Her article becomes an award-winning piece, serving as a catalytic model to helping homeless families in other communities, and gives her the journalistic impact she had craved all along. Based on the true story of First Baptist Leesburg, Cecil Johnson and the Samaritan Inn.



Opening conversations about homelessness and addiction, this film calls communities to engage in empathetic action. "If the true events portrayed in this movie

were replicated across the nation, the ripple across America would be stunning," said screenwriter and producer Art Ayris. "We attempted to make a good movie but realized very quickly this motion picture also lays out a model, a pattern for community transformation."

The church portrayed in NO VACANCY purchased a motel for homeless families, now called the Samaritan Inn. But beyond their motel for homeless families, the church also built a medical clinic for the indigent, currently staffed by 50 doctors and eight dentists, a 16-bed addiction facility for women and a 30-bed addiction facility for women and men, a pregnancy resource center and a free counseling center. In addition, they operate a large community feeding center that gives away 15 tons of food weekly to the needy in their community. The church provides tours twice monthly to groups who travel to central Florida for vision and ideas for impacting their own communities.

"This is a true IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE movie," added Ayris. "It portrays the immense struggles and subsequent miracles that followed as the community rallied together."

For more information on group licensing and exhibition, or to Purchase NO VACANCY please visit <https://novacancymovie.com>

## NO VACANCY Now Available on Prime Video, Apple TV, VUDU and Pure Flix

*A True Story of One Community's Fight for Social Justice Amidst Economic Collapse*

By Good News Today Staff

NASHVILLE - Iconic Events Releasing and Bridgestone Multimedia Group announce the

Jeffrey A. Smith. "We made a film about love, pain, and redemption and we told it in the most honest way we could. We can't wait to share it with the world."



Samuel Allen, a 1960's rockstar, finds himself in jail after struggling with years of anger and blame

U.S. premiere of their new film, SOUTHERN GOSPEL, coming to theaters nationwide beginning March 10, 2023. Based on a true story, the film follows the life of a rockstar who is given a second chance to overcome his past. Starring Max Ehrich ("The Young and the Restless," "Under the Dome"), Katelyn Nacon ("The Walking Dead," LINOLEUM), J. Alphonse Nicholson ("P-Valley," JUST MERCY, "Self Made: Inspired by the Life of Madam C.J. Walker") and Emma Myers ("Wednesday," GIRL IN THE BASEMENT), SOUTHERN GOSPEL will inspire and encourage audiences across the country to never surrender their dreams.

toward organized religion that has led him down a road of rebellion. In a moment of divine intervention, the judge dismisses drug charges against him under the pretense that Samuel speaks to local schools and churches about the dangers of drugs. Given a second chance, he follows in his father's footsteps to become a preacher, overcoming the influence of a powerful church leader with a personal vendetta against his family.

SOUTHERN GOSPEL is the story of a man overcoming brokenness and never surrendering the dream on his journey to find the gospel... Southern Gospel.

For more information visit [www.southerngospel.film](http://www.southerngospel.film)

"This is a story about what it takes to follow a dream," said director The Good News TODAY

## Huckabee Sanders blisters Biden and his 'woke mob' in epic SOTU rebuttal

By Chris Donaldson

Arkansas Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders was given the opportunity to deliver the Republican rebuttal to President Joe Biden's second State of the Union address and the rising conservative political star didn't disappoint, lowering the boom on the deeply unpopular leader and his leftist mob.

Following Biden's dishonest, nasty address during which the demagogue in chief defended his handling of the economy and outright lied that Republicans were going to do away with Social Security and Medicare, the former Trump press secretary thoroughly dismantled the octogenarian career politician in an epic response that lasted over fourteen minutes.

"Being a mom to three young children taught me not to believe every story I hear. So forgive me for not believing much of anything I heard tonight from President Biden. From out-of-control inflation and violent crime to the dangerous border crisis and threat from China, Biden and the Democrats have failed you," Sanders began. "They know it, and you know it and it's time for a change."

"Tonight, let us reaffirm our commitment to a timeless American idea: that government exists not to rule the people, but to serve the people. Democrats want to rule us with more government control, but that is not who we are," the newly elected Razorback State governor added. "America is the greatest country that the world has ever known..."

After stressing the importance of her Christian faith in her recent battle with thyroid cancer and her mother's fight with spinal cancer, the governor drew a distinction between herself and the geriatric president, emphasizing that they

have little in common because she is for freedom over heavy-handed government as well as the obvious difference that she is more than four decades younger.

"At 40, I'm the youngest governor in the country. At 80, he's the oldest president in American history. I'm the first woman to lead my state. He's the first man to surrender his presidency to a woke mob that can't even tell you what a woman is," Sanders said.

"In the radical left's America, Washington taxes you and lights your hard-earned money on fire, but you get crushed with high gas prices, empty grocery shelves, and our children are taught to hate one another on account of their race, but not to love one another or our great country," she said.

"Whether Joe Biden believes this madness, or is simply too weak to resist it, his administration has been completely hijacked from the radical left," the governor added. "The dividing line in America is no longer between right and left, the choice is between normal or crazy," she added, as she called for a "new generation" of GOP leadership.

Sanders then set the record straight on Biden's real record instead of his dishonest SOTU malarkey and how the media will spin it, a record that has been nothing short of catastrophic for real Americans.

"And while you reap the consequences of their failures, the Biden administration seems more interested in woke fantasies than the hard reality Americans face every day," she said. "Most Americans simply want to live their lives in freedom and peace, but we are under attack in a left-wing culture war we didn't start and never wanted to fight."

She also spoke of the left's relentless cultural assault on America, a blitzkrieg attack that has captured the nation's institutions and corporations while crushing free speech and punishing those who do not bend the knee to "woke" dogma.

"Every day, we are told that we must partake in their rituals, salute their flags, and worship their false idols...all while big government colludes with Big Tech to strip away the most American thing there is — your freedom of speech," she said. "That's not normal. It's crazy, and it's wrong."

Sanders also reminded Americans of the progress that has been made, especially in terms of race and opportunity, an inspiring message that is the direct opposite of Biden's cynical, dark race-baiting while bolstering the spirits of Republicans for the coming battle that will be necessary to roll back the radical left's period of cultural dominance.

"Make no mistake: Republicans will not surrender this fight. We will lead with courage and do what's right, not what's politically correct or convenient," Sanders said.

"Republicans believe in an America where strong families thrive in safe communities. Where jobs are abundant, and paychecks are rising. Where the freedom our veterans shed their blood to defend is the birthright of every man, woman, and child," she added.

"America is great because we are free. But today, our freedom is under attack, and the America we love is in danger. President Biden and the Democrats have failed you. It's time for a change," Sanders said. "A New Generation of Republican leaders is stepping up... not to be caretakers of the status quo, but to be change-makers for the American people."

Biden to Putin: "Don't invade Ukraine."

Putin to Biden: "We have no intention of invading Ukraine."

Biden to the US media: "Putin is about to invade Ukraine!"

Then Biden's top officials proceed to embarrass themselves by warning that the invasion was imminent. Or it's coming next Tuesday, or Wednesday, or surely before the end of the Olympics. Does anyone think they have any credibility left with their constant hysterical warnings?

Meanwhile "US intelligence" continues to leak incendiary information — likely self-serving — to a US media that has lost any interest in skepticism toward any "scoop" handed down by US government officials.

What the US media will not report is that this entire crisis — and the threat of a serious war — has all been brought about by US interference in the internal affairs of Ukraine, specifically the US-backed coup that overthrew

an elected government in 2014. Every bit of unrest in Ukraine proceeded from that single foolish and immoral act by the Obama Administration.

That is why we are non-interventionist. The philosophy of non-interventionism is one very good piece of insurance protecting us from needless war. If you don't meddle in the affairs of foreign countries, there is less chance of being dragged into an unnecessary war.

Ukraine is a great example of why non-interventionism is the only pro-America foreign policy. We are risking nuclear war with Russia over what? Ukraine's borders? Surely most Americans see how idiotic this is.

The Biden Administration is at present shell-shocked that the Russian government did not back down over plans to expand NATO to Ukraine. Russia under-

## Editorials/Letters

Dear Friend,

The Disney Corporation has cultivated an image as a wholesome, uplifting, family-friendly source of entertainment and inspiration for children around the world. That has been true for most of the company's 100 years in existence. Unfortunately, and tragically, in recent years the company has turned woke and given itself over to advancing the LGBT agenda around the world.

Disney is not your friend, nor one for your children. A top Disney programming executive was recently caught admitting that for years she has implemented a "not at all secret gay agenda." According to this insider, this agenda to add "queerness" to children's programming was fully endorsed by the top brass at Disney. "I don't have to be afraid to have two characters kiss...I was just wherever I could just basically adding queerness [to programming]...No one would stop me and no one was trying to stop me."

The embrace of "queerness" was most publicly demonstrated when then-CEO Bob Chapek attacked Florida Governor Ron DeSantis over legislation to prohibit indoctrinating very young children (kindergartners through fourth grade) about "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" — concepts that are utterly foreign to young children.

Disney called on DeSantis and Florida to reverse course, demanding that legislation to prohibit children as young as five years of age from being taught sexually-explicit concepts such as homosexual orientation be reversed. He also announced a \$5 million donation to the nation's top LGBT lobbying group, the misnamed Human Rights Campaign, which lobbies for homosexual marriage, transgender ideology, stripping Americans of religious liberty rights, allowing boys to compete against girls in sports, and the redefinition of biological sex to mean 'gender identity.'

IOF has mobilized opposition to

standably views NATO membership for Ukraine -with its Article 5 guarantees — to be an unacceptable threat considering the ongoing border disputes.

This is not our fight, yet Biden's foreign policy team has decided

Disney by sponsoring our Dump Disney Petition. Tens of thousands of people have signed the petition and pledged to boycott all Disney products — from theme parks to cable and streaming television programming.

Parents and families — not to mention investors — did not react well to Disney's embrace of the homosexual and transgender agenda. The company has lost some \$87 billion in market value since they took their woke campaign public one year ago. Bob Chapek, the CEO who capitulated to wokeness, has been fired. Last week the company announced they were laying off over 7,000 employees.

Now is the time to make sure that mega-corporations like Disney get the message that parents will not tolerate their desires to force radical ideologies onto innocent children. Disney and other big corporations are so used to dealing with woke executives and leftist politicians that they think the more they do to advance radical ideologies, including sexualizing children, the more popular they will become and the more money will inure to their bottom lines.

We've got to make them understand that families — the very people who built Disney into an iconic brand — will not tolerate allowing their children to be "queered," sexualized or manipulated. Please act today to Dump Disney by signing our petition and boycotting their products.

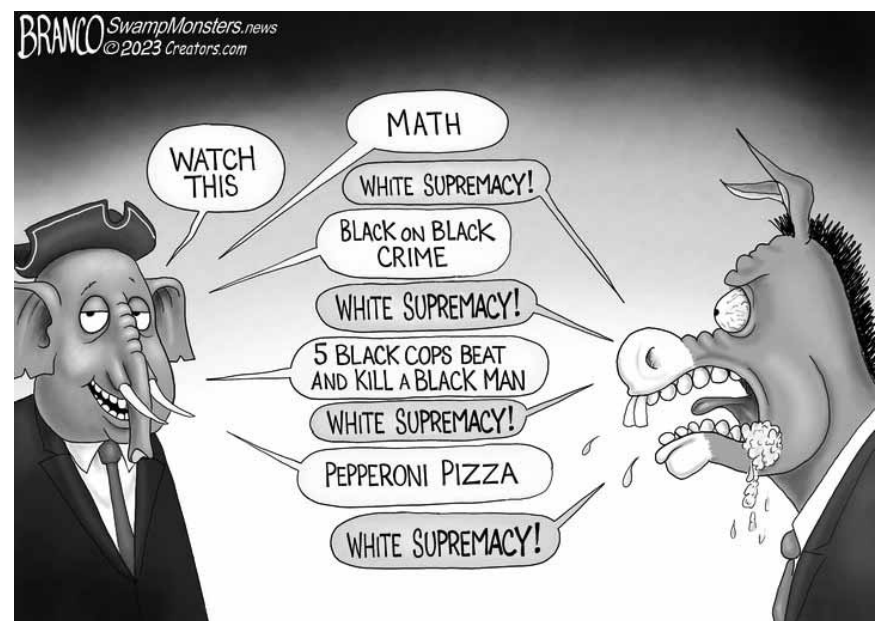
Thank you for supporting this Dump Disney effort. We are making a tremendous difference by being on the front lines battling woke corporations like Disney who target our children with programming and entertainment products intentionally designed to spread "queerness," promote transgenderism and implement a "not at all secret gay agenda."

Thank you,

Brian S. Brown - President International Organization for the Family (IOF)

it's a great time to kick the hornet's nest.

Is it all about Biden's dismal approval ratings? What a sick thing to risk a major war over. We need to stand up and say "enough." Before it's too late.



# Inspiration

## Raised on Lawrence Welk, he turned to heavy metal

By Michael Ashcraft

His dad was The Lawrence Welk Shows classical jazz pianist, his mom a concert pianist, but David Smale (rhymes with mail) wanted to play heavy metal.

“Wouldn’t you just love for your daughter to date the singer of ‘Cranial Abortion’?”, Dave jokes on the Virginia Beach

Potter’s House podcast. They played backyard parties, prompting cops to come and shut it down, until they debuted at a club along with Incubus. With rock ‘n’ roll, came drugs and sex. He progressed from cigarettes at 13, to weed at 14 and LSD at 15.

In the Los Angeles Unified School system, Dave attended middle and high school with Latinos and African Americans who were bused into the San Fernando Valley as part of integration policies.

“We got bullied a lot. We were just these little heavy metal-loving white kids,” he says. “One time this guy said he was going to do a drive-by shooting on us the next day. Because of that, I noticed in my house it was ok for me to express racist things. My dad and my brother would say the N-word and other racial slurs.”

Later he joined a punk rock band “Uneducated,” until his party girl got pregnant and he took up delivering fast food and telemarketing as a high school dropout to put food on the table for his baby and the girl whom he married at 18.

“I remember times stumbling around drunk and high, and all of a sudden, the baby starts crying,” he said, and thought: “I don’t know if I can change his diaper right now. I might put it on his head. It was just awful,” he says. “I was partying and my baby was right there. It was not good.”

Five weeks after his first baby was born by C-section, his wife got pregnant, and the nurse urged her to abort: “You’re going to die,” she said. Leaving the women’s health care center, Dave and his wife felt an eerie sensation. “Did you feel like we just murdered somebody?” she asked. “Yeah, I do,” he responded.

Unable to make ends meet, he eventually decided to join the Navy with hopes of learning a trade. “That was my only way forward,” he says. “I was going nowhere. I was lost in dead-end stuff.”

At 20, Dave looked for a new beginning in the Navy, but the same old addictions and racism didn’t let him get that new start. “I

could wear a uniform, I could stand up taller, I could march in a straight line,” he says. “But I was still fighting addiction.”

Stationed at Point Mugu, California, Dave and his wife got invited to a Baptist church. She was gung-ho, he was blasé. Dave went anyhow, and the sermon

made sense. So, he accepted Jesus into his heart on April 1, 1999 and was born again.

“When I raised my head, everything was different,” he says. “My entire perspective changed in a moment. There was no going back. The cursing went away immediately, the addictions were all gone, the racism was gone. I didn’t hate all the guys in the Navy from different races and ethnicities. I loved these guys who didn’t look like me, but I saw them as God saw me. It blew my mind.”

His wife was pregnant with twins when he got deployed for six months. He kept pursuing Jesus the whole time, but when he came home, he realized his wife had given up on God and church. “The laundry was piled to the ceiling. Checks had bounced,” he says. “There was no food in the house.”

He coaxed her to return to church with him, but she persisted in the party life. For months, he tried to win her over, but she left him when he got orders to Virginia Beach.



Pastor David Smale with his family

Stung by the abandonment, Dave decided to backslide. He went straight to the oceanfront and ogled every girl in a bikini. “At that point, I was so mad, so bitter, so upset, I completely decided to backslide,” he acknowledges. “I was on the warpath to find me a girl and do something that I would have totally regretted.”

But every time he leered with lust, the Holy Spirit smote him with conviction. “Deep down I knew every time I looked at a woman, I felt cut to the heart. Oh man, I shouldn’t be looking.”

After an hour, he abandoned the beach and decided to go to church. Returning to his car, he was con-

## Flashlight Tag *MINISTRY TIP*

By Rev. Doug Forbes

Flashlight Tag is a terrific activity for an evening youth group program. All you need for this activity are Bibles, Bible concordances and flashlights! Begin your activity with a Bible study. Ask you students to use their Bibles and concordances to discover Bible passages regarding light. Allow time for each young person to share his or her findings.

Read John 8:12, which says: “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” Explain how the world is often filled with darkness, sin and ignorance. We can begin to change our world by making a personal commitment to Jesus by asking Him to forgive our sins, come into our hearts and make

us members of His family. Then we can reflect His light by spreading His light, love, joy and happiness throughout our world.

Ask your class what they can do to make their world a better place. They may suggest ideas such

as offering a word of encouragement, raking leaves, shoveling snow, contributing to the food pantry or visiting folks in the nursing home or hospital. Pick one or more of these suggestions and plan to carry them out as a future class project.

Now you are ready for Flashlight Tag! Ask all your students to bring



instruct the seeking team to use their flashlights to find and tag members of the other team. The tagged players go to a waiting area until all the team

members are discovered. When all the members of the first team are found (or a certain period of time has passed) the second team hides and the first team searches for them.

Close your meeting with refreshments and remind your young people of the good deed activity they have chosen for a group project.

## Who’s leading who?

By Ralph Davis

Every time I walk the dog I hold the leash tightly. By doing so I keep him safe from being struck by a car or other hazards. When we are in open areas, I allow more leash, yet I am quick to pull back as needed. When he pulls hard on the leash I pull back because I am the one in control. Our walk is best when he heels because he is walking calmly by my side.

Sometimes when I walk the dog, I think of the similarities between walking him and God’s desire to let Him lead us.

God allows us plenty of leash to make our own decisions, and to run our lives our way. He would prefer, however, that we “heel” and walk calmly beside Him, trusting Him in all things.

fronted by a man passing out flyers for the Virginia Beach Potter’s House. “I said that to myself, and boom, there it was,” he says.

Immediately he immersed himself in the church, along with their outreaches and street-preaching — a radical style that resonated with Dave. “If the gospel is the most important thing, why shouldn’t we be evangelizing?” he reasoned.

For five years, he didn’t miss an activity. He called, wrote, and appealed to his wife to reconcile. “I tried everything to avoid divorce,” Dave says. “I would hear these testimonies of ‘God restored my marriage,’ and I would think, ‘I can’t wait to be one of those people that God restored my marriage.’”

But she pointedly refused time after time. “I don’t want any part of that,” she told him bluntly. After five years, his wife asked for a divorce — and he consented — but with a feeling of grief. “It was a terrible experience that I wouldn’t have wished it on Osama Ben Ladin,” Dave says. “It was really painful.”

In 2008, he remarried a lady named Katelyn, who had been attending the church faithfully and shares his passion for outreach. He returned to his piano-playing skills to form an outreach band. Dave has just become an ordained pastor and will be launching a church in Kempsville, a borough of Virginia Beach.

Some of us listen to sermons and read the writings of Christian men. We are taught to surrender ourselves to His will and to allow



Him to take the reins. Keeping our minds fixed on Him and leaning not on our own understanding will cause us to experience perfect, indescribable peace.

As long as we resist submitting to Him, we will be like a dog, stub-

bornly straining to go our own way. We will face obstacles and trials with anguish and anxiety trying to set situations and our lives straight on our own. We ignore His invitation for us to walk with Him and to trust Him in all things.

Dogs have no choice but to submit. Their strong wills are subdued by man because he holds the leash. We have a choice though. We can ignore God trying to pull us back to Him by asserting *our* will and suffering the consequences of unrest and uncertainty, or we can choose to meekly pass the leash to Him and bask in His protection and His love.

We can then walk peacefully throughout our days knowing that we are permitting ourselves to being led down the right path.

Jesus, please forgive my sin. I know I’ve often made mistakes and let you down. I regret it. I know that you died for me and that you have a plan for my life. Please teach me your ways and help me to live my life for you, free from the fears of this world and the next. I want to be ready for eternity with you. Amen

God Bless you! If you have prayed this prayer, the Bible says, “Therefore if any man [be] in Christ, [he is] a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” (2 Cor. 5:17)

If you’ve prayed this prayer for the first time or are renewing your commitment to the Lord, please let us know so that we can pray for you as you start your new life with Jesus.

### The Good News

TODAY  
(401) 619-0418

Reason for writing:

- I have just prayed to receive Christ
- I have renewed my commitment to the Lord
- I am in need of a church
- Send Bible or literature
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Good News Outreach  
PO Box 161 • Little Compton, RI 02837

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_



JOKES MARCH 2023

Moving day

The orthopedic surgeon I work for was moving to a new office, and his staff was helping transport many of the items. I sat the display skeleton in the front of my car, his bony arm across the back of my seat. I hadn't considered the drive across town. At one traffic light, the stares of the people in the car beside me became obvious, and I looked across and explained, "I'm delivering him to my doctor's office." The other driver leaned out of his window. "I hate to tell you, lady," he said, "but I think it's too late!"

Where's the proof?

A man went to his Accountant and told him, "My neighbor owes me \$500 and he won't pay up. What should I do?" "Do you have any proof he owes you the money?" asked the Accountant. "Nope," replied the man. "OK, then write him a letter asking him for the \$5,000 he owed you," said the Accountant. "But it's only \$500," replied the man. "Precisely. That's what he will reply and then you'll have your proof!"

The corrupt Judge

Taking his seat in his chambers, the judge faced the opposing lawyers. "So," he said, "I have been presented, by both of you, with a bribe." Both lawyers squirmed uncomfortably. "You, Mr. Leon, gave me \$15,000. And you, Mr. Campos, gave me \$10,000." The judge reached into his pocket and pulled out a check. He handed it to Mr. Leon. "Now then, I'm returning \$5,000, and we're going to decide this case solely on its merits."

The wise Indian

An old wild west fort was about to be attacked. The wily old general sent for his trusty Sioux scout. "You must use all your thirty years of skill in trying to estimate the sort of army we are up against here." The trusty scout laid down and put his ear to the ground. "Large war party," he said, "maybe three hundred braves, four chiefs, two on black stallions, two on white stallions. All have war paint, Many, many guns. Medicine man also with them." "Good grief!" exclaimed the general, "you can tell all of that just by listening to the ground?" "No," replied the

Solution to Crossword (upside down - more challenging)

Grid of letters for the crossword solution, upside down.

Indian, "I can see under the gate."

Bulletin: New Dog Breeds

The following new breeds are now recognized by the AKC: Collie + Lhasa Apso = Collapso: A dog that folds up for easy transport ~ Spitz + Chow Chow = Spitz-Chow: A dog that throws up a lot ~ Pointer + Setter = Poinsetter: A traditional Christmas pet ~ Great Pyrenees + Dachshund = Pyradachs: A puzzling breed ~ Pekingnese + Lhasa Apso = Peekasso: An abstract dog ~ Irish Water Spaniel + English Springer Spaniel = Irish Springer: A dog fresh and clean as a whistle ~ Labrador Retriever + Curly Coated Retriever = Lab Coat Retriever: The choice of research scientists ~ Terrier + Bulldog = Terribull: A dog that makes awful mistakes ~ Bloodhound + Labrador = Blabador: A dog that barks incessantly ~ Malamute + Pointer = Moot Point: Owned by...oh, well, it doesn't matter anyway ~ Deerhound + Terrier = Derriere: A dog that's true to the end

A Noun

"An abstract noun," the teacher said, "is something you can think of, but you can't touch it. Can you give me an example of one?" "Sure," a teenage boy replied. "My father's new car."

Outsmarted

Every time the man next door headed toward Robinson's house, Robinson knew he was coming to borrow something. "He won't get

Yesterday I fixed up my hair and makeup and saw no one. Today I looked like Jack Nicholson in the Shining and saw all the people I know. All of them. ~ For those who watch my life and gossip about it, don't give up! Season 2 is coming. ~ Common sense is not a gift. It's a punishment because you have to deal with everyone who doesn't have it. ~ Being a functioning adult, every day seems a bit excessive. ~ A kiss is a pleasant reminder that two heads are better than one. ~ If you melt dry ice, can you swim in it and not get wet? ~ Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach a person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks, months, maybe years. ~ Losing weight doesn't seem to be working for me, so from now I'm going to concentrate on getting taller. ~ My train of thought sometimes leaves the station without me. ~ Sleeping comes so naturally to me, I could do it with my eyes closed.

Sixth Grader Swears His Science Homework Was Blown Up By A Sidewinder Missile

By BabylonBee.com

BRANSON, MO — A young local student was forced to defend his integrity after his science project — a homemade weather balloon designed to collect atmospheric data — was destroyed by a Sidewinder missile fired from a strafing F-22 fighter jet.

"It wasn't my fault, I swear!" said Jared Gingles when questioned about his story. "I built the balloon, I tested it to make sure it worked, and when I was doing the final steps of the assignment, my homework was blown out of the sky by military aircraft."

Though Jared had never been a problem student, his teacher found his outlandish excuse difficult to believe. "I've been a schoolteacher for over 30 years," said Carla Riley. "I've heard just about every excuse there is, but this one about the United States Air Force shooting down a sixth-grade science project really takes the cake."

Despite skepticism from the school's faculty, Jared was adamant that he was telling the truth. "Why would I possibly make up something like that?!" he asked incredulously. "If I was going to make up an excuse for not doing my homework, I would at least make it sound more believable than that!"

At publishing time, Jared had been granted another chance to complete his homework project, though the new assignment — doing a report on a fully functioning food processing plant — was proving somewhat difficult.

Thoughts for the Day

Learning is not compulsory. Neither is survival. ~ Whoever said "Out of sight, out of mind" never had a spider disappear in the bedroom. ~ The duck goes into the drugstore to buy some Chapstick, and the cashier asks how he's going to pay for it. The duck says, "Put it on my bill." ~ "Just cleared out some space in the freezer" sounds so much more productive than "I just polished off another pint of ice cream." ~

Soul Food

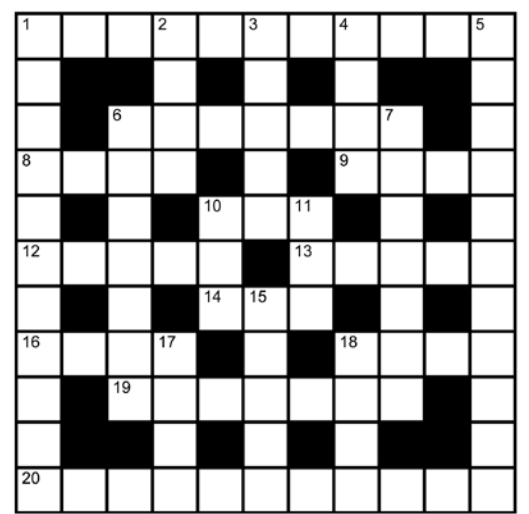
QUICK BIBLE CROSSWORD XXV

Across

- 1 Sinning (11)
6 Triumphant entry cry (7)
8 Sounded, as a trumpet (4)
9 "\_\_\_ saith the Lord of hosts" (4)
10 Ask with earnestness (3)
12 Seller of purple (5)
13 Commander in Jehoshaphat's army (5)
14 Fourth word of Genesis (3)
16 Dwelling (4)
18 Light-giver (4)
19 Mountain (7)
20 The wind that shipwrecked Paul (11)

Down

- 1 Suffering (11)
2 Moses said this of his speech (4)
3 Selfless love (5)
4 Told to go (4)
5 Winged insect (11)
6 Driving together (7)
7 A wife of David (7)
10 What Judas kept money in (3)
11 Jacob's seventh son (3)
15 Type of oil used in anointing (5)
17 Scripture (4)
18 False testimony (4)



by Philologus © BiblePuzzles.com

'Our Tests Show The Water In East Palestine Is Safe For Drinking,' Says Official With Gills And Glowing Yellow Eyes

By BabylonBee.com

EAST PALESTINE, OH — Amid growing concerns about the risks residents could be facing due to pollution of the air, soil, and water after the catastrophic February 3rd train derailment and subsequent toxic chemical release, officials were quick to assure the public that test results indicate the water in the area is fine to drink, despite these same officials developing alarming physical abnormalities overnight.

"Our tests show the water in East Palestine is safe for drinking," said scientist and lead researcher Dr. Michael Fuller. The media assembled for Dr. Fuller's statement seemed distracted by the fact that he seemed to be breathing through gills in his neck and his eyes had a luminescent yellow glow. "Our team conducted extensive research on the town's water supply," Fuller continued. "We even felt confident enough to drink some of the water ourselves."

People on the scene had noticed a

strange pattern of members of the research team showing concerning signs. "It's not just the guy with the gills and the glowing eyes,"



said bystander Jordan Vaughn. "There's a lady somewhere around here who showed up with a third arm this morning. Another guy is covered in green scales. One of the scientists testing the water grew a tail! C'mon...a tail!"

At publishing time, the officials seemed to be just as relaxed about their new appendages as they are about the safety of the drinking water. "There really is nothing to be worried about," Dr. Fuller said. "The water is totally fine. I used some to water the potted plant in my office yesterday, and I'm sure it started to melt and burst into flames for a totally unrelated reason. Really. It's fine."

Rookie Trans Woman Picks The One Sport Where Biological Women Actually Have An Advantage

By BabylonBee

FINLAND — Despite making history as the first trans figure skater, 57-year-old trans woman Minna-Maaria Antikainen clumsily fell and needed assistance rising from the ice amid swelling orchestral music and spotlights last week. Analysts say Antikainen's strategy was "ill-advised" because it involved a biological male picking the one sport where biological women have a natural advantage.

I always recommend my clients start with the discus or the shotput. Biological women are really bad at throwing stuff."

"Aw man--classic rookie mistake!" said local gender surgeon Cletus McCrosby to reporters. "Everyone knows that if a biological man wants to dominate in a woman's sport, the last sport you want to choose is one that requires natural feminine grace and beauty.

At this point, it is unclear why Antikainen chose figure skating instead of a more sensible sport like weightlifting, MMA, or maybe that one game where people put flour on their faces and take turns slapping each other as hard as they can.

At publishing time, Antikainen was nominated for the newly-created "Nobel Prize In Falling With Style, Grace, and Symbolism Of Our Common Human Struggle To Rise Up Against Biological Oppression."

## Partners in Christ - Sharing the Good News Directory of Churches & Ministries

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**Abundant Life Assembly of God**  
135 New Meadow Rd.  
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Office **508-379-0780**  
Pastor Robert Lavalee III  
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English Services Sundays 9:00 AM Praise and Worship Service Wednesdays 7:00 PM Prayer and Bible Study Fridays 7:00 PM Youth Service	Serviços em Português Domingos às 11:00 AM Louvor e Adoração Terças-feiras às 7:00 PM Reunião de Oração Quintas-feiras às 7:00 PM Estudos Bíblicos
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[pastorraymond@ftcri.org](mailto:pastorraymond@ftcri.org)

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(508) 799-9101  
Pastor Kenny Vance • 508-864-9928  
Email: [christbaptistchurchworcester@gmail.com](mailto:christbaptistchurchworcester@gmail.com)

**Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International**  
Recurring Zoom Meeting ID: 814 7797 9921 Passcode: FGBMFI  
**12:00-1:00pm • 2nd Wednesday of the month:**  
**Davenport's Restaurant**  
(intersection of route 44/route 114 in East Providence RI)  
1925 Pawtucket Ave, East Providence, RI 02914  
Pat Dochety • 401-339-5517

**CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CENTER A/G**  
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508-971-1991 (Cell)  
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(2nd and 4th Sundays of the month following the fellowship dinner)  
6:00 PM - Evening Worship (1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays of the month)

**~ Clayville Assembly ~**  
7 Plainfield Pike - Foster, Rhode Island  
[www.clayvilleassembly.com](http://www.clayvilleassembly.com)

**Harmony Christian Church**  
288 Quaker Hwy, North Smithfield, RI 02896  
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Fridays 7:30 PM 1st & 3rd of Month Praise & Worship

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60 North Main Street • Woonsocket, RI 02895  
401-765-1777 • Pastor Gene Giguere  
[www.harvestcommunity.net](http://www.harvestcommunity.net)

### Highlights / Upcoming Events

**March 3 • 7:30pm ~ "Damascus Road Coffeehouse"** First Friday of every month, live Christian music, refreshments served. Friendly, encouraging place to relax after along week. Dartmouth Church, 52 Morton Ave, Dartmouth, MA. [www.damascusroadcoffeehouse.com](http://www.damascusroadcoffeehouse.com), 774-451-3286

**March 4 • 7pm ~ First Saturday of every month.** Live Christian Music. All are welcome – Free Food! A love offering for our artists only. CCC Church 481 Broad Street, Cumberland, RI 02864. Parking around the back.  
**March 4 ~ Lisa Boisclair**  
**April 1 ~ Rich O'Reilly and Sam Bowen**  
**May 6 ~ The Mark McGrail Band**

**March 7 • Rhode Island School of the Bible, Spring 2023 Semester** Classes are \$80 each, begin March 7 thru May 2, and will be held via ZOOM online. Classes as follows. New Testament Greek by Pastor Robert Ventura 6-7:30pm. The Four Gospels and the Book of Acts by Pastor John Reuther Tuesday 7:36-9pm. \*Classes will be recorded and available online for one week after each class. Register online at <http://www.RISBIBLE.ORG> or call 401-314-0672 for more information.

**March 12 • 2am. ~ Daylight Light Savings begins.** Spring ahead and turn your clocks forward.

**March 12 • 7-10pm. ~ Colton Dixon: Build a Boat Tour,** in concert at Waters Church, N. Attleboro. Purchase tickets [www.FuseConcerts.org/colton](http://www.FuseConcerts.org/colton). Waters Church 57 John L Dietsch Square. North Attleboro, Ma.

**April 1 • 1:00 -3:00 pm ~ In His Image Outreach** Ministries invites you to their Children's Theatrical Easter Production, "I've Been Redeemed" featuring the Caraway Street Puppets. Free. Rocky Hill Grange, 1340 South County Trail. East Greenwich. RI. 401-533-0790, Email: [faith22203@hotmail.com](mailto:faith22203@hotmail.com)

**April 28-30 • Please join Rabbi Henry for upcoming outreach to the Satanic convention in Boston.** We need people who are called and qualified to preach and witness in a very dark situation. (This will NOT be a protest, but an outreach) Please pray about your role in this outreach for the Lord. Visit [www.themessianic-congregation.com](http://www.themessianic-congregation.com) to learn more.

**April 28-30 Revive Boston – In response to the SatanCon, Dr. Jaymz & Pascale Sideras will hold revival meetings at 7 PM** each night and evangelism on Saturday at the Revere Hotel Boston Common, 200 Stuart St, Boston, MA.

**May 2 and 4 – Grace Baptist Christian Academy's production of the Roald Dahl favorite, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** at 7 p.m., at the Marilyn Rodman Performing Arts Center/Orpheum Theater Foxborough. Learn more at [GraceBaptistChristianAcademy.org](http://GraceBaptistChristianAcademy.org).

### 1 Wednesday

**9am ~ Restoration Soup Kitchen. Come join us every Wednesday and dine with us.** Light breakfast and coffee are served and lunch. Living Hope Assembly of God, 100 Broadway, Pawtucket, 401-723-2039 [www.livinghoperi.com](http://www.livinghoperi.com)

**9am ~ Healing service for Community, Every Wednesday.** Prayers, readings from the Bible, a brief teaching, Holy Communion, and the laying on of hands and prayers for individuals needing healing of body, soul, or spirit. St. Thomas' Episcopal Church RT 44, Greenville at the corner of Smith St. (Across the street from the Greenville Fire Department.)

**6-8pm ~ Wednesday Night Prayer & Bible Study. Join us every Wed** night for a time of focused prayer for God's will, direction, favor and provision. Following with a study of the word. New Dimension Apostolic Center. 100 Niantic Ave. Providence RI. Contact info: [info@ndacne.org](mailto:info@ndacne.org)

**6:30-8pm ~ Family Night. Midweek service. Every Wednesday,** Worship, Bible study & For the kids...Royal Rangers & girls ministries. Trinity Assembly of God 2119 Hartford Ave, Johnston RI. 401-934-0202

**6:30pm ~ Awana Club every Wednesday evening.** Central Congregational Church 2 Webster St. Middleboro, Ma. For more information on this exciting program please call Kathryn Pittsley at 508-947-1256, or Rev. Doug Forbes at 508-923- 9724

**7-9pm ~ Celebrate Recovery Group. Word of Life - 12 Step Group. Every Wed.** All are welcome. All addictions are addressed. Word of Life. 1308 Phenix Ave. Cranston RI. For more info: 401-944-1163.

**7:30pm ~ Come join us every Wednesday for a bible study** for all with Pastor Charles Cabral. Living Hope Assembly of God, 100 Broadway, Pawtucket, RI. 401-723-2039 [www.livinghoperi.com](http://www.livinghoperi.com)

**7:30pm ~ Junior Bible Quiz (JBQ) Come join us every Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> - 6th grade.** Come learn bible facts and compete. @ Living Hope Assembly of God, 100 Broadway, Pawtucket, RI. 02860 401-723-2039 [www.livinghoperi.com](http://www.livinghoperi.com)

**7-9pm ~ Bible Study/Prayer: Meeting every Thursday** at Abundant Blessing Church 825 Mineral Spring Ave, Providence, RI.

### 2 Thursday

**5:30pm ~ Celebrate Recovery: Every Thursday.** Discover how God's love, truth, grace, and forgiveness can bring healing into your life. Whether you're struggling with your hurts, habits, and hang-ups or looking to celebrate overcoming them, all are welcome. Lighthouse Christian Church. 322 Eddie Dowling Hwy. North Smithfield, RI 401-729-1603

**6:30pm ~ Family Night:** Activities for adults, teens, and children. Every Thursday Adult studies, youth activities, junior youth for grades 6 to 8, and Awana clubs for children ages 3 to grade 5. Abundant Life Assembly of God, 135 New Meadow Rd. Swansea Ma. Phone # 508-379-0780. [abundantlifefwansea.com](http://abundantlifefwansea.com)

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### 4 Saturday

**11am ~ Island Christian Fellowship: Every Saturday (Sabbath)** 121 Linden Road, Portsmouth RI.

**7pm ~ "The Gathering Place" Lisa Boisclair live Christian music. Family Friendly, monthly event. First Saturday ever month.** Cumberland Community Christian Church 481 Broad St, Cumberland, RI. 401- 728-0307

### 8 Wednesday

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# CALENDAR

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**7-9pm ~ Bible Study/Prayer: Meeting every Thursday** at Abundant Blessing Church 825 Mineral Spring Ave, Providence, RI.

## 9 Thursday

**12-1p.m. ~ Full Gospel Businessmen's Luncheon. Full gospel/ fellowship. (2nd Wed of month)** Davenport's Restaurant as follows: Davenport's Restaurant intersection of (route 44/route 114 in East Providence R.I.)1925 Pawtucket Ave. East Providence, R.I. 02914. To Zoom this meeting the information is as follows: number **870 8303 868** Passcode: FGBMFI

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## 11 Saturday

**8am ~ Men's Breakfast. This event is free and takes place the second Saturday morning.** Faith Bible Chapel 115 Ashaway Rd (Rt 3) Westerly RI. For more Info: 401-348-9637

**10-11 am ~ Hand of Hope Food Pantry. 2nd & 4th Saturday of each month.** Please bring proof of income, proof of address, household members, and ID, @Living Hope Assembly of God, 100 Broadway, Pawtucket, RI 02860 401-723-2039 www.livinghoperi.com

## 13 Monday

**5-7pm ~ Lighthouse Community Food Pantry: Every Monday** 30 Meeting St, Cumberland, RI 401-729-1603

**6-8pm ~ 13-Step Program Every Monday.** This program focuses on breaking away from things that have a person bound, addicted, or just plain stuck in its grasps, e.g., alcohol, smoking, drugs, etc. This program encompasses love, honesty, confidentiality and self-realization. All are welcome. Praise Tabernacle 330 Park Ave. Cranston, RI. Contact Rhode Island Dream Center. ridreamcenter@gmail.com or 401-396-2743

## 15 Wednesday

**9am ~ Restoration Soup Kitchen. Come**

**join us every Wednesday and dine with us.** Light breakfast and coffee are served and lunch. Living Hope Assembly of God, 100 Broadway, Pawtucket, 401-723-2039 www.livinghoperi.com

**9am ~ Healing service for Community, Every Wednesday.** Prayers, readings from the Bible, a brief teaching, Holy Communion, and the laying on of hands and prayers for individuals needing healing of body, soul, or spirit. St. Thomas' Episcopal Church RT 44, Greenville at the corner of Smith St. (Across the street from the Greenville Fire Department.)

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## 22 Wednesday

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## 25 Saturday

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Mark 1:15, John 3:16-18, Acts 16:31, Romans 10:9-11

## James O’Keefe confirms departure from Project Veritas

By Nick Givas

James O’Keefe, the undercover journalist and founder of Project Veritas, posted a video to the website Vimeo on Monday, announcing he would be leaving PV amid a dispute with the nonprofit’s board of directors.

One America News (OAN) reporter and Veritas-linked journalist Neil McCabe tweeted out the announcement late Monday morning.

Exclusive: @JamesOKeefeIII, my friend and former boss at @Project\_Veritas just read his resignation letter to his former team and board members at their Mamaroneck, N.Y. headquarters,” McCabe wrote. “James will make his own way—as he always has before.”

Known for his various sting operations and undercover stories investigating lawmakers, government agencies, private corporations and celebrities, O’Keefe sought to hold true to the organization’s motto: “Be Brave And Do Something.”

The group’s leader was placed on paid leave earlier this month seemingly related to a dispute over the removal of two board members. In O’Keefe’s

quest to remove them, the board reversed his decision and issued a memo with more general complaints about the working conditions and management attitude at PV.

Despite the board attempting to tamp down rumors of O’Keefe’s imminent departure, he posted a video to the website Vimeo, detailing how he was stripped of his authority.

“Journalism is reporting things powerful people want kept hidden for the wrong reasons,” he said during the 45-minute video. “Moral wrongs. Bad behaviors. As journalists we’re the custodians of the public’s conscience. And as we’ve gone deeper and deeper, exposing and illuminated corruption ... the line separating good and evil becomes more clear — not just in the institutions we investigate, but within one another. Throughout my 13 years doing this, our mission has evolved from simply being about exposing the truth with some hidden cameras to something more transcendental: giving people hope. That’s what we do.

“... I have felt a lot of despair and seen a lot of evil and felt overcome with various emotions over the last few weeks. You could say I’ve seen glimpses

of heaven and hell — of darkness and light. What I take away from these is the gratitude I have ... What makes us great is we do this work because



we actually believe in this ... we don’t sell out.”

O’Keefe began to become emotional on camera and said he had his power taken from him and was, in effect, forced out. He then followed up with a story about his father and why he does what he does.

“I do love many of you,” O’Keefe said. “I never said it, those words, but I’ll say it now. I still believe we have a long and bright future together somehow, some way ... When I left the office on Feb. 6 after being stripped of all my authority, I saw my father and gave him a hug. Realizing just how honest and real the man he is. Both my

parents are as genuine and down-to-earth as a son can ever have.”

He then spoke about his experiences being raided by the FBI and how he felt persecuted by the government.

“There were federal agents showing up at my parent’s house,” he related. “There were no donors, no supporters, and I was not trending on Twitter. My father went through this hell with me and stood up to those bullies on the front lawn and told them to stop harassing my family. And at that point that’s all I had, was him. I was otherwise completely alone. I will never forget that. Now the good news, we’re no longer alone. We have millions of Americans who also know who I am.

“The mission will perhaps take on a new name, and it may be no longer called Veritas or Project Veritas. I’ll need a bunch of people around me, and I’ll make sure you know how to find me.”

O’Keefe did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

“He just resigns and walks out the door to start a new life,” said McCabe. “Now we’ll see: does the organization he created survive?”

### Asbury from Page 4

found their identity in Christ, but they had no concept of Christian praxis, or how to apply the teachings of the Bible into daily life.

For most, this praxis became a routine of Bible studies, worship gatherings, conferences, and outreach. And that was admirable. But then something happened. We all left college. A few of my friends managed to snag jobs in campus ministry themselves. I tried this same route for a short time as well. What was a Christian on fire for the Gospel supposed to do in the big bad world? Weren’t we supposed to eschew all material possessions and live like David-Platt radicals on the road??

In my own life, I soon faced the reality that life is not like college. There were bills to be paid. I had a marriage to maintain. Kids were soon on the way. For a time, I felt less than, as if I had given into worldly things.

In the meantime, I saw many of my college friends began to slip away from the faith. The world was choking them out. They moved in with girlfriends and boyfriends, stopped going to church, went full woke, and began pursuing whatever thing gave them that emotional high they once chased in campus ministry. I even know of one who was arrested for an utterly heinous crime the likes of which you’d never think possible for a guy who sat down and read Scripture with you.

I heard this trend put best by a woman who once tweeted about how she lost her faith. She grew up feeling like she was deeply in love with Jesus, but then she attended a Taylor Swift concert with the same emotional vibe and she realized she just liked the high she got from attending concerts.

People like this were once sold out for Jesus, but they had never been prepared to apply their faith in real life—the realities of working for food and housing, of love, commitment, and parenthood, or the slow, sometimes seemingly boring task of following Christ.

Consider the sower who went out to sow. As he sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seed fell on rocky ground where it didn’t have much soil, and it grew up quickly since the soil wasn’t deep. But when the sun came up, it was scorched, and since it had no root, it withered away. Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns came up and choked it. Matthew 13:1–23

The Christian faith is about endurance. Our

faith is not one of perpetual emotional roller-coasters like some romance thriller. Consider the seed in the Parable of the Sower. Healthy and deep roots are the most important part of the plant. They hold the plant steady and create the very basis for nourishment that will allow growth. Without them, the plant quickly dies.

But if the plant is placed among thorns AND has no soil to grow roots (like Christian college kids with no foundation who are turned out into the secular workforce)—the situation is doubly desperate.

Consider how the foundation of a house is built. Builders can spend months getting it right — all you may see for weeks is a hole in the ground, and then when the walls start going up, it goes up rather quickly. Many people, whether in faith or in other areas of life, are in too fast a rush to stop doing that boring, dirty earthwork that isn’t seen or appreciated and doesn’t yet bear fruit.

Let me give you another illustration from the family. Anyone married longer than five minutes will tell you that constant drama (especially for the sake of drama) in a marriage will ultimately destroy it. In the same way, if you constantly yank your kids from one adventure to another, the lack of stability will hurt them. Children do best with routine (sometimes to the annoying point of requesting an exact sequence of events at bedtime that you have to get right OR ELSE).

Yet we treat our obedience to, discipline from, and discipleship in the Creator of the universe as if it is this simple lovestruck high filled with divine energy. Do you not see that we often look more like our Heavenly Father when we faithfully do our work, tithe, parent, repair our homes, and pay our bills?

But taking your kid to the doctor for the glory of God doesn’t sound NEARLY as appealing as multi-day worship experiences, even though these mundane acts of obedience are where most of our discipline and faithfulness to God are displayed.

“We encourage you, brothers and sisters, to do this even more, to seek to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you, so that you may behave properly in the presence of outsiders and not be dependent on anyone.” - 1 Thessalonians 4:10-12

That’s what concerns me about Asbury.

Back to Samuel Sey’s coverage of what’s happening:

I’ve talked to current students, recent graduates, and several people who’ve visited the chapel to experience the “revival”, and there’s unquestionably several reasons why we should be concerned.

Though one student says the gospel has been consistently and explicitly preached since the beginning of the “revival”, others contradict that claim. In fact, one former student who was at the chapel this week told me he rarely, if ever, heard a clear presentation of the gospel at the school.

Another student said: “Attending the few chapels I have at seminary, apart from one [or] two chapels that preach a biblical message of repentance, it’s always been about ‘being who you are’ and God loving you ‘as you are.’ There are a lot of messages that are about being ‘true to yourself.’”

I’ve watched hundreds of videos of the “revival”, and I still haven’t seen any clips showing a clear preaching of the gospel. Of course, that isn’t evidence that people aren’t preaching the gospel.

This type of emotional fluff won’t lead to “revival”: It’s a mix of genuine worship and emotional existentialism that has no ability to call our culture to repentance outside the groupies that want in on the experience.

• Will this emotional worship set lead some people to Christ? Yes. Praise the Lord!

• It is causing international conversation that is making the name of Christ known? Yes. Praise the Lord!

• Is it setting hearts on fire for reaching a broken world with the good news of eternal life? Yes. Praise the Lord!

“What does it matter? Only that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is proclaimed, and in this I rejoice. Yes, and I will continue to rejoice because I know this will lead to my salvation through your prayers and help from the Spirit of Jesus Christ.” Philippians 1:18-19

But is it going to radically change our culture, lead us away from our societal decline, and lead

to repentance across the land? No. It won’t. I know because I have seen it before.

What our country needs is not just a “back to Jesus moment.” It needs the hard truth that it is quite literally damned to hell on its current path and that there is a lot of difficult, monotonous work that will be required to set it right — if something is even possible at this point of societal collapse.

College worship experiences will not lead to this type of repentance in heart and action. We can see this from Scripture. When the Israelites had so wholeheartedly sold themselves out to idols and demons, it took the total destruction of their nation and 70 years in slavery to rend their hearts enough to make them turn back to God.

One more thought from Samuel Sey:

In desperation for any semblance of hope for our culture — some Christians have abandoned all discernment and they’re eager to idolize anything or any “revival” that profess Christ.

But our hope isn’t in a change in our culture. Our hope isn’t in a revival. Our hope isn’t in a Christian culture. All of these are good. We should earnestly pray that God would change our culture.

But our hope isn’t in the return of a Christian culture. Our hope is in the return of Christ.

So don’t spend too much time obsessing over Asbury. Asbury is not where the battle for culture is being fought. The participants are just wide-eyed kids who think they’re lining up for the real battle with no idea what’s ahead.

They’ll soon realize what war, and real revival, is actually like.



Scene from *All Quiet On The Western Front*

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