

Don't just COUNT your blessings, BE A BLESSING!!!



Jennifer Austin and her sister Ashlee.

By John Arcaro

Have you ever been the victim of an injustice?

Have you ever had your car scratched and never found out who did it? Did you ever have something stolen from your desk or your locker? Have you ever been overcharged for something,

only to discover later that you'd been victimized? Has your home ever been robbed? Perhaps you were the victim of a hit-and-run in a parking lot and you were stuck with having to pay out of your OWN POCKET because of this TERRIBLE INJUSTICE. How did that make you feel? Weren't you MAD??!!

Now picture yourself in an entirely different scenario. (Granted, it may be difficult for you to imagine, but try your best.) What if today, without warning, you suddenly lost the ability to do ANY of these things on your own: work, maintain your standard of living, drive, run after the bus, walk, take a shower, swim, get out of bed, eat, walk your dog, answer the doorbell, jump rope, hold the door open for someone else, change your clothes or give someone you love a piggyback!

Would you pay \$10,000 to avoid not being able to do these things? Of course you would. Would you part with \$100,000 to

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Taming the Storm of indifference

By Ralph Davis

Yawn! The Civil war: old news. The assassination of President John F. Kennedy and the fall of the Berlin wall: old news also.

Hurricane Katrina: old news? Hardly, even though its impact and the continuing saga is absent from the news media, there are thousands of people still profoundly affected by its destruction, two years later.

Many of those whose lives were spared still face destroyed homes, lack of power and fresh water and most of life's other essentials. Scores have lost friends or loved ones to the thirty foot tidal surge. Even today, one witness reported, some of the elderly just give up and die and suicides are frequent.

1,836 people lost their lives in Hurricane Katrina. The devastation crossed more than 90,000 square miles along the Gulf Coast;



Rhode Island resident Matthew Topper

an area larger than the area of Great Britain. \$81.2 billion in property was destroyed. People in Mississippi experienced a double whammy when Hurricane Rita soon followed Katrina.

Imagine the despair; try to conceive of

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Walking "The Land"

By Lawrence L. Lepore

(Jerusalem, Israel) - During the month of June, 10 Christian journalists from the EPA (Evangelical Press Association) were invited by the Israel Ministry of Tourism

(IMOT) to visit and tour Israel. That invitation was one that many would have a hard time refusing, even jump at, but I wasn't one of them; I wanted to be certain this was God calling me to the Holy Land. I prayed,

discussed it with my wife and parents and then prayed some more, almost looking for an excuse to reject the invitation. After all, I was busy publishing the paper... and wasn't Israel one of the most dangerous places in the world?

Not long after I started praying the Lord answered; when it was my time to leave the planet, I was going to leave, whether I was in Tel Aviv or Providence, R.I. How could I

argue, after all doesn't scripture teach that it's appointed to every man a time to die? If it was going to be in Israel, that was as good a place as any, right? I was ready to go, wherever He led!



Tel Aviv from Jaffa Hill

My trip started from T.F. Green State Airport, "New England's Hassle-free gateway" in Warwick, not Providence, as many a weary traveler coming through RI might discover. That

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How a 'gay rights' leader became straight

By Michael Glatze

Homosexuality came easy to me, because I was already weak.

My mom died when I was 19. My father had died when I was 13. At an early age, I was already confused about who I was and how I felt about others. My confusion about "desire" and the fact that I noticed I was "attracted" to guys made me put myself into the "gay" category at age 14. At age 20, I came out as gay to everybody else around me.

At age 22, I became an editor of the first magazine aimed at a young, gay male audi-

ence. It bordered on pornography in its photographic content, but I figured I could use it as a platform to bigger and better things.

Harvard University photo



Judy Shepherd and Michael Glatze

Sure enough, Young Gay America came around. It was meant to fill the void that the other magazine I'd worked for had created - namely, anything not-so-pornographic, aimed at the population of young, gay Americans. Young Gay America took off.

Gay people responded happily to Young Gay America. It received awards, recognition, respectability and great honors, including the National Role Model Award from major

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gay organization Equality Forum – which was given to Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chrétien a year later – and a whole host of appearances in the media, from PBS to the Seattle Times, from MSNBC to the cover story in Time magazine.

I produced, with the help of PBS-affiliates and Equality Forum, the first major documentary film to tackle gay teen suicide, “Jim In Bold,” which toured the world and received numerous “best in festival” awards.

Young Gay America created a photo exhibit, full of photographs and stories of gay youth all across the North American continent, which toured Europe, Canada and parts of the United States.

Young Gay America launched YGA Magazine in 2004, to pretend to provide a “virtuous counterpart” to the other newsstand media aimed at gay youth. I say “pretend” because the truth was, YGA was as damaging as anything else out there, just not overtly pornographic, so it was more “respected.”

It took me almost 16 years to discover that homosexuality itself is not exactly “virtuous.” It was difficult for me to clarify my feelings on the issue, given that my life was so caught up in it.

Homosexuality, delivered to young minds, is by its very nature pornographic. It destroys impressionable minds and confuses their developing sexuality; I did not realize this, however, until I was 30 years old.

YGA Magazine sold out of its first issue in several North American cities. There was extreme support, by all sides, for YGA Magazine; schools, parent groups, libraries, governmental associations, everyone seemed to want it. It tapped right into the zeitgeist of “accepting and promoting” homosexuality, and I was considered a leader. I was asked to speak on the prestigious JFK Jr. Forum at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government in 2005.

It was, after viewing my words on a videotape of that “performance,” that I began to seriously doubt what I was doing with my life and influence.

Knowing no one who I could approach with my questions and my doubts, I turned to God; I’d developed a growing relationship with God, thanks to a debilitating bout with intestinal cramps caused by the upset stomach-inducing behaviors I’d been engaged in.

Soon, I began to understand things I’d never known could possibly be real, such as the fact that I was leading a movement of sin and corruption – which is not to sound as though my discovery was based on dogma, because decidedly it was not.

I came to the conclusions on my own.

It became clear to me, as I *really thought about it* – and really prayed about it – that homosexuality prevents us from finding our true self within. We cannot see the truth when we’re blinded by homosexuality.

We believe, under the influence of homosexuality, that lust is not just acceptable, but a virtue. But there is no homosexual “desire” that is apart from lust.

In denial of this fact, I’d fought to erase such truth at all costs, and participated in the various popular ways of taking responsibility out of human hands for challenging the temptations of lust and other behaviors. I was sure – thanks to culture and world leaders – that I was doing the right thing.

Driven to look for truth, because nothing felt *right*, I looked within. Jesus Christ repeatedly advises us not to trust anybody other than Him. I did what He said, knowing that the Kingdom of God does reside in the heart and mind of every man.

What I discovered – what I learned – about homosexuality was amazing. How I’d first “discovered” homosexual desires back in high school was by noticing that I looked at other guys. How I healed, when it became decidedly clear that I should – or risk hurting more people – is that I paid attention to myself.

Every time I was tempted to lust,

In my experience, “coming out” from under the influence of the homosexual mindset was the most liberating, beautiful and astonishing thing I’ve ever experienced in my entire life.

I noticed it, caught it, dealt with it. I called it what it was, and then just let it disappear on its own. A huge and vital difference exists between superficial admiration – of yourself, or others – and integral admiration. In loving ourselves fully, we no longer need anything from the “outside” world of lustful desire, recognition from others, or physical satisfaction. Our drives become intrinsic to our very essence, unbridled by neurotic distractions.

Homosexuality allows us to avoid digging deeper, through superficiality and lust-inspired attractions – at least, as long as it remains “accepted” by law. As a result, countless miss out on their truest self, their God-given Christ-self.

Homosexuality, for me, began at age 13 and ended – once I “cut myself off” from outside influences and intensely focused on inner truth – when I discovered the depths of my God-given self at age 30.

God is regarded as an enemy by many in the grip of homosexuality or other lustful behavior, because He reminds them of who and what they truly are meant to be. People caught in the act would rather stay “blissfully ignorant” by silencing truth and those who speak it, through antagonism, condemna-

tion and calling them words like “racist,” “insensitive,” “evil” and “discriminatory.”

Healing from the wounds caused by homosexuality is not easy – there’s little obvious support. What support remains is shamed, ridiculed, silenced by rhetoric or made illegal by twisting of laws. I had to sift through my own embarrassment and the disapproving “voices” of all I’d ever known to find it. Part of the homosexual agenda is getting people to stop considering that conversion is even a viable question to be asked, let alone whether or not it works.

In my experience, “coming out” from under the influence of the homosexual mindset was the most liberating, beautiful and astonishing thing I’ve ever experienced in my entire life.

Lust takes us out of our bodies, “attaching” our psyche onto someone else’s physical form. That’s why homosexual sex – and all other lust-based sex – is never satisfactory: It’s a neurotic process rather than a natural, normal one. Normal is normal – and has been called normal for a reason.

Abnormal means “that which hurts us, hurts normal.” Homosexuality takes us out of our normal state, of being perfectly united in all things, and divides us, causing us to forever pine for an outside physical object that we can never possess. Homosexual people – like all people – yearn for the mythical true love, which does actually exist. The problem with homosexuality is that true love only comes when we have nothing preventing us from letting it shine forth from within. We cannot fully be ourselves when our minds are trapped in a cycle and group-mentality of sanctioned, protected and celebrated lust.

God came to me when I was confused and lost, alone, afraid and upset. He told me – through prayer – that I had nothing at all to be afraid of, and that I was home; I just needed to do a little house cleaning in my mind.

I believe that all people, intrinsically, know the truth. I believe that is why Christianity scares people so much. It reminds them of their conscience, which we all possess.

Conscience tells us right from wrong and is a guide by which we can grow and become stronger and freer human beings. Healing from sin and ignorance is always possible, but the first thing anyone must do is get out of the mentalities that divide and conquer humanity.

Sexual truth can be found, provided we’re all willing and driven to accept that our culture sanctions behaviors that harm life. Guilt should be no reason to avoid the difficult questions.

Homosexuality took almost 16 years of my life and compromised them with one lie or another, perpetuated through national media targeted at children. In European



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countries, homosexuality is considered so normal that grade-school children are being provided “gay” children’s books as required reading in public schools.

Poland, a country all-too familiar with the destruction of its people by outside influences, is bravely attempting to stop the European Union from indoctrinating its children with homosexual propaganda. In response, the European Union has called the prime minister of Poland “repulsive.”

I was repulsive for quite some time; I am still dealing with all of my guilt.

As a leader in the “gay rights” movement, I was given the opportunity to address the public many

times. If I could take back some of the things I said, I would. Now I know that homosexuality is lust and pornography wrapped into one. I’ll never let anybody try to convince me otherwise, no matter how slick their tongues or how sad their story. I have seen it. I know the truth.

God gave us truth for a reason. It exists so we could be ourselves. It exists so we could share that perfect self with the world, to make the perfect world. These are not fanciful schemes or strange ideals – these are the Truth.

Healing from the sins of the world will not happen in an instant; but, it *will* happen – if we don’t pridefully block it. God wins in the end, in case you didn’t know.

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every single thing you value being swept away from you. One would expect that the US government would have acted promptly and responsibly. Meaningful government intervention was not to be and to this day US aid has been sorely lacking. Red tape, hype, and bureaucratic nonsense have frozen the process. The thousands of FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) trailers that were to be used by the victims, to a large extent sat in lots and fields unused. There was a difficult application process with mysterious criteria to determine who got one. Now these trailers are being auctioned off at bargain prices.

According to Mrs. Rhonda Labat, a medical technician in St. Louis, Mississippi who I spoke with, "We applied for a trailer and we waited and waited. We were one of the lucky ones; my employer gave us a camping trailer to use." She went on to say, "What saved us the most was people like 'Topper,' and the 8 Days of Hope. They responded faster than the government ever did."

Rhonda said that "The first meal we got was from a church. One of the first churches came from California, giving us meals and bottled water. Churches in the area did the best they could too. It was the faith-based community that actually got the community up and moving again."

The "Topper" that Rhonda was referring to is RI resident Matthew Topper. Topper has been to Louisiana three times and Mississippi once as a volunteer with 8 Days of Hope. Topper is a skilled finish carpenter but his goal is to provide much more than home repair; he, and the 8 Days of Hope Ministry, also strive to provide encouragement and to model God's love to them.

Stephen Tybor III and His father conceived of and coordinated 8 Days of Hope. According to Stephen, There are now over 3300 volunteers from 43 states who have performed over 90,000 man hours. He said that "8 days was meant to be a one-time visit to The Good News TODAY

Gulf Coast with only a handful of volunteers." They have recently returned from their forth trip and so far they have remodeled, refurbished or rebuilt 549 houses and performed various types of work on many others.

Topper was born in Plainfield, NJ; he is the only child of parents who were not churchgoers. He said that his parents seemed to deliberately keep him away from any church function. He met his first Christian when he was in college. He was standing near her in the registration line and her name was Jillian Price. There was a glow about her, a light in her eyes and peace. She never attended any of the campus parties or engaged in lewd behavior yet was quite popular.

It was towards the end of their senior year that Topper asked her about it. "There is something different about you, what is it?" he asked. Jillian simply said, "Jesus Christ." "No," he said "That's your religion; I'm not buying that!" What he wanted was for

her to say something that *she* had done to make her the way she was. He was a 'pick yourself up by the bootstraps type of guy' and just couldn't buy this explanation.

So Jillian planted the seed and then other Christians came in his path. For example, while working on a fishing boat in Alaska during summer vacation, he met Justin, a Christian man who took an interest in him. He presented the gospel message and persisted, not letting Topper squirm out of it. Topper still resisted. Even after they went their separate ways, Topper still communicated with this person regularly.

Topper's life made an abrupt reversal when the night before he was to graduate with a degree in Industrial Design, he had a nervous breakdown. He had bitten off more than he could chew with his ambitions. He'd wanted do honors projects, win all kinds of rewards, to graduate at the top of his class, and get the highest paying job. This caused him to lose focus;

he was exhausted and had shut himself off from others.

For the most part, Topper spent six months in his apartment as he put it, "Mentally absent." He'd sometimes lay in bed scared and could not move. He was able to find a small part time job to pay the bills but that was all. It was at this job that he met another Christian man, Rick, a seminary graduate. Rick answered all of his questions and pointed out the fallacies in his beliefs.

One night he sat in his apartment dwelling on things. He did not understand the thoughts that were in his head; he no longer knew who he was. He was fed up with just festering in his apartment. Finally, he threw up his hands, relinquished himself to God, and accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior. Like all other aspects of his life, Topper threw much energy into following Christ including giving up most of his old ways and there was much that he needed to give up. This caused him to lose some friends who had much difficulty acknowledging that he had changed.

Topper's relationship with Rick grew, they formed a Saturday morning Bible study and Topper began attending his church. Eventually, Topper moved to the Boston area to work and began attending a Reformed Presbyterian Church in Cambridge. One of the church members began holding a Bible study in East Providence, RI and Topper began making (depending on traffic) the one to three hour commute to the study.

One evening as he was leaving the study he was given a copy



8 Days of Hope house.

of the November, 2005 issue of the Good News in RI newspaper. On the cover he noticed a picture of Mark Fisher, featured in an article. It was only a few days later that he recognized Mark at a fundraiser and introduced himself. This "coincidence" caused Topper to dive into the paper and, in so doing, he read the life-changing article about 8 Days of Hope and their plans for going to the Gulf Coast on a repair ministry.

Topper wanted to join them but had some qualms about it. He thought to himself, "Maybe God wants me to go forth in faith on this one," so he used up his Christmas gift money to buy a plane ticket. He still struggled with the decision and decided to fast and pray about it. One day he went to a nearby beach on a bitter cold day, knelt on the frozen sand and asked God what he should do. Unexpectedly, within a few days his boss provided money for the trip and then his church paid for the plane ticket with additional funds for other needs!

Topper marvels at all of the blessings he saw God bestow on the first and subsequent 8 Days of Hope trips. God manifested his presence in so many ways. He and his coworkers were constantly praising God, in awe, watching what He was doing; all they wanted to talk about was praising God. People's lives were being mended, or healed, or turned around, straightened out; people who were coming to the Lord. It was obviously God at work.

In one instance they were working on one side of a road while violent thundershowers occurred on the other side, missing them. Then there was the forest fire surrounding their supply building which suddenly skipped across the road, missing the structure!

There are so many, many examples of survivors receiving help from 8 Days and other ministries. One that stands out for Topper is about Miss Edna, a woman of faith with the biggest smile. Her home is little more than a tin house. When the flood waters came, she, her husband, daughter and grand daughter floated outside, and made their way onto the roof. The water at that point had reached nine feet! They clung to the roof in hurricane force winds watching neighbors, some they had known all their lives, being swept away. Unable to swim they clung to the roof while praising and praying to God.

Months later, when she saw a crew from 8 Days of Hope coming, Miss Edna's first words were: "The Lord has preserved me to see this day!" She was not thinking about all she had lost; instead she was thanking God!"

Then there is Rhonda Labat; her floors and walls needed replacement and what she has learned is that the government still shows little interest in providing meaningful assistance to survivors. Instead, she said, the only real help continues to come from faith-based organizations such as 8 Days of Hope. She was most impressed with Topper who she describes as a "prayerful young man as each day he began with a word of prayer."

Topper's behavior, as described by Rhonda, is in line with the mission of 8 Days of Hope that goes like this: Every time we go down there,

we say that the number one priority is to LOVE THE HOMEOWNER. It does not matter if we finish the job. It does not matter if we do good carpentry. It matters more that you love somebody who is hurting. They need to see that the Love of Christ is real and you are the people that God is choosing to share that love. So take time and listen to their stories, or tell them



Ms. Edna

some of yours, pray with them. Make that the focus of every one of your days here. Let God take care of the work; He does not need your help. In fact he could snap His fingers and correct everything. He needs people to show what the Love of Christ looks like."

The people in the destroyed area, Topper said, "were not looking for new homes, they weren't looking for a hand-out from the government, a pay back or some sort of retribution; they just want to know they matter; the world forgot about them. This disaster happened and they are nothing. They've used up all their money, they have no jobs or insurance, many of their friends are dead or gone. What does life look like after all that; they've got nothing and nobody cares and they know it. Unfortunately, the people who don't deserve the money are getting the money."

So there you have it; it is the people of God who are best suited to help others in any circumstances. It sometimes takes a catastrophe for people to get to know God or for people to strengthen their faith. We will never understand a callous government administration that ignores human need for self-interest nor do we need to; we know that God has it *all* under control.

As for Topper he is looking forward to another trip and is now part of the planning team for 8 Days. His church in Cambridge which began Bible studies in East Providence has now planted a Reformed Presbyterian church there. Pastor Daniel Mark Howe, who was recently ordained, will serve there.

To contact 8 Day of Hope you can write to them at: Eight Days of Hope, P.O. Box 3208 Tupelo, MS. 38803 or E-mail: eightdaysofhope@aol.com or, to view pictures and testimonies from the four trips visit their website: 8daysofhope.com

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"For the LORD thy God hath blessed thee in all the works of thy hand." Deut. 2:7

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stay out of such a predicament? Certainly. Would you somehow, somewhere scrape up \$1,000,000 not to have to live without these abilities? Absolutely, because NO ONE, would willingly trade their relatively comfortable lifestyle for one with the limitations of not being able to perform the everyday functions – the “little” things that we all TAKE FOR GRANTED.

Go back and read the list again. Now think of some other “little” things that you do every day that you also take for granted. If you’ve imagined what it would be like not to be able to do the things on your list, now you know what a paraplegic suffers through every waking moment of EVERY day of their life.

And you’re mad because of a little fender-bender??? You’re upset because you don’t feel God is blessing you with a better job, or a bigger house, or a newer car?

Please do yourself a huge favor and make copies of the list – be sure to add those that you thought of on your own – and tape the list to your refrigerator, your bathroom mirror, your work desk, your computer screen, your car dashboard, your kitchen cupboards, your dinner table, your television remote control, your night table, and any other location you can think of where you spend at least twenty minutes a day. I HOPE that the twenty-minute time requirement means that you will also have to tape a copy to your Bible; if not, re-read the list, thank God for all of the blessings He has given you, ask Him to forgive you for taking them – AND Him – for granted, and re-establish your priorities TODAY.

If you would spend AT LEAST one million dollars not to have to live the rest of your life in a wheelchair, how much would you use to help someone who IS a paraplegic? How about \$1,000,000? Or \$100,000? Maybe \$10,000? Or just \$1,000? Only \$100? Could you POSSIBLY part with THREE DOLLARS?

Re-read the list (yes, again that list!), look at the photos, read the following story, and then go get a stamp and an envelope...and some writing paper:

Hello, my name is Jennifer Austin. I just turned twenty-one years old and live in Cowan, Tennessee. I am a pretty average, small-town girl. While my father Hayes was serving our country for eight years in the U.S. Army, I was born in Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He

left the service when I was just one year old, and is in construction and plumbing. My mother Donna is a nurse for a surgeon in Tullahoma, Tennessee. Both my parents were raised in Cowan, a very small town (population 1,770) of less than 500 families, about an hour-and-a-half southeast of Nashville and less than an hour west of Chattanooga. My sister Ashlee just graduated from high school, and my boyfriend Corey Martin is in the U.S. Air Force, currently stationed in Germany. I’ve spent most all my life in Cowan, and graduated from Franklin County High School in 2004. While in high school, I was active in Honor clubs, cheerleading, basketball and softball. I LOVED being involved in sports! I attended Motlow State Community College for two years, graduating with an Associates degree in Applied Science (also known as “Pre-Nursing”). My dream early in life was to be a nurse, so I then transferred to Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro to enter the nursing program. Nursing has always been my dream profession, partly because my mother is a wonderful nurse who has taught me what a true honor it is to help others, and also because I truly want to make a difference in the lives of other people.

In August of 2006 I moved to Murfreesboro, Tennessee and began my junior year at Middle Tennessee State with high hopes of getting into their nursing program. My life seemed to be going just as I had always planned...

Friday, September 15, 2006 started out just like any other normal day. I woke up, jumped into the shower, and then started packing to go home for the weekend. I said goodbye to my roommates and jumped into my car ready to hit the road. Little did I know that, within a matter of minutes, my entire world was about to change forever...

It happened at around 1:00 p.m. near mile marker 105. We will probably never know the name of the person who caused the accident, as they left the scene without ever stopping or even slowing down. A witness saw the red SUV swerve into my lane several times, finally hitting the back end of my car. My car instantly spun into the median and began to flip over several times. It finally landed upside down in the westbound lane. Miraculously, I was ejected within the first flip. If this had not happened, I would not

be writing this, as I would have almost certainly died. I am very grateful to the people who stopped and made sure that I received the help that I needed. I don’t remember the accident at all, but one of the people who stopped to help me said that he found me conscious, trying to get up. He noticed my back was swelling and realized it was more serious than he had first thought. He called “Life Flight” and they soon arrived to take me to Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville. Although I arrived at the hospital within seven minutes, I sustained several injuries. I lost the lower left lobe of my lung, my spleen,



Jenn is a blessing!

and I broke the C5 and C6 vertebra in my neck and several other vertebrae in my lower back. For the next two months I underwent nine different surgeries and lost a total of 40 units of blood. I stayed in the Trauma Unit for approximately seven weeks, and was then moved to a step-down unit for an additional three weeks. I was then transferred to Stallworth Rehabilitation Center for intensive physical and occupational therapy over a six-week period. This gets me to where I am today. I am currently back at home and am doing outpatient therapy three days a week. Due to the injuries to my spinal cord, I am now paralyzed from the mid-waist down.

This accident has changed my life in so many ways. I am no longer able to be involved in any of the sports that I so much enjoyed. It has been hard for me to be out in crowds, like shopping which was always something I enjoyed. I am slowly starting to adjust, but it is still very difficult. I love to read, so I have found that I can sometimes escape with a good book. I spend some of my time on the computer doing research or just talking to friends. Before the accident, I worked two jobs and went to school. My schedule was pretty full most of the time, but I liked staying busy.

I recently told my story to the Youth Group at one of the local churches, in front of about forty

people. I was somewhat nervous, but when I got started it just felt right. I wanted to make sure that I was able to express my feelings so they could truly understand what is important in life...

During my teenage years, I always thought that my friends were most important to me. I wanted to attend all of the socials and make sure that I was involved in whatever was going on. I thought there would be time to make my life right with God. I was brought up in the church, attending services and being a part of the church functions. Of course,

there is so much more to being a Christian than just going to church. I remember telling my mom when I woke up in the trauma unit and realized what had happened, that if I had died from the accident that I wouldn’t have gone to Heaven. That is a very scary thought, but yet I was so happy that God had given me another chance and the time I needed to make my life right with Him.

I was baptized in April of this year in the pool where I receive my physical therapy. It was such a joy to finally be well enough to be baptized and begin my new life with God. I now know that without Christ even the smallest things are not possible. This horrible accident has made me a better person. I have grown so much mentally, emotionally, and – most important of all – spiritually. I pray daily to the Lord and some days all day long. He has given me the strength to push forward, and with my determination and God’s will I will walk again. I can promise that I will do absolutely anything it takes to get well. My family has been my biggest fans throughout this traumatic experience. They spent the entire time with me while I was in the hospital and rehab. Everything else in their lives was put on hold. My sister has become my best friend. She gives me so much encouragement. We do a lot of things together and have a good time just being together.

I have learned that the things that I once took for granted are now the things that I cannot live without. I am so very thankful

that this accident has made me view my life and the lives of the ones that I love in a whole new perspective. In all honesty, I am extremely blessed to be here today. I pray that my story will encourage others during any difficult time that they may be faced with. My goal is to get back on my feet – literally – and continue to pursue my dreams. I can assure you that I am a fighter and have now devoted my life to making a full recovery. I am a determined person and plan on meeting every goal I have for myself. I hope to one day help people – including myself – who have suffered from a spinal cord injury. There must be a way to defeat this condition! I want to walk again...dance in the rain... chase my children...and most of all, be a nurse. I believe that God has a wonderful plan for me in life and that this accident is just a small bump in the road. I would like to express my appreciation to everyone for their support and concern. I ask that everyone continue to pray for my family and me. May God bless each and every one of you!

AUTHOR’S POSTSCRIPT: Jennifer’s goal is to attend Shepherd Center in Atlanta, Georgia, one of the nation’s leading rehabilitation hospitals specializing in the treatment of people with spinal cord injuries (www.shepherd.org). It is less than a six-hour ride from her family’s home, but because of their financial situation, Jennifer has not been able to undergo rehabilitation there. We are all praying that God will help to open the doors that are needed to get her one more step closer to her goal. Some other friends in the Body of Christ are organizing a fundraising Christian concert (www.freedom-fest.us) on August 25th, but if you can’t make it down to Monteagle, Tennessee, then be sure to write her a letter of encouragement. Let Jennifer know how much her story has blessed you, and instead of buying a coffee at Starbucks or Dunkin’ Donuts, put at least three dollars in that envelope and send it to:

Jennifer Austin, c/o God’s Minutemen, 479 Metcalf Road, Winchester, Tennessee, 37398
You can also e-mail Jennifer at: jlaustin0621@yahoo.com

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National News

Ron Paul warns of staged terror attack

Republican presidential candidate, Rep. Ron Paul, said the country is in "great danger" of the U.S. government staging a terrorist attack or a Gulf of Tonkin style provocation, as the war in Iraq continues to deteriorate.

The Texas congressman offered no specifics nor mentioned President Bush by name, but he clearly insinuated that the administration would not be above staging an incident to revive flagging support.

"We're in danger in many ways," Paul said on the **Alex Jones radio show**. "The attack on our civil liberties here at home, the foreign policy that's in shambles and our obligations overseas and commitment which endangers our troops and our national defense."

Paul was asked to respond to comments by anti-war activist Cindy Sheehan that the U.S. is in danger of a staged terror attack or a provo-

cation of an enemy similar to the Gulf of Tonkin incident in 1964 before the Vietnam War.

During the radio interview, Paul said the government was conducting "an orchestrated effort to blame the Iranians for everything that has gone wrong in Iraq."

The comments come as several prominent terrorism experts have warned the U.S. is facing an increased risk of attack this summer. Earlier this week, in an interview with the Chicago Tribune, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff said he had a "gut feeling" the U.S. would be attacked again.

The remark angered some Democrats, who criticized Chertoff for being too vague. And some pundits seized on his remarks, saying the vague warnings were meant only to revive flagging support for the war in Iraq and Bush's larger war against terrorism.

Former Navy chaplain labels Hindu Senate prayer 'idolatry'

By Chad Groening

A former Navy chaplain says he was in the Senate gallery this morning when two Christians were escorted out of the chamber for disrupting the opening prayer given by a Hindu chaplain.

Gordon James Klingenschmitt says when he heard that the Hindu man, who is affiliated with the Indian Association of Northern Nevada, was invited to give the opening prayer for July 12, he went to the U.S. Senate in hopes of gaining equal access. On Tuesday, he went to the office of Senator Harry Reid (D-Nevada) office seeking permission to offer a Christian prayer in the Senate at some future date. Not being from Nevada, Klingenschmitt was turned away and directed to the office of one of his senators -- Hillary Clinton (D-New York) -- whose staff also reportedly declined his request.

The former chaplain says he then attempted to get an audience with Senate Chaplain Barry Black. "I went to Chaplain Black's office, and they must have known I was coming because they had already informed security not to let me in," he says. "And so they wouldn't give me an appointment with Chaplain Black. They said

his personal calendar is booked until 2009."

Klingenschmitt was in the Senate gallery earlier today to witness the prayer being given by the Hindu chaplain -- a prayer that was interrupted twice by individuals in the gallery. "About 50 feet away from me there were these other Christian people [who] stood up like everybody else ... and they began to pray also," he recalls. "But [they] prayed Christian prayers, and they prayed out loud -- and they prayed in Jesus' name. They said 'God have mercy on our nation. God have mercy on America.'"

He explains what he then witnessed in the Senate chamber. "Would you believe that the security office immediately escorted them out and hauled them off to jail because they prayed in Jesus' name, out loud, when this other man was praying a Hindu prayer out loud?" he shares. "He was praying a prayer of idolatry, violating the First Commandment [which says] 'Thou shalt have no other gods before me,'" he continues. "In contrast, these Christian people, they stood up and they just prayed in Jesus' name."

Klingenschmitt says the Hindu chaplain finished his prayer after the two were escorted from the gallery. He offers this assessment: "[A]pparently one kind of prayer is permitted and even honored on the floor of the Senate; the other kind of prayer is seen as disruptive."

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Texas Supreme Court vindicates pastor who practiced church discipline

By Allie Martin

A Texas pastor who was sued after exercising church discipline has been handed a victory by that state's supreme court. The lawsuit was brought by a church member who refused to repent following a divorce and remarriage.

According to the lawsuit, Peggy Penley was a member of Crossland Community Bible Church in Fort Worth when she had a relationship with another man and desired to divorce her husband. In accordance with the church's disciplinary process, Crossland Community Pastor Buddy Westbrook eventually sent a letter to church members, informing them of Penley's unrepentant attitude and disassociating the congregation from Penley. She sued the church, the elders, and Pastor Westbrook, claiming the pastor violated confidentiality statutes.

Hiram Sasser is with Liberty Legal Institute, which represented Westbrook before the Texas Supreme Court in *Penley v. Westbrook*. He says the court's unanimous decision in the pastor's favor sends a clear message.

"This is a great victory for pastors all across Texas and all across the nation," Sasser says. "This is a very strong opinion saying that pastors who are engaging in Matthew 18 church disciplinary process are protected by the Constitution from lawsuits from people who don't like how that goes down."

Matthew 18 counsels face-to-face confrontation in such matters, initially, adding that "if he listens to you, you have won your brother over." But if that person will not listen, says scripture, "take one or two others along, so that every matter may be established

by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector." [Matthew 18: 15-17, NIV]

The ruling by the Texas Supreme Court was justified, says the Liberty Legal attorney. "Pastors have to understand they are free under the law to engage in church disciplinary matters -- to follow Matthew 18, to follow their convictions -- and so they're immune from lawsuit [under] that, and it's just great to be able to see that churches can operate free from government intrusion."

Sasser points out the U.S. Constitution protects the right of a church to choose its members and govern itself according to doctrine and faith, without government interference.

Christian Ministers Arrested for Praying Near Gay Fest

By Elizabeth O'Brien

ELMIRA, NY (LifeSiteNews.com) - Police arrested seven Christians who were praying prostrate and holding Bibles in a public park where a gay festival was just beginning, WorldNetDaily (WND) reports.

36-year old born again street preacher Julian Raven and his group called the "Magnificent Seven" came to pray at Wisner Park in downtown Elmira the evening before the Southern Tier Pride Festival. After telling the police what they were planning to do, the Christian group was informed that if they went ahead, they would be arrested.

When they tried to enter the public park, a female officer told them, "You're not going to cross the street. You're not going to enter the park and you're not going to share your religion with anybody in this park."

Raven told the officer that she was violating the Constitution. For the first time in his life as a Christian, he said, "I felt now my freedom of speech is threatened or challenged. I was being told I could not share my religion with anybody in that park."

According to their own account, without making any sound or approaching any people, the seven entered the park while lifting up their Bibles, lay face down on the grass before the stage, and were

promptly handcuffed by officers in front of homosexual onlookers.

"We weren't protesting or trying to get arrested," Julian says in the Star Gazette. "We were there to pray for their sins. We planned to lay down, pray for a few minutes and leave peacefully. It wasn't our idea to disrupt the rally. But if it happens, it's out of our control."

Raven commented in WND, "We have a legal right to be at an event held in a public square. We're not a hate group," he said. "We're Christians and we're going to be there to pray."

Assistant Police Chief Mike Robertson said they were accused

of "disturbing the peace" which includes "intent" to cause a public inconvenience, any "disturbance" of a meeting of persons, obstructing vehicular or pedestrian traffic, or taking part in "any act that serves no legitimate purpose," WND reports.

Another example of the growing public restrictions on free speech was the case of Pastor Holick in Wichita, Kansas. Holick was arrested only minutes after he and his church team arrived to hand out pamphlets on a sidewalk near the park where a gay fest was being held. Similarly, this June five members of the Faith Baptist Church were arrested in Petersburg, Florida, after carrying gay pride protest signs that violated city regulations by being "wider than their torsos."

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National Shorts

Mainline churches show membership declines

(EP News)--Three mainline Protestant denominations -- the United Methodist Church (UMC), the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Church of the Brethren -- have experienced steady decreases in U.S. membership rolls, continuing long-term trends, according to recently releases reports by the denominations. The UMC said its U.S. membership fell to 7.9 million -- a loss of nearly 6 percent -- from 1995 to 2005. Active membership in the Presbyterian Church (USA) fell by more than 46,000, to 2.27 million in 2006. The Church of the Brethren reported a 1.4 percent decrease in membership last year, to about 128,000. Membership fell by a similar percentage in 2005, the church said.

By wide margin, journalists support democrats

(EP News)--MSNBC has identified 144 journalists from big media outlets who are not only feeding the newswires; they're feeding cash to politicians, parties and political action committees. By a ratio of eight to one, reporters give money to Democrats and liberal causes over Republicans. One CNN reporter gave \$500 to John Kerry's campaign right before he was embedded with the U.S. Army in Iraq. Another reporter with Dow Jones gave \$1,000 to MoveOn.org. Joseph Farah with WorldNetDaily, said a basic rule of reporters limiting political involvement has gone by the wayside. "Unfortunately, during the time that I've been involved in the media over the last 30 years, we've seen that standard absolutely obliterated," he said. Of the 144 politically active journalists surveyed, 125 gave to Democrats, while only 17 gave to Republicans.

Massachusetts governor cuts abstinence-education funding

(EP News)--On July 12, Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick vetoed \$41 million in spending approved by the Legislature, including funding for an abstinence-only education program, The *Boston Globe* reports. Among the cuts, Patrick excised a provision that would have allowed the state to spend \$712,000 in federal money on abstinence ed. Massachusetts has received the grant since 1998, but public health officials in the administration decided they no longer want the money, because it can't be used to teach birth control. Rebecca Ray, director of Healthy Futures, which teaches abstinence classes to about 7,000

students, said losing the money would slice her organization's budget in half. "I think it's tragic that these communities and all these students are going to miss out on this opportunity," she told The Globe. "It's money that is free to our state, and I know the administration is certainly looking for other funding from the federal government, yet they're turning down these funds."

More moms say they'd rather be home

(EP News)--More and more working moms say full time is not ideal. They'd rather be at home with their kids. What's more, 48 percent of stay-at-home moms say they wouldn't change a thing, according to the Pew Research Center. Although nearly 71 percent of American women work outside the home, it appears many of them aren't happy about it. Some of the compromises suggested by experts include job sharing, more time off under the Family Medical Leave Act and flexible part-time arrangements. Cary Funk, one of the authors of the Pew study, said juggling work and family time is a tough act for most moms to pull off. "What I'm seeing is that people are expressing the difficulties of combining work and childrearing responsibilities," she said.

Missouri bans Planned Parenthood from classrooms

(EP News)--Legislation signed July 9 by Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt means abortion providers will not be allowed to present information about sexual health in the state's public schools, The Associated Press reported. The law also requires abortion clinics to become ambulatory surgical centers and makes the Missouri Alternatives to Abortion Services Program permanent. "All life is precious and needs to be treated with the utmost dignity and respect," Blunt said. "I will continue working with the Missouri General Assembly to pass strong pro-life legislation that respects the sanctity and dignity of all human life." Rep. Therese Sander and Sen. Delbert Scott, sponsors of the bill, said they're relieved that organizations like Planned Parenthood won't be pushing their agenda in public schools. "Missourians can be proud we have again passed, and the governor has signed, legislation that respects the sanctity of life," Scott said. "This legislation is a positive step forward for Missouri families, Missouri women and for Missourians' shared pro-life and pro-family values."

Study calls lotteries a tax on the poor

(EP News)--State lotteries are a hidden and unfair tax on the poor, according to a study from the Tax Foundation. The report also found the money isn't going where promised and costs states a bundle in social services to take care of problem gamblers.

For example, Virginia officials boast that the state gets \$432 million a year in lottery proceeds. As in most of the 42 states with the games, the money is said to be earmarked for schools. But, Chris Friend of The Family Foundation in Virginia said that's not the entire

balance sheet.

"At the end of the day, what amounts basically to a couple of hundred dollars per kid," he said, "is probably costing far more than that in broken families and in broken homes."

And Alicia Hansen, the report's author, said while lawmakers like to say the proceeds go toward education, what they don't explain is that other funds are taken away. "They know that the lottery revenue is coming in, they know it's earmarked for education and

they're counting on that money," she explained. "So then, they can take the money that they would have otherwise spent on education, and they can spend it on other things."

Chad Hills, gambling analyst at Focus on the Family Action, said that's a standard scenario for the gambling industry. "They get a foothold in states by making a bunch of promises," he said, "then once they get their foot in those states, those promises are seldom fulfilled."

Ethics watchdog criticizes Congress for voting itself another pay raise

By Chad Groening

The head of a Washington, DC-based organization that promotes ethics in public life says that despite abysmal approval numbers, Congress has given itself another raise.

Just before the Senate voted to kill the controversial comprehensive immigration bill, House members on the other side of the Capitol voted 244-181 to kill legislation that would have stopped a cost-of-living adjustment for members of Congress from taking effect when the new fiscal year begins October 1. The 2.7 percent

increase amounts to \$4,400 for each member.

Ken Boehm of the National Legal and Policy Center (NLPC) says this action illustrates just how much of a disconnect Congress has from the American people it is suppose to serve.

"Their approval rating is 14 percent," Boehm points out. "That means that 86 percent of the American public thinks they're doing a pretty crummy job. If they were doing an absolutely sterling job -- and everybody knew it -- and working long hours and doing productive stuff and not getting

caught stealing and so forth, then you might be able to make an argument about it. But that's hardly the case when their approval rating is [so low]."

The NLPC spokesman says members of Congress have perks ordinary Americans can only dream about. "We have full-time, professional politicians who get re-elected time after time after time -- because re-election rate is in the high 90s," he notes. "And part of that is because of all the perks of office. You get free postage and free travel, free this and free that."

Boehm says in reality, members of Congress really have a "cushy job" in many ways.

Black conservative leader lobbies against 'hate crimes' legislation

By Chad Groening

Equal justice for all? A black conservative leader is calling on Christians to contact their U.S. senators and ask them to vote against a bill that would give special rights to homosexuals and take away the rights of Christians.

Rev. Jesse Lee Peterson is founder and president of the Brotherhood Organization of a New Destiny (BOND). Peterson was recently in Washington, DC, to lobby senators to vote against Senate Bill 1105 -- a bill that would provide federal assistance for the prosecution of

any crime that is "motivated by prejudice based on the actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability of the victim." The legislation is sponsored by Senator Ted Kennedy (D-Massachusetts).

According to Peterson, if S.B. 1105 ultimately passes, it would greatly affect Christians' free-speech rights. For example, Peterson contends that under the new provisions, Christian pastors could be forced to perform same-

sex "marriages" -- and if they refuse, Petersen is convinced they will be criminalized and fined.

"I can absolutely guarantee you that if this bill should pass, then it's over for Christians," he states. "We will not be able to speak out against homosexuality."

The conservative leader strongly urges Christians to take a closer look at SB-1105. The legislation, he says, is totally unnecessary because the 14th Amendment to the Constitution already guarantees equal protection for all people. Peterson strongly urges Christians to "wake up and stand up before it's too late."

Gay spokesman leaves homosexuality

(EP News)--Gay activist Michael Glatze, the politically charged co-founder of *Young Gay America* magazine and a popular spokesman for homosexual activism, says he has "come out" of homosexuality.

In 2005, Glatze appeared on a panel at Harvard. His rhetoric then was harsh and inflammatory, as he spoke about a protest event.

"What the Equality Ride is going to do is essentially go to all these homophobic, really homophobic Christian schools," he said on the panel. "These are the schools where if you're gay you either get kicked out, or you've got to go to shock treatment."

Looking back on that day, Glatze said that's when he began to seriously doubt what he was doing. "It was at that point that it was just shattering," he told *Family News in Focus*. "It was mind blowing. I started to read the Bible. I was terrified. I can't even express to you how terrified I was to be opening

up the Bible because I was the ultimate left-wing gay activist."

That led to a lengthy process of reading, learning -- and change. In June, Glatze emailed David Kupelian, author of *The Marketing of Evil*, saying the book had helped with his healing. "He wanted to actually get some advice on what was the best way to go public with this," Kupelian said. Kupelian advised him to write about it, and his testimony was posted on the Web.

Gay activists responded to the news with criticism and vitriol. Caleb H. Price, a social research analyst for Focus on the Family Action, said he wasn't surprised. "A striking feature of the gay activism is their unwillingness to consider the fact that they might be wrong," he said.

While Glatze said he's is uncertain what his future holds, he said coming out is the most "liberating, beautiful and astonishing thing" he's ever experienced.

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World News

8 house church leaders detained in China

By Michael Ireland

MIDLAND, TEXAS (ANS) -- Eight house church leaders have been detained in the Chinese provinces of Shandong and Shaanxi during June 2007.

China Aid Association (www.chinaaid.org) says that according to reliable sources from both church leaders and the relatives of the detainees, at 10:30am, June 9, 2007, 12 church leaders were arrested while they were distributing Bibles in a market place in Jiaocheng county, Shaanxi province. Four of them were released at the same day while the rest of them were transferred to Jiaocheng Detention center at 4am on June 10.

On June 15, 6 more church leaders were released from their detention center without any legal paper or explanation from the PSB. The other two detained pastors, pastor Zhou Jieming and pastor Niu Wenbin were accused as "suspects of using evil cult to obstruct the enforcement of the law" and put in criminal detention.

Their houses were searched without showing search warrants on June 10 and 12 respectively. Eyewitness reports to CAA that many bibles and other Christian literatures were confiscated. The PSB officers told the family members of the detained pastors

that "any religious activities without permission from the government Religious Affairs Bureau is regarded as evil cult activities." Church leaders fear that these two detained pastors could face up to three years re-education through labor sentence.

Meanwhile, since June 15, 2007, six house church leaders in Shandong province have been detained. Church sources told CAA that at 4pm on June 15, while having a house church worship service at Zhangba village, Wulou town, Cao county, six house church leaders were taken away by the PSB of Cao county.

Among them, pastor Zhang Gaiming(43-year-old) and pastor Sun Qingwen(43-year-old) were from Shangqiu county, Shandong province while the other four pastors including Ms. Peng Yufeng(42-year-old) and pastor Zhao Yongsheng(50-year-old) are local house church pastors. The names of the other two detainees were not available. All of the six are detained in Cao County Detention center. They are threatened with being sent to re-education through labor camp if they refused to pay 10,000yuan (\$1500).

CAA appeals to the Chinese authorities to unconditionally release these 8 innocent house church leaders.

Murder Charges Against Missionary Dropped

Gospel for Asia

RAJASTHAN, INDIA (ANS) -- Gospel for Asia missionary Kasota and several other believers have been released from prison after being falsely accused of murdering a young child in Rajasthan, India. The missionary even led one man to Christ while he was in prison. The missionary, who works in Rajasthan, India, was held in prison for more than a month before all charges were dropped.

Last year, GFA reported that these Christians were arrested after a group of anti-Christian extremists framed them for the murder of a child. The 16-month-old from the missionary's village had suffered from a prolonged illness and was under medical care at the time of death.

The child's death appears to have been a result of the illness. Knowing that the parents had previously quarreled with the missionary's family over some land, the extremist group saw an opportunity to cause problems for the Christians.

They advised the child's parents to break the bones in his body so it would look like the toddler had been beaten. Then, the extremists told the parents to take the child's body to a doctor for a post-mortem examination.

The physician recognized the plot and initially refused to go along with the ploy. The extremists threatened the physician, and forced him to file a false report. The child's family used the inaccurate post-mortem report to bring murder charges against the missionary and 10 believers in a GFA-affiliated church. They claimed that the "murder" was part of a plot to take land for a church building.

Kasota and several believers were thrown into prison and held there for more than a month. Just like the Apostle Paul, Kasota continued to rejoice in the Lord during this difficult time. Through his faithful witness, a fellow inmate decided to follow Jesus. That man was released shortly after he turned to Christ, and now he plans to attend a GFA Bible college.

Finally, the Christians were released on bail. Soon after, all charges were dropped when the government discovered that the people who were against the Christians had been causing problems for many others as well.

Kasota praises the Lord that this serious situation has been resolved. He requests prayer that his ministry will continue to grow and more will come to Christ as a result of his testimony.

Artifact found shows truth of Old Testament

By Mary Rettig

A researcher at the British Museum has made a discovery that supports Old Testament historical accounts as fact, says a report from the *Telegraph* newspaper.

Last week, Michael Jursa, a professor from Vienna, was searching for financial records among tablets from ancient Assyria, when he found a familiar name. Jursa scanned the book of Jeremiah and found that the name was that of Nebuchadnezzar II's chief eunuch (Nebo-Sarsekim). In the Bible, the eunuch was said to be with Nebu-

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chadnezzar when the Babylonians took Jerusalem.

Researchers at the British Museum have been studying over 130-thousand tablets for over 5 years, and research leader, Dr. Irving Finkel, called this discovery "a world-

class find." He said this eunuch was a throwaway character in the Old Testament, and it has been proven accurate. He says with such a minor detail true, the whole book of Jeremiah, and the entire Old Testament, has what he called "new kind of power."

US Looks Away As China And Russia Supply Terrorists

By Bill Wilson

The United States is finally expressing concerns that Chinese weaponry is showing up in terrorists hands in Iraq and Afghanistan as the London Financial Times is reporting that the U.S. government has discussed the issue with the Chinese government. It is no secret that Russian and Chinese made weapons are falling into the hands of terrorists and are being used against Americans fighting the war against Islamic aggression. Yet the U.S. government has been slow to react in apparent deference to strong trade relations between America and the two very anti-American nations.

The federal government has been using the excuse that Iran has been providing the weapons which were likely made in China and Russia. From a diplomatic position, this excuses the Russians and Chinese from complicity in terrorist killings of American

GIs. It would appear, however, that even Iran's middleman handling of weapons that are directly accessed by Islamofascist terrorists is only worth a few words from a diplomatic standpoint. For the first time in 28 years, the United States rewarded Iran's international terrorist sponsorships with diplomatic meetings about how to stabilize Iraq—when Iran has been a main source of destabilization all along.

It seems beyond common sense and good reasoning that the United States would continue to trade with Russia and China if these nations funnel weapons to terrorists who are killing our countrymen. Further, Iran is conducting a proxy war against the United States and Israel by supplying the weapons and technology they gain from Russia and China. These three nations are empowering terrorists who kill our brave men and women in front of our very eyes,

and they are getting away with it because our government is so bent on its democracy driven one world order agenda that it will not do the right thing.

Trade embargoes rarely work. Look at Jimmy Carter's grain embargo on the Soviet Union for its invasion of Afghanistan as an excellent example. But sending a strong signal to China and Russia until they quit supplying terrorist nations who empower those who kill our soldiers, might get their attention. It might be refreshing to see all those products that we buy in American stores, actually be made in America by American workers. And it also seems that military action against Iran for its support of al Qaeda, Hamas, Hezbollah, Islamic Jihad and others is well in order. 1 Corinthians 15:33 says, "Do not be deceived. Evil Company corrupts good morals." Apparently, it has—at the highest levels of our government.

Canadian pastor faces legal repercussions because of hate crimes laws

By Allie Martin

A Canadian pastor is facing a hearing before the Alberta Human Rights and Citizenship Commission over a letter he wrote to a newspaper condemning homosexuality. Some accuse the pastor's letter of influencing the assault days later of a homosexual teenager.

The letter was written five years ago in an Alberta newspaper by Minister Stephen Boissin. Two weeks after the letter was published, a 17-year-old homosexual youth was beaten. A complaint was filed against the minister, and the commission is hearing the case this week.

Mat Staver is founder of Orlando-based Liberty Counsel. He contends Canada is treading on the minister's free speech. "What we see happening in Canada, is a person's free speech -- speech on the matter of homosexuality, which says that homosexuality is wrong and which speaks of the homosexual agenda -- is now being punished in a court of law and the person is being put on trial solely for what the individual spoke."

Staver also warns that the case is

an example of what could happen in the United States if hate crimes legislation is passed.

"Certainly, it's our prayer that the courts will not convict him," the attorney says, "but the fact that he's going through this long ordeal and having to go to court just to represent his right to freedom of speech sends a huge warning shot over the bow of America that we must not, we cannot go down this road.

"We must protect our free exercise of religion and our freedom of expression," Staver emphasizes. "We must be able to speak out in America and around the world about sexuality -- and

specifically that homosexuality is wrong, immoral, and harmful."

The Liberty Counsel founder describes hate crimes legislation as "bad law" because it criminalizes speech and does nothing to prevent violent crimes. "All crimes are motivated by hate," he says in a July 12 press release about a hate crimes amendment currently before the U.S. Senate. "Hate Crimes laws will not be used to punish the perpetrator, but will be used to silence people of faith, religious groups, clergy, and those who support traditional moral values."

The Alberta commission could order an apology or compensation in the Boissin case. It must issue a decision within 60 days of the hearing. Any decision could also be challenged in the courts.

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World Shorts

Jewish group condemns British trade unions' boycott of Israel

(EP News)--The American Jewish Committee (AJC) has condemned the decision of UNISON, Britain's largest trade union, to advocate for a total boycott of Israel. "British trade unions have become the nerve center of the movement to demonize Israel through boycotts," said AJC Executive Director David A. Harris. "With the UNISON action, the union representing more than one million workers in public services in the United Kingdom has now joined with the journalists and academics unions in a shameful hate campaign against the Jewish state." Delegates attending the UNISON annual conference in Brighton in June adopted a motion calling for severing all economic, cultural, academic and sporting links with Israel. The resolution also calls on the British government to support an international arms embargo against Israel. The UNISON resolution makes no mention of terrorist attacks against Israeli civilians, yet calls for the removal of Israel's security fence, pejoratively referred to as the "Apartheid wall."

Canadian Anglicans vote down same-sex unions

(EP News)--The national governing body of the Anglican Church of Canada defeated a measure that would have allowed same-sex blessings. For a measure to pass, it must receive a majority of votes from three bodies -- the church's lay leadership, its clergy delegates, and the bishops. The measure passed the first two bodies, but the church bishops defeated the move, 21-19. Archbishop-elect Fred Hiltz, who was chosen June 22 as the new leader of Canadian Anglicans, was one of those bishops who voted in favor of the proposal.

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Polluted Jordan River on list of endangered sites

(EP News)--The lower portion of the Jordan River -- a 125-mile stretch between the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea -- is so polluted that the World Monuments Fund (WMF) has designated it an "Endangered Cultural Heritage Site." It was placed on the list June 6. The WMF said that about 90 percent of the river's natural water flow has been diverted by Israel, Jordan and Syria for domestic and agricultural use.

Evangelicals urged to defend Israel

(EP News)--More than 3,000 evangelicals met in Washington, D.C., in July for the Christians United for Israel Summit, where they heard about the increasing pressures against the historic and biblical country. Gary Bauer, president of American Values, said the Bush administration's pressure on Israel to give up land is a move in the wrong direction. "Our message is, 'Quit pressuring to give up land,'" Bauer said. "That has never worked; it's not going to work now." Summit attendees also lobbied Congress this week, urging them to stand with Israel.

North Korean evangelist faces death for His faith

(EP News)--Son Jong Nam awaits public execution because of his faith. For more than a year, the former North Korean Army officer who became an underground evangelist has been beaten and tortured. His younger brother, Son Jong Hoon, was on Capitol Hill on July 12 pleading for his brother's life. He spoke through a translator. "He really wants to know if he is still alive or not," the translator said. "What he doesn't understand is why North Korea treats Christians as criminals." Todd Nettleton with Voice of the Martyrs said Son Jong Nam's journey has been tragic. "He was captured at one point in China where he was being disciplined and forcibly repatriated to North Korea," he said. "He was locked in prison for three years and brutally tortured during that time." Five U.S. senators have joined his cause. Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan., called on U.S. and international officials to save his life. "I would hope we would intervene," he said. "It's just almost unbelievable that in 2007 he would be executed simply for being a Christian."

Prayer Turns Despair into Hope

HIMACHAL PRADESH, INDIA (ANS) -- Judging from outward appearance, Savira's life seemed fine. However, one thing after another had taken her down a road of despair.

Her husband had a good job, and they were prosperous. They lived near the border of Punjab in Himachal Pradesh, India. Her needs were all met, but Savira had no peace--neither did her husband, Herat. He had turned to alcohol, and in his drunken state, used to beat Savira daily.

They were on the brink of divorce, and then their son injured his leg so badly that medical doctors said it was beyond repair. Savira

concluded that life was not worth living anymore and planned suicide.

But by the grace of God, two women missionaries, Esther and Joy, visited Savira and told her about Jesus' love and the sacrifice He made on the cross. Savira asked Esther and Joy to pray to Jesus for her family, explaining her problems to them. They prayed, and God answered their prayers miraculously. Savira's husband slowly changed and stopped beating her. Her son's leg slowly improved and healed.

Savira knew... She placed her faith in Him, receiving Him as her Savior. Today, there is joy in her heart.



Women like these are sharing Christ's love daily all across the Indian Subcontinent.

Please pray for Savira's husband. Though he has changed in many ways, he has not chosen to receive Christ yet. He does not allow Savira to go and worship at the local GFA-affiliated church. Pray also that Savira's testimony will point many to salvation in Jesus.

Defense analyst: Russia choosing sides in new 'cold war'

By Chad Groening

An Australian defense analyst says the United States and Great Britain did a poor job of bringing Russia into the fold following the Cold War, and now Moscow appears to be on the wrong side of a new "cold war" led by China.

Reaction in Moscow was harsh when the British decided to expel four Russian diplomats in a dispute over the case of a former KGB officer fatally poisoned in London. The Russians also continue to resist efforts by the U.S.

to build missile defense facilities in former Soviet bloc countries.

Greg Copley, president of the International Strategic Studies Association, is frank in his assessment. "The U.S. State Department and the British Foreign Commonwealth Office have failed to recognize that the West won the Cold War and that they should have embraced post-Soviet Russia as the ally of the West it wished to be," he says.

And while he does not envision a

return to the original U.S.-Russia Cold War scenario, Copley acknowledges what he describes as a "reshaping" of the world into a new cold war. "And the new cold war adversary will actually center more around China and Iran and North Korea than it will around Russia," he states. "We just don't want to force Russia to join the new cold war on the other side of the fence. China is a prime concern."

Copley says the great fear of the Russian leadership is the expansion of China -- and yet, he states, the Russians appear prepared to embrace Beijing.

China monthly trade surplus with U.S. reached all time high in June

By Chad Groening

An organization dedicated to a free China is raising concern over a recent report that the communist regime's monthly trade surplus with the United States soared to a record high in June.

The one-month \$26.9 billion surplus amounts to an increase of more than 85 percent from the previous year, according to China's customs agency, pushing the overall surplus for the first half of the year past \$112 billion and shattering the symbolic \$100 billion barrier for the first time.

Among those concerned about this report is Curry Kenworthy of the China e-Lobby, who says granting Permanent Normal Trade Relations with Beijing has only benefited the communist government. "It sounded like this was going to be more of a balanced thing, and it never has," he observes. "It's always been unbalanced."

Kenworthy says it is not just about a flood of cheap Chinese goods. He is also concerned with how this will affect America's national security, remarking that to have such a tremendous deficit with a potential enemy is dangerous. "If there's a possibility we might have a war with someone, then it's nice to have your own industry," he says, "and it's also a healthier basis for an economy, I believe."

Drawing on historical facts, Kenworthy notes that during WWII the U.S. was able to out-produce just about any other nation in the world

with its industry. But he says that has changed now -- and that the U.S. get almost everything from China or other countries, except for a few items produced by the American defense industry.

Although the Chinese government has claimed that it is not actively pursuing a trade surplus and has tried to cool the boom, Kenworthy remains skeptical about how serious the Chinese really are about reigning in the trade gap. He says the U.S. should use punitive measures if Beijing fails to show results.

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Book Reviews

Is Hollywood's Hatred for the God of Christianity Fueling Violence In America?

In his new book *Hollywood Be Thy Name*, published by Bridge-Logos, best-selling author Ray Comfort claims to present compelling evidence that Hollywood is poisoning an entire generation against Christianity and the God it serves.

Comfort said, "'*Hollywood Be Thy Name*' reveals how Hollywood's blasphemy and hatred for Christianity played a significant part in poisoning the minds of Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, influencing them to murder students at Columbine High School. Hollywood also had an unholy hand in the recent mass-murder at Virginia Tech."

"Earlier this year, 'The Blasphemy Challenge' made the news when

about 900 atheists videotaped themselves blaspheming the Holy Spirit and posted the recordings on YouTube. Why do so many have such a great hatred for Christianity? Why aren't they angry with radical Islam? It's because of Christianity that we have the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and the YMCA. There are thousands of hospitals, schools and universities, homeless shelters, and soup kitchens all over the world that owe their origin to a Christian heritage. Until a few years ago to be an 'American' meant you loved God and country. So why is there such an increase in hatred toward Christianity? Where has it come from?"

- Does Hollywood really have that much influence over our society?
- Why would Hollywood single out Christianity with contempt and defend other faiths?
- Is it true that Christians in Hollywood are for the most part blackballed?
- Do you believe Hollywood would change if Christians were to abstain from movies that blaspheme God?

Hollywood Be Thy Name not only exposes Hollywood's part in fueling this hatred, but it also explains why the U.S. crime rate tripled in the late 1960s, and why the sixties generation suddenly threw off the Judeo-Christian values of their parents. Comfort, who co-hosts an award-winning television program with actor Kirk Cameron, says he

is so passionate about the issue that he is giving away two thousand copies of a thirteen-minute DVD called "Hollywood and God."



"This powerful and life-changing video doesn't criticize Hollywood, but instead looks at the issue from a unique perspective," Comfort explains. "We're asking pastors

to show it to their churches to help them positively influence society starting in their own families and congregations." The clip can also be freely viewed and downloaded at www.hollywoodandgod.com.

The publication has received a rave pre-release review by Tony Miano of Ten-Four Ministries. "Ray Comfort writes the way he talks to people—with the concern of a man who deeply cares about the spiritual condition of everyone he meets," says Miano. "With the same warmhearted style with which he engages people in conversation, Ray tells the truth. He doesn't attack anyone. He simply exposes the lies and the blasphemy of Hollywood with the truth of God's Word. There is not a shred of legalism in this important book. Instead, the book is a clarion call to people everywhere to revere and honor the name of God."

To learn more about Ray Comfort and Living Waters Publications visit www.livingwaters.com.

The Coming Battle

WHO CONTROLS AMERICA?

The book that tells the true story of how the Money Power gained control of America



By Lorraine Walter

First published in 1899, republished for the first time in 100 years! *The Coming Battle* documents from congressional records, newspaper reports and writings by the founding fathers and others a chronology of events long forgotten that shaped our fledgling nation from 1776 to 1899. Read about the manipulation of our money and its supply, the intentional creation of recessions, depressions and panics, the manipulation of the stock markets and the demonetization of silver. A breathtaking history told in the words of a contemporary witness to these events.

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The Coming Battle discusses how recessions, depressions, and panics are created at will
The Good News TODAY

and how the stock markets are manipulated for power and gain. How the manufacturers, with the backing of the money power, import cheap foreign labor, resulting in countless labor riots. It also discusses how the money power took control of the influential colleges and universities in the United States. How the money power created starvation and suffering in a nation of plenty and how small family farms are set up for foreclosures.

READ how silver was demonetized by the money power, resulting in a five-year depression, that devastated the people and the western regions of the United States and about the Democratic platform of 1840. **You'll also learn** how the banking money power fleeced the treasury of our gold and silver and replaced it with their worthless paper money. How legislation was signed and passed into law pledging every American citizen as collateral for the repayment of all government debts in gold and silver. Learn about Napoleon The III, attempting to unite nations under a common currency and about the corporate takeover of America.

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Former porn addict says healing, hope available

By Allie Martin and Jody Brown

Apathy and silence in the church, says Mike Genung, are Satan's greatest weapons in the battle against sexual addiction among Christians. That is why he is encouraging churches, for the sake of their families, to cease playing "ostrich" regarding the issue.

A former porn addict says churches need to pull their heads out of the sand and do more to address the issue of sexual addiction among Christians.

Mike Genung is founder of Blazing Grace (www.blazinggrace.org), a Colorado Springs-based ministry offering hope for those addicted to pornography and resources for churches to help them deal with the problem among their own members. Genung accepted Christ at a young age, but says he started dabbling in pornography as a teenager. "[T]here were some problems in our family which included sexual abuse," he shares on his ministry website, "and I learned to cope by using sex for comfort and love."

Genung says he was addicted to pornography for more than two decades, until one day in 1999.

"One morning I was reading through the Book of First John and reading all the verses about God's grace and that God is love, and I just got depressed," he says. At that point, says Genung, he asked: "Lord, why is it when I read about Your grace and Your love, I get depressed?" According to the ministry founder, "The words came right back: 'Because you don't believe it.'"

While shocked to hear that, Genung says it was the truth. "The Lord had been saying 'I love you' to me all of my life, and I hadn't believed Him," he states. Since realizing that God loved him in spite of everything he had done, Genung's life has not been the same, he says. He started Blazing Grace Ministries to help men

who are addicted to porn -- and he offers himself as proof that there is hope for Christians who want a way out of that addiction.

Genung shares that he overcame his addiction by relying fully on God's redemptive grace, and also by making himself accountable to fellow believers. And he laments that, like he used to be, there are many men in churches struggling with porn addiction -- but he says freedom is possible.

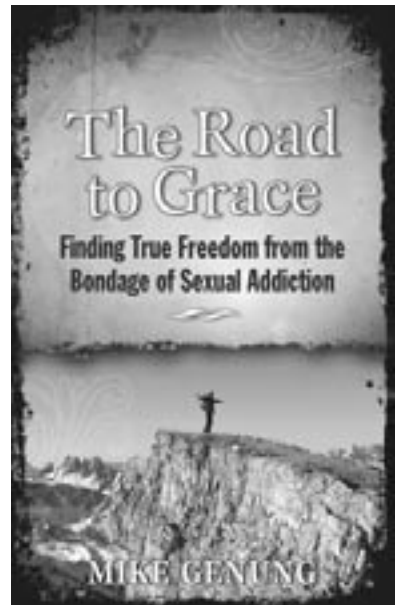
"I've seen God pull marriages [out] that were moving toward divorce and change the man and heal the wife," he says, emphasizing the latter "because a lot of what people forget about is the wife gets hurt in this whole process." He cites studies showing that upwards of 50 percent of men in churches struggle with porn, and 20 percent of women are involved with pornography.

The church, says the former porn addict, must do more to confront the problem of sexual addiction because of the high numbers of Christians who struggle in that area.

"We need to speak out [from the pulpit] because when we're silent ... a man who is struggling with this shame assumes that [he] dare not tell anybody else because [he fears he will] get rejected," he

shares -- from experience. He says on his website that because so few people in the church were talking about struggles with sexual addiction, he assumed he was "the only one" -- which encouraged him to keep his "dark side" hidden. "This gave lust more power over me and intensified my search for 'more and better' sexual fantasies," he writes.

And that, he says, is why the church



needs to be proactive in the battle against sexual addiction within the church. "Apathy and silence are Satan's greatest weapons in this war," he continues, "so we've got to boldly get out there, tell all of the truth, provide answers, and point the sexually broken to Christ. If we play ostrich in this issue, more families will be taken out -- there's a lot at stake."

Genung recently released *The Road to Grace*, a book about his victorious battle over porn.

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Sports



Doug Flutie

What's inside

By Brad Locke

TUPELO, Miss. (BP)—Jim Leyland was awestruck at the ease with which Ichiro Suzuki was swatting balls over the fence during batting practice prior to the Major League Baseball All-Star Game.

The American League manager, who led the Detroit Tigers to the AL pennant last year, sees Ichiro like most of us do — a slight, speedy slap hitter who will dink you to death.

“He probably hit more home runs

today in BP than any player on the field, and he made it look easy,” Leyland said after his team won the Summer Classic 5-4. “I couldn’t believe it.”

Ichiro went 3-for-3 and was named All-Star MVP, and he hit a home run, all right — an inside-the-park job.

Just looking at him, Ichiro doesn’t look like a power guy, and maybe you don’t think he looks like a baseball guy. David Eckstein gets that a lot. At 5-foot-7, the Cardinals shortstop looks like he ought to be showing people their seats, not giving them reason to leap out of them and cheer. But he was the 2006 World Series MVP as the Cardinals won their first title in 24 years.

Spud Webb is also 5-7. As you probably know, that didn’t keep

him from playing in the NBA for 12 seasons, or from winning the 1986 Slam Dunk Contest.

Doug Flutie was 5-10, 180 pounds. Didn’t matter. He won a Heisman Trophy, stunned Miami with The Pass and had a very fulfilling 21-year pro career in the USFL, NFL and Canadian Football League.

I take encouragement from these kinds of athletes. They don’t fit the mold coaches and scouts generally look for. They’re underestimated, overlooked, and often are outcasts (it took Flutie two tries to stick in the NFL). They are seen as weak in a sense.

I don’t see myself as anything

special. Moses thought the same way of himself, as did Gideon. David wasn’t considered king material by his own family.



Ichiro Suzuki

But it’s like God told Samuel in 1 Samuel 16:7: “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature ... man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” In other words, it’s what inside that counts. The heart is the strongest muscle in the human body when we let it be.

Yet we continue to pick the biggest for our teams. We select the smartest for our work groups. We choose the most eloquent to pastor our churches. That’s a grave mistake.

The former pastor at my church did not exactly have what one might call “pulpit presence,” but he had a heart for the truth, and it showed in the vitality of our church. We now have a pastor who has that powerful aura about him, but that’s not why he became our next preacher. It’s because he also has an abiding desire to proclaim the truth found in God’s word, and that truth, not just his delivery, is what makes his sermons so powerful.

It’s God’s strength that we should count on, not our own. We need not let our weaknesses limit us. Ichiro and the rest of them haven’t. They all don’t fit the mold. They’re too small for it.

Fortunately, their hearts more than fill up the rest of the space. Let us strive to do the same every day.

Men of faith on David Beckham’s new team

Two of the star players of LA Galaxy share their faith

By Dan Wooding - Founder of ASSIST Ministries

LOS ANGELES, CA (ANS) -- There are men of faith on David Beckham’s new team, the LA Galaxy, and they agreed to talk about it after an exciting 2-2 tie with the Kansas City Wizards at the Home Depot Center on Saturday, July 7th.



David Beckham

It was just days before superstar Beckham joined his new team, and the LA Galaxy had held their 5th Annual Faith Night where Christian artists performed and many Christian ministries and churches had exhibit booths.

A speaker at the Faith night event was Chris Klein, a US national team player who recently joined the club. He told the crowd at the pre-game event stage about the importance of faith in his life. “My relationship with Christ is the center point of why I play this game and why I go out there every day and work hard,” he said. “I do it to let my light shine and glorify Him.”

After the hard-fought game, I was allowed into the LA Galaxy locker room and talked with Chris Klein and I asked him when he had first become a Christian.

“It was when I started dating Angela, who became his wife, and she started asking me some probing questions,” he said. “I was 22 years old then and in my junior year at college and this eventually resulted in me giving my life to Christ.” Klein said a friend named Steve from Athletes in Action then “really pushed me in my walk.”

I then asked him how, as a Christian, he coped with the kind of adulation that many sports stars get.

“It can be difficult, but I think it’s always keeping that perspective of where we are in His world and how we just can each play a role in it,” said Klein. “As I said before the game, we all need to be living our life before an audience of one, and if you always keep that in mind and always know that it is Him that you’re living for, and Him who is your audience, then with that in mind, you do everything you can to live your life for Him.”

Chris Klein then talked about Athletes in Action, a ministry of Campus Crusade for Christ, that he is involved in that serves professional athletes.

“They have really urged me to get out there and speak more to kids and to groups to really share my faith,” he said.



Chris Klein

I then wondered how the arrival of David Beckham would affect him personally.

“Well personally, I don’t know how much affect it’s going to have on me except we’re bringing a very

good player in and the atmosphere around here is going to ramp up pretty significantly in about five or six days,” he said.

“So the addition of him from a soccer standpoint is pretty amazing. The spotlight is going to be on this team for the rest of the season and for the foreseeable future because a guy of his caliber and his magnitude, from a worldly standpoint, is going to be in the locker room and the field.”

Chris said that Ray Caldwell, a chaplain for the LA Galaxy who is part of Athletes in Action, conducts a weekly chapel service. I wondered if Beckham might attend one of them. “I have no idea,” he said. “That’s going to be up to him. We sort of leave an open invitation with all the players. We keep an open door and if guys want to come in and dip their toe in the water, we’d love to have them.”

I asked Klein to give some advice to youngsters who wanted to be famous sport stars. “I think that the most important thing is to have an eternal perspective and to know that we’re living our life before an audience of one -- and that’s Jesus Christ,” he said. “If you do that, the other things in your life are going to fall into place. You’re going to work harder at your job; you’re going to be a better brother or sister or son or daughter. “If you do that and with that perspective, it’s a lot more fun, but living under God’s grace is certainly the best decision I’ve ever made.”

I concluded by asking him if, when he prays before a game, it is so his side will win. “No,” he laughed, “because, just two weeks ago, I was on a different team. So

I don’t pray to God, ‘Let me win the game,’ but mainly I try to just ask God that I can go out there and glorify Him with my actions and what I do on the field.”

I then spoke with Cobi Jones, the man of the match who had just scored two goals after coming off the bench. Cobi has an extraordinary record. He is only player in



Cobi Jones

MLS history to play with the same club for each of the League’s first 11 seasons, Jones is the Galaxy’s all-time leader in games played (281), goals (66) and assists (86). He is one of three players in MLS history to have scored 60 or more goals and added 80 or more assists and was named an All-Star in each of MLS’ first eight seasons. Jones announced prior to the start of the 2007 MLS season that he would retire at the conclusion of the campaign.

I noticed that he was wearing a cross and so I asked him what faith meant to him personally.

“For me personally, it means faith in myself and in God,” he said. “Faith that I’ll be looked out for and everything I do is for right and will come out well. You know I have got to believe through God and myself that I’ll always make the right decisions and move forward and do good in my life.”

So I asked Cobi Jones if he had a religious faith and he replied, “Yes, I’m a Christian.” He added that he is a regular attendee of the Athletes in Action chapel for the LA Galaxy.

“We have the chapel here and someone comes in and holds a session, and whoever wants to come in can; it’s open to all players. I’ve been in there and we have our discussions!”

As I left the locker room, which was relatively quiet, one of the players smiled and said, “Look around. You won’t be seeing it like this again for a long time. As soon as David Beckham comes it will be a zoo!”



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The Land from Page 1

Sunday morning, while waiting in the terminal for my flight to JFK, I was pleasantly surprised to see Pastor Marquard of Faith Christian Center preaching on a television in the corner of the terminal. I wish I could say everyone was gathered around the set listening intently but unfortunately it seemed most people were more intent on earthly travel than their eternal destination. Nevertheless, I found comfort in knowing God was near.

Upon arrival at JFK I made my way to the El Al lounge, where I would meet up with the other 9 journalists and our IMOT Rep. As if a trip to Israel wasn't enough to stimulate our senses, while waiting in the El Al lounge a journalist from our group spotted Stephen Baldwin, the younger brother of Alec and invited him over for an impromptu interview. Amidst camera flashes and astounded fellow travelers, Stephen promptly passed out gospel tracts to our group and what seemed like half the lounge. He then informed us of a new youth ministry that he had started, called Break-through Ministries, whose mission it is to lead the world's youth to the spiritual truth that Jesus Christ is the King of kings and Lord of lords and the one and only way into Heaven. He was headed to Jerusalem to begin plans for an upcoming youth event there, where the gospel would be shared and youth would be directed to bible believing churches. B.T.M.'s (GlobalBTM.com) purpose is to reach lost youth of the world with the gospel message through cultural tools that their generation is engaged and interested in. After chatting for a while and praying in the middle of the lounge, we all headed off to board the plane for Israel... finally.

the first of the Intefada (uprisings) attacks of 2000 took place. Though the people have seemingly healed, scars are still visible on a handful of the buildings. After checking in a few of us walked across the street to take pictures of the Dolphin Disco, currently being rebuilt, the site of the attack where 21 people died and 120 were injured. Ikey explained that current tourism numbers are on the rise at about 2 Million annually. Prior to 2000 they were at a peak of approximately 3 million per year, still relatively low numbers for a country with such an incomparably rich and magnificent history, not the least of which is being the birthplace of the world's 3 major religions. In comparison Rhode Islands estimated annual tourist visits are somewhere around 600,000 per year.

Our arrival, at Ben Gurion Airport, in Lod, Israel, about 9 miles from Tel Aviv, was not unlike flying into any major city in the U.S. One major difference being, all the signs were written in three languages, Hebrew, Arabic and English. Nearly 8 million people live in Israel, 76% Jewish, 20% Arab and 4% other. The armed airport guards which we have almost come to expect in U.S. airports were present here also, though they seemed a bit more relaxed than their American counterparts.

Everyone we met was polite and courteous and went out of there way to make us feel welcome and at home. Our Jewish tour

guide, Ikey Korin, who could make even the most patriotic of visitors want to become an Israeli, met us in the airport and helped to facilitate baggage claims and transport to our waiting tour bus. As we entered the bus he began the process of intimately relaying the history of Israel the amazing journey of the Jewish people, his ancestors and how he and they came to live in "The Land."

Our first night would be spent in Tel Aviv, a beautiful Mediterranean seaport with a population of about 400,000. "Current day Israel is about the size of New Jersey, having only increased to that size since the 40 Day War. The 40th Anniversary would be celebrated during our stay", Ikey informed us as we drove through the city. Before checking in at the Dan Panorama Hotel we went to the Old Port for a traditional Jewish dinner at the White Pergola, a contemporary Fish & Meat seaside restaurant. This restaurant was a preview of many great meals to come, offering many fresh vegetables and healthy options, most served family style, with an assortment of breads, and Middle Eastern staples like, humus and other tasty delights. After dinner we walked along the boardwalk filled with shops, restaurants and nightclubs.

As we drove back to the hotel, Ikey explained that Tel Aviv was where the first of the Intefada (uprisings) attacks of 2000 took place. Though the people have seemingly healed, scars are still visible on a handful of the buildings. After checking in a few of us walked across the street to take pictures of the Dolphin Disco, currently being rebuilt, the site of the attack where 21 people died and 120 were injured. Ikey explained that current tourism numbers are on the rise at about 2 Million annually. Prior to 2000 they were at a peak of approximately 3 million per year, still relatively low numbers for a country with such an incomparably rich and magnificent history, not the least of which is being the birthplace of the world's 3 major religions. In comparison Rhode Islands estimated annual tourist visits are somewhere around 600,000 per year.

The following day started with a sumptuous breakfast buffet which included seemingly every food under the sun. One of the most pleasant surprises of our trip was the incredible variety of foods that were available everywhere we traveled. Soon after breakfast we were off to a nearby district of Tel Aviv, the seaport



Stephen Baldwin



Dolphin Disco



Narrow street in Joppa



Egyptian ruins on Jaffa Hill

of Jaffa. Better known as Joppa by many Christians, it is one of the most ancient port cities in the world. "Jaffa Hill," which rises to a height of 40 meters (130 feet) and offers a commanding view of the coastline caused it to be of strategic importance in military history. At the foot of the hill were springs of fresh water. The accumulation of debris and landfill over the centuries made the hill even higher. Recent excavation has uncovered Egyptian artifacts and ruins.

Joppa is the city where Jonah set sail from prior to becoming whale food. The New Testament account of Peter's resurrection of the widow Tabitha, also takes place in Jaffa. Peter later had a vision in which God told him not to distinguish between Jews and Gentiles or between kosher and non-kosher. In Jaffa, as in many of the towns and cities throughout Israel we found beautiful monuments and churches built in honor of famous biblical sites and people. Today Jaffa is an exciting combination of ancient, new and restored architecture. One can find art galleries, the-

aters, souvenir shops, exclusive restaurants, sidewalk cafes, boardwalks and shopping opportunities and a rich variety of culture, entertainment and food.

Throughout our tour, Ikey always offered biblical reference for each stop along the journey, often combining the stories of the Jews from Germany, Russia, and the U.S. and how they all had come to Israel to build new lives for themselves. "Israel is not a Third World country any longer, but a robust, modern state", he exclaimed again and again. "Israel's accomplishments over the past century -- and especially the last three decades -- are nothing short of astonishing." Indeed the rich history of Israel is nothing short of miraculous.

Next month we will visit Caesarea, Megiddo and the village of Nazareth and meet some of the interesting people that have made "The Land" home.

Morning Star

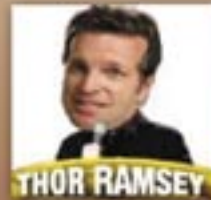
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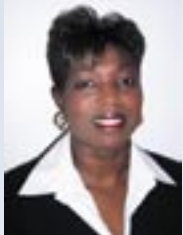
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CreationFest East: Christian Motivation



language that plagues many young minds today.

Creation is a time to focus on God, and find a refuge from the worries of the world. Many teens and adults are constantly encouraged by these bands' words and their out looks on life. Kutless says that being a role model is often scary but a comfortable pressure to aim for "blamelessness". These bands recognize and want others to know as well where their motivation comes from. It comes from God.

By Jessica Rowan and Janice Wray
 June 27th- 30th 2007 marked the 29th annual CreationFest East, the largest Christian music festival in the United States. Over 70 bands shared their music and delivered the message on Agape Farm in Mount Union, Pennsylvania. The bands and speakers' voices echoed off the surrounding mountain tops and reached the hearts of thousands of campers.

music, but wisdom is used to find where the heart really is. He agreed with the Kutless definition, saying that a Christian musician is defined by character more than lyrics. Thousand Foot Krutch, another rock band, also agreed with this new found definition of Christian music; as a Christian lifestyle portrayed through lyrics.

These bands included Toby Mac, Kutless, Thousand Foot Krutch, John Reuben, Hawk Nelson, and many more. Some speakers were Bob Lenz, Duffy Robbins, Harry Thompson, and Ron Luce, all of which provided encouragement and guidance to believers and nonbelievers alike. Not only did the speakers share their experiences directly, but when speaking to the bands, they shared their testimonies as well. Talking not only about the music industry, many bands spoke about Christian motivation.

With Christian music defined, the question of what motivates these bands can be answered. All of these bands had a similar answer. Their answer was God is their motivation. Hawk Nelson, a Christian punk band, said that their motivation was feeling God's call with their open hearts. Thousand Foot Krutch's response was: "It is who we are". They explained that God and music are indivisible in their minds. They said that the biggest challenge they face is "musical integrity and making music that shows who we are and honesty with our faith, but not cheesy". Through God this musical group stays motivated.

How are Christian music artists motivated to produce Christian music? Well first, what is Christian music defined as? A member of Kutless, a Christian rock band, stated, "that the fact that we are 'saved by grace' comes out in music lyrics and in the artist's life styles". The band agreed that they wanted others to call them "Christian" without proclaiming it themselves. John Reuben, a Christian rapper, said it is hard to know where to draw the line between secular and Christian

The members of Kutless stay motivated by holding each other accountable and always talking to God, which they say also keeps them humble while on the road. John Reuben realizes the constant battle with the desire for money. Being a believer, he desires only for people to connect to his music. And he says that people are his inspiration because he likes to see how they "click and tick". He uses this as his content for songs and finds it unnecessary for crude

Creation is a time for socializing with others and praising and dedicating lives to the Lord. It is not only a time for camping and fun but a time for worship. It is a time for all of us to find where our motivation in life comes from. And ultimately realizing it should come from God.

CREATION 2007- Songs of praise

BY FORD TURNER
The Patriot-News

MOUNT UNION - His own hallowed ground came alive all around Jason Pooler. People, thousands of them, filtered into the remote, hilly spread of haze-draped land in Huntingdon County. Tents sprang up like green, blue, yellow and red mushrooms, and there were campers and vans with license plates from as far as Michigan. Prayers were readied, guitars were tuned, spirits prepared for outpouring. The 29th Creation festival was ready to roll. Billed as the nation's largest Christian music festival, it was much more to Pooler.

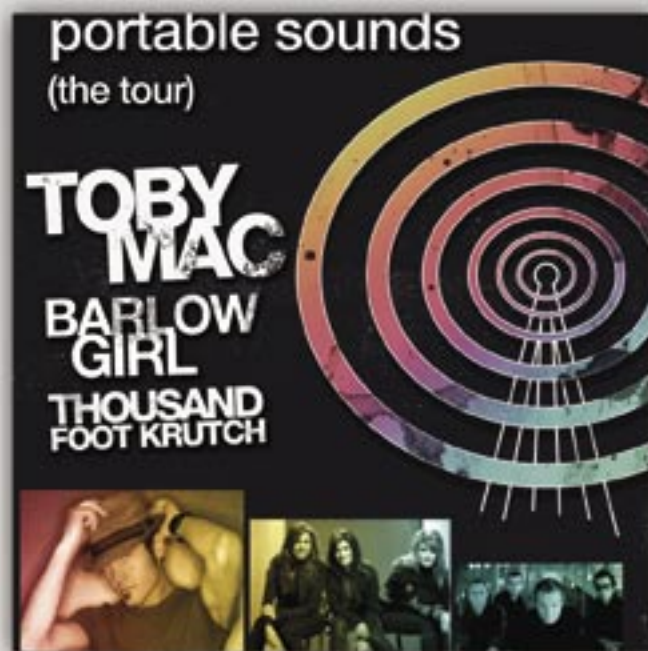
Fourteen years earlier, the 36-year-old construction worker from East Berlin, York County, had wrecked his truck, lost his job and been on the verge of suicide. His brother took him to the 1993 Creation festival. There, Pooler said, he was riveted by a motivational speaker who took the stage between musical acts.

"It was like he was talking to me," Pooler said. "And I said, 'Oh my gosh, I need to know this Jesus.'"

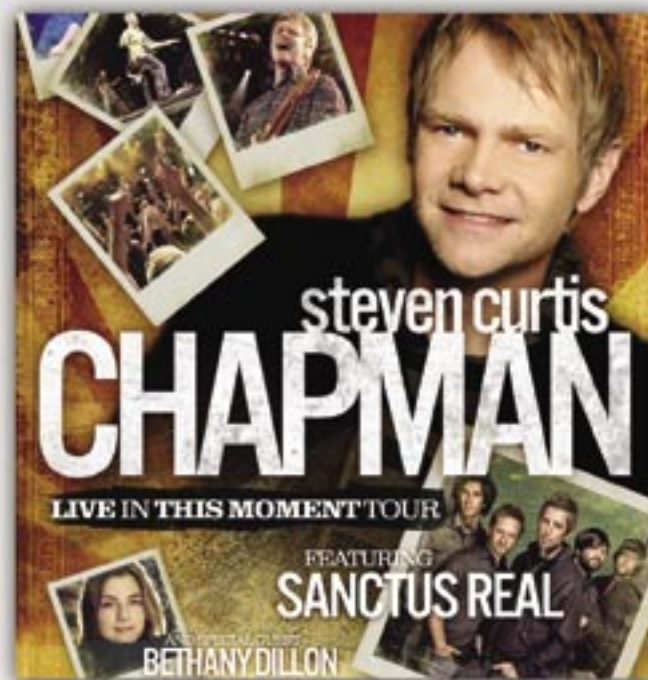
The four-day Creation 2007 began in its traditional spot, a swath of farmland including the Agape Farm retreat center, south of Mount Union and just north of Shirleysburg. Last year, the event was rained out. Organizers say over 75,000 people attended this year. Standard admission was \$110 for the entire event. The 70 artists scheduled to perform included Christian bands Newsboys, Switchfoot, Reliant K and former "American Idol" contestant Mandisa.

Jason Pooler, one of the Life Center campers, could not suppress a smile as he looked over the throngs of people. Back in 1993, he found more than his faith at Creation. That year, he helped set up a tent for a stranger named Holly Crisamore, a Dover Area High School graduate. Now, her name is Holly Pooler, and she is pregnant with the couple's first child.

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Entertainment

United in Faith

By Ralph Davis

I lay in bed the other night thinking about the 500 piece puzzle of the Grand Canyon I once tried to put together. There were hundreds of pieces that appeared so dissimilar yet, when joined together, they formed the perfect image.

This is so like the way of the Christian community; there are so many churches and individuals sharing at least a semblance of common belief yet remain scattered, sometimes only a block away from each other. The distance might as well be as wide as the Grand Canyon and there are seldom real efforts to bridge it.

The New Beginnings Coffee House, Quidnick Baptist Church, and the Artic Mission are going to bridge that gap by drawing some of the local churches and Christians from all over the state together for a day of worship and fellowship.

The all-day event, is aptly named: UNITED IN FAITH, A Festival of Christian Music. Featured on the main stage will be: John Polce, Mike Cipriano, Good News Rhythm and Blues, Grafted In, Crimson Rain, Mark Dobson and Spirit and Truth.

There will be a children's stage for entertainment, children's activities, and free raffles as well

microphones" and bands began to come to play there. The band members enjoyed good attendance and began to realize how they were being drawn together and thought about how they might draw others.

Perhaps the greatest need at this point is for volunteers. They are in need of performers who can provide a 30-minute show for children which could include music, story telling, Christian clowning, etc. "We are also in need of face painters," Cathy said, as well as people willing to help out as needed. Food and drink donations would be appreciated as well as the loan of sound equipment, staging & tents. Any financial support to help offset expenses would be welcomed.

I came away from my discussion with Cathy Morgan that she and the planners of this event are deeply committed to the idea of trying to draw neighboring churches together, to get to know and become comfortable with one another and to move forward in a more unified manner in the future.

If you are a Christian, no matter what church you attend, please bless them with your presence. You will be rewarded by hearing excellent music and a chance to be around like-minded people. If you are not, this will be an opportunity to experience great music

Four days of concerts at SoulFest 2007

Gilford, NH - Four days of soul-connected music happens at SoulFest this summer. SoulFest, the largest music festival of its kind in the Northeast with 15,000 people attending for four days of concerts on 6 separate stages with over 125 artists, is coming up in just a few days on August 1-4th at Gunstock Mountain Resort in Gilford, NH. You do not want to miss this event with renowned artists such as Chris Tomlin, Newsboys, Jeremy Camp, Natalie Grant, Casting Crowns, Pillar and MXPX. There will be plenty of opportunities to connect with new and amazing artists you have never heard of before.

SoulFest is also a one-stop vacation spot for many families from the New England area. There is on-site camping at Gunstock, a skateboard park that will have a pro-skateboarding team demonstrations, children



activities, mountain biking, horse-back riding, hiking, volley ball, extreme sports, climbing wall and Lake Winnepesaukee is just down the road! Spend some time with the family for four days or more and have a chance to meet your favorite musicians!

You can rock for one day or for all four days,

but this is THE festival of the summer that you do not want to miss. The music, and the good times at the 10th Anniversary of SoulFest, will move you and build lasting memories.

For more information you can check out their website at www.thesoulfest.com or call the office at 978-346-4577 Monday through Saturday 9am-9pm to get answers for all your questions or help you order tickets. Discount and family passes are available.

Daily Aphorisms with Harry

By Dr. Ted Baehr, Publisher of MOVIEGUIDE®

HOLLYWOOD, CA (ANS) -- Watching 6- and 7-year-old children walk out of the press screening for the new Harry Potter movie (as well as the many reviewers and others with witchcraft symbols on their clothes and S&M dresses) is always an opportunity to reflect on the malignant corruption of our culture. Aside from the fact that these children are exposed to ugly creatures, fantastic violence and worthless incantations, this movie has some dialogue which sounds like it comes out of Stuart Smalley's Daily Affirmations on "Saturday Night Live". Namely, when Professor Dumbledore sits Harry down and tells him, "You are not a bad person. Every person has light and darkness. You have a choice."

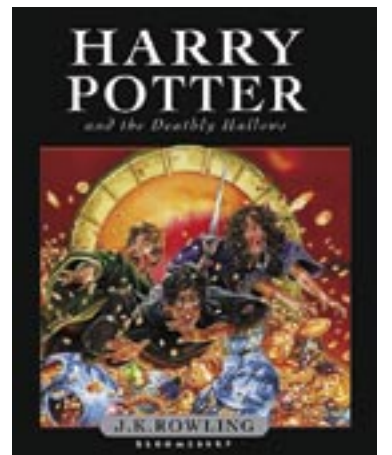
Imagine saying this to Michael Cho after he has had his killing spree at Virginia Tech this spring. Or, Adolf Hitler. Contrary to Dumbledore's idiotic aphorisms, there are bad people.

The Wall Street Journal blamed the narcissism of our age on poor Mister Rogers, who was one of the leading proponents of no one is bad. I like Mister Rogers, and I think they may be taking him out of context. But, all this psychological mumbo jumbo about "you are really a good person" has caused

a whole generation to be spoiled beyond comprehension.

For those who don't care about the occult worldview in the "Harry Potter" books and movies, which reinforces this rampant selfish solipsism, they should care about this insane condoning and tolerating of malignant narcissistic behavior. For instance, one woman several years ago told me that she always took her children to see "Harry Potter". After her little boy talked back to her, kicked at her, and annoyed her, I said that I could see he's learned his scripts of behavior from dear old Harry.

Witchcraft means rebellion against God's authority in the Bible. These books and movies teach rebellion against authority. When they add to this rebellious attitude the stupid aphorism that "you're really a good person," then one must seriously ask, What are these narcissistic children supposed to think? Those children who are susceptible to this mindless pc drivel may think their rebellion is part of their goodness and that they're right to break the rules because breaking the rules is fun. In that way, they become part of the growing crowd of rebellious young people who are incapable of constructing and perpetuating a viable civilization.



Only one out of 10 children keep the values of their parents. Those parents, who were shaped by the selfish rebelliousness of the 1960s who take their children to see "Harry Potter" movies, must want their children to perpetuate their rebellious ways. But, what about the naive people of faith who take their children to learn their scripts of behavior from Harry? Are they just good people who are unwittingly indulging in psychological child abuse?

Contrary to the message of the "Harry Potter" books and movies, without God you cannot choose the good. But, there is a Name above all names who will conquer evil and banish the darkness and set you on the path of righteousness. And, that name is Jesus Christ, who is the Word of God made Flesh, the only begotten Son of God who is at the Father's side and who enlightens all men with God's Truth (John 1:1-18).

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as light food and fellowship. There will be plenty of free copies of the *Good News Today* available for you to take to hand out to friends, co-workers and neighbors.

The event will be held on September 1, 2007, from Noon until 9:30 P.M. at the Church of the Apostles, 170 Fairview Ave., Coventry, RI. Cathryn J. Morgan (Cathy), Diaconal Minister of Outreach at the Church of the Apostles is the project coordinator.

Cathy sounded very excited when I spoke with her and said that things are "really coming together!" She said that the idea for the event evolved out of the Church of the Apostles one-year-old New Beginnings Coffee House. The coffee house advertised "open The Good News TODAY

and easy-going people in a non-judgmental atmosphere.

If you would like to volunteer to assist in any way, contact Cathy Morgan at 401-781-8577. Or, to learn more visit their website at: www.churchoftheapostlesri.org

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Health

FDA Tyranny To Become Law

By Byron J. Richards, CCN

On Wednesday, July 11, 2007 the House passed HR.2900 without allowing the Ron Paul (R-TX) amendments to protect dietary supplements. Representatives Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ), John Dingell (D-MI), Henry Waxman (D-CA), and others falsely proclaimed that they were doing America a favor by passing this sweeping FDA-supported legislation that grants the rouge agency more power and money, and even transforms it into a quasi drug company.

Both the House and Senate (S.1082) have made the fatally flawed assumption that the reason for so many deaths and injuries from drugs was due to the FDA's lack of resources. In reality, it is the INTENTION of FDA management that is the problem, combined with the simple fact that multiple drugs are extremely toxic and don't work as advertised. Giving the FDA more power and money will only cause the agency to speed more drugs onto the market faster with even less safety testing – while abusing its power and actively stamping out competition to drugs.

FDA management is in bed with

Big Pharma and this new legislation makes matters significantly worse through the creation of the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the FDA. This new entity places the FDA in charge of drug design, drug patents, drug licenses, and the creation of new marketing entities/companies. Such a relationship with private industry

with unknown risks – a flagrant safety risk that will cost many people their lives. Congressional leaders said they couldn't prevent this advertisement for fear of violating the first amendment rights of drug companies. What a joke. The FDA routinely squashes the first amendment rights of American citizens to understand natural health options and the science that explains how they can prevent

ing Big Pharma. FDA tyranny, based on this type of arbitrary and unrestrained exercise of power, is used to promote and protect the pharmaceutical industry while at the same time undermining the dietary supplement industry.

Both the House and Senate think it is completely fine that the drug industry pay the FDA fees so that the FDA can approve new drugs faster. Indeed, the FDA and Big Pharma met 112 times to work out their partnership before the FDA let Congress know what it wanted to see in HR.2900 and S.1082. This is like paying the mob for protection. A careful look at the history of the FDA shows it is little more than a bully that protects vested interests at the expense of human health. It is a pitiful agency. It is little wonder than the majority of Americans don't trust the FDA.

Big Pharma owns the FDA and Congress. The drug industry sees FDA

management and Congressional leaders as a training pool for future Big Pharma jobs – based on how well Big Pharma is supported. There will certainly be plenty of rewards to pass out after this legislation becomes law.

It is a sick situation that this new fake safety legislation provides the FDA with unprecedented new

power to stamp out competition to drug companies as well as expose Americans to far greater safety risks than ever before. Provisions within the legislation that creates the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the FDA will allow the FDA to remove any dietary supplement from the market based on its whim.

It is now only a matter of time and a formality before HR.2900 and S.1082 become law. There will be a little bit of haggling in the conference committee, as Big Pharma will takes its last chance at watering down any meaningful reform (of which there is very little). Big Pharma will whine that this legislation is too tough on them, which is a fallacy. This legislation is the Big Pharma dream come true. In a football analogy the only question is the final score. Will Big Pharma win by 28-7 or will it win by 42-7. Big Pharma has just cleaned the clock of Americans. We should not forget the gutless Congressional puppets that made it happen.

A new tone has been set. A new chart has been plotted. Congress has transformed the FDA into a quasi drug company with unprecedented new regulatory power to control all health options in America. How many deaths and injuries will it take for a comatose and medicinally-overdosed public to wake up?



is an unprecedented conflict of interest, totally at odds with drug safety. The current commissioner of the FDA, Andrew von Eschenbach, M.D. is little more than a Big Biotech sales rep with massive industry connections.

The House, like the Senate, will continue to allow direct to consumer advertising of new drugs

and treat disease. Thus, the first amendment argument is simply a matter of convenience. The FDA wants to actively suppress information that will help people, yet allow highly risky and misleading promotion of toxic substances often for untested uses. The FDA even wants to prevent citizens from suing drug companies when they are injured, thus protect-

Christian doctors prescribe 'spiritual healing' for sickness

By Dan Wooding - Founder of ASSIST Ministries

MIAMI, FL (ANS) -- Some 120 Christian doctors from more than 50 different countries around the world have prescribed "spiritual healing" as an answer to sickness in the 21st Century. They believe that medicine alone cannot deal with some of today's worst illnesses.

The medics were gathering in Miami, Florida, on July 13-14 for the 4th International Medical Conference organized by the World Christian Doctors Network (WCDN). The theme of the event was "Spirituality and Medicine" and they examined actual case studies of miracles presented by various respected doctors and also some patients.

"There are no impossibles with God"

The conference kicked off with a talk by Pastor Charles McKnelly, a veteran missionary to Hong Kong, who said, "The greatest hindrance for healing within the church is tradition." McKnelly told the medical audience that he had suffered a heart attack some years ago. "A Christian woman prayed for me and, in two hours, God gave me a new heart," he said amid applause. "There are no impossibles with God."

Honduran-born Dr. Armando Pineda-Velez, US Director of

WCDN, a nuclear medicine physician, who helped to organize the conference said that there are a lot of doctors today who "not only believe in God but believe that God is healing today."

"The Gospel of power can be manifested in the 21st Century"

He said, "They are putting their prestige on the line for something that they know; that the truth that the Gospel of power can be manifested in the 21st Century."

"This is a different kind of organization," he continued. "There are a lot of Christian medical organizations all of which are much respected, and I love

them, but we at the World Christian Doctors Network are different in the sense that we are going into the miracle part of the healing. We are not going to stop being doctors, but we are going to use a superior tool - the healing power of God -- in order to be helping our beloved patients."

Dr. Pineda-Velez said that he encouraged Christian doctors to lay hands on their sick patients and pray for their supernatural healing. "I think that the power of heal-

ing and faith has to be used by doctors," he said. "Anyway, we are not the one who heals - it is Jesus."

I then asked him what happens when people are not healed.

"Healing resides only in the sovereignty of a merciful and gracious God," said Dr. Pineda-Velez. "It's not only up to us in this equation. There are two involved here -- God and you. Does He decide to heal you? I don't know. Does He have a purpose for your disease? Maybe; maybe not. Do you have enough faith? I don't know. Yes the measure of faith you have is important, but we also have the sovereignty of God. He still rules your life."

One delegate who came all the way from Chennai, India, Dr. Philip R. Anbarasan, the former State Medical Commissioner of Tamil Nadu, who was among the many medical doctors raising their hands in worship as various bands and performers made their spiritual music.



Dr. Philip R. Anbarasan during time of worship

Addressing the topic of the conference, Dr. Anbarasan said, "Spirituality in Christian medical professionals would certainly enable them to live a vital Christian life and have an ethical

Missouri bans Planned Parenthood from classrooms

(EP News)--Legislation signed July 9 by Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt means abortion providers will not be allowed to present information about sexual health in the state's public schools, The Associated Press reported. The law also requires abortion clinics to become ambulatory surgical centers and makes the Missouri Alternatives to Abortion Services Program permanent.

"All life is precious and needs to be treated with the utmost dignity and respect," Blunt said. "I will continue working with the Missouri General Assembly to pass strong pro-life legislation that respects the sanctity and dignity of all human life." Rep. Therese Sander and Sen. Delbert Scott, sponsors of the bill, said they're relieved that organizations like Planned Parenthood won't be pushing their agenda in public schools. "Missourians can be proud we have again passed, and the governor has signed, legislation that respects the sanctity of life," Scott said. "This legislation is a positive step forward for Missouri families, Missouri women and for Missourians' shared pro-life and pro-family values."

"We are ecstatic," said Jim Sedlak, vice president of American Life League. "A new law just signed

by Missouri's governor will keep Planned Parenthood away from the children in that state, and that is a great victory for Missouri parents."

Newly enacted legislation in Missouri says: "No school district or charter school, or its personnel or agents, shall provide abortion services, or permit a person or entity to offer, sponsor, or furnish in any manner any course materials or instruction relating to human sexuality or sexually transmitted diseases to its students if such person or entity is a provider of abortion services."

"The elected officials in Missouri understood the conflict of interest that exists when Planned Parenthood is allowed to teach or provide material for sex education classes," said Sedlak. "To have an entity that profits from the sale of birth control and abortion teaching our children about sex is ludicrous."

"We encourage every state in the nation to follow Missouri's example and implement similar laws," said Sedlak. "We look forward to the day when Planned Parenthood is not allowed access to the children in any school district in the nation."

medical practice." So if you are sick, and you have a Christian physician, why not ask him to prescribe a miracle for

you? That's what these doctors who met in Miami would do. For more information on WCDN go to www.wcdn.org.

Editorials

Pope's Proclamation Attacks Christianity

By Bill Wilson

If you are not a good member in standing of the Roman Catholic Church, you are not really a member of any church and you are likely going to hell—this according to Pope Benedict XVI, as he reaffirmed the primacy of the Roman Catholic Church. This proclamation has drawn immediate criticism from Protestant churches, who according to the Pope, are not really churches at all, and their members' acceptance of Jesus Christ as their personal savior falls on deaf ears in heaven unless they are members of the Catholic Church.

Of course, it makes me, a born again Christian who professes Jesus Christ as my savior, chuckle a bit. The Pope cannot determine the depths of a person's heart. Neither can the Pope offer salvation or the remission of sins. Only the acceptance of Jesus Christ can do that. Jesus said in John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth and the life: no man comes unto the Father but by Me." Of course, that's in the Bible and the Roman Catholic Church under the Popes of the past kept the Bible under lock and key for some 1,400 years and conducted their masses in Latin, which only a hand full of people would ever be able to understand. It was Martin Luther who broke the Catholic Churches control by pronouncing that the Bible was the sole source of God's authority on earth—not a Pope.

Now Protestants the world over are once again expressing their differences with the Pope by saying that he is just opening up old wounds and setting back ecumenical relationships to the 15th Century. Even with the angry rift being publicly debated, its not like violence has erupted across the globe. Imagine, just imagine, if someone drew some cartoons of the Pope acting like a one-world order control freak and posted them in newspapers in, say, France. I wonder how many cars would be burned for how many months, how many riots in the streets would occur, and how many people would be brutally murdered for disagreeing with the Pope?

I guess the Pope's proclamation doesn't have the same sting that saying something bad about Allah's prophet Mohammed does. Christians, irrespective of their differences, at least in this day and age, seem to work things out by open discussion, public and private disagreement, and eventual conflict resolution. But this wasn't always the case. Under the Roman Catholic Church many a Protestant Christian was put to death for being suspected heretics. In fact, the Roman Catholic Church is sometimes blamed for allowing the Holocaust to begin. But that's what happens when man-made doctrines get in the way of the gospel truth. Crusade anyone?

Public Forums Denied On Upcoming S.P.P. Summit?

By Patrick Wood

At least two highly visible citizen's organizations that intend to expose the activities of the Security and Prosperity Partnership have been effectively shut down for the upcoming SPP Leaders Meeting in Montebello, Quebec on August 20-21.

The Council of Canadians, after renting a public facility in the Municipality of Papineauville (about 4 miles from Montebello), were bluntly informed by the hall's management that the RCMP (Royal Canadian Mounted Police), SQ (Security Quebec) and the U.S. Army will not allow their meeting even though it is scheduled on the day before the SPP meeting!

In fact, these security officials declared that they intend to enforce a 25 kilometer (about 15 miles) blackout around the Chateau Montebello where Bush, Harper and Calderon will be meeting to advance their agenda of "deep integration" of Mexico, Canada and the United States.

"It is deplorable that we are being prevented from bringing together a panel of writers, academics and parliamentarians to share their concerns about the Security and Prosperity Partnership with Canadians," said Brent Patterson, director of organizing with the Council
The Good News TODAY

of Canadians. "Meanwhile, six kilometers away, corporate leaders from the United States, Mexico and Canada will have unimpeded access to our political leaders."

From the U.S., The Coalition to Block the North American Union is planning a similar meeting, but now it won't be within 15 miles of Montebello. The latter organization is a coalition of dozens of influential U.S. organizations such as the American Policy Center, Eagle Forum, Conservative Caucus, Freedom 21, Judicial Watch, World Research Library and many others.

As has been previously pointed out, the SPP is a stealth vehicle to facilitate harmonization of regulations that are necessary for the introduction of the North American Union (NAU), the merger of Mexico, Canada and the United States. There is no legislative authority for SPP to even exist, and hence, there is no congressional oversight.

The Council of Canadians and the Coalition to Stop the NAU are hardly a physical threat to anyone, so security is not the issue here: This should be taken as a blatant attempt to stifle legitimate public inquiry and debate that would threaten to bring to light the nefarious agenda of the SPP and

There is a conspiracy

By Chuck Baldwin

A reader's letter intrigues me. He writes, "I find everything you say about a coming New World Order and One World Government extremely difficult to believe. For one thing, while you yourself obviously display no hate towards anyone, most other conspiracy theorists are anti-Semites." He further wrote, "An intelligent man such as yourself would do well to distance yourself from these loony theories."

I will quickly acknowledge that unfortunately there are a significant number of conspiracy theories promulgated by people with obvious anti-Semitic tendencies. I join my reader friend in repudiating such bigotry.

However, just because certain conspiracy theories are advocated by people with personal agendas and extremist ideologies is not reason enough to automatically dismiss the facts that suggest there is a conspiracy to steal America's sovereignty and independence. These facts are plentiful and powerful. Only foolish people would dismiss them out-of-hand.

As a Christian, I believe the Word of God to be my source of faith and practice. Therefore, I must take seriously the Word's admonition that, "There is a conspiracy" (Ezek. 22:25). In fact, the conspiracy to overthrow righteousness (and any semblance of it) is ubiquitous.

If You Bribe Them, They Will Come

By Paul Proctor

Christian Post reporter, Nathan Black began his latest article titled, "How to Get Youth to Show Up at Church Outreaches" with this little nugget:

Youth leaders generally anticipate high attendance at planned events, but oftentimes only 20 to 50 percent of the expected number show up, according to long-time youth leader Jonathan McKee.

"I find that the majority of us sometimes have high expectations and maybe even try to spiritualize it, [saying] 'We have this God-sized goal,'" McKee, author of the new book *Getting Students to Show Up*, pointed out in an interview with Youth Specialties.

McKee says the biggest mistake when it comes to trying to get students to show up to events is "the draw." A lot of times, youth leaders just don't provide any "draw" or forget about it completely.

"We think 'if we build it, they'll come,'" noted McKee, who heads The Source for Youth Ministry, which equips youth workers with free resources.

Instead of calling it "the draw," its perpetrators.

Conversely, corporate or media representatives who are favorable to the Security and Prosperity Partnership will not be subject to the 25 kilometer limit.

Furthermore, if one will study American history, he will note our Founding Fathers firmly believed a conspiracy of influential internationalists was behind many of the draconian decisions of old King George. They said as much in the Declaration of Independence.

In the Declaration, Thomas Jefferson wrote, "But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security." If that isn't a clear reference to conspiracy, I don't know what is.

As in British-controlled America 200 years ago, policies advanced by like-minded politicians today attempt to erode our constitutional laws and national independence. Only a naïve person would suggest that this is mere coincidence. I remind my readers that George Bush, Sr. first popularized the name "New World Order." However, he is not the only notable personality that has openly called for such an international order.

Former newsman, Walter Cronkite, has openly called for world government. Others calling for world government include England's Prime Minister, Tony Blair; former Clinton cabinet member, Strobe Talbott; and a variety of spokesmen for the United Nations, as well as lead-

ers from various multinational corporations. To think that all of these people (whose numbers are multitudinous) should not be taken seriously is the height of idiocy.

Yes, my friends, there is a conspiracy. No, it is not a Jewish conspiracy. It is much more than that. It is a conspiracy of elitists from all races and ethnic backgrounds who deeply despise our constitutional form of government, our national independence, and our Christian heritage. Some are communists; others are socialists. Some call themselves liberals, and some even call themselves conservatives. Labels mean little.

Most of the conspirators are wealthy and well positioned to advance their utopian ideas. Some teach in our nation's colleges and universities. Some occupy powerful positions in the media and in our political institutions. Some of them are also found behind the pulpits of churches, and, yes, some are found in synagogues.

The promoters of internationalism may not conduct monthly meetings. They may not carry New World Order membership cards in their wallets (albeit, if they are members of the Council of Foreign Relations, people who love liberty should be very wary of them), but collectively they form a credible conspiracy to rob America of its independence. Furthermore, as long as patriotic Americans refuse to acknowledge their existence, the more effective they are at accomplishing their oligarchic objectives.

McKee goes on to explain why tactics like mere self-promotion don't work anymore:

McKee had been invited to speak at a youth rally on the East Coast. As he drove into town, he saw a large sign that read "Youth Rally. Speaker: Jonathan McKee."

But for many, the names of youth workers including McKee typically do not ring a bell among youth or others.

"If I'm not Justin Timberlake or Diddy, I'm not a draw," said McKee.

See, you youth leaders out there just need to savvy up, combine your efforts and raise more megachurch money so you can afford to pay the hottest singers and celebrities to appear and/or perform at your Christian events. Obviously, you've been thinking way too small, oh ye of little faith.

But hey - if you don't mind throwing money around for Jesus - and booking big stars is out of your budget - why not just do what I suggested in an earlier article from 2003 titled, "Brother Bribes" and offer those kids cash to show up?

Trust me - if that doesn't work, nothing will. \$20 ought to do it.

"And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not." - 2nd Peter 2:2-4

why doesn't Mr. McKee call it what it really is - *the bribe* - the sacred modus operandi of today's church - and point blank ask, "How can we bribe them?"

He follows with the usual pragmatic reasoning that almost always accompanies such godless manipulation:

"Why on earth would a student want to come here (church) on Friday night?" the former Youth for Christ staff posed as a question youth leaders should answer when planning outreaches or spiritual growth events. "Why is a kid going to want to leave MySpace and cable or his girlfriend to come out to our outreach program on Wednesday night?"

And so, what does McKee suggest youth leaders do to lure them in?

Some of the simple draw concepts McKee suggested was free pizza or sporting events youth like.

Pizza? Surely we can do better than that! Here's a better idea; Why not offer attendees a chance to win an iPod, iPhone or some other latest greatest gadget like, say, a brand new Wii console? That's what they're doing online now. Or, better yet - why not pay the prettiest girls or handsomest boys from your congregation to personally invite, flirt with or even date those hard-to-reach youth? If it gets the job done, what's wrong with that?

George Washington Carver

Born a slave around JULY 12, 1864, George Washington Carver became a scientist of international renown. On January 21, 1921, Carver addressed the United States House Ways and Means Committee on behalf of the United Peanut Growers Association on the use of peanuts to improve Southern economy.



I have given you every herb that bears seed. To you it shall be meat.

This is what He means about it. It shall be meat. There is everything there to strengthen and nourish and keep the body alive and healthy."

After nearly two hours, the chairman asked: "Dr. Carver, how did you learn all of these things?" Carver answered: "From an old book" "What book?" asked the Chairman. Carver replied, "The Bible."

The Chairman inquired, "Does the Bible tell about peanuts?" "No, Sir" Dr. Carver replied, "It tells about the God who made the peanut. I asked Him to show me what to do with the peanut and He did."

Initially given ten minutes to speak, the committee was so captivated, his time was extended. Explaining the many products derived from the peanut, including milk, mock beef and mock chicken, George Washington Carver stated:

"If you go to the first chapter of Genesis, we can interpret very clearly, I think, what God intended when he said 'Behold,

Accept The Situation

By Dick Evans

1 Corinthians 7:17 You must accept whatever situation the Lord has put you in, and continue on as you were when God first called you. (NLT)

There are many times I wish that I could change the situation I find myself in. I work very hard at figuring out how to change things so everything is just the way I want it to be. I logically create solutions to move me on to the next stage in my life.

Is this what you do, too? I think it is what most of do, believer or not. This is what we have been taught all through our lives. "Set goals for yourself", "He who fails to plan plans to fail" "Where do you want to be in five years?" I am sure you have heard at least one of those statements before.

When we accept that God is in

control of our lives, we must also accept that there is a reason for the circumstances we are in. We did it to ourselves. Life circumstances developed around us, or the enemy has placed an obstacle or a temptation in our path.

God has something we need to learn before we move on. No matter what situation we find ourselves in, there must be a lesson in it. God knows what that lesson is and we need to learn from it. We need to accept the situation and ask Him what it is that we need to learn before moving on.

When God first called us, when we first received Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior there was nothing we would not do to tell the world what just happened. We need to learn as He teaches us in every situation we get into, but never allow that initial excitement we had to go away. Did you share the good news today?

SBM Announces Nationwide, 50 State Tour

Stephen Bennett, executive director of Stephen Bennett Ministries (SBM) - a worldwide ministry specifically dedicated to biblically preaching the TRUTH about homosexuality, complete deliverance for men and women trapped in that lifestyle through Jesus Christ, and hope for parents family members and friends, is pleased to announce the ministry's 2007-2009 NATIONAL CONCERT TOUR to ALL 50 States in America.

Stephen Bennett (43), a former homosexual man set free ALONE by the Word of God (Romans 10:17) now married 14 years with two children, along with five other former homosexual men and women - black, white, young and old, will embark on a musical and evangelistic journey for the next two and a half years - covering churches and venues in all 50 states in America!

The title of the 1-1/2 hour, evangelistic church outreach/event is called "2 Corinthians 5:17."

SBM is looking for several

national producers, sponsors and donors - individuals or organizations, to fund the initial tour from the production of the 2 CD Concert Soundtrack, the Coffee Table style Concert programs printed on a heavy, high-gloss paper, featuring all of the men and women in the concert and their testimonies, concert merchandise including t-shirts and more, as well as a professional, multi-media large screen production playing throughout the event.

Individuals or organizations looking to sponsor the one-of-a-kind tour may contact Stephen Bennett personally and privately at SBM's National Headquarters in Connecticut, Nationwide Toll-Free at 1-800-832-3623. Churches looking to host the 1-1/2 hour evangelistic event may contact SBM's Booking Agent at 203-926-6960.

The concert website will be up and running within two weeks, with downloadable clips featuring the fully orchestrated music, samples of the testimonies, church bulletin inserts, posters, high res

Commentary / Letters to the Editor

Dear Reader:

I recently traveled to Asheville, North Carolina, where Billy Graham and his wife lived. As I walked near the Blue Ridge Mountains, refreshing my soul and admiring the scenery, I thought about the impact of Billy Graham's life. In many of the pictures of Dr. Graham I noticed that many of the revivals were located outside. I had a vision of such an idea here for Rhode Island - renewal, regeneration, and a revival that stirs the spirit.

In Habakkuk 2:3 it reads: "And the Lord answered me, and said, 'Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.'" The vision follows: Imagine a revival called "The Family of God 2007 Revival."

The revival will be held on a beautiful, sunny Sunday, between the hours of 1pm and 6pm. Imagine a beautiful day with a gentle, refreshing breeze, children eating at a picnic, adults conversing at display tables, and in the background soothing uplifting music. It is the Fall of 2007 at Roger Williams Park Temple of Music.

Fifteen different churches/ministries will all be present and have a table similar to the layout of a job fair. People can learn about faith-based ministries, hear the Word of God, and listen to personal testimonies. There will be recesses of time and there will be joyful recreation, picnicking, badminton, and laughter. Goodwill would be promoted to all.

In summary, we the people, create our culture. Let us put passivity

and invisibility behind us and come together in unity of spirit to reclaim our culture and infuse HOPE. Our culture depends on us being visible outside the church walls. The cost to each ministry would be \$100 to cover park permits, electricity, clean-up, and if, needed a park ranger.

We need the Word of God shouted from the rooftop. Television can distort the values and desensitize us to sin itself. In 1823 Daniel Webster wrote that if the Word of God is not circulated then evil will gain the ascendancy. So, let us fight back with the Word of God and the shield of faith. If you believe Rhode Island is in need of a spiritual revival and would like to make a vision become a reality please e-mail ntedu@yahoo.com and ask for Kathleen Gainor or call 401-243-3237.

FISHERS OF MEN (ministry tip)

By Rev. Doug Forbes

We want our class members to be disciples for God. They can be disciples by knowing Him personally and by following His positive teachings and example. These teachings, of course, include helping others. The Fishers of Men activity will encourage your students to become disciples who change their world by helping others.

For the Fishers of Men activity you need: Bibles, Bible concordances, newspapers, brown lunch bags, scissors, staplers, crayons or markers, glitter, tape, streamers and other decorative items.

Have your students use their Bibles and concordances to

discover Bible passages that speak of good deeds and helping others. Allow time for each child to share his or her findings. Instruct the children to turn to Matthew 4:18-22 and ask for volunteers to each read a verse until the entire passage has been read. Explain that when Jesus tells the disciples that they will become fishers of men, He means that they will proclaim the good news of God's great love for everyone.

Telling others about God's love can be a real help and encouragement to those in need. Have your children suggest ways that they could help and encourage others. For instance: they could assist individuals by visiting them in nursing homes and hospitals, or they can help groups of people by donating to a local food bank,

Salvation Army or our favorite charity.

Give children a brown paper bag and help them to cut it into the shape of a fish. Have the young people creatively draw the features of a fish and decorate their craft with any materials at hand. Have them write: "I will make you fishers of men." Matthew 4:19" on the side of their fish. Staple the back and front pieces of the bag together, stuffing it with newspaper. Add a "flying tail" using streamers.

Encourage your students to be fishers of men. They can help others with physical needs, invite them to church and tell them about God's great love found in John 3:16.

(Rev. Doug Forbes is the Assistant Pastor at New Hope Christian Chapel in South Easton)

Treasonous Presidential Candidates Embrace CFR

By Bill Wilson

What does leftist billionaire George Soros have in common with soon to be presidential candidate Fred Thompson? What does Senator John McCain have in common with Senator Hillary Clinton? What does Senator Barack Hussein Obama have in common with former governor Mitt Romney? What do any of these powerful people, who appear to be at opposite ends of the political spectrum, have in common with one another? They are all members of, or are closely

photos, newspaper ads and so much more.

SBM is also looking for an experienced volunteer to book and schedule all of the churches, hotel, airfare and accommodations for the evangelists. Bookings and inquiries will be accepted as of August 1st, 2007. The tour will kick off on the East Coast this September.

Those interested in financially backing the national event are encouraged to contact SBM as soon as possible. An experienced Media/Publicity person is also needed.

associated with, the most powerful and far reaching organization in the world that is promoting a one world government to which the sovereignty of the United States would be subjected.

Records searched over the internet, information provided by Congressional sources, and information found on the Council on Foreign Relations website indicate that these radical leftists, Democrats and Republicans may differ on how the nation should be run, but they agree that there should be a one world government. It is difficult to obtain a current membership list of the Council on Foreign Relations, but the aforementioned names either come up often on compiled lists, forums at the CFR or are featured on the CFR website. The Council on Foreign Relations masks itself as a think tank providing foreign policy information designed to shape the debate on international issues.

And shape the debate it does. The CFR is the originator of the North American Union concept where the borders of the United States would be merged with those of Mexico and Canada. Sovereignty of the United States would be subjected to the overriding economic,

political, and military security of the three nations. The CFR task force on North America embraced the Bush Administrations Security and Prosperity Partnership efforts with Canada and Mexico and went a step further: "The Task Force's central recommendation is establishment by 2010 of a North American economic and security community, the boundaries of which would be defined by a common external tariff and an outer security perimeter."

Those candidates for President of the United States who are members of the CFR or who are associated with the organization in any way support the dismantling of the United States of America as we know it and support a one-world democracy which is subversive to the U.S. Constitution. Unless they denounce in the strongest of terms their association with the CFR or its transnational plans, the American people need to hold them accountable for their treasonous intentions. Jesus Christ said in John 8:32, "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Now you know the truth and unless you want to be a slave to tyranny, use the truth to keep you free.

Inspiration

The Holidays With An Unexpected Event

By Evelyn T. Thompson

When family members move around it is very hard to have the whole family together for the holidays. Such was the case when we were making plans for Thanksgiving. Our oldest daughter and husband were living in Georgia. The youngest daughter and her family were residing in New York and spending Thanksgiving with her husband's family members. We did have our other 2 daughters and their families with us plus my Mother who was visiting us from New Hampshire. Our Thanksgiving meal always filled our stomachs with a delicious variety of family traditions. The turkey and stuffing was Ed's specialty...I took charge of the other items and pies.

With the meal and dishes cared for, we moved into the living room to enjoy the Christmas decorations that Ed had set up. The Christmas tree was completed and the grandchildren enjoyed the Lionel train running around on the tracks under the tree. The mantel above the fireplace was nicely designed with all the numerous candles (small choir boys, Christmas trees, etc.) that we had accumulated over many, many years. Ed was a gifted decorator, whether it was a cake or a room!

As we sat around talking about various topics, Ed spoke up and said "Next year someone else can do the Thanksgiving dinner." Little did we realize that his statement would be prophetic. Our daughters and their families returned to their homes but my Mom, who lived alone, decided to stay with us for the next few weeks.

New Year's Eve we were sitting in the living room watching and enjoying several Bill Gaither video tapes. I noticed that Ed seemed unable to stay awake for some of the music but just figured he was extra tired because of the busyness of that day. He finally went off to bed and so did Mom and I.

Sometime in the early hours of New Year's Day I awoke to realize that my husband was not

under the covers. I spoke to him several times but could not seem to stir him. Finally I got up and put on the light, only to see that Ed was not breathing. I asked my Mom, in the next bedroom, to verify my findings and she agreed that he had passed away.

I quickly got dressed and went downstairs to call 911. Within just a few minutes I had 2 police cars at my front door. They were quite available since it was New Year's Eve. As soon as they viewed the body we called the undertaker with whom we had had many dealings. My husband had done several funerals in his funeral home and I had been the organist for several of those funerals. They came immediately and removed the body before daylight.

The next item of business was to contact our girls. I am so thankful that one of the officers was able to stay and assist me with this painful task. When the girls were told that their Dad had passed away, each one had the same response: "Whose Dad?" Our Providence daughter came to our home immediately. We could not reach the one in Georgia. Finally the police officer contacted the Georgia police so they could go to her home and have her contact me. Our third daughter and family were on vacation in Florida. She had given me a telephone number in case of an emergency. They immediately started for Rhode Island. The fourth girl, when I reached her, went hysterical and the officer dealt tenderly with her.

I called a lady in our church and asked her to inform our church congregation. Then I called our District Superintendent who asked a pastor-friend to come to our home as soon as possible. Be comforted with the following words of David: "YEA, THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH, I WILL FEAR NO EVIL: FOR THOU ART WITH ME; THY ROD AND THY STAFF THEY COMFORT ME." (Psalm 23:4) KJV

Celebrating The Pastor's Home-going

Ed had his bulletin all set up for the first Sunday of January in 1999. He planned to bring a message entitled "New Beginnings"! Now HE was the subject of a new beginning! Our home became very busy as our family members began to arrive.

One of our faithful church members began bringing in a goodly amount of food to the parsonage for us to enjoy. Our girls assisted me in making the funeral arrangements but they did most of the planning and getting the bulletins printed.

The Providence Church was packed for the first funeral service. The speaker had been our Pastor in Philadelphia and years ago had been the Pastor of this church. When I saw the large number of Pastors coming to Ed's service, I requested that they fill the choir loft and share a hymn as a men's choir. Upon looking around to see who was in the church, I saw a delegation from the Jewish Community Center.

Knowing they were on unfamiliar territory, I stood up and publicly thanked them for honoring us with their presence. They were unable to join us for the luncheon that followed the service due to their dietary laws. I was surprised at the number of business people that came for the calling hours and funeral, in addition to many friends from other churches and denominations. Ed had a host of friends!

Ed's second funeral was conducted the next day in a funeral home in Manchester, New Hampshire. A Pastor-friend conducted that service. Some of our relatives and friends from the Hooksett Church, who could not attend the service in Providence, were present for this service. The Auburn New Hampshire cemetery, where we had our plot, was closed for the winter so Ed's burial took place on May 18th. Our District Superintendent conducted the service there. Now I was faced with a monumental job--get our belongings organized and relocated in the event that a new Pastoral family would be assigned to the church.

The District Superintendent came

DAILY SURVIVAL KIT

Items needed:
Mint, Candy Kiss, Tea Bag, Eraser, Rubber Band, Toothpick, Chewing Gum, Band Aid, Pencil

Why???????

TOOTHPICK - to remind you to pick out the good qualities in others. * Matthew 7:1

RUBBER BAND - to remind you to be flexible. Things might not always go the way you want, but it will work out. * Romans 8:28

BANDAID - to remind you to heal hurt feelings, yours or someone else's. * Colossians 3:12-14

PENCIL - to remind you to list your blessings everyday. * Ephesians 1:3

ERASER - to remind you that everyone makes mistakes, and it's okay. * Genesis 50:15-21

CHEWING GUM - to remind you to stick with it, and you can accomplish anything. * Philippians 4:13

MINT - to remind you that you are worth a mint. * John 3:16

CANDY KISS - to remind you that everyone needs a kiss or a hug everyday. * John 4:7

TEA BAG - to remind you to relax daily and go over your list of blessings. * 1 Thessalonians 5: 18

to the Parsonage to discuss the situation and my future. He asked me if I thought I could be out of the home by the end of August, which gave me several months to relocate. I appreciated his generosity but he went on to explain that when his Dad (a minister) passed away, his mother had to move out of the Parsonage immediately. He vowed he would never do that to another minister's widow. I really wanted to stay in the Providence Church, where I had served for the past 18 years so decided to have a 2-car garage built on my Mother's property in New Hampshire. That gave me a place to store the items I wanted to keep and organize a yard sale for other items. The Christmas tree was still in place so a church friend spent some time with me to help with packing, disposing, and organizing our belongings. While working in the basement of the Parsonage, I found a magnet on the bed there. Here was the message: "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles: they shall run,

and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint," That verse is found in Isaiah 40:31. (KJV)

During the 18 years we lived in Rhode Island I was a piano teacher to many pupils. Of course this had to come to an end. God worked a miracle for me and I was able to move into a 2-bedroom mobile home. Now I needed to get away and visit relatives in 4 states for several weeks. I came home ready to take up my church duties and get my home organized.

Next month I will relate some interesting facts about God's Servant and how he was honored with numerous tributes. Let me share MY favorite, life-long Scripture verse: "TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL THINE HEART; AND LEAN NOT UNTO THINE OWN UNDERSTANDING. IN ALL THY WAYS ACKNOWLEDGE HIM, AND HE SHALL DIRECT THY PATHS." Proverbs 3:5-6 (KJV) Thank the Lord for His precious promises!

Look pretty

A little girl walked to and from school daily. Though the weather that morning was questionable and clouds were forming, she made her daily trek to the elementary school.

As the afternoon progressed, the winds whipped up, along with thunder and lightning. The mother of the little girl felt concerned that her daughter would be frightened as she walked home from school and she herself feared that the electrical storm might harm her child.

Full of concern, the mother quickly got into her car and drove along the route to her child's school.

As she did so, she saw her little girl walking along, but at each flash of lightning, the child would stop, look up and smile. Another and another were to follow quickly and with each the little girl would look at the streak of light and smile.

When the mother's car drew up beside the child she lowered the window and called to her, 'What are you doing?' The child answered, 'I am trying to look pretty. God keeps taking my picture.'

This little girl obviously has accepted and applied a simple lesson that Jesus taught about faith in Mark 10:15. "I say unto you, Whosoever shall not

receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. Have you entered in...as a little child? Have you accepted God's grace and forgiveness for your sin, believing and accepting Jesus sacrifice for you?



If not, now is the time of your salvation. Speak to Him today and allow Him to answer you. The bible says; That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. Romans 10:9

I know it sounds to simple to be true, but it is. Only believe and you will be saved. Say a simple

prayer from your heart, something like this:

Jesus, please forgive my sin. I know I haven't done everything that I should with my life and I regret it. I know that you died for

me and that you have a better 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

Reason for writing: **The Good News TODAY**
(401) 619-0418

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 2558 • Providence, RI 02906

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

JESUS vs. A Modern Bureaucratic Government

If Jesus were to repeat his ministry on earth in 2007, He would be wanted by...the FDA for turning water into wine without a license ...the EPA for killing fig trees ...the AMA for practicing medicine without a license ...the Dept. of Health for

asking people to open graves, for raising the dead and for feeding 5,000 people in the wilderness ...the NEA for teaching without a certificate ...OSHA for walking on water without a life-jacket and for flying without an airplane ...the SPCA for driving hogs into the sea

...the NATIONAL BOARD of PSYCHIATRISTS for giving advice on how to live a guilt-free life ...the INTER-FAITH MOVEMENT for condemning all other religions ...and by the ZONING DEPT. for building mansions without a permit.

3 hymns?

One Sunday a pastor told the congregation that the church needed some extra money and asked the people to prayerfully consider giving a little extra in the offering plate. He said that whoever gave the most would be able to pick out three hymns. After the offering plates were passed, the pastor glanced down and noticed that someone had placed a \$1,000 bill in the offering. He was so excited that he immediately shared his joy with his congregation and said he'd like to personally thank the person who placed the money in the plate. A very quiet, elderly, saintly lady all the way in the back shyly raised her hand. The pastor asked her to come to the front. Slowly she made her way to the pastor. He told her how wonderful it was that she gave so much and in thanksgiving asked her to pick out three hymns. Her eyes brightened as she looked over the congregation, pointed to the three handsomest men in the building and said, "I'll take him and him and him!"

The perfect marriage

Adam & Eve had the perfect marriage. He didn't have to hear about all the men she could have married and she didn't have to hear about how well his mother cooked!

Praying always

It seems a cowboy from Colorado skipped church one Sunday to go bear hunting in the mountains. As he turned the corner along the path, he and a bear collided. The cowboy stumbled backwards, slipped off the trail and began tumbling down the mountain with the bear in hot pursuit. Finally the cowboy crashed into a boulder, sending his rifle in one direction and breaking both legs. As the bear closed in, the cowboy cried out in desperation, "Lord, I'm sorry for what I have done. Please forgive me and save me! Lord, please make that bear a Christian." Suddenly, the clouds parted and a beam of light shown down on the bear. The bear skidded to a halt at the cowboy's feet, fell to its knees, clasped its paws together and said, "God, bless this food which I am about to receive."

Giving

Did you hear about the town's richest man who met with the minister after the Sunday service? "Why does everyone call me cheap and stingy?" complained the man. "I've told everyone I'm leaving half my money to the church when I die."

The minister nodded. "It reminds me of the story about the pig and the cow. The cow was much loved by the farmer and his neighbors, while the pig was not popular at all. The pig could not understand this and asked the cow about it.

"How come you are so well liked, cow? People say you're good because you give milk and butter and cream every day. But I give more than that. From me they get bacon and ham; they even pickle my feet. Yet I'm not popular and you are. Why do you think that is?" The cow looked down at the pig and answered, "Perhaps it's because I give while I'm still alive."

The Mind

The mind is an amazing thing. According to research at Cambridge University, it doesn't matter what order the letters in a word are in; the only important thing is that the first and last letters be at the right place.

The rest can be a total mess and you can still read it without problem. This is because the human mind does not read every letter by itself, but the word as a whole.

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401-845-9283
www.aiwellness.com

Soul Food

No Nursing Home for Me

With the average cost for a Nursing Home per day reaching \$188.00, there is a better way when we get old & feeble. I have already checked on reservations at the Holiday Inn for a combined long term stay discount and senior discount of \$49.23 per night. That leaves \$138.77 a day for:

1. Breakfast, lunch and dinner in any restaurant I want, or room service.

2. Laundry, gratuities and special TV movies. Plus, they provide a swimming pool, a workout room, a lounge, washer, dryer, etc. Most have free toothpaste and razors, and all have free shampoo and soap. They treat you like a customer, not a patient. \$5 worth of tips a day will have the entire staff scrambling to help you. There is a city bus stop out front, and seniors ride free. The Handicap bus will also pick you up (if you fake a decent limp).

To meet other nice people, call a Church bus on Sundays. For a change of scenery, take the Airport shuttle Bus and eat at one of the nice restaurants there. While you're at the airport, fly

somewhere. Otherwise, the cash keeps building up. It takes months to get into decent nursing homes. Holiday Inn will take your reservation today. And you are not stuck in one place forever, you can move from Inn to Inn, or even from city to city.

Want to see Hawaii? They have a Holiday Inn there too. They fix everything, and apologize for the inconvenience. The Inn has a night security person and daily room service. The maid checks to see if you are ok. If not, they will call the undertaker or an ambulance. If you fall and break a hip, Medicare will pay for the hip, and Holiday Inn will upgrade you to a suite for the rest of your life.

And no worries about visits from family. They will always be glad to find you, and probably check in for a few days mini-vacation. The grandkids can use the pool. What more can you ask for?

So: When I reach the Golden age I'll face it with a grin. Just forward all my email to: me@TheHolidayInn.

Three Ladies on Getting Old

Three older ladies were discussing the travails of getting older. One said, "Sometimes I catch myself with a jar of mayonnaise in my hand in front of the refrigerator and can't remember whether I need to put it away, or start making a sandwich."

The second lady chimed in, "Yes, some times I find myself on the

landing of the stairs and can't remember whether I was on my way up or on my way down."

The third one responded, "Well, I'm glad I don't have that problem; knock on wood," as she rapped her knuckles on the table, then told them "That must be the door, I'll get it!"

Like what you're reading?

Want to help us to share The Good News? To find out how you can give of your time and talents contact us at...
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or goodnewsinri@cox.net

Great Quotes



"One can give without loving, but one cannot love without giving."

Amy Carmichael 1867-1951
Christian missionary and author



Anchor your life with Christ and chart your course at...



Ocean State Baptist Church

600 Douglas Pike, Smithfield, RI
(exit 8A off I-295, 1/4 mi on Right)

231-1980

OSBC.org

A Contemporary Church with Traditional Values

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Bible Classes 10:00 am
Worship 11:00 am & 6:00 pm
WEDNESDAY 7:30

Bible Study for Adults * Pioneer Clubs for Children
Bible Mania for Teens * Nursery for Babies

Archie P. Emerson, Pastor



(New York 9-1-10) 09-25-2005
I WAS RECENTLY CONVERTED INTO PAUL AND MY SAUL I.D. IS NO LONGER VALID ... IS THERE A FORM FOR THAT?



SELF PORTRAIT

- ART
- GRAPHICS
- WEB DESIGN



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And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labor among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you. -1 Thessalonians 5:12

Amazing Grace Church
 1500 Main Street
 West Warwick
 823-1777

Church of the Apostles
 170 Fairview Ave • Coventry, RI • 401-821-7609
www.churchoftheapostlesri.org
 e-mail: churchoffice@churchoftheapostlesri.org
 The Reverend Mark R. Galloway, Superintendent
 Worship Services:
 Saturday 5:00p.m. Holy Eucharist
 Sunday 8:00 am & 9:30 am
 Worship & Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
 Our Mission is to Obey, Follow and Bear Witness to Jesus Christ.

God's Family Church
 1525 BROAD STREET
 CRANSTON, RI 02905
 Phone: (401) 467-0592
www.godsfamilychurchri.org
 SUNDAY SERVICE : 9:30AM
 MONDAY EVENING PRAYER : 6:00PM
 TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY : 10:00AM & 7:00PM
 THURSDAY PRAYER WARRIORS : 7:00PM
 DAILY PRAYER MONDAY-FRIDAY : 12 NOON

Oasis of Grace Christian Fellowship
 464 Silver Spring Street
 Providence
 356-1149

Apostolic Pentecostal Church of RI
 And Ye Shall Know The Truth
 537 Elm Street • Woonsocket, RI 02895
 401-534-0172 • acts238@aperi.com
 Service Times
 Sunday Morning: 10:00 am
 Tuesday Evening Prayer: 6:30 pm
 Tuesday Evening Interactive Bible Study: 7:30 pm
 Thursday Evening: 7:30 pm

The Church of the End Times
 19 Industrial Road
 Uxbridge, MA 01569
 1-877-247-PRAY
www.thechurchoftheendtimes.com
 Wednesday Night Worship Service and Bible Study-7PM
 Saturday Night Worship Service and Sermon-5PM - 7PM

LIVING HOPE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
 100 BROADWAY
 PAWTUCKET RI 02860
 401-723-2039
 Tuesday Prayer- 7:00 -8:30 pm
 Friday- midweek service 7:00-8:30 pm
 Sunday- 10:00 AM

Ocean State Baptist Church
 600 Douglas Pike Smithfield, RI 02917
 (401)231-1980 • www.osbc.org
 Sunday Services 10:00 am
 Sunday School 11:00 am
 Morning Worship 11:00 am
 Evening Worship 6:00 pm
 Wednesday Service
 Adult Bible Study, Children & Teen Programs 7:30 pm


Bethesda House of Worship
 75a Providence St.
 West Warwick, RI 02893
 (401) 397-3604
 Weekly Schedule
 Sunday Service 11:30am (Sept-June)
 Sunday Service 10:30am (June-Sept)
 Evening Bible Study/Thursday 7:00-8:00pm
 Childrens Sunday School 11:45am
 Sunday Pre-School 11:45am

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 Cranston
 946-6900

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 Pastor Bob Lancia
 942-4616
www.mpcr.org
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Pentecostal Assembly
 215 Sawyer Street
 New Bedford, MA
 508-996-9865

SERVICE TIMES	
Sunday School	10:00AM
English Service	11:00AM
Portuguese Service	6:30PM
Worship	
Youth Service	6:30PM
Worship	
Portuguese Bible Study	7:00PM
Worship	
English Bible Study	7:00PM

245 Phenix Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920
 Help Line: (401) 941-4357
 Business Line: (401) 941-2051
www.carenetri.org

 Office Hours
 Monday 10 - 5:30
 Wednesday 10 - 5:30
 Thursday 10 - 5:30
 Pregnancy Resource Center

Faith Bible Chapel
 115 Ashaway Rd (Rt 3)
 Westerly, RI 02891
 (401) 348-9637
 Pastor Bernie Norman
 Sunday services:
 Adult Sunday School 9:00 am
 Sunday Worship service: 10:30 am

New Covenant Church International
 1290 Westminster St
 Providence, RI 02909
 (401) 276-0220
 Pastor Joseph Quainoo
www.nccinternational.org
 • Sunday: Worship 10:00am - 12:30pm
 • Monday: Evening Prayer 6:00pm - 7:00pm
 • Wednesday: Evening Prayer 6:00pm - 7:00pm
 • Friday: Evening Prayer 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Quidnick Baptist Church
 484 Fairview Avenue
 Coventry
 821-2465
 Sunday Service - 10:00 am
 Children's Sunday School - 10:45 am
 Wednesday Service 7:00 pm

Cathedral of Life Christian Assembly
 1860 Westminster St - 10 Troy Street
 Providence, R.I. 02907
 401-780-8900
www.cathedraloflife.com
 (parking is on Troy Street)
empowered@cathedraloflife.com
 Worship service: Sun - 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Faith Christian Center
 95 Sagamore Road
 Seekonk, MA 02771
www.faitchristiancenter.org
 508-336-4110
 Sunday Worship Hours 8:30 am & 11:00am
 Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30pm

New Hope Christian Church
 1436 G.A.R. Highway (Route 6)
 Swansea, MA 02777
 508-324-4500
www.nhcc.ws
 Service Times:
 Sunday Morning: 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
 Wednesday Evenings: 7:00 p.m.
 Prayer begins at 6:15

Spirit & Truth
 United Pentecostal Church
 45 Shawmut Ave
 Central Falls, RI 02863
 (401) 722-8001
 Sunday Service: 3:00 p.m.

Christian Assembly
 1484 Fall River Ave • Seekonk, MA 02771
 508-336-4023
www.cachurch.org
 Weekly Service Schedule:
 Sunday 9:00 am - Portuguese Service
 10:00 am - Sunday School Adults & Children
 10:45 am - English Worship Service
 Wednesday 7:00 p.m. - Bible Study - Portuguese
 Friday 7:00 p.m. Youth Service
 Adult Bible Study • Portuguese Bible Study

Faith Tabernacle
 687 Hartford Pike (Rte 101)
 North Scituate, RI 02857
 401-934-1414
www.faittabernacleonline.org
 Weekly Services:
 Sunday - Morning Worship 10:00 am
 Sunday - Children's Church 10:00 am
 Wednesday - Bible Study 7:00 pm
 Wednesday - Youth Group 7:00 pm

New Life Worship Center
 915 Douglas Pike
 Smithfield
 232-5200
www.nlwcenter.org
 Sundays Service 10:00am
 Tuesday Men's Prayer 6:30am Early prayer then breakfast fellowship
 Friday Ground Zero 7:00pm, Youth Service with Teen-Led Worship and Relevant Bible Teaching.

The Well of RI
 Arm of God Ministries
 566 Oaklawn Avenue
 Cranston
 946-3907

Christ Temple
 "Bringing Families Together"
 United Pentecostal Church
 Sunday School & Worship 10 am
 Sunday Evening Worship 6:30 pm
 Wednesday Bible Study 7:30 pm
 Free Home Bible studies
 Pastor Jay E. Stinemann
 401-625-1891 • 1198 Fish Road, Tiverton, RI
www.christtemplepc.com

Garden City Baptist Church
 126 Bracken Street
 Cranston, RI 02920
 232-1869
www.gardencitybaptistchurch.org
 Sunday 11 AM & Wednesday 6:30 PM

North Providence Assembly of God
 244 Lexington Avenue
 North Providence, RI 02904
 401-353-0670
 Saturday Service - 6:00 p.m.
 Sunday Service - 8:30 & 10:00 am
 Sunday -College & Young Adult Service - 6:00 p.m.
 Mid-Week - Adult & Youth Service 7:00 p.m.

World Covenant Life Ministries
 25 Market Street Unit #6
 Swansea MA
 508-379-1256
 e-mail: wclministries@comcast.net
 Sunday Worship Service - 9:00 am
 Wednesday Bible Service - 7:30 pm

HARVEST FEST
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 Carnival food
 AUGUST 19, 2007 RAIN DATE: 8/26/07
 STARTING 3:00 PM
 Christian Assembly
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 Seekonk, MA 02771
 (508) 336 - 4023
 Christian Live Bands
 Crafts
 Carnival Games
 Sand Art
 Hay Rides
 Face Painting
 Much More
 "The Harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."
 Matthew 9:37 - 38

Children's Fashion Show
 Come join us for a charitable fashion show to benefit:
 Rhode Island CareNet Women's Health Center
 View the latest fall fashions provided by:
KOHL'S
 Department Store, Warwick
 Master of Ceremonies: Michelle Muscatello, WPRI Meteorologist
 Date: Tuesday, August 21, 2007
 Time: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
 Where: Goddard Memorial State Park Carousel
 Ticket Price: \$20.00 in advance - \$25.00 at the door
 Ticket Information: Call CareNet-RI: 401-941-2051 or email: info@carenetri.org
 Refreshments will be served.
 Visa & MasterCard accepted by phone.

AUGUST Calendar

August 1-4 Soulfest 2007 at Gunstock Mountain Resort. Gilford NH. for more info call 978-346-4577 or TheSoulFest.com or Myspace.com/thesoulfest

August 9 - 11, The Leadership Summit by Willow Creek Association at Community Covenant Church Rehoboth, MA

August 7-28 Big Screen Movies on the Beach every Tuesday evening in August. Free admission and parking. Call for the night's feature movie and location. Various Misquamicut Beach locations 401-596-7761 www.westerlychamber.org

Aug 13 - 16 6p.m. - Free Healthy Cooking Classes will teach participants how to prevent and survive cancer through proper diet and nutrition, held at the Burrillville Seventh-day Adventist Church, 854 Old Victory Highway in Mapleville.

The class is FREE but seating is limited. Reservations are required and must be made by Monday, August 6. To register, call Katherine at 508.883.3279, or Claire at 401.678.0035. For more details go to: www.risda.org

Aug 15-19 Washington County Fair
Rhode Islands largest authentic county fair. Annual fair with country music concerts, a giant midway, animal shows, Grange and 4H exhibits, crafts children's games and more. Washington County Fairgrounds Rte 112, Richmond 401-539-7042

Aug 25 - 26 Aquidneck Island Arts Festival
Art Food Entertainment! 50 East Coast artists. Work includes photography, fine art, jewelry, pottery and glasswork. Enjoy popular local entertainment, activities for children and delicious food from area vendors and restaurants. Admission is free. Touro Park, Bellevue Ave Newport, 401-847-0960 ext.25

1 Wednesday
6 pm - Fruit of the Spirit - Every Wednesday. Worship for the mentally and physically challenged. Bethany Village, 516 Newport Ave. S. Attleboro, MA 508-761-7698.

12:00 - 1:00 Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International. Luncheon: at The Courtyard Marriott Hotel (1st Wed's of month at this location) 32 Exchange Terrace (Kennedy Plaza) Call Jim 401-821-8750

7p.m. - Bible Study every Wednesday August - Sept. Cathedral of Life: Practical Truth University-Bible Study, 1860 Westminster Street/Troy St. Providence 401-780-8900

2 Thursday
5 pm - Pot Luck Dinner - Every Thursday. Bethany Village. 516 Newport Ave., S. Attleboro, MA 508-761-7698

7 pm - Arise- Christian 12 step program- Every Thursday. Get free from any addiction from Hersheys to herion Bethany Village. 516 Newport Ave., S. Attleboro, MA 508-761-7698

7 pm - Teen/Youth Night. every Thursday Meshanticut Park Church, 180 Oaklawn Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920. 401-942-4616 or www.mpcrri.org

7 pm - Celebrate Recovery for men and women every Thursday at Christian Hill Community Church. 1745 Main Street, West Warwick.

3 Friday
7:00pm - Ground Zero Youth Service with Teen-Led Worship and Relevant Bible Teaching. New Life Worship Center, 915 Douglas Pike, Smithfield RI 401-232-5200

11 am - 3pm Downtown Farmers Market Every Friday thru 10/26 the fresh foods and live music in the heart of the city. The 2007 Downtown Providence Market is a casual segue to your weekend. Downtown Providence, Kennedy Plaza, 401- 863- 6509

7-9- Recovery Class every Friday at New Hope Christain Church, 1436 G.A.R. Highway Swansea MA (508)-324-4500

7 pm - "Satellite" Youth Night (Grades 9 - 12) and "Flip Side" Jr. High Night 6th -8th grade. Every Friday. Christian Hill Community Church. 1745 Main Street, West Warwick. 401-823-0285

7:30 pm - TGIF Coffee House. Every Friday. Bethany Village. 516 Newport Ave, S. Attleboro, MA 508-761-7698

23rd - Annual Charlestown Chamber Annual Seafood Festival - A gastronomic extravaganza of Rhode Island's best seafood, lobster, steamers, chowder, fish and chips, clam cakes, corn on the cob and a raw bar. Arts and crafts, amusement rides and rock climbing wall in addition to children's shows and car show. Ninigret Park, Old Post Rd Charlestown, 401-364-4031

4 Saturday
10am-4pm - Stonington Village Fair, Stonington Borough. CT (860) 535 - 2476

5 Sunday
6 pm -Underground 101- every Sunday. Gatherings feature live music, spoken word, art exhibits, drama, movies, discussions, comedy. Ages 21 - 35. 244 Lexington Avenue, North Providence, RI 401-353-8330

7 pm - Healing & Miracles. Every Sunday. Come experience this awakening move of God. Be empowered and trained to move in signs and wonders, to walk in your redemptive rights. Call for directions - The Well of RI 401-946-3907

Pops Concert: The Ocean State Pops Orchestra
The dazzling French Renaissance-style St. Ann Cultural and Arts Center is the setting for an afternoon of music with the Ocean State Pops Orchestra. The concert includes a variety of light classical pieces, as well as movie music, show tunes, marches

and their pops-style selections. A portion of the concert proceeds will be donated towards the restoration of St. Ann's Church. Admission: \$7.00
Saint Ann Arts and Cultural Center
82 Cumberland St Woonsocket 401-942-4552 www.ossपो.org

6 Monday
7 - 8:30 pm - "Living Free 12 Steps to Freedom" seminar every Monday at the Word of Life church, 1308 Phenix Ave., Cranston, RI. This program is for men and women who want to renew their minds so that they are healed from past hurts, damaged emotions, addictions, and compulsions through the use of biblical principles as 12-step wisdom. NO childcare available

6:00p.m.- Temple Maintenance Course, Excercise class- **All ages are Welcome.** Every Monday August 6-20th. Cathedral of Life, 1860 Westminster/10Troy St., Providence 780-8900

8:45pm - Fireworks on the Beach. Located at the New Westerly Town Beach. Free event. Call (401) 322 - 1026 for information.

7 Tuesday
10:00am -Women's Bible Study, meets every Tuesday at New Hope Christain Church, 1436 G.A.R. Highway Swansea MA (508)-324-4500

7:15 am - Men's Bible Study led by Dr. Dave Reid every Tuesday. Faith Bible Chapel, 49 High Street, Westerly, RI 401-348-9367

8:45 - Big Screen Movie on the Beach"How to Eat Fried Worm"Sandy Shore Motel, 149 Atlantic Ave. Call (401) 596 - 7761 for more information.

8 Wednesday
12 - 1 pm - Businessmen's Luncheon. Full gospel/ fellowship. (2nd Wed's of month at this Location) Radisson Hotel, Providence, RI (exit 3, Gano St off 195) call Jim 401-821-8750

11 Saturday
Block Island Arts Festival - Today & Sunday 12th Local and regional artists display and sell arts and crafts overlooking Great Salt Pond, Narragansett Inn Ocean Ave. Block Island 203-878-2623 www.blockislandchamber.com

13 Monday
8:45pm - Fireworks on the Beach. Located at the New Westerly Town Beach. Free event. Call (401) 322 - 1026 for information.

14 Tuesday
8:45 Big Screen Movie on the Beach"Charlotte's Web" Atlantic Pizza, 145 Atlantic Ave. Call (401) 596 - 7761

17 Friday
7 pm - The Voices of Hope, at Goddard Park, After 10 years of singing Gospel music throughout New England, the group is retiring and this will be their farewell concert. The concert is free. www.gospelmusic.com/concerts.html

18 Saturday
Blueberry Crepe Breakfast - Summit Hall, 12 Old Summit Road Coventry, 401-397-7616

19 Sunday
3:00pm HARVEST FEST: Carnival Games, Food, Hay Ride, Live Christian Bands, & More Christian Assembly, 1494 Fall River Ave, Rt 6 Seekonk, MA 508-336-4023

21 Tuesday
6-8 pm Children's Fashion Show, Come join us for a charitable fashion Show to benefit Rhode Islands CareNet. Master of Ceremonies: Michelle Muscatello, WPRI Meteorologist, Goddard Memorial State Park Carousel. Ticket prices \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, Visa & MasterCard accepted by phone, Call CareNet 401-941-2051. Refreshments will be served.

8:30 PM- Big Screen Movie on the Beach,"Hoot" at Atlantic Beach Park, 321 Atlantic Ave. Call (401) 596 - 7761 for more information.

23 Thursday
6:45pm - Men's Prayer Meeting -Rhode Island Men of Hope . . . reaching men for Christ every 4th Thursday. At Barrington Baptist Church, Barrington, RI www.menofhope.org Our Mission - Reaching Men for Christ. Ambassador for Promise Keepers. Coach for National Coalition Men's Ministry: call Big John Mentus(401-433-2030)

25 Saturday
11am -Meet at Fort Getty in Jamestown, Beachcombing for Kids Explore the shore at Fort Getty, one of Rhode Island's unique coastal beaches, on a two-hour beachwalk. This class is a special chance for young people to have their questions answered about plants, animals and minerals found on the beach. Program is free. Pre-registration is absolutely required., 401-874-6211

7:30 pm- AN EVENING OF PRAISE WITH ROBIN MARK. Presented by The Fellowship, 604 Foundry Street (Routes 106/123) Easton, Massachusetts. Ticket information: Prior to August 24: \$12.00 each, Groups of 10 or more: \$10.00 each, At the door- August 24: \$15.00 each, Student with ID- At the door: \$10.00 each, For more information visit www.robinmark.com or www.thefellowship.org

26 Sunday
6 - 8 pm - Cathedral of Life Strategic Prayer Gatherings (corporate prayer), last Sunday of every month. 433 Elmwood Ave, Providence, RI 401-780-8900

28 Tuesday
8:15 pm - Big Screen Movie on the Beach The Shaggy Dog Sandy Shore Motel, 149 Atlantic Ave. Call (401) 596 - 7761 for more information.

31 Friday
10 am- Senior Saint Bible Study (65 & older) last Friday of the month at New Hope Christain Church, 1436 G.A.R. Highway Swansea MA (508)-324-4500

Mens Covenant Meeting at Cathedral of Life last Friday of the month please call 780-8900 For time 433 Elmwood Ave, Providence, RI

Sneak Peek into Sept/Oct 2007

Sept 1 12:30-9:30 p.m UNITED IN FAITH; An outdoor Festival of Christian Music, bands include: John Polce, Mark Cipriano & Good News Rhythm & Blues, Grafted In, Marc Dobson, Spirited & Truth Crimson Rain, Children's Stage Also/ activities also.

Church of The Apostles, 170 Fairview Ave, Coventry, RI. w www.churchoftheapostlesri.org or call 401-821-7609

Sept 15, Swansea Family Fun Day! Noon to 5 p.m. at New Hope Christian Church. We invite the surrounding community to join us for our 3rd annual Swansea Family Fun Day with an Antique Car Show, motorcycles, rides for the kids (free), burgers and hot dogs (free) and music, music, music! All proceeds will benefit the "Water For Life Project" to villages in Togo, West Africa. 508-324-4500 www.nhcc.ws

Oct 20- The First Baptist Church in Swansea extends an invitation to all crafters, artists, musicians, public officials, poets and people to participate in our fifth **Founders' Festival** here at our meeting house in Swansea. The Festival is intended to be a community celebration which shares the history and spirit of our towns. Any organization that contributes to the health and well being of the intercity area (between Providence and Fall River, Attleboro and Bristol) is also encouraged to be a part of the party. Please contact the church at 508-379-9728.

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Garments of Love- Free Clothing and baby equipment. S. Attleboro Assembly of God 1052 Newport Ave, South Attleboro, MA 508-761-7334 Wednesday and Saturday 10 AM - 1 PM.

PROVIDENCE Rescue Mission. 627 Cranston Street, Providence. 274-8861. Making Disciples.

Bible hour every Wednesday 2:30-3:30 p.m. at R.I. Veterans home. 480 Metacom Ave., Bristol RI 02809 all are welcome

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