And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me. - Luke 7:23

If I only had a heart

The remarkable story of an incest survivor

By Michelle A. Couchon

olly Otten, wife, mother, and more recently author of the book "The Tin Man", came to know the Lord Jesus Christ when she was just 21 years old. By the time she reached this age she was empty, lonely, and wounded from a childhood that had left her scarred. She sought happiness and fulfillment through drugs, men, work, and anything else that might have filled the void. But as many of us know, the answer does not lie in worldly things. Her

story is, sadly, one that has become all too common lately.

Holly grew up the middle of three children. Her parents were not, however, a typical middle-class family. Holly's mother was

negligent, and her father abusive. Those of us who have been raised in a healthy happy

> home might find it difficult to imagine growing up in a world filled with fear; a world where helplessness can cripple your every move.

> Holly's baby sister was born when she was still a toddler herself. Her mother was working two jobs and felt that she simply hadn't enough time to care for her. She gave the baby away to her best friend to raise for an unspecified amount of time.

It would be two years before little Heidi would come home to her biological family for good. By then, naturally, she was a stranger to the family.

Christian Buffet

Everything Other Than My Personal Opinion Is Just Someone Else's Personal Opinion

By Ildefonso Vasconcelos

s strange as it may seem, many "so Acalled" Christians today see it fit to pick and choose which parts of the Bible they can consider fable and which ones may be historical. That's an interesting concept,

because it renders the book worthless. Who is the person that determines which is which? As a matter of fact I would like to ask a bigger question What is Truth and where does

it come from? Your answer to that determines your worldview. Are you held captive by the philosophies of man (materialism, idealism, empiricism, rationalism, naturalism, determinism, relativism, etc.) and if so, which one of all the past intellectual giants (Plato, Aristotle, Sartre, Marx, Freud, Darwin, Kierkegaard, etc.) are you going to heed? What about when they contradict each other? The answers become complex and difficult to discern simply

> because we are looking for the answers in the particulars instead of in the universals. Let me explain. Man in his wisdom has figured out that "the cosmos is all that is, or ever was, or ever will

be" as has said the late cosmologist Carl Sagan. By coming to that conclusion you create a cosmic box in which you look for the answers in the particular behaviors

Buffet continued Page 4



Holly Otten

For Holly, a mere child of four at the time, **Holly continued Page 3**

ERIENCE

By Ralph Davis **Photos by Dave Ciolfi**

Beam me back to Soulfest Lord, I don't wanna be home! Many of us experience culture shock when Soulfest draws to a close and we have to leave. Suddenly, the friendly greetings from strangers stop and we are viewed with indifference by those around us. The comfort of mingling with mostly like-minded people is abruptly ended as we re-enter our day-to-day environments.

You see, while at experience the type of worship that we most enjoy and with many other people that like the same style. Styles of wor-

ship music range

from old fashioned hymns to hard metal with everything in between. One can feel at ease wearing a Christ centered t-shirt or other items since many others are wearing them. Sometimes people cry and it fits right in or a tight prayer circle might suddenly appear. There are so many people from so many places sharing varying beliefs and styles of worship mingling with each other and all getting along; so unlike the

> This year's event was called, True Love is Not For Sale: Soulfest 2010. According to Soulfest producers Dan and Ali Russell, the primary ministry partner this year was the Not For

Sale (NFS) Campaign. Through them attendees had the opportunity "To learn,

commit and engage in actions that reflect true love." The NFS Campaign emphasizes that they are not teaching just about combating modern slavery here in America and throughout our world, they are dedicated to God's call to help those who are suffering from extreme poverty and the many dark ramifications to which these victims are vulnerable. As true believers in Jesus Christ, they encourage us to respond as Jesus would, "To help truly set the captives free."

All attendees were given the opportunity to sign a seven point, True Love pledge. In summary, the pledge is to live the revolution that Jesus started one day at a time by

fostering a deeper relationship with Jesus, with family and loved ones, with neighbors, with community, with the church, the global community and to protect the environment.

Soulfest is widely considered to be New England's premier Christian music and worship festival and over 125 top artists and speakers appeared during the four days. Some of the bands featured this year were Switchfoot, TobyMac, MercyMe, Jars of Clay, Kutless, Hawk Nelson, Phil Joel, Sanctus Real, OC Supertones, Israel Houghton and New Breed, Barlow Girl, Superchic(k), The Chariot, Fireflight, and

Soulfest continued Page 10



The Soulfest crowds

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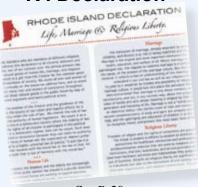
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Adult Prayer Meeting & Bible Study...7:30 PM Youth/Children's Bible Study...7:30 PM

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In 70 A.D., the Lord Jesus Christ did in fact come in Judgment upon the nation of Israel through Titus and the Roman armies...just as He said he would. And it is true, that one day Christ Himself will physically, literally, come back to this earth to judge all mankind in a universal, general judgment. And it is likewise true that the elect in Christ, His people, will meet the Lord in the air before the face of all men, and be spared the wrath to come...while the wicked shall be left behind to be judged in the lake of fire and be left neither root nor branch.

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Holly from Page 1

life was difficult enough. She and her brother were practically caring for themselves.

"My mother was never home. Even when she was, she was generally too tired to care for us. She never held us or hugged us. She didn't know how to be a mother; she didn't know how to nurture us." But if Holly was neglected by her mother, she was shown too much attention by both her brother and her father.

"It began around the time I was eight or nine years old: the oral sex. My brother was about thirteen at the time, and he made it seem like a game. In later years, when the memories began to resurface, I would block them out. My feeling is that he was also sexually abused by my father, and that he had learned it from him."

Holly's father was a drinking man. He was also a wife-beater. Worse than that, however, he was a child molester. When a predator such as Holly's father is intent upon

satisfying his unwholesome desires, age is not a factor. Barring some unforeseen miracle, a helpless baby girl under the control of such a man is doomed from the

"When my father was home he was very reckless, aggressive and violent with my mom and brother. He'd drink and take off with other women. He'd walk around the house naked. He was a very sexual person...in his mannerisms, in the way he looked at me, spoke to me, and touched me."

By the age of ten, her parents having been divorced for several years at this point, Holly taken by their mother to live in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

"It was the worst thing that could've happened, because in RI at least we had the help and support of relatives, neighbors, and a community of people from school. In Florida we knew absolutely no one, and now my mom was working three jobs because she was behind, having spent so much on the move. There were times when we wouldn't see her for days. I'd be out at night, partying in the streets until 1am. I was skipping school all the time. Once I skipped school for two weeks in

"Whenever my mother became fed up, she would tell me to go and live with my father. My brother and I would visit him on weekends because we had to, but we both hated him. I would never have dreamed of going to live with him. He hadn't changed over the years; he was still very abusive in his ways. I remember...he use to make us sit at the kitchen table

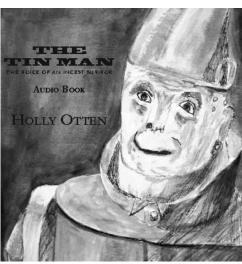
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for hours if we didn't eat our vegetables. One time my brother vomited in his tomato soup and my father made him eat it. My father did things all the time that were sick and unhealthy. He was a very angry man...and very explosive. There wasn't a day that went by that he wouldn't explode in a rage over something. He was never loving...always mean. Always

Holly, however, ultimately did decide to move in with her father. He had remarried years before and was at this time living in Rhode Island with his wife. "I ended up going to live with my father because it was the only way out. Even though I hated him, I had to get out of my life. In the end...it turned out to be a good thing. I had my relatives close by. My paternal grandmother lived nearby, and she was always very warm and loving to me. And my stepmother...she became a good friend to me. The school was better; everything was

Going back and forth, to Florida for the summer and RI during the



The Tin Man, a 52 page book comprised of vignettes, prose, and inspirational verses is filled with photos and original works and her two siblings were of art. The title originates from the Tin Man in The Wizard of Oz, who, like Holly, wanted a new heart.

> school season, became a ritual for Holly. Florida, however, remained the danger zone, where the drugs and the nightlife were always there to tempt her.

> Holly resided with her father until she went off to college at the age of nineteen. She had bravely endured the years of being shuffled back and forth; years of neglect, abuse, and temptation, but at nineteen she had had enough. "I got so tired of the way my father treated me. He was strict and controlling. He treated me like a slave; he treated all of us like little slaves. I was finally able to move out of my father's house, I got a roommate and a job to pay for my college tuition. I cleaned houses during the day and waitressed at night."

> Holly was still searching for happiness, by way of money and men. It was in her third year of college, at the age of 21 that she at last turned to God. "I looked everywhere. At one point, I even looked to God." I had begun to pray, and shortly thereafter I bumped into a woman who asked me to a prayer meeting at her church. I remember thinking

that I might as well try it...I had tried everything else. That was the beginning."

"I found the people at church to be filled with such love and joy that I started to attend regularly. That was when my life started to change. I quit the Marriott, and I stopped smoking pot. I started to hang around with different people. I was attending a charismatic church and I began going on retreats as well. My heart started to change, and I began to feel love from God the Father."

It was at this point that God brought Holly through what would be an incredible healing process. It began with the nightmares...horrific, poignant dreams from which Holly would awaken terrified, and soaked with perspiration. Holly, however, could make neither heads nor tails of the dreams, for she had suppressed the memories from which they originated.

"I went to work as a housemother in a home for unwed mothers - Little Flowers of Burrilleville (currently located in Tiverton,

> RI). It is a Christian home, in which the majority of women and girls had been sexually abused in some way. It was during this time, I attended a service in which the pastor gave an altar call, that I came to know the Lord. He was calling us to come to the cross, when I started sobbing uncontrollably. I heard the pastor say that God wanted to heal someone...someone who'd been wounded. I knew that it was me. At this point God revealed what my father had done to me when I was a baby and a toddler. I had in fact been a victim of incest."

Shortly after this revelation I began going to a Christian counselor. I went every single week for 2 ½ years, during which time I relived my childhood and the bad things that had happened to me. It was especially intense during

the first year. In my nightmares, as well as during this healing process, I could see nothing but hands. It made me sick to even think about them. I hated hands, and I hated my father."

Over the course of her first intense year of therapy, Holly became unable to work. Between the nightmares and a sudden physical debilitation, Holly felt like she was falling apart. She began breaking down at work, both physically and emotionally, collapsing into tears at times unexpectedly. The nightmares were getting worse. She developed insomnia and severe

"My body eventually gave out on me. I would be out shopping or running errands and my body would just fall. It would turn to jello. I became very ill. I believe I had a nervous breakdown."

But God had pre-warned Holly previous to that year that she was going to suffer. But he also gave her a promise. Leviticus 20:24: "But I have said unto you...Ye shall inherit their land, and I will

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give it unto you to possess it, a land that floweth with milk and honey: I am the Lord your God, which have separated you from other people."

"I held on to that scripture, and toward the end of that year, while I was on my way to my mother's in Florida for a vacation that He gave me another. Isaiah 40:31: "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with winds as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

"I spent my whole vacation in prayer, and I had the most glorious dream: I was in a dark pit, hovering in a corner, and there were demons all around me, taunting me. I was so afraid! Suddenly I began to yell the name of Jesus, Jesus, Jesus. At that, they began to shrink back. The next thing I knew I was suddenly flying upward, coming out of the pit, soaring up into the clouds" "This was pivotal for me, because by the time I went back home I was well again. When I got home I knew I was healed."

"My number one prayer was to have a healthy family life...to have the type of family I never had. With my present husband (Holly remarried in 2007 after her first marriage ended in 2004) it is so peaceful in my home! It is everything I always wanted...peaceful, harmonious, and joyful"

In 2004 Holly was given the revelation by God that she was going to write a book. "It was not a wish, goal, or dream of mine. I had never had an inclination to write. This knowledge I knew came from God. I said to God, "OK...whenever you are ready. Four years later, in 2008, He let me know. One Saturday morning I woke up... and I knew. As I walked down the stairs to breakfast I thought, I'm going to write my book today."

"The Tin Man", a 52 page book comprised of vignettes, prose, and inspirational verses is filled with photos and original works of art. The title originates from the Tin Man in The Wizard of Oz, who, like Holly, wanted a new heart.

Holly Otten resides with her husband and four children in Exeter RI. She holds a Bachelor's degree in "Music and Theatre for Children, and sits on the board of directors for House of Hope-RI.

House of Hope RI, a home for healing teens and their families, is holding a fundraiser on September 17, 2010 at Quidnessett Country Club, 950 North Quidnessett Rd. North Kingstown, RI. A silent auction is scheduled for 5:30 pm, followed by dinner and a concert featuring composer, musician and tenor Roger Grenier. The main speaker will be founder and president of National House of Hope, Sara Trollinger. For additional information visit www. hopeofhoperi.org or contact them at 401-286-4978 or info@ houseofhoperi.org.





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Buffet from Page 1

found within the known box, creating universal answers from within. You obviously discard any answer from outside of your created cosmic box because you have already assumed that nothing exists outside of the box.

On the other hand, those of us that believe that the answers are found outside of the known cosmos, those of us who have chosen to believe the whole inspired truth of the Bible without picking and choosing what is fable, allegory, history, or poetry, know that the universal answers are given to us from without and from those our particulars are created. For example: the God of the Bible gives us a universal command - "You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination." Leviticus 18:22. From this command we create particulars that restrain us from such behavior. But, since man rejects any voice from outside the box, he takes a survey within the box to determine what is right. If a certain number of people is practicing sexual relations with a partner of the same sex then it must be normal or acceptable. Thus, their morality is derived from what is, and not from what ought to be. You begin to see the conundrum that emerges when we do not have a law-giver outside of the human race, but instead choose to formulate laws from six billion possible different opinions.

It's sad when you see people claiming to be Christians yet discarding the very book where they get their Christianity from. They throw away the first eleven chapters of the book of Genesis claiming that it is just an inspiring fable. Stories like that of Adam and Eve or of Noah and the Flood cannot be true at all because none of the intellectuals of today believe in them. These "Christians" I assume are

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followers of Jesus Christ, the same One who referred to Adam, Eve, and Noah as historical figures.

Haven't you read, he replied, that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female, and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh? So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate." Matthew 19:4-6

As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. Matthew 24:37-39

Will all the Christians that pick and choose tell me which of

these words of Jesus do you discard? Or was He lying? If so, how do you know when He is not? If He was, why follow Him? Why call yourself a Christian when you do not trust the words of your Master? Let's see... who do I trust more? Jesus' words... or some pseudo-

intellectual of today? This is a hard one...but I am going with Jesus!

I know very well of all the dismissals of today's scientists, but what about the real scientists, that practically discovered most of what we now know today as modern science? Great unequalled minds such as Sir Isaac Newton, probably the most influential scientist that ever lived, whose accomplishments in mathematics, optics, and physics revolutionized the world. Newton wrote more about the Bible and Creation itself than all his scientific discoveries. He loved God and believed God's Word—all of it. He wrote, 'I have a fundamental belief in the Bible Besides Newton, I can list a roll of scientific giants who loved Jesus Christ and His word and believed it all, such as Nicholas Copernicus, Sir Francis Bacon, Johannes Kepler, Galileo Galilei, Rene Descartes, Robert Boyle, Michael Faraday, George Washington Carver, etc. I would love to know which of today's scientists would dare to face these brilliant men and tell them that there is no God, because only fundamentalist bigots, religious fanatics, and unintellectual masses believe in all that "nonsense"! But taking a scientific look at Gen-

as the Word of God, written by

men who were inspired. I study the

Bible daily.' In his book Princip-

ia he stated, "The most beautiful

system of the sun, planets, and

comets, could only proceed from

the counsel and dominion of an

intelligent and powerful Being."

esis with my engineering mind, always trying to figure out how things work or how they might

ECONSTRUCTIO What Kind of Freedom Would It Be If We Couldn't Make the Bible Mean What We Want It To Mean?

have worked, I am in awe of what is actually written in those first eleven chapters of the Bible. We find out that it is stated there, that it never rained before the flood and that every morning a mist rose from the ground and watered the plants (Genesis 2:5-6). This causes us to ask why? Why did they put this in there? Were they just writing science fiction or just what they observed? This leads to a greater question - is it plausible? If so, what is the purpose or consequences? A closer examination leads to a totally different world environment than we know today. Genesis 1:6-7 describes a possible water canopy around the Earth in the pre-flood world. If there was a canopy around the earth the implications would be enormous and many things are explained. It implies a world with no temperature variance, thus no winds or storms, a true green house with uniform temperature throughout the globe including the poles (scientists today find tropiSome wonder why we bother to serve fresh buttered rolls with our stew. In fact, why even take the time to create a nourishing, tasty stew or soup loaded with vegetables and stock; like "Mother used to make?" Why buy fresh fruit when we can get donations of fruit rejected by markets? Why is the hot chocolate rich tasting and piping hot? Why iced cold water; why not room temp-out of the case? Why do we refuse coats or other items that are stained, torn or with broken zippers? Why do we spend time speaking with intoxicated people; those that are obviously under the influence of alcohol or drugs? Why do we sit and gag on their cigarette smoke, or their poor personal hygiene? Why do we endure their objectionable language?

Why do we seek them out, the broken; the unlovable?

Because, they are *people just like us*.

The Midnight Moment

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cal vegetation and animals under the ice in Antarctica and they are baffled), the oxygen content would be high and the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun (they cause all kinds of degeneration leading to cancers and other diseases) would be filtered. This environment would be ideal for long life span and an increase in size of animals and plants which is what is

> written about the ages of the people in the beginning and exactly what we find in fossils today. It causes us to ask why they wrote that people had such a long life span if it didn't happen. Could it be that we have it all wrong about the beginning because we have discarded the account of

the only One that was there and we have chosen to believe in the assumptions and lies of men?

All of this leads to an even more astounding find. If you make a graph that encompass a period of 1000 years before the Flood and 1000 years after the Flood with the ages of the people an amazing pattern emerges. You will get a straight line of around 800–900 year old people until the Flood. After the Flood the ages of the people begin to decrease in a mathematical curve until settling at around 70 years. Why is this so? Could it be that the Flood waters came from the canopy above the Earth that was destroyed and thus the environment after the Flood is completely different? So much so that life span would drastically fall? Isn't it also funny that after the Flood God showed them a rainbow and told them it was a sign that He would never flood the world again? This sign would have meant absolutely nothing had they

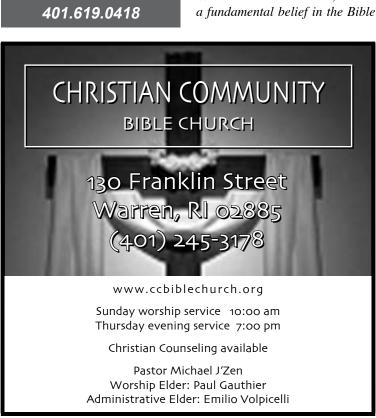
seen it before, which they didn't because it's written that it never rained before the Flood. How interesting!

There's also another interesting point that we need to ponder - world population. We have an increase of about 2% a year. According to historical data we went from about 200 million people in the year 1 to 6 billion in 2000 years. That's interesting, if man has emerged from an ape about 1 million years ago, taking into account a 2% or even a 1% yearly growth we would have so many people that they would not fit on this planet. Where are they? Where are their bones? On the other hand if you start at about 5000 years ago with about 4 couples you might end up with what we have today. Isn't that odd?

What's amazing is that these socalled Christians claim that God did create the universe, but He is also behind the mechanism for Evolution. This is an obvious claim without any thought behind it at all. Because it puts this great, marvelous, benevolent God, that speaks and creates ex nihilo in matters of seconds, using a crass, cruel system filled with death, destruction, savagery and billions of years to bring about the formulation of species He desires. This is laughable! You'd be better off believing that there is no God!

Being held captive by the philosophies of the world eventually creates distorted world views whose consequences are nefarious, leading to mass killings such as those done by Hitler, Lenin, Stalin, Pol Pot, Mao Zedong, etc. The numbers are staggering, in the 100s of millions!

So the next time you belly up to the buffet you may want to ask yourself this question one more time...what is Truth and where does it come from?





You Want THEM To Control Healthcare?

By Chuck Baldwin

A mong the scariest words ever heard are, "We are from the federal government, and we are here to help you." Shiver me timbers, matey! When you hear those words, pick up your peg leg and RUN, because you are about

to get hammered. And that is exactly what isfixing to happen to the American people when the new Obama national healthcare law is fully implemented: we are going to get hammered.

Anyone who believes that the federal government can manage anything effi-

ciently is 8 years old, rationally challenged, or in the business of profiting from the federal government's inefficiency. The only thing the federal government can do with precision is destroy things (and people). That is the one thing the feds can do with complete and total proficiency. Our first and greatest President, George Washington, understood this reality. He said, "Government is not reason; it is not eloquence; it is force! Like fire, it is a dangerous servant and a fearful master." Amen.

A recent AP report should serve as another illustration as to the folly of trusting the federal government with the supervision and care of anything beyond those narrowly limited responsibilities defined in the US Constitution. The July 27, 2010, report said, "A U.S. audit has found that the Pentagon cannot account for over 95 percent of \$9.1 billion in Iraq reconstruction money, spotlighting Iraqi com-

plaints that there is little to show for the massive funds pumped into their cash-strapped, war-ravaged nation."

The report went on to say, "The Pentagon has repeatedly come under fire for apparent misman-



agement of the reconstruction effort—as have Iraqi officials themselves.

"Seven years after the U.S.-led invasion, electricity service is spotty, with generation capacity falling far short of demand. Fuel shortages are common and unemployment remains high, a testament to the country's inability to create new jobs or attract foreign investors.

"Complaints surfaced from the start of the war in 2003, when soldiers failed to secure banks, armories and other facilities against looters. Since then the allegations have only multiplied, including investigations of fraud, awarding of contracts without the required government bidding process and allowing contractors to charge exorbitant fees with little oversight, or oversight that came too late." See the report at: http://tinyurl.com/us-loses-iraqi-funds_

Did you get that? "THE PENTAGON CANNOT ACCOUNT FOR OVER 95 PERCENT OF \$9.1 BILLION IN IRAQ RECONSTRUCTION MONEY." But this is the same federal government that says it can manage America's multibillion-dollar healthcare

system efficiently and with less cost. GAG!

Another report that caught my eye was this one dated August 12, 2010, and carried on My Way News. The report said, "The \$700 billion U.S. bailout program launched in response to the global economic meltdown had

a far greater impact overseas than other countries' financial rescue plans did on the U.S., according to a new report from a congressional watchdog.

"Billions of dollars in U.S. rescue funds wound up in big banks in France, Germany and other nations. That was probably inevitable because of the structure of the Treasury Department's program, the Congressional Oversight Panel says in a new report issued Thursday.

"The U.S. program aimed to stabilize the financial system by injecting money into as many banks as possible, including those with substantial operations overseas. Most other countries, by contrast, focused their efforts more narrowly on banks in their nations that usually lacked major U.S. operations."

I'm sure everyone is glad to hear

this, Amen? Aren't you happy to learn that your hard-earned tax dollars "had a far greater impact overseas" than in the United States? In other words, ladies and gentlemen, big foreign banks (and internationally-owned banks) were the primary beneficiaries of the taxpayer-funded Wall Street bailouts.

The report went on to say, "that if the U.S. had gotten more data on which foreign banks would benefit the most, the government might have been able to ask those countries to share some of the cost.

"There were no data about where this money was going," panel chair Elizabeth Warren said in a conference call with reporters on Wednesday. 'The American people have a right to know where the money went." See the complete report at: http://apnews.myway.com/article/20100812/D9HHSM180.html_

Dear Reader, are you getting this? "IF THE U.S. HAD GOTTEN MORE DATA...THE GOVERN-MENT MIGHT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ASK THOSE COUN-TRIES TO SHARE SOME OF THE COST"? Holy slimeballs, Batman! This is the same government that is collecting nearly 2 billion pieces of electronic correspondence (emails, text messages, cellular calls, phone calls, etc.) EVERY DAY from virtually EVERY CITIZEN in the country. This is the same government that wants to electronically take our clothes off and look at every square inch of our naked bodies every time we get on a commercial airliner. But this same government was not able to obtain the data necessary to determine which for-

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eign banks were going to receive billions of taxpayer bailout dollars? And, "There were NO DATA ABOUT WHERE THIS MONEY WAS GOING"?

Ladies and gentlemen, I ask you, who are the morons here? These government politicians and bureaucrats (who are either the most inept, incompetent fools to ever live, or the most deceptive, duplicitous con artists on the planet), or We the People for putting up with these nincompoops?

Ronald Reagan said it best, "Government is not the solution to our problem; government is the problem." Do I hear an "Amen" out there?

How, in the name of common sense, can anyone (or any State) be willing to forfeit to the federal government one additional cent or even an ounce more authority knowing that every dollar it grabs and every authority it garners is used only to increase the size of the shackles that it puts around our necks?

And you want THEM to manage healthcare?

Evangelists say Muslims coming to Christ at historic rate

By Sarah Stegall News

(charismamag.com) Christians ministering quietly in the Middle East say Muslims are coming to Christ at an unprecedented pace despite intense persecution of those who leave Islam.

"Probably in the last 10 years, more Muslims have come to faith in Christ than in the last 15 centuries of Islam," said Tom Doyle, Middle East-Central Asia director for e3 Partners, a Texas-based missions agency. A former pastor, Doyle has been to the Middle East around 80 times and last week returned to the U.S. from a trip to Jerusalem, where he said both Muslims and Jews are turning to Christianity.

Earlier this month, more than 200 former Muslims were baptized during a training conference in Europe led by Iran-born evange-

list Lazarus Yeghnazar. Brenda Ajamian, a former missionary to the Middle East who partners with Yeghnazar's 222 Ministries International, said the event was unlike anything she'd seen during her

years ministering in Egypt, Lebanon and Jordan.

"That many Muslims who converted to Christ in one place boggled my mind because missionaries have worked in the Arab world and Muslim world generally for years and without much fruit," Ajamian said. "God is at work among Muslims."

Ajamian said she was told at the conference that drug addiction and depression run rampant in many nations, particularly in Iran, where the cleric-led government has attempted to squash prodemocracy movements. "People are so fed up with the kinds of lives they lead. ... They're turning to Christ even in spite of the very real possibility of persecution and death and imprisonment," she said.



Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem

Desperation is also a big factor in bringing many Jews to Christ, Doyle said. "In the last 20 years more Jews [also] have become followers of Jesus than in the last 2,000 years of Christianity," he

Radio, television and Internetbased Christian programming have been key in evangelizing Muslim nations. Yeghnazar claims more than 3,000 Iranians are converted each month through his Farsilanguage television and Internet broadcasts. And Doyle said Father Zakaria Botross, a born-again Coptic priest, reaches about 60 million people through his television programs broadcast across the Middle East. But many Muslim-background believers have said they came to Christ after having dreams and visions of Jesus. "I can't tell you how many Muslims I've met who say: 'I was content. I was a Muslim, and all of a sudden I get this dream about Jesus and He loved me and

said come follow Me," Doyle said.

Doyle notes that the supernatural is an important part of the Islamic faith. Through the course of his life, Mohammed claimed to have had visions and encounters, particularly of the angel Gabriel. "God is going into their context," said Doyle. But instead of finding guidance from Allah, Muslims are finding Jesus.

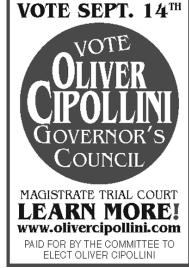
Haytham Abi Haydar, pastor of the Arabic Fellowship Alliance Church in Dearborn, Mich., a heavily Islamic Detroit suburb, said dreams and the supernatural are important to Muslims. "They're so powerful and real. They do consider that as a channel to speak to God and see something important," said Abi Haydar, who's also heard of Jesus coming to Muslims in dreams.

Ajamian said churches of Muslimbackground believers are growing "like wildfire" both in the Middle East and in Europe, which has seen a boom in immigration from Muslim nations. "The Muslims that are saved ... it's like they can't tell the story fast enough," Ajamian

Doyle said though the harvest is ripe in Middle Eastern nations, the spiritual warfare also has ramped up. "People feel it. It just feels more intense," he said. The stress, he said, is particularly high right now during Ramadan, the time Muslims fast and pray in commemoration of the time they believe Mohammed divinely received the first verses of the Quran. He said people are getting sick and even having nightmares.

"When Ramadan comes, you really sense the war in the heavenlies," he said. Christians in many Muslim nations can be imprisoned or killed for converting from Islam. But Ajamian said the persecution is a sign that God is answering prayers for the Muslim world. "There's a move of God," she said. "...The devil doesn't like it, but there is a huge move."

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The Good News TODAY

National News

Just call me Cleopatra

Providence, RI—Rep. James R. Langevin (D, RI) is at it once again, trying to mislead pro-life voters. In a debate aired yesterday on WPRO's John DePetro show, Langevin claimed that he does not support abortion except in cases of rape, incest, or to save the life of the mother.

According to Rhode Island Right to Life Executive Director, Barth E. Bracy, "Rep. Langevin can call himself Cleopatra if he likes, but that doesn't make it so. What are we to make of a man who claims to be pro-life but has voted against the position of the National Right to Life Committee 12 out of 13 times since 2007? Langevin's nearly 100% anti-life voting record over the past four years," Bracy continued, "bears witness to the emptiness of his words."

"There is only one pro-life candidate running as a Democrat for Rhode island's 2nd Congressional District," concluded Bracy, "and that is Prof. Ernie Greco." The Rhode Island State Right to Life Committee urges Rep. Langevin to stop masquerading as a pro-life congressman.

Senate Votes to Confirm Kagan to U.S. Supreme Court

(EP News)--Elena Kagan was confirmed 63-37 by the U.S. Senate on Aug. 5. Fifty votes were needed. Five Republicans voted for Kagan, while only one Democrat voted against her. Kagan will become the 112th Justice and the fourth woman ever to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court.

"Show Me" State Voters Rebuke Obama on Health Care

(EP News)--On one of the hottest days in Missouri, voters showed up in droves in early August, showing more interest in casting their ballot for or against Proposition C, than to vote for primary election candidates. The end result: Missourians resoundingly supported Proposition C - which rejects President Obama's new health care law's "individual mandate," requiring all Americans to purchase health insurance. State Sen. Jane Cunningham, who sponsored the referendum – also known as Health Care Freedom Act (HB1764) credits Tea Party movement and citizen groups with the victory, and hopes the vote will send a loud and clear message to Washington,

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D.C. More than 71.1 percent of Missourians voted to "deny the government authority to penalize citizens for refusing to purchase private health insurance or infringe upon the right to offer or accept direct payment for lawful health care services."

Georgia Student Told to Change Beliefs in Order to Graduate

(EP News)--Georgia native Jennifer Keeton, an Augusta State University student getting her master's degree in counseling, was threatened with expulsion for sharing her faith publicly and for not agreeing to attend and complete a re-education program. Alliance Defense Fund (ADF) attorneys filed suit against the university on Keeton's behalf on First Amendment grounds. ADF is litigating a similar case at Eastern Michigan University and has successfully resolved a case at Missouri State University. According to ADF, university faculty said Keeton's beliefs are unethical and incompatible with the counseling profession, saying it would hinder her "ability to be a multiculturally competent counselor, particularly with regard to working with gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and queer/questioning populations." Keeton was required to attend "diversity sensitivity training." The faculty sought to change her beliefs by assigning her remedial assignments, as well as ordering her to attend gay-related events, such as the Augusta Gay Pride

U.S. Inspector General Audits Reveal Fraudulent Billing By Planned Parenthood

(EP News)--New Jersey Right to Life (NJRTL), released in August three separate audits conducted by the U.S. Inspector General for the Department of Health and Human Services, which show that state Planned Parenthood providers have been over-billed the federal government of millions.

The audits, conducted between 2001 and 2005, found that nearly \$3 million should have been refunded to the government.

NJRTL's report comes just a few weeks after New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie vetoed an effort by abortion-backed elected officials from restoring \$7.5 million in tax dollars to family planning clinics.

Marie Tasy, the executive director of New Jersey Right to Life, said this is a systemic problem with Planned Parenthood. According to the audits, clinics improperly billed everything from prescription medications to outpatient services. "They have a history of abusing the system. They should not be getting funded by the state or federal government, "she said. "All money is fungible, and we know that the money is being used and directed for abortion – even though

Debate Over Mosque at Ground Zero Becomes National Conversation (EP News)--The contentious quick to move away from Obama's Coat Factory site does not qualify

debate over New York's Landmark Preservation Commission decision to permit a 13-story, \$100 million Islamic community center – known as the Cordoba House – to be built just two blocks from Ground Zero has morphed

into a national debate about the

freedom of religion.

and "Islamophobes."

On one side, the politically correct crowd now favors the freedom of religion, while roundly condemning all who oppose the mosque as "intolerant, "bigots"

On the other, there are faith leaders, conservative pundits - and most New Yorkers - who say opposition stems not from a position of intolerance, but from a concern for those directly impacted by the 9/11 attacks – not to mention the questionable motivations of the cleric behind the push to build a center. The Imam of the now infamous "ground zero mosque" is a member of the ultra elitist Council On Foreign Relations and receives financial backing from powerful globalist sources including the Rockefellers, the Carnegie Corporation and the Ford Foundation.

Even President Obama stepped into the maelstrom this week during a State Dinner celebrating Ramadan: "Recently, attention has been focused on the construction of mosques in certain communities -- particularly New York. Now, we must all recognize and respect the sensitivities surrounding the development of Lower Manhattan. The 9/11 attacks were a deeply traumatic event for our country. And the pain and the experience of suffering by those who lost loved ones is just unimaginable. So I understand the emotions that this issue engenders. And Ground Zero is, indeed, hallowed

"But let me be clear. As a citizen, and as president, I believe that Muslims have the same right to practice their religion as everyone else in this country. (Applause) And that includes the right to build a place of worship and a community center on private property in Lower Manhattan, in accordance with local laws and ordinances. This is America. And our commitment to religious freedom must be unshakeable. The principle that people of all faiths are welcome in this country and that they will not be treated differently by their government is essential to who we are. The writ of the Founders must endure."

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., an ardent proponent of the president's agenda, was

they claim it's not."

Len Deo, executive director for the New Jersey Family Policy Council, said it's up to the government to decide where our money is best spent. "These types of abuses in billing serve to underscore the increased scrutiny that these clinics should be subject to." quick to move away from Obama's statement, and said on Monday that the mosque "should be built somewhere else."



Cordoba House is the project of the Cordoba Initiative, an organization founded by 'Imam' Feisal Abdul Rauf (pictured above)

Dr. Richard Land, president of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission for the Southern Baptist Convention, said even though the vast majority of Muslims condemn the 9/11 attacks, building a mosque near Ground Zero is "unacceptable."

"As a Baptist who believes in religious freedom and separation of church and state, I strongly support religious communities' right to have places of worship within reasonable distance of where they live," Land said. "However, no religious community has an absolute right to have a place of worship wherever they choose, regardless of the community's objections."

Meanwhile, the latest attempt to halt the construction of a mosque near Ground Zero in New York has come to an end, resulting in the denial of a motion to declare the site a historic landmark.

The New York City Landmarks Commission voted 11-to-0 on Aug. 3 that the 153-year-old Burlington Coat Factory site does not qualify as a historic landmark, opening the door for the Cordoba Initiative to demolish the building. Thus the organization has been given a green light in their quest to build a 13-story mega mosque and community center within walking distance of Ground Zero.

However, on Aug. 4 the American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ), an organization devoted to Constitutional law, brought a lawsuit to challenge the decision. The ACLJ states they are "dedicated to the ideal that religious freedom and freedom of speech are inalienable, Godgiven rights." Lawyer Brett Joshpe filed papers in Manhattan state court claiming that the decision was made too quickly and the commission "allowed the intended use of the building and political considerations to taint the deliberative process." ACLJ, which represents a fire fighter who survived 9/11, is one of many groups seeking to block the Cordoba Initiative from starting construction of a mosque community center within two blocks of the World Trade Center

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) also recently announced its opposition to the Ground Zero mosque. They explain their stance saying, "Ultimately this is not a question of rights, but a question of what is right. In our judgment, building an Islamic Center in the shadow of the World Trade Center will cause some victims more pain – unnecessarily – and that is not right." The battle over religious liberties and the testing of our resolve in a post-9/11 America will continue.

Scientists stunned as bee populations continue to decline

By David Gutierrez, staff writer

(NaturalNews) Scientists remain stymied as honeybees in the United States and across the world continue to die in large numbers.

"There are a lot of beekeepers who are in trouble" said David Mendes, president of the American Beekeeping Federation. "Under normal condition you have 10 percent winter losses ... this year there are 30, 40 to 50 percent losses."

For many years, beekeepers have been plagued by colony collapse disorder, in which formerly healthy bees abruptly vanish from their hives. The number of beehives in the United States dropped 32 percent in 2007, another 36 percent in 2008 and still another 29 percent in 2009.

A number of explanations for the phenomenon have been suggested, including diseases, parasites, malnutrition, but toxic chemicals are emerging as a major concern among beekeepers. "It might not be the only factor but it's a contributing factor," said Jeff Pettis of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Bee Research Laboratory in Beltsville, Maryland.

A study recently published in the

journal *Public Library of Science* found 121 different pesticides in 887 samples taken from beehives in 23 U.S. states and Canada.

"I don't put my bees in Florida because the last couple of years there has been tremendous increase in pesticide use in the orange crop to fight a disease," Mendes said. "A few years ago they did not use any pesticide at all."

Pettis said that the destruction of natural lands is having a negative impact on the health of bees, which require a "diverse natural habitat."

"The world population growth is in a sense the reason for pollinators' decline," he said. "Because we need to produce more and more food to feed the world we grow crops in larger fields."

The irony, he noted, is that global agriculture depends heavily on honeybees to pollinate critical food crops.

"A growing world means growing more food and to do that we need pollinators," he said. "And the fact that the world is continuing to grow is the driving force behind the habitat destruction."

Israeli Permit for Gay March in Religious Neighborhoods in Jerusalem Causes Worldwide Orthodox Uproar

By Isaac & Shlomo Diamond

Rabbis of the large Orthodox Jewish neighborhoods of Jerusalem have strongly objected to a proposed "Gay Pride March" that has been scheduled, and approved by the Israeli authorities, to pass directly through their neighborhoods. They have penned a petition that has been signed by the residents of these neighborhoods, pleading to cancel the march. Lawyers representing the Orthodox Jews have presented the petition to the police and Israeli Courts. The petitioners urge the authorities not to expose their pure children, who were raised with age-old family values in a sheltered, religious environment, to the immorality

which the bible cites as the cause of the great flood in the days of Noah.

After the police and courts ignored the pleas of the religious Jews, it was decided by leading family values organizations, who feel that the sanctity of Jerusalem must not be destroyed, to do everything possible to stop this march. The blatant disregard for the sensitivities of the religious has been described as religious discrimination.

Rabbi Moshe Shternbuch, Chief Rabbi of Jerusalem, addressed the Orthodox community in New Jersey in regards to this issue. He stressed the importance of helping Jewish places throughout the world, and especially the holy city of Jerusalem, remain holy. Activists from the Orthodox lobbying group Agudath Israel met on Wednesday in Washington to discuss this and other religious issues.

An Orthodox, pro-family rally is scheduled in Jerusalem to counteract the Gay parade. Many Jerusalem Rabbis and thousands of Orthodox Jews are expected to participate.

Rabbis have reminded Israel that promoting the gay agenda has been the cause of much of the tribulations faced by Israel. If they continue supporting this agenda, it may cause more future difficulties.

Mass Scripture Distribution In Greece

By Nico Bougas

SPARTA, GREECE (ANS) -

- The name conjures up visions of fearless soldiers charging into battle without thought of life or limb. The bravery and courage of ancient Spartans is legendary. The word spartan has even crept into the English language to describe the conditions that are at the opposite extreme from comfortable and luxurious.

For the past week Sparta has been the epicenter of a missionary outreach that has reached and touched thousands of homes as a team of 180 from countries as diverse as Canada, Romania, Italy, South Africa, Germany, Holland, the USA and Albania. In all 60,000 households received a copy of the New Testament in contemporary Greek as part of a project called Operation Joshua. One participant described it as a "Tsunami of blessing" as energetic teams using some 50 cars, criss-crossing the sparse and mountainous region. They have gone to over 800 villages in some of the remotest areas of Greece bringing the message of

How does this project compare with other evangelistic efforts? In a word, "historic". In a country where there are less than 20,000 people recognized as evangelical believers this was truly a significant event. This is a country that has never had a reformation or a revival. It has never held any mass evangelistic campaigns. So in the context of Greece's history, to spread 60,000 copies of God's Word in one week can only be described as momentous and even seismic. We can imagine contemporary Spartans echoing the words of their Grecian predecessors, "These that have turned the world upside down have come here also." (Acts 17.6)

Despite the fact that the New Testament was originally written in Greek very few modern day Greeks can understand the 2,000 year old version. Very few Greeks actually own a Bible because there is no point having a book they can't understand. If they do own one it is regarded as an ornament or a good luck charm.

Heeding the words of Psalm

119.130, "The entrance of your word brings light, it brings understanding to the simple" Johnathan Macris, the President of Hellenic Ministries launched an ambitious project to distribute one million copies of the New Testament throughout Greece over the next few years. Hellenic Ministries is "a mission to Greece and the nations", established by Johnathan's parents, Kostas and Alky Macris in 1980. They were previously missionaries to Iryan Jaya for 16 years. Kostas then contracted a series of tropical diseases which the doctors regarded as terminal and he was sent home to die. But God spared him for another 25 years during which time he started what was then known as the Hellenic Missionary Union. As Greece does not acknowledge the need for any missionaries the name was subsequently changed to Hellenic Ministries.

The mission gained wide publicity when Kostas, along with two YWAM missionaries, Don Stephens and Alan Williams were arrested for proselytizing. The incident occurred when a 16 year old boy visited the YWAM ship, Anastasis, together with his father and was given a New Testament in Greek. His estranged mother, a well-known vocal atheist, immediately protested and took the trio to court. Under Greek law it was illegal to pass out any religious literature to any young person under the age of 18 and the three men were each sentenced to three and a half years imprisonment.

There was a worldwide outcry, thousands of people were praying, and protests poured into the Greek government. Greece was in the process of entering the European Common Market so such religious intolerance did not sit well with the authorities. Subsequently the sentences were overthrown. But Greece became the focus of worldwide attention from the Christian community and Hellenic Ministries was well and truly on the map.

25 years later Hellenic Ministries is at the forefront of evangelistic efforts to reach the population of Greece. Whilst 95% of the population profess to believe in God and 97% are members of the state church, it is estimated that

less than 0.2% of the population would lay any claim to being born-again evangelicals. The challenge is immense but the visionary President of Hellenic Ministries is confident that the tide is turning, "God's time for Greece is here. We are planning on significant growth and the planting of churches all over Greece. More than that as revival comes to Greece we believe it will overflow to the surrounding Muslim lands bringing life and hope to millions who have never heard of Jesus."

British Government may give green light to atheist schools

By Michael Ireland

LONDON, UK (ANS) -- Plans to set up atheist schools in the United Kingdom could soon be given the green light by the British government. London's Premier Radio reports that Education Secretary Michael Gove says he is open to the idea as part of reforms to his department. The move comes after high profile anti-faith campaigner Professor Richard Dawkins suggested the idea, Premier Radio said.

The radio station reports the Education Secretary said he would be "interested" to look at proposals for non-religious schools after Prof Dawkins, author of 'The God Delusion', said last month that he approved of the idea of setting up a "free-thinking" school.

Ann Widdecombe, the Former Home Secretary who is also a believer, said it is not something that should be opposed. She told Premier Radio: "If you can set up faith schools, then I think quite obviously you must also be allowed to set up a school that will cater for people whose parents are bringing them up specifically to have no faith." Widdicombe added: "I think it is a great pity if somebody is brought up that way, but our job is to win those people over, not to look to the law to do it for us."

Addressing the House of Commons education select committee, Mr Gove said parents opposed to faith-based schools should be given more opportunities to educate their children in the way they want in the state education

World News

Brazilian church to rebuild Solomon's Temple

(Israel Today) A church in Sao Paulo, Brazil is planning to recreate Israel's First Temple, which was built by the biblical King Solomon some three thousand years ago and destroyed by the Babylonians 400 years later. The Universal Church of the Kingdom of God announced that the \$113 million project will follow the biblical specifications for the First Temple, even down to the particular method that was proscribed for cutting the building stones. The 12-floor main building will have a capacity of 10,000.

Praying and Fasting for His Persecutor

By Gospel for Asia

SOUTH ASIA (ANS) -- The local church was active in sharing the Gospel with the villagers. Many times, Taksheel, a Gospel for Asia-supported missionary, along with believers from the church, would travel house-to-house in order to tell the people about Jesus.



One day while sharing the Gospel with the people, Taksheel was threatened by an anti-Christian extremist group in

his village. They told him to stop sharing the Gospel and leave the village immediately.

The believers in the local church were afraid because of the threats and lost all courage. They wanted to leave the village.

However, Taksheel refused to leave knowing that it was better to obey God rather than man. He had the believers fast and pray for three days so they would be encouraged to spread the Gospel no matter what happens.

Taksheel requests prayers for his

system.

Around a third of the 21,000 state primary (elementary) and secondary modern (high schools) in England are currently faith schools. The majority are Anglican or Roman Catholic, with small numbers of Jewish, Muslim, Sikh and Hindu schools.

By UK law, all other schools must provide religious education and stage a compulsory Christian assembly every day, although parents have the power to withdraw their children from attending.

UN Council Accredits Gay-Activist Group

(EP News)--After 10 years, the United Nations nongovernmental organizations (NGO) committee voted to give accredited status to the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission Association. When organizations are approved for official NGO status within the U.N. framework, they are officially empowered to have input — and influence — at varying levels within its decisionmaking structures. The ultimate goal of the gay activists is to carve out special recognition - and, in effect, protected class status — for sexual orientation and gender identity within the framework of the U.N. Declaration of Human Rights.

Trading Places: British Health System Decentralizes As America's Centralizes

(EP News)--In a paradoxical about-face, the British government announced it will decentralize its overwhelmed National Health Service, at the same time President Obama attempts to imitate the failing centralized system. Obama recently recess-appointed Donald Berwick, an avid supporter of the British health system. He called it "one of the truly astounding human endeavors of modern history." Berwick will lead the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Britain's system has been unable to keep up with cost and demand of the bureaucratic giant. Proposed changes include plans to dole back money and authority to local practitioners, remove layers of bureaucracy and give patients more choices.

congregation that God would fill all of them with a passion to reach out to people in their village and that the new believers in the faith may continue to stand firm. Taksheel also requests that God change the hearts of the anti-Christian group that threatened him.



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Health

Dead cow carcasses "resurrected" to produce cloned beef

By Mike Adams, the Health Ranger

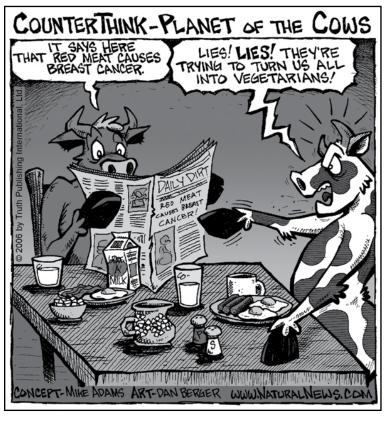
(NaturalNews) We already know that cloned beef has entered the food supply both in the United States and the UK. Now, thanks to revelations from JR Simplot, a U.S. company specializing in the cloning of cows for beef production, we're learning that dead cows are cloned to produce the next generation of beef cattle.

Here's how it works: A large number of cows are slaughtered and then chopped into steaks that are tested for their flavor, texture and other qualities important to steak eaters. The source animal of each steak is recorded, and cells from that source carcass are preserved for possible cloning in case the steak turns out to taste

good. Once all the steaks are gauged for their desirability, the dead cow carcasses from which the flesh was cut to produce the steaks are harvested for their DNA.

This DNA is then used to clone new cows who are fed, raised and slaughtered to see how their flesh steaks taste. This cycle is repeated through multiple generations in order to "evolve" cow clones with great-tasting flesh.

"The animals are hanging on a rail ready to go to the meat counter," JR Simplot employee Brady Hicks told BBC News. "We identify carcasses that have certain carcass characteristics that we want, but it's too late to reproduce the genetics of the animal. But through cloning we can resurrect that animal."



Key cause of AIDS 'off the table'

By Bill Bumpas

(OneNewsNow) At last week's International AIDS Conference in Vienna, Austria, the Obama administration pledged the support of the U.S. in the global fight against AIDS. But one pro-family activist points out that an important aspect is missing from the undertaking.

Both President Barack Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton made prerecorded speeches at the close of the conference, committing the nation's dedication to fight the disease. However, one key factor seemed to be absent from the rhetoric, says a prominent pro-family activist.

"It's not a big mystery about what helps cause AIDS, and yet one key portion -- homosexual practice, homosexual sex -- is just off the

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table," notes Peter LaBarbera, president of Americans for Truth About Homosexuality (AFTAH).

"And then we wonder why we

can't keep this disease in check."

He compares this issue to the Wizard of Oz or the emperor who has no clothes. "There's a lot of talk about fighting AIDS, but they're not really serious about one of the key causes, which is homosexual behavior," he laments.

Instead, LaBarbera says, President Obama promotes it. He wishes the president would take serious action to combat the disease -- like shutting down homosexual bathhouses.

"Bathhouses are places where men can go practice this dangerous sexual activity in secret," the AFTAH president explains. "They can bring it home. If they're bisexual, they can bring it back to their wife or their girlfriend and be the conduit for AIDS into the heterosexual community."

Based on the fact that the Obama administration has avoided the issue, the pro-family activist concludes that it is politically incorrect to talk about the dangers of homosexual behavior.

This "bovine resurrection," it turns out, is just the latest mad science idea from an industry that recognizes no value in the life of a cow but tremendous value from its dead carcass.

Frankenfood beef

The upshot of all this is that the beef people are buying and eating in the US and UK right now could be from cow clones raised from the dead carcasses of other cows whose DNA were harvested for cloning. Yep: Only in the food industry do you see this sort of Frankenstein science -- trying to create life from dead body parts through a process they call "resurrection"... and then serving up Frankenfoods to consumers.

Far from the world of live foods, beef products are dead food made from dead cows that were given life by taking dead cells from the carcasses of other dead cows who were only kept alive in order to harvest their dead DNA. If it sounds a little sick and demented, that's because it undoubtedly is. This process violates so many principles of ethics and spirituality that it's hard to even know where to begin.

Of course, by the time a thousand cow carcasses are all ground up, mixed together, extruded, irradiated and packaged, no one can tell where the beef actually came from... or even if it was cloned in the first place. Slap a greasy patty of cloned beef between two hamburger buns at a fast food joint and no one is the wiser.

That's sort of the point, actually: The beef industry knows that people don't really have much of a clue where their beef comes from -- and they don't want to know! So even if beef comes from cloned animals raised from the harvested DNA of dead cow carcasses, the average consumer remains clue-

The high price of low cost

The goal of the beef industry is to create the best-tasting beef in the world at the lowest cost possible. Period. There is no consideration in the industry for the experience of the cow, nor the ethics of playing God with bovine DNA, nor compassion for the suffering of these animals when they are slaughtered, nor the impact of factory farming on the environment. It's all about corporate profits at the expense of the cows who are born, bred, cloned and slaughtered merely to produce another quarter-pounder that ratchets up

Drugging our Children

By Marc Sircus

New research suggests that exposure to high levels of organophosphate pesticides, commonly found on berries, celery and other produce, and could raise the odds for attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) in children. At this point, though, there is no evidence that pesticide exposure can actually cause ADHD, stated the authors of a paper appearing in the June issue of Pediatrics. At the same time, weirdly, we have the mainstream media publishing brainless research saying that there is currently no strong evidence that organic foods bring nutritionrelated health benefits.

Researchers with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Health in the UK and the American Journal of Nutrition have published that there is no significant difference between organic and conventional foods though they do add that "organic foods are made without the use of conventional pesticides, synthetic fertilizers, antibiotics or hormones, which could potentially reap benefits for people's health and the environment." Unintelligent or better yet stupid is the word because as they "potentially" admit ingestion of chemicals, antibiotics and hormones, speaking nothing of fluoride, transgenic DNA modified food, aspartame, MSG and a host of other unnatural things and what they all do to ones nutritional profile.

another dime in profits for the beef factories. If you haven't seen The Meatrix yet, be sure to check it out: www.TheMeatrix.com

Whole Foods, by the way, has banned cloned meat products in its stores. So if you do eat beef, you can safely shop for it at Whole Foods without encountering cloned beef. Of course, you'd probably be better off with a predominantly plant-based diet, but that's another article altogether.

Unfortunately cloned beef will NOT be labeled as "cloned" in the USA. So there's no way to know whether conventional beef you're buying at the grocery stores (or eating at a restaurant) actually contains cloned beef. The industry will lobby hard to avoid honest labeling in much the same way that the GMO industry doesn't want foods labeled as "genetically modified."

There's one thing we all know for sure: The beef industry prefers to keep consumers in the dark about where all that beef really comes

Our civilization has abandoned the natural world to the maximum and this is telling in our health and this starts at birth and before. For instance, the amount of Vit K injected at birth is 20,000 times the needed dose. Additionally, the injection also contains preservatives which are known toxins to the infant. Large doses of Vit K are a cause of jaundice in the newborn. Colostrum, which precedes breastmilk, is rich in Vit K. Thus, an infant who is breastfed immediately at birth will receive a natural source of Vit K, in most cases significantly raising the Vit K level. Birth is an overwhelming sensory experience for the baby - it has never before been cold, hungry, been blinded by light, felt the touch of cloth or the pull of gravity. Sticking a needle into a baby's body and inflicting pain isn't the best way to allow the sensory system to gradually adjust to the outside world. Not a very warm welcome, is it?

In growing numbers, children across America are adding a dose of medicine to their daily routine. In 2009, the drug trend for children - a measure of prescription spending growth - increased 10.8 percent, driven by a 5 percent increase in drug utilization and higher medication costs, according to the Medco 2010 Drug Trend Report. The growth in prescription drug use among children was nearly four times higher than in the rise seen in the overall population.

A corresponding analysis of pediatric medication use found that in 2009, more than one in four insured children in the U.S. and nearly 30 percent of adolescents (10-19 year olds) took at least one prescription medication to treat a chronic condition; the most substantial increases were seen in the use of antipsychotic, diabetes and asthma drugs. Worst of all children saw a 46 percent spike in the use of antiviral drugs, by far the largest increase of all age groups and driven by the high incidence of H1N1 in the young.

The Good News is that parents are turning their back on institutionalized pediatric medicine with 39 percent of parents in 2008 refusing or delaying vaccines for their children. This compares to just 22 percent in 2003. In a telephone survey of the parents of 9,000 toddlers. Many of the parents were worried about whether the vaccines were safe or effective.

WebMD reports: 27 percent said too many shots were recommended, 26 percent questioned whether vaccines really worked, 25 percent cited worries that vaccines might cause autism, and 24 percent worried about side effects.

Many parents have doubts about the value of childhood vaccinations as do many health and medical professionals around the world. Only Bill Gates, Jimmy Carter, their wives and the New York Times remain without doubt about the dangers of vaccines and giving too many of them to our children.



Unlikely Synonyms

By Chris M. Tatevosian

HOLLISTON, MASSACHU-SETTS (ANS) -- Can a chronic illness and a blessing be one in the same? The answer lies within us. We hold the key. The problem is that many of us never pick up the key, unlock the door and continue on our journey. Too often the tight grip of depression becomes a stranglehold keeping us from acquiring the abundance that God has promised.

My name is Chris Tatevosian and I was once in that place beyond self-pity, loneliness and fear. It's a long story entitled "Life Interrupted, It's Not All About Me." I have written my memoir to help others with chronic illness, their spouses, family members, friends and caregivers deal more positively with the stress put on one's relationships as a result of life being interrupted by chronic illness or disability.

My affliction, multiple sclerosis, has changed my life in so many ways. I am in a wheelchair, legally blind struggling to perform simple tasks because of my compromised motor skills and my wife of ten years left me in 2001. I was living, if you can call it that, a life of severe depression.

My greatest fears had come true. There was no way I was ever going to be able to meet a woman and fall in love again. I did not know where I was going to live -- perhaps in a nursing home, or maybe with my elderly parents.

I had no purpose in life. Eighteen years of school, employed as a nutritional chemist for seven years before making the career jump to Occupational Safety and Health Coordinator I became completely disabled in 1994. I was unable to work. What a waste.

But God had a different plan for

me. I don't know where it came from or how it happened, but God showed me that "my illness was an opportunity to remake myself into something better than I was before." When I began helping and ministering to others in simi-

lar situations by writing my book, God filled my life with abundance. When God comes on the scene it's truly amazing.

I married, Jane, the most beautiful and caring woman in April 2007. We have the most incredible and loving relationship. Jane and

I purchased the house next door to my parents who still live in the house where I was raised. Because the symptoms of MS worsen with heat I have been unable to go outside during the summer for the last 10 years. Our new home has a swimming pool and I haven't

LIFE

INTERRUPTED

missed a sunny day yet.

As I explained, I am unable to work because of my disability, however I am busy between 6 and 10 hours a day reaching out and ministering to those who would benefit

> from reading my story. Today I keep busy as an author, columnist, motivational speaker, and host of the blog talk radio show "Winning Life through Pain" which you can hear by logging onto www.RSDcoachlife.com on Tuesdays at 2 PM Eastern. All shows are archived, so

you can listen at your convenience.

If I was able to overcome my greatest fears, I'm positive that anyone can. To learn more about my journey and how to avoid making the same relationship Books



Chris and his wife Jane

destroying mistakes that I made when my relationship was interrupted by chronic illness, look up the book Life Interrupted, "It's Not All About Me." and to order your signed copy visit www.lifeinterrupted-nolonger.com

I would like to conclude with a quote from the Rev. Billy Graham, who said, "Comfort and prosperity have never enriched the world as much as adversity has."

Tony Dungy: From Super Bowl coach to 'All Pro Dad'

By Joni B. Hannigan

TAMPA, Fla. (BP)--Tony Dungy no longer needs the game-day apparel and gear of an NFL head coach, but that doesn't keep him from donning distinctively different attire when the occasion calls for it.

"They asked me to play John

the Baptist,"
Dungy said of his
church's Easter
pageant, in which
he baptized his
18-year-old son
Eric, who was
playing Jesus.

"It was just really moving," Dungy said. "I was just so proud of him." Smiling at the memory of the moment, Dungy

credited his son with having "a heart" to practice and rehearse.

Perhaps Dungy's role as John the Baptist may be apropos to the prophetic voice the former Super Bowl-winning coach has been sounding for men to love and respect their wives and for fathers to be a down-to-earth "Superman" to their children. And in a broader sense, Dungy's prophetic voice has pointed people toward living for Christ, indeed letting Christ live through them, as the ultimate success in life.

Since retiring from the Indianapolis Colts in 2009, Dungy

has kept his pledge to spend more time at home with his wife Lauren and their six children as well as more time at Central Tampa (Fla.) Baptist Church.

It's the kind of commitment he promotes as a spokesman for All Pro Dad, a football-themed organization that aims to help men be good fathers.

At church, whether in teaching settings or just his attendance on Wednesday nights, Dungy has stepped forward.

It's been "fun," as he described it, "just being there and just being supportive and talking about what it means to grow up in this world,

some of the pressures that you are going to see and how to handle them, and what the Bible says about image and decision-making and role modeling-- just to be a sounding board for the young people in our

church."

Being consistent

and their fourth adopted child, Jason. Back row: Eric, 18, wife Laren with 10-month old Jason; and Dungy with Justin, 3. Front: Tiara, 24; Jade, 8; and Jordan 9.

"Trying to manage that and use

the platform that God has given

me and still be home enough to

be effective as a dad, that's been

a challenge," Dungy said.

Tony Dungy gathers his family,

including the newest member,

Photo by Shawn Ray Photography

on Wednesday nights was Dungy's intent in taking a weekend role on NBC's "Football Night in America" after retiring from the NFL. And it enables him to be involved with his kids' sporting events, birthdays and parent-teacher conferences.

"I feel like I'm more of a dad now," Dungy said.

In an interview with the Florida Baptist Witness during an All Pro Dads event in Tampa this spring,

> D u n g y fielded questions about the challenges he's faced since retirement,

his mentors in the faith and what's it's like to live in the limelight.

Even at this stage of his life, Dungy said time management is the biggest challenge he has faced. Accustomed to the structured days of practice, travel and games in professional football from July 20 until each year's playoffs and Super Bowl, Dungy now is learning to direct his own life.

"Trying to manage that and use the platform that God has given me and still be home enough to be effective as a dad, that's been a challenge," Dungy said.

In naming those to whom he looks for wisdom, Dungy said his pastor "in town" at Central Tampa Baptist, Jeffery Singletary, "has been sensational," and he still talks "all the time" to Richard Farmer, who was the pastor at Bethany Baptist Church in Pittsburgh when Dungy was newly married and playing for the Steelers.

Ken Whitten, another Tampaarea pastor, who was his pastor at Idlewild Baptist Church, which birthed the inner-city Central Tampa congregation, is another "great" in his life, Dungy said.

Whitten and Dungy have remained close, with the Dungy family continuing to be involved in missions and ministries at both church campuses, Whitten said in an interview.

"A leader has followers and Tony Dungy's leadership is measured by those who follow him both on and off the field," Whitten said. "Tony is well-respected and loved in this community. His personal relationship with Jesus Christ is what defines him.

"In a world starving for heroes, it is imperative their lives exhibit an attitude and actions that young men and women can emulate," Whitten said. "Tony Dungy is a man you can say, 'He is a role model."

Dungy said professional athletes and their families actually have something in common with ministers and their families: They live in the spotlight. He acknowledged it can be difficult and empathizes with pastors and their families who may feel like everyone is watching them.

"Your children do get a little stressed out because everybody's around you, everybody's talking to you," Dungy said. "Sometimes it's a little hard to be out in public, but more than anything else, you realize you have a platform and you can be a role model and you can show people that Christ living through you is the way to go."

When the going gets tough and the kids don't want to live a fishbowl experience, Dungy said it's best to be straightforward.

"You just have to say it goes with the territory; it's part of the job," Dungy said. "It won't always be this way, we just have to bear with it."

While living in the spotlight is not without its "perks," Dungy reminds his family that ultimately God is watching.

"Really, you just say whether the spotlight is on you or not -- whether there's 100 people around you or one person -- you have to be who God would want you to be, and that's the way we try to live," Dungy said.

Quoting his favorite Bible verse, a rhetorical question, Matthew 16:26, Dungy asks: "What would it profit a man if he gains the whole world but forfeits his soul?" Dads can benefit by studying the "very short, very practical" New Testament Book of James, Dungy advised, for day-to-day life lessons, "things to do, things to avoid."

In a series of transparent blogs on the All Pro Dad website (www. AllProDads.com), Dungy talks

Sports

about everything from teaching children how to be grateful for material things to how to avoid the dangers of alcoholism. He gives advice about the Tiger Woods situation, offers predictions on various NFL draft choices and reflects on choices made by pro athletes.

"Everything is a blessing and so you have to be thankful for what you have and not think about what you don't have," Dungy says in one video blog about materialism.

Dungy's overarching message, again and again, offline and online -- at a prison in South Carolina where he spoke this year to 2,000 inmates, at the University of South Carolina, where he addressed the football team -- doesn't waver: "I told them the best way to [take charge of your future] was put Christ in charge of your life and follow His direction and guidance."





Soulfest from Page 1

many more! "Soul University" offered a myriad of seminars and workshops each day.



Michael Gallo (left) manning The Good News Today booth.

The Good News Today, New England's only monthly Christian newspaper, is represented each year at Soulfest. With a circulation of 16,000 copies per month, it is placed in over 450 churches, 200 businesses and other settings. Each year, thousands pass by our table; some enthusiastically tell us

that they get it at their church: many ask how they can get it. Some take a copy or two of each edition to read and share. Then there are those who are interested in a particular topic or article portrayed on a front page. Manning our booth this year were veterans Matt Davis, Coy and Lynn Bethune and their daughter Shannon, and the welcome addition of Michael Gallo and his daughter

One example of a person who was immediately blessed by our paper is a man named Tom Bruce who was touched by the front page August article A thorn in the flesh, by Michelle Couchon. Tom was

The Soulfest prayer wall. Photo by Anna Gallo

a heroin addict for many years and repeatedly attempted to stop. Like Michelle, he was only able to quit abusing substances, not under his own power, but through the grace and strength of the Lord. Tom is now a pastor of Living

Word Assembly of God church in Dover-Foxcroft, Maine. We will be doing a follow-up, feature story about him in a future issue. He was pleased when we gave him a dozen or so August issues to bring back to

share with others!

As one of the writers for the paper, I have been blessed with the opportunity to write about Soulfest for the past five years. This is quite interesting and challenging for me since there are so many areas in which one can focus. Amid

all of the excitement, the hustle and the bustle, what struck my heart the hardest this year were the prayer walls; structures where people could write their prayers and needs to our Lord on paper hearts and then affix them with a push pin. The more of them I read, the more I realized how much they



Lynda, Esther and Janice of Gospel for Asia

represent the hearts of everyone there. There was a universal theme to the prayers reflecting the problems and hopes of so many of us. We can all understand and put ourselves in the shoes of those who wrote them...

(Dear God, please calm the chaos

in my life. I love you ... I pray for my parents that they will be able to pay their mortgage ... I pray that I will not compromise and date someone who does not have a strong love for the Lord. And that he comes Esther Lingley who represented Gospel for Asia; reaching the most unreached. What first impressed me about Gospel for Asia's ministry is that their primary aim is to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with those who have never before heard His name." Data indicate that less than 5% of total world-wide missionary activity is focused on those who have never had the chance to hear the gospel

(I pray for God to ignite a consuming passion for him in me and my family ... Please quiet my mind and cause my eyes to be open to you ... Please help my son Frank lead his family to you... That I might loosen up and make friends at college ...)

The three women worked long hours each day, seemingly tireless as they handed out over 600 books and other literature and spent much time speaking with visitors to their

> table. They understand how, in our busy lives, it is easy for the needs of a lost world to seem unreal and so far away. But, they remind us of the harsh reality: 2.7 billion people of our generation are still unreached with the Gospel! Gospel for Asia currently has 16,500 native missionaries in Asia where about 97% of all of the worlds unreached reside.

A Vermont resident, Esther is a Gospel for Asia missionary who will work out of the Carrollton, Texas headquarters. For more information, visit their website at www.gfa.org. Phone 1-800-946-2742

(For my mom that her eyes be opened so she can see the reality of her sinful situation ... That you can make me be nicer to my wife and my family...Please help me in high school not to do anything stupid...)

From monsoon to dust bowl: last years rains at Soulfest created mud deep enough to suck your shoes off. This year was so dry that a coat

of dust was everywhere,

of Soulfest and why they came. The overwhelming response to my "Why?" was "to hear the bands." All responded that yes, they are Christians, except for Kyle and Sarah. They stood out because

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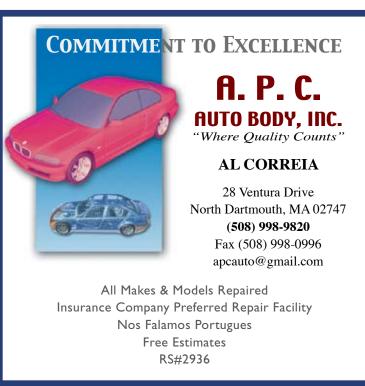
of with his other runs and he is actually thanked when people get off. Along the same line, a Belknap county sheriff said that he was unused to the greetings and warm smiles that he received from many

Remember, if you can dream it, I can help you achieve it! 692 Warren Avenue, East Providence RI 02914 Office direct: 401 223-6114 - Email: lisa.ranglin@cox.net Each office is independently owned and operated (I pray for a safe trip home to Mas-

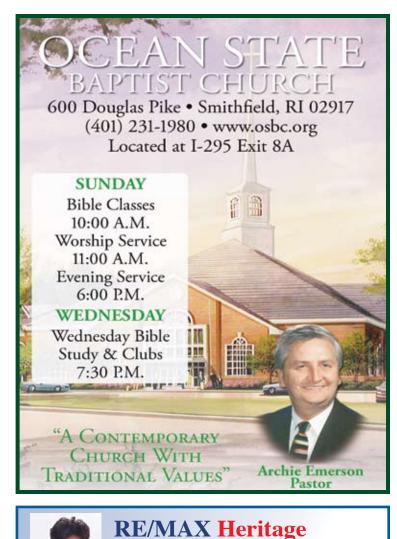
wanna go again!

Now is the time to save the most money on passes to Soulfest 2011, which will be held August 3-6, go to their website:









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SONG ON THE WIND

Passing the cup

By Joe Rosato

oncord's founders Peter Bulkeley and Simon Willard, and the Massachusett tribe members who first called the place 'Musketequid', are the subject of a full-

length musical drama to be performed by New Life Musical Theater at the Emerson Umbrella for the Arts from September 10-19th in celebration of the town's 375th anniversary.

Their names are written on signs of local buildings, streets, golf

courses, and placards marking historic sites: Squaw Sachem, Jethro (or Tantamous), Tahattawan, Tasunsquaw, Waban, Sarah Doublet, Webbacowitt, Quannapowitt, Sassamon, Winthrop, Dudley, Hosmer, Wheeler, Buttrick, Hoar, John Eliot and King Philip-- they all play a role in the early story of Massachusetts and Concord in particular.

A cast of 51 actors, singers, dancers from Southern New England are joined by the descendents of the original Praying Indians and a small orchestra to tell the story of the first 40 years of the people of Concord and their relationship with the native people. "Song on the Wind" is the fourth full length musical written by Concord resident, David MacAdam and this will be the first time that this musical has been performed here.

"Concord is where this story belongs, but the story needs to be shared widely. Few people know the early history of New England. Nor do they know that the war with more casualties per capita in the history of our country

Philip War of 1675."

The music has already gives voice to our people's faith,

formed in story held mute far too long." New York at

Times Square (as part of "Project Dance") and before tens of thousands at Boston City Hall Plaza after 9-11 (as part of "The Call"). The original cast CD is being released this summer with 23 songs and a 32 page booklet available for download on iTunes or purchase at CD Baby or Amazon.com. Enthusiastic response to the first workshop

production at the Littleton High School led to a special production at the Memorial

Entire cast at the finale.

Hall in historic Plymouth, Massachusetts for a national conference of congregational ministers.

MacAdam caught the theater bug while growing up in New York while Broadway was experiencing its 'golden years'. His first piano teacher was a composer of musicals who encouraged him in music and coaxed him to participate in community theater productions. He moved to England and served for ten years as a pastor in East Anglia. There he became familiar with the stories of the remarkable Puritan non-

conformists from that part of the world that were driven by persecution to join the Great Migration to the Massachusetts Bay Colony in the New World (1630-1640). It was when MacAdam himself migrated back across

> the Atlantic from Old England to New England to serve as pastor of New Life Community Church in Concord in 1986 that he became intrigued with the other side of the story and began to research what happened where the Puritans landed. Once

here he became further acquainted with the stories of the town's founders and the Indian tribe who once lived here known as the Massachusett.

The idea of writing a musical about Concord's early history was catapulted by a developing friendship with the Natick Praying Indians, descendents of the Massachusett tribe who have for generations preserved the legacy of their ancestors who lived in the Praying Villages and whose first leaders came from Musketequid. For the past nine Thanksgivings he and New Life Community Church members have celebrated an annual reconciliation covenant meal with the family of the Grand Sachem, Caring Hands, Still Waters, Strong Bull, Strong Bear and other members of the tribe.

Composer/playwright David MacAdam says, "This show has been a labor of love from the start. We tell the story of two very different people groups and their social experiments: the Puritan vision of a "City on a Hill" and the Praying Villages of the Christian Indi-

is the King The sachem of the Natick Pray Indians and among the Massachusett Massachusett. today, Chief Caring Hands, says of the Both visions musical drama: "Song on the Wind" are put to the test with the tragic King been per- hardship, perseverance and hope; a Philip War of

> The musical production features Kristin Neprud of Wayland as Tasunsquaw, Joe Rosato of Concord as Waban, Glenn Gray of Sudbury as Peter Bulkeley, David Jubinsky of Acton as Simon Willard, and veteran Concord science teacher Bob Fardy as Samuel Moseley. Susan Dill from Bolton serves as music director, David MacAdam of Concord encourages the cast and crew as director and Graeme Bird from Tewksbury conducts the orchestra.

> > "Song on the Wind" will open on Concord's 375th anniversarv weekend and continue with 9 performances at The Emerson Umbrella for the Arts, 40 Stow Street, Concord. Evening performances will be held at 7:30 PM Fridays Sept.

10th and 17th, Saturdays Sept 11th and 18th, Wednesday Sept. 15th, and matinees at 2 PM will be held on Saturdays Sept 11th and 18th and Sundays Sept 12th and 19th.

ADVANCE PURCHASE IS RECOM-MENDED as seating is limited. Tickets are now on sale at the 24 hour toll-free ticket line 877-SHOWS-55 (877-746-9755). More information is available at:

www.SongontheWind.com

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Entertainment

99 Percent of Music Chart Hit Acts are "Soft Porn" Says Music Industry Giant

By Hilary White

LONDON (LifeSiteNews.com) - While religious leaders have been warning about the moral effects of the modern pop music scene for decades, now even some leaders of the industry are expressing their concern. Today record producer Mike Stock told British media that he believes children are being "sexualized" by popular culture.

"The music industry has gone too far. It's not about me being old fashioned. It's about keeping values that are important in the modern world. These days you can't watch modern stars - like Britney Spears or Lady Gaga - with a two-year-old." "Ninety-nine per cent of the charts is R 'n' B and 99 per cent of that is soft pornography," he added.

Stock is one of the trio of "legendary" music producers that constitute Stock Aitken Waterman, whose talent properties have included Cliff Richard, Debbie Harry, Donna Summer, La Toya Jackson and Kylie Minogue. The trio was one of the most successful songwriting and producing partnerships in the history of the music business, with more than 100 UK top 40 hits, and earning an estimated £60 million.

Stock told the Daily Mail, "Kids are being forced to grow up too young. Look at the videos. I wouldn't necessarily want my young kids to watch them. I would certainly be embarrassed to sit there with my mum."

In Britain the "Hit Parade," the first British record sales chart at the dawn of the popular music era, was published in November 1952, and was measured by sales of sheet music. The first number 1 song on Britain's Hit Parade was "Here in My Heart" by Al Martino, the Italian-American "pop crooner" and actor who is also known for his portrayal of the character Johnny Fontane in the 1972 film The Godfather.

This week, BBC Radio 1 reported that the

number one UK spot was held by American rapper Tramar Dillard, better known by his stage name "Flo Rida," for his rap piece "Club Can't Handle Me." The number, performed largely on two notes of the musical scale, includes a video in which a frenzied mob of night-clubbers burst out of the club and into the streets, destroying a corner shop to end up gyrating in a laundromat.

Lady Gaga's widely criticized single, "Alejandro," has fallen on the charts this week to number 22. The video features Lady Gaga, shown in scanty underwear and a mock nun's habit, simulating sado-maochistic sex and swallowing a rosary. It also shows a team of semi-nude male dancers performing mock homosexual acts, themes

> that are so common they are starting to be considered passé in British pop culture.

> > "Before children even step into school, they have all these images - the pop videos and computer games like Grand

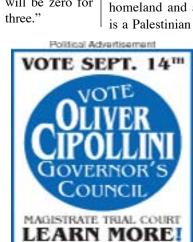
Theft Auto - confronting them and the parents can't control it," Stock continued.

He has responded to the concerns of parents by producing what he has called a "family-orientated show." The Go! Go! Show is a pop song and dance show performed by "tween" singers that is playing to positive reviews in London.

Brian Clowes, the research director for the pro-life and pro-family group Human Life International, expressed surprise that there is anyone left who "doesn't believe that the music industry degrades morals, sexualizes young girls and is disrespectful to women." Such people, he told LSN, "should just visit YouTube and randomly select a half-dozen music videos to watch."

"There are only a handful of artists who even attempt to promote good moral values, since this is considered 'uncool' and, even more importantly, unprofitable. Many of the singers target pre-teen girls with their messages, and then these girls follow the advice and lyrics they hear and wind up ruining their lives," Clowes commented.

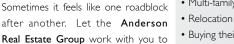
> "It's true that we are not forced to watch this trash; but we are also responsible for making sure our kids grow up holy, healthy and happy. If they follow music videos and shows, they will be zero for



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honestly and respectfully shares Sami's, Yonatan's,



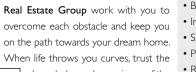


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Is Peace in the Middle East **Really Possible?**

By Dan Wooding

KELLER WILLIAMS

1170 Pontiac Avenue

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Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX (ANS) -- There is no shortage of opinions, emotions, and actions regarding finding "peace in the Middle East." While some are familiar with the issue and others are personally impacted by the conflict, many more are unaware, uninformed, and unconcerned about this critical global issue. Little Town of Bethlehem is a groundbreaking new documentary that shares the gripping story of three men-a Palestinian Muslim, a Palestinian Christian,

and an Israeli Jewborn into violence and willing to risk everything to bring an end to violence in their lifetime.

Filmed on location in the West Bank, Tel Aviv, and Jerusalem, Little Town of Bethlehem brings awareness to a growing nonviolent movement in the Middle East that rarely, if ever, makes international headlines.

Sami Awad is a Palestinian Christian whose grandfather was killed in Jeru-

salem in 1948. Today he is the executive director of Holy Land Trust, a non-profit organization that promotes Palestinian independence through peaceful means. Yonatan Shapira is an Israeli Jew whose grandparents were Zionist settlers who witnessed the birth of the Israeli nation. Today he is an outspoken advocate for the nonviolent peace movement, both in his homeland and abroad. Ahmad Al' Azzah is a Palestinian Muslim who has lived his

> entire life in the Azzah refugee camp in Bethlehem. Today, Ahmad heads the nonviolence program at Holy Land Trust, where he trains others in the methods of peaceful activism.

> Little Town of Bethlehem and Ahmad's stories.

With all three men referencing both Martin Luther King, Jr. and Mahatma Gandhi during individual interviews, it is clear that their words, thoughts, and actions on nonviolence are still profoundly impacting today's nonviolent movement. The images of these three men standing firm in the face of overwhelming opposition are inspirational, but Little Town of Bethlehem is not just about inspiring viewers. The filmmakers also raise the question, "Can the cycle of violence be broken?"

Poster for the documentary

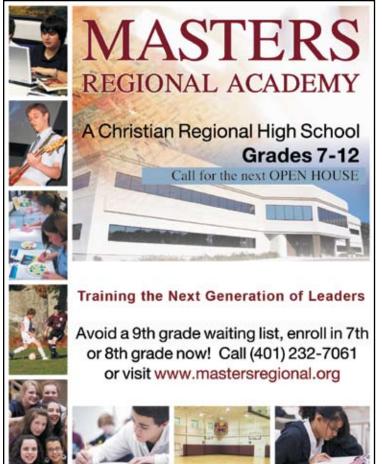
Little Town of Bethlehem was produced by EthnoGraphic Media (EGM), an educational nonprofit organization exploring the critical issues of our time. Other feature films and documentaries from EGM include The Grandfathers (2009), Miss HIV (2008), and the award-winning End of the Spear (2005) and Beyond the Gates of Splendor (2002).

Like all EGM films, Little Town of Bethlehem was created with a global youth

audience in mind. But this film will connect with any viewer who desires a deeper understanding of conflict resolution. "The major themes in the film are universal and timeless. The desire to end violence through nonviolence is not a demographic phenomenon, though often it is youth that mobilize. The theme of this film is appropriate for anyone who deals with conflict. This hopeful message of equality is for all," says Jim Hanon, chief creative officer at EGM and the film's director. "Little Town of Bethlehem doesn't focus on who's right or who's wrong. The focus is on three men from different places and with different backgrounds who struggle together toward this common goal through nonviolence. We feel that the nonviolent approach promoted by the film is a humanitarian message with the power to transcend religions, nations, politics, languages, and cultures."

Watch the trailer at

www.littletownofbethlehem.org



Francis Asbury

American Minute with Bill Federer



300,000 miles on horseback, from the Atlantic to the Appalachians, from Maine to the Gulf of Mexico, for 45 years, he spread

the gospel. This was Francis Asbury, Methodist Circuit riding preacher who was born AUGUST 20,1745.

When the Revolution started, he refused to return to England: "I can by no means agree to leave such a field for gathering souls to Christ as we have in America."

He befriended Richard Bassett, a signer of the U.S. Constitution, who converted, freed his slaves and paid them as hired labor.

Francis Asbury dedicated the first African Methodist Episcopal Church and met personally with George Washington, congratulating him on his election. By the time he died, the Methodist Church in America had grown from 300 members to over 200,000.

Unveiling the Equestrian Statue of Francis Asbury in Washington, D.C., 1924, President Calvin Coolidge stated: "Our government rests upon religion. It is from that source that we derive our reverence for truth and justice, for equality and liberty...This circuit rider spent his life making stronger the foundation on which our government rests."

Coolidge concluded: "Francis Asbury is entitled to rank as one of the builders of our nation."

Cipollini announces for Governor's Council



Oliver P. Cipollini, Jr. has announced his candidacy for the office of Governor's Councillor for District One.

A native of Fall River, where he lived for about 36 years, Cipollini has lived for the past 22 years in Barnstable with his wife, Sandra Piccole. He is a retired Clerk-Magistrate and Systems Network Manager. Besides working with large budgets and diverse systems, he has worked with children and young adults in the juvenile court system, as a social worker and as a counselor at St. Vincent's Home in Fall River.

Cipollini stresses his dedication to public service. "I seek to uphold the democratic process by becoming your representative on the Governor's Council," he says. "I promise to be your voice on the Council. I will welcome voter input in the issues which come before the Council.

The Governor's Council is at times sought by the Governor for advice and consent with respect to nomination of judicial officers, appointment of notaries public and justices of the peace, issuance of pardons and commutation, and payments of monies from the

Editorials / Commentary / Letters to the Editor

Are we doing the work Christ gave?

By Allan Erickson

Christians should be outraged by what often passes for church in America. It sounds like a gross generalization, but consider the reasons. It sickens many of us to realize the church triumphant — once a powerful force for righteousness, goodness and justice — has become a tool of secularism and the world.

The church Christ established has two jobs: evangelism and discipleship. We are also called to speak out against evil. From the day Peter and Paul confronted the religious hypocrites and the Roman imperialists, Christians have spoken out against evil in the tradition of Jesus Christ. Are we doing the work Christ gave us to do?

How many people got saved in your church last Sunday? How many of your members are walking the walk? Does the power of the Holy Spirit drive your Kleenex budget through the roof? Is the carpet at the altar worn out from people hitting their knees? When was the last time you witnessed a miracle of healing or deliverance? Can you name the last time sacrificial giving put the budget in the black so much there was surplus enough to go the extra mile? When was the last time institutionalized evil was confronted from the pulpit?

We claim we are broken hearted for the lost. Yet we call sin a lifestyle and stand by quietly while people disease themselves and get carted off to hell, afraid to say anything according to the Word, lest we "offend" someone, lest we be called names. Did not the Name above all names get much worse for taking a stand? Churches ordain shameless sinners and we call it enlightenment. The Lord calls it an abomination.

Welfare, once considered a reproach, is now regarded an inalienable right, even in the church: the government as robber

treasury. I enter this process as an advocate for the vitality of our state government's Constitution and governing process.

"I feel that the citizens of the district have the right to participate in this process. When elected, I will be available for written and oral suggestions and thought-out arguments. I will do everything possible to encourage voter participation."

Cipollini is an elected member of the Board of Directors of the UMass Dartmouth Alumni Association and is one of five executive members of the Citizens for Homeowners Insurance Reform, which addresses the rising costs of insurance in coastal communities in Massachusetts. Cipollini was recently appointed to the Town of Barnstable's Citizen's Advisory Committee for Wastewater Management. This is the biggest financial project in the history of the town to find a long-term solution to preserve the Cape's water and marine life.

baron called the heart of the Gospel. Government-mandated redistribution of wealth, including the destruction of self-determination in healthcare, is the new measure of spiritual authenticity: the government insisting we embrace godless Marxism in order to demonstrate godliness, the height of bizarre. And many pastors in the church go along, allowing secularism to define spirituality.

Illegality is endorsed by sanctuary churches partnering with lawlessness in the promotion of illegal immigration and the stirring of racial strife, calling it the heart of Christ.

Our children are overwhelmed by techno-driven depravity and perversion and the sickest practices imaginable, and all we do is click our remotes and eat junk food. High school students bully other students to suicide and we yawn and say isn't that tragic. Government-funded promotion of homosexuality finds favor in public schools and parents can't even be bothered to question it.

Divorce, broken homes, youth in rebellion and the demoralization of an entire society can be directly attributed to weakness in the church. When was the last time you heard a word about these matters from the pulpit?

Now comes word this Presi-

dent will leverage the Environmental Protection Agency and enjoin churches to promote energy policy without regard for Congress, thus making the church complicit in the deconstruction of our constitutional republic.

Every day in America we kill 3,700 unborn human beings. And when our government takes our money to pay for it, we become accessories to the holocaust, raising not one word of objection: dumpsters overflowing with little body parts ignored in the dark alleys of our emaciated souls.

Money changers and tax collectors and false teachers overwhelm the temple, and if Christ were to drive them out with a whip today he would be crucified on MSNBC to the applause of the National Council of Churches, the White House and the National Education Association.

Islamic radicals murder women and children and promise our annihilation, and we call for tolerance and submission, retreat and surrender.

Who first spoke out about the sin of oppression, the excesses of the Crown, the sin of slavery, the sin of economic exploitation, the sin of drunkenness and adultery, or the sin of child labor? Christ himself, and Spirit-filled Christians.

Sometimes, as much as we hate it, the only way to make peace is to

wage war, certainly in the spiritual realm, and often in the physical.

John the Baptist certainly understood that truth, the one Christ called the greatest among men. The Baptist called out the king for his immorality and the king chopped off his head. Abraham understood the reality that sometimes one is forced to wage war in order to make peace. He took up arms to save his family. Moses understood this reality as did Gideon and Joshua and David and Solomon and all the Prophets, as does our Lord, as did the Apostles. Our God-inspired Founding Fathers certainly understood the reality.

Did Christ come to make peace with evil, to compromise with sin, or did He come to utterly destroy them, all to set us free?

"Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword," declares Jesus Christ in Matthew 10:34.

May God bless those pastors who have stayed the course without compromise all these years, for they have borne the burden. They have the stripes to show for it, and in that, they have suffered with Christ as few ever have. Therefore, great is their reward, and great our shame if we fail to follow the One inspiring them to love and good deeds

Survey shows public schools are breeding grounds for immoral activity

By Bill Wilson

The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, headed up by former Carter Administration Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Joseph Califano, has released its annual survey of American attitudes on substance abuse. Consistent with its findings over the 16 years of surveys, the Center's survey of some 2,000 teens and nearly 500 parents indicates that the public school system is failing miserably in protecting America's children against drugs and violence. Even the liberal Califano can see that there is trouble with the public school system, although he has no understanding of how to fix it.

Califano writes, "Perhaps our most important finding from so many years of surveying teens and other research is this: A child who gets through age 21 without smoking, using illegal drugs or abusing alcohol is virtually certain never to do so. And, for better or worse, no one has greater power to influence a teen's decision whether to drink or use drugs than that teen's parents." The report says, "Our nation's public schools are riddled with gangs-and schools where there are gangs are likelier schools where there are drugs...some 5.7 million public school students attend schools where drugs are used, kept or sold and where gangs are present."

Califano says, "If you want to know one of the reasons why so many public schools are failing our children, consider the difference our survey reveals between public schools and private and religious schools: 46 percent of teens at public schools say there are gangs at their schools compared to only 2 percent of teens at private and religious schools.

Think about this situation: compared to private and religious schools, public schools are 23 times likelier to be gang infected." In 2001, the report stated that 62% of public schools were drug free compared with 43% today. Some 79% of private and religious schools, however, were drug free in 2001, and the number is virtually unchanged a decade later.

Take note: the infiltration of public schools by radical anti-moral, humanist liberals and organizations like the National Education Association and the Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network have ruined schools and generations of children. You cannot condone an immoral culture and expect to produce good character. Public schools are locally controlled by taxpayers. And taxpayers are us. We must take a stronger role in the schools to hold them accountable to our moral standards. Organizations that do not match our morals should be booted. Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." This is no time to be asleep at the

programs and athletic programs. Our tuition is competitive compared to other private schools in the area and financial aid is available."

Grace Baptist Christian Academy also boasts a rigorous classical Christian education; low teacher-to-student ratios; computer laboratory; Advanced Placement classes; award-winning music and fine arts programs; and a safe, nurturing and disciplined learning environment. Tours of its facilities for prospective students and their families are avail-

able by appointment.
The Good Dews TODAY

Grace Baptist Christian Academy Accepting Student Enrollments

ATTLEBORO – Grace Baptist Christian Academy, located at 1000 Oak Hill Avenue in Attleboro, is currently accepting applications for student enrollments in Kindergarten through Grade 12 for the 2010-11 school year.

According to Pastor Jeffrey Bailey,

He asks that you vote for him during the state primary election on Tuesday, September 14. Cipollini's web site is www.olivercipollini.com.

GBCA's principal, openings are still available in all grade levels for the next academic year at the coeducational school servicing students from Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Interested families are invited to contact the school by telephone (508-222-8675) or e-mail (gracebaptistattleboro@hotmail. com) or by accessing its online Facebook page.

"Our school provides a well-rounded education for students with a Christian world view," Pastor Bailey said. "We offer strong academics, arts

Inspiration

Poem of Tribute about 2 year-old Christine Hanson, Who Died on One of the Hijacked Airliners on September 11

A moving poem written as though from the first-person perspective of Christine Hanson, a 2 year-old girl on United Flight 175, one of the airplanes that crashed into the World Trade Center on September 11. Little Christine Hanson died on flight 175 along with her parents, 32 year-old Peter Hanson and 35 year-old Susan Kim-Hanson. They were from Groton, Massachusetts.

By Anonymous

My name is Christine Hanson. I am only two years old. I am going for a ride, or thats what I am told.

I am sitting here quietly, next to my mom and dad. I am having a fun time. Everyone seems glad.



Why is he yelling Daddy? Please tell me what's wrong! Please don't cry Mommy, this ride won't be that long!

Why are we getting up and moving to the back? Why is everyone crying? Why is she being attacked?

What did I do wrong?
Why are they yelling at us?

Jonah's Ocean Adventure! MINISTRY TIP

By Rev. Doug Forbes

Children love the story of Jonah and the Jonah's Ocean Adventure activity can help make the story come to life.

Why is everyone screaming? What is all the fuss?

I thought you said that this plane ride would be fun. Is this a game Mommy? Am I it, am I the one?

I think I will hide behind you, so that I don't get caught. Daddy this isn't fun anymore! This isn't what I thought.

Why do I see buildings right out the next window? Shouldn't we stop now? Shouldn't we go slow?

What was that loud boom? Why do I see fire? What just happened Daddy?

We should have been higher!

We have hit a building,

For this activity you need the following: Bibles, 16-ounce clear plastic soda bottles (or larger), silver glitter, floating and non-floating plastic sea creatures such as fish, star fish, seahorses, etc. that can fit into the bottle, plastic grass which is available at pet and aquarium stores, a funnel, blue or green food coloring, glue and water.

Remove the label from the soda bottle with warm water. Place four teaspoons of glitter into the bottle with a little bit of plastic grass, four to six plastic sea creatures (half of which float). Fill the bottle with water and add enough blue or green food coloring to make the water colorful. Glue the top on the bottle to prevent spills.

the World Trade Center I think. I am slowly dying now. I can't open my eyes to blink.

Where are you Mommy? Why can't I hear your voice? Why did they drive us here? This wasn't our choice.

My name is Christine Hanson,

of Jonah with your class and explain that Jonah was told by God to share the message of God's love and forgiveness in Nineveh. Instead he ran away on a ship. But, we can't run away from God – He's everywhere! Jonah was swallowed by a great fish, and eventually he asked God to forgive him for running away. God forgave Jonah and had the fish spit him onto dry land.

For a Bible study, read the story

Jonah shared the message of God's love and forgiveness. The whole city of Nineveh asked God to forgive them and started being kinder to each other. We can share the message of God's love with our friends and family by being kind and helpful, and inviting them to our church or class.

I am only two years old. We were going for a plane ride. That's what we were told.

I'll never go to prom.
I wont reach the age of three.
Why did this happen to these people?
Why did this happen to me?

America's Sin In Forgetting God



By Evangelist Joseph T. Larsen

This article is from the July 1933 Moody Bible Institute Monthly

A merica's greatest sin and the real cause of the present depression is forgetting God. That means failure to obey God, to listen to His Word, and to bring up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Godlessness leads to disregard for law, corruption in politics, fraud in educational and state life, and hypocrisy in the Church.

America has forgotten God! Its parents, youth and citizens as a whole – these have forgotten God. Even ministers, educators and church officials have forgotten God. True, millions of Christians have not yet forgotten God, but the whole tendency in state life, school life, commercial life, and even in religious circles, is to forget God.

Though there are fifty million church members in the nation and many more Christians who are not church members, yet there are about seventy million outside the churches, living as if there were no God or hereafter.

America's History Has Been Phenomenal

From the first there were many immigrants coming to America seeking religious liberty. In godly worship they settled our

eastern shores, then moved westward, until they settled almost three million squaremiles of territory. They built cities, made marvelous inventions, improved everything possible, and now support approximately 124,000,000! For 157 years, God has been the God of this nation, piloting us safely through the pioneer periods, the five wars for freedom of oppressed peoples; and as a culmination, the people following the recent period of prosperity, have turned largely away from God! Then came the events which brought a general

How Does America Forget God?

By largely banishing the Bible from schools and by misinterpreting it in universities, criticizing it in theological seminaries and colleges, and scoffing at it among the infidels and atheists of the nation. False cults numbering nearly ten million are sweeping the land with propaganda of denial, deceit and devilish doctrines. Atheists, modernists and communists have formed a deadly alliance against God, Christ, the Church, and the Bible. "But he that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh, the Lord shalt have them in derision."

Pleasure, newspapers, magazines, business and society have largely taken the preeminent place that God and Christian living ought to take. Crime gets the eye, not Christ! Society not salvation, business and not betterment of souls, money and not missions, earth and not Heaven is foremost in thinking. True, there are a few million Christians in America who still adore, worship and serve Him; but they are like salt in a rotting nation.

Judgment Is Coming

Ancient Babylon, Greece, Rome, Medo-Persia, Assyria, and other empires all forgot God, and have been ruined and forgotten; but only until the judgment! Oh, citizens of America! Will you ever learn a lesson from past history, from experienced adversity, from former judgments on the nations, that forgetting God does not pay? Can the professing Church of today continue to exist if she joins the world, praises the communists and denies God's divine rulership?

Macaulay, the English historian, writing nearly one hundred years ago, said of America, "She will be pillaged and looted in the twentieth century by vandals, and forces within her

will cause her destruction." Indications prove him to be right, and unless something can be done by godly people to stem the tide of lawlessness, communism, modernism and immorality, she will go the way of the ancient nations. Will Christians, will governmental leaders, will its citizens awaken in time or too late?

What Will Cause America to Return to God?

Only a nation-wide revival of Christian teaching, the preaching of a crucified Christ, the return to the Bible, banishing communism, deposing false cult teachings, baring worldly and sinful amusements, and all dangerous teachings in our public schools. God must find His rightful place in human hearts, the family altars must be restored, and the Church must cease pandering to worldly aspirations.

The prodigal son "came to himself," and America must come to herself. God's voice calls upon her to repent, confess her sins and return to the God of love and life. Mercy pleads with justice, grace pleads against judgment, truth opposes falsity, and wisdom foresees coming disaster, unless there is a change through national revival.

May God's faithful ones keep crying to God for a revival and

"RIGHTEOUSNESS EXALT-

ETH A NATION: BUT SIN

IS A REPROACH TO ANY

PROV.14:34.

WHERE HE

BELONGS

PEOPLE."

"give him no rest" until He hear from Heaven with a mighty power as of old. Let us pray unceasingly, "Wilt thou not revive us again, that thy people may rejoice in thee?" (Ps. 85:6)

Have you wandered away from God? Maybe you've never known Him at all? Times are tough...we all need change, or relief from this world around us. This type of peace, the peace that surpasses all understanding, can only come through forgiveness of our sin. That's why God sent Jesus into the world. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him

should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16

.....

He understands our troubles and desire to change and tells us; 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 Start with a simple prayer, something like this:

Jesus, please forgive me for trying to do things my way. I know I've often strayed from the path which you laid before me. I regret many of the decisions I have made and can't seem to find my way out of this mess. I know that you died for me and that you have a plan for my life. Please teach me your ways and help me to live my life for you, free from the fears of this world and the next. I want to be ready for eternity with you. Amen

Congratulations, if you have prayed this prayer, and believed in your heart, the Bible says, "Therefore if any man [be] in Christ, [he is] a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (2 Cor. 5:17)

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

Reason for writing: I have just prayed to rec	The Good £2:ws TODA eive Christ (401) 619-0418
I have renewed my comi	mitment to the Lord
I am in need of a church	
Send Bible or literature	
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Computer humor

What is a computer's first sign of old age? Loss of memory

What does a baby computer call his father?
Data

What is an astronaut's favorite key on a computer keyboard? The space bar What happened when the computer fell on the floor? It slipped a disk

Why was there a bug in the computer?
It was looking for a byte to eat

What is a computer virus? A terminal illness

Top 10 Things Homeschoolers should NOT say when asked "What?! No school today?"

10. Well normally yes, but this time of year I need help with the planting and plowing. 9. Goodness, no!!! I graduated 18 years ago, but thanks for the compliment! 8. No, we homeschool. We're just out to pick up a bag of pork rinds and some Mountain Dew, then we gotta hurry home to catch our soaps. 7. What?! Where did you guys come from?! Oh my gosh! I thought I told you kids to stay at school! I'm sorry. This happens all the time. (sigh) 6. There isn't? Why, you'd think we would have seen more kids out then, don't you? 5. We're on a field trip studying human nature's

intrusive and assumptive tactics of displaying ignorance and implied superiority. Thanks for the peek!

4. On our planet we have different methods of education. (Shhh! No, I didn't give it away... keep your antennae down!)

3. Oh my goodness! I thought that today was Saturday...come on kids, hurry!

2. Noooooope.Me 'n Bubba jes' learns 'em at home. Werks reel good!

And the number one answer we should NEVER give to the question: "What? No school today?" 1. "What? No Bingo today?"

Bible Challenges

Books of the New Testament Word Search

This word search uses the names of the books of the New Testament. See how many of the words listed below you can find among the letters. Look up, down, diagonally, backwards, across— every direction.

	J	E	P	Н	Ε	S	I	Α	И	S	J	В	M	T	
	U	Α	S	R	Ε	v	Ε	L	Α	Т	I	0	N	Н	
ACTS	D	S	M	N	U	В	U	S	p	J	0	Н	N	Е	MAR
COLOSSIANS	Е	G	N	Е	Α	W	R	В	Н	S	0	G	0	S	MATTHEV
CORINTHIANS	G	0	W	Α	S	I	G	E	N	J	Т	Т	M	S	PETE
EPHESIANS	A	S	R	S	I	M	Р	Α	W	Α	Ε	J	Ε	Α	PHILEMO
GALATIANS	L	R	Ε	W	L	Н	M	P	S	S	Т	K	L	L	PHILIPPIAN
HEBREWS	A	С	Т	S	Е	0	Т	В	I	U	U	G	I	O	REVELATIO
JAMES	Т	V	Ε	N	R	Н	0	N	K	L	Т	Е	Н	N	ROMAN
JOHN	I	Т	Р	M	I	Н	Т	W	I	R	I	I	Р	Ι	THESSALONIAN
JUDE	A	I	v	х	I	W	N	Т	х	R	Α	Н	Т	Α	TIMOTH
LUKE	N	K	D	Н	С	Х	K	F	Α	В	0	М	Р	N	TITU
	S	Y	Н	Т	0	М	I	Т	M	М	Е	С	v	S	
	v	I	Y	С	o	L	o	S	S	I	Α	N	S	N	

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Mental musings

The bonds of matrimony are a good investment, but only when the interest is kept up.

Health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.

Hinting at needing money

Dear Father, \$chool i\$ really great. I am making lot\$ of friend\$ and \$tudying very hard. With all my \$tuff, I \$imply can't think of anything I need, \$0 if you would like, you can ju\$t \$end me a card, a\$ I would love to hear from you. Love, Your \$0n.

After receiving his son's letter, the father immediately replies by sending a letter back.

Dear Son, I kNOw that astroN-Omy, ecoNOmics, and oceaNOgraphy are eNOugh to keep even an hoNOr student busy. Do NOt forget that the pursuit of kNOwledge is a NOble task, and you can never study eNOugh. Love, Dad

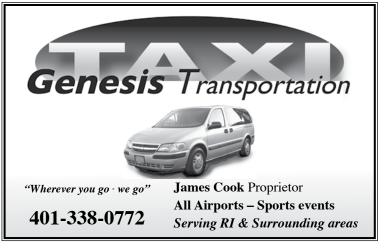


How does a homeschooler change a lightbulb?

First, mom checks three books on electricity out of the library, then the kids make models of light bulbs, read a biography of Thomas Edison and do a skit based on his life. Next, everyone studies the history of lighting methods, wrapping up with dipping their own candles. Next, everyone takes a trip to the store where they compare types of light bulbs as well as prices and figure out how much change they'll get if they buy two bulbs for \$1.99 and pay with a five dollar bill. On the way home, a discussion develops over the history of money and also Abraham Lincoln, as his picture is on the five dollar bill. Finally, after building a homemade ladder out of branches dragged from the woods, the light bulb is installed. And there is light.



Soul Food



Things People Think About While Singing In The Choir

 \sim I wonder if anyone out there notices I forgot my lipstick this morning. \sim I wonder who in the congregation will fall asleep first today? \sim 90 minutes till kickoff. \sim How many more verses?

~ What if some Sunday we have everyone in the choir wear regular clothes and everyone in the congregation wear robes? Yeah, that's the ticket. ~ Boy, I wish I had/hadn't skipped choir practice Wednesday night. ~ Why are there 666 hymns in the new Baptist Hymnal? Surely they realized the significance of that number. You'd think someone would have noticed and added or subtracted one.

 \sim If a wood chuck could chuck wood, how much wood would a wood chuck chuck? \sim I wonder what would happen if the congregation moved up here, and we

moved down in the sanctuary? Would the Pastor preach to us or turn around and preach to them? ~ I wonder if anyone else in the choir has noticed the music minister has a wedgie? ~ Why don't we ever sing the third verse? We should skip the second verse for a change. ~ The pot roast. ~ What does the minister wear under HIS robes? ~ Will the person behind me ever hit the right note? ~ And to think the tune of this grand old hymn used to be to a British drinking song. I wonder what the original words were? ~ Did I turn off the curling iron? ~ How would the hymn sound if Metallica played it? ~ I wonder who ate all the jelly doughnuts before Sunday School fellowship this morning? ~ Wow, God loves me enough to let me sing in "His" choir.



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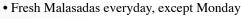
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"For the LORD thy God hath blessed thee in all the works of thy hand." Deut. 2:7

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Sunday Intercessory Prayer - 7 pm
Thursday Bible Study/Prayer Meeting - 7 pn
Friday Night Vigil - 11 pm undantblessingchurch.org



Anchored in Christ Foursquare Gospel Church

"A Mission Minded Church" Sunday Service - 10:15 AM Prayer & Bible Study - Wed 6:30

Howland Place 651 Orchard St. # 304A • New Bedford, MA 02740 508-999-6429

Apostolic Pentecostal Church of RI And Ye Shall Know The Truth

537 Elm Street • Woonsocket, RI 02895 401-534-0172 • acts238@apcri.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

CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Sunday Morning
Open Prayer time - 8:00 a.m.
Church School - 9:00 a.m.
Worship Services - 10:30 a.m.
Fellowship Hour - 11:30pm
Summer worship - 10:00 a.m.

126 Angell Road • Cumberland, RI 02864 Phone: 401-333-0355 • www.calvinpres.org



CANONICUS 54 Exeter Rd

Exeter, RI 02822 401-294-6318

www.canonicus.org "To sense my belonging with all God has made."

433 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, RI 02907 Help Line: (401) 941-4357 Business Line: (401) 941-2051 www.carenetri.org

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

Christian Assembly

1494 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

Christian Community Bible Church

130 Franklin St. • Warren, RI 02885 401-245-3178 • www.ccbiblechurch.org Sunday worship service 10:00 am

Thursday evening service 7:00 pm Christian Counseling available

Pastor Michael I'Zen Administrative Elder: Emilio Volpicell

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 5:00 p.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.

~ Clayville Assembly ~

7 Plainfield Pike - Foster, Rhode Island www.clayvilleassembly.com

Conquerors For Christ Church

972 Reed Road • North Dartmouth, MA 02747 Tel: (508) 999-1669 • Fax: 508-999-2314 ${\bf www.conquerors for christ.org}$

English Services Sundays 9:00 AM Praise and Worship Service Wednesdays 7:00 PM Prayer and Bible Study Fridays 7:00 PM Youth Service

Serviços em Portuguê Domingos às 11:00 AM Louvor e Adoração Terças-feiras às 7:00 PM Reunião de Oração Quintas-feiras às 7:00 PM Estudos Biblicos



FAMILY CHRISTIAN CENTER Church of God

67 Prospect St. Pawcatuck, Connecticut Bishop Richard Morton Jr., Pastor Service Times: Sunday Morning Worship 11 am

Wednesday Prayer-Bible Study 7 pm Phone 1-860-495-0500

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

Faith Christian Center

95 Sagamore Road Seekonk, MA 02771

www.faithchristiancenter.org 508-336-4110

Sunday Worship Hours 8:30 am & 11:00am Wednesday Bible Study-7:30pm

Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International

1st Wednesday of the month: Courthyard Marriott Hotel

32 Exchange Terrance (Kennedy Plaza)

2nd Wednesday of the month: Radisson Hotel - 195E Exit 3, Gano Street 12:00-1:00pm 401-821-8750 • jim.buford@fgbmfi-ri.org

Grace Community Baptist Church A Reformed Baptist Church

Preaching God's Word, Living God's Truth, All for God's Glory!

680 Nate Whipple Highway (Route 120) Cumberland, RI 02864

401 826 3121 • www.gcbcri.com

Service Times

1:30 AM - Sunday School • 11:00 AM - Morning Wood

(2 nd and 4th 6

UNITED IN FAITH

An Outdoor Festival of Christian Music Saturday, September 4th - 11:30 a.m.—7:00 p.m.

SUE SAMUEL

National Recording Artist & world ministry for hope and healing FREE raffles, volleyball and **SPIRIT & TRUTH**

Church of The Apostles Praise Team, Coventry, RI MIKE & BETH SILVIA

Living Hope Christian Church, North Kingstown, RI **DARYLE BORROWS**

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Church of The Apostles 170 Fairview Avenue

Coventry, RI (401) 821-7609

\$60.00 per person

SEPTEMBER

September Highlights

Sept 4 • 11:30p.m.- 7p.m. ~ United In Faith • Outdoor Festival of Christian Music Church of The Apostles 170 Fairview Ave, Coventry. RI For more infor contact Cathy at 499-3918, the Church Office at 821-7609 or visit www.apostlesri.org

* Upper Room will Be closed as this is a joint event with Church of the Apostles and Quidneck Baptist church.

Sept 10-19 • Song On The Wind ~ A Musical Drama • Emerson Umbrealla for the Arts, 40 Stow St. Concord, MA. For more Info: call 877-746-9755 or www.songonthewind.com

Sept 10 • 6p.m. ~ "No Place Like Home Fundraiser" Help raise funds for those in need to stay in their homes and receive care. Come Join Us: Italian Working Men's Club, 947 Diamond Hill Rd, Woonsocket, Rl. 02895 \$20 at the door. Detailed Ad on this page.

Sept 11 • 6:30p.m. ~ Rock The Bay "Come Back to Me America: Free concert · Colt State Park. Hope St Bristol, RI. Gazebo #1 site 8-12. Donations of non-perishable foods for Bristol Good Neighbor soup & Kitchen food pantry. Bring lunch & lawn chair. Rain Date: Sept 12 at site 81-84 For more Info:: www.rockthebay.org

Sept 17 • 5:30p.m. ~ An evening for Hope Gala to benefit House of Hope. House of Hope Dinner, Concert, Silent Auction at the Quidnessett Country Club.950 North Quidnessett Rd North Kingston RI. For more info www. houseofhoperi.org

Sept 23 • 7-9:30p.m. ~ House of Hope with be sponsoring at Seminar with Mark Gregston. Turbulence Ahead: Parenting Teens & Pre-teens through the bumpy years. East Greenwich High School. Doors open at 6:30 Tickets \$10. call Jane @ 401-378-6050 or email jstach@houseofhoperi.org

Sept 25 • 11a.m.-6p.m. ~ Son Splash Christian Arts & Music Festival Live Christian Bands-All Day. Food & Fun for the family. River Island Park Bernon St Woonsocket For more info: call 401-765-1777

Sept 25 • Noon-6p.m. ~ Rock The Bay in New Bedford • Free Concert at Hazelwood Park New Bedford, MA. Donations of non-perishable food for New Bedford Salvation Army. Bring lunch & lawn Chair. For more info: www. rockthebay.org

1 Wednesday

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

6:30 pm FREE FINANCIAL SEMINAR. Susan Cauley, Regional Manager, Jonah Community Center, 830 Oakland Beach Ave, Warwick RI (401) 226-3206

7p.m. ~ Ground Zero Youth Service with Teen-Led Worship and Relevant Bible-Teaching Ages 13-25 New Life Worship Center, 915 Douglas Pike, Smithfield, RI. 401-232-5200

7p.m. ~ Family Night every Wed at The Orchard Church, light supper at 6:30pm followed by classes for all ages. Childcare provided. Elevator Accessible. 180 Oaklawn Ave Cranston RI 02920. 401-942-4616. orchardri.org

7 p.m. Family Night ~ Adult Bible Study & Children's programs. every Wed "Something For Everyone" Christian Fellowship Center- Assembly of God. 844 Acushnet Ave., New Bedford, MA 508-995-9996, www. cfc818.org

7:30p.m. ~ Power Study Night every Wed at World Covenant Life Minsitries Center, MA. Call for Info 508- 493-3701

2 Thursday

7 p.m. ~ Teen/Youth Night. every Thurs. The Orchard Church, 180 Oaklawn Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920. 401-942-4616 or www.orchardri.org

3 Friday

7p.m. ~ **Ground Zero** Youth Service with Teen-Led Worship and Relevant Bible-Teaching. New Life Worship Center, 915 Douglas Pike, Smithfield, RI. 401-232-

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

7:30p.m. ~ "Steadfast" Contemporary Worship at Damascus Road Coffee House. Free admission & Refreshments. Dartmouth Bible Church 52 Morton Ave Dartmouth, MA 774-451-3286 or damascusroadcoffeehouse.com

7:30p.m. ~ The Harvest Cafe • Featuring "4 A Cross" at The Christ Church 1643 Lonsdale Ave, Lincoln RI In the Parish House Hall. For more info: please call 401-725-1920 or www.christchurchlincoln.org. Doors open at 7p.m.

4 Saturday

10a.m. ~ Recovering Program: Freedom in Recovering - Christian base. Every Sat. Cathedral of Life Christian Assembly, 1860 Westminister St.. Providence, RI 401-780-

7p.m. ~ Cross Roads Cafe' featuring "The Jesus Project". At Emmanuel Orthodox Catholic Church 25 Wintrop Terrace. Warren MA For more info 413-436-5582

7p.m. "NBJ" Christian Rock. The Upper Room. 1221 Main St, West Warwick, RI. 401-823-5330 www.theupperroomri.org

8p.m. ~ Adult Coffee House every Sat. Cathedral of Life Christian Assembly, 10 Troy St. Providence, RI 02909; 401-780-

An Evening for Hope Gala To Benefit House of Hope Rhode Island

A home for healing teens and their families Friday, September 17, 2010

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Composer, Musician & Tenor

Roger Grenier

Quidnessett Country Club

North Kingstown, RI

6:30 Dinner & Concert

5:30 Silent Auction

PO BOX 1224 North Kingstown, RI 02852 www.houseofhoperi.org 401-286-4978 info@houseofhoperi.org

CALENDAR

7 Tuesday

10a.m. ~ Women's Bible Study, meets every Tuesday at New Hope Christian Church, 1436 G.A.R. Highway Swansea, MA. or nhcc.ws (508)-324-4500

7p.m. ~ Healing Streams Prayer Service 1st Tues of each month for healing & prayer gathering. Healing and peace in body, soul & spirit with Gods healing touch. New Life Worship Center 915 Douglas Pike Smith-field, RI.more info call:401-232-5200

7p.m. ~ Celebrate Recovery every Tuesday. (Behind the Church) International Church of the Nazarene 278 Pleasant St, New Bedford, MA.

8 Wednesday

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

9 Thursday

9:30a.m. ~ M.O.P.S Group meets every 2nd & 3rd Thursday of every month; call holiday weeks for reschedule. New Hope Christian Center. 1436 GAR Highway, Swansea, MA (508) 324-4500 or nhcc.ws

7p.m. ~ Joshua's Men 2nd and 4th Thursday, we meet for prayer, bible study and mutual accountabability, Church of the Apostles 170 Fairview Ave, Coventry, for more info: 401-821-7609

10 Friday

6p.m. ~ Worship Cafe' • Featuring "Matt Martin" Come join us for a night of music, food & fellowship at New Hope Christian Church 1436 G.A.R. Highway Swansea, MA 508-324-4500

11 Saturday

7p.m. "Crimson Rain" The Upper Room. 1221 Main St, West Warwick, RI. 401-823-5330 www.theupperroomri.org

12 Sunday

National "Back To Church Sunday". Invite someone to church. For more info visit www.backtochurch.com

16 Thursday

9:30a.m. ~ M.O.P.S Group meets every 2nd & 3rd Thursday of every month; call holiday weeks for reschedule. New Hope Christian Center. 1436 GAR Highway, Swansea, MA (508) 324-4500 or nhcc.ws

10a.m. ~ Senior Saint Bible Study (65 & older) 3rd Thursday of the month at New Hope Christian Church, 1436 G.A.R. Highway Swansea, MA. (508)-324-4500

17 Friday

7:30p.m. ~ The Harvest Cafe . Dylan Bradshaw & Mary Bizard at The Christ Church 1643 Lonsdale Ave, Lincoln RI For more info: please call 401-725-1920 or www.christchurchlincoln.org

18 Saturday

7p.m. ~ "Steadfast" The Upper Room. 1221 Main St, West Warwick, RI. 401-823-5330 www.theupperroomri.org

23 Thursday

6:45p.m. ~ Rhode Island Men of Hope 4th Thursday every month. 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)

7p.m. ~ Joshua's Men 2nd and 4th Thursday, we meet for prayer, bible study and mutual accountabability, at Church of the Apostles 170 Fairview Ave, Coventry, for more info: 401-821-7609

25 Saturday

7p.m.~ "Heart's Cry" The Upper Room. 1221 Main St, West Warwick, RI. 401-823-5330 www.theupperroomri.org/

October **Highlights**

October 8 • Newsboys in concert ~ Acquire The Fire with Ron Luce Mullins Center 200 Commonwealth Ave, Amherst, MA. For more Info: www. soulfeststore.com

October 22 • 7p.m. ~ Fireflight/ Group1crew/Manic Drive in Concert Liberty Churches 495 Hartford Turnpike Shrewsbury MA For more Info: www. soulfeststore.com

October 2-3 • Harvest Revival ~ Evangelist Junior Hill, Sat 6p.m. Sun 10:30a.m./6p.m. Middletown Baptist Church 1818 West Main Rd. Middletown RI. For more Info 401-846-8382

COME JOIN US AT: Italian Working Men's Club 947 Diamond Hill Road Woonsocket, RI 02895 The Third Annual "No Place like Home" September 10 2010 Fundraiser To Benefit: Homefront Health Care **DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM AUCTION STARTS AT 6:30 PM** Come to our Chop Stick Auction!!! With your chopsticks you can help to raise funds for a worthy cause—enabling frail elders, adults with disabilities, and children suffering from chronic illnesses to stay in the comfort of their

To Benefit: Homefront Health Care

own home and receive the care that they need!



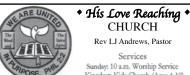
460 South Main St Woonsocket, RI 02895 Phone: 401 769 2423



The cost is \$20 per person. You may pay at the door.

Grace Family

125 Washington St. - W. Warwick, RI Services: Sunday 9:00 a.m. Bible Study: Thursday 7:00 p.m. Biblical Counseling by Appointment Pastor Luciano Cozzi (401) 821-6869



(508) 999-5683 651 Orchard St Suite 302 New Bedford, MA 02744

Rev LJ Andrews, Pastor Services

Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship Service Kingdom Kids Church (Ages 4-10) Monday: 6:30 p.m. Intercessory Prayer Thursday: 7:00 p.m. Bible Study







The "International" Church of the Nazarene

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Lighthouse Christian Church

Building Faith, Family and Friends 322 Eddie Dowling Hwy. North Smithfield, RI 02896 $401-729-1603 \bullet www.lfwc.org$ Sunday- Coffee Hour 8:30-9:30AM Sunday- Worship Service 10AM Thursday- Bible Study/Worship- 7:00PM Children and Teen Programs Reverend James Prior-Senior Pasto

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

Mothers Praying for Children and Schools



Susan Pimental Rhode Island State Coordinator (401) 269-4038 Email address: mitiri@momsintouch.org Or visit www.momsintouch.org

for more information!

National Organization for Marriage - Rhode Island



One Man / One Woman 10 Dorrance St. Suite 809 Providence, RI 02903 Office: (401) 228-7602 Fax: (866) 363-5603 Email: cplante@nationformarriage.org www.nomri.org

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

New Hope Fellowship 25 $\overline{ ext{C}}$ arrington St.

Lincoln RI

Phone 401-723-4955 e-mail: rifocusrr@yahoo.com Wednesday 7:30 pm Bible Study Thursday 7:00 pm Community Prayer Meeting Sunday Morning 10:00 am Pastor David R. Olsen

New Life Worship Center

915 Douglas Pike Smithfield

www.nlwcenter.org

232-5200

Sundays Services 9:00 am & 11:00 am Tuesday Men's Prayer 6:30 am Early prayer then breakfast

Friday Ground Zero 7:00 pm, Youth Service with Teen-Led Worship and Relevant Bible Teaching

Oasis of Grace Church of God

464 Silver Spring Street Providence, RI 02904 (401) 861-1441

Ocean State Baptist Church 600 Douglas Pike Smithfield, RI 02917

(401)231-1980 • www.osbc.org

Sunday Services Sunday School Morning Worship

10:00 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm

Evening Worship Wednesday Service

Adult Bible Study, Children & Teen Programs 7:30 pm



www.orchardri.org

For more info: check out our website.

Pentecostal Assembly

215 Sawyer Street New Bedford, MA 508-996-9865

SERVICE TIMES 10:00AM 11:00AM 6:30PM 6:30PM THURSDAY: ENGLISH BIBLE STUDY



Quidnick Baptist Church

484 Fairview Avenue Coventry 821-2465

Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am June, July and August 9 am Childrens Sunday School 10:45 am Bible Study Wednesday 7 pm

Rhode Island Men of Hope Reaching Men for Christ

Let us help your church build men for ministry Join us every fourth Thursday of the month

> Call: 401-383-9967 www.menofhope.org



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www.rirtl.org



National WCTU Convention coming to RI August 10-14 2010 Sheraton Airport Hotel, Warwick, RI Drug and Alcohol Abstinence Education Woman's Christian Temperance Union

389 Greenwich Avenue

Warwick, RI 02886 401-739-5488 www.wctu.org

Woodlawn Baptist Church



337 Lonsdale Avenue Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02860

Pastor Terry Morgan 401-724-6390 www.woodlawnri.org

9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Morning Worship 6 pm Evening Worship Wednesday 7 pm Prayer Meeting

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MINISTRIES

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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.

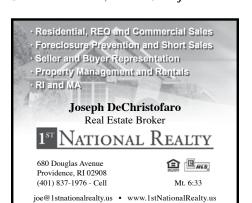
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Brenda Marino

401-644-5888



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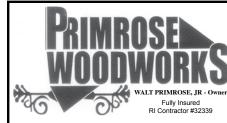
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_ Ending Month_



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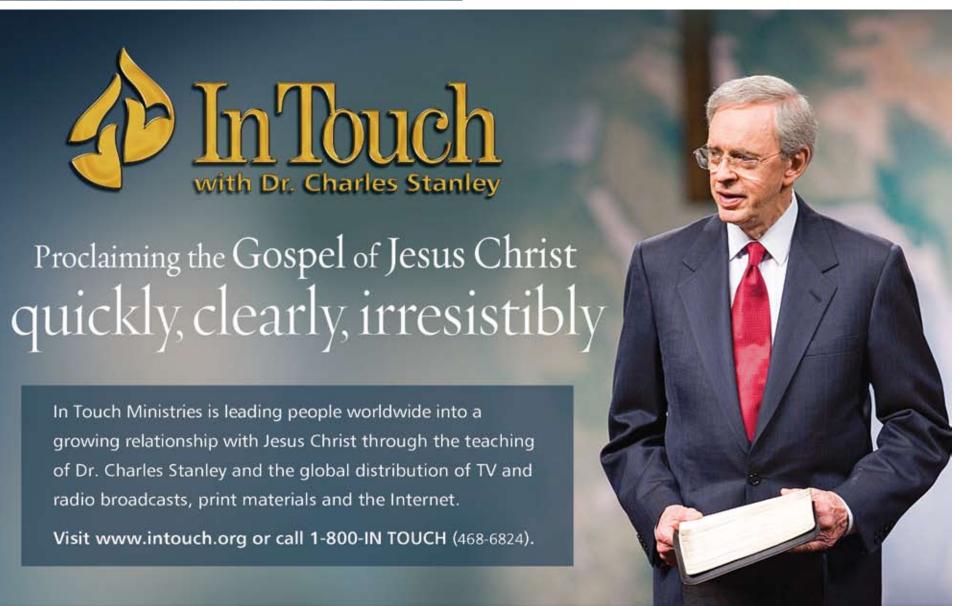


For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

RI: 401-231-3681 MA: 508-883-9100

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RHODE ISLAND DECLARATION

Life, Marriage 🕲 Religious Liberty.

We are Rhode Islanders who are members of different religious traditions. We address this declaration to all citizens, believers and nonbelievers alike, out of our concern over the serious present-day threats to the natural goods of human life, marriage, and religious liberty—each of which is a gift from the Creator for the common good and well-being of all members of society. We invite all men and women of good will to reflect critically on the issues we address here, and to stand with us-and with many men and women of conscience throughout history—to defend these natural goods in the public forum by way of reasoned argument and lawful political action.

Our belief in the wisdom of the Creator and the goodness of the created order is the source of our vision and hopeful efforts for a well-ordered society under the rule of law. We cherish the rule of law and we respect the authority of human legislators. We count it as a special privilege to live in a democratic society where the making of law benefits from the rights of all citizens to participate in the political process. Yet even in a democratic regime, laws can be unjust. Such laws lack the power to bind in conscience because they can claim no authority beyond the sheer force of human will. We stand with Dr. Martin Luther King in his appeal to a higher, universal law of justice: "a just law is a man-made code that squares with the moral law or the law of God. An unjust law is a code that is out of harmony with the moral law."

Human Life

The lives of the unborn, the disabled, and the elderly are increasingly threatened today. While public opinion has moved in a pro-life direction, powerful and determined forces are working to expand abortion, embryo-destructive research, assisted suicide, and euthanasia in open disregard for the intrinsic worth of every individual human life. Government is very often complicit in these threats to human life—at times in the name of the otherwise commendable goal of defending individual rights. But there can be no right deliberately to take innocent human life. Rather, a primary responsibility of government, indeed of us all, is to protect the weak and vulnerable, especially those whose lives are deemed "unwanted" or too burdensome to warrant protection. We pledge to work unceasingly for the equal protection under law of every innocent human being at every stage of development and in every condition. We will refuse to permit ourselves or our institutions to be implicated in the taking of innocent human life and we will support in every possible way those who, in conscience, take the same stand.

Marriage

The institution of marriage, already wounded by promiscuity, infidelity, and divorce is at risk of being redefined and thus subverted. Marriage is the original and most important institution for sustaining the health, education, and welfare of all. Where marriage erodes, social pathologies rise. The impulse to redefine marriage is a symptom, rather than the cause, of the erosion of the marriage culture. But this impulse must be resisted. It reflects a loss of understanding of the meaning of marriage, as embodied in our civil law as well as our religious traditions.

To yield to it would be to forsake any possibility of rebuilding a healthy marriage culture. It would lock into place the pervasive though false and destructive belief that marriage is only about romance and other adult satisfactions, and not, in any intrinsic way, about the unique character and value of bonds and acts whose meaning is shaped by their aptness for the generation and fostering of life. Marriage is not a "social construction." It is an objective reality-the faithful union of man and woman, who by their natural complementarity of body and spirit are uniquely endowed for mutual help, and the upbringing and education of children. It is the duty of the law to recognize, honor, and protect this most basic form of human society.

Religious Liberty

Freedom of religion and the rights of conscience are gravely threatened. The threat is evident in efforts to weaken or eliminate conscience protections for healthcare institutions and professionals, and in antidiscrimination statutes that are used as weapons to force religious institutions, charities, businesses, and service providers either to accept (and even facilitate) activities and relationships they judge immoral, or to go out of business. Attacks on religious liberty are significant threats not only to individuals, but also to the institutions of civil society, including families, charitable organizations, and religious communities. The well-being of such institutions provides an indispensable buffer against excessive governmental power and is essential to the flourishing of every other institution on which society depends, including government itself.

Therefore,

we commit ourselves to the promotion and defense of human life at every stage, of marriage as the faithful union of husband and wife, and of the legitimate rights of conscience. Each of these is inviolable. Each is an essential element of human dignity and the common good of society. We shall work unwaveringly in defense of these principles, through education and active participation in the political process, no matter what pressures are brought upon us and our institutions to abandon or compromise them. We invite all Rhode Islanders to join us in this commitment.

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If you would like to sign the Declaration, to participate in this interfaith movement, or to learn more about it, please visit our website at www.rhodeislanddeclaration.org

or write us at RIDEC, P.O. Box 28038, Providence, RI 02908

(The Rhode Island Declaration is an adaptation of the Manhattan Declaration at www.manhattandeclaration.org)

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