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MARK SCHULTZ AT FBC | Page 13

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Mark Schultz will appear with Dr. Randy Carlson



Family Life Radio 88.1FM is celebrating their newly increased signal, now reaching over 100,000 New listeners in the Kansas. So on June 16, they are bringing in platinum selling artist and multi-nominated Dove winner (and Kansas native) Mark Schultz.

Attendees will also hear a special message from Dr. Randy Carlson, host of The Intentional Living Program. The show will be hosted at Fellowship Bible Church, 10th & Urish Rd., from 7:00 to 9:30 PM. General Admission tickets are \$15 (\$12 each for groups of 8 or more), and there is a VIP package for \$25. The VIP pass includes entry to a question and answer session with Mark Schultz.

For more information go to www.myflr.org/topeka



Destroyed by the Romans in 70 A.D., what will a rebuilt Temple mean for Israel?

by **Chris Mitchell**

JERUSALEM, Israel – The capture of Jerusalem's Temple Mount 50 years ago this month sent shockwaves throughout the Jewish world. It also raised hopes for the building of the third temple.

On June 7, 1967, Israeli Brigade Commander Col.

Motta Gur made an announcement that Jews had waited to hear for some 2,000 years.

"The Temple Mount is in our hands! The Temple Mount is in our hands!" he declared.

Retaking this ground was important for a number of reasons. For one, it's where King Solomon built the first Jewish temple. After the Babylonians

destroyed it, Zerubbabel (the head of the tribe of Judah when the Israelites returned from the Babylonian exile) laid the foundation stone for a second temple that was later expanded by King Herod. That temple fell in 70 AD at the hands of the Romans.

■ Please see 3RD TEMPLE page 2

Faith, music and baseball come together

by **Alan Goforth**

Dayton Moore has experienced both highs and lows during his tenure as general manager of the Kansas City Royals. However, an unexpected phone call in January reminded him again that some things are far more important than wins and losses.

"I was heading to Atlanta to do a fund-raiser for a high school baseball team in north Georgia," he said. "I left early that morning and got a call from a national reporter who said, 'Hey, Dayton, look, I just have to confirm the news. Yordano Ventura was killed in a car acci-

dent'. I said, 'No, I haven't heard that. Let me find out.'

"As soon as I hung up the phone, I got a phone call from Major League Baseball confirming that Yordano had been killed."

Moore's faith helped him deal with the tragic loss of a young player. He realizes that God placed him in a prominent position not simply to win baseball games but to help others experience that same faith.

"Immediately, what hit me hard was that when you're talented and your giftedness takes you further than your character can sustain

■ Please see ROYAL page 3



3RD TEMPLE

continued from page 1

When Commander Gur declared the Temple Mount was back in Jewish hands, it rekindled hope for a long-awaited Third Temple.

"The Six-Day War was a miracle of biblical proportions and was a cataclysmic opening of a new era for Israel and the whole world," Rabbi Chaim Richman told CBN News.

Rabbi Richman, director of the International Department at The Temple Institute, is dedicated to rebuilding the Jewish temple. He sees the time since the Six-Day War as a prophetic shift.

"It would be hard, I think, not to see what's happened in the past 50 years as a tremendous – not just fulfillment of prophecy – but a tremendous jump start, a tremendous fast forward," Richman said. "It's more than prophetic. It's like a kiss from heaven. It's like a divine kiss. It's like an intimate brush with the reality of God's compassion and love. He keeps His promises."

The Institute shares a key connection to the battle for Jerusalem. Its founder, Rabbi Yisrael Ariel, served with the 55th Paratroopers Brigade that captured the Temple Mount. After the victory, a Jordanian guide gave them a remarkable tour.

"His job was to carry the company machine gun," Richman explained. "There's a very beautiful photograph of that. He actually – the first night of the liberation of Jerusalem – he was given the task of guarding over the spot of the Dome of the Rock, which of course is where is the Holy of Holies."

"So a few years ago, this was considered fringe—zealots, lunatics, peculiar. Today it's mainstream."



A model of the Second Temple as it looked in 70 A.D.

"The story, though, that he told us is that the soldiers were on the Temple Mount and it was just like the first hour or so. And they were approached by a Jordanian fellow in Western dress who explained that he was the official tour guide for the Jordanian parliament and he offered to take the soldiers and to show them the sites on the Temple Mount.

"He takes the soldiers, you know, and the rabbi there and he says, 'well this is exactly where the sanctuary stood. This is where the altar stood and then this is where the Menorah stood.'

"He tells them all these things about the history of the Holy Temple ... Finally, the rabbi asked him, 'why are you telling us all this?' And he said, 'well, we have tradition from our fathers [and] they from their fathers that one day the Jews would wage a war and conquer this mountain and rebuild the Holy Temple, and I assume

that you're starting tomorrow. I want this to be my part, my part in helping you,'" he said, according to Rabbi Richman.

CBN News asked Richman what was their reaction to that story. "Well, I guess they were pretty surprised, but the bottom line is in hindsight; it doesn't look like we were ready."

Now, 50 years later, that's changed with the Temple Institute preparing blueprints and gathering official temple elements such as the priestly garments. Richman is also dispelling myths about the temple on today's digital loudspeaker: YouTube.

All of this means talk of rebuilding the temple is no longer considered a fringe idea.

"Today there's a lobby in the Knesset of how many members of Knesset that are constantly speaking about Jewish rights to pray on the Temple Mount," Richman continued. "There are members of Knesset that actually talk about the rebuilding the Holy Temple. Do you realize that 20 years ago these people wouldn't have been given a moment on prime time television to say these things. They would have been laughed out.

One of those Knesset members is Rabbi Yehuda Glick.

"So a few years ago this was considered fringe – zealots, lunatics, peculiar. Today it's mainstream. Ten years ago, there was not a single member of Knesset who ascended the Temple Mount," Glick said.

Richman sees the temple through the eyes of the prophet Isaiah who wrote 3,000 years ago that God's house would be called a house of prayer for all nations "Even them I will bring to My holy mountain and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations." (Isaiah 66:7)

"It means there's a God in the world and that the best is yet to come – and that we are so connected to Him and to each other and to that purpose and to all humanity and it's just a wonderful privilege to be with you today looking out over Jerusalem and to realize that we're living in probably the most important time in history," he continued.

"If you believe in the God of Israel and you see His hand on His people and you understand the tremendous changes that have gone on over the years, you see that the One who brought us this far isn't finished and will keep His promises."

Life Lessons From a Little One

ETERNAL CELEBRATION

by **Jessica S. Hosman**

I stood behind the keyboard with my fingers on the keys and my vision turned towards heaven. Rarely do I look into the congregation while leading worship, but the movement of a little one on the front row caught my eye. I watched as my son whispered something to the woman next to him and then walked back to sit with his Pop and Pap-Pap. I knew something was up, but quickly diverted my attention back to the Lord and thought nothing more of it.

A little while later, I again caught movement from my son out of my periphery. This time, he was walking back to the front of the church and began speaking to the pastor. The pastor smiled, Zechariah smiled, and then the two exchanged a high five before he headed



back to his seat. I glanced back at my husband who echoed the same grin. When I finished on the keys and finally sat down next to him, he told me that Zechariah approached him during worship to share he wanted to get baptized... today. Immediately, my carnal mind jumped into action with thoughts of "he can't... he's not ready... he's too young... he doesn't understand." I pulled my husband into the hallway to tell him my thoughts. We agreed to take Zechariah out of children's church for a few minutes to talk and try to analyze a bit further what was going on.

Our six-year old shared with us that he wanted to tell more people about Jesus and that he wanted Jesus to begin speaking more so that people would hear Him, not just Zechariah. We tried going the theological baptism route and, while he didn't fully grasp all that, he maintained that he really wanted to get baptized today and didn't want to wait a moment longer. When we told him we didn't think he was ready, crocodile tears began filling his eyes. It was obvious he wanted to be brave and not cry, but he couldn't mask the sheer disappointment in our response.

We took Zechariah back to children's church and went back into the service. The whole time the sermon was being preached, my heart raced as my mind was fixated on my son. Did we really make the right decision? The sermon came to a close and the pastor began to share of a brave little boy who approached him

because of his desire to be baptized today. I froze. Now what do we do? During a moment of silent congregational prayer,



Jessica Hosman

I approached the pastor and told him our dilemma. He simply asked if our son had professed Jesus Christ and invited Him to dwell in His heart and take over his life. When I responded yes, he asked if I believed his profession was genuine. I knew it was... probably more genuine than most. The Holy Spirit did the rest and within a few short minutes, my husband and I were walking into the baptismal pool with our son, dressed in only the clothes we had worn to church that day.

I realized as I stood with him in the water that my analytical mindset nearly held my son back from obeying what the Holy Spirit was prompting him to do. Here he was, an innocent young child wanting nothing more than to show the world his devotion to Jesus through a spontaneous public baptism and I had initially told him no. I wept as the realization flooded my mind. Yet God, in His lovingkindness and mercy, had the final say.

Zechariah shared his profession and together his father and I submerged him into the water. I pray the image of his face when he arose never leaves my memory. The smile that filled his face was one that words cannot adequately describe. It was as if the Holy Spirit had consumed him in that moment and filled him with an indescribable joy and wonder that radiated from every fiber of his being. All I wanted to do was hold him and squeeze him tight, drinking in the moment and all he had received.

Unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 18:3). I believe my son tasted the Kingdom of Heaven. He didn't care about the crowd. He didn't care that he didn't have a change of clothes. He cared about obeying Jesus and following through with a heart's desire to share more boldly of Him.

If God is speaking to our hearts, obedience doesn't always have to make sense. It can look foolish. It can look childish. And perhaps that's how we'll know, it's actually God.



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Advocates speculate about Brownback appointment

Kansas governor could be ambassador-at-large for international religious liberty

Human rights advocates are heaping praise on Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback as speculation grows that he will become the next ambassador-at-large for international religious freedom.

"As a U.S. senator, Gov. Brownback was second-to-none in advocacy for persecuted religious minorities in places such as

Sudan," said Russell Moore, president of the Southern Baptist Convention's Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission.

He said Brownback would be "amazingly effective" in the job: "A Brownback ambassadorship would make clear that the United States government takes seriously religious persecution around the world."

The 60-year-old Brownback, a conservative Catholic, served 14 years in the Senate before becoming governor of Kansas in 2011. He is two years into his second term, but also among the least popular governors in the country—with an approval rating below 30 percent. If nominated and confirmed, Brownback



Brownback

would vacate the governor's mansion.

The State Department directed an inquiry to the White House, which did not respond to requests for comment on the issue. Brownback's office would not directly address the potential appointment.

"Gov. Brownback is focused on his continued efforts to make Kansas the best state in America to raise a family and grow a business," communications director Melika Willoughby said in an email.

The bipartisan praise for Brownback comes after House and Senate lawmakers introduced resolutions calling on the administration to make international religious freedom a centerpiece of its foreign policy agenda. The resolutions called for President Donald Trump to immediately name an ambassador-at-large for international religious freedom—a post vacant since January.

Some observers thought Vice President Mike Pence—a close Brownback friend—

would make an announcement when he addressed The World Summit in Defense of Persecuted Christians. He did not mention the post or Brownback, but he declared the issue a top concern: "Protecting religious freedom is a foreign-policy priority of the Trump administration."

Several top religious freedom advocates declined to go on the record ahead of an official announcement, but some groups are already drafting press releases to rally around Brownback. They believe he would bring a high-profile presence to the office and could effectively leverage his deep contacts at the White House and on Capitol Hill.

Katrina Lantos Swett, a former Democrat-appointed chair of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), called Brownback "a strong choice" who would "provide powerful, committed, and high profile leadership to the post."

Congress created the ambassador position in the landmark International Religious Freedom Act of 1998.

ROYAL

continued from page 1

you, you will shipwreck," Moore said. "Your giftedness and your talent can get you to the big leagues, but your character and the choices you make may get you off the planet. That's why what we all do is so vital to our community and society, to future generations."

This is why Moore is excited once again to team up with the Scott Dawson Evangelistic Association to sponsor Faith & Family Night at Kauffman Stadium.

"I want to thank the (David and Dan) Glass family," he said. "The truth of the matter is, we wouldn't have the courage to live out our faith without the great support of the Glass family. This is important to them, and I'm thankful to be a part of that."

This year's event, sponsored by Hobby Lobby, will be held following the 6:15 game against the Seattle Mariners on Saturday, Aug. 5. The program will feature testimonies from players and team executives, an evangelistic message from Dawson and performances by KJ-52 and the Newsboys. The popular group has sold more than eight million units while garnering four GRAMMY nominations, two American Music Award nominations and numerous Dove awards.

"Christian music is a big part of my faith walk," Moore said. "I begin my day with it. I'm constantly reminded of it; it's part of my life. One my favorite songs, by Trevor Morgan, is 'Jesus Rides the Subway'. It's a constant reminder to me of the importance of what people are going through on a daily basis. At 58 years old, I rarely put my pillow on my head

at night and say, 'My goodness, I've just had the most perfect day in the history of my life'. No, there are challenges."

Attendance at Faith & Family Night has continued to grow over the past six years. Special offers from the Royals enable church or other groups to save as much as 30 percent off regular ticket prices. Several options are available to take advantage of advance discounts:

- n Log on to www.royals.com/faith
- n Call (816) 504-4040, option 4
- n Email groupsales@royals.com
- n Another great way to get involved (and even receive a free ticket) is to be a counselor. Mandatory counselor training will be offered five times:
 - n Aug. 3, 6 p.m. — New Life Church, 1717 McGee St., Kansas City
 - n Aug. 3, 7 p.m.—Shoal Creek Community Church, 6816 S. Church Road, Pleasant Valley
 - n Aug. 4, 7 p.m. — Lenexa Baptist Church, 15320 W. 87th St., Lenexa
 - n Aug. 4, 7 p.m. — Abundant Life Church, CORE Auditorium, 414 SW Persels Road, Lee's Summit
 - n Aug. 4, 7 p.m. — Divine Heritage Church, 18106 E. Bundschu Road, Independence

Team officials encourage groups to plan early to obtain the best available seats. For many fans, a trip to the ballpark on Aug. 5 can be a life-changing event.

"It's a great honor for me to be a part of this," Moore said. "What we do here with the Royals is a lot bigger than baseball. Our community reminds us of that constantly. It's a very powerful message that we think is important."

In July, Metro Voice will publish our special *Faith Night Guide*. For more information, please contact the Scott Dawson Evangelistic Association at (800) 869-8738 or visit www.safeathomeministries.com.

FORGE Director to speak at C5-Alive Luncheon

Gabriel O'Shea, Executive Director of FORGE, will be the featured speaker at the C5-Alive "POWER" Luncheon June 8, from 11:30 am to 1 pm,

FORGE is an organization dedicated to economic development and geared to recruit, retain and train young talent for Topeka, O'Shea will speak about leadership development and opportunities in Topeka.

The cost to attend the luncheon is \$10 for C5Alive members and first-time guests who RSVP, and \$12 at the door. Non-members and other guests pay \$15. C5 luncheons are open to the public and everyone is welcome to attend, organizers said. RSVPs and inquiries can be sent to

info@C5Alive.org.

C5Alive is dedicated to developing and uniting Christian Leadership in the community, involving businesses, non-profits and churches.

The next luncheon will be held July 13.

In addition to monthly "POWER" luncheons held on the second Thursday of each month, C5 also hosts periodic business fairs and other events, including

EasterFest.

The luncheons are held in different locations around the Capital City each month. C5 members may also sponsor luncheons and other events as a way to promote their organizations.

For more information about C5, go to C5Alive.org.



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'In Our Hands: The Battle for Jerusalem'

By Carolyn Curtis

With the 50th anniversary of the Six-Day War approaching, Christian Broadcasting Network and Fathom Events bring to theaters the docudrama "In Our Hands: The Battle for Jerusalem" for what was to be a one-night theatrical screening nationwide Tuesday, May 23.

However, because of demand, there will be two additional screenings, June 1 and June 6.

It is the compelling story of heroism and victory by a small group of Israeli paratroopers who—at a heavy cost of lives—managed to take back Jerusalem's Temple Mount, then to radio their commander the message that this strategic and symbolic piece of real estate was "in our hands."

"Most accounts of the Six-Day War are straight documentaries, and The Battle of Ammunition Hill is a sentence or two," said Gordon Robertson, CEO of CBN and "In Our Hands" producer. "No film we know of actually recreates these pivotal scenes and events with such intense accuracy. For new generations of Jews and Christians, 'In Our Hands' is a must-see."

Shot in Jerusalem at the actual battle sites, the film combines re-enactments with archival news footage plus emotional interviews with surviving Israel Defense Forces paratroopers—many of whom were mostly untested reservists and college students at the time of the

war.

"In Our Hands" is the story not only of the survival of a brave band of paratroopers but of a people and its nation—Jews and the home they acquired in 1948, with establishment of the State of Israel, a result of the Allied victory in World War II and the aftermath of the Holocaust.

After centuries in exile, their early years in the region formerly known as Palestine were full of hope for the Jews. However, because of ongoing Arab-Israeli conflicts the Jews had been without access to their ancestral city.

With tensions heightened, Israel stood alone—and, in a conflict so brief it is known as the Six-Day War because it was fought June 5-10, 1967—Israel changed history. On June 11, a ceasefire was signed.

The film of the war's battle for the Temple Mount captures the intensity of the trench warfare with dramatic moments in a conflict too often represented as a footnote in history books.

For example, an Israeli soldier delivers a baby for an Arab woman.

Another woman appears clutching an Israeli flag and urges paratroopers to raise it in victory.

In one amazing scene, viewers learn that religious Jews are fighting alongside secular Jews. Soldiers eventually reach the Western Wall (or Wailing Wall), the historic and remaining section of the Second Jewish Temple built by Herod the Great. The men who arrive there are

greatly reduced in number as they have seen their fellow soldiers fall in battle during their winding journey to take control of the ancient city.

Many touch the wall in reverence due to its holiness for the Jewish people. A soldier suggests to his comrade that they pray. The second man admits that he does not know how to pray. The first man suggests they pray the Shema, a central prayer in the Jewish prayer book and one of the first taught to children. The secular Jew shyly admits he does not know even this common prayer. The religious Jew is able to teach this meaningful prayer to his fellow soldier who has risked his life without a full understanding of his people's history or faith.

Other moving scenes involve interviews with survivors, now grandfathers for whom The Battle for Jerusalem was a defining period in their maturity as Jewish men.

Such interviews serve as a catharsis as well as proof of authenticity, important elements for Gordon Robertson, who first visited the Western Wall when he was eleven years old and has lost count of his number of trips made to Israel since then.

As a Christian who is passionate about Middle Eastern history and culture, Robertson has poured himself into this film project for years and hopes the turnout on May 23 will attract a commercial release by the History Channel or another network.



"As Christians, it documents a miraculous part of our history," adds Robertson. "When they radioed back that the Temple Mount is 'in our hands,' they were reclaiming the area of Jerusalem which includes the Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Golgotha, Via Dolorosa, etc.—sites that are sacred to Christians. Israel continues

to protect these and make them available to Christian pilgrims. So it is our history too."

Carolyn Curtis is a journalist and author in Fort Worth, Texas. Her latest book is Women and C.S. Lewis. Her email address is carolyn@carolyncurtis.net.

Huckabee leaving Fox for new show on TBN

Former governor and presidential candidate Mike Huckabee is leaving Fox News Channel to launch an hour-long show on the Trinity Broadcasting Network. TBN airs locally on digital channels 16.1, 16.2 and 16.3 and on cable and satellite.

A TBN statement says the weekly news and talk show will premiere this fall and will be recorded in Nashville.



Huckabee

"Huckabee' will combine Gov. Huckabee's commentary on news-of-the-day and current issues, along with guests from the worlds of politics, entertainment and faith," TBN says.

"I am grateful to (TBN Chairman) Matt Crouch for sharing the vision of a weekend destination on TV where we talk to newsmakers and celebrities in a civil and respectful manner as well as introduce America to some not-so-famous people whose stories remind us that the greatness of our nation is about the people who love

God, raise their families, and serve their neighbors," Huckabee says.

His new program follows a seven-year stint at Fox that featured political commentary, conversation, and music.

Huckabee plays bass in a cover band called Capital Offense, which did a version of "Sweet Home Alabama" in Jerusalem last month.

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Do the Manly Thing

Dear Dave,

My wife and I argue a lot about finances. We're trying to get more control over our money, and she has been listening to you. That's helped a lot. She's also a lot more frugal than I am, and our biggest point of contention right now is how we handle our spending money. Whenever I work overtime at my job, I feel like I should be able to put the overtime pay toward my spending money. What are your thoughts on this?

Josh

Dear Josh,

No way, dude! You don't work overtime for your little boy wants. You work overtime, and rake in that extra cash, for the good of your family. That's the manly thing to do.

Now, that's not to say you both can't have a little spending money. It also doesn't mean that you can't treat yourself once in a while if you're working your tail off. I mean, if I'm working 70 to 80 hours a week I may give myself a little inexpensive treat in the midst of all that. So, my spending money should reflect that. But it shouldn't reflect a sense that I get to play more because I work extra, while the rest of the family suffers.

Sorry, man. I think you knew what I was going to say. Step up, be good to

your family first, and then your good times will come. If you haven't learned it already, you'll soon discover that those good times are best ones!

—Dave

Teens and checkbooks

Dear Dave,

My daughter is 15, and she's had jobs around the house and been on commission and the envelope system for years. She's very good about saving and not spending on silly things. We recently opened a checking account for her, and I was wondering what bills you think we should assign for her to pay on her own?

Suzanne

Dear Suzanne,

This sounds a lot like we did with our kids. She's obviously bright and motivated, so the first thing you do is explain to her the seriousness and responsibility associated with a checking account. The next step is for her to balance the checkbook with you looking over her shoulder. Do this with her for several months, while you keep one on the account, too. After that, I want her to do it alone and show you her work. Her balance should match yours and the one at the bank.

As soon as she demonstrates compe-



DAVE RAMSEY
Financial author, radio host, television personality, and motivational speaker

davesays

tency, and you feel comfortable that she can handle things, I want you to start putting her clothing budget in the account. You know, the weirdest thing happened with our girls at this stage. They suddenly started shopping at less expensive stores. It's amazing when they see that the dollars associated with these purchases can run out. My bet is you'll see some changes in her value choices.

Just take it step-by-step, a little at a time. The more they exhibit competence, wisdom, and confidence, the more you can release them.

—Dave

Why the smallest debt first?

Dear Dave,

I'm new to you and your plan. Why do you want people to pay off the debt with the smallest balance first, instead of the one with the highest interest rate?

Courtney

Dear Courtney,

Simply put, because personal finance isn't all about math. Personal finance is only about 20 percent math. The other 80 percent is behavior.

We list debts in the debt snowball in order of the smallest to the largest balance, putting as much as possible toward the smallest while paying the minimum payments on the others. The reason, as I mentioned earlier, is behavior modification. It helps you see yourself making a dent in your debts.

It's easier to change bad habits when you see quick results from your efforts to eliminate negative behaviors. Paying off the smallest debts first, instead of the debts with the highest interest rates, will give you quick wins that will help keep you motivated. It provides proof that you can succeed and become debt-free!

—Dave

Family and business

Dear Dave,

My husband and I own a small business. One of our relatives asked for a job recently, and we both have reservations about hiring him because there are several dysfunctional relationships and personalities within our extended family. Are we being mean? We're not sure how to respond.

Becky

Dear Becky,

Having a small business doesn't give relatives a free pass to employment. As entrepreneurs, you have the right and responsibility to do what's best for your company. And you don't have to hire anyone — even a relative — who's not a good fit.

There are situations where hiring a family member can actually be a plus. If a relative is qualified and the kind of person who understands they'll have to bust it every single day and perform at a level equal to or above your other team members, that can be a special and productive thing. A relative who is a problem

child, however, can be a nightmare in both your professional and personal lives.

Ask yourself a few questions: Would you hire this person if they weren't part of the family? Would you hire this person because they would make a good team member? If the answers are no, then you don't hire them — period.

Be kind about the situation, because there may be some bruised feelings. But the bottom line is you have to do what's best for your business, your immediate family, and your team.

—Dave

Looking for Work May Impact Your Taxes

By Peggy Beasterfield
Owner, Peggy's Tax and Accounting Service

If you are looking for a job in the same line of work, you may be able to deduct some of your job search costs. Here are some key tax facts you should know when searching for a new job:



• **Same Occupation.** Your expenses must be for a job search in your current line of work. You can't deduct expenses for a job search in a new occupation.

• **Resume Costs.** You can deduct the cost of preparing and mailing your resume.

• **Travel Expenses.** If you travel to look for a new job, you may be able to deduct the cost of the trip. To deduct the cost of the travel to and from the area, the trip must be mainly to look for a new job in order to deduct all costs.

• **Placement Agency.** You can deduct some job placement agency fees you pay to look for a job.

• **First Job.** You can't deduct job search expenses if you're looking for a job for the first time.

• **Time Between Jobs.** You can't

deduct job search expenses if there was a long break between the end of your last job and the time you began looking for a new one.

• **Reimbursed Costs.** Reimbursed expenses are not deductible.

• **Schedule A.** You normally deduct your job search expenses on Schedule A, Itemized Deductions. Claim them as a miscellaneous deduction. You can deduct the total miscellaneous deductions that are more than two percent of your adjusted gross income.

• **Premium Tax Credit.** If you receive advance payments of the premium tax credit, it is important that you report changes in circumstances - such as changes in your income, a change in eligibility for other coverage, or a change of address - to your Health Insurance Marketplace. Advance payments are paid directly to your insurance company and lower the out-of-pocket cost for your health insurance premiums. Reporting changes will help you get the proper type and amount of financial assistance so you can avoid getting too much or too little in advance.

For more on job hunting refer to Publication 529, Miscellaneous Deductions, available at IRS.gov/forms at any time.

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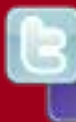



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opinion

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Trump's religious freedom order was step in right direction



RONNIE FLOYD

Author, Senior Pastor of Cross Church, located in Northwest Arkansas

viewpoint

May 4 in the Rose Garden on the White House lawn, on the very same day as the National Day of Prayer, President Donald J. Trump signed a Presidential Executive Order, "Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty."

On the 107th day of his presidency, the President and his administration did more to promote religious freedom than the previous administration did in eight years. This step is a step in the right direction.

This is a step forward for religious liberty

This is a step forward for religious liberty in America. While some may be disappointed that it does not do more and go further, please understand, at least it is a forward step. Usually, nothing is done easily or rapidly in Washington, D.C. Leading people in a massive organization, government, corporation, or even church is a process.

This is a step forward in the right direction for preserving and forwarding one of our greatest freedoms, religious liberty. The president was more than clear in his speech in the Rose Garden that religious freedom comes from God and is not granted to us by the govern-

ment.

The overreach of government regarding religious liberty issues has not just been apparent, but accelerating. It has been a major and growing issue, concern, and threat for all people of faith. Therefore, I am more than hopeful that what occurred last month will not be the end, but a new point of beginning for our future as a nation. At the very least, it is a reversal in our immediate past trajectory regarding the freedom of religion.

Why it was a personal joy to be present in the Rose Garden

While in the Rose Garden experiencing this moment in American history, I was overwhelmed with personal gratitude. Why?

At one point a few years ago, I became a target because I took a stand for a biblical and Christian worldview about various moral issues. As I did then and always will in the future, I teach and lead our people to see moral issues through the lens and the authority of the Holy Scripture. That experience was a difficult and learning time for me personally and professionally.

It was also a personal joy because in the fall of 2014, I was invited to speak at a major rally in support of five pastors in Houston, Texas, whose sermons were subpoenaed by the mayor of Houston. As I spoke that night to over 6,000 people present and to a live simulcast, it was a significant moment in my life. This overreach of government was apparent and demonstrated its acceleration in America. Since then, the acceleration has continued. I do hope these five pastors



President Donald Trump prepares to sign the executive order on Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty during the National Day of Prayer event at the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington D.C., on May 4.

and others who have been targeted are encouraged by what occurred Thursday.

This presidential executive order is in clear support of religious liberty. It says, "It shall be the policy of the executive branch to vigorously enforce federal law's robust protections for religious freedom."

While some prognosticate about whether this is needed, I want to assure you, it is. Whether a pastor knew about or felt influenced by the Johnson Amendment is not the issue. The issue is having the freedom to articulate the claims of Scripture in the pulpits in America without fear or intimidation. This is America, where freedom is celebrated. Therefore, this executive order is welcome.

The next step

I am more than hopeful that what happened on May 4 was the first step of

many that will forward religious freedom to every American for decades to come.

Prohibiting the free exercise of religion in any way is always an overreach of government and is against on what our country was founded.

The Constitution makes this provision so that every American can live out their faith wherever they are without wondering if they will be penalized for it. Whether you are in business or health care, in the military or pastoring a church, in education or in retirement, the free exercise of your religion should always be permitted. Yes, even to the atheist who does not believe there is a God.

The next step I pray will be another step forward for religious liberty in America.

metro
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FIGHTING THE METH DEMON



CLINT DECKER

President and Evangelist with Great Awakenings, Inc.

hopefortoday

Recently, I was troubled as I watched a TV news story on the opioid drug problem. What I learned did not leave me. I thought about all the people I have reached out to in the 24 years I have been a minister. Faces crossed my mind of many who were drug users. My eyes began to see how widespread the drug issue is.

What I have learned is a major drug problem around the world has become the number one number one drug problem in my community, methamphetamine. Ten years ago the largest drug bust in history took place when law enforcement seized \$207 million dollars in cash in a meth raid. And six

years ago, worldwide seizures of meth increased by 73 percent. Additionally, the U.S. Sentencing Commission said that meth has produced more offenses than any other drug in 27 states.

The abuse of meth is at pandemic proportions. The other day someone asked me, "Why do people start using meth?" According to one article, the drug seems attractive on the surface by the good feelings it brings. Users feel an instant euphoria, followed by a long high, then feel more energy, extreme confidence, and strong sexual desires. There are many more reasons users are lured in.

It is one of the most dangerous street drugs, because it sucks you in then destroys you. It is like a deadly parasite that takes your health, family, livelihood and gives nothing back. It attacks you physically, rotting your teeth and can collapse your jaw. Due to hallucinations of a crank bug on your skin, you scar yourself marring your appearance. It not only causes you to be a physical danger to yourself, but to everyone around you.



Every user has a heart problem, not from a medical standpoint but a spiritual one. It is deeper than drugs and something we all have in common. The Scripture says, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick..." (Jeremiah 17:9). Their heart problem is expressed through drugs, but yours might be shown through sexual immorality or unforgiveness. Is there a solution to this? Yes! Jesus!

Jesus can heal, restore and forgive the sin and brokenness in the heart. He died and rose again from the dead to

show us the power He has and what He can do. Let us bring the power of Jesus to every meth addict. Where do we start? Prayer. Let the meth affected communities call out to Jesus on behalf of their precious sons and daughters. Let grandparents and parents cry out to Jesus for their kids. Let users themselves look to Jesus for deliverance.

Listen to Clint Decker's radio broadcast, *The Unbreakable Truth*, at 2:50am & 10:50am on Upper Room Radio, KFGB 97.7FM, Topeka's local Christian radio station.

Venezuela's propaganda state is collapsing under its own weight

by **Francisco Toro**

We have just witnessed an extraordinary event in Venezuela. We've long since grown accustomed to government bureaucrats endlessly recycling the most blatant lies. But this week, a senior official openly defied the regime's version of truth — and Venezuelans are still reeling.

The story began on April 26, when dozens of people saw a soldier shoot Juan Pablo Pernaleté. The 20-year-old student was taking part in a street protest against the government when a member of the National Guard reportedly fired a tear-gas canister directly at his chest, at point-blank range. Tear gas isn't meant to be used like this. In Venezuela, though, photo after photo shows that it has become routine.

The official lies about Pernaleté's death began immediately. The government con-

cocted a far-fetched story that Pernaleté had been killed by fellow protesters with a bolt gun, "No Country For Old Men"-style. The story was absurd. It flew in the face of dozens of witness statements, all forensic evidence and even basic logic.

None of that made a difference to the state propaganda machine. Officialdom had handed down "the line," and dozens of state-run newspapers, radio stations, TV stations and websites toed it, immediately and uncritically. A drip-drip-drip of articles gained traction through sheer, numbing repetition, proliferating across state media (including a government website that actually goes by the Orwellian name of "Truth Mission").

Anyone who has tried to face down a propaganda state knows the feeling that came next: that panicky sense that the lies were winning, that dismal feeling of isolation and helplessness that comes from seeing hard truth under assault from a powerful machine of lies. We know how these things go, after 17 years of experience. We know how the combined power of the propaganda apparatus — in lockstep with prosecutors, courts and the police — can elevate politically motivated lies into truths that seem so solid that the actual facts blur and then dissipate, like skywriting.

But not this time. This time, the unexpected happened.

At a historic news conference on Wednesday, Venezuela's Chief of Public Prosecutions, Luisa Ortega Díaz, broke ranks with the propaganda state. Her office had investigated Pernaleté's death, and now she laid out the evidence that made it perfectly clear that he had been killed by the National Guard. Ortega Díaz held out a tear gas canister for the cameras, commented on its weight and described the forensic reports she'd commissioned. She cited the five witness statements she had collected and then, looking at the camera, said plainly that she intends to prosecute not only the soldier who killed Pernaleté but also the officer who gave him orders.

It was an electrifying moment. For 17 years, Venezuela's revolutionary government has placed an absolute premium on

loyalty. It had built a monolithic state, where the president expected automatic obedience from every part of the state. For years, Ortega Díaz had been a loyal foot soldier to this system — prosecuting political dissidents according to the same sort of made-up lies that the propaganda minister had presented a few days earlier. But something has changed. Whether out of conviction or calculation, Ortega Díaz balked. One key component of the propaganda state was refusing to play ball.

Daughter of a long-time Venezuelan Communist Party leader revered on the left, Ortega Díaz has long enjoyed the status of revolutionary royalty, a rock-solid pillar of the regime. Under the constitution, her office has a monopoly on prosecutions: No criminal charges can be brought without her say-so. That means that the government's repressive apparatus can't work if the chief prosecutor doesn't play ball.

It's unclear whether Ortega Díaz will remain consistent to her new stance. But she has already set in motion an extraordinary new dynamic. Just by signaling that she's serious about holding officials accountable for human rights violations, Ortega Díaz has started to destabilize the regime. Officers who might not have thought twice about ordering protesters shot are now thinking twice.

The day after Ortega Díaz spoke, the hard-line interior minister — who is wanted in the United States as a major-league drug trafficker — slammed her for "supporting violence and impunity." Her real crime, of course, was simply refusing to stick to the official line. Make no mistake: For the regime, this is a crisis.

What Venezuela needs now is many more Luisa Ortega Díazes. The Chief of Public Prosecutions did not switch sides. She merely signaled that, from now on, she will act impartially to seek the truth and achieve justice. For a regime built on lies and injustice, the prospect of this attitude spreading is an existential threat. And for Pernaleté's loved ones, it holds out the prospect that his ultimate sacrifice could help to unravel the regime he was demonstrating against.

Benefits of School Choice

by **Grayce McAllister**

Have you been concerned about the competency level that US students are now graduating with? Have you ever wondered if there will be consequences for not giving students the tools they need to think for themselves? Have you ever wondered if education is key to freedom? Have you wondered if there are options that would better equip the students who will eventually be ruling our country, either preserving freedom or allowing it to be stolen? Do these other options have significant advantages?

The test scores that measure the competency of students in the US and across the world show just how much the system that is currently used for educating pupils K-12 is lacking. According to Pew Research Center "The most recent PISA results, from 2015, placed the U.S. an unimpressive 38th out of 71 countries in math and 24th in science." (DeSilver) The United State is three points above the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) average in Science, 20 point behind the OECD average in mathematics, and 4 points above the OECD average in reading. (DeSilver)

Are all the American children on the same level of competency? When public schooled children were compared to homeschool children in 2014 under a study done by Brian D. Ray, Ph.D. with the NHERI (National Homeschool Education Research Institution) the results revealed significant differences. "Some 13,549 homeschool seniors had the following mean scores: 567 in critical reading, 521 in mathematics, and 535 in writing (College Board, 2014a). The mean SAT scores for all college-bound [public educated] seniors in 2014 were 497 in critical reading, 513 in mathematics, and 487 in writing (College Board, 2014b). The homeschool students' SAT scores were 0.61 standard deviation higher in reading, 0.26 standard deviation higher in mathematics, and 0.42 standard deviation higher in writing than those of all college-bound seniors taking the SAT, and these are notably large differences." (Ph.D.) Is homeschooling a sufficient alternative to solve the education deficiencies?

Homeschooling not only allows for parents to choose, personalize, and specialize the education for their specific child but, children schooled at home have been found to be above average on issues pertaining to social, emotional, and psychological development. (Brian D. Ray) "The research base on adults who were home educated is growing; thus far it indicates that they: participate in local community service more frequently than does the general population, vote and attend public meetings more frequently than the general population, go to and succeed at college at an equal or higher rate than the general population..." (Brian D. Ray)

Currently there are 2.3 million homeschoolers across the nation which has risen over the past several years. (Brian D. Ray) The parents who chose to homeschool are given the opportunity to select their own curriculum and therefore the information that is given to their children. It used to be that homeschooling in the United States was an "alternative," but is increasingly becoming "mainstream".

(Brian D. Ray) When a family decides to homeschool they are not dependent upon public tax funds for their education and end up saving \$27 billion annually that taxpayers do not have to pay. (Brian D. Ray) On average the homeschool family pays \$600 per student while public institutions require \$11,732 per student. (Brian D. Ray) According to the evidence there is a significantly higher quality to the homeschoolers education at a reduced cost.

Over the past few years there has been a significant increase in the extra-curricular activities that homeschool students can participate in to strengthen their skills outside of the textbooks. As a nationwide organization NCFCA (National Christian Forensics Communication Association) offers homeschoolers the opportunity to compete in speech and debate with other students across the nation. Then there are local sport opportunities, robotics, 4-H, and community volunteering that will give homeschool students a well-rounded education on top of their textbook learning. "Homeschool students are regularly engaged in social and educational activities outside their homes and with people other than their nuclear-family members." (Brian D. Ray)

How do all of these items affect liberty and freedom? As James Madison stated "A well-instructed people alone can be permanently a free people." (Studies) The students who are taught how to think, given a personalized education, are active in their community, and know how to work are the ones who are well-instructed and will remain informed and free. George Washington told us that "A primary object...should be the education of our youth in the science of government. In a republic, what species of knowledge can be equally important? And what duty more pressing...than communicating it to those who are to be the future guardians of the liberties of the country?" (Studies)

Test scores indicate there is a great benefit in school choice, especially homeschooling because it trains children in the skills of how to think rather than what to think. This other way to educate children has been proven to abet the skills of students academically, socially, and helped the community through their involvement. As a nation education supports and stimulates liberty and freedom, protecting and preserving our nation.

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Beware of Publishers Clearing House Scam

By Carolyn Cogswell

Beware if you receive a telephone call telling you that you have won The Publishers Clearing House (aka PCH) sweepstakes. They may tell you an amount and ask if you want to receive it monthly or all at once. Then they will ask you to pay a "registration fee." They may tell you that they have sent you a letter in the mail.

You will be aware that you did not receive a letter in the mail, nor did you ever enter the PCH sweepstakes. They will not consent to re-send the letter they supposedly sent you. If you tell them you did not enter the PCH sweepstakes, they may tell you that your telephone number was selected at random to win an enormous sum of "tax-free" money.

Oddly, they may ask you to write down your own name and address on a piece of paper. They will give you a name that is supposedly theirs.

They may give you a series of numbers that is supposedly the "packers code" and a series of numbers that is supposedly the "confirmation number." They may even give you a check number, even though you did not tell them whether you wanted to receive the money monthly or in a lump sum.

They may point out that they had not asked you for your name; they would already know your name because they supposedly sent you a letter in the mail. They may ask you for your email address so they can send you some "paperwork."

They may tell you they "are not here to pull your leg."

If you ask the person to have his or her supervisor call you, they will say they will have their supervisor call you, but nobody will call you back.

Don't give them any information over the phone.

Here are two numbers PCH scammers have used recently, and they said they were calling from Manhattan, Kansas:

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From various Internet sources, you may rest assured that:

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Why Day Camp still Matters

By Andy Kimmelman

When looking for summer activities for their children, parents today are faced with an incredible wealth of options. Many of these options describe themselves as “camp”—sports camps, arts camps, school camps and, of course, the ubiquitous day camps.

Each offers benefits to the family, but certain programs stand apart. According to several parents and camp directors, what we will term a traditional day camp, with a program mirroring the classic resident camp program, presents something uniquely advantageous to its campers and families. Traditional day camps matter in a way that differs from the host of other summer activities. Thus, questions arise: Why does day camp matter, and how do we position this kind of program among everything else?

Across the region there are numerous options for both traditional away camps as well as day camps based on one or multiple subjects like science. As parents and camp directors will tell us, these “single subject” summer programs do provide many benefits — such as a boost in achievement at school or on the club soccer team — but their specificity sets them apart from the generalized summer camp experience.

Why is Day Camp Important?

Why is traditional day camp important? Of course, we know why summer camp, as a general category, is important. Ninety-six percent of campers say that



“camp helped me make new friends,” and 92 percent say, “Camp helped me feel good about myself.” Seventy percent of camp parents say, “My child gained self-confidence at camp” (ACA, 2005).

Although not everyone actually goes to camp (yet!), the idea of summer camp is fairly well documented in American culture. Resident, or away, camp is the touch-



stone when most Americans think of summer camp. The prevailing cultural and empirical image of camp is one of a traditional, rustic, resident camp deep in the

woods or by a lake.

Imagine, then, this most archetypal image: a beautiful natural site where caring counselors help children create new connections and reach outside of their comfort zones to try new things. Laughter bubbles as jokes are shared and new friendships are built. Campers unplug from technology to commune with nature. Skills develop throughout camp, both in physical things like swimming and horseback riding, not to mention dance or theater (such as that provided by Dramatic Truth School of the Arts or Culture House) and art, and social/emotional things like teamwork, creativity, and self-confidence. And don't forget forging interest in the sciences at a camp like that held at Union Station's Science City. Then at the end of each day a line of mini-vans appear with parents to pick up their youngsters.

With so much similarity of structure and experience, traditional day camps share many of the benefits of the monolithic stereotype of summer camp. Yet, it is in that relatively small difference, the daily return to home, that the unique importance of day camp lies.

Everyone Should Go to Camp

Why might a family choose a day camp? Many campers are (in their parents' minds) too shy or ill-equipped for an away camp. Of course, oftentimes parents themselves are not ready to let go of the child for the duration of a camp session. And some campers are simply too young. For these families, then, a day camp can provide scaffolding for a camp experience that is nearly identical to resident camp without the anxiety-producing long-term separation.

A day camp director tells us, “Day camp can be a child's first independent



experience away from mom and dad. A child can strengthen emerging skills of making new friends, taking care of their own belongings, trying new activities, and taking risks.” This first experience away from home, in a new setting with unfamiliar peers, can create the foundation needed for successful longer-term experiences away from home.

A Powerful Alternative

For kids who don't attend an away summer camp, day camp can still be a powerful alternative. “Since my kids are not sleep-away campers,” one long-time day camp parent said, “I was interested in finding a day camp that truly felt like camp. I wanted my kids in a natural setting with camp-specific activities — archery, horses, arts, and crafts — that they would not experience during the school year.”

This family comprises three boys, the oldest of whom has been attending the same day camp for 10 years. All three have outgoing, positive personalities, yet they nevertheless have continually struggled each summer with being away from home



(they rely a great deal both on the support of their parents and the familiarity of their own bedrooms), making it difficult for them to attend resident camp.

Over the years, their day camp experiences have given them a chance to build independence and autonomy away from their parents while still returning to the comforts of home each evening. “I strongly feel that children need a break from organized learning and the pressures of school,” the mother said, “which is why I have always gravitated toward traditional summer camp. Camp gives kids a chance to

turn their minds off and just be kids. Every day that my kids come home from camp dirty and sweaty with a lanyard in their hand, I feel that I have given them a priceless gift. By the time school rolls around, they are refreshed and ready to go because they were given the opportunity to have fun all summer long.”

A Greater Partnership

Additionally, the daily return home allows for a greater partnership between the camp and the camper's parents, surrounding the growth and skill building that takes

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(1/2 day options available.) Lunch is provided.

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Kids Art Camp

FREE KIDS SUMMER ART CAMP

Saturday, July 15—9:30 AM-3 PM

For kids entering K-6th grades
(1/2 day options available.) Lunch is provided.

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■ Continued from previous page

place at summer camp. At day camp, another director, tells us, “The parent still plays a large role in the child’s daily life. In the evenings, parents can work through obstacles that their child faces and help shape their solutions. This gives the child practice for when they have to work through issues on their own.”

Campers can recount the day’s activities, and their parents can congratulate them on challenging themselves to make it to the top of the climbing tower or on reaching out beyond their group of school buddies to build new friendships. Intentional camp staff can use the vocabulary of character growth to encourage things like respect and responsibility in their campers, and these campers can share what they have learned at camp, using that same vocabulary, with their families just a few hours later. This creates a cycle of positive reinforcement from both the child’s counselor and his or her parents, further strengthening the skills learned at camp.

Camp parents are often pleasantly surprised with their child’s growth during an experience at camp, and a nightly look at the positive changes camp has given one’s child is rewarding for any parent. One camp mother says she was impressed by how camp “motivated [her children] to be empathetic and helpful toward others,” and another shared that her child’s experience as a counselor-in-training “encourages selflessness and patience.” These changes came slowly, over many days at camp over the course of several summers, and they revealed themselves gradually each night when their children returned home.

Day Camp: Benefits at a Glance

Among the many benefits of the camp experience, day camps:

- Provide the camp experience for campers that are too young, anxious about being away from home, or just not ready for residential camp.
- Can create the foundation needed for successful longer-term experiences away from home.
- Allow for a greater partnership between the camp and the camper’s parents surrounding the growth and skill building that takes place at summer camp.

Not your Gramma’s VBS?



Most of us have great memories of childhood summers at VBS or Vacation Bible School. The arts and crafts, puppet shows, Bible stories, snacks and the cool-aid, usually we were hot and sweaty, but we didn’t care. We were having fun!

Most churches still have Vacation Bible School. Some may call it something else, but many of the programs remain the same – usually a 3 or 5 day event, usually half days. There are usually many helpers, teachers, volunteers, etc., that come together to put on the event. Most VBS camps are very reasonable, at \$20-\$40 for the week. Many churches even offer assistance or scholarships, or just do it for free.

Vacation Bible School continues to be one of the most productive special events for leading children to the Lord.

However, many churches today are doing things differently. VBS is no longer simply a chance for children to spend a week studying Bible verses, making crafts and singing a few songs about Jesus. These days, VBS (or whatever they may call it) can be an elaborate endeavor for a church to undertake. Many ready-made kits are available for purchase that promise to make your VBS different, better and more

exciting. Churches considering VBS program kits have to consider available funds, the prospective participants in the school and the number of teachers and volunteers available to run the program.

A few churches are going it alone and making up their own rules on how VBS should be done, with such innovations as “Smash Camp,” “Art Camp,” or “Sports Camp.”

Why have Vacation Bible School?

Nearly 85 percent of people who make a decision for Christ do so between the ages of 4 and 14. Our greatest opportunity to lead a person to Jesus happens during the elementary years. And for many children they begin a relationship with Jesus Christ during Vacation Bible School. Which means, next to Sunday school, Vacation Bible School is one the most powerful tools the Church has to impact the life of a person for all of eternity.

Whatever kind of VBS you decide to ‘do,’ remember this: In this day and age, it’s vital that we teach our children that the Bible is more than just a dusty book of stories. We need to show them God’s Word connects to every area of our lives and is as relevant today as it was thousands of years ago.

VBS/CAMPS CONTINUED:

Vacation Bible School; July 17-21; 6:00 PM
Grantville United Methodis, 3724 South St, Grantville; (785) 246-3621
www.grantvilleks.ymca.org
grantvillechurch@grantvilleumc.com

Vacation Bible School; July 17-21, 2017;
9 a.m. to Noon; Phone: 785-271-0808
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church and Preschool, 3625 SW Wanamaker Rd.

Art Camp VBS; July 23-26, 6:30-8pm
Western Hills Baptist, 29th & Auburn Rd.
Ages 4-6th grade (2017/2018)

Vacation Bible School
July 23-28. 6-8:30 pm
Classes for preschool through adult
Northern Hills Baptist Church, 920 NW 62nd street

YMCA offers several varieties of summer camps. Call 354-8591

VBS & SUMMER CAMPS

Summer Sports Camps at Heritage Christian School
Baseball, Basketball, Volleyball and Soccer Camps for students entering 1st-12th grades
Contact: Athletic Director: curtiscurrent@hcstopeka.org

Vacation Bible School; June 5-9; 6-8pm
Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church, 610 SE Lime

Vacation Bible School “HERO CENTRAL: Discover Your Strength in God!” Free.
June 5-9; 9-11:30; Pre-K through completed 5th grade
First Presbyterian Church, 817 S.W. HARRISO. Register at www.cokesburyvbs.com/fpctopeka

Galactic Starveyors VBS; June 5-9, 6-8:30pm; Dinner served 6-6:30
K-6th grade; Gethsemane Worship Center, 1404 N. Kansas Ave.
354-4678 Inquiries@gwctopeka.com

Camp Invention: Launch, Illuminate, Innovate, Create; Cost is \$225.
June 5-9, 9am – 3:30pm; for students entering 1st-6th grade.
Topeka Lutheran School. Register at campinvention.org
Join us for this one week STEM experience. Students will plan, design, build and operate

WAM (Worship Arts Music) Camp; June 5-9; 8:30am - noon
Susanna Wesley United Methodist Church, 7433 SW 29th St • 785-478-3697
For children/youth entering Kindergarten—6th Grade. (Early Drop-off Option - 7AM)

VBS 2017; June 8-9, 5-8pm (Dinner served), and June 10, 1-5pm
Countryside Christian Church, 3635 Ne K4 Hwy. (785) 286-0027
Register at www.ccctopeka.com/content.cfm?id=351

Vacation Bible School - June 11-15; 6-7:30pm
First Baptist Church, 3033 SW MacVicar Avenue, 785-267-0380

Vacation Bible School - Gadgets & Gizmos; Uniquely Wired and Wonderfully Made
June 11, 10 am and 6:30 pm: June 12—14, 6:30—9 p.m.
Light of the World Christian Center, 3301 SW Gage Blvd, (785) 2711010 • lotwcc.org

Salvation Army 3-Trails Summer Camps at Three Trails Camp and Retreat Center in KC
June 12-15: Music Conservatory (age 13-17)
June 17-24: MGAI (age 9-17)

June 26-30: Sr. Sports Camp (age 11-15)
July 5-8: Jr. Sports Camp (age 7-10) Teen Leadership
July 10-14: Next Level (age 12-17)
July 14-16: Family Camp
July 18-21: FUSION (age 7-11)
\$10 per camp. Call 785.233.9648 To Sign Up

Maker Fun Factory Vacation Bible School; June 12-16th; 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Christ Lutheran Church, 3509 SW Burlingame; 785.266.6263

Galactic Surveyors VBS; June 12-16: Free meal @ 5:30 PM; Great fun starts at 6 PM
Crossroads Church, 2121 SW Harrison Street; (785) 354-7953

Camp Catapult; June 12-16; 9am-4pm; Free.
Topeka Bible Church • 235-5545

Vacation Bible School - June 12-16 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm; Kindergarten through 6th grade
Bethel Baptist Church, 4011 N. Kansas Ave
Register at: betheltopeka.myanswers.com/operation-arctic/ or call 286.0467

Vacation Bible School - Maker Fun Factory; June 12th - 16th, from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m
Cornerstone Community Church, 7620 SW 21st St.
Register on line at vbspro.events/p/events/cccvbs or call (785) 478-9524.

WU Coleman Hawkins Summer Jazz Camp; June 18-23; 1-5pm
Washburn University; www.washburn.edu/jazz

Kidz Camp: Operation Arctic; June 19 - June 22, 6:00 - 8:00 pm; Ages 3 - 6th grade
Register at: KidzCampRegistration.docx
Journey Church, 1329 SW 37th; 785-271-5483

VBS - 'Maker Fun Factory'; June 19-23 - 5:15pm (meal). 6:00-8:15 (activities)
Faith Lutheran, 17th & Gage.

SonTreasure Island VBS; June 19-22; 6-8:30
Fairlawn Church of the Nazarene; Sign up at vbsmate.com/fnc

VBS - Galactic Starveyors (Free); June 26-30; 9:00 - Noon; Fall 2017 Kindergarten thru Completed 6th Grade; www.fsbctopeka.org/vbs; 272-0443; donna@fsbctopeka.org
First Southern Baptist Church, 1912 SW Gage

Operation Arctic VBS; June 26-30, 2017, 9am – 12pm; 785-665-7117
Grace Community Church Overbrook, 310 SE 8th St., Overbrook, KS gccinoverbrook.com

Vacation Bible School; June 26-28; 6:30-8:30pm; Classes for all age groups.
Indiana Avenue Church of Christ, 3510 S.E. Indiana Ave.

“Starveyors” VBS; June 26-30; 9 a.m. to noon; 3 years of age through Grade 6-coming year
Auburn Presbyterian Church, 11th and Washington; Contact Julie Copp at 785-217-3479.

CLEARGOLD WORSHIP DANCE CAMP – June 26-30, 2:30-5pm, Barbara’s Conservatory of Dance, 4300 Huntoon. Ages 5-12. Expressive & Celebratory Dances, Try Streamers/Fabrics/Tambourines, Open Worship, Pray. belinquist@yahoo.com. Cost: \$30

CROSSROADS RODEO BIBLE CAMP; Jul. 7-10 (Grades 5-8) & Jul. 11-15 (Grades 9-12)
Leavenworth Co. Fairgrounds, Tonganoxie, Ks.; Camp activities: meals & snacks, skill building, music, Bible study, rodeo participation. Register at CrossroadsCowboyChurch.net.
Facebook: Crossroads Rodeo Bible Camp. For info: C3RBC@yahoo.com.

Vacation Bible School; July 10-14 from 9am - Noon; 4 year olds to those going into 4th Gr.
Most Pure Heart of Mary Church, 3601 SW 17th St; Phone: 272-5590

Maker Fun Factory - Vacation Bible Camp; July 16th - July 20th; 6:15 PM to 8:30 PM at 3 yr. olds through entering 5th Grade as of 7/1/17
Susanna Wesley United Methodist Church, 7433 SW 29th St.; Phone: 785-478-3697

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Celebrate SUMMERTIME in Downtown Topeka!

Summertime is the perfect time to visit Downtown Topeka! There are many fun places and events to visit, and shopping downtown can also be fun, with all the unique shops and a bit of nostalgia in the air. It might remind you of a time when shopping was more exciting, more personal, and less of a chore.

There have been many improvements to the downtown area in the last couple of years! You can check out the many new street statues and other art on the downtown sidewalks. You might also run across some street musicians at various times and places.

Whether you are in the mood for shopping, eating or looking at art, you will most likely find what pleases you in downtown Topeka!

Don't forget to check the list of downtown events - there is always something going on, and you wouldn't want to miss it! There are many events scheduled for downtown, from car shows to concerts to festivals and more.

Following are some tidbits from some of your friendly downtown merchants. Why not take a

trip downtown and visit them?

Let your sweet tooth run wild

Owners Nick & Terry Xidis invest their hearts and hands in fine chocolate and confectionery. This summer, they will feature frozen treats like chocolate-dipped ice cream bars,



bananas or cheesecake slices.

"Stroll into our cozy shop, savor the intoxicating aroma of newborn sweets," Terry says.

"You'll never leave empty handed."

Hazel Hill, Terry's grandmother, is a symbol of their dedication to a family tradition of "the best in everything they do." Nick is the third generation chocolatier, and they use only the finest ingredients, chocolate, fresh cream and butter, to produce handmade treats that explode with flavor.

Handmade chocolate truffles, home-style fudge, crispy-creamy caramel apples and more - they fashion delightful treats for every palate.

Need a gift basket, gift box, or just a few delicious chocolates to go? They'll take care of all the packing and shipping, too!

A Full-Service Florist, Home Decor & Gift Shop Downtown

Absolute Design by Brenda, 629 S. Kansas Avenue, offers hand-selected flowers and exquisite designs with delivery throughout the Topeka area. They have an expansive line of gifts, jewelry and home decor for all your holiday



and year-round needs.

Save \$5.00 by using the coupon on this page!

You can also order or wire flowers 24 hours a day at their website: www.absolutedesignbybrenda.com.

If you're hungry, stop in for a sub

You can't go wrong taking a lunch break at Jersey Mike's, 718 S. Kansas Avenue, with their fresh ingredients and bread baked fresh every morning.



Jersey Mike's, a fast-casual sub sandwich franchise with more than 1,000 locations open and under development nationwide, also has a long history of community involvement and support. Started at the Jersey Shore in 1956, Jersey Mike's serves authentic East Coast-style subs on fresh baked bread - the same recipe it started with over 60 years ago.

The company's mission is to bring its customers the highest quality, freshest made sub in the industry and give back to the communities in which it operates.

You can stay up to date with Jersey Mike's latest promotions and deals, as well as get a free sub + drink on your birthday when you sign up for the Jersey Mike's Subs Email Club. You can do that as well as place your order, at www.jerseymikes.com.

One of a kind

For an eclectic selection of new and used items, check out Trails Market & Gallery at 109 S. Kansas Ave. Jeff Hisey has assembled a large selection on two floors,



where artists and traders can come together, create and share their ideas and passions with others and provide a unique experience and gifts for everyone. A wide variety of items, many of which are one-



of-a-kind! You owe it to yourself to check it out!

Pancakes and more

Hanover's Pancake House at 1034 S. Kansas Avenue has been a local favorite since 1969! With a wide variety on the menu, and friendly service, it's a great place to stop for breakfast, lunch or brunch!



With the friendly service and generous portions, you won't go away hungry!

Diamonds are Forever

You'll find many specials and gift ideas at David's Jewelers, 623 S. Kansas - a family business that has served Topeka for four generations. Diamond rings, pendants and earrings usually top the list but they also offer vivid colored gemstones in unique settings, watches, clocks, statues and fine crystal.

"Gifts can start at \$20.00 and go from there," said Mitzi from

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SUMMERTIME Memories, Events, & Gift Ideas!

Check out these upcoming Summertime Events & Activities in Downtown Topeka!

behind the counter at David's. "We will be glad to help you find that



special gift for that special someone."

Don't stop with this incomplete list! There's plenty more to discover in Downtown Topeka this summer!

Bring a friend, or the family, and re-discover the joy of hanging out downtown!

While you're making your way around the downtown area, check out the new things to look at on both sides of the street -- there are lots of new features! And watch for these downtown events coming up:

MOVIE ON THE LAWN: JUMANJI – June 2, 10:45pm. Kansas State Capitol. Bring your own blankets & lawn chairs.

ART WALK ON FIRST FRIDAYS – Downtown & NOTO arts district. Arts, antiques, fine crafts, many more items.

CAPITAL CITY FAMILY & FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL – June 3, 11-5pm. Kansas State Capitol, 300 W 10th. More than 40 Food Trucks & vendors, bounce houses, live music & entertainment. No admission

NOONTIME BROWN BAG CONCERT - Wednesdays 11-1: June 7 (Ric Barron Band on TPAC lawn) June 14 (Kirk Drager at Westar Pocket Park, 818 S Kansas), June 21

(Kyler Carpenter & Kid Jam on TPAC lawn) & June 28 (Josh Vowell Band at Westar Pocket Park, 818 S Kansas).

BRIAN REGAN IN CONCERT – June 8, 7:30pm, TPAC. Price: \$44.50. (785) 234-2787

CAPITOL MIDWEEK FARMERS MARKET - Every Wed., thru Oct. 18, 7:30am – 12pm, Corner of 10th & Jackson on the South side of the Capitol Lawn

REACH FOR THE STARS! – June 7, 6-7:30pm, TPAC. Kansas Ballet Academy's annual Class Concert is a wonderful opportunity for students to display their yearly progress to friends and family members. (317) 658-2151. Price: \$12 Adult, \$10 Senior, \$8 Child



DOWNTOWN TOPEKA FARMERS MARKET - Saturday's through Nov., 7:30am-noon, 12th & Harrison. The open-air market is full of fresh fruits and vegetables, herbs, arts & crafts, flower, home-baked goods, more.

A HITCHCOCK DOUBLE FEATURE – June 10, 7-11pm, Jayhawk Theatre, 720 SW Jackson St. A Hitchcock double feature: Psycho and Rear Window. A Slash and Bash event. Proceeds go to The United Stroke Alliance with the help of the Kansas Rehabilitation Hospital.

SECOND SATURDAY CONCERT SERIES – Jun. 10, 5:30pm, Downtown Topeka, 8th & Jackson. Mantra Tonic (7:30 pm - 9:30 pm): Folk Fusion; and JC The New King of Funk (10:00 pm - 12:30 am): Funk/Soul/R&B

ART OF MURDER – June 17, 5:30-9pm, Downtown Topeka. Take part in an interactive murder mystery event that is performed in six scenes on a variety of stages. Stop in-between each stage and enjoy food from local vendors, libations and more. 357-5211

LIVE TRIVIA DOWNTOWN – Jun. 6, 13, 20, 27 – 6pm to 8pm @ HHB BBQ, 906 S Kansas – Every Monday night at HHB BBQ, teams play for free hoping to get into the finals for prizes. 20 questions (all topics) per night. Public & teams welcome!

RUN FOR FREEDOM 5K – July 1, 9-1.



Kansas State Capitol. Kicking off Topeka Rotary's Freedom Festival. Proceeds benefit Girls on the Run.

FREEDOM FESTIVAL – July 1, 9am. Art, activities, entertainment, food trucks, kids corner, and 5k run. Reenactments at Constitution Hall. Downtown Topeka. Free. For info: 249-3464

COMMUNITY INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION - July 4, 10-11am, Grace Cathedral, 701 SW 8th Ave. It is a "red, white and blue" extravaganza with brass, drums, piano, organ, winds, choirs, and soloists. (785) 235-3457

HOLLEY MILITARY MUSEUM – Downtown Ramada Inn. Featuring 5 galleries, named after world leaders. Featuring World War II artifacts, Air Force One exhibit, Kansas War Heroes, Space, Vietnam & more. Cost: Free. 10am-8pm daily.

KANSAS STATE CAPITOL – Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm, SW 10th & Jackson St. Tours provided. For info: 296-3966 or www.kshs.org/capitol. Dome Tours M-F

10:30am-4:15pm.

CURTIS HOUSE MUSEUM – Every Sat., 11am-3pm; by appointment other times, 1101 SW Topeka Blvd. Former mansion of Charles Curtis, 31st Vice President of the US, and the only one of American Indian heritage. Cost \$5. For info: 357-1371 or 597-5380.

HISTORIC RITCHIE HOUSE – Tour the oldest remaining home in Topeka (built 1856-57). 1116 Madison. Admission free. 10am-2pm; weaving demonstrations, games, food & more.



14TH ANNUAL GALA "Havana Nights" - June 16, Great Overland Station. The evening will include drinks (martinis, mojitos, wine, beer & specialty drinks), and tantalizing Cuban-inspired foods, tapas & coffee bar along with music, dancing, a cigar patio & live auction. Tickets: \$150 or 2 for \$250. Greatoverlandstation.com; 785-232-5533

TOPEKA ART AND ANTIQUE FAIR – June 24, 10-6. 800-900 Block of North Kansas Ave.

Art Gallery and Variety Market
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A SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION OF THE METRO VOICE! CALL 235-3340 TO BE FEATURED ON THIS PAGE!

Locally-owned food delivery service fills a need

Topeka2Go is a restaurant food delivery marketing service that started in 2015 and is rapidly expanding across the nation. The service partners up with local restaurants and independent contractors to get hot, fresh, and delicious food delivered quickly and conveniently.

The online site and mobile app allow you to order food hassle-free and to coordinate when and where food is delivered directly to you. Orders can be for an individual or a group, delivered to a home or business location, or even to a hotel.

The standard delivery fee depends on the distance from the restaurant

to your location. Average delivery time ranges from 45-55 minutes.

Topeka2Go is also a locally-owned family business.

Look for the app MyTown2Go on the App Store or the Play Store. When you order food through the website or app, you are supporting the local economy and a local family business.

For more information, call (785) 438-7806 or visit the website at



www.topeka2go.com.

You can also look for @Topeka2Go on Twitter, or search for MtTown2Go on Facebook.

Quick Turn-around Time Featured on Computers, Cell Phones, iPads & Tablets

Many times you will find that dealing with locally-owned businesses will benefit you through quicker turn-around time on service.

Jim Driggers, owner of The Computer Store, says he offers quick turn-around time on your computer repairs and the most experienced technicians in Topeka. Most big-box stores send your computer out of town for repairs, and you never even get a chance to talk directly to the technician doing the work on your computer.

"It's the difference between getting your computer back in a few days by us or a few weeks!" Driggers said.

If you need a new computer, The Computer Store will build one for you, with a warranty, and it will be serviced locally in the store if ever necessary. They have used computers and laptops for sale also.

The Computer Store now also repairs all mobile devices like cell phones, tablets and iPads, including damaged screens. Driggers said the new service is available at a very reasonable price, and has been very well received.

The Computer Store has been in business since 1999, and is located at 21st and Gage in Seabrook Center. You can reach them by



phone at 785-267-3223, or visit their website online at www.thecomputerstoreks.com.

The Computer Store is a member of the Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce, the Capital City Christian Chamber of Commerce and the Topeka Independent Business Association.

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entertainment

Hollywood producer teaches Sunday School

Sci-Fi guru teaches Biblical messages in movies

by **Michael Foust**

In Hollywood, Ralph Winter is known as a producer of such well-known hits as X-Men, X-Men 2 and Star Trek III: The Search for Spock.

But in his home congregation – Montrose Church in Montrose, Calif. -- he is known as the Sunday School teacher who leads a class each January and February examining movies from a biblical perspective.

Not surprisingly, it's often standing-room only. That's partially because Winter has 44 movies, TV shows or documentaries to his credit as a producer, including four X-Men movies, four in the Star Trek series, and two Fantastic Four films. He's also been a producer on several projects with explicit Christian content, including *The Promise*, *Captive* and *Thou Shalt Laugh*.

Winter said he wants to help Christians think more critically about what they watch.

"The class looks at the Academy Award Best Picture nominees, so for you to come to my Sunday School class, you need to see the Best Picture nominees, bring your Bible and then we talk about it," Winter told the Metro Voice News. "What's the movie about and how does that match up with what we believe as Christians? And it's always a lively discussion: What's the intent? What's the story about? What's the journey about? The class loves it. People want to engage. They're watching these movies and they



Ralph Winter

interview

want to understand why they do or don't like what they're seeing."

Too often, Winter said, people are led astray by movies. As an example, he points to the 1999 box-office sensation *The Matrix*, which has Christian elements but at its heart "is not about Christianity," Winter said.

"That movie is about salvation coming from within," Winter said. "That's not what we believe as Christians. We need a Savior. We need salvation from outside of ourselves. . . . [The class] is about how do we become better consumers, how

do we build our skillset in understanding what movies are about? Otherwise, we can be distracted by the shiny things."

Winter knows that many Christians are skeptical about movies. Still, he thinks Christians should strive to understand and critique movies because of their role in society.

"The best story wins in our culture," he said. "That's what cuts through. And a lot of times, the agenda-driven propositional truth that we try to promote – as, this is what you ought to do to become a Christian – just doesn't ring through for a lot of people. And yet, telling stories does."

By better understanding the themes behind a popular movie such as *Les Misérables*, he said, "you can engage with people about a spiritual dimension of that."

"There's plenty of stuff in the culture that we just need to be cognizant of and see what gets attention and why it's important and why people are responding."

Winter also teaches a class at Fuller Seminary about theology and film. Recently, the class examined the movies *Up* and *Adjustment Bureau*.

"We talked about free will and destiny, digging into what those are," he said. "We put those in play with a book like *Ecclesiastes*. How does that work out? It's really fun and interesting."

–Michael Foust is an award-winning journalist and is a regular writer for *Metro Voice*.

MOVIE HAS BOTH A TRAGIC AND UPLIFTING MESSAGE

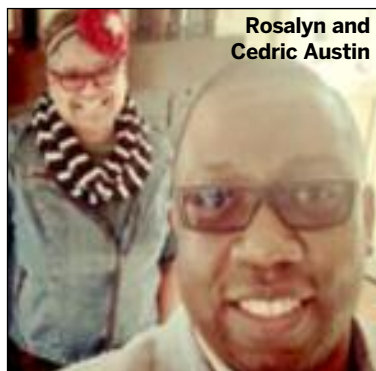
A fresh voice takes on the Kansas City music scene

musicscene

Welcome to the new Metro Voice Music Scene!

About Me

Greetings to the Metro Voice News family and faithful readers. My name is Cedric Austin and I am excited to come on board as the new music news editor for Metro Voice. I wanted to take just a moment to tell you about myself before we jump into music news. I serve as Pastor at One Church, Parkville, Mo. alongside my beautiful wife, co-pastor and international evangelist Rosalynn Austin. Along with pastoring, I am a worship leader, foodie and travel enthusiast. I have served in various leadership roles such as young adult director, youth choir director, music clinician and worship



Rosalynn and Cedric Austin

pastor. I have had the privilege to minister in song at Carnegie Hall and have been blessed to use my gifts to minister throughout the body of Christ. I would like to thank you in advance for reading this monthly column, and I hope to meet many of you out and about at the Christian concerts and venues throughout the year. Now, let's get to music news.

Faith And Family Night

I'm excited to announce The Kansas City Royals will host their annual Faith & Family Night at Kauffman Stadium on Saturday, Aug. 5, 2017 at 6:15pm. The event will feature Scott Dawson of Safe at Home and testimonies from select players, as well as a post-game concert by

Newsboys. Secure your tickets at Royals.com/faith. Metro Voice is proud to be a community sponsor.

June New Releases

Hillsong UNITED - Wonder
Landry Cantrell - Projections
James Fortune - Dear Future Me
Karen Peck & The New River - Hope For All Nations
The City Harmonic - Benediction
The Perrys - Testament



New Artist

Allow me to introduce to you Tauren Wells. Tauren entered the music scene as the former front man for Royal Tailor. Royal Tailor was a Provident Label Group/Sony Music act whose two albums over a five-year career amassed two Grammy nominations and another for New Artist of the Year from the Gospel Music Association's Dove Awards.



■ Please see MUSIC page 17

MOVIES, STREAMING, BOOKS, MUSIC, INTERVIEWS & MORE!

streaming

'Moana,' 'Trolls' lead impressive lineup for June



When Netflix and Disney announced a major deal five years ago that gave the streaming giant exclusive pay-TV rights to Disney-umbrella movies beginning in late 2016, few observers outside of Hollywood realized the significance of the pact.

But now, nearly a full year into the contract – which includes Marvel, Pixar, and Lucasfilm movies -- the implications are clear.

Gone are the days when Disney theatrical releases would broadcast on HBO, Starz and other similar channels before streaming on Netflix or Amazon Prime. Now, blockbusters are moving from the box office to Netflix within a matter of months.

June is a prime example of the trend. This month, *Moana* (PG) and *Trolls* (PG) – two of the most popular animated films last year – begin streaming on Netflix.

Moana (June 20) follows the story of a young girl (named Moana) who lives on a bountiful Pacific island that suddenly stops producing food. The fishermen can no longer catch fish and the coconut trees stop making fruit.

So, *Moana*, her pet pig and her (nutty) pet rooster set sail across the ocean to find the powerful demigod Maui (voiced by Dwayne Johnson), who rules over the wind and sea. Her goal: to get Maui to restore the heart of the island goddess Te Fiti – an action that in turn will return sea and plant life to the island.

There's a lot to like about this Disney musical. The songs are spectacular and the colorful ocean scenes are amazing. It's also genuinely funny.

That said, Christian parents will want to put on their worldview caps. *Moana* promotes polytheism, animism and reincarnation – beliefs that are found in religions throughout the world. (GotQuestions.org is a great website for parents who need theological assistance.) *Moana* has a bit of potty humor but no coarse language. It also contains no sexuality.

Trolls (June 7) is another musical

■ Please see STREAMING page 17

New this month:

Netflix

The Ant Bully (PG, 2006) – Lucas Nickle is a boy who loves to torment ants – until he magically gets shrunk and then meets them face to face. Animated. Rated PG for some mild rude humor and action. June 1.

The Queen (PG-13, 2006) – Set in the late 1990s, this drama recounts the behind-the-scenes story of Queen Elizabeth II's reaction to Princess Diana's death. Netflix's *The Crown* is better, but still, this one is good. Live action. Rated PG-13 for brief strong language. June 1.



Amazon Prime

The Queen (PG-13, 2006) – See above. June 1.

World Trade Center (PG-13, 2006) – Police officers John McLoughlin and Will Jimeno survived when the twin towers fell on them in 2001. This is their story, and it's not easy to watch -- especially if you're claustrophobic. Live action. Rated PG-13 for intense and emotional content, some disturbing images and language. June 1.

Star Trek Beyond (PG-13, 2016) – The Starship Enterprise crew continues its mission to "explore strange new worlds"

– and in this one they find some of the strangest. If you're counting, it's the 14th *Star Trek* movie. Live action. Rated PG-13 for language, sequences of sci-fi action and violence. June 17.

Hulu

Barnyard (PG, 2006) – When humans aren't looking, the cows and chickens apparently talk – and try to teach their kids responsibility. At least, that's what Ben the cow is trying to pass on to his party son Otis. Animated. Rated PG for some mild peril and rude humor. June 1.

Star Trek Beyond (PG-13, 2016) – See above. June 17.

World Trade Center (PG-13, 2006) – See above. June 1.

Muppets from Space (G, 1999),
Muppet Treasure Island (G, 1996),



The Muppets Take Manhattan (G, 1984) – It's the Muppets. It's hilarious. What else should anyone want to know? Live action & puppets. June 1.



bookreview

A Brief History of Sunday: From the New Testament to the New Creation

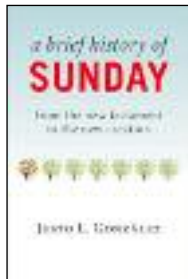
Review by Justo L. González

In this accessible historical overview of Sunday, noted scholar Justo González tells the story of how and why Christians have worshiped on Sunday from the earliest days of the church to the present.

After discussing the views and practices relating to Sunday in the ancient church, González turns to Constantine and how his policies affected Sunday

observances. He then recounts the long process, beginning in the Middle Ages and culminating with Puritanism, whereby Christians came to think of and strictly observe Sunday as the Sabbath. Finally, González looks at the current state of things, exploring especially how the explosive growth of the church in the Majority World has affected the observance of Sunday worldwide.

Readers of this book will rediscover the joy and excitement of Sunday as early Christians celebrated it and will find fresh, inspiring perspectives on



Sunday amid our current culture of indifference and even hostility to Christianity.

12 Ways Your Phone Is Changing You

Review by Gabe Doerksen

Technology is constantly in a state of changing us, even as we change existing technologies and introduce new ones. And so it is fitting and helpful that Tony Reinke begins his book, 12 Ways Your Phone Is Changing You, with an introduction that explores the theology of technology. "Our digital age is no cosmic accident" (29), he explains, and then goes on to give his readers an opportunity to engage with the technologies they use, how those came about, and how using them could bring glory to God and bear fruit for the gospel. Specifically, he examines the smartphone.

The smartphone may arguably be capable of accomplishing far more, for good or for evil, than any other single piece of technology available. As Reinke explores that reality, he provides a helpful tool of self-examination. The book is not structured to tell us how we ought to be (or not to be) using our smartphones, but



rather is meant to cause us to look at our own habits. It's a call to examine our wants and desires, and to do so in light of our use of technology. How is my smartphone helping – or hindering – my sanctification? Because the way we use our phones says a whole lot more about how and whom we worship than we'd like to admit.

That is perhaps the greatest strength in Reinke's book. He does not get bogged down with the finer points of interpretation. The smartphone is not the bane of society. Nor is it the savior. You can live effectively for Christ with a smartphone; you can do so without, as well. The author, then, approaches technology as neutral, and gives the reader plenty of options to examine his own use of that technology. He supplies biblical wisdom to each point of discussion. He adds insights from a scientific and cultural perspective that help me to consider: My phone may be inherently neutral, but am I using it for good, or for evil? Am I making use of its features to help me accomplish more for ministry, for personal growth, for staying organized, for outreach; or am I using those same features to dabble in private sin, to waste countless hours, to sow seeds of discord, to stay distracted?

When those are the sorts of questions being dealt with throughout the book, the

result is a work that turns the reader toward introspection. In the end, I'm left with a question about worship. How do my smartphone habits reveal the God (or god) I love and serve and worship? The digital age holds out before us many potential objects for our worship, readily accessible in many ways; the way we use our smartphones is a window into our hearts. And those hearts need to be searched regularly.

So I would recommend this book as a helpful diagnostic tool for that very thing: how might your smartphone habits be affecting your heart – or how might they be exposing the true desires of your heart? In that, it's for the long-time smartphone user, the person who is relatively new to the game, or the person considering getting his first smartphone.

Finally, this book is most helpful when it keeps our perspective on that which transcends our present time and space. When we are drawn into a focus on that eternal perspective, when we are reminded of the present world that is passing away and the future glory that will make our smartphone gadgetry seem so obsolete, it causes us to evaluate all of our present habits in healthy ways. It keeps us focusing our energies on things that matter most for the kingdom of Christ. Reinke is at his strongest when he pokes and prods into those places in our lives.



Tauren Wells

MUSIC

continued from page 16

Tauren is a husband, father, worship leader, songwriter and creative. "Many people have been asking what's next for me after 'Royal Tailor'. I am excited to share that I have signed a solo deal with Provident Label Group."

I encourage you to check out Tauren's latest single "Hills And Valleys," which is quickly climbing the radio charts. "Hills And Valleys" is the follow-up to "Love Is Action," the No. 1 hit that held the top spot at radio for eight weeks from his 2017 four song debut EP, Undeclared. The song "Hills And Valleys" is a reminder that no matter where we find ourselves, God is always there. Tauren Wells is a tremendous songwriter and I am a big supporter of his music. Check out his music. I know you will be encouraged.

Uniquely Soulful New Artist

Another new worship artist, Dante Bowe, worship pastor for world renowned worship artist, Eddie James, has released his new single, "Potter and Friend", featuring American Idol Alumni, Jesse Cline. Dante Bowe is a much sought after songwriter and is also the leader of the group "Ultimate



Call". Written by Bowe, "Potter and Friend" has quickly caught the attention of worshippers across the country. "Potter and Friend" is a transparent musical depiction of how God's grace works in our broken lives and makes us whole again. "Potter and Friend" is the lead sin-

gle from Dante Bowe's solo project, Son of a Father, a project based on son-ship, identity and the love of a Heavenly Father." This project was released on March 31, 2017 and is available for download on iTunes and other online retailers.

Kansas City Concert Scene

On May 5, I was privileged to attend the 2017 Most Powerful Voices Concert featuring gospel artists Vashawn Mitchell and Byron Cage. Vashawn opened the concert with some of his greatest hits such as Joy, Greatest Man, Turning Around for Me and No 1 hit, Nobody Greater. Once Vashawn ended his set, you could definitely feel the presence of the Lord in a mighty way. Byron Cage opened his set with the high spirited Faithful to Believe and continued with I Will Bless The Lord, Like No Other and more. Byron ended his set on a high praise with one of his No 1 hits, The Presence of The Lord is Here. This concert is an annual event hosted by Debbie Dee, Gospel 1590 KPRT and held at the St. James United Methodist Church (Kansas City, Mo.).

The Most Powerful Voices Concert is designed to bring awareness to heart disease and stroke. "Heart disease and stroke are major health risk for all people, but African Americans are at particularly high risk." I left this concert encouraged and more knowledgeable on heart disease and stroke. Check your listings next year for this annual event. You will not leave disappointed.

"This is our way of reaching within the Greater Kansas City community and serves as a unique, engaging medium by which we can increase awareness regarding risk factor reduction, building healthier communities, and sustained healthy living in minority communities."

Hands raised to glorify God, how Memphis worship leader Chris Blue won 'The Voice'

by Efrem Graham

A worship leader has won the 12th season of NBC's "The Voice."

Voters crowned Chris Blue the winner, and the worship leader from Tennessee now debuts at No. 1 on Billboard's Hot

STREAMING

continued from page 16

that had moviegoers walking out of the theater singing. It tells the story of Princess Poppy (Anna Kendrick) and her overly optimistic Troll friends, who believe that singing, dancing and hugging are all you need to do to be happy. Unfortunately for them, the ogre-looking Bergens, who live in the same forest, have discovered another path to happiness: eating Trolls.

When the Bergens attack Troll Village and capture all but two of our miniature heroes, all hope seems lost. Can the two remaining Trolls -- Princess Poppy and her friend Branch (Justin Timberlake) -- find and rescue their friends?

Trolls is certainly entertaining, but it comes with some baggage. The scenes with the dreadful-looking Bergens will be too scary for some small children. It also contains four instances of "oh my G-d" -- which is disappointing to hear in a kids' movie.

Finally, parents may want to discuss the source of happiness with their children. Poppy tells us that "happiness is inside" all of us. Really? Scripture (Romans 3:10-11) says just the opposite. I tell my kids that the only source of true joy is Christ.

Gospel Songs chart with his version of Tameala Mann's "Take Me to the King."

Blue first performed the hit song on the show's May 15 episode, competing as a member of coach Alicia Keys' team.

Nielsen Music quickly reported 30,000 downloads sold. It's only the seventh song to debut at No. 1.

Following his win, Blue tweeted thanks to Keys, "The Voice" and God.

Chris credits God and his fiancée, Stephanie Dunkley, for encouraging him to try out for the show.

Dunkley recently underwent a bone cancer transplant to save her life. Chris told the Knoxville News Sentinel it was in that moment a light bulb went off.

"When everything happened with my fiancée and her story, I realized that life was just too short," Blue said. "I would say that really did help push me and helped me overcome the fear and just do it."

Chris' win on "The Voice" comes with a record deal and \$100,000 prize. Ironically,



he was the very last artist selected in the blind audition process.

When "The Voice" host announced Chris' win, he fell to the ground until a family member joined him on stage and helped him to stand. He then quickly put his hands together and lifted them in gratitude to God.

Blue is a Knoxville native and served as a worship leader at Cokesbury United Methodist Church, where Kirk Wynn sang alongside him.

Describing Chris, Wynn told local reporters, "He brings out the best in you as a performer, to just watch him worship, you can't help but want to worship as well."

Every child deserves a loving, caring home. A family they can call their own. A place where they belong. With people who will be there for them always.



Adopt Kansas Kids



• www.adoptKSkids.org • 877-457-5430

Adopt Kansas Kids works to connect foster and approved adoptive families with children throughout Kansas who need adoption. This service is provided by the Kansas Children's Service League through a contract with the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF).

50+ Lifestyles A Guide to Enjoying Life in the Best Years



Keeping muscles healthy living

By Richard Weil, MEd, CDE

George Burns (who lived to be 100) used to say, “If I knew I was going to live this long, I would have taken better care of myself!” It’s true that some individuals are blessed with good genes, and no matter how many unhealthy lifestyle habits they have, they’re going to live into old age. But for the rest of us who might be concerned with quality of life as we age, exercise is one of the keys. Is it ever too late to start? Research proves it’s not.

What happens to muscles as we age?

As many of us have already noticed, muscle mass decreases as we age. Beginning in the fourth decade of life, adults lose 3%-5% of muscle mass per decade, and the decline increases to 1%-2% per year after age 50. Muscle keeps us strong, it burns calories and helps us maintain our weight, and it is also an essential contributor to our balance and bone strength. Without it, we can lose our independence and our mobility.

Is it ever too late to build muscle?

The good news is that muscle mass can increase at any age in response to exercise. In an important study of weight lifting and older adults conducted with 100 male and female residents of a nursing home in Boston (age range: 72 to 98 years of age; average age 87), subjects lifted weights with their legs three times a week for 10 weeks. At the end of the study, there was an increase in thigh mass of 2.7%, walking speed increased 12%, and leg strength increased a whopping 113%! In a similar study of adults 65-79 years old, subjects who lifted weights three times a week for three months increased their walking endurance by 38% (from 25 minutes to 34 minutes) without appreciable increases in mass. Ida Weiss, a 91-year-old participant in the Boston study, had the following to say after the study, “It’s very beneficial for me. Things that I couldn’t do when I came here, I can do now. I didn’t think that I was going to live anymore, but I feel different now.”

Exercise can be invigorating and help build muscle mass at any age.

Can I get stronger without building big muscles?

Importantly, strength isn’t just a function of mass. It’s also a function of something called “neurological patterning.” In layman’s terms, patterning is when the brain sends electrical signals via the nervous system to muscles to make them contract. For example, when you think about walking down the street, bending over to pick something up, or any other movement for that matter, the brain first processes the thought and figures out what muscles are needed to make the move and then sends the signal over the nerves to the particular muscles that are necessary for the movement. The muscles move (and so do you) once the signal reaches them.

The good news is that muscle patterning improves within days of starting a weight-lifting program, even without any increase in muscle mass. This explains the 113% increase in strength experienced by the residents of the nursing home in Boston in the previously cited study. In a different study that specifically investigated this phenomenon, 67- to 81-year-old men lifted weights for six weeks while hooked up to electrodes that meas-



Shortening the distance

Humor a fantastic tool for bridging generations

thecaregiver

By Sarah Jane

“Laughter is the shortest distance between two people.”

- Victor Borge, comedian, conductor and pianist

Mum loves jokes, just like the rest of us. Well, almost all of us. I guess there will come a time when, for Mum and me, humor won’t work anymore.

In the meantime, my mother still gets the daily newspaper delivered to her room at the rest home. Several times a day she studies the headlines, browses a few stories and checks out all the death notices. “I always read the family announcements,” says Mum. “It’s important to see what’s

happening with my contemporaries.” She also shares the occasional comic with whoever’s around.

There’s one comic Mum particularly likes. It’s a series of wry observations on children and parenting called “The Little Things.” It’s nothing more than a few words alongside simple line drawings of children and their exasperated parents.

It’s a great formula for Mum. The whole joke is contained in a single frame with instantly recognizable behaviors. There’s nothing in there that’s much different from when my mother had young children and nothing that relies on recent memory.

A couple of weeks back, Mum was sitting on my sofa, knitting. Her granddaughter, Harriet, was flicking mindlessly through her Facebook feed. “Look, Nanny,” she said. “You might like these.” She shuffled across the room and introduced my mother



to Classical Art Memes: cartoons featuring well-known classical paintings with modern, ironic quotes inserted as text.

The first was a self-portrait by Van Gogh—the one of him with the extra-large ear. The caption read, “When you hear your name in a conversation.” This was followed by Rembrandt’s dark, brooding self-portrait. “If it ain’t Baroque, don’t fix it,” was the caption. Harriet and her grandmother were highly amused. They spent a happy half-hour searching for the best examples they could find.

When Mum’s birthday came

■ Please see HUMOR on next page

Getting a good return on God’s investment in you

By Ron Finke

Each February I participate in the Kingdom Advisors annual conference. Larry Burkett founded the predecessor, Christian Financial Planning Institute, in 1996 to have trained financial advisors ready to offer wise, Biblical advice for Christians everywhere. Ron Blue took the helm in 2003 when Larry died. Other organizations



joined the effort and now Kingdom Advisors is comprised of over 2,200 attorneys, accountants, financial and investment advisors around the U.S.

The importance of this development to benefit the church relates to Jesus’ parable in Matthew 25 of the Master entrusting varying sums of money to three servants according to their abilities. We are responsible to our gracious Master to be working according to His agenda to accomplish His mission here and now, with a view

toward a fantastic eternity with Him. We are responsible for using every resource He has given us, including our finances.

Isn’t it a privilege for us to be able to accomplish His mission by investing our honest labor and resources in areas that interest us? The Christian tradesman practices his craft to God’s glory. The Christian physician practices the healing arts to God’s glory. In such diverse ways, we become the hands, feet, voice, mind, and heart of Jesus serving others and fulfilling His mission on earth as found in Isaiah 61. In the process, He blesses us with everything we need according to Matthew 6:25-34.

Though our pastors do not often teach about wise financial decision-making, we can acknowledge that our temptations fall into several categories. First, our desires for current things and comfort are never-ending. Therefore, we do not save enough for ourselves, much less have a greater amount to share with others.

Second, we can focus on savings and investment returns so much that we are frantic if our accounts do not soar

with the highest results. Proverbs 13:11 advises that gaining money little by little leads to better wealth. We should do our best to make the most we can safely.

Third, when we have larger amounts, we may trust in our retirement account balance rather than in the God Who gave us the ability to earn it and Who owns it all. When each one percent of \$250,000 is \$2,500 and we know what it takes to earn that, we can forget that our security is in God Himself and our lasting riches are in the life to come.

Our financial resources are merely tools enabling us to travel through this life while producing a great return on His investment in us. We certainly want to hear, Well done, good and faithful servant! A Kingdom Advisor should help you clarify these critical issues of life so you will make truly wise decisions. It is not about the money; it is about our return on life.

—Ron Finke is president of Stewardship Capital in Independence. He is a registered investment adviser. Reach him at rcfinke@stewcap.com.

ured their nerve and muscle patterning (an electromyogram machine). The results showed that the men experienced a 25% increase in the patterning of the muscle along with a 35% increase in strength, all without significant increases in size.

So whether it is going to a fitness center or purchasing a few inexpensive weights for home, muscle strength will have positive life-changing effects on your health and longevity.



Don't be a dinosaur!

Tips for avoiding dry skin as Summer arrives

In addition to sunspots and wrinkles, ultraviolet rays from the sun can also cause skin cancer. As older adults have been exposed to sun longer than younger individuals, their chances of experiencing skin damage and



cancer is higher. It's important that they are protecting their skin from UV rays, especially in the summer when the sun is the strongest. There are multiple steps that older adults can take to protect their skin as summer settles in. Here are a few seasonal skin care tips:

Avoid the tanning bed

Most people understand that it is important for them to prevent sunburns, since these are

quite painful and can increase the possibility of skin cancer. However, it is also important to remember that outside and inside tanning also increase the risk of exposure to UV radiation. According to the Skin Cancer Foundation, there are more than 415,000 new cases of skin cancer diagnosed each year related to indoor tanning.

Use sunscreen often

It is highly recommended that seniors use



a sunscreen that has an SPF of 15 or higher prior to going outdoors – for any purpose. Also, if any extended amount of time will be spent participating in outside activities, 30 SPF should be used. However, just applying sunscreen one time will not be enough to fully protect a senior's skin from being damaged by UV rays. It is important that it is reapplied every two hours when any extended time in the sun is planned.

Look for shade

It is important for seniors to have access to shade any time they are outside. This is especially important between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. when the sun



is at its strongest point. Additional accessories such as sun hats and sunglasses will help to further protect a senior's skin.

Moisturize

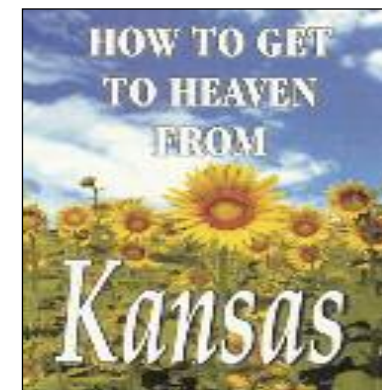
As a person ages, their skin will become drier. Sun damage and hot temperatures can make this much

worse. It is essential to apply a quality moisturizer often. This helps to prevent the loss of water from skin layers. Seniors should also be careful when putting on makeup since there are a number of products that can cause further drying out of the skin.

Treat and repair issues of sun damage

UV light can cause issues such as wrinkles, coarse skin and brown spots, even if a person has never been sunburned. It is essential to use recovery treatments to reverse these signs and there are a number of products on the market that can help with this.

There is no question that spending time outdoors can be fun during the summer months. However, it is important for seniors and their senior caregiver to ensure shade is sought and the senior's skin is well-cared for. This will ensure they do not suffer additional damage.



More important than living in KANSAS is where you will live forever. Just as you would look at a map of KANSAS to find your way, so you must look at the Bible to find your way to heaven. The Bible says, "Narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." (Matt. 7:14). Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (Jn. 14:6). Jesus is the only way to Heaven and He gave these directions on getting there.

1. Realize you are a sinner. Everyone starts the same place spiritually. "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of god." (Rom. 3:23). Sin's penalty keeps you out of Heaven and condemns you to Hell, separating you from God. Romans 6:23 says, "The wages of sin is death." Sin brings both physical & spiritual death. "And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death." (Rev. 20:14).

2. Realize Jesus paid the penalty. Jesus Christ's death, burial, and resurrection provided a way for you to go to heaven and restore your relationship with God. "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Rom. 5:8). Since Jesus, God's Son, was the only One who could pay for our sin, He is the only Way to Heaven.

3. Repent of your sin and receive Jesus as your Savior. In order to go to Heaven from KANSAS, or anywhere else, you must accept Christ by calling on Him in prayer. He tells us in Romans 10:13, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Use the following prayer, or one similar to it, to receive Him now:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner. I believe that you died and rose again for me. Please forgive me of my sin, become Lord of my life, and take me to heaven when I die. I am trusting you completely, and in nothing I can do. Thank you Jesus! Amen.

HUMOR

continued from page 18

'round, Harriet knew exactly what to make—a special collection of classical art memes. "Great idea," I said. But then I warned her against making a book. "Your grandmother will read it once and put it away. You need something like a calendar; something designed to go on display." So Harriet settled on the desk calendar format, spiral-bound, with one classical art

meme for each month of the year. She set to work, choosing the most recognizable art works and culling anything too rude or obscure. It took quite a while.

By the time the calendar had been ordered and arrived, we were already a couple of days post-birthday. Harriet picked it up and hurried to the assisted care home.

To say Mum loved it would be a huge understatement. She adored it. The calendar was so well produced,

Mum was convinced it had been bought ready-made. Harriet tried, but failed, to explain the concept of customized cut-and-paste calendars, but Mum was too busy checking it out.

"I'm delighted," gushed Mum, leafing through the calendar for the third time. Then she flicked back to the start and went through it all over again.

"You know dear," Mum began, "I recognize all of those paintings." She put the calendar down.

"It's lovely! You completely understand my sense of humor."

senior news/events briefs

HARVESTER'S PROGRAM FOR SENIOR CITIZENS - every second Saturday, at Christian Lord Ministries, 2421 SE California. Call 266-4979.

VIP LUNCHEON FOR SENIORS - Every Fri., Noon, North Topeka Baptist Church, 123 NW Gordon. FREE lunch with Christian fellowship, devotions & entertainment provided by Topeka North Outreach. For Info: 286-1370.

MEDICARE MONDAYS - First Monday of every month, 1-3pm. Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library (Menninger Room 206), 1515 SW 10th. Senior health insurance counseling. For info: 580-4545 or nhonl@tscpl.org

LIFEFEEST - First Thu. of the month, 10am-12:30pm, Covenant Baptist Church, 5440 SW 37th St. Notice: Seniors ministering to seniors - celebrating with fellowship, fun, food, learning & entertainment. Potluck lunch at noon. If transportation is needed, call 354-4994 or 478-1729

SENIOR FIT & FUN PROGRAM - every Mon., Wed., & Fri., 1:30pm, Rolling Hills Christian Church, 4530 NW Hiawatha Place (US Hwy 75 & NW 46th St.) 785-286-0601 or office@rhcc.topeka.org

SHEPHERDS CENTER LINE DANCING GROUP - meets 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 2-4:00 at First United Methodist, 6th & Topeka. Park on the WEST side and use the WEST door. Immediately inside, turn left and walk the ramp to the library, then left to the elevator. Push [B] to go to the fellowship hall

SHEPHERDS CENTER HHHS WALKING GROUP - meets 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 9:30-11 at HHHS, 21st & Belle. Parking & entrance for walkers is on the WEST side. Walking is done on an inside track. People who would like to walk a shelter dog must have completed an animal handling class that is given periodically at HHHS—for arrangements call Kelsey Scrinopskie, 233-7325.

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sports

Athletes Keep God at the Center of Their Lives



Reaching coaches and athletes “is a matter of the heart,” according to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), a Kansas City, Missouri-based organization that has spent more than 60 years in faith-based ministry and outreach to athletes, coaches, mentors and others.

Now, the FCA has published a pocket-sized version of its best-selling devotional, “Heart of a Competitor: Daily Devotions for a Winning Attitude,” released April 5, 2017. The “Heart of a Competitor Playbook” contains devotions from the staff of the FCA, as well as from some of today’s top Christian competitors.

“Lord, surround me with other believers who can build me up spiritually and encourage me.”

There is new content from Mike Fisher, a star of the Nashville Predators NHL team — and also from women’s national soccer team standout Tobin Heath

(shown in one of the images at the top of this story), Pittsburgh Pirates manager Clint Hurdle (also pictured in some versions of this story), Longwood University head basketball coach Jayson Gee, and world champion bobsledder Elana Meyers-Taylor.

“Heart of a Competitor’ is one of our most popular devotionals because it helps coaches and athletes keep God at the center of their sports — and their lives,” said Shane Williamson, FCA’s president and CEO, in a media statement. “Coaches and athletes juggle so much, and some things can easily fall by the wayside. But our time with God must never be neglected. Competitors practice, train and give their all to success. Yet to be the best God created us to be, we must also train our hearts.”

He added that “many resources from FCA help coaches and athletes at all levels and of all ages do just that.”

FROM THE CHEAP SEATS

by Rob Mooney

I’ve been trying to watch as much of the NBA playoffs as I can. I have to admit, I’ve probably watched more over the last month than I have at any other time in my life. With that said, here a few observations.

• The Spurs and the Celtics are better than they showed in the Conference Finals. When you lose your top player, (Kawli Leonard – Spurs/ Isiah Thomas – Celtics) it’s going to be hard to win any series, let alone a series against either Golden State or Cleveland. I think that the Warriors and the Cavaliers would have won their series anyway, but each series would have had a little more drama to them.

• The refereeing in the NBA is really bad! I know that there a lot of jokes about a player taking three steps, but I’m not sure what constitutes a foul in the NBA. One time, a player will be mugged



on a layup with no foul, the next time down, the same player will be barely touched on the elbow and he’s shooting two free throws. How many times do you see a player call for a foul or question a call? It happens all the time. I ‘m under the mindset that you shouldn’t argue with a ref, but when you get shoved in the back and you get called for a foul, something is wrong.

• LeBron James is good, really good! He has owned the Eastern Conference for the last seven years. How can one guy go to seven consecutive NBA Finals? He makes everyone on his team better and he holds everyone accountable! That’s the sign of a good leader!

• The 2017 Golden State Warriors just might one of the best teams of all time. Forget about what happens in the Finals against Cleveland, the Warriors are scary

The “Heart of a Competitor” playbook offers 31 deeply felt devotions written by competitors for competitors. Readers — both the serious and the casual — can gain insight into how to handle everyday challenges as well as how to keep God at the center of their lives. This applies not just to their athletic endeavors but to other areas of life as well.

The devotional contains study questions, along with space to record notes and thoughts.

Here’s an example of some of the deeply felt personal material in the book — this exclusive excerpt is from Clint Hurdle of the Pittsburgh Pirates, who shares his own faith journey:

‘Stay Accountable’ by Clint Hurdle

I’ve been involved in the game of baseball most of my life, and one thing I can tell you for certain [is this:] There’s no way individual players can be successful over a

long period of time when they try to do things on their own. I didn’t understand the spiritual nature of that truth until much later in life.

I went to church as a young boy and accepted Christ while in high school. But back then, my personal relationship with Jesus was like an ATM card. I only communicated with Him when I needed something. There was really no accountability to following God’s Word or serving Him.

When I turned 40, I realized I needed to plug back into my relationship with Christ. It was during that part of my journey when I realized that isolation is one of the most dangerous situations in which we can find ourselves. I needed to surround myself with some strong Christian men [who] would keep me accountable to my commitment. For me, that meant becoming more active in my local church

good! They can beat you in several different ways. It’ll be interesting to see how long the team is kept together.

• I believe that the NBA has developed into a two team league, contrary to NBA Commissioner’s Adam Silver statement otherwise. The Warriors and the Cavaliers meeting for the third year in a row in the NBA Finals. That’s what I consider a two horse race. The Celtics are very close. The Rockets are close. There are several teams that will challenge over the next couple of years, but until someone knocks them off, looks like we’re stuck with the Warriors and Cavs!

• Celtics coach Brad Stevens will be the top coach in the league in a couple of years. He may already be there. The guy is a basketball genius and as the Celtics continue to develop, (can you say #1 pick in this year’s draft), they will be the team to dethrone the Cavaliers! I remember when the Celtics hired him away from Butler University and everyone seemed down on it. I guess a lot of sportswriters are eating their words now, huh?

Anyway, it’s been a fun playoff ride. Looking forward to the Finals!

and attending Bible study groups. It also meant getting involved in FCA [the Fellowship of Christian Athletes] and baseball chapel.

We need to stay plugged into something, and that starts with prayer and the reading of God’s word. But we also need other believers to keep us accountable, to challenge us, and to encourage us to stay the course.

Lord, surround me with other believers that can build me up spiritually and challenge and encourage me as I walk this journey with you. I want to stay accountable to my commitment and honor you in everything I do. Amen.

“Heart of a Competitor Playbook” is published in partnership with Revell Books and is available through Baker Publishing Group. The Clint Hurdle material from the book is used by special arrangement with Revell.

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TOURNEYS AND TIDBITS

KTWU 6th ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC – June 12, 11:30 registration, 1pm shotgun start. Topeka Country Club. \$100 per person.

NAWIC GOLF TOURNAMENT – June 16, 11:30-5. Lake Shawnee Golf Course. Foursome scramble. For info: 817-3417

BWW GOLF TOURNAMENT – June 19, 11-6. Topeka Country Club. Tournament benefits Boys & Girls Clubs of Topeka. Four person scramble. Lunch provided. For info: bgctopeka.org/golf-tournament

TOPEKA YOUTH PROJECT GOLF CLASSIC – Jun. 23, Village Greens. 8am shotgun. 7:30 registration. Lunch follows tourney. Cash prizes! Two \$500 closest to pin prizes! Call 273-4141 to register.

25th ANNIVERSARY TOPEKA SOUTH ROTARY GOLF TOURNAMENT – June 23, 11:30-5. Cypress Ridge Golf Club. \$85 per person.

FRANK WALTON CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT – June 24, 7:30am. Shawnee Country Club, 913 SE 29th St, \$100 per player. Benefits Topeka West Football.

GreatLIFE Golf is offering Jr. Golf. Call 660-646-6900 for details.

Firekeeper Golf Course is offering PGA Junior League, a fun, social and inclusive opportunity for boys and girls ages 13 & under to enjoy the game of golf. Participants wear numbered jerseys and play on teams with friends. For info contact the Pro Shop at 785-966-2100, or Michael Powell at mpowell@pbgaming.com

“Concentration comes out of a combination of confidence and hunger.”

– **Arnold Palmer**





Youth Project Tournament supports youth programs in the Topeka area

The 20th Annual Youth Project's Charity Golf Tournament will take place Friday, June 23, 2017, at Village Greens Golf Course, Ozawkie, Kansas. The tournament is sponsored by Reser's Fine Foods.



Registration will begin at 7:30 AM for the 4 Person Scramble format tournament. Breakfast burritos will be furnished along with drinks. A Shotgun start is scheduled to begin at 8:00 AM.

Lunch will be served after the tournament. Prizes will be awarded for 2 flights and 2 places, as well as Men's Longest Drive, Women's Longest Drive and Most Unusual Golfing Attire.

Entry Fees, which include Green Fees, Cart Rental, Beverages and Lunch, are \$400 for a team; or \$425 for a team with a Hole Sponsor Sign. A Hole Sponsor Sign only is \$100. Individual Golfers may enter for \$100.

A Golfer Package is available for \$20 that includes 2 Mulligans, John Daly and 1 attempt at the \$500 hole. There will be two guaranteed payouts of \$500 each for closest to the pin prizes.

Topeka Youth Project (TYP) is a 501 C3 grassroots organization and has been serving the youth in our community since 1983. Their Mission is to empower youth in our community

to become productive and responsible adults by providing constructive opportunities to prevent high risk behaviors.

Jobs For Young Adults (JYA) is the backbone of TYP and has served over 6,000 young adults. JYA is an employment/life skills program with emphasis on drug and alcohol prevention. The youth become productive tax paying citizens in our community.

Youth Court and Youth Council are two other programs that benefit our youth and help prepare them for adulthood.

The funds from the golf tournament go directly to the programs of the Topeka Youth Project, where administration costs are only 10% of the budget. If you would like to support the youth project in our community by participating in the golf tournament, call 273-4141.

Youth Project's 20th Annual Golf Tourney

Call 273-4141 for registration form

Sponsored by Reser's Fine Foods

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4 Person Scramble
 7:30 AM Registration, Breakfast Burritos
8:00 AM Shotgun Start
 Village Greens Golf Course - Ozawkie, KS

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Cash Prizes - 2 flights, 2 places
 Men's Longest Drive, Closest to Pin
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Lunch 11:30-1:30 • Awards at 1:30

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<p>SINGLE UNLIMITED An individual person membership that allows access at 19 participating locations. 7 day advanced tee times.</p>	<p>9 local locations</p> <p>YWCA Fitness Meriden 24/7 Fitness Lake Perry Golf GreatLIFE North Golf & Fitness Prairie View Golf Berkshire Golf & Fitness Western Hills Golf & Fitness Safari Golf Shawnee CC Golf & Fitness</p> <p>\$34.99 per mo.</p>
<p>FAMILY UNLIMITED Married couple or family membership that allows access at 19 participating locations. 14 day advanced tee times</p>	<p>9 local locations</p> <p>YWCA Fitness Meriden 24/7 Fitness Lake Perry Golf GreatLIFE North Golf & Fitness Prairie View Golf Berkshire Golf & Fitness Western Hills Golf & Fitness Safari Golf Shawnee CC Golf & Fitness</p> <p>\$44.99 per mo.</p>

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- 2. CHRISTIAN CAVALRY MINISTRIES INT.**
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785-224-5419 • www.church4bikers.org
Sun. School 9:30 am
Sun. Service 10:45 am
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study 7pm
- 3. TOPEKA BIBLE CHURCH**
1101 SW Mulvane St., Topeka
785-234-5545
Worship: 8:00 - 9:30 & 11am
Sunday School & Bible Studies:
9:30 & 11am
www.discovertbc.com
- 4. NORTHLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
3102 NW Topeka Blvd., Topeka
286-1204
Worship Sun. 8:00, 9:30 & 11am
www.northland.cc
- 5. FAIRLAWN CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**
730 SW Fairlawn Rd., Topeka, KS
(785) 272-6322 • www.FairlawnNaz.org
Sunday Worship: 10:40 am
Adult, Youth & Children's Sun. School 9:15

- 6. FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST**
1912 SW Gage, Topeka, KS
272-0443 www.fsbctopeka.org
Sunday Services:
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- 7. TOPEKA BAPTIST CHURCH**
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4500 SW Gage Blvd., Topeka
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www.topekabaptist.org
- 8. WANAMAKER ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**
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(785) 272-9323 www.wrbctopeka.com
Traditional Sunday Worship 10:30am & 6pm
Sunday School 9am • Wed. Prayer 7pm
- 9. GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH**
310 E 8th St (E. US 56 Hwy)
Overbrook, KS; 785-665-7117
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www.gccinoverbrook.com
office@gccinoverbrook.com
- 10. LORD'S HOUSE CHURCH**
300 SW Roosevelt, Topeka KS 66606
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- 11. COMMUNITY CHURCH**
1819 SW 21st St., Topeka
233-3537 www.CommunityChurchKS.com

- Sun. 9:30am - Sunday School for all ages
Sun. 10:30am - Worship & Word, Children
Wed. 6:30pm - Children, Youth, Adult
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- 12. BUCK CREEK COUNTRY CHURCH**
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5 mi. east of Perry on Hwy 24, 13th & Phillips Rd.
Childrens Sunday School - 8:30 a.m.
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Contacts: Logan Barnett 785-597-5498,
Scott Bond 423-0406, Jack Snavely 760-3513
- 13. WANAMAKER WOODS NAZARENE**
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3501 SW Wanamaker Rd • 273-2248
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Sun. Worship: 9am (Hymns) & 11 am
Children's Worship 9 & 11 am
Sunday School 10 am, all ages
Sun. Evening Various Children's Programs
6 pm Life Groups; 6:30 pm Teen Service
Wed. 6:30 pm Adult & Teen Life Groups
Wed. 6:30 pm Kids University
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- 15. OAKLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
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- 19. SEAMAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**
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Sunday Worship: 10:30am
Children's Sunday School: 10:30am
Youth group 1st & 3rd Sundays 4-6pm
- 20. HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH**
1937 NE Madison St,
Topeka, KS 66616 • 785-506-4594
Pastor Dale Stockburger
Sunday Worship: 10 am and 6pm
Junior Church for kids: Sun 10am
Wed. Evening Worship: 7pm
- 21. HARVEST FAMILY FELLOWSHIP**
Meets at 522 SW Polk
785-220-5418
Pastor Rey Rodriguez
Sun. Worship 10 am
www.topekaharvest.vpweb.com
- 22. NEW CITY LIFE CHURCH**
5221 SW West Drive
Topeka, Kansas 66606
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Pastor Kathy Crofford
- 23. HIGHLAND HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH** 785-379-5642
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WANTED: DELIVERY PERSON - Metro Voice needs someone to help distribute papers to churches and other locations in Topeka for gas money and some other perks involved. Call 235-3340 or email voice@cox.net.

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Room-to-Room Home Additions

Add quality and comfort to your favorite rooms

(Family Features) When considering a home renovation, think outside the box for design inspiration and setting the overall tone.

With homeowners staying in their homes longer due to the economy, renovations should focus on usability and personal style. For those homeowners looking to sell, the market is still very much a buyer's space, so quality additions that increase value are certainly top of mind. Luckily, there's no need knock down walls or move plumbing to make an impact – simply start with small, quality updates to pack a dramatic punch for less money. Here are some ways to add quality and comfort within the

different spaces of your home:

Entryway

As the first thing visitors see, your front door should always provide a good impression, reflecting the beauty that emanates throughout your home. With doors, matching the exterior and interior creates a flow into outdoor living spaces. Using doors as a part of the overall aesthetic can also allow for some creativity with glass accents or bold color choices. Choose a reliable door manufacturer, such as Masonite, that offers a wide breadth of finishes and styles using wood, steel and fiber-glass.



Living Room

Add decorative touches to your living room with repurposed items found around the house. Fill a decorative pitcher or an old tin watering can with fresh flowers from the garden to add elegance to your coffee table. Wrap assorted globe lighting fixtures or mason jars with wire and hang them in a grouping to display votive candles. For an eclectic and shabby chic feel, turn a vintage drawer on end to use as a bookshelf or bring in an old wooden crate to use as a side table.

Kitchen

Refreshing your kitchen doesn't require a major update. Add a new color to existing cabinetry by refinishing or adding a new coat of paint. Would you like to add a glossy shine to the kitchen? Simply apply mesh-back glass tile to fit the dimensions of cabinet door panels. Finish the update with a modern touch by replacing outdated hardware with the many new, stylish options available.

Bathroom

From tiles and countertops to faucets and showerheads, the options are endless for bathroom updates. With wall-hung, stand-alone or pedestal styles, your choices for a new vanity are no exception. During a renovation, some homeowners begin their project by focusing on other bathroom elements like those mentioned above. But starting with the addition of a new vanity, like one of the many beautiful options from Ronbow, will set the stage for your bathroom and provide a focal point for the other design elements.

Rooms throughout

From the master bedroom to the hall entryway, hardwood floors provide the ultimate in beauty and ambiance. Refinishing gives your existing tired, worn out floors an instant upgrade

that shines from room to room.

By focusing on a few quality updates, you can add beauty and comfort to your home to be enjoyed for many years or add value in a competitive housing market. For more design ideas and tips, visit www.ronbow.com or www.masonite.com.



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June Clearance Days at Jackson's

Annette's Tip:
 All the recent rain has refilled ponds and lakes, but gardening has been difficult. There is still plenty of time to plant tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, cantalope, squash, watermelon, sweet potatoes, eggplant and more. Bagworms are hatching and fertlome produces both great organic spray and fast acting insecticides as well. If rains continue throughout June, your lawn will need to be treated with fertlome F-Stop to prevent Brown Patch in your lawn. Remember, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!

June is Clearance Month for annual plants! Savings up to 75%!
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Frankie Valens and Armouraires Quartet to do a show in North Topeka June 3rd

The Armouraires Quartet will appear with Frankie Valens, Legendary 60's and 70's pop icon ("This Magic Moment") and his wife, Phyllis Valens, a concert pianist, as part of a special stop in Topeka for a 2-hour show at Kansas Ave United Methodist Church, 1029 N. Kansas Avenue.



The show will begin at 6 p.m. on June 3, 2017. A Love Offering will be received. It's another chance to hear some great music in the NOTO Arts District. For more information, call (785) 633-0273.

More N. Topeka Happenings

NOTO Fairy Day - Sat Jun 03 2017 at 09:00 am.

For ONE DAY ONLY -- Fairy Day photography is at the NOTO Arts Center (935 N. Kansas Ave., Topeka) on Saturday, June 3rd. Each 20 minute session is \$99 and includes costume, hair and a complimentary 5x7 print.

Perfect for little girls 6 months to 8, but also lovely for teens and young boys. Reservations can fill up quickly so call (785) 218-1279 for your reservation today!

Studio 62 Art Bar is Topeka's newest painting experience, and they have recently relocated to the NOTO Arts District at 907 N Kansas Avenue. Recreate a painting based on one in the studio, or do your own thing, all with an artist on site to help if needed! And you can BYOB!

It's all part of First Friday, which is quite the celebration in North Topeka these days, bringing people to the area in record numbers. Besides the Art Walk in NOTO, other North Topeka businesses have begun joining in and coordinating complementary events. Many are making plans to make 2017 better than ever in NOTO and the entire North Topeka area.

Entertainment can also be found on First Fridays, at various venues during the artwalk up and down the Avenue.

The restaurants, locally owned shops, art galleries and studios have also become favorite art walk destinations.

Here are a few more scheduled events in the North Topeka area:

A MENAGERIE OF THERAPEUTIC ANIMALS - June 2, 5pm, Creations of Hope Gallery, 909 N. Kansas Ave. The exhibit features three artists, who illustrate the healing power of animals in their art. (785) 783-7558. cweeks@valetopeka.org

THE BROWNSTONE GRAND OPENING OPEN HOUSE - June 11, 12-4pm, 4020 NW 25th. Grand Opening of Topeka's newest wedding and event venue. thebrownstonetopeka.com.

CONCERT IN THE PARK SERIES - June 5, 7:30-9pm. The North Topeka Community Band will perform a free concert at Garfield Park

"UNDERSTANDING AND ANSWERING ATHEISM" - June 23, 6-9pm and June 24, 9am-4:30pm, Northland Christian Church, 3102 N.W. Topeka Blvd. A Ravi Zacharias simulcast event. Cost is \$20, which includes a box lunch, snacks and a participant guide. To register, visit www.northland.cc

14TH ANNUAL GALA "Havana Nights" - June 16, Great Overland Station. The evening will include drinks (martinis, mojitos, wine, beer & specialty drinks), and tantalizing Cuban-inspired foods, tapas & coffee bar along with music, dancing, a cigar patio & live auction. Tickets: \$150 or 2 for \$250. Greatoverlandstation.com; 232-5533

CONCERT IN THE PARK SERIES - June 19, 7:30-9pm. Sante Fe Band will perform a free concert at Garfield Park

POCKET MANTRAS ART WORKSHOP - June 23, 2pm, Creations of Hope Gallery, 909 N. Kansas Ave. It is fun and addictive to build your set of "pocket mantras" cards to carry with you, trade, or give as miniature gifts of art. All supplies included. (785) 783-7558