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African
Children's
Choir

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VOICE

FUN UNDER THE STARS
SEE PAGE 19

Pastors Struggle to share their faith, just like the rest of us

July 21st conference set to reinvigorate the Great Commission

By Dwight Widaman

Many Christians struggle with the commandment to go out and evangelize the world, but they would be surprised to find out their pastor feels the same way.

Writing on his blog post, Pastor Chuck Lawless, Dean and Vice-President of Graduate Studies and Ministry Centers at Southeastern Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. says it's true.

"Evangelism is a central task of the Great Commission, but many churches don't do well at this task. In fact," says Lawless, "Many pastors don't evangelize that much."

Lawless says that there are many reasons churches and pastors specifically may seem ineffectual at the Great Commission. Number one he says is we all get cocooned inside our churches. "It's hard tough to reach non-believers when you don't know any." Also, Lawless says that

See GIRL SCOUTS page 21

Faith & Family Night At The K Highlights
A Season of Fun In Kansas City

Center for Global Engagement to honor Burnham legacy

It's been 15 years since Martin Burnham died and Gracia Burnham was injured as the Philippine military attempted to rescue the hostages from militants.

Now, young missionaries will be trained in a new center bearing the Burnham name.

"Martin and Gracia were not your ordinary people," said Joshua Paxton, assistant professor of intercultural studies at Calvary University in south Kansas City. "They counted the cost of what it meant to truly live the kind of life that Jesus calls us to live, and that's what I want the students to see."

The Burnham Center for Global Engagement will effectively create a new department at Calvary.

The center's program and academic offerings are still under development, but it will also bring a missions emphasis week and overseas trips under the same roof, according to Paxton.

THE BURNHAMS

The Burnhams are recognizable names to many at Calvary and beyond.

Both Martin and Gracia Burnham

Martin and Gracia Burnham sit in a plane's cockpit while living in the Philippines as missionaries. -Courtesy photo

Christians resurrect talk of criminal justice reformation

by Evan Wilt

Progress on bipartisan justice policies sought

Christian leaders hope to cut through Washington's partisanship and find common ground on an overlooked crisis: fixing the U.S. criminal justice system.

The United States has a serious

See JUSTICE REFORM page 23

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newsbriefs

Federal court okays Mississippi religious liberty law

(WNS)—The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals gave Mississippi the green light to begin enforcing broad protections for religious liberty adopted by the legislature last year. The law allows county clerks to recuse themselves from issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples



and protects business owners who don't want to provide services for same-sex weddings. The plaintiffs, who claim the measure legalizes discrimination, plan to appeal the decision. A three-judge panel of the 5th Circuit ruled the plaintiffs didn't provide enough proof they would be harmed by the law, a theme echoed by Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) attorney Kevin Theriot: "The sole purpose of this law is to ensure that Mississippians don't live in fear of losing their careers or their businesses simply for affirming marriage as a husband-wife union. Those who filed suit have not and will not be harmed but want to restrict freedom and impose their beliefs on others by ensuring dissenters are left open to the government discrimination that has already occurred in states without protective laws like this one." ADF has defended several business owners against discrimination claims brought by state or local civil rights commissions.

Involved dads save daughters from risky behavior

(WNS)—WNS—Quality time with Dad decreases a daughter's propensity for risky sexual activity, according to a study released in May. The study, published in the journal Developmental Psychology, adds to a host of research that continues to highlight the importance of fathering for daughters. Researchers Danielle DelPriore and Bruce Ellis of the University of Utah, and Gabriel Schlomer of the State University of New York at Albany, found an inverse relationship between the amount of quality fathering a daughter receives and her likelihood for promiscuous sex, unprotected sex, and sex while intoxicated.



A FORMER SATANIC HIGH PRIEST AND
WARLOCK WHO IS NOW SAVED AND SERVES
AS A CHRISTIAN EVANGELIST WILL BE
MINISTERING IN A

5 DAY CONVENTION Evangelist John Ramirez

John was mentored personally by David Wilkerson for 3 years. An author and speaker, John was raised in an impoverished Bronx Ghetto and grew up hating his dad because of his disregard of his family. John eventually found acceptance in new "family" of witches, and warlocks. For 25 years he served his then master Satan with total devotion. He became a follower of Santeria, and Palo Mayombe, a Palero high priest Tata and warlock. He plunged deeply into the occult and was taught how to hate and cast spells even over regions.



God then saved him and called him into the ministry. John is now traveling over America and internationally preaching the Gospel. John has appeared on many TV networks such as the 700 Club, TBN, Church Channel, and Word Channel.

He has written several books including "Out of the Devil's Caldron" and "Unmasking the Devil". His books, DVDs and CDs will be available at the convention.

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Kansas and Missouri in top 20 best places to live

By **Dwight Widaman**

Kansas is the 10th best state in the nation for making a living and Missouri 19th, according to MoneyRates.com.

The website bases its annual rankings on cost of living, state tax burdens, median wages, unemployment rates, and workplace safety.

Analysts used data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the American Tax Foundation, the Council for Community and Economic Research's Cost of Living Index to rank the states in each area.

According to the website, Kansas' biggest strength is affordability. The Sunflower State boasts the eighth-lowest

cost of living of any state.

"States with low costs of living sometimes have struggling economies, but that does not appear to be the case in Kansas because the unemployment rate of 3.8 percent is below the national average," Richard Barrington, a financial analyst for MoneyRates, writes.

Missouri ranked 19 with Nebraska and Iowa ranking 11 and 17.

In fact, Missouri virtually ties Kansas in all categories except for tax rates, with Missouri taxing residents more, which may account for Missouri's poorer showing.

Minnesota, Illinois, Texas, Colorado, Wyoming, Virginia, Ohio, and Michigan round out the top 10.

Hawaii is the worst place to make a living, according to the analysis.

California's high taxation, higher-than-average unemployment rates, and high cost of living earned it a second-worst ranking.

Montana, West Virginia, Vermont, Oregon, South Carolina, Maine, New York, and Mississippi round out worst 10 states to make a living.

Barrington says the difference between the best and worse states could have a meaningful impact on long-term finances and career.

"Think about the lists the next time you consider what a fresh start somewhere else might do for your future," he writes.

METHODIST GREAT PLAINS CONFERENCE TO CONSOLIDATE OFFICES

By **Dwight Widaman**

After a vote of the Great Plains United Methodist Church, the denominations will close offices in Wichita and Lincoln, Neb., maintaining an office in Topeka. Topeka was chosen as the location for a centralized office because of a low cost of living, available office space and proximity to an airport.

"We want to create a culture that is the Great Plains Conference," the Rev. Craig Hauschild, personnel committee chairman, said in a news release. "Cur-

rently we are tethered to three respective areas. It is time for us to not have those tethers."

There isn't an exact timetable for closing the Wichita and Lincoln offices, except that it may happen in 2018.

The decision was made in June at the 2017 annual conference of the Great Plains United Methodist Church in response to shrinking membership numbers within the denomination.

A staffing study conducted earlier this year recommended moving to a single office, and staff members who don't

move to the new office in Topeka will be offered severance packages.

"The consultant advises that one office be given strong consideration because it will allow staff team building, innovation, and cross-fertilization of ideas to begin in new and exciting ways," read part of the report.

The new conference office will move from its current Topeka location on Southwest 15th Street. A new office could be renovated, leased, purchased or built.

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Babies recognize, interact with 'faces' while in the womb



Researchers at a U.K. university say they've found evidence that unborn babies have a penchant for looking at and responding to faces — or, at the least, light patterns that resemble the structure of the human face.

Experts at Lancaster University in Lancaster, U.K., have found that babies respond to face-like shapes — light designs that resemble eyes and a nose. Meanwhile, researchers found that unborn, third-trimester babies ignored random shapes, according to the Telegraph.

The conclusion? Unborn babies prefer to look at facial stimuli more than anything else, according to an article published in the journal "Current Biology."

"In our study they had to move their head to keep looking at the face-like stimulus when we moved it away from them. So, they are active participants in finding information from the environment," psychologist Vincent Reid, a lead researcher, told the Telegraph. "What this means is that other ways of interacting with the fetus can be considered."

The study is important, Reid told The Atlantic, because "this is the first time that anyone's been able to deliver an image to a fetus."

Reid and his team embarked on a fascinating quest in their effort to reach these conclusions. First, they shot dots of light resembling the eyes and mouth of a human face through the walls of the uteri of 39 women who were 34 weeks pregnant.

In stunning fashion, the babies were found to turn their heads to look at these lights. But when the lights were turned upside down, making it harder to see the face, the Telegraph reported that the babies didn't turn to look. The journal article has more:

Reid said that a third-trimester fetus is able to "hear very well" and encouraged parents to read to these babies, as he said it can help with bonding. He also drove home the fact that these unborn babies have the ability to recognize shapes.

"We have now shown that the fetus can distinguish between different shapes, preferring to track face-like over non-face-like shapes," Reid added.

In the end, though, he said that the bias towards the face-like lights could either be hardwired into the human brain or be a reaction to light that a baby routinely sees in the womb, be-

comes used to and then favors later on.

The research seems to drive home the fact that unborn, third-trimester babies prefer to look at human faces or similar structures above anything else.

—WNService

Missourians have almost \$1 billion in unclaimed property

By **Brian Huswirth**

State Treasurer Eric Schmitt (R) has launched an effort to return unclaimed property to Missourians.

Schmitt says more than \$988 million in unclaimed property is waiting to be returned.

"I mean almost \$1 billion of money that we're the custodians of, and we want to make sure we're doing everything we can to financially empower people by getting their money back to them so they can use it how they see fit," Schmitt says.

Schmitt's office is publishing the names of 145,000 unclaimed property owners in more than 100 newspapers across Missouri. The average unclaimed property return is about \$300.

"We had a family actually in St. Charles reach out to us recently; they got \$3,000 in unclaimed property, and it really changed their lives," says Schmitt.

**Check
showmemoney.com
to see if you have
unclaimed property**

"They were able to pay some bills, get back on their feet."

Schmitt encourages you to check showmemoney.com to see if you have unclaimed property.

Schmitt, who was elected in November, says one in ten Missourians has unclaimed property. He says his office is trying to find people where they're at.

Missouri law requires the notices to be published in newspapers annually, in order to list names of people whose unclaimed property valued at \$50 or more has been turned over to the state treasurer's office during the past year.

Schmitt has returned more than \$13 million to about 50,000 account holders since taking office in January.



State Treasurer Eric Schmitt with a check for \$1 million.

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Gov. Eric Greitens' call for special session irks legislators

by **Dwight Widaman**

Governor Eric Greitens is getting grief from both sides of the political aisle over his call for two special sessions so far this summer.

Greitens says he was sent to Jeff City to perform and that legislators are regularly under performing.

In the just-concluded regular general session, Missouri legislators passed 81 bills compared to 151 in a normal year.

Many proposed bills dealing with the health of children, abortion, tax relief, safety and others were left unattended to leading to many to ask "what is the legislature actually doing?"

But Greitens does know what they're doing. The new governor regularly shows up during floor debates in the

both houses of the legislature. He quietly sits in the back of the chambers observing legislators and how they work—or don't work.

Perhaps the first governor to ever do this, it is putting an unusual pressure on elected officials that was previously absent. One former legislator told the Metro Voice that legislators absolutely hate it.

"They feel they're being babysat and don't like the spotlight on their work habits."

Greitens' no-nonsense response is to come back and get to work until the work is done.

The bills included one on abortion, which imposes better protections for women from nefarious doctors and abortion clinics.

During the run-up to his first call for extra legislating, Greitens accused the



Greitens

General Assembly of under performing. "Some career politicians failed to do their jobs and then went home," Greitens said. "That's wrong. We're cancelling their summer vacations and calling a special session to get this done."

Blatant displeasure with the governor's words and actions has been on display over the past weeks.

Democratic Senator Jason Holsman of Kansas City filed a resolution for what a release referred to as "legislation allowing voters to choose a full-time legislature after the current full-time Governor struggles with governing." The release said the measure was a response to governor Greitens' "multiple unextraordinary session calls and media statements indicating additional calls throughout the year."

House member Mike Moon, a conservative Republican from Ash Grove, released a video that many viewers found disturbing.

In it, he cuts off the head of a chicken while noting he was working his summer job when he was called back to Jefferson City. Moon is a farmer by trade.

Standing by their guns, Governor Greitens office responded to criticism from lawmakers over the extra time at the Capitol.

"They're angry that the Governor is shaking up Jefferson City and won't accept their excuses for failure any longer," Greitens' spokesperson Parker Briden said in a statement.

"Temper tantrums from career politicians don't bother us. It's just more evidence that Governor Greitens is an outsider who is doing what he said he would do: taking on politicians in both parties to get results."

newsbriefs

Marriage still relevant

(WNS)—A new report from scholars at Washington's American Enterprise Institute claims young adults succeed when they take traditional routes into marriage and parenthood.

As more Americans delay marriage and choose nontraditional paths, AEI says millennials may want to reevaluate. Young Americans are more likely to economically flourish if they follow the

"success sequence"—getting at least a high school degree, working full-time, and marrying before having any children, in that order.



Millennials are the largest generation in U.S. history and 55 percent of those aged 28-34 had kids before they tied the knot.

Nearly half who had a baby before marriage live in poverty while only 14 percent of those who married first are poor.

Report authors Wendy Williams and W. Bradford Wilcox found 97 percent of millennials who follow the full "success sequence" are not poor by the time they reach their prime young adult years, ages 28-34.

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Royals

Newsboys still rockin' it

The Christian rock band Newsboys promises to deliver a message of hope and love to their faithful crowd in Kansas City Aug. 5 at Kansas City Royals Faith and Family Night. The pop/rock group has, over the last three decades, consistently delivered some of the industry's most exciting live shows, not to mention a slew of radio hits.

It remains no mystery why the Newsboys are still secure at the top of their genre. Now led by dc Talk's Michael Tait

after former lead singer Peter Furler stepped down to focus on his family and pursue other endeavors in



early 2009, Newsboys continue to play fan favorites "Shine," "Breakfast," "Take Me to Your Leader" and "Entertaining Angels" while also producing new music.

As an example, the legendary group recently performed for a sellout crowd in Alabama with lead singer Tait strutting and roaring like a lion as he belted out the anthems, along with new standards from their latest catalog of songs. They even paid tribute to first responders and members of the military.

The band wowed the audience with a vertically tilted percussion set that spun wildly more than 50 feet in the air while veteran drummer Duncan Phillips kept perfect beat.

Their Kansas City stop is a bit of a break from their successful "Love Riot" which will see them performing at 51 venues across the nation.

During a question and answer period before the show, the band received accolades and presents from their adoring fan base which culminated with a tiny child just learning to speak humbling the pre-concert crowd of inquiries by simply asking the band members for a hug. She was quickly swept away onto the stage as her request was embraced

■ See NEWSBOYS on page 9



SCOTT DAWSON
founder of the Scott Dawson Evangelistic Association and the Strength to Stand Conference movement

mythoughts

Safe at Home, an evangelistic event after a Faith and Family Day baseball game, has allowed me to combine what I must do with what I want to do. As an evangelist I must share the Gospel of Jesus Christ whenever and wherever I can. As a father of a son who loved playing baseball I want to attend baseball games. For the past 16 years I have been privileged to partner with professional baseball teams and local churches to combine baseball and the Gospel.

All of us know people that we want to have a personal relationship with Christ but find it difficult to get them to a place or conversation where they hear the message of Christ. These individuals may not currently be interested in visiting my church but would be willing

■ See SAFE AT HOME on next page



2017 FAITH & FAMILY NIGHT Saturday August, 5th



6:15PM FIRST PITCH

The Kansas City Royals will host their annual Faith & Family Night presented by Hobby Lobby on Saturday, August 5 when the Seattle Mariners come to The K. The event will feature a post-game appearance and speech from select players and/or executives, as well as Scott Dawson of Safe at Home, and a post-game concert by Newsboys.

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SAFE AT HOME

continued from page 5

to come to a baseball game and event with me. My desire is to see churches use Safe at Home as a unique tool for their members to do evangelism.

We know the Gospel and baseball create a powerful combination. We love hearing stories of impact after events. One pastor told us... "Family and Faith Night" at Kauffman stadium is something I'll always remember. I was blessed and honored to help lead a young boy named Bryan to Christ. As my heart overflowed with joy and excitement, God used me to encourage and pray for Bryan. The next day as I reflected on what had taken place, I knew that it was a major moment in ministry for me. It was really in my heart to meet with Bryan again and I knew God could and would manifest. In less than 24 hours I came in contact with Bryan again and had the opportunity to meet his father and grandmother. We exchange contact information and a week or so later Bryan was baptized, he is now on his journey to building a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

"We know the Gospel and baseball create a powerful combination"

Another pastor wrote and said "I wanted to thank you for Scott Dawson's evangelistic outreach to our city. We had the privilege of baptizing two souls last summer because of the outreach at Kauffman Stadium at Faith and Family Day. A young man who was attending with his mother trusted Christ at the event and I was able to follow up with them because your event counselor sent me the altar results after the event. He and his mother are still attending our church to this day and growing in Christ."

In our sixth season of partnering with the Royals, the Metro Voice and churches around Kansas City, we continue to pray that Safe at Home never gets routine but that we see this year have the most impact for Christ yet.

Season-long fun and values



Family Fun Sundays: Every Sunday home game will feature interactive kids entertainment, face painters, and caricature or balloon artists in the Outfield Experience. Also, all fans ages 14 and under can run the bases after the game for the Sunday Fun Run (conditions permitting). Get 4 tickets in the View Reserved and \$10 in loaded value per ticket to use for concessions and merchandise as well as a Play Pass for unlimited activities in the Outfield Experience all for just \$100.

Buck Nights: Now on Fridays during the summer! Friday home games from May - August enjoy hot dogs and peanuts for just \$1 each! Presented by Price Chopper.


GordoNation: Cheer on Alex Gordon in his special fan section! On Thursday home games, fans can purchase a \$35 ticket that includes a special edition Charlie Hustle brand "GordoNation" T-shirt, Gordon big head, and seat in the outfield sections in left field.

Jackson County Days: All Jackson County residents can receive a 50% discount on Royals tickets in the Outfield Plaza and View Reserved seating sections to some of the best match-ups during the 2017 season. Bring your valid Missouri driver's license or other form of state identification to the Kauffman Stadium Box Office to purchase tickets. Available game dates: 7/17, 7/19, 8/3, 8/22, 8/23, 8/28, 8/29, 8/30, 9/7, 9/12, 9/26



Active Duty Days: Active-duty and retired military may purchase up to 4 half-price tickets for all regular season games (excluding Marquee game dates) in the Field Plaza, Outfield Plaza, Outfield Box, View Box and View Reserved seating areas. Present valid military ID at Kauffman Stadium Gate C Box Office. (Opening Day and Marquee games include the following dates: /1, 7/15, 7/22, 8/5, 8/19, 9/9, 9/30)

Senior Discount (65+) (Box Office Only): (65+) Senior citizens can enjoy half-priced tickets in the Field Plaza, Outfield Plaza, Outfield Box, View Box and View Reserved seating areas. This offer is available for all home games, excluding Opening Day and Marquee game dates. Present valid identification at the Kauffman Stadium Gate C Box Office. Offer good for 1 discounted ticket per valid ID. (Opening Day and Marquee games include the following dates: 4/10, 4/15, 4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 6/3, 6/24, 7/1, 7/15, 7/22, 8/5, 8/19, 9/9, 9/30).



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ROYALS TRIVIA

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE!

Here are a few Kansas City Royals trivia questions to ponder while we watch the boys in blue climb back into the American League Central race.

1. The Royals inaugural season was 1969, two years before they were originally scheduled to start. There was another team that joined that year which moved after the '69 season. Who were they and what team are they now?

2. The Royals have had two players win the All-Star Game MVP award. Who are they?

3. Who did the Royals face in the 1980 ALCS after winning the Western Division, and before going on to lose the World Series to the Phillies?

4. In what season did the Royals have their first 100 win season?

5. The Royals have had four players win the Rookie of the Year award. Who was the first?

6. The Royals have thrown four no-hitters. Who accounted for two of them?


7. Only two Royals have struck out over 1,000 times in their careers. Name the current Royal who has struck out the most at 1,201 times and counting.

8. Six Royals pitchers have won over 100 career games. Who has won the most at 166?

9. How many times have the Royals won the American League Central Division?

10. On July 24th, 1983, the infamous "Pine Tar" incident occurred in Yankee Stadium in New York. What Yankee pitcher did George Brett hit a two-run home run off of to give the Royals a brief 5-4 lead?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 8




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2) Special
Performance
by KJ-52

3) Testimonies from select
Royals personnel and a
message from
Scott Dawson



4) Special performance by
Newsboys



THINKING BIBLICALLY: As a coach and a parent of young athletes!

By Rod Handley

Coaches possess a tremendous amount of influence. Billy Graham even said that a coach can have a greater influence on the life of a young person, in just one season, than many can have in a lifetime. When I was a young boy, my coaches impacted me significantly. Over forty years later, I still remember their names and faces and specific conversations we had on and off the field. I was fortunate because many of them genuinely cared for me and wanted the best for me and my teammates. In those days, we were more concerned with learning the fundamentals than with winning the games. Sadly, today's sports culture has shifted to a "win at all cost" mentality, even with pre-school kids.

For many years I have challenged coaches, teams and families to pursue character above the "almighty win." Coaches and athletes aren't defined by the scoreboard; they are known by what occurs deep in their souls. Sports and the competition involved can be one of the greatest learning experiences for young people. The physical side with hand eye coordination, foot speed, and strength and conditioning exercises are just a small part of what is involved. Sport has numerous emotional, mental and spiritual lessons to offer including integrity, discipline, self-control, cooperation, teamwork, dedication and many other character traits. And while we should press forward to become bet-



ter in our sport, something bigger and grander exists beyond athletic contests and even their best outcomes.

At our "Faith & Family Day Pastors Gathering" in April 2017, Royals GM Dayton Moore shared how important it is in evaluating talent to understand the character of a player. Key questions include: Who are their friends and mentors? What do they do during their free time? What kind of family do they come from? What is their attitude and work ethic? If you are a coach or a parent, I want to encourage you as school launches this fall to think Biblically as you coach and teach youngsters the importance of character. Here are a couple of suggestions:

1) **Be a leader:** The best type of leader is one who "practices what he preaches." Therefore, your words must match your actions. May the words out

of your mouth be wholesome, positive and encouraging. Abusive words are not appropriate in any situation. Kids respond best when they are encouraged, so catch them doing something well and praise them.

2) **Put the kids and fun first:** Philip-
pians 2:3 says to "consider others needs above those of your own." The kids are the ones playing the game, not you. Allow them to enjoy the game with guidance and instruction. Don't get caught up in the scoreboard, but in the life lessons involved in the game. On recreational teams, allow kids to play different positions so they can experience the game to the fullest.

3) **Keep the "main thing, the main thing":** I have yet to see an NCAA scholarship given out to anyone on an 10th grade team or below, and the chances are highly unlikely you will ever

coach or parent a professional athlete, so chill out. Your focus should be on skill development by teaching the fundamentals and also looking to grow their character. As a parent, I urge you in the ride home after the games to not focus on all the things they did wrong, but instead initiate a free flowing conversation where they feel loved and affirmed. Often, in my car, I have simply said, "I love watching you play" and then letting the conversation take off from there.

4) **Bring Glory to God:** In his book, "Through My Eyes" Tim Tebow notes, "I always thought since God gave these gifts to me, my role in that exchange was to play as hard as I could and continue to give Him the honor and glory for it. To me, that would be the very best way for thanking Him for the ability." He continues, "To me, our Christian witness matters, and it's what people see when they are watching us. When we think we can do less than our best, when we think others are not watching, we're cheating ourselves and the God who created us." Tim's wise words reminds me that our #1 purpose in coaching or playing is to bring glory to God. When this takes place, I can guarantee you the Lord is pleased.

Think Biblically this fall....you and your young athletes will enjoy sports more because of it.

—Rod Handley, is founder/president of Character that Counts

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GORDONATION Thursday home games



Cheer on Alex Gordon in his special fan section! On Thursday home games fans can purchase a \$35 ticket that includes a special edition "GordoNation" T-shirt by Charlie Hustle, an Alex

ROYALS THEME TICKETS DATES FOR THE REST OF THE SEASON

Gordon big head, and a seat in in the Outfield sections in left field.

TECH NIGHT

Thurs., July 20 vs. DET - 7:15 p.m.

In conjunction with the Kansas City Tech Council, join us for the inaugural Tech Night with the Detroit Tigers as we acknowledge the strong tech presence in this community.

MIZZOU NIGHT

Fri., July 21 vs. CWS - 7:15 p.m.

The Kansas City Royals are excited to announce the return of Mizzou Night for the 2017 season! Join your fellow Tiger fans for an evening of big league action to watch your Royals take on the Chicago White Sox.

MARVEL SUPERHERO DAY

Sunday, July 23 vs. CWS - 1:15 p.m.

Join fellow fans in celebrating Marvel Super Hero Day as the Royals play the Chicago White Sox! Purchase the Marvel Super Hero Day Theme Ticket to receive a game ticket and exclusive Royals Captain America Bobblehead.

ARTS DAY

Sun., Aug. 6 vs. SEA - 1:15 p.m.

Come enjoy pre-game festivities in our

Outfield Experience concourse as the Royals showcase various facets of the local art scene. Each Arts Day at The K Theme Ticket provides a \$5 donation to the Arts KC Fund. More details to come.

KU NIGHT

Fri., Aug. 18 vs. CLE - 7:15 p.m.

The Kansas City Royals are excited to announce the return of KU Night for the 2017 season! Join your fellow Jayhawk fans for an evening of big league action to watch your Royals take on the Cleveland Indians.

CLASSIC CAR

SHOW

Sun., Aug. 20 vs. CLE - 1:15 p.m.

The Kansas City Royals invite you to Kauffman Stadium for the 8th Annual Cruise To The K Classic Car Show and Exhibit. Cars will be on display in Lot A and will be exhibited throughout the day.

BARK IN THE PARK

Wed., Aug. 30 vs. TB - 7:15 p.m.

The Kansas City Royals are excited to host Bark at the Park again in 2017! Bark at the Park gives you the chance to sit beside your canine



friend while taking in an evening of Royals baseball. Please note that you must pre-register through this page to attend Bark at The Park or to bring your dog into the stadium.

STAR WARS DAY AT THE K

Sun., Sept. 10 vs. MIN - 1:15 p.m.

Join fellow fans in celebrating Star Wars Day with the Royals vs. the Minnesota Twins! Purchase the Star Wars Day Theme Ticket to receive a game ticket and exclusive Drew Butera TIE Fighter Pilot Bobblehead.



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Photography TIP OF THE MONTH



Kids in Sports?

It's just not practical to hire a professional to take action shots of your kids at every event. Why not do it yourself? Here are some tips. First, if the extent of your equipment is a phone camera, position yourself in as close as you can. When you use the zoom function on the phone you lose quality. Secondly, try for even lighting if possible. The best is an overcast day, though full sun can work fine if you are in a position where there aren't harsh shadows - move around the field until you see your shot. For more tips and info on private lessons so you can better photograph the team, call us!

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TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Seattle Pilots / Milwaukee Brewers
2. Bo Jackson-1989/Eric Hosmer 2016
3. The Royals swept the Yankees, 3-0
4. 1977 - They lost to the Yankees in the ALCS
5. Lou Piniella in the 1969 inaugural season
6. Steve Busby in 1973 & 1974
7. Alex Gordon
8. Paul Splittorff
9. Just once, 2015. They won the American League West title 8 times
10. Rich "Goose" Gossage

COMPILED BY: Rob Mooney. Rob is a lover of all things sports and is a regular writer for the Metro Voice Topeka/NE Kansas Edition.




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FAITH in ACTION

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24302 Mahin Road, P.O. Box 6, La Monte, MO 65337

NEWSBOYS

continued from page 11

by all four bandmates.

When another child of just 10 years old asked the band how they started, Phillips was caught up in the moment and traveled back in time to his youth in Australia where the band formed.

"I started playing drums at age 9 because I liked the sound and fury of that instrument," said Phillips. "Later, I learned why it happened, what it all meant. I now see how I have been used for something much bigger than me."

Phillips talked about how the band was originally seen by some as outcasts and how they have endured. Ironically, Phillips says now they are labeled everything from innovators to old school in the music industry. He talked about how Christian music is like an open source code where groups don't sue one another about melody rights, instead bands share musical ideas because they feel it is for larger cause. He also spoke about the uniqueness of how nearly all denominations of faith can come together and become one voice at their concerts.

"We all know there is something special going on here and we don't take it lightly," Phillips said. "At the same time there is so much joy in what we are called to do. So much has changed since we first started. Most of the bands we started with are gone. It's a special thing what is happening right here and now and we don't take it for granted."

The Newsboys have headlined for more than 30 years. They've sold more than eight million units, amassing eight gold certifications, 33 number one radio hits, four Grammy nominations, two American Music Award nominations and multiple Dove Awards.

"God's Not Dead," Newsboys' chart-topping, platinum single, inspired the 2014 hit film of the same name. The group also appeared in the movie and returned to the big screen to reprise their role in the box office hit sequel, "God's Not Dead 2."

The Newsboys' latest tour release (Love Riot) debuted atop multiple charts, including Billboard's Top Rock Albums chart and Top Alternative Albums chart in 2016.

Though for Newsboys, breaking records and selling albums has never really been its focus. Instead, Michael Tait (lead vocals), along with bandmates Jody Davis (guitars, vocals), Duncan Phillips (drums, percussion) and Jeff Frankenstein (keyboards, production) provide an exhilarating entertainment experience for music fans while sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ in an arena that teenagers, college students and adults feel comfortable inviting their friends to.

That includes Kansas City, where over the years, Newsboys have made a regular stop on national tours. Their loyal local fan base ensures that the band will continue to enjoy great Kansas City barbecue for years to come.



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WORD SEARCH

Q M K M D X B M M T T E C X Y Y N L T K
F I A D Z Z T L W F F G K R Y C L O E C
X D N Q W H F O U N T A I N O A P Q M R
O A S O E X W C I E P U Q F B W S S L E
G E A K O Y S L H Z C L K E F P N B E W
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BASEBALL

BAT

BE ROYAL

BLUE CREW

BOBBLEHEAD

BUBBLE GUM

BULLPEN

CROWN

DUGOUT

FOUNTAIN

GOLD GLOVE

HELMET

HOME RUN

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JOHN NOLTNER

Photographer, peace activist and author of "A Peace of My Mind: American Stories"

myopinion

We each are responsible for being peacemakers

Peace isn't easy, especially in today's world. With the recent attacks in Manchester, Kabul, London and Baghdad, we can quickly become disheartened and think that there is nothing we can do. It becomes easy to become cynical and withdraw from one another. We have forgotten our fundamentals that lead to peace, a peace that surpasses all understanding.

We have lost sight of the God-given common humanity that connects us. We have chosen to focus on our differences rather than the things that unite us, and the consequences are devastating. We have chosen confrontation and contempt over compassion. We are leaning toward separation rather than unity. We have opted for outrage over understanding and it is tearing apart the moral fabric of our society.

In basketball, if you take a group of



relatively unskilled players and drill them on the fundamentals — dribbling, running, passing and shooting — eventually you can field a competitive team. They may not win, but they can hold their own because they are focused on the foundation that will lead to success.

The same is true of our society. If we focus on the fundamentals of communication, respect, and engagement, we can field a winning team. But too often, our default is contempt, derision and spin. We will encounter challenges, no doubt. But we can face them more effectively if we face them together.

How do I know this? Over the past several years, I have driven 40,000 miles across the country trying to rediscover our connection and common ground. In a particularly polarized climate, I have asked people from diverse perspectives to answer the simple question, "What

does peace mean to you?" in an effort to find that thread that unites us.

I've met people like Hashim Garrett, who was picked on as a child in Brooklyn. He was afraid. Eventually he thought if he befriended his tormentors, they might leave him alone, but this started him down a difficult path. These new friends and he started skipping school. They started stealing from area stores and eventually, they started hurting people. When he was 15 years old, Hashim was shot and paralyzed from the waist down. It was when he was lying on the ground, unable to move, that he realized the consequences of the decisions he had made. He now

says, "I want to love those who have not shown me love. I want to be kind to those who may not deserve my kindness."

I met Penina Bowman from Atlanta, who survived the hell of Auschwitz, although her parents and 42 other relatives did not. She said that she stayed together with her two sisters and when one was down, the others would encourage. That support, and her faith got her through. She said, "Interestingly, I did not develop a hate. I don't hate anybody. Hate is a powerful thing and it destroys yourself rather than other people."

And I met Angela Bates, who runs a historical center in Nicodemus, Kan. Nicodemus was settled by freed slaves after the Civil War. There used to be plenty of towns like that west of the Mississippi, but as far as I know, Nicodemus is the only one that remains. Only 16

"All across America, I have found good people who are working to develop relationships and build communities."

residents remained when I visited Nicodemus, all direct descendants of the original settlers, farming wheat and milo on the Kansas prairie. Angela said, "We're living in a land that has not processed the effects of slavery. We tend to forget that we have been terrorists in our own land against our own people." Yet, she adds, "I have a choice. How am I going to react to the world around

■ See PEACEMAKERS page 22

How to overcome loneliness



CLINT DECKER

President and Evangelist with Great Awakenings, Inc.

hopefortoday

Clay Center, Kansas – According to experts in the field of human behavior, loneliness is at epidemic levels. Millions are walking through this dark valley, and every day the numbers are growing.

It may seem odd as to how people could feel so lonely in our modern times. With all the technology available, it may seem an impossibility. But it is true. Social media, television and movies on demand and having an ability to instantly connect with anyone, anywhere do not remove the struggle.

I grew up as a pastor's kid and moved often. My personal fight with loneliness came in my sophomore year of high school. We moved again, and I felt like I could not fit in to the new school in a new town. I responded by

withdrawing to my room. My grades plummeted and my parents became deeply concerned.

Here I was surrounded by people at school, church and my family, but overwhelmed by loneliness.

By no means was my story unique. Loneliness is a common human experience. Why do we feel this way? In an article from Time on this subject, it begins by saying "Humans were not designed to be solitary creatures." The author is partially right. We were not created to live in isolation, but she does not identify who we were created by, which is important.

All of us were created by God. He made you and me. Furthermore, the article did not clarify "solitary." Most writings on loneliness speak of isolation in regard to relationships with other people. That is partially right, too.

Yes, God created human beings to live in relationship with other people... and with Him. Here is a truth. If we do not know God personally or have drifted in our relationship with Him, then we have provided the foundation for loneliness to flourish.

The first step toward victory begins with Him and understanding that He



made us for a purpose. The Scriptures say, "... everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made" (Isaiah 43:7). God made you to know Him and experience the wonder of His beauty and majesty. It is there we are made whole and complete, where there is no loneliness, but abiding joy and peace.

Only one thing keeps us from experiencing this — ourselves. When we purposefully resist God, passively neglect Him, hurt others or put our needs

above those around us, we open the door of our life to loneliness.

Here is the good news, though. Jesus came to save us from ourselves. Through His death and resurrection, He made a way for us to be made whole.

Are you struggling with loneliness? There is hope! Take the step of knowing God and following Jesus Christ with all your heart.

— Clint Decker is President & Evangelist with Great Awakenings, Inc. cdecker@greatawakenings.org

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PLEASE NOTE: Your item must be in by the 3rd Wednesday of each month for following month's issue.

Family Events, Christian Concerts, Theatre, Youth Events, Meetings, Clubs, Bible Studies, Family Fun, Speakers and More!

CONCERTS

MERCYME SUMMER LIGHTS CONCERT. July 7. Providence Medical Center Amphitheater, 633 N. 130th St., Bonner Springs, KS 66012. \$29.50-\$104.50.

PIC AND BOW DAVID SMART. July 7, 7:00 pm. Homer's Coffee House, 7125 West 80th Street, Overland Park, KS 66204. 913-381-6022.

THE AFRICAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR. July 14, 7:00 pm. Harrisonville Community Church, 1606 Chapel Dr., Harrisonville, MO. 816-884-2431.

THE BLACKWOOD BROTHERS. July 14, 7:00 pm. First Church Kearney, 2151 S. Jefferson St., Kearney, MO 64060. 816-628-5583.

THE AFRICAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR. July 16, 7:00 pm. Kansas City Church (Northland Abundant Life Worship Center), 7700 N. Church Rd., Kansas City, MO. 816-781-7559.

MARK & SHIMRIT HANES OF ZEMER LEVAV. July 18, 7:00 pm. Or HaOlam, 9898 W. 95th St., Overland Park, KS. No charge.

THE AFRICAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR. July 23, 6:30 pm. LifeChange Camp, 351 NE 831 Rd., Clinton, MO 64735. 660-694-2528.

PAM & PHIL MORGAN. July 30, 10:00 am. New Springs Community Church, 1800 NE Independence Ave., Lee's Summit, MO. 816-246-7474.

THE DIXIE ECHOES. August 4, 7:00 pm. First Church Kearney, 2151 S. Jefferson St., Kearney, MO 64060. 816-628-5583.

THE BROWERS. August 17, 7:00 pm. First Church Kearney, 2151 S. Jefferson St., Kearney, MO 64060. 816-628-5583.

SOUTHERN GOSPEL (Call for groups)

SWEET SPIRIT & FRIENDS. Will not be having



JULY AFRICAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR. SEE CALENDAR FOR DATES AND LOCATIONS

music outreach for May, June, July and August.

ALPHA OMEGA CHRISTIAN MUSIC ASSOCIATION MONTHLY MEETING, PRAYER, DEVOTION, POTLUCK AND JAM. FIRST FRIDAY, 7pm. 10035 E. Westport Rd., Indep., MO 64052.

MO-KAN GOSPEL MUSIC ASSOCIATION POTLUCK AND JAM. FOURTH FRIDAY (except for Nov. & Dec. when we meet on the 3rd Fri.). Northland Christian Church, 6120 NE 48th St., KCMO. 913-432-0359.

LIVE CHRISTIAN MUSIC VENUE. THIRD FRIDAY, 7:00 pm. Bent Knee Cowboy, 13415 S. 142nd St., Bonner Springs, KS. 913-927-4567.

PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE CHURCH. SECOND SATURDAY, 6pm. 341 S. 72nd St., Kansas City, KS 66111. Praise and Worship songs of Zion. 913-334-1009.

CGMA NW MO CHAPTER MEETING, GOSPEL MUSIC AND POTLUCK. SECOND SATURDAY. Faith Assembly of God Church, South 13 Hwy, Polo, MO. Travel North on I-35 North, go North of Liberty to the Polo/Lathrop Exit. Turn right onto 116 Hwy. Go 12 miles to 13 Hwy. Turn left and go 1/4 mile. pegcla@msn.com.

RADIANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD. LAST SUNDAY, 6:30 p.m. Hwy. 33, Kearney, MO. Open

mile. Gospel sing.

PARADISE BAPTIST CHURCH. SECOND SUNDAY, 6 p.m. Pot luck dinner at 5 p.m. Paradise Missouri. 816-591-1020.

CLASSES, SEMINARS, CONFERENCES

HER CHOICE TO HEAL CLASS AND RECONCILIATION WEEKEND. Begins in August. Are you struggling emotionally and spiritually after having an abortion? If Not For Grace Ministries offers a safe and confidential place to process your

pain and loss. Our next session begins in August. For more information, contact Jama at jedlund@inf.org.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL. July 10-July 14, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm. Victory Temple Christian Life Center, 3301 e. 12TH St., Kansas City, MO 64127. Snacks, games, arts & crafts, Bible lessons, and more! 816-241-4434.

"MAKER FUN FACTORY: CREATED BY GOD, BUILT FOR A PURPOSE. VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL. July 10-14, 6:00 pm. Woods Chapel United Methodist Church, 4725 NE Lakewood Way, Lee's Summit, MO 64064. 3 year olds through 4th grade. 816-795-8848.

AVOID PROBATE SEMINARS. July 11, 7:00 pm. Lewis Living Trust Center, 700 NE Langsford, Lee's Summit, MO 64063. 816-524-3200.

SOUL HEALING WEEKEND. July 14, 6:00 pm-9:00 pm & July 15, 9:00 am-12:00 pm. Colonial Presbyterian Church, 9500 Wornall Road, Kansas City, MO 64114. Registration \$25.

UNDIVIDED MARRIAGE WORKSHOP. July 15, 9:00 am-3:30 pm. Libby Center, 601 NW Libby Lane, Lee's Summit, MO 64063. Workshop will put tools in your toolbox that will help you create, repair, and maintain a healthy, thriving relationship with your spouse.

HERO CENTRAL: DISCOVERING OUR STRENGTH IN GOD VBS. July 16-20, 6:00 pm-8:30 pm. Faith United Methodist, 1950 SW Eagles Parkway, Grain Valley, MO 64029. 816-847-0008.

WORSHIP DANCE INTENSIVE. July 16 through August 4. 10510 Grandview Rd Kansas City, MO 64137. Designed for ages 12 and up seeking individualized instruction. 816-767-9222. info@dra-matictruth.org

■ calendar continued on next page

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(from left) Jim Daly, Focus On The Family; Chuck Seindorf, Knight For Living; John MacArthur, Grace To You; James Hahn, Hope In The Night; Alistair Begg, Truth For Life; Tony Evans, The Alternative with Dr. Tony Evans; James MacDonnell, Walk In The Word; David Jeremiah, Turning Point; Adrian Rogers, Love Worth Finding; Crawford Loritts, Legacy Museum; And More! Visit ERN Online for Program Schedule



JULY 15 **UNDIVIDED MARRIAGE WORKSHOP. 9:00 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M. LIBBY CENTER, 601 N.W. LIBBY LANE, LEE'S SUMMIT, MO 64063**

HERO CENTRAL: DISCOVERING OUR

STRENGTH IN GOD VBS. July 16-July 20, 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm. Faith United Methodist, 1950 SW Eagles Parkway, Grain Valley, MO. 816-847-0008.

SUMMER CAMP. July 17-21, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. Victory Temple Christian Life Church, 3301 E. 12th St., Kansas City, MO. Registration \$10 per child for the week. 816-241-4432.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: GALACTIC STAR-VEYORS. July 17-21, 9:00 am-12:00 pm. Pisgah Baptist Church, 112 Pisgah Drive, Excelsior Springs, MO. 4 years old through 6th grade. 816-630-5121.

FREE CREATIVE KID'S ART CAMP. July 17, 6:30 pm & July 20, 8:30 pm. Northland Baptist Church, 7101 Northwest Waukomis Drive, Kansas City, MO 64151. Open to kids in 1st-6th grade for the 2017-2018 school year. 816-587-2268.

CHRONIC ILLNESS SUPPORT GROUP. July 20, 6:30 pm. Lenexa Baptist Church, 15320 W. 87th St. Pkwy., Lenexa, KS 66219. 913-599-6447.

RIGHT NOW ONE-DAY EVANGELISM CONFERENCE. July 21, 9:00 am-4:00 pm. MBTS Chapel, 5001 N. Oak Trafficway, Kansas City, MO

64118. \$15 per person, includes continental breakfast, lunch, and leader resource pack. Student rate \$10. Sponsored by 1millionstories.org.

SUMMER DAY CAMP. July 24-28, 9:00 am-5:00 pm. Woods Chapel Church Blue Spring, 3609 SW State Route 7, Blue Springs, MO 64015. \$50 for the whole week (scholarships are available), kids in K-6th grade. 816-795-8848.

RAYTOWN CAMPUS VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL. July 24-July 28, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm.

Woods Chapel Church Raytown, 5413 Blue Ridge Cut Off, Raytown, MO. For Pre-K thru 4th grade in fall 2017.

YOUNG ARTIST CAMP. July 24-August 4, 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm (Monday-Friday). 6222 Woodland Ave., Kansas City, MO 64131. Fee \$10, ages 7-11. At the conclusion of the program on Friday, August 4, 2017, students will perform at: Todd Bolender Center of Dance and Creativity, 500 W. Pershing, Kansas City, MO 64108.

AVOID PROBATE SEMINARS. July 25, 7:00 pm. Lewis Living Trust Center, 700 NE Langsford, Lee's Summit, MO 64063. 816-524-3200.

PARENT PRACTICUM. July 25-27, 9:00 am. Westside Church of the Nazarene, 1700 W. Santa Fe St., Olathe, KS 66061. Free 3-day conference for parents. Camps for kids at a minimal fee. www.parentpracticum.com

HERO CENTRAL VBS. July 31-August 4, 9:00 am. Crown Pointe Church, 5950 NE Lakewood Way, Lee's Summit, MO 64064. Kindergarten-6th grade (2016-2017 school year) and Preschool 4-5 years old. 816-795-8777.

DIVORCE CARE. August 4, 7:00 pm. Christ The Rock Church, 13901 E. Noland Ct., Independence, MO 64055. If you are going through a divorce, thinking about a divorce, separated or been divorced for a while, join us as we discover God's

healing through his word. The book used during the classes cost \$20. 816-352-4613.

END OF SUMMER BOOK STUDY THE BAIT OF SATAN. August 9-October 11, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm (Wednesday). Location TBA. Cost is \$15 including the cost of the book.

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT. August 10-11, 8:00 am-5:00 pm. Pleasant Valley Baptist Church, 1600 North 291 Highway, Liberty, MO 64068. World-class speakers, interactive dialogue and practical training. 816-781-5959.

PARENTING SEMINAR - MOTIVATE YOUR CHILD. August 12, 8:30 am. Fellowship Baptist Church, 16900 S. Waverly Rd., Gardner, KS. Special speaker Dr. Scott Turansky and Joanne Miller. 913-856-8454.

RE, ENGAGE KICKOFF. August 16, 6:30 pm-8:00 pm. Pleasant Valley Baptist Church, 1600 North 291 Highway, Liberty, MO 64068. Weekly marriage enrichment program, semester-long study. 816-781-5959.

CHILDREN MINISTRY VOLUNTEER TRAINING. August 19, 10:00 am. Fellowship Baptist Church, 16900 S. Waverly Rd., Gardner, KS. Cost is \$15 which includes lunch. Speaker Ryan Frank and his team from Kidmin Nation. 913-856-8454.

THE WORD ALIVE WITH LYSA TERKEURST. September 22 & 23. First Baptist Raytown, 10500

E. State Route 350, Raytown, MO 64138. \$59 pp.

FREEDOM WITH JENNIE ALLEN. Sept 16, 10:15 A.M - 4 P.M. Legacy Christian Church, Blue Valley Campus, 14301 Metcalf Ave., OPKS. Tickets \$25 includes lunch. 816-246-0707.

SPECIAL CHURCH EVENTS

CONTINUING THE LEGACY: A DAY OF CELEBRATION. July 2. First Baptist Church Raytown, 10500 Raytown Rd., Kansas City, MO. A full morning of celebrating out faith, freedom, and future. 816-353-1994.

SOMETHING TO EAT PACKING PARTY. July 8, 10:00 am. College Church of the Nazarene, 2020 Sheridan St., Olathe, KS 66062. Youthfront's Something to Eat initiative has reached thousands of individuals locally and globally by providing nutritious meals to food-insecure families. The "Packing Party" will last approximately 1 hour. 913-764-4575.

MAZON: A JEWISH RESPONSE TO HUNGER. July 9-13. Congregation Beth Shalom, 14200 Lamar Ave., Overland Park, KS 66223. Interactive traveling exhibit to understand the stark reality of hunger in America. Schedule and reserve

■ calendar continued on next page

2018 CALENDARS ARE HERE!

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your free tickets. Thisishunger.org. 913-647-7282.

PASTOR'S BANQUET. July 14, 6:30 pm. Kansas City Convention Center, 301 W. 13th St., Kansas City, MO. Sponsored by Gideon International. Church leaders, and lay leaders are cordially invited to an evening of dinner, celebration, and praise. www.gideons.org

CAREER TRANSITION. July 14-July 30. Schedule a free 30-minute resume review with a JFS Career Skills & Connections (CSC) professional career coach. Appointments are limited. 913-730-1449.

JERRY & KAYE MEINERS' 23RD ANNUAL PRO-LIFE GOLF CLASSIC. July 24, Shadow Glen Golf Club, Olathe, KS. Registration fee \$330 per golfer. Benefits Vitae Foundations. 573-634-4316

SOCCER CAMP. July 25 - 28, 2017 9:00 a.m. - noon. Leawood Baptist Church, 8200 State Line Road, Leawood, KS. For boys and girls 4-14. Call (913)649-0100 for more info.

COMMUNITY SING-A-LONG AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL. July 26, 6:30 PM. Lone Jack Christian Church, 200 W Lone Jack/LS Road, Lone Jack, MO. Please join us for great music, refreshments, Fellowship and Fun! (816) 697-2370

COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY. July 29, 5:00-8:00 p.m., Leawood Baptist Church, 8200 State Line Road, Leawood, KS. Games. Food. Fun! 913-649-0100

FAITH & FAMILY NIGHT. August 5, 6:15 p.m. Kansas City Royals vs. Seattle Mariners. Pre-



JULY 24

JERRY AND KAYE MEINERS' 23RD ANNUAL PRO-LIFE GOLF CLASSIC, TO BENEFIT VITAE FOUNDATIONS. SHADOW GLEN GOLF CLUB, OLATHE, KS

sented by Hobby Lobby. Post-Game Host: Scott Dawson, Special Performances by: KJ-52 & Newsboys. For orders of 20 or more, please call 816-504-4040, option 4.

SPAGHETTI AND SILENT ACTION. August 4, 7:00 pm. Christ The Rock Church, 13901 E. Noland Ct., Independence, MO 64055. We are raising money for a mission trip to South Africa. Our group is teaming up with Reaching Women's Ministry. 816-352-4613.

DAY OF COMPASSION. August 13, 3:00 pm-7:00 pm. Blue Spring Assembly, 2501 NE Duncan Rd., Blue Springs, MO 64029. This event will help

struggling families to provide the tangible food and supplies they need for their children to start their new school year off with the best success! 816-847-0200.

ST. JOSEPH PRO-LIFE EVENT. October 27. Stoney Creek Conference Center, 1201 N. Woodbine Rd., St. Joseph, MO. Keynote speaker: Dinesh D'Souza. 573-634-4316.

FINE ARTS

CAMP ROCK. Through July 8. Theatre in the Park, 7710 Renner Rd., Shawnee, KS 66218. General admission \$8. Rated G. kcstarlight.com 913-826-3012.

YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND. Through July 9. Quality Hill Playhouse, 303 W. 10th St., Kansas City, MO 64105. Turn back the clock to the 1960's and 70's. 816-421-1700.

GARFIELD: THE MUSICAL WITH CATTITUDE.

Through August 5. The Coterie Theatre, 2450 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, MO 64108. Brand new musical adaptation. 816-474-6552.

DIGNITY VS. DESPAIR: DOROTHEA LANGE AND DEPRESSION-ERA PHOTOGRAPHY, 1933-1941. Through November 26. Nelson-Atkins, 45th and Oak Streets, Kansas City, MO. 816-751-1ART.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST. Saturdays, July 8-22, 7:30 pm. Sundays, July 9-23, 2:00 pm. Thursdays, July 13-20, 7:30 pm. Jewish Community Center, White Theatre, 5801 W. 115th St., Overland Park, KS. 913-327-8054.

THE SNOW QUEEN. July 8. Puppetry Arts Institute, 11025 E. Winner Rd., Independence, MO 64052. www.hazelle.org 816-833-9777.

AN AMERICAN IN PARIS. July 11-16. Starlight Theatre, 4600 Starlight Road, Kansas City, MO 64132. kcstarlight.com 816-363-7827.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST. July 28-August 5. Theatre in the Park, 7710 Renner Rd., Shawnee, KS 66218. General admission \$8. Rated G. kcstarlight.com 913-826-3012.

THE PIANO GUY. August 15, 8:00 pm. Arvest Bank Theatre at the Midland, 1228 Main St., Kansas City, MO 64105. 816-471-9703.

5TH ANNUAL FRENCH ORGAN MUSIC FESTIVAL. August 27, 2:00 pm-5:00 pm. Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 416 W. 12th St., Kansas City, MO 64105. 816-842-0416.

FAMILY OUTINGS

SAVING THE WHITE HOUSE. Truman Library Institute, 500 West US Highway 24, Independence, MO 64050. Peek behind the curtains on the largest White House renovation ever. 816-

268-8200.

OVER THE RAINBOW: TOYS FROM THE LAND OF OZ. Through August 20. The national Museum of Toys and Miniatures, 5235 Oak St., Kansas City, MO 64112. Explore the original literary story and its many retellings. 816-235-8000.

MOTHER ROAD REVISITED. Through September 4. Johnson County Museum, 6305 Lackman Rd. Shawnee, KS. U.S. Route 66. 913-826-2787.

REVOLUTIONS! 1917. Through April 8. National World War I Museum and Memorial, 2 Memorial Drive, Kansas City, MO 64108.

BOOMS & BLOOMS. July 1. Powell Gardens, 1609 NW US Hwy. 50, Kingsville, MO 64061. Fireworks, flowers and fun. Ernest James Zydeco, Lee's Summit Symphony and the wares of various food and drinks vendors. 816-697-2600.

RED, WHITE & ZOO. July 1-July 4. Kansas City Zoo, 6800 Zoo Drive, Kansas City, MO 64132. Active and retired military personnel will receive complimentary admission on July 1-July 4 with valid ID. Family members joining them at the Zoo will also save \$1 off regular admission. 816-595-1234.

INDEPENDENCE DAY. July 4, 9:00 am-4:30 pm. Missouri Town 1855, 8010 E. Park Rd., Lee's Summit, MO 64064. Patriotic speeches, children's games, period cooking, dancing and militia marches are a few of the many interpretive activities. 816-229-8980.

KC RIVERFEST 2017. July 4. Richard L. Berkley Riverfront Park, 1298 Riverfront Dr., Kansas City, MO 64101. 14 of Kansas City's Best Food Trucks & Vendors, Children's bounce houses and craft activities, Two music stages, and Best Fireworks Show in the Region. 816-561-7555.

THE PARENT TRAP (1998). July 7, 6:00 pm. Crown Center, 2450 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, MO. Free Admission. 816-274-8444.

BINGHAM-WAGGONER ANTIQUE & CRAFT FAIR. July 9, 9:00 am-4:00 pm. Bingham Waggoner Estate, 313 W. Pacific, Independence, MO. The Estate will host over 100 antique dealers and crafters. 816-461-3491.

AMELIA EARHART FESTIVAL. July 14 & 15. Atchison, KS. Downtown music, food and craft fair, star-filled outdoor concert, children's activities, carnival, awards and honors, Earhart. 913-367-2427.

REMEMBER THE TITANS. July 21, 6:00 pm. Crown Center, 2450 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, MO. Free Admission. 816-274-8444.

MIAMI COUNTY FAIR & RODEO. July 22-29. Wallace Park, 401 E. Wallace Park Dr., Paola, KS 66071. 913-294-4306.

KANSAS CITY'S BIG PICNIC. July 23, 4:00 pm-

■ calendar continued on next page

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Mark & Shimrit Hanes of Zemer Levav Worship Concert

Tuesday, July 18, 7 P.M.

Zemer Levav (Hebrew: Song of the Heart/pronounced ZEM-er Leh-VAHV) is a Messianic family music ministry team (zemerlevav.org). The Hanes' Biblical lyrics are set to music with a Sephardic (Spanish)/Middle-Eastern flavor. Blending ethnic and folk with both modern and ancient Biblical instruments, Zemer Levav introduces the listener to a fresh and vibrant sound. They worship the G-d of Israel and His Messiah with dancing, and with harp and lyre, flutes and hand drums, singing the Psalms with King David, "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!" Zemer Levav has recorded 3 CD's of original Messianic music; their desire is to create, with their worship, a Holy habitation for Adoni, then draw His people into it and allow G-d to do His work. **No charge, open to the public; an offering will be received with gratitude.**

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JULY 14-15 AMELIA EARTHART, DOWNTOWN ATCHISON, KAN.

8:00 pm. Nelson Atkins, 4525 Oak St., Kansas City, MO. 816-751-1228.

JURASSIC WORLD. July 28, 6:00 pm. Crown Center, 2450 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, MO. Free Admission. 816-274-8444.

JULY JUBILEE. July 29, 7:00 pm. The Whole Person, 3710 Main St., Kansas City, MO 64111. Sponsored by The Whole Person. All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast, flea market, kids corner, art walk and special appearances by KC Wolf and Slugger!

FINDING DORY. August 1, Sunset. Movies in Park, 7710 Renner Road, Shawnee, KS. \$1 per person. 913-826-3012.

BACK TO THE FUTURE. August 4, 6:00 pm. Crown Center, 2450 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, MO. Free Admission. 816-274-8444.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

BUILDING BETTER MOMS. The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, 13720 Roe Ave., Leawood, KS. For local mothers of children in early childhood, elementary school, middle school, high school, and single moms, with both day and evening meeting times available at the Leawood campus. www.cor.org 913-897-0120.

WEEKLY - CHRISTIAN BUSINESS MEN'S COMMITTEE. Meets weekly in various parts of the city. Call Jim Mathis, 913-269-6709, for time and location.

WEEKLY - FAITH BASED 12-STEP PROGRAM OF RECOVERY FROM COMPULSIVE OVEREATING. Call Overeater's Anonymous 913-383-5933 or visit www.kansascityoa.org for more information and to access the schedule of various meetings in the metro area.

MONTHLY - MISSOURI RIGHT TO LIFE CHAPTERS 816-353-4113.

3RD SUNDAY - CANCER SUPPORT GROUP.

6:30-8:00 pm. Beacon Free Baptist Church, 10825 E. 79th Street, Raytown, MO 64138. Connect with others who share your journey, you are not alone. 816-353-7447.

MONDAY - MOMS AND TOTS COMMUNITY. 10:00-11:00 am. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 7851 W. 119th St., Overland Park, KS. A different activity each week - story time, play time, Mom's bible studies and fellowship, or special outing. A great way to connect with other moms and young children. Contact amyviets@holycross-elca.org for more info.

MONDAY - HEALING ROOMS MINISTRIES. 3:00-6:00 pm. Healing Rooms of Olathe, 1548 E Spruce, Olathe, KS 66061. M-T-W by appointment. www.healingroomsofolathe.com 913-563-2413.

MONDAY - HEALING ROOMS MINISTRIES. 4:00-6:00 pm. Hope City, 5101E. 24th St., KCMO.

2ND MONDAY - PRAYER FOR AMERICA. 10:30 AM. Pleasant Valley Baptist Church, 1600 N. 291 Hwy., Liberty, MO (I-35 & 291 Hwy.).

2ND & 4TH MONDAY - MOPS. 9:30 a.m. MOPS. First Baptist Raytown, 10500 E 350 Highway, Raytown, MO Support groups for mothers of preschool-aged children. Offers creative activities, social events & learning opportunities. 816-353-1994.

TUESDAY - 13 WEEK PROGRAM. DIVORCE-CARE AND DIVORCECARE4KIDS. 6:30 pm-8:00 pm. Timothy Lutheran Church, 425 NW RD Mize Road, Room 102, Blue Springs, MO. Participants become part of a small support group of people who are also experiencing separation and divorce. A program for children whose parents are separated or divorced, children between the ages of 5 and 12. 816-228-5300.

TUESDAY - IF NOT FOR GRACE PRAYER. 9:30 am. Crown Pointe Church, 5950 NE Lakewood Way, Lee's Summit, MO 64086. kmiller@infgr.org

TUESDAY - FEAR NOT SUPPORT GROUP. 7:00 pm-8:30 pm. Lakeland Community Church, 913 NW Colbern Rd., Lee's Summit, MO. Christ-Centered support group for anxiety and depression. Material based on the Christian 12 Steps; Serenity Prayer also Anxiety Centre "The Anxiety/Phobia Workbook" by Edmund Bourne.

TUESDAY - CELEBRATE RECOVERY. 7:00 pm. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 7851 W. 119th St., Overland Park, KS. This 12-step Christ centered program. Drop in any Tuesday! Contact Craig Hauser, 913-449-7265 for more info.

TUESDAY - HEARTLAND HEALING ROOMS. 7:00-8:30 pm. Christ Triumphant Church, 401 NE Chipman Rd., Lee's Summit, MO. www.heartlandhealingrooms.org.

TUESDAY - ISRAELI FOLK DANCE. 7:00 pm-9:00 pm. The Jewish Community Center, Studio 3, 5801 W. 115th St., Leawood, KS. \$3 Adults and teens welcome. 7:00 pm-8:00 pm: Beginning/Intermediate Dance, 8:00 pm-9:00 pm: Intermediate/Advanced Dance. 913-327-8000.

1ST TUESDAY - CREATION SCIENCE ASSOCIATION FOR MID-AMERICA. 7 p.m., Westbrooke Church, 9777 Antioch, Overland Park, KS. Presentation followed by Q&A; Answers to your questions regarding Science and the Bible; "Creation Safaris" (Res. Req'd); www.csama.org (includes link to FB page) 816-246-4517.

1ST & 3RD TUESDAY - FIBROMYALGIA SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS, 7:00 pm., Life Springs Church, Neos Youth Center, 206 N. Webster St., Suite 112, Spring Hill, KS. Contact Kim: fibrohopeandhealing@yahoo.com or

337-852-5052.

1ST & 3RD TUESDAY - GRIEFSHARE. 7-8:30pm. Timothy Lutheran Ministries, 425 NW RD Mize Rd., Blue Springs, MO. 816-228-5300.

2ND TUESDAY - EQUIPPING BELIEVERS MID-WEST. 7:00 pm. Blue Spring, Hampton Inn, 900 NW S. Outer Rd., Blue Springs, MO 64015. Free Prayer for healing and freedom from addiction, Free training to heal the sick, evangelize the lost, set the oppressed free. 913-488-6749.

2ND & 4TH TUESDAY - "WINGS OF HOPE". Blue Springs Christian Church, 7920 S. 7 Hwy, Blue Springs, MO. A Christian based ministry to provide support for families grieving loss through miscarriage or infant death, because every life matters. Email:

wingsofhope@bscc.org.

2ND & 4TH TUESDAY - MOPS. 9:00 am. Emmanuel Baptist Church, 10100 Metcalf Ave., Overland Park, KS. 913-649-0900.

3RD TUESDAY - LUNCH & LEARN. 12:00 pm. KC First Church of Nazarene, 11811 State Line Rd. Kansas City, MO 64114. Each session will focus on a different geographical area or skill set. Please bring your own sack lunch; desserts and beverages will be provided. 816-942-9022.

WEDNESDAY - HEALING ROOMS MINISTRIES. 1:30-3:00 pm. Hope City, 5101 E. 24th St., KCMO.

For full list of events visit
metrovoicenews.com

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SERVICES

Wednesday
 Intercessory Prayer 5:00 PM
 Evangelistic (Vesper) Service 6:30 PM
 Evening Bible Study 7:00 PM
 Youth Department Meeting 7:00 PM

Sunday
 Intercessory Prayer 8:00 AM
 Sunday School, Relationship Class 9:00 AM
 Praise & Worship 10:00 AM

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 AWANA 6:30 PM, Youth Group 6:30 AM

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entertainment

Cars 3 family friendly, offers many life lessons

moviereview

by **Michael Foust**

Remember Lightning McQueen -- the Piston Cup racecar champion who nearly always won and "ate losers for breakfast"?

Of course. Everyone does. Except Lightning McQueen.

"Did I used to say that?" he asks at the beginning of the new movie Cars 3 (G), struggling to recall his boast-filled winning days.

Sadly, time has caught up with our beloved hero. He's still funny, yes, but he's no longer fast -- at least not as fast as rookie sensation Jackson Storm, who is using the latest technology to win race after race. Lightning (voiced by Owen Wilson) tops out around 198 mph. And Storm? He's zooming along at 210.

"Enjoy your retirement!" Storm tells him.

It's like watching an aging Muhammad Ali. Or Michael Jordan. Or even Peyton Manning.

Things go from bad to worse when Lightning blows a tire and suffers a horrific, season-ending crash that sends him back to Radiator Springs. Sure, most talking racecars would have called it quits, but this is Lightning McQueen. He's going to regain the magic and get back to his winning ways ... right?

An energetic female trainer named Cruz Ramirez (Cristela Alonzo) -- who had dreams as a young girl of being a racecar driver -- is given the task of get-

■ See CARS 3 page 18



movienews

Notable July Movies at the Box Office

Spider-Man: Homecoming (PG-13 / July 7) - We've all heard of reboots. But a reboot of a reboot? That's what Sony and Marvel will give us with the latest Spider-Man film, which is the sixth live-action movie and the second reboot in the past 15 years based on "Spidey." This one stars Tom Holland as Peter Parker/Spider-Man as he seeks to balance high school life with his world-saving chores. Rated PG-13 for sci-fi action violence, some language and brief suggestive comments.



Dunkirk (PG-13 / July 21) - Ever wondered what a movie with very little dialogue would look like? We're going to find out when Dunkirk -- based on a largely forgotten Allied evacuation during World War II -- is released. Director Christopher Nolan, who also helmed the mind-bending films Inception and Interstellar, told a British newspaper earlier this year that Dunkirk would be unique in having few spoken words. The story, he added, would be told through the on-screen action. Rated PG-13 for intense war experience and some language.



Notable DVD Releases

Is Genesis History? - The popular Bible-based documentary that sold out theaters earlier this year is now on DVD and streaming on Netflix. Host Del Tackett -- well known for his work on Focus on the Family's The Truth Project -- examines the scientific evidence for the Genesis account of the Creation and the Flood. More than 15 experts are interviewed who counter the popular pro-evolutionary narrative.



Summer fun, baseball and plenty of music to boot

musicscene

I hope everyone starts their month off by having a safe and fun Fourth of July. July is the month where families and friends get together to celebrate the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, also known as the birth of the United States, which was signed on July 4, 1776. I encourage you to get some sun, watch the fireworks and create a playlist of your favorite Christian artists. Also, I would like to thank each of you



Cedric Austin

for being faithful readers of Metro Voice.

Faith And Family Night

The Kansas City Royals will host their annual Faith & Family Night at Kauffman Stadium on Saturday, Aug. 5, at 6:15 p.m.

The event will feature Scott Dawson of Safe at Home and testimonies from select players as well as a post-game con-



cert by Newsboys. You do not want to hear how amazing it was from all your friends. You want to be there and see it for yourself! Secure your tickets at Royals.com/faith. Metro Voice is proud to be a community sponsor.

July New Releases

Anthony Brown & group therapy, "A Long Way From Sunday", Tyscot, Prov-



■ See MUSIC on page 21

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

streaming

'Rogue One' tops new streaming charts this month



by **Michael Foust**

If you ever want to have an engaging debate with a Star Wars fan, then just ask them to rank all eight films, from best to worst.

It often goes something like this: A New Hope (1977) and The Empire Strikes Back (1980) are either No. 1 or 2, The Phantom Menace (1999) is dead last, and the other films are somewhere in between. But where? And what about the newest ones?

Netflix members can enter the debate July 18 when Rogue One (PG-13), which opened in theaters just eight months ago, begins streaming. It will mark the first time that a Star Wars live-action film has been on Netflix and, in fact, the first time one has been on a streaming membership platform (Netflix, Amazon Prime, Hulu) of any kind. Remember: It wasn't until 2015 that the movies could be purchased for streaming.

In case you're just catching up, Rogue One is a stand-alone or spin-off film that chronologically falls just prior to the events of A New Hope. It tells the story of Jyn Erso, a determined young woman whose father just happens to be the scientist who designed the planet-destroying Death Star.

But don't hold that against her dad. He was a reluctant accomplice who did something no one could have done -- he intentionally designed it with a flaw.

"I've placed a weakness deep into the system," he tells her in a hologram message.

That's where Jyn comes in. She and her motley assistants set out to steal the Death Star blueprints and deliver them to the good guys -- the Rebels -- so that this monstrosity can be destroyed before the galaxy is forever changed. (Luke Skywalker enters the story arc here, although you'll have to watch A New Hope for that.)

■ See STREAMING on page 18

New this month:

Netflix

Lion (PG-13, 2016) - Twenty-five years after being adopted off the streets of Calcutta, India, a man sets out to find his biological family. Rated PG-13 for thematic material and some sensuality. July 9

Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa (PG, 2008) - Four animals who escaped the Central Park Zoo try to make it on their own in Africa. One of the funniest animated films I've seen. Rated PG for some mild crude humor. July 1.

Amazon Prime

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (PG, 2005) - Five children win a trip to tour a chocolate factory, led by the eccentric Willy Wonka (Johnny Depp). Rated PG for quirky situations, action and mild language. July 1.



Eight Men Out (PG, 1988) - Eight players on the 1919 Chicago White Sox team agree to fix and lose the World Series in one of the biggest gambling-sports controversies ever. Based on a true story. Rated PG for language. July 1.

The Hunt for Red October (PG, 1990). Set in the Cold War, a Soviet Union captain goes rogue and sails his submarine straight toward the United States. Rated PG for action violence and some language. July 1.

Star Trek movies I through IX (ratings vary, from PG to PG-13). Science fiction fans rejoice! This month on Amazon Prime, watch the first nine films in the Star Trek film series, from 1979's Star Trek: The Motion Picture through 1998's Star Trek: Insurrection. July 1.

Hulu



Glory (R, 1989). Based on a true story, the 54th Massachusetts Regiment becomes the first African-American volunteer company to fight in the Civil War. No sexuality, but rated R for violence and some language (including racial slurs). July 1.

Eight Men Out (PG, 1988) - See above. July 1.

The Hunt for Red October (PG, 1990). See above. July 1.

Star Trek movies I through VI (All rated PG). Beam me up. July 1.

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Kutcher's Netflix show makes bold stand for life

by CBNNews

A popular show on Netflix tackles hot-button issues like pregnancy and abortion, but not in the way anyone expected.

Ashton Kutcher plays a football player named Colt Bennett on the Netflix show "The Ranch."

Colt gets his ex-girlfriend Heather pregnant and suddenly faces a life-or-death decision.

Instead of pressuring Heather to have an abortion, Colt puts life first.

"I want you to know this kid will absolutely be my first priority," he says to her.

"You, you're going to be a great mom. And I'm going to be a great dad. And the three of us, we'll make a great family," Colt says.

However, Heather has other plans and says she isn't ready to be a mother.

Colt reminds Heather that what's most important is the child's life.

"It's not about what I want anymore, this isn't about me, it's about this kid,



Heather (played by Kelli Goss) with Colt (Ashton Kutcher).

and we're going to have to make sacrifices," he responds.

Colt even goes as far as saying abortion is morally wrong.

"This is wrong," Colt tells Heather. "You can't just take the easy way out."

Heather is relentless and decides to have an abortion anyway. Colt's gentleness and concern for the child eventually softens Heather's heart and she rejects abortion at the last minute.

"I can't. I can't do this," she says. "I thought it's what I wanted but, now that I'm here and it's all happening..."

Audiences are calling the show "rev-

olutionary", especially since the pro-life voice is rarely heard in Hollywood.

Kutcher believes it is time to take a fresh look at issues like abortion in the entertainment industry.

The pro-life plot broke the mold in today's world, where even Gilmore Girls is toying with the idea of abortion. In 2015, ABC's Scandal showed an abortion scene to the tune of "Silent Night," and, in 2016, shows like Jane the Virgin, Crazy Ex-Girlfriend and You're the Worst also included women who went through with abortion.

Hollywood is also churning out abortion films (unless they shine a negative light on abortion), from Grandma in 2015, which the liberal media lauded as "funny," to Obvious Child in 2014, which film writers praised as an "abortion romantic comedy."

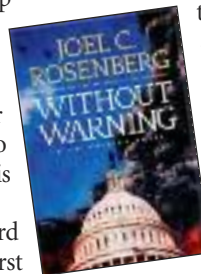
The Ranch's pro-life plotline, in contrast, hasn't received much notice from the media. Except, that is, from an IndieWire TV critic who decried the show's "cop-out" after an "admirable set-up" for an abortion.

'Without Warning' concludes series

bookreview

After several devastating attacks on United States soil, the American president refuses to turn up the heat against the Islamic State, prompting J.B. Collins, a foreign correspondent for the New York Times, to take matters into his own hands.

Following The Third Target and The First Hostage (both of which were released in 2015), Joel C. Rosenberg opens his latest political thriller, Without Warning (Tyndale House Publishers), with Collins still gravely concerned with America's stance against ISIS. That concern deepens after he tries appealing to President Taylor, whom he has a personal history, to change the weak language in his upcoming State of the Union address.



Over the past year, Collins has been the point man on all coverage pertaining to ISIS. In fact, he's the only westerner to have met with the terror group's leader, Abu Kahlif, in person.

It was Collins who broke the news to the world that ISIS had captured and smuggled chemical weapons out of Syria. And he sat across the table from Kahlif when he vowed to destroy America. He also accurately reported the likelihood of another planned attack ISIS was coordinating, which was ignored by the president and various U.S. intelligence agencies, only to turn out to be devastatingly true.

All of that has led to Collins having a deep understanding of the Islamic State, their leader, and what it is, exactly, they are trying to accomplish. So when he drops the formalities and appeals to the president in person, asking him to stop telling American citizens that ISIS is "on the run," and that America is "winning" the fight against them, it

■ See BOOK page 18

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Fun under the stars

by **Anita Widaman**

Summer evenings in Kansas City can be 55–90 degrees. You just never know. But, if you have lived here long, the heat will never keep you from the abundance of activities you can enjoy “Under the Stars” this summer in

■ See STARS page 23



Art field trips and mission trips for education and fun

by **Sharon Jeffus**

Experiencing learning first hand through a field trip or camp experience is a wonderful tool for homeschool families. Most art museums are free or inexpensive. At a young age, children can



learn by describing and verbalizing about the paintings and asking questions. The younger the child, the shorter the attention span so looking at a variety of historical paintings can be a delightful and memorable experience for the whole family. Children learn history, art and culture simultaneously. Be sure and research the museum and any traveling shows that might be there, remembering that a child's mind is like a camera. You don't want to introduce them to any negative or horrifying images but want their experience to be positive and delightful. Here are some fun suggestions;

1. Put a sketch pad and pencil or



crayon into each backpack. Choose some paintings for kids to replicate or draw how the painting makes them feel. With older students you may want to talk about perspective and some of the elements and principles of art and have them copy or do their interpretation of

■ See FIELD TRIPS page 22

the Y

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How going to church extends your life

By Lorie Wilson

Once again, things the Bible says will improve our spiritual life are being scientifically proven to improve our physical health as well.

The latest is church attendance. The Bible tells Christian believers not to neglect meeting together (Hebrews 10). Now, research out of Vanderbilt University shows that people who regularly attend worship services actually live longer than those who don't.

Professor Marino Bruce, Associate Professor of Medicine, Health and Society, who is also a Baptist pastor, co-authored the study.

He says the data shows that regular church attendance is par-



Just one drink?

Age-old debate for Christians may have a valid medical response

While the age-old debate about Christians drinking continues, new research shows it's just not good for you.

Scientists have known for a while now that alcohol is a carcinogen just like tar in cigarettes. But what's new is how very little alcohol raises the risk of cancer. Meanwhile, exercise, especially vigorous exercise, greatly reduces that risk.

When it comes to breast cancer, new research shows drinking just a tiny amount significantly raises the risk. According to a report by the American Institute for Cancer Research (AICR) and the World Cancer Research Fund drinking just 10 grams of alcohol a day can increase the risk of breast cancer in older women (postmenopausal) by 9% and younger women (premenopausal) by 5%. Ten grams is .35 ounces. A standard drink has 14 grams of alcohol. Research shows more alcohol is even more damaging.

The amount of alcohol in a drink varies, depending on the type. For example, 10 grams is in one beer, a small glass of wine and one ounce of liquor.

■ See DRINK on page 22

Changing face of caregivers

thecaregiver

By CBNNews

The face of the United States is changing with shifting demographics and majorities. And those changes aren't solely along racial, ethnic or religious lines.

Today, men make up about 40 percent of America's 40 million caregivers — a role traditionally viewed as predominantly female.

In 2015, Jonathan Hayden, 40, of Washington, D.C., became the caregiver for his father, who was diagnosed with mild cognitive impairment that would eventually develop into a form of memory loss called Lewy body dementia.

"I tend to think that he's had signs of it for a long time. He's never been much for remembering things," he told CBN News.

Hayden represents a changing demographic among people caring for relatives. Today, men account for between 40 to 45 percent of caregivers in the U.S.

In 1996, the number was only 19 percent.



"Men are doing things like providing help with bathing, dressing, eating, as well as giving injections or helping with wound care," said Jean Accius, vice president of independent living/long-term services and support for AARP. "These are things you may not typically think about a male family caregiver would be doing."

Hayden admits taking care of his father, a retired Episcopal priest, has been an emotional challenge, both in terms of his father's memory loss and dealing with his sometimes combative personality.

■ See CAREGIVER 22

Stronger security filters and tax refund processing

taxtips

By Peggy Beasterfield

Owner, Peggy's Tax and Accounting Service

With so many millennials moving back home with mom and dad, the question of whether or not adult children living with their parents can be claimed as dependents is a hot topic.

On the other side of the generational divide, and affecting at least as many people, is the question of whether or not parents can be claimed as dependents on their children's returns.

"If you are assuming the day-to-day care and financial support of a parent and that parent qualifies as a dependent, you may be eligible to claim additional tax benefits," said John Dundon, EA, an enrolled agent tax expert in Englewood,

CoL. "In fact, your parents can live in their own home or in a retirement community and still be legally claimed as dependents — so long as they meet IRS's requirements for a dependent."

Dundon lists the following criteria that must be met before parents can be claimed as dependents.

- He or she must be legally recognized as your parent, either biologically or by adoption.
- For 2016, all dependent relatives must have less than \$4,050 in gross taxable income to qualify.
- He or she must receive more than 50 percent of all financial support from you.
- Your parent must be a U.S. citizen or a resident of Canada or Mexico.
- He or she must not be required to file a federal income tax return. If your parent is under 65 and filing Single, they must file a return if their income is at least \$10,350; filing Single and over 65,



at least \$11,900; Married Filing Jointly and under 65, at least \$20,700; Married Filing Jointly and over 65, at least \$21,950. He or she can't file a joint return with a spouse for any purpose other than to receive a tax refund.

Note that if you wish to claim both parents, they must both meet the criteria listed above.

If you paid for your parent's medical care, you may be able to deduct those expenses as itemized deductions. Even if your parent doesn't meet the income requirement for dependents, medical expenses may still be claimed if you provide 50 percent of their support.

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MUSIC

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ident Records

Bright City, "Hello Maker", Bright City Collective, SHOUT Music

Greater Vision, "Still", Daywind Records - New Day

Manafest, "Stones", Fuel Music, New Day

Le'Andria Johnson, "Bigger Than Me", RCA Inspiration, Provident Records

Maranatha - Heart of Worship Hymns, Capitol Records

Bryan Popin, "I Got Out", Fuel Music, New Day

Gold City, "Treasures Of Gold", New Haven Records, Provident Records

Hillsong

Who is Hillsong? This is most likely a question you will never be asked. Hillsong has been taking the Christian music industry by storm since the drop of their first album titled The Power of Your Love in 1992. Hillsong United formed in 1998 as part of Hillsong Church's youth ministry. The band consists of several rotating worship leaders from the church. United has since released several live and studio albums. Their latest studio album is titled, "Wonder". After listening to this album, I cannot find a single song I do not love. One of my favorite songs on the album is, "So Will I (100 Billion X)." The line that spoke most to me from this song was, "and as you speak, a hundred billion failures disappear." This album is definitely one



GREATER VISION

that should be on your summer playlist. My other picks to listen to on this new album are Wonder, Not Today and Shadow Step. I wouldn't quite say that many of these songs would be usable for your worship team needs, but I will say you will definitely enjoy them for your listening pleasure.

Southern Gospel Royalty

"For a quarter of a century, Greater Vision has inspired audiences with their rich vocal blend and their effective ability to communicate the message of the gospel. They have established a firm place at the pinnacle of Christian music, and have become the most awarded trio in the history of gospel music." For those of us who love southern gospel music, we are

never disappointed by the sound or lyrics that Greater Vision has brought in years past. Not only is Greater Vision releasing a new album, but we will also enjoy the added baritone voice of Jon Epley. He has traveled with The Inspirations, The Ball Brothers, and the LeFevre Quartet. Be on the lookout for "Still," which will be released by Daywind Records in July.

Gospel Music on Another Level

Anthony Brown is an urban contemporary gospel artist and musician.

Anthony has had a lot of influences. As a young man he was really excited about classical music. He studied Chopin, Handel, Bach, and other great performers. Anthony thought the level of musicianship was pretty amazing. In gospel music he would attribute the Hawkins family, Andrae Crouch and the Clark Sisters as being pretty influential in his music. When asked to define his music style he says, "it's a balance between gospel, classical, jazz, even theater. It is music wrapped up in the message of love and hope. I don't like to classify it just as gospel or Christian music. I think it is just music, but the message behind it is definitely one of love and hope." Anthony started his music career in 2012 with the release of Anthony Brown & group therAPy. The hit song from that album which seemed to play on every radio station around the country was Testimony. Besides Testimony, some of Anthony Brown & group therAPy's other hits are Do It Again, Water, Trust In You and the chart topping Worth. Every choir I know has sung Worth a time or two. Do yourself a favor. Run out and buy or download on any digital platform Anthony Brown & group therAPy's new album, A Long Way From Sun-

Conference will help you share your faith

FAITH

continued from page 1

many people don't feel a natural propensity for outreach.

A Barna Research study reported, "When asked if they have a personal responsibility to share their faith with others, 73 percent of born again Christians said yes. When this conviction is put into practice, however, the numbers shift downward. Only half (52 percent) of born again Christians say they actually did share the Gospel at least once this past year to someone with different beliefs, in the hope that they might accept Jesus Christ as their Savior."

With so little effort toward sharing the Gospel Message of hope, love and forgiveness in Jesus Christ, it's no wonder our society as a whole has steadily declined from its early biblical roots over the years. Christians are silent and simply being out numbered.

Steve Dighton, founding pastor of Lenexa Baptist Church couldn't agree more. "Evangelism is the lifeblood of the church, for when evangelism ceases the church dies a quick death."

And yet, pastors are struggling with sharing their faith outside of a large church setting, Lawless says, often getting out of balance between ministering to dysfunctional church members and pastoring the flock instead of looking for the lost.

For other pastors, they see the pulpit as the most effective means of evangelism. But that requires seeking individuals to actually find the church. For most of the world, that just isn't gonna happen.

Thom Rainer, president and CEO of Lifeway Christian Resources posed this question to his nearly 250k Twitter followers, "Why do you think many churches aren't as evangelistic as they once were?" Hundreds of responses poured in and were highly informative.

Here are the top fifteen responses in order of frequency:

1. Christians have no sense of urgency to reach lost people.
2. Many Christians and church members do not befriend and spend time with lost persons.
3. Many Christians and church members are lazy and apathetic.
4. We are more known for what we are against than what we are for.
5. Our churches have an ineffective evangelistic strategy of "you come" rather than "we go."
6. Many church members think that evangelism is the role of the pastor and paid staff.
7. Church membership today is more about getting my needs met rather than reaching the lost.
8. Church members are in a retreat mode as culture becomes more worldly and unbib-

lical.

9. Many church members don't really believe that Christ is the only way of salvation.

10. Our churches are no longer houses of prayer equipped to reach the lost.

11. Churches have lost their focus on making disciples who will thus be equipped and motivated to reach the lost.

12. Christians do not want to share the truth of the gospel for fear they will offend others. Political correctness is too commonplace even among Christians.

13. Most churches have unregenerate members who have not received Christ themselves.

14. Some churches have theological systems that do not encourage evangelism.

15. Our churches have too many activities; they are too busy to do the things that really matter.

It's clear fewer and fewer Christians are intentionally and personally sharing their faith in Christ. This does not change the directive believers are given to do the work of an evangelist. The Church must be careful not to confuse church attendance and service in the church with personal and intentional evangelism.

Steve Barnes, Founder of 1millionstories.org and Connections Pastor at Lenexa Baptist Church, is passionate about encouraging pastors, ministry leaders and individual Christians to not only overcome the fears of sharing Christ but to encourage and mobilize The Church to do what is necessary to reach their communities in creative ways.

"We're all guilty of missed opportunities. Allowing our fears and excuses to keep us from sharing Christ has one result, people breathing their last breath without a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ," he states. "Whether a pastor, ministry leader or individual, we must be willing to learn what we need to know, practice what we need to say, and use any means possible to share the love of Jesus."

If The Church is going to make strides here in the United States as it does in other countries around the world, believers need to develop a deep sense of urgency and passion for the lost, overcome their fears and apprehensions, and assist others in doing the same.

On July 21 in Kansas City, there is an opportunity designed to assist and encourage church leaders and all believers with the steps necessary to be bold yet loving for Christ and mobilize congregations to be engaged in personal evangelism. Regardless of church size or budget, the Right Now conference is for any Christian wanting to be more effective at sharing the love of Jesus with a lost and hurting world. Cost is only \$15 per person, breakfast and lunch included. More information at www.1MillionStories.org/RightNow.



life 88.5

Kansas City's Home
for Christian Music

peace FAMILY Music Fun Listener Supported Community JOY Relationship New
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■ PEACEMAKERS

continued from page 11

me?"

Each individual made small and big choices to heal and bring peace to their own world. We all have that choice. Every day. We live in a world that is filled with challenges and it's important that we face those challenges honestly and directly. But it's also important that we approach those challenges with hope, grace, and the belief that something better is possible.

What I have discovered is that our fundamentals are strong. All across

“With God’s help, each and every one of us needs to practice our rudiments of democracy and decency every day if we want our society to thrive.”

America, I have found good people who are working to develop relationships and build communities. You wouldn't know it by reading the newspaper or watching the news out of Washington. The good that surrounds us every day gets drowned out by the angry voices of political life.

Americans, it is our job to refocus on the ba-

sics and make our team strong. Ours. We must resist the temptation to divide and instead seek out ways to connect. Our leaders in Washington can't do it for us. And they won't. With God's help, each and every one of us needs to practice our rudiments of democracy and decency every day if we want our society to thrive.

We need to return to putting empathy and compassion first. We need to believe that there is good

— John Noltner is the author of “A Peace of My Mind: American Stories.”

■ CAREGIVER

continued from page 20

"My father has said some things that have hurt me to the core," Hayden recalled. "Hurt me to the core — left me [going] out of there crying."

Yet he also acknowledges how being a caregiver has helped him grow and learn about patience and forgiveness.

"We have to be patient with the person and recognize that they cannot control what it is that they're doing, and that it's not their fault," Hayden said.

"We come from a proud tradition, proud people, it's hard to give up," Hayden added, describing his father's desire to remain independent. "It's hard to let go. It's hard to say, 'Hey, pull me,' when you've been nothing but a leader and pulling everybody else."

Hayden credits his Christian faith, help from friends and neigh-

bors, and the sense of community he receives from a support group for caregivers. There, he met a woman he started dating, bonding over their shared experiences with dementia.

That outlet, however, is something many men don't accept.

"Men tend to 'suck it up,' if you will, and take it in stride — not really looking for the help that they need," Accius noted. "That poses some potential health challenges."

Along their journey, Hayden and his father have found moments of healing from their sometimes rocky relationship.

Hayden told CBN News although being a caregiver was unexpected, it's a role he now proudly embraces.

"There's nothing feminine or less masculine about being a caretaker, being a nurse, whatever you want to call it," he observed. "You have to because they're your parents."

■ DRINK

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"I was most surprised by the alcohol result, that risk increases at just one drink a day, on average," said Dr. Anne McTiernan, a lead author of the new report and a cancer prevention researcher at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle.

"The increase with one drink a day was small, but

the risk goes up from there. So that's why AICR recommends no more than one alcohol drink a day for women to reduce risk for cancer."

The researchers examined 120 previous studies looking at a total of 12 million women.

Alcohol can damage DNA.

When that happens, it opens the door for cancer cells to develop. Alcohol also can increase the hormone estrogen, leading to certain types of cancers

■ CHURCH

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ticularly beneficial, from a physical health standpoint, for people between the ages of 40 and 65.

"Middle aged adults who attended church actually reduced their risk for mortality by 55 percent. For those who did not attend church at all, they were twice as likely to die prematurely than those who did, who attended church at some point over the last year."

The study examined the church attendance of over 5,000 people. Bruce says many people may be surprised that the reason church-goers fare better physically is because of what they give, not what they get. In other words, when people become committed to something they feel is more important than themselves, it pays off even more than the benefits they receive from being part of a community.

"Most assume that people go to church for the social support. Actually, we found that they go to church for factors beyond social support. And that's where we begin to think about this idea of holiness, this idea of compassion, thinking about that we are participating in trying to improve the lives of others as well as being connected to a body larger than ourselves."

Bruce notes that the study does not only apply to Christians, but other faiths, as well.

"Any place of worship, any place where groups gather together to worship," he said. "So it's not only about a particular faith, it's about any faith."

In addition to church attendance, previous scientific research uncovered the health benefits of forgiveness and gratitude and giving all of which are things Jesus commanded his followers to do. He also tells us not to worry. Scientists say worry, commonly called stress, is a major health risk.



■ FIELD TRIPS

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the artwork.

2. Choose a couple of paintings that you like and can discuss with the children.

3. Have kids choose their favorite picture and photograph them with it. They can write about it.

4. Choose an interesting painting before you go to the museum and then have them find it. This is like a Where's

Waldo experience.

Whenever opportunities are offered for art classes; especially art painting parties where you can do this as a family, take advantage of this. Some camps are also available that offer art experiences.

Visual Manna is offering an art family camp the last week in July at the Montauk State Park area near Salem, MO.

Visual Manna is also offering an on-

line high school art program and also mission trips to a variety of places including Israel and Kansas City which includes three days of doing murals, a day at the an art museum and a day working with Christian professional artists.

In May of 2018 we are offering a mission trip to Israel perfect for families. Go to visualmanna.com or email me at visualmanna@gmail.com for more information.

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■ JUSTICE REFORM

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problem. Together, Americans account for 5 percent of the world's population but inhabit 25 percent of its jail cells. On any given night, 2.2 million Americans sit behind bars. And once they return to society, many fail to reintegrate. Within three years of release, about 40 percent of former prisoners return to jail. An estimated 65 million citizens have a criminal record, curbing their chances of finding a decent job or even a place to live. Metro Voice reported on the efforts of faith-based groups to address this problem in the March issue.

Missouri has about 45,000 people in county jail and the state's prison system combined. As for the prison system, Missouri has the 9th highest incarceration rate in the nation. In Kansas 16,000 individuals are incarcerated in county jails and state prisons. Kansas ranks 29 in the nation for incarceration rates.

In June, Christian leaders led by Prison Fellowship signed a "Justice Declaration" committing to change the conversation on incarceration and help garner support for lawmakers to rethink federal prison policies.

"On account of our Christian faith, we call for a justice system that is fair and redemptive for all," said James Ackerman, Prison Fellowship president.

So far about 100 Christian leaders

Lansing State Prison



"Since there is a lot of bipartisan support, I think what this justice declaration is doing is putting a megaphone to the tens of thousands of evangelical Christians who really want this to happen."

—Gabriel Salguero

President, National Latino Evangelical Coalition

have signed the declaration and several presented it, along with an 11-page white paper, to Republican leaders in hopes of getting the ball rolling on federal reforms.

While lawmakers in Washington struggle to agree on many issues, that's

not the case for criminal justice policy.

"I find very few people who think the status quo works just fine," Russell Moore, president of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission says. "We're all saying the same thing—we just need

to work together and get something done."

Criminal justice conversations usually fall into one of two camps. Most Republicans campaign on being tough on crime, not letting people take advantage of U.S. laws, and punishing perpetrators. Most Democrats focus on injustice, noting minorities are too often the victims of unfair law enforcement and sentencing.

Moore, a declaration signer, says both groups ultimately want the same thing: fewer people committing crimes and justice for those who do.

Conservatives and liberals worked together in the last Congress to draft legislation addressing one of the many justice system failings. Senate Judiciary Committee chairman Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, and Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah, worked with Sens. Cory Booker, D-N.J., and Dick Durbin, D-Ill., to find a solution for inconsistent mandatory minimum sentencing laws—specifically for nonviolent offenders.

The bipartisan coalition advanced the proposed legislation out of committee but never built enough momentum to schedule a full vote.

Congress often works in fits and starts, and in 2017 it has been hard to coalesce around anything.

"Nothing is really getting done at all in the Congress," Moore said. "I think that lawmakers ought to see this as an oppor-

tunity to break through the logjam and do something that will help the country."

But politics often is downstream from culture. That's why Gabriel Salguero, president of the National Latino Evangelical Coalition, said Christians have an equal part to play.

"Our job is to help change the wind and help change the conversation," Salguero said. "Since there is a lot of bipartisan support, I think what this justice declaration is doing is putting a megaphone to the tens of thousands of evangelical Christians who really want this to happen."

With numerous weighty agenda items on their plates already, Republican leaders have yet to prioritize criminal justice reforms in 2017. But even if they do, lawmakers may not have a green light from the White House.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions was one of the few senators last year who pushed back on the mandatory minimum reform legislation and his opposition apparently hasn't wavered.

In May, Sessions issued a memorandum to federal prosecutors directing them to fully enforce mandatory minimum sentences.

Prison Fellowship's Ackerman said one-size-fits-all sentences are a big mistake, but he's optimistic the Trump administration will be a willing partner for criminal justice reform in the future.

■ BURNHAMS

continued from page 1

had been a jungle pilot, while Gracia held various support roles and home-schooled their three children.

The couple spent more than a year in captivity before Gracia was rescued and Martin was killed in a gunfight between the militants and the Philippine military.

Today, Gracia lives in Rose Hill, Kan., the same city she and Martin came home to when on breaks from the Philippines.

Martin grew up with missionary parents in the Philippines. Gracia said she doesn't think she would ever have gone overseas on her own, but that she was called to the mission field when she fell in love with Martin.



Gracia Burnham and Joshua Paxton, assistant professor of intercultural studies, stand by a sign for Calvary University. —Courtesy photo

"If Martin had stayed in Wichita and worked at Cessna I would have been totally happy with that and loved my life in Wichita, but when he told me God wanted him to go back to the Philippines I was thrilled, because that meant I got to go with him," she said.

Burnham often runs into people who tell her how they prayed for the couple.

"Every time I hear that I'm just really humbled and thankful," Burnham said. "The Burnham Center is something else to be very grateful about."

THE CENTER

Calvary now has four intercultural studies majors, a number Paxton expects to rise with the opening of the center.

The center will partner with churches and missionary sending agencies.

There are 3.1 billion people in the world considered unreached by Christianity, Paxton said, a number that is rising. "Unreached" in this context means anywhere the population is less than 2 percent evangelical Christian, such as the group the Burnhams worked with in the

Philippines.

"Those are the kind of role models that I want our students to be able to emulate," Paxton said. "People who aren't just looking for your average life with a white picket fence and trying to build something for this world, but people who are willing to answer the call, to count the cost as Jesus told us to and go out and share this life-giving message of the Gospel."

—From the Wichita Eagle.
By Katherine Burgess

■ STARS

continued from page 19

Kansas City and surrounding communities.

Here's some of my favorites:

Ice Cream. Our favorite family summer tradition is at the end of the evening make a quick trip to get an ice cream cone. Nothing says summer like the art of making the cone last as long as it can in the sweltering heat. This month's flavor at Dairy Queen is Frosted Fudge Brownie and Salted Caramel Blondie.

Outdoor movies. Churches, parks, recreation departments, and hotels in-

vite you to bring a blanket and enjoy a movie with others in the community. Crown Center is offering The Parent Trap and Back to the Future this summer.

Music Festivals. The Ethnic Enrichment Festival showcases 60 different cultures through music, dance, crafts and food on August 18 – 20 at Swope Park. If you enjoy the guitar, mandolin, banjo, fiddle, autoharp and both hammer and mountain dulcimers; you will want to journey to the Walnut Festival



at Winfield, Kan. It is one of Kansas' best kept secrets for Summer music and fun.

Drive-In Movies. In the age of Netflix and cineplexes, there is something wonderful about cramming the family into a car to watching a first run movie on a huge screen on a warm night under the stars. KC is fortunate to have the I-70 Drive In and the Twin Drive In. It is a great way to conclude the day after mowing and honey do's.

Outdoor Theatre. Community groups are providing entertainment

this summer. Annie will be at the Ironwood Park, Leawood, Kan. July 13 – 16 and 20 – 22. The Gladstone Theatre will produce Willy Wonka July 7 – 9 and The Wizard of Oz Aug. 4 – 6. All these are free! Don't forget the bug spray!

Baseball and more. I am not a baseball fan, but I love eating a stadium hot-dog and people-watching. On August 5, the Kansas City Royals will host their annual Faith & Family Night presented by Hobby Lobby. The evening will conclude with a several players speaking, Scott Dawon of Safe at Home, and a concert by the Newsboys. Baseball and

much more! While you are there stop by to visit the Metro Voice booth and other local ministries.

Picnicking. At our former church, one individual would declare a picnic after church at a certain park. Everyone would go to a fast food joint to acquire their meal and meet there. Everyone won. The kids were happy playing on the playground equipment and Mom had a break. The same idea works for Friday night after work. Another opportunity is Kansas City's Big Picnic on July 17, 4 – 7 p.m. sponsored by the KC Parks and Recreation and Nelson-Atkins Art Museum.

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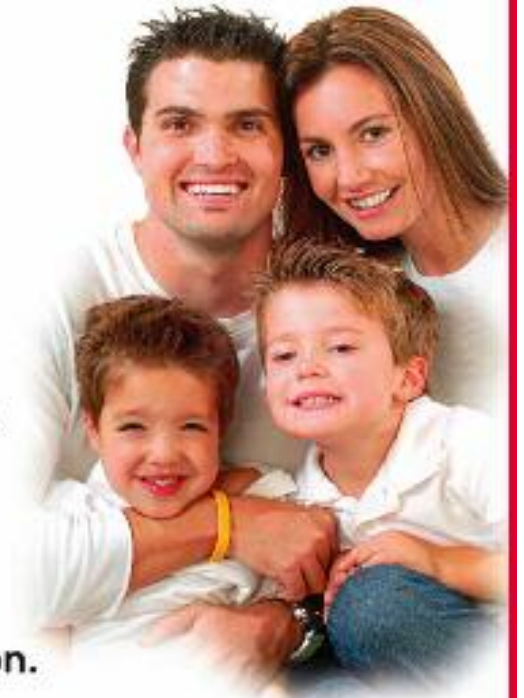
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