

I HAD A DREAM!

Brother Howard Norton grew up in the church, was a missionary to Brazil in the 1960s, has continued faithfully as a soldier of the cross since, including time teaching at Harding and Oklahoma Christian, and now in his 70's is President of the Baxter Institute living in and teaching in the Honduras.

On Sunday morning, August 5, 2012, Brother Howard Norton stood in front of approximately 4500 smiling faces at the George R. Brown Convention Center at the [2012 Houston Area Churches of Christ Campaign for Christ](#) and stated "I had a dream".

His dream was that he would see in his lifetime a large group of Christians gathered together in worship without regard to race, economic status, or congregational affiliation and worship the Lord. In his 70+ years he had never seen it before.

On August 5, 2012 he saw it.. The photograph below is included so you can see it also. It shows a well mixed variety of races as far as the you can see in the photograph.

I am sure he spoke for a lot of us when he said that, irrespective of your race, congregational affiliation, or economic status. It was a blessing for all who attended!

To review the program of what happened this



year, go to the website thearray.org, click on and then click on The Christian Array Newsletters, and then click on CA065 CAMPAIGN FOR CHRIST and read last newsletter.

2012 CAMPAIGN FOR CHRIST

“I HAD A DREAM”

One of the direct results of the Campaign was that 14 souls were saved, and that alone would define it as a success. However, there is a lot more.

From the kickoff meeting at South Union Church of Christ on September 8, 2011 up to 4500 worshipping together on August 5, 2012, all agreed that a new day had dawned on inter- congregational and inter-racial fellowship for the churches of Christ in Houston.

A good Samaritan service was provided for approximately 3000 individuals—most of who were not presently a member of the churches of Christ. It would be difficult to guess how many other souls will be saved because they learned of the churches of Christ thru the Day of Good Works.

How many of us feel like more of a membership of the Lord's church, rather than simply a member of one congregation.



The photo above is the Senior's Luncheon at Memorial. Additional luncheons were held at:

Leader's Luncheon at Fifth Ward.
Women's Luncheon at Garden Oaks.
CoWorker's Luncheon at South Union.



This is the entrance to the event showing the start of the 70 congregational and church related vendors which all attendees passed.



A second view of several of the congregational tables.

The 2012 Campaign for Christ was an outstanding success—as we plan for the 2014 even to be better. See you there.

2012 CAMPAIGN FOR CHRIST DAY OF GOOD WORKS

The Day of Good Works followed the pattern of the Good Samaritan by offering service from our Christian brothers and sisters without strings attached. If there was a need, we tried to fill it. We didn't require or expect anything in return, even the attendance at a church service. We expected through this service some might become more acquainted with the Lord's church and consider attendance. The following photos will give some of the results.



Recipients of the services lined up at the start of the event. Each of the recipients were signed up through a congregation.



Many of the recipients arrived early for the

event—in August—in Houston. They were brought into the facility early to be in the air conditioning, and were given the opportunity to discuss Christ if they desired to.

Following are a few photos of the free services being provided.



Consultation with a doctor



Immigration counseling

2012 CAMPAIGN FOR CHRIST DAY OF GOOD WORKS



Blood Pressure and Glucose testing



In addition to members serving others, members also gave more than 200 pints of blood as another service.



Family Photographs

Gary Smith (Fifth Ward), David Duncan (Memorial), and Cruz Hernandez (Hidden Valley) were the leaders who made all this happen. The brotherhood owes them and a lot of other brothers and sisters a big "thank-you" for having the vision and energy to pull make this event a great success for Jesus.

We all owe them the commitment to make 2014 even better.



Back-packs with starter school supplies.

Foster's Home for Children

*"More than a home,
A sanctuary."*

Placement applications accepted.

Employment applications welcome.

Applications and donations available online
at

www.fostershome.org

Stephenville, Texas

THE CHRISTIAN ARRAY

AN E-MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO SUSTAINED SCRIPTURAL CHURCH GROWTH IN OUR GENERATION



BUILDING FAITH FOR Tomorrow

A Ministry Workshop for the Houston Area Churches of Christ

Equip, Empower, Encourage!

We are glad to announce the 2nd Annual Building Faith for Tomorrow Ministry Workshop on September 8, 2012 at the West Houston Church of Christ in Houston, TX.

Last year, our inaugural workshop, began as a Bible Teachers Workshop with close to 300 in attendance with dozens of churches in attendance. This year we are expanding our offerings to include tracks in **children education, adult education, youth and family ministry, and leadership/eldership.**

Date: Sept 8, 2012

Time: 8:30am-4:15pm

Cost: \$30/person (includes lunch)

Where: West Houston Church of Christ

Questions?

drew@champlionschurch.org or
281-841-1138



Keynote: Dr. Monte Cox

Dr. Cox is well-known for his speaking, teaching, and as an ambassador for missions. He is dean of the Department of Bible at Harding University. He teaches on culture, missions, worldviews, and the Bible.



Worship: Tquan Moore

Tquan Moore will be leading our worship this year. He was a youth minister at the West Houston Church of Christ before entering the full-time Christian music ministry.



Register Today as a church group or individual at:
www.buildingfaithfortomorrow.com or call Shannon Rains at (281)358-3865

Event Schedule:

8:00	Registration Begins
8:30-9:45	Worship/Keynote #1
10:00-11:00	Class Session #1
11:15-12:15	Class Session #2
12:15-12:45	Lunch
1:00-1:45	Worship/Keynote #2
2:00-3:00	Class Session #3
3:15-4:15	Class Session #4



List of Class Session Speakers on Next Page



A Ministry
Workshop for the
Houston Area
Churches of Christ

Class Session Speakers:

Adult Education:

- **Dr. Monte Cox** (Harding University Bible Department Dean and Professor) "Paradigms Lost: Cultural Implication on Adult Education"
- **Dr. Houston Heflin** (Education Professor at Abilene Christian University) "Teaching Eutychus: Creative Teaching to Engage all Learners" and "Quality Curriculum for Churches"
- **Dr. Jeffrey Peterson** (Professor at the Austin Graduate School of Theology) "The Book of Acts: What Kind of Church Could We Be?"
- **Drew Custer** (Education and Involvement Minister at the Champions Church of Christ) "Forming the Faithful: Visions of Adult Education"
- **Chris Pierson** (Education Minister at the West Houston Church of Christ) "Bible Class as Learning Communities"

Children's Ministry/Education:

- **Shannon Rains** (Children and Family Minister at the Kingwood Church of Christ) "How to Design Art Camp" and "Volunteer Recruiting Made Simple"
- **Nancy Penney** (Experienced Children's Minister and Hospital Chaplain) "Children as Evangelists"
- **Donna Sue Arnold** (LTC Coordinator at West Houston Church of Christ) "LTC: Leadership Training for Christ"
- **Susan Maxwell** (Experienced teacher at the Kingwood Church of Christ) "Teaching Children to Pray"
- **Kandy Wulf** (Teacher and Media Coordinator at West Houston Church of Christ) "Creativity with Die Cuts for Bible Classes"

Youth/Family Ministry:

- **Jeff Phillips** (Family Life Minister at the Conroe Church of Christ) "What is 'Spiritual'?", "Jesus' Spiritual Development," and "Practical Strategies for Spiritual Formation"
- **Dr. Steven Bonner** (Professor of Youth and Family Minister at Lubbock Christian University) "Family Ministry: What is it?" and "Passing on Our Faith"

Leadership/Elder Track:

- **John Duncum** (Experienced Elder and M.A. in Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation) "So You Think You Know What's Going On" and "How Can We Pull Together"

Other Ministry:

- **Dr. Matt Soper** (Senior Minister at the West Houston Church of Christ) "Ministering to People with Same-Sex Attraction"
- **Angela Soper** (Psychotherapist and Church Counselor) "Counseling Triage: What to Do When You Don't Know What to Do"

WHAT A CHURCH WITHOUT A TRAINED PREACHER LOOKS LIKE



SUNSET INTERNATIONAL BIBLE INSTITUTE VISION DINNER

Thursday
October 4, 2012
6:30 p.m.
Memorial Church of Christ
900 Echo Lane
Houston, TX 77024



Chris Swinford
V.P. for Advancement
Guest Speaker

**A TRAINED PREACHER -
EVERY CHURCH IN EVERY NATION
NEEDS ONE!**

SUNSET
International Bible Institute
1962 - 2012

For complimentary tickets RSVP to:
Linda Wagner: 806/788-3214 by Oct 1st
email: wagnerlf@sibi.cc

IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION—FLY'S ON THE CEILING

If you ever attempted to swat a fly with your hand, you most likely failed. Position your large hand near a fly landed on a surface, move your hand as fast as you can and try to swat it. You know when you are going to do it, you have made a plan, and you execute quickly—and most likely will miss.

What the fly must do is to detect the movement of your hand after it started approaching, jump/fly off the spot at a high acceleration, and avoid death by smushing. That is amazing, but not necessarily impossible.

Now consider something really hard, which you take for granted. A fly landing on the ceiling. For a dumb fly to fly upside down is a miracle in the first place. It is easier to imagine how a bird with a large wingspread can glide to an upside down position, but the shape of his wing is made for flying right side up. It would be inefficient for even gliding upside down, but it still works.

Short fat flies with short wingspreads are not gliders, they are flyers. When they flip upside down to land on the ceiling, they must lock onto glass hard and non-porous surfaces and bumpy porous surfaces both.

They can't simply have a universal glue to stick to anything, because they have to release to fly away—and very quickly when you try to hit them..

As seen in the adjacent photos, flies actually have claws for when appropriate plus small hairs which lock onto surfaces by surface tension. In addition to that, they apparently use their feet for tasting.

God did all this incredible design for a minor part of a small insect which only lives about 2 weeks. Consider how much he did for you.

Foot of a House Fly



Magnification: X 300



FILL-IN PREACHERS AND SPECIAL SUBJECTS

The topics presented below are existing programs intended to be available at a moment's notice. All expenses are assumed to be taken care of by the speaker unless specifically otherwise agreed in advance. The speaker's home congregation is identified for your information, but it does not imply in any way that the home congregation is responsible for the content of the lessons.

If you have one or more (max. 5) lessons you would like to present on this basis, send the information to bbaugh@thearray.org and we will post it.

If you are interested in using the services of one of these brothers (or sisters in the appropriate context), contact them directly. If you use one of them, we would appreciate hearing of the results.

KIRK EASON, Memorial Church of Christ,
Sermons: "Report on the work of Southern Africa Bible College", First Five Chapters of Mark Wisdom Literature, Ephesians, Old Testament Narratives. Kirk is Director of Development for Southern Africa Bible College, cell 512-965-0382.
keason@southernafribiblecollege.org,

CHRISTIAN EVIDENCES (IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION) Presentation of Biblical, scientific, and logic reasons to believe in Jehovah and Jesus. Presentation for worship service, Bible Class or youth group.

By Benton F. Baugh, Memorial Church of Christ, bbaugh@thearray.org, 281-599-9914 (Engineer)

HOW TO ACKNOWLEDGE OTHERS

We are often the recipients enriching gifts from others. Those who teach, preach, and lead in public ways need our acknowledgement. They offer us their gifts of self and of service. And many are working in the background to prepare for our times of worship together. In fact, every person needs to be acknowledged as valuable in our fellowship! We need to find ways to show our appreciation and to acknowledge the gifts received from others.

After I taught my very first Ladies' Bible Class at my home congregation in Tulsa, many years ago, the response was underwhelming. In fact there was no response. All the ladies gathered their things and simply walked out the back door. Fearing that I had committed some unpardonable faux pas, I asked a friend what I had done wrong. She said, "You did fine. We always expect the best and you did an excellent job." I wondered if one has to exceed expectations to be acknowledged.

Contrast that with an experience I had at the Macquarie School of Biblical Studies in Australia. I audited several classes and observed that every student said, "Thank You," to the teacher as they left the class room. Every student, in every class though out the day said, "Thank You." It was an acknowledgement that each one had received the gift of self and knowledge from the teacher.

Acknowledging others involves more than saying thank you, although that is certainly a good start. We acknowledge others by our acceptance, attention and affirmation. At the very least we can smile and speak to those around us. When we whistle in the door at the last minute we have missed the point of our gathering. The assembly together is not about you – it's about encouraging others! We miss a great opportunity to extend the hand and heart of Jesus to those who may be lonely or troubled, hurting, or lost. Make it a goal to come early and give more than you receive. Acknowledge that others are valuable in God's sight by all you do and say

Elizabeth Brown, Texarkana

WHAT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS NOT

A local group of Christians who believe that the Bible can be updated by contemporary council decisions.

A church which receives the permission from an earthly headquarters to plant a new congregation.

A church which attempts to duplicate a 19th or 20th century pattern for a church.

A church which believes you can pick and choose what part of the Bible you want to believe and follow only those parts.

A church which believes that we should judge that we are all in a community of believers as long as we say we believe in Jesus, irrespective of what we do and preach. A church which should assure all others that they are saved.

A group who makes decisions based on popularity rather than scriptural basis.

A group which simply skips over Acts 2:38.

A group which finds more convenient ways to simulate baptism.

A group which votes on what it suits them to believe and preach or a group which believes that they are still getting direct revelations from God.

A group who believes we are here to entertain ourselves.

For those bound & determined to change the church of Christ to be the Christian Church, wouldn't it be easier to simply join the Christian Church.? Is the problem that your conscience won't allow you to join the Christian Church, but if you can reduce the church of Christ to being the Christian Church you will not offend your conscience?

WHAT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS

The church of Christ is a local group of Christians which try to speak where the Bible speaks and remain silent where the Bible is silent.

The church of Christ tries to reestablish the first century pattern and teaching of the New Testament era at each location.

The church of Christ tries to reestablish the scriptural organization of the church at each location.

The church of Christ has members who believe they are following the scriptural teachings as best they can.

Church of Christ members believe that we should not judge others' eternal reward, but that it is not reasonable to give comfort to others who follow their own preferences rather than teachings of the Bible.

A non-instrumental body as instruments were available in the first century and not used, and not used for several centuries.

A group who teaches Acts 2:38.

A group which teaches baptism by immersion for the remission of sins as that is what is taught in the Bible.

A group which believes all revelation was given in the first century.

A group which believes we are responsible to take the Gospel to the world.

MONEY PAGE

GUARANTEED CHURCH GROWTH

If your congregation does the following, BCE Publications guarantees that it will grow.

Poll your congregation three times at 6 months intervals with the following results:

- 50% of the members know who their elder is
- 50% of the members will say that a minister is their friend
- 50% of the members will say that they are uplifted by the song services
- 50% of the men will say that their input is considered before physical decisions are made
- 50% of the members will say they are an important part of the work
- 50% of the members will say they are aware of the goals of the congregation
- 50% of the members will say that they know what their part is in achieving your goals

GUARANTEE: For the first congregation which does this and does not grow by at least 10%, we will send \$1000 to the church related children's home of your choice in your name.

I have never met a person who said that if they did this their church would not grow. If your congregation is not growing, what have you got to lose? (Offer made since 2001)

IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION?

We will offer \$100 to the first person who can explain how we could have violated the first law of thermodynamics and have come into existence without God.

We will offer \$100 to the first person who can explain how we could have violated the second law of thermodynamics and have existed forever without God. (Offer first posted 8/08)

IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION!

This publication continues (since 1991) to make a standing offer of \$100 to the first person who can give any reason (1 or more) as to why atheistic evolution is a better explanation for the universe and/or life than creation by God, The Father of Adam, Abraham, and Jesus; as revealed in the Bible.

We will also give you \$100 if we cannot give you 12 reasons why atheistic evolution is impossible as an explanation for our existence.

We will discuss this any place, any time, and in any forum. (Offer posed since June, 1991)

RUN AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT:

We will offer \$100 to the first person who can refute the logic that a person can in fact run at the speed of light as presented in the September 2009 issue of this newsletter.

THE MONEY PAGE:

This page may seem odd, even irreverent to offer money for something like this. It is 3 simple statements on church growth, that we cannot be here without God, and evolution is not possible. The steadfastness of putting money on the line for this is to try to be of assistance against those who would discourage church growth, believe in atheism, or promote atheistic evolution.

The page is intended to be a continuing reinforcement.

AREA WIDE ACTIVITIES

- 9/8 Building Faith For Tomorrow, West Houston, see page 5
- 9/16 Lads to Leaders/Leaderettes Orientation and Workshop, Katy Church Of Christ, Sunday, Sept. 16, 3:30 for adults and youths
- 9/29 Kingwood Caregiver's Conference, 3803 W. Lake Houston Pkwy Kingwood, Tx 77339,713-682-5995
- 10/3 Sunset Bible Institute Dinner, Memorial, see page 7
- 2nd Tues. Preacher's Luncheon at Golden Island Buffet, 901 N. Shepherd, confirm with Dale Foster at dalefost@gmail.com

December Annual Sacred Harp Singing

Aug 2014 Area Wide Campaign for Christ

YAHOO GROUP

HoustonCofC is a Yahoo group hosted by Steve Sandifer [steve.sandifer@sbcglobal.net] for the purpose of communicating Houston area news among the brethren. It is open to any member of the church at no cost.

The Christian Array Newsletter

This newsletter will be sent to members of the church on a monthly basis as an attempt to promote area wide activities and church growth. If you do not want to receive this newsletter, send an e-mail to info@thearray.org and it will be stopped.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

A goal of this newsletter is to develop a mailing list of as many members of the church as possible and to communicate church related information to as many members as possible. In that light, we would appreciate:

1. Your forwarding the church member e-mail addresses which you have.
2. Sending the directory of the congregation you attend or any other directories which you might have.
3. Give us an idea of how to collect church member e-mail addresses.

The Christian Array is dedicated to support the sustained scriptural growth of the churches of Christ. It is published by BCE Publications, a 501(c)(3) organization with Benton F. Baugh, Ph.D., P.E. as editor BCE is solely responsible for the content. Any announcements, requests for publication, or comments should be e-mailed to info@thearray.org.