

## AREA WIDE EVENTS

Being a Houston based publication, we tend to make most announcements regarding what is happening around Houston. We are happy to announce any scriptural event anywhere in the country to everyone else in the country, or in the world for that matter.

We operate on the basis that all members will be inspired by and encouraged by activities around the country.

Whereas each congregation must remain scripturally autonomous, we don't have to be "all by ourselves". We are much better off when we feel like we are part of the church in a larger sense, a brotherhood.

The current greater Houston area wide event is the 2016 Campaign for Christ which will be held at the University of Houston Hofheinz Basketball Pavilion on August 20-21. With the outstanding speakers Greg Hurst (Houston), George Williams (Austin), and Kent Allen (OKC), combined with great gospel singing, a Day of Good Works, Rallies, and personal evangelism, it is a great time for Houston area Christians to get to know one another and be encouraged by one another.

This will be the sixth of this bi-annual event which was started by our brother Tom Foster.  
Continued on page 2

### RALLIES FOR GREATER HOUSTON CAMPAIGN FOR CHRIST

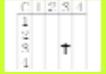
The second Rally for the 2016 Greater Houston Area Campaign for Christ will be May 29 at Memorial church of Christ in west Houston, 900 Echo Lane. It will be at 6:00 p.m. and refreshments will be served afterwards.

The first Rally, April 17, was held at South Union church of Christ with Randall F. Tucker, Sr. providing the lesson. An enthusiastic crowd attended as seen below in the first picture, and seen even better in the second picture with extra chairs having to be brought in.



#### IN THIS ISSUE:

Area Wide Events	1
Prayer Thoughts fro Psalm 86 - Brown	2
The Catalyst Initiative	3
Impossible for Evolution	6
Elder's Workshops	7
Area Wide Activities	9



## AREA WIDE EVENTS P. 2

Our first goal here is that if you live in the Greater Houston area, to attend and support the Rallies and Campaign.

Beyond that, if you don't live in the greater Houston area, you might consider having your own area wide events. The Greater Houston Campaign for Christ is geared to a large metropolitan area, but events can be even more important to more rural areas.

Campaigns or revivals for personal evangelism and fellowship reasons are a good way to get together with your area Christians. Youth events, community work, helping start a new congregation, leadership workshops, singings, preparation for and actual disaster relief are all events with the potential of being assisted by us working with each other.

The organizers of the Houston campaigns will be happy to work with you on the infrastructure and organization behind this type event. If you would like information, contact us at [bbaugh@thearray.org](mailto:bbaugh@thearray.org) and we will have some contact you.

Benton F. Baugh

### The church of Christ in Westfield

#### Homecoming Reunion and Gospel Meeting

Sunday June 12 to Wednesday June 15

Theme: Questions That Need Answering  
Now! Presented by David Wardrup

Homecoming Sunday Dinner  
Following Morning Services

1610 Westfield Loop, Houston TX 77073

Contact: Steve Middleton, minister, 281-323-3928, [stevemgfts@gmail.com](mailto:stevemgfts@gmail.com)

### PRAYING THOUGHTS FROM PSALM 86

Hear me, LORD, and answer me,  
for I am poor and needy. *Thank you for hearing to my heart, sometimes you are the only one who hears, you are aware of everything I ask and answer every cry for help. Thank you for enriching my day and my life.*

Guard my life, for I am faithful to you;  
save your servant who trusts in you.  
*Thank you for guarding my life because I trust you to care for me.*

You are my God; have mercy on me, Lord,  
for I call to you all day long. *Thank you for mercy in all that I do, I am is never perfect, I fall so far short and yet I trust you to consider my frailty. How patient you are to listen all day long.*

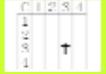
Bring joy to your servant, Lord,  
for I put my trust in you. *Thank you for the joy that comes from trusting in you and knowing that you are always present. I truly live in your presence. You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you. So often I fail to live in your Spirit and get distracted with earthly things. I could not live without your forgiveness. Truly you are loving and good.*

Hear my prayer, LORD;  
listen to my cry for mercy.  
When I am in distress, I call to you,  
because you answer me.

*I glorify your name because you hear and extend mercy and forgiveness. Teach me your ways and give me an undivided heart.*

I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever.

Elizabeth Brown



Announcing:

## THE CATALYST INITIATIVE

GOAL: Help the kingdom grow by encouraging those without a neighborhood congregation to start one.

PREMISE: The difficulty of doing personal evangelism is proportionate to the distance you are from your congregation.

If you live far enough from your established congregation that it makes it difficult to do personal evangelism and would like to consider starting a new local autonomous scriptural congregation, let us know.

We have experienced volunteers available to assist you in starting your new congregation or to discuss the possibility.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE:

[www.thecatalystinitiative.com](http://www.thecatalystinitiative.com)

Led By:

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## A LITTLE HUMOR FOR YOUR DAY

From Steven Wright,  
the famously erudite (comic) scientist

- 1 - I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize.
- 2 - Half the people you know are below average.
- 3 - 99% of lawyers give the rest a bad name.
- 4 - 82.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot.
- 5 - A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel so good.
- 6 - A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
- 7 - If you want the rainbow, you have got to put up with the rain.
- 8 - All those who believe in psycho kinesis, raise my hand.
- 9 - The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
- 10 - I almost had a psychic girlfriend ... But she left me before we met.
- 11 - OK, so what's the speed of dark?
- 12 - How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink?
- 13 - If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.
- 14 - Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.
- 15 - When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- 16 - Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.
- 17 - Hard work pays off in the future; laziness pays off now.
- 18 - I intend to live forever... So far, so good.
- 19 - If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?
- 20 - Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.
- 21 - What happens if you get scared half to death twice?
- 22 - My mechanic told me, "I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder."
- 23 - Why do psychics have to ask you for your

name?

- 24 - If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried.
  - 25 - A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.
  - 26 - Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.
  - 27 - The hardness of the butter is proportional to the softness of the bread.
  - 28 - To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.
  - 29 - The problem with the gene pool is that there is no lifeguard.
  - 30 - The sooner you fall behind, the more time you'll have to catch up.
  - 31 - The colder the x-ray table, the more of your body is required to be on it.
  - 32 - Everyone has a photographic memory; some just don't have film.
  - 33 - If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.
- And the all-time favorite:
- 34 - If your car could travel at the speed of light, would your headlights work?

A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones. Proverbs 17:22 ESV

Abundantly blessed, Nancy Habermacher





## I AM NOT IN CHURCH

*I am not in church.*

*Sure, I have visited churches several times, but I gave up.*

*For the most part, the people were unfriendly in the churches. No one greeted me unless it was some contrived greeting time. No one noticed me while they gathered in their holy huddles. One church member sat down by me and told me I was sitting in her pew. I decided to leave right then.*

*I am not in church.*

*But I really would like to know more about Christianity. Unfortunately, most of the sermons I hear seem watered down. Too many of the preachers tend to shy away from dealing with the biblical text straight on. I want to learn, but they just seem to want to please.*

*I am not in church.*

*I could make you a list of over 100 things churches are against. The topics range from the serious to the ridiculous. I sure would like to find a church that also tells me what they are for.*

*I am not in church.*

*But I need help. I know I need help. There are times I hurt badly and seek answers. I was hoping to find some of those answers at church. I was hoping to meet people who cared. I was hoping to be in place where I am treated with dignity and care.*

*I am not in church.*

*My co-worker goes to church. I even know where he's a member. But he's never invited me. My neighbor goes to church. My children play with her children. I see their family go to church every Sunday. But she's never invited me. I would go if she did. I would definitely go.*

*I am not in church.*

*But church members don't seem to care. They seem too busy to care. No one speaks to me. No one invites me. No one shows concern for me.*

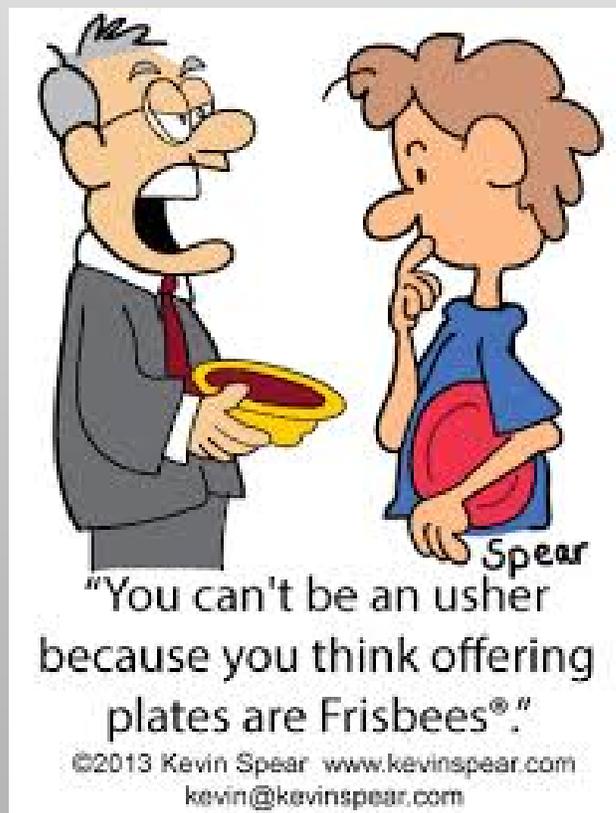
*I am not in church.*

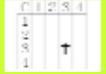
*I am not anti-church. I am not anti-Christian. I am really seeking answers. I am really looking for people who care.*

*I am not in church.*

*But I think I would like to be.*

*The post [I Am Not in Church](#) appeared first on [ThomRainer.com](#).*





## IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION #62: VANILLA ICE CREAM

*Vanilla planifolia* is hermaphroditic (containing both male and female parts) and the flower itself is self-fertile, but incapable of self-pollination. Vanilla's pollen is also largely inaccessible to most pollinating insects. **It requires outside action to either transfer pollen from an anther to the stigma, or lift the thin-membrane preventing self-fertilization, or rostellum, and press the flower's anther to the stigma.**

*Vanilla planifolia*, and many other species of flowering plants require double fertilization to fruit, an adaptation that allows the flower to concentrate its energy on producing seeds that have the best chance at growth and survival. If the flower is cross-pollinated, as often done by insects, the seeds are viable, and can produce further generations of viable offspring. If the flower is self-pollinated, however, it produces only sterile seeds.

To this day, the Mexican Melipona Bee is the only insect that knows how to pollinate the vanilla orchid. This simple fact puts evolution in an extremely difficult position. Without the Mexican Melipona Bee, we simply would not have vanilla today. The bee and the vanilla vine had to be made at the exact same time. Not to mention, this bee had to be given specific information about how to pollinate the vanilla orchid. Again, no other insect knows how to do this. This bee had to be made, designed, and purposefully created to pollinate the vanilla orchid, and thus, produce vanilla.

When the flower is pollinated, a pod will grow 6-10 inches in 6 weeks. A healthy vine produces about 100 pods per year, each with thousands of tiny black seeds, but if too many flowers are pollinated the vine may be overloaded and can die. Most of the vanilla fragrance resides in the seeds and the oily liquid surrounding those seeds. Crystallized vanillin can be seen in vanilla pods of exceptionally good quality forming tiny white needles,

called 'givre', French for 'frost', on the surface of the pods.

Until more recent times, Mexico was the only producer of vanilla. In the **1520s**, a man by the name of Hernán Cortés traveled down to Mexico and loved vanilla. So, he brought some back with him to Europe. For the next 300 years, the Europeans tried but were never able to produce vanilla.

In **1836**, Charles François Antoine Morren traveled down to Mexico to figure out why they weren't able to produce vanilla beans in Europe. As Morren was studying the vanilla orchids, his attention was drawn to a little bee (the Mexican Melipona Bee). This bee landed on the orchid, lifted up the little hood like membrane, collected pollen, and then flew off to the next flower. This bee was pollinating the orchids. After some time, the orchid produced a vanilla bean.

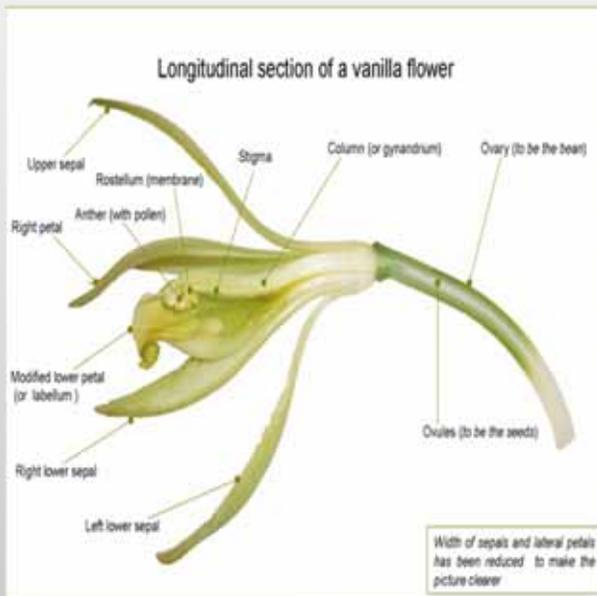
The biggest advancement in vanilla growth and pollination happened in **1841**, through a discovery by Edmond Albius, a slave on the island of Réunion.

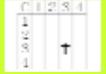
Albius discovered the way by which the rostellum could be lifted out of the way using a small stick or blade of grass, so that the pollen could be manually passed from the anther to the stigma. Now practically all vanilla is produced by hand-pollination.

If the zero I.Q. Mexican Melipona bee had not known to go into the flower, lift up the rostellum, and go further into the flower, we simply would not have vanilla beans to make vanilla ice cream. In the US Patent Office, a measure of difficulty is whether or not other experts had opportunity to make a discovery and could not. We have a perfect example here where from 1520 until 1841 (321 years), experts in Europe tried to figure it out and could not. They had to go back and study God's creation to learn what was happening.

Based on information collected from the internet.

Benton F. Baugh, Ph.D., P.E.





## CORPUS CHRISTI AREA WIDE ELDER'S WORKSHOP

JULY 30, 2016

REINFORCING OUR SCRIPTURAL BASIS  
THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE CHURCH  
NEW APPROACHES AND CONCEPTS  
ROOT CAUSES OF CHURCH GROWTH

The OC Church Growth Think Tank has been addressing church growth with over 500 years of collective church of Christ experience, a great respect for our scriptural basis, and a keen understanding that some of our customs have not been accomplishing the Great Commission.

LOCATED AT ARLINGTON HEIGHTS CHURCH OF CHRIST  
2722 RAND MORGAN ROAD, CORPUS CHRISTI, TX 78410

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
**KENT ALLEN, OKC**

This event is organized by the Oklahoma Christian University Church Growth Think Tank and is being sponsored by the Arlington church of Christ and the Christian Array E-Magazine.  
For more information and registration, visit [ocgthinktank.org](http://ocgthinktank.org).



## CHICKASHA, OK. AREA WIDE ELDER'S WORKSHOP

AUGUST 27, 2016

REINFORCING OUR SCRIPTURAL BASIS  
THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE CHURCH  
NEW APPROACHES AND CONCEPTS  
ROOT CAUSES OF CHURCH GROWTH

The OC Church Growth Think Tank has been addressing church growth with over 500 years of collective church of Christ experience, a great respect for our scriptural basis, and a keen understanding that some of our customs have not been accomplishing the Great Commission.

LOCATED AT SOUTHERN OAKS CHURCH OF CHRIST  
3323 S.16TH ST. CHICKASHA, OK 73018

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
**KENT ALLEN, OKC**

This event is organized by the Oklahoma Christian University Church Growth Think Tank and is being sponsored by the Southern Oaks church of Christ and the Christian Array E-Magazine.  
For more information and registration, visit [ocgthinktank.org](http://ocgthinktank.org).

## EEM (EASTERN EUROPEAN MISSIONS)

Many Eastern European administrators, librarians and teachers believe giving the Bible to their children will change the future of their country. That is why they continue to ask EEM to put Bibles and biblical literature in their schools

What can you Do? You can supply Bibles and biblical materials: For \$1000 for a school, \$150 for a class, \$50 for ten students, or \$5 for a child!



Dirk Smith 501-2789-1728 dsmith@eem.org  
Eastern European Mission 800-486-1818 MillionDollorSunday.org

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## AREA WIDE ACTIVITIES

**Each Wed.** Northeast Houston Preacher's Meeting, Darien Loop CofC, 7014 Darien St. 11:00—1:00, Contact Cecil Herndon, [aj10@ridemetro.com](mailto:aj10@ridemetro.com) for more details

**2nd Tues.** Northwest Houston Preacher's Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Ranchero King Buffet, 5900 N. Frwy., confirm with Dale Foster at [dalefost@gmail.com](mailto:dalefost@gmail.com) for info.

**6/5** Open House - new North Fort Bend church of Christ, see ad.

**6/12-6/15** Homecoming and Gospel Meeting, Westfield, see ad.

**7/30** Elder's Workshop, Corpus Christi, TX, Arlington Heights

**8/20-21** Houston Area Campaign for Christ, UH Hofheinz Pavilion  
See attachments for details

**8/27** Elder's Workshop, Chickasha, OK, Southern Hills

### The Christian Array E-Magazine

This e-magazine is sent to members of the church on a monthly basis as an attempt to promote scriptural teachings, area wide activities and church growth. If you do not want to receive this e-magazine, send an e-mail to [bbaugh@thearray.org](mailto:bbaugh@thearray.org) and it will be stopped.

If you know of anyone who would like to receive this newsletter, send their e-mail addresses to [bbaugh@thearray.org](mailto:bbaugh@thearray.org). All past copies of the newsletter can be found on the website "thearray.org".

#### Permission to reuse information:

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### 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 it if you would:

1. forward the church member e-mail addresses which you have,
2. send the directory of the congregation you attend or any other directories which you might have, and
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 [bbaugh@thearray.org](mailto:bbaugh@thearray.org).