

NATIONAL RACIAL UNITY DAY

NUMBER 122

OCTOBER, 2017

Fifth Ward church of Christ and Memorial church of Christ in Houston have made it a practice for several years to have a joint service a couple of times each year on Sunday evening. Fifth ward is predominantly black and Memorial is predominantly white, however, both are home to several races.



Gary Smith

Fifth Ward church of Christ

The dominant but mixed race pattern of these congregations is likely characteristic of a large number of our larger congregations. It has been an event of friends getting together more than anything.

However, with recent news events and news inspired events, publicity has been gained in talking about racial problems.

Some forms of racial problems and racial segregation will never go away. Some people might not like to hear that, but it is true.

Some forms of segregation of the races we have today are:

1. Geographic: Most people tend to live with others of similar backgrounds. Whether it be black, white, Hispanic, Japanese, Korean, Chinese, or any other ethnic group.



David Duncan

Memorial church of Christ

2. Financial: People segregate themselves by economic status. Blue collar workers tend to live around other blue collar workers an multi-millionaires tend to live around other multi-millionaires. It is a simple economic fact. Blue collar workers tend to buy homes they can afford, which are not in the middle of homes multi-millionaires can afford. Not a bad thing, just reality.

3. Educational: People with high school diplomas tend to talk with one another and people with doctorates tend to talk to one another. Their jobs will be in different places.

These are not necessarily forms of discrimination, but they segregate people anyhow.

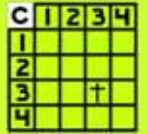
All these thing happen in the world, but they do not happen in Jesus' church. In Jesus' church we are all equal. **Brothers Smith and Duncan have proposed that the churches of Christ across the USA follow this example and show the world there is racial harmony in our congregations.**

They have suggested the **evening service of November 26, 2017** be the day we get together across the land and do this.

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NATIONAL RACIAL UNITY DAY

The suggestion is that a congregation of a predominant race invite another local congregation of a different predominant race to meet together at either of their facilities.

When we talk about being dominated by a race, we characteristically talk about black, white, and sometimes Spanish. We have Korean, Chinese, Vietnamese, and other congregations going about their work quietly. Some of these may be smaller and more than one might be invited to worship with a larger congregation.

Especially in larger congregations where there is a racial mix in the first place, this will not be much of a change. In some cases the change will be actually working together more than a racial thing. That is good also. It is our observation that we still have congregations which are 100% one race or the other. For them to worship with another race can be more of a different experience.

Having recently seen several worship services of another race, it turns out they don't do things exactly like we do. Still scriptural and in some cases even better, just different practices.

Another outcome is you will likely make some friends which will last a lifetime.

If you attend a congregation which is still geographically segregated into a single race, having a unity fellowship with another race and then scheduling a return event the other way is going to broaden your experiences and your point of view.

We want to congratulate brothers Duncan and Smith on their wisdom in making this appeal and heartily join in to support the event.

Likely you know who the various congregations are in your area and their character. What we can do to be of some assistance is to provide a listing of congregations in your zip code(s), along in many cases with their character, address and phone number. We have a program which will do this for about half the congregations in the United States. Just send a request to info@thearray.org.

**HELP MAKE A STATEMENT THAT
THERE IS NO PLACE FOR RACIAL
SEGREGATION IN THE CHURCHES
OF CHRIST!**

**MAKE SOME NEW FRIENDS WHILE
YOU DO IT.**

Another resource is looking at the **website** oc-cgthinktank.org, **click on the COC LOCATOR tab**, and it shows about 4000 US congregations on a Map. It presently only shows location and name, but with that

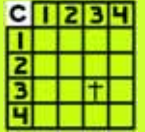
the internet will easily give you more information.

The project is anticipating putting a listing in the January 2018 issue of the Christian Chronicle listing all the congregations which met together to show unity.

Send information on who you are meeting with to project contact email: dduncan@mcoc.org or gsmith@fwcoc.org. If you send the information to us at info@thearray.org, we will forward it to them.

Please join with us and help make the statement that there is no place for racial segregation.

HURRICANE HARVEY HELP
A number of congregations can assist in the distribution of assistance to Hurricane Harvey victims. One such congregation is Memorial Church of Christ in Houston. Click their website at mcoc.org for information on their home page.



CHANGE THE CONVERSATION

“Joyful is the person who finds wisdom, the one who gains understanding. For wisdom is more profitable than silver, and her wages are better than gold.” (Proverbs 3:13-14 NLT)

Just as our democracy depends on responsible, contributing adults to function properly, so does our church. In his book, The Vanishing American Adult, Ben Sasse laments the anemic reading required of high school and college students. He recommends a five-foot book shelf challenging thought and conversation with great historical books. Interestingly, the list begins with the Bible.

Actually, his first category of serious reading is: God. No one is educated without a serious knowledge of the Bible. We need to read fully and deeply to gain the perspective and knowledge of God. It’s not that we need to know the Bible. We need to know God! Sasse first suggested a thorough knowledge of Genesis, Matthew and Romans. In addition, he suggests Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis and Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s, Letters and Papers from Prison, along with sixty other serious tomes.

Too often we simply want to get to the bottom line. What exactly does God expect of me? But those of us who are ready for a more robust conversation should be pondering Ezekiel’s temple, Isaiah’s prophecies of the Messiah and coming to terms with Revelation. Have you been amazed by the timely and relevant prophecies of Daniel lately?

Read to educate your soul and furnish you dialog. Read until you have so many questions that you actually have something to say. There is no substitute for reading. Read to be

a more informed citizen, a more thoughtful friend and to enhance your relationship with God. *“For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.” (Proverbs 2:6 NIV)*

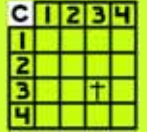
Elizabeth Brown

**Churches of Christ
National Racial Unity Day
Sunday, November 26, 2017**

Foster’s Home for Children

*“More than a home,
A sanctuary.”*

Placement applications accepted.
Employment applications welcome.
Applications and donations accepted online
at
www.fostershome.org
Stephenville, Texas



CHURCH BULLETINS

They're Back! Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank God for the church ladies with typewriters. These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

The sermon this morning: Jesus Walks on the Water. The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want re-

membered.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hospitality.

Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM . Please use the back door.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

And this one just about sums them all up The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday:

'I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours.'

From Phillip Bailey

THE CHRISTIAN ARRAY

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

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IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION is a 97 page 8 1/2" x 11" full color book by Benton Baugh which includes many of the "impossible" articles in this newsletter plus discussions on what impossible means, definition of terms, what evolutionists are going to teach your kids, and answers for evolutionists. Price: \$30.

**WILL MAKE EXCELLENT
CHRISTMAS PRESENT FOR
YOUR**



To order this book go to:

<http://www.thebookpatch.com/Bookstore/Genre.aspx>, click on Religion, then click on Religion and Science

(All net proceeds go to Oklahoma Christian University)

HALLOWED BE THY NAME by Misti Stevens

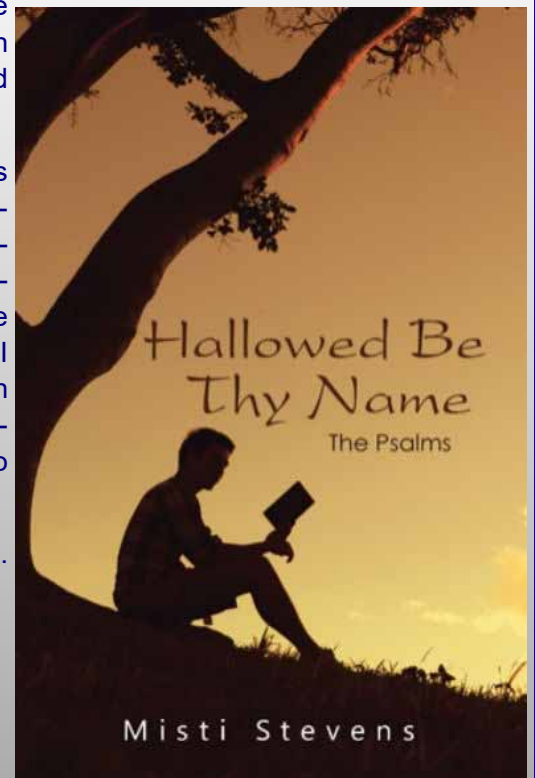
"Names are important in our culture. Families take great pains to name their children, often honoring previous relatives or friends who have made a difference in their lives. We even develop nicknames that express a person's character or the relationship we have with friends and family members, and we take great care when naming a child. It should be no surprise, then, that the names of God are just as important. Yet the Hebrew words for His names are most often just translated as "God" in English. Thus, we miss the fervor associated with each name unless we also happen to study the Hebrew text.

In *Hallowed Be Thy Name: The Psalms*, author Misti Stevens invites believers to know God by all His names so that we too can forge a special relationship with our Father in heaven. She offers a faithful translation and commentary of the book of Psalms, where God's names appear over 1,200 times in distinct forms and with distinct meanings—the God of Jacob, Adonai, Yahweh, Elohim, the Mighty God, the Great I AM, and more. Through a simple presentation of the text of Psalms with the meanings of names substituted in, you will be given a rich, meaningful look into who God is—and have the chance to draw closer to Him.

We can hardly say we know someone if we don't know them by name. So how well do you know God?"

This book can be purchased at:

<https://www.westbowpress.com/Bookstore/BookDetail.aspx?Book=764934>



IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION – ALIVE!

In the article “WHAT DOES MICRO-EVOLUTION MEAN?” in August 2017, we concluded that micro-evolution is something like changing existing data in a computer when you type. We also concluded that the DNA in your cells is like the data storage in your computer. Your DNA is functionally dead or inanimate data. It doesn't think, it is data.

In the Impossible For Evolution article in September 2017 we suggested that macro-evolution was something like writing new computer programming which would do something with the data, although the data would need to be new also.

For inanimate matter to do this is not very unlikely, it is impossible.

And again, the terms micro-evolution and macro-evolution are not even recognized by atheistic evolutionists. The conventional teaching is that a lot of micro-evolution makes up macro-evolution, so they are basically the same thing. We are suggesting that they are not the same thing.

Now for the really hard stuff. Imagine that you magically have all the data equivalent stuff and all the programming equivalent stuff all organized in a proper sequence. It will look a lot like the attached figure. What do you have? **You have organized inanimate matter. It is still dead.**

This may be a surprising statement as conventional wisdom is that it will magically be alive.

The way to prove whether this is true or not is to get the inanimate matter all together in a proper sequence and see what happens. We are talking about DNA among other things which is 3 billion nucleotide sections about six feet

long in a small too small to even see it. To accomplish this seems like a major feat.

Turns out you can do it personally. The outer layer of your skin is a collection of dead cells. Scrape your finger across your arm and you will have a bunch of dead skin cells under your fingernail.

Now present this to your local atheistic evolutionist and ask him or her to bring it back to life. It has exactly the right structure, weight, and organization it had when it was alive, but it is not alive. They can't do it. Don't have a clue.

What is the difference? Your handy local atheistic evolutionist nor any other scientist in the world has any idea what the difference is. They will assure zero I.Q. inanimate matter did it, but they don't know what happened.

It turns out that we know the answer. In Genesis 2:7 it says “Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.” The “breath of life” is something God used to change inanimate matter into living matter. **As it is invisible and weightless, it is a subject beyond the “scientific method”. It is a miracle of God.**

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

Cell Structure

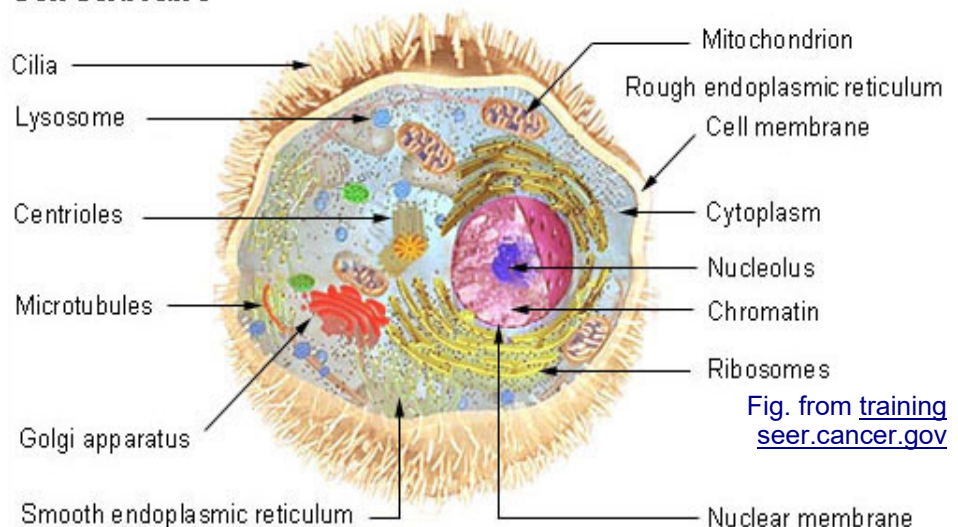


Fig. from training.seer.cancer.gov

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Vacationers

As you travel this summer, you can be of assistance in local congregations in helping them to understand how they are seen by potential visitors and prospects.

On the occgthingtank.org website, Project Papers tab is a paper titled: **MYSTERY GUEST PROGRAM**

This paper and the forms included will help you anonymously communicate with the congregation and improve their "curb appeal".

A project of the OC Church Growth Think Tank
www.occgthinktank.org



Meeting at Tom Wilson Elementary
5200 Falcon Landing Blvd.
Katy Texas, 77494.

Bible class at 9:00 am
Worship at 10:00 am.

Please plan to attend and tell your friends and neighbors. Most importantly, please pray for this mission effort.

www.nfbcoc.org

For more information, contact:
info@nfbcoc.org

PREACHING SPECIALISTS

Congregations sometimes need fill-in preachers and speakers with special subjects which are difficult for the local minister to become proficient in. Following are a list of speakers with topics which may be of interest to you. Each of the speakers are known to us and reliably present the Word.

If any of the topics are interesting to you, contact information is provided. Some speakers may require expenses and/or stipends.

- **CHRISTIAN COLLEGE IMPACT ON CHURCH FAITHFULNESS**
- **CHRISTIAN COLLEGE IMPACT ON MARRIAGE**

Kent Allen, Oklahoma Christian University
405-315-3008

- **CROSSING THE LINE IN ADDICTION**
Philip Bailey, Memorial Church of Christ, Houston, TX, 713-304-0011
Pbailey@gpbaileyconsulting.com
- **GOD IS SCIENTIFIC**
- **IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVOLUTION**
- **WHAT ATHEIST ARE GOING TO TELL YOUR CHILDREN, WITH ANSWERS**

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

Memorial church of Christ Houston, TX
713-419-8683

bbaugh@thearray.org

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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.

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

CHURCHES OF CHRIST DISASTER RELIEF EFFORT INC.

HELPING VICTIMS NATIONWIDE

When disasters such as tornadoes, hurricanes, wildfires and floods strike, we can bring prepackaged food boxes, personal hygiene boxes, infant care, cleaning supplies, bottled water, clothing and other supplies to a local Church of Christ congregation(s) serving that area.

Info or assistance call 615-833-0888 or 1-800-541-2848
Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort, Inc.
P.O. Box 11180, Nashville, TN 37222-1180
dsastrlf@aol.com www.disasterrelief.org



Jerry Heiderich: Director
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

311A East Calhoun Street, El Campo, TX 77437
Clinic 979-578-9091, Cell 214-862-8964

jerry@gulfcoastchristiancounseling.com



Lance Decker

Certified Grief Recovery Specialist

Tomball, TX

+1 (

832) 534-0730

lance@lancedecker.com

www.lancedecker.com

Grief Support/Recovery Groups meet at Spring Creek Church of Christ in Tomball, TX at no cost.

Individual programs available for a fee.

Programs

The Grief Recovery Method: For all Grief Experiences
When Children Grieve: Helps parents help children grieve

Pet Loss: Program specifically for the loss of a pet

Also available for speaking to groups/
congregations about grief.



Mental and Behavioral Health Crisis Solutions

Jeremy Sprott LPC, Owner

Web: www.mentalhealthresponse.com Phone: (832) 518-7933

Email: jeremy@mentalhealthresponse.com



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AREA WIDE ACTIVITIES

- Each Wed.** Northeast Houston Preacher's Meeting, Darien Loop CofC, 7014 Darien St., Houston, 11:00—1:00, Contact Cecil Herndon, aj10@ridemetro.com for more details
- 2nd Tues.** Northwest Houston Preacher's Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Rancho King Buffet, 5900 N. Frwy., Houston, confirm with Gerald Fruzia fruzia70@sbcglobal.net for info.
- 11/26/17** Churches of Christ National Racial Unity Day, see page 1.
- 8/2018** Greater Houston Area Campaign for Christ

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 info@thearray.org and it will be stopped.

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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 info@thearray.org.