

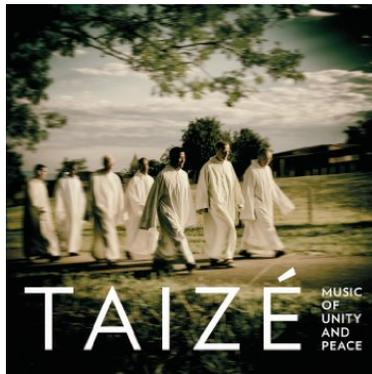
---

# FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

---

## TAIZÉ RELEASES “MUSIC OF UNITY AND PEACE”

Taizé (pronounced teh-zay), an ecumenical monastic community on the cutting edge of contemplative prayer, has released a collection of chants entitled “Music of Unity and Peace.” Based in Burgundy, France, the community consists of about 100 monastics from Catholic and Protestant backgrounds, but its influence is vast. Hundreds of thousands of young people flock there from all over the world, and thousands of congregations in the U.S. and elsewhere hold Taizé contemplative prayer services and sing Taizé songs. Taizé is a major force for ecumenism. Founder Roger Schutz participated in the Second Vatican Council, and Pope John Paul II visited Taizé in October 1986. Since Schutz’s death (he was murdered by a deranged woman during a Taizé service), the community has been led by a Roman Catholic priest named Alois Loeser. The Taizé services are non-dogmatic and non-authoritative. There is no preaching. “It does not dictate what people must believe. No confessions of faith are required. No sermons are given. No emotional, evangelical-style salvation testimonials



are expected.” Schutz described the philosophy of Taizé as, “Searching together--not wanting to become spiritual masters who impose; God never imposes. We want to love and listen, we want simplicity” (“Taizé,” Religion and Ethics Newsweekly, Sept. 20, 2002). This is blind mysticism loosed from the authority of Scripture. It is not building the true church of Christ; it is building the Mystery Babylon. Taizé’s non-doctrinal ecumenical Christianity is fueled by mystical practices. A “shadowy medieval” atmosphere is created with the use of such things as candles, icons, and incense (*Vancouver Sun*, April 14, 2000). The goal is to bring the “worshiper” into a meditative state, “to a place beyond words, a place of just being.” There is a lot of repetition, with “one-line Taizé harmonies repeated up to 15 times each.” Catholic contemplative prayer has swept through “evangelicalism” over the past 20 years, as we have documented in *Evangelicals and Contemplative Prayer*, available in print and as a free eBook from [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org).

## ABORTION KILLED 19 AS MANY BLACKS AS MURDER

The following is excerpted from “Abortion Killed,” CNSNews.com, Jan. 23, 2015: “For every black murder victim in 2011 there were 19 blacks killed by abortion, according to data from the FBI and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). 2011 is the latest year for which the data is available. The CDC’s Abortion Surveillance Report for 2011 shows that 117,293 black babies were aborted that year in the 32 states and the District of Columbia that report abortion numbers to the CDC. The FBI’s Uniform Crime Report for 2011, shows that 6,329 blacks were murder victims that year (5,416 males, 910 females, and 3 unknown gender). In other words, for every black American killed by homicide in 2011, there were 19 (18.5) blacks killed by abortion--and that’s just in the jurisdictions that report their abortion data. (See Table 13 in CDC report.) Also, the 117,293 aborted babies is 1,753% higher than the 6,329 black murder victims.”

## HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR BOOTED FROM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The following is excerpted from “Holocaust Survivor,” *WorldNetDaily*, Jan. 30, 2015: “Anita Dittman has been speaking about the Holocaust for more than three decades, telling everyone who will listen of her survival and how Jesus Christ helped her escape the trap that was ‘Hitler’s hell.’ She has reached thousands through her book, *Trapped in Hitler’s Hell*, co-authored with fellow Minnesotan Jan Markell. ... At 87, she still speaks to audiences large and small, sometimes several times a month, recounting the story of a happy, five-year-old Jewish girl when Hitler came to power in 1933 and how life changed over the next 12-and-a-half years living under Nazi rule. She would emerge on the other side of the concentration camps as a young woman of devout Christian faith, severely scarred but full of powerful stories. ... ‘When I started speaking in 1978-79, people would ask me, “Do you think it could happen here in this country?” And I said, “Oh no, people are used to so much freedom in this country, it could never happen here,” Dittman told WND. ‘When they ask me that question now, I say, “It is already happening.”’ Americans are not ‘disappearing’ as in Nazi Germany, but Dittman says something has changed. ‘The country that I came to in 1946 was very different,’ she said. ‘I can’t speak in public schools anymore. They won’t let me.’ When she informs educators that her message will contain strong Christian themes, she usually gets a few seconds of awkward silence. Then a polite rebuff. ... Some schools still allow her to speak but require parents to sign a form saying it’s OK for their child to sit through a presentation that contains religious themes. But more often, the parents don’t even have a say in the matter, and she is barred upfront from speaking. ‘It’s getting worse, I tell you,’ she said. ‘It’s so dictating to the parents now. This is how it started in Russia and Germany.’ ... And it’s not just public schools where free speech is being curtailed. Dittman said she has friends on the East Coast who have a religious radio program, and they are being monitored by the federal government. They watch what they say now. ‘She said please don’t use the name of the man that rules our country because they are monitoring our calls,’ Dittman said. ‘And they even use fake names because they already got a warning sent to them.’”

## POLITICAL CORRECTNESS DESTROYING FREE SPEECH IN AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES

The following is excerpted from “Political Correctness,” *OneNewsNow.com*, Jan. 21, 2015: “Recently returning from Hungary, where she has been serving as a missionary since 2002, one Christian missionary testified that the degree of ‘political correctness’ in America has risen exponentially over the 12 years since she left to spread the gospel in Eastern Europe. After interviewing the missionary, identified as ‘Melanie,’ author Andrée Seu Peterson realized the United States is indeed a different place than it was just over a decade ago. She agreed with Melanie that fears over speaking about numerous politically correct issues back in 2002 were nothing compared to today--on topics from gender or ethnic groups to homosexual behavior to abortion. ... Peterson then pointed out how universities have over-sensitized students to the point where they are warned to shield their eyes and ears to ideas, concepts, and material that they might find the least bit disturbing or inconsistent with campus politics. ‘The teaching of English today is a mandate to get rid of language that hurts people’s sensibilities,’ Peterson continued. ‘At the University of California in Santa Barbara, course syllabi are required to come with “trigger warnings” alerting students to content that may hurt their feelings. Like that contemptible *Huckleberry Finn* book.’ Peterson discovered an entirely new evolution of terms that have been used in America for generations. ‘The National

*continued on next page...*

## POLITICAL CORRECTNESS DESTROYING FREE SPEECH IN AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES ...continued

Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) guidelines bristle with examples to “provide inclusionary alternatives to specific exclusionary wording,” Peterson informed. “Exclusionary forms, those to be flushed out of the culture, include: man, mankind, man’s achievements, the best man for the job, man the controls, man the ticket booth.” ... Peterson noted how the simplest innocuous sentences have been henpecked by modern-day grammarians in the state-run education system who are striving to replace the way Americans speak with a new politically correct vernacular that is no respecter of sexes. ‘The teachers council is happy to oblige with sample sentences,’ Peterson explained. ‘Maria is a career woman’ is retired for ‘Maria is a professional.’ ‘You guys go ahead’ is more properly ‘You students/class/third graders go ahead.’ ‘Dear Mothers, please bake cookies for your class party’ becomes in this brave new world, ‘Dear Families, please bake cookies for your class party.’”

## TWO SCIENTISTS DEBUNK MAN-MADE CLIMATE CHANGE

Two prominent scientists have publicly debunked “man-made climate change” in recent months. In October, John Coleman, co-founder of the Weather Channel, said “climate change is nothing but a lie” (“Top Meteorologist,” Breitbart, Oct. 23, 2014). Coleman pointed to such things as the hiatus in rising temperatures and the increase of polar ice and polar bears. Coleman said, “I have studied this topic seriously for years. It has become a political and environment agenda item, but the science is not valid.” Coleman said, “There has been no warming over 18 years.” And in January, Richard Lindzen, MIT Professor Emeritus of meteorology, called global-warming alarmists a “cult.” Lindzen said, “As with any cult, once the mythology of the cult begins falling apart, instead of saying, oh, we were wrong, they get more and more fanatical. I think that’s what’s happening here” (“MIT Climate Scientist,” Breitbart.com. Jan. 21, 2015). After government agencies, including NASA, proclaimed recently that 2014 was the hottest year in recorded history, the same agencies backtracked, stating that there’s only a 38% chance that this is true and even if it is, it was only true by two-100ths of a degree, which is basically nothing. “Lindzen said he was fortunate to have gained tenure just as the ‘climate change’ movement was beginning, because now non-believers are often ostracized in academia.” Lindzen says the climate-change alarmists’ solutions will reduce people’s standard of living and impoverish people, “But,” he says, “the environment movement has never cared about that.”



## POPE'S POPULARITY CONTINUES TO GROW IN U.S.

Pope Francis’ popularity continues to grow in the United States, both among Catholics and non-Catholics. According to a Pew Forum survey conducted in February, the pope is viewed favorably by 90% of Catholics, by 74% of mainline Protestants, and by 60% of evangelicals (March 5, 2015, PewForum.org). Even among the non-religious, 68% hold a favorable opinion. Rome is at the heart of the “one world church,” and the popularity of her popes is a major prophetic sign of the times.



# SMART POTATO

The following is from CreationMoments.com, February 20, 2015: “The Peruvian Andes gave the world the potato, which is one of the largest crops in the world today. The problem is, the modern potato is plagued by potato beetles and aphids, which also carry some viral diseases to the plant.

Now a wild potato found in the Bolivian Andes is being studied because it seems to be quite resistant to these pests. The Bolivian potato defends itself using tiny hairs on its leaves called trichomes. There are roughly the same number of tall and short trichomes on the leaves, and they work together to provide a complete defense system for the plant. The hairs are so closely spaced that even a tiny aphid cannot avoid them. The end of each hair has a sack filled with defense chemicals. The short trichomes release their chemicals only when disturbed. The longer trichomes continuously release their chemicals. When an aphid gets on a leaf, its legs cannot avoid coming in contact with the sticky fluid the short trichomes release. To make certain that the aphid collects enough of the sticky stuff, the plant also releases a chemical that agitates the aphid. This gooey liquid finally sets up into a hard mass, leaving the aphid to starve. It also appears that a scent emitted by one of the trichomes makes the leaves completely distasteful to potato beetles. A potato may someday be developed that can save itself from the pestilence of aphids and beetles. But we cannot save ourselves from the pestilence of our sin. That's why God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross for our sins.”



## CONCLUSION

The Friday Church News Notes is designed for use in churches and is published by Way of Life Literature's Fundamental Baptist Information Service. Unless otherwise stated, the Notes are written by David Cloud. Of necessity we quote from a wide variety of sources, but this obviously does not imply an endorsement. We trust that our readers will not be discouraged. It is God's will that we know the times (1 Ch. 12:32; Mat. 16:3) and that we be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves. The News Notes remind us that the hour is very late, and we need to be ready for the Lord's coming. Are you sure that you are born again? Are you living for Christ? “And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof” (Rom. 13:11-14). This material is sent only to those who personally subscribe to the Fundamental Baptist Information Service mailing list. To SUBSCRIBE, go to <http://www.wayoflife.org/wayoflife/subscribe.html>. TO UNSUBSCRIBE OR CHANGE ADDRESSES, go to the very bottom of any email received from us and click "Manage My Subscription." Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org).