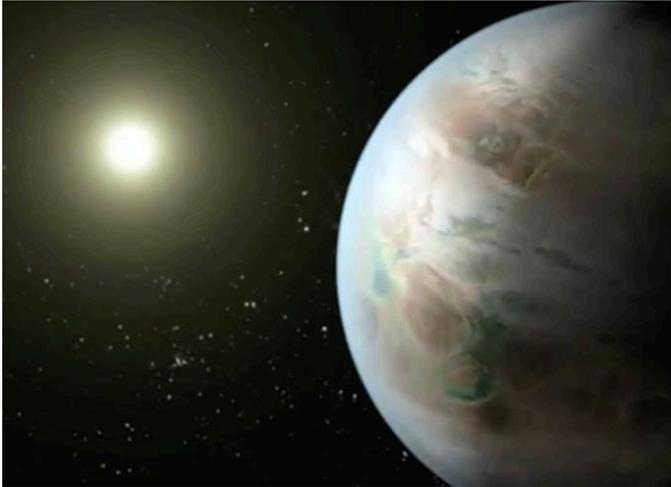

FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

ASTRONOMERS FIND “EARTH-LIKE PLANET”



NASA has announced that its Kepler mission has found a “near-earth-size planet in the ‘habitable zone’ around a sun-like star” (“Astronomers Thrilled,” *BreakingChristianNews.com*, Jul. 24, 2015). This brings the total of “earth-like” planets discovered so far to 4,696. The newest one, Kepler-452, is 1,400 light years away in the constellation Cygnus and is said to “bring science one step closer to finding an Earth 2.0.” Because of their rebellion to the Almighty Creator, these brilliant scientists are engaging in nonsense based on assumptions and just-so stories. Their search for “Earth 2.0” assumes that the universe and biological life are the product of evolution, but there is zero scientific evidence that the complex universe sprang from nothing or that life sprang from non-life or that the myriad of complicated life forms evolved from one “simple” one.

TWO MENNONITE COLLEGES ALLOW EMPLOYMENT OF “MARRIED” HOMOSEXUALS

The following is excerpted from “Two Mennonite Colleges,” *Christian News Network*, Jul. 22, 2015: “Two American colleges that identify as Mennonite institutions have announced changes to their hiring policy to now allow the employment of homosexuals who have ‘wed’ their partners. Eastern Mennonite University (EMU) in Harrisonburg, Virginia and Goshen College in Goshen, Indiana announced the alterations on Monday, while claiming to still hold to the biblical principles as Christian schools. EMU’s decision followed a two-year ‘listening process’ to ‘review current hiring policies and practices with respect to individuals in same-sex relationships’ ... On Monday, Board Chair Kay Brenneman Nussbaum and President Lauren Swartzendruber stated that they believed the compromise was satisfactory. ‘[EMU] is grounded in Mennonite/Anabaptist values, and we believe people in same-sex covenanted relationships are valued members of our learning community with equal rights to standard benefits,’ Nussbaum remarked in a statement. ... Goshen College made similar statements, remarking that there is a ‘diversity’ of opinions on whether or not biblical law prohibits sexuality between those of the same gender. ‘As an institution rooted in the Anabaptist tradition, we reaffirm our strong relationship to Mennonite Church USA, and recognize the diversity of interpretation of Scripture on this issue within our denomination and the broader Christian church, a diversity reflected within the board of directors and on our campus as well,’ said President James Brenneman.”

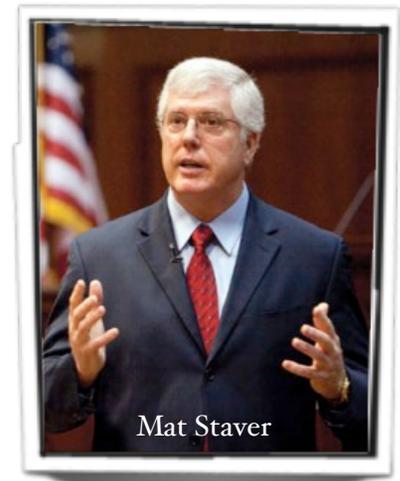
KENTUCKY'S DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE FORBIDS CALLING HOMOSEXUALITY SINFUL



David Wells

A 2014 policy by Kentucky's Department of Juvenile Justice forbids counselors from calling homosexuality "sinful," and a long-time volunteer prison minister has been barred for refusing to sign a statement agreeing to the policy. David Wells' status as a counselor was revoked on July 7 by the Warren County Regional Juvenile Detention Center. He has more than 10 years experience working as a volunteer under the prison ministry of Pleasant View Baptist Church, McQuady, Kentucky. DJJ Policy 912 on "Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity" says that staff and volunteers "shall not refer to juveniles by using derogatory language in a manner that conveys bias towards or hatred

of the LGBTQI community. DJJ staff, volunteers, interns, and contractors shall not imply or tell LGBTQI juveniles that they are abnormal, deviant, sinful, or that they can or should change their sexual orientation or gender identity." Liberty Council, which is representing Mr. Wells, has demanded that he be reinstated and that the state of Kentucky stop imposing a religious test on volunteer pastor counselors. Liberty Council's Mat Staver says that by equating the teaching of biblical morality with "derogatory," "biased," and "hateful" speech, "DJJ policy creates an unconstitutional, religious litmus test for DJJ access" ("Kentucky Juvenile Department Bans Biblical Counseling," Liberty Council, Jul. 24, 2015). Staver says, further, "Many juveniles are in DJJ custody because of sexual crimes. David Wells must be able to discuss what the Bible says about matters of sexuality with the juveniles he is trying to help. To remove the Bible from a pastor's hands is like removing a scalpel from a surgeon's hands. Without it, they cannot provide healing."



Mat Staver

AMERICAN WAR HERO FROM ISRAEL'S WAR OF INDEPENDENCE DIES



Lou Lenart, an American fighter pilot who led Israel's air attack against the Egyptians and thus saved Tel Aviv, died on July 20 at age 94 ("Lou Lenart," *The Times of Israel*, Jul. 21, 2015). Lenart was born into a Jewish family in Hungary, and when he was 10 they moved to the United States. After serving as a Marine pilot in the U.S. Army in World War II, he volunteered to help smuggle war surplus planes into Israel in early 1948 in preparation for the War of Independence. Two weeks after the nation declared its independence on May 14, a large Egyptian force advanced to within 16 miles of Tel Aviv. Israel decided to gamble its entire "air force" of four Czech planes in an attempt to halt the attack. Caught unawares, having been assured the Israelis had no warplanes, the Egyptians retreated. It was one of the many miraculous things that happened during that and subsequent wars.

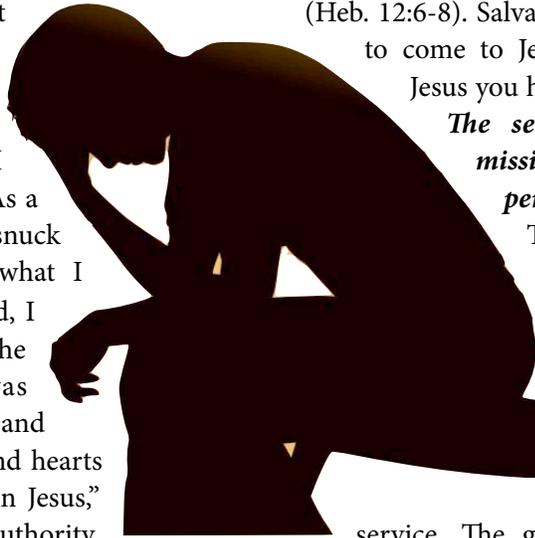
MISSING IN YOUNG PEOPLE'S LIVES

If a young person does not have a love for Christ and an earnest desire to please Him, no list of rules will protect him. He will find a way to do what he really wants to do, and if he cannot do it now, he will do it as soon as he is on his own. Two things are missing in the lives of many young people who grow up in Bible-believing churches. ***The first thing that is missing is salvation.*** I know this by experience. I grew up in a Baptist church and went through the motions of getting saved around age 10 or 11, but I wasn't saved. I had no inner motive to do right. I had no personal love for the Bible. As a result, I broke my parents' rules and snuck around and found a way to do what I wanted to do, and as soon as I could, I left home and "followed my heart." The missing element in my life was repentance toward God (Acts 20:21), and this is what is missing in the lives and hearts of many young people. I "believed in Jesus," but I did not surrender to God's authority. That is the essence of repentance. The sinner has rebelled against God and broken His law, and he

must repent of this. Repentance is a change of direction in the heart. Two great biblical examples are the Prodigal Son (Lk. 15:17-19) and the idolaters at Thessalonica (1 Th. 1:9). Parents and church leaders need to look for clear evidence of salvation. These are a life-changing conversion experience (Jn. 3:3; Mat. 18:3), love for God's Word (Jn. 8:47), love of righteousness (1 Jn. 2:3-4), and divine chastisement (Heb. 12:6-8). Salvation is not difficult. It means to come to Jesus, but when you turn to Jesus you have your back to the old life.

The second thing that is often missing is surrender to God's perfect will (Romans 12:1-2).

This is a choice that each believer must make, and it is a choice that is made because of the mercies of God. Because of all that He has done for us, we should be motivated to surrender our lives to His service. The goal of parents and church leaders must be to lead young people to true salvation and surrender and to make disciples of



CHICKEN DINNER INVENTED IN ISRAEL



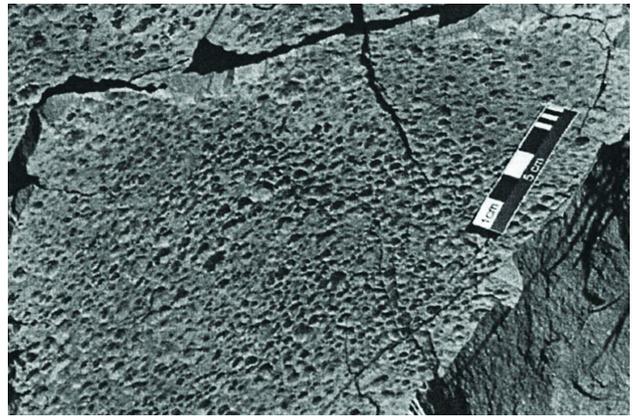
Archaeologists are claiming that "Israel is where the chicken business was invented." Sometime between 200-400 BC, the raising and eating of chicken began in the town of Maresha in central Israel. When the occupying Romans discovered chicken, the practice spread throughout the empire ("Sorry colonel, Israel had real original recipe chicken," *The Times of Israel*, July 21, 2015). This is according to the Zinman Institute of Archaeology at Haifa University. Doctoral student Lee Perry-Gal says, "After the Romans exported what they saw at Maresha, chicken became a culinary craze throughout the Empire." The researchers found thousands of bones of chickens with knife marks indicating they were prepared for consumption. The Maresha chickens weren't barbecued, but were either baked, boiled, or fried, since there is no sign of burning on the bones.



RAINDROP PATTERNS FROM THE DELUGE

The following is excerpted from “Raindrop imprints and the location of the pre-Flood/Flood boundary,” *Creation* magazine, Aug. 2013: “Raindrop imprints can also tell us the location of the pre-Flood/ Flood boundary. They have been reported in the Precambrian from the Uinta Mountains, India, Norway, and South Africa. Some of these locations have multiple stratigraphic levels of raindrop imprints. The latter site was in the late Archean Ventersdorp Supergroup. Some creationists have questioned whether Precambrian raindrop imprints really are raindrop imprints. However, the size distribution of Archean raindrop imprints in South Africa has recently been favourably compared to raindrop imprints today and from experiments of falling water drops of known sizes and fall velocities. So, it is likely that these Archean examples are really raindrop imprints. Since rain did not fall at least until after man was created, as clearly stated in Genesis 2:5-6, and possibly until the Flood, raindrop imprints indicate that the sediments were laid down either between Creation Week and the Flood or during the Flood. ... The raindrop imprints can be explained the same way as dinosaur tracks, eggs, and scavenged bone beds can be explained, early in the Flood. This

is by the BEDS (Briefly Exposed Diluvial Sediments) hypothesis in which rapid sedimentation followed by a drop in local sea level can expose flat bedding planes for brief periods. Precambrian sedimentary rocks are normally thousands of metres thick, so it makes sense that they can be briefly exposed after heavy deposition. Raindrop imprints have to be rapidly buried in order to be preserved, which would have happened during the corresponding rise in local sea level. Multiple levels can be explained by this mechanism repeating several times.”



Fossilized raindrop imprints from the supposed 2.7-billion-year-old Archean Ventersdorp Supergroup

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, fbs@wayoflife.org.