FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

PRESIDENT TRUMP CHOSES SINATRA’S NARCISSISTIC ANTHEM FOR FIRST DANCE

For the first dance number of his inaugural balls, President Donald Trump choose the narcissistic anthem “My Way,” which was a Frank Sinatra mega-hit in 1969. It describes a man who thinks he can thumb his nose at God’s holy laws, do it his way, and things will turn out fine. “My Way” is one of the most influential pop songs of all time. It holds the record for the most time spent in the UK Top 40 singles chart (75 weeks). It’s the song most frequently played at British funerals. The song is based generally on the tune of a French pop song, Comme d’habitude (As Usual), and the words were written by Paul Anka, who asked himself, “If Frank were writing this, what would he say? ... I noticed that everything was ‘my this’ and ‘my that.’ We were in the ‘me generation’ and Frank became the guy for me to use to say that. I used words I would never use: ‘I ate it up and spit it out.’ But that’s the way he talked” (“Paul Anka: One Song,” The Daily Telegraph, Nov. 8, 2016). The song has caused so many acts of

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CHARISMATICS PROPHESYING OF ANGELS MARCHING AND DONALD TRUMP “ACCELERATION BOOTS”

The Internet is buzzing with charismatic “prophecies” of great things for America through the Trump presidency. Writing for The Elijah List, Lana Vawser made the following pronouncement, which is typical: “I saw this increase happen in the spirit from the moment that President-elect Trump is sworn in at his inauguration. I saw an acceleration of the fire of God all across the nation, and I could hear the Lord saying, ‘USA burn, USA burn. Burn to come alive! Burn, ushering in the divine U-turn, return and reset.’ ... It is the cleansing and purifying fire of the Lord. ... I heard the words, ‘I am going to uproot, and I am going to give Donald Trump acceleration boots.’ ... More and more ground will be taken and victory demonstrated in such suddenlies that it will look impossible that it could happen so quickly, but it is the anointing of the Lord’s acceleration upon Mr. Trump. The Lord is doing a very quick work in the USA right now to see His glory come in ways that have never been seen before as healing and freedom come to the land. ... The first day I arrived in Washington, D.C., this week, I heard the Lord saying over and over, ‘Washington is waking up. Washington is waking up.’ ... A few days later, I could hear the sound of angels marching into Washington, D.C., on assignment to bring a great awakening of His power and glory.”

CONCLUSION: What do these prophecies mean? Absolutely nothing! “To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them” (Isaiah 8:20). (For more about the Latter Rain prophets see the free eBooks Charismatic Confusion and End-Time Confusion International House of Prayer, www.wayoflife.org.)
QUEEN’S CHAPLAIN RESIGNS AFTER SPEAKING AGAINST KORAN READING IN GLASGOW CATHEDRAL

After speaking out against the reading of the Koran at St. Mary’s Cathedral, Glasgow, one of the Queen’s 34 chaplains has been forced to resign. Dr. Gavin Ashenden bravely and rightly reproved the decision of Kelvin Holdsworth, Provost of the cathedral, and called upon him to apologize, suggesting that he lacked the “theological astuteness” for the job. Instead of Holdsworth being forced to apologize and step down over the blasphemous heresy, the axe fell upon Ashenden the reprover. From Ashenden’s resignation statement, it appears that he was forced out by the palace. He said he realized “a very important convention that the Queen should not be drawn into public affairs where she is deemed to be taking a position” (“Queen’s Chaplain Quits,” ChristianToday.com, Jan. 22, 2017). He said, further, “Because I think it a higher and more compelling duty to speak out on behalf of the faith, than to retain a public honour which precludes me doing so at this time, I resigned my post.” It’s too bad that the queen of England, the head of the Church of England, did not publicly support one of her preachers who has at least a hint of gumption for the truth of God’s Word. As we stated in Friday Church News Notes last week, a section of the Koran, Surah 19, denying that Jesus is the Son of God was recently chanted by a Muslim woman during a worship service at St. Mary’s. This church belongs to the Scottish Episcopal Church, which in turn is part of the worldwide Anglican communion. Surah 19 claims that baby Jesus said, “Allah is my Lord and your Lord, so worship Him.” It also says, “It is not [befitting] for Allah to take a son; exalted is He!”

PRESIDENT TRUMP CHOOSES SINATRA’S NARCISSISTIC ANTHEM FOR FIRST DANCE NUMBER

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violence and homicide in karaoke bars in the Philippines that they are referred to as “My Way Killings.” When Bono (lead singer for U2) delivered the Legend Award to Sinatra at the 1994 Grammys, he called him “the chairman of the bad attitude.” The last stanza of “My Way” says, “For what is a man, what has he got? If not himself, then he has naught. To say the things he truly feels and not the words of one who kneels. The record shows I took the blows and did it my way. Yes, it was my way.” Probably in a vain attempt to cover all his bases, the irreligious Sinatra died in the arms of Rome. In his acceptance speech on January 20, President Trump called his fellow Americans who want good schools, safe neighborhoods, and good jobs “righteous people and a righteous public.” He said, “We are protected and we will always be protected. We will be protected by the great men and women of our military and law enforcement. And most importantly, we will be protected by God.” That statement is the sin of presumption. It has no support from Scripture. America is most definitely not a righteous nation. It is a desperately sinful nation, though it has had more Bible light than any nation on earth other than Israel. “Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people” (Proverbs 14:34).
Eugene Cernan, the last man to walk on the moon, died on January 16 at age 82. Together with Ronald Evans and Harrison Schmitt, Cernan was on Apollo 17, America’s final manned mission to the moon; and Cernan was the last man to leave the moon’s surface, at 5:26pm EST on December 13, 1972. It was on the Apollo 17 voyage to the moon that the world-famous “Blue Marble” photo was taken of an almost fully-illuminated earth. Israel is at the top of the photo, with the Red Sea clearly visible, and almost the entire coast of Africa is in view. On previous Apollo missions, the moon’s shadow covered part of the earth. In a 2007 NASA Johnson Space Center Oral History Project, Cernan made the following statement: “Science and technology got me to this plateau on another planet, another body in this universe. Science and technology got me there, but when I got there and I looked back home at the Earth, science and technology could not explain what I was seeing nor what I was feeling. You look at the Earth, and it very majestically yet mysteriously rotates on an axis you can’t see, but must be there. There are no strings holding it up. It moves with purpose. It moves with logic. Every 12 hours you’re looking at the other side of the Earth. It’s inconceivable to be somewhere to watch the Earth rotate in front of your very eyes. But when I looked back home there was too much purpose, too much logic. The Earth to me--and we all, I think, come home with our own impressions--was just too beautiful to have happened by accident. Science and technology could not give me the answers I was looking for, and I came home with a conclusion that it’s just too beautiful to have happened by accident. There must be something you and I, all of us don’t fully understand about the creation of the universe, about the miracle of life itself. ... I said earlier looking at the Earth in all its wonder, in all its splendor, it’s all dynamics, it’s alive, it’s not tumbling through space, it’s not moving aimlessly, it’s moving with logic and purpose, it’s too beautiful to have happened by accident. What I’m saying is there is a creator of the universe. There’s a God. I don’t care how you dress him, by what name you call him, I’m telling you I’ve been there, I’ve seen a small part of ‘God’s’ [creation]--and God is not--there’s a God--religions are manmade. But from my point of view they all get to the same place. They get to a creator; call him, worship him in any way you want” (www.jsc.nasa.gov/history/oral_histories). Sadly, Cernan did not know the God of whom the creation witnesses. The Creator has revealed Himself in creation, but He has revealed Himself more definitely in the Scriptures which were given to holy prophets of old by His Spirit. The creation witnesses to God’s power and wisdom, but it does not reveal His heart and character. For that, we must go to Bethlehem and witness the eternal Son of God becoming a man to live a sinless life as required by God’s law. Mary was instructed by the angel to name Him “Jesus,” which means Saviour. Then we must go to Calvary to witness the Son of God willingly suffering and dying and shedding His blood to make atonement for undeserving sinners. In this the love and grace and mercy of God is on full display. On the third day, Christ rose from the dead to offer salvation to “whosoever believeth in him” (John 3:16). This is the central message of the Bible, and thank the Lord, you don’t have to be a rocket scientist to understand it. “And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world” (1 John 4:14).
The following is excerpted from “Obama Admin Moves Top Gay,” LifeSiteNews, Jan. 19, 2017: “The Obama administration positioned their top U.S. homosexual rights diplomat into a key position within the State Department which will make it harder for the Trump administration to change current U.S. policy opposing traditional values on human sexuality. An informed source told the Friday Fax that President Obama’s Special Envoy for the Rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) Persons Randy Berry ‘has been moved over to DRL (the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor) as a career DAS (Deputy Assistant Secretary) … That is where the Obama agenda will be hardest to overcome.’ The DRL formulates policy that U.S. staff at the UN execute. Berry stirred controversy for his part in inserting the homosexual rights agenda into the U.S. office dealing with religious freedom abroad. Another source told the Friday Fax that Berry ‘not only oversaw the incorporation of LGBT into the religious freedom office, something not included in the Congressional mandate that set the office up, but he also oversaw the persecution and eventual exit of employees, foreign service officers, Christians, who objected to mixing LGBT with religious persecution.’ In the last two years, the Obama administration has been working to entrench the LGBTI agenda such that future U.S. administrations cannot repeal it. Berry’s office was formed in 2014 by Senate Democrats, the same year that the U.S. helped form ‘Core Groups’ at the UN and Organization of American States (OAS) and created a new diplomatic post, a special rapporteur, at OAS to report on alleged abuses against LGBTI. The UN established the same position this year after a contentious debate. … Berry reported that in his first year as special envoy he met with 42 countries, including the Holy See, with activists, and with religious leaders whom he said were largely in favor of the progressive agenda. He said he made the transgender issue a priority. The diplomat called Russian and Nigerian laws protecting children from homosexual material ‘draconian’ and a violation of free speech. He took credit for assisting in progressive laws, including Vietnam’s allowing changing of sex in official documents, Nepal’s constitution including sexual orientation and gender identity, Mozambique’s repealing laws prohibiting sodomy, and Botswana’s recognizing of LGBTI activist organizations.”