Azusa Pacific alumni bring vital bicycle transportation to Africa

By Lori Arnold

AZUSA — Tiki Mambwe was grateful for his job as a bricklayer. As one of 11 new employees constructing a warehouse, Mambwe was, you could say, on the ground floor of a new social enterprise ministry that was manufacturing bikes to serve villagers in remote regions in Zambia.

“He had a huge smile on his face even when he was asked to clean the sewage out of the sewage pit,” said Dustin McBride, one of the co-founders of Zambikes, a social enterprise ministry that was launched in 2007 after a university-led missions trip to the country in 2004.

During that trip, McBride and Vaughn Spethmann, classmates at Azusa Pacific University, noticed a desperate need for quality, affordable bicycles—the main mode of transportation in the landlocked, South African nation.

When they returned to the United States, the pair drafted their first business plan for an NAHU business unit in Honduras.

Among the 11 workers are minority owner Daryl Funk, left, and Dustin McBride, co-founder of Zambikes, stands astride a mud-splattered Zambike pulling a Zambulance. The mobile medical transportation unit was designed by Daryl Funk, left.

Spethmann, who held minority ownership.

“A bike can enable a kid to go to school or a parent to get to a job in other parts of the city or in another village,” said Tom Larson, executive director of Zambikes. “A bike can enable a father to take a sick child to a clinic. Our bikes help healthcare workers see more clients and help pastors visit their

See ZAMBIKES, page 7

Action heroes
Disaster recovery and remote relief is their mission

By Patti Townley-Coevert

SAN BERNARDINO — Deep in the jungles of the Miskito Coast, a breech baby or machete injury can be a death sentence. For 9-year-old Nadia, an umbilical hernia became a life-or-death emergency. Common in infants, this ailment had been left untreated until it finally blew out Nadia’s belly button. Part of her intestine protruded through the opening and Nadia had to hold it in.

The simple medical procedure necessary to save Nadia’s life took place at one of three full-service medical clinics constructed by the Rescue Task Force. Located in remote Honduran villages, patients served by the ministry must first survive up to a six-day canoe paddle to receive the medical care they need.

“(Our) nonprofit alleviates suffering and provides developmental aid to those who have been marginalized by geography or economic deprivation,” said Gary Becks, the 68-year-old president and founder of Rescue Task Force. “We often go where others do not to help those outside the scope of conventional relief providers.”

Becks is anything but conventional. As a Vietnam medevac corpsman with the Third Marines, he was awarded seven Air Medals for outstanding performance in more than 140 combat missions. As a civilian, Becks said his role as a San Bernardino County Fire Agency Battalion Commander helped prepare

See RESCUE, page 2

Entertainment
Preachers of LA’ reality show prompts online petition

FREE
Rescue... Continued from page 1

pare him for creating a task force. After cashing out his retirement in 1988, Becks said he had the seed money to begin a new ministry. Assembling resources from a variety of individuals and corporations, he began working with the Contra war refugees that flooded into Honduras after actual attacks on churches in Nicaragua. The Sandinista did confiscate Bibles to use as toilet paper and for rolling cigarettes, so RTF started taking Misión language Bibles to the village pastors who could read and write.

“The church is the focal point of the village, and the people are strong Christians,” Becks said. “If anything, they would evangelize us.”

Serving local ministries

Whether confronting calamities caused by the Sandinistas, wildfires in San Diego—where the ministry was based before relocating to Inland Empire—or a tsunami in Thailand, Rescue Task Force always works alongside a local church. Other organizations contribute supplies, but after the Morrocoy, Okinawa tornado in May, Becks said the ministry “worked through World Water Energy.” To get containers of supplies mooring the very next day, 4,176 bottles of water and 4,488 Meals Ready to Eat along with other necessities such as 3,700 pairs of shoes, 2,400 masks, 1,600 lunch kits, 1,300 work gloves, 960 brooms, 320 blankets and 200 tents.

Becks said that in such a disaster, even though a family may find 300 new victims each year—many of them children.

Maximizing relief efforts

As much as possible the ministry recruits local volunteers for its teams. In Honduras, the Ministry of Health is so grateful for Rescue Task Force’s work, Becks said they’ve agreed to staff 10 full-service clinics, creating an entire network for getting all of the villagers of the Misquito Coast jungle within one day’s canoe paddle of a facility. To motivate health care professionals to live and work in some of the extremely remote villages, Rescue Task Force sometimes offers a bonus.

The clinic is built in the center of village areas on land donated by the Indians, who also contribute much of the construction labor, including cutting the mahogany trees in the jungle. RTF ships in the remaining materials such as cement, rebar and roofing material. In addition, they provide equipment such as exam tables and pediatric scales, shipping everything from the United States. Becks said the cargo is shipped to Puerto Lempira, where it then loaded onto a power boat or hired canoes and transported through the jungle to the clinic site.

Stalled project

Despite steady progress, the ministry’s fourth clinic remains stalled due to a lack of funds, which has proven problematic for more than just the residents. Hazardous rains, for instance, can even prevent their own team from making the arduous trip out of the area. On one trip Becks said he became so concerned about snakes and medical emergencies that he gave the volunteers the option to leave a day early to take a hazardous route home. The entire team decided to stay.

The next morning, a family arrived at the clinic after paddling for two days. The father carried in his 16-year-old son in a hammock. A fly had laid larvae in his eye, which eventually displaced his eyeball. The boy needed more help than the clinic could offer, so “the medical professionals immobilized him, dressed his eye and gave him pain meds. They carried him all the way to our rendezvous point, got him on a plane to Tegucigalpa, then to an eye doctor,” Becks said.

A month later when Rescue Task Force went back on another mission, they escorted the boy home. With a new glass-eye, he was ready to live a full and normal life—a good example of Becks’ mantra: “The difficult we do immediately; sometimes the impossible takes a few days.”

For more information, visit www.rescuetaaskforce.org.

Church reaches out to San Francisco plane crash victims

WEST HILLS — West Valley Christian Church and School, which wants to host 35 visiting Chinese students for a summer camp, has been thrust into the national spotlight—and into action—after two of their teenage guests were killed in the July 6 Asiana Flight 214 crash at the San Francisco International Airport.

The oldest victims of the crash, Ye Meng Yuan and Wang Linjia, were with a group from Zhejiang province who were going to spend a few weeks at the church school as part of a cultural exchange. The third fatality, a child, was not traveling with the group.

“I can only imagine as a parent how they felt,” Pastor Glenn Kirby told the Los Angeles Times a day after the crash. “I grieve with them even though I’ve never met them... My heart is heavy but also compassionate.”

Members of the church were trying to host the children at their homes but, after the crash, the students returned to China with their families, who had traveled to San Francisco after the plane crash. Still determined to see the families, the church hosted a prayer vigil on July 11 that included the singing of “Amazing Grace” in Chinese. In addition, the church is raising money to support the families and making care packages to send to China.

Long term the church and school are hoping to reach out to the families by creating memorial plaques and are exploring the possibility of traveling to China to visit the students’ school.

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The answer to America's problems is a spiritual one.

Greg Laurie

What really means to ‘think biblically—about everything’

Barry H. Corey

How to personally know God

Realize that you are a sinner.

You were blessed to be a blessing. When you share the love of Christ, we are able to change lives. When people are separated from God, it is our obligation to tell them about salvation, because it is the greatest work of revival in our country.

Dr. Corey is the president of Biola University.

What it really means to ‘biblically—about everything’

The cornerstone of the Christian college or university is the foundation for students to develop intellectually, morally, religiously, and financially. It is what characterizes Christians.

Barry H. Corey

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For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife and they shall become one flesh.

--Genesis 2:24, NIV

The problem for people who believe in an Authority higher even than the Constitution is our increasingly secular and indifferent society it has become morally permittable to pervert the public agenda who do not subscribe to an immutable standard to accept that view. It is nearly impossible to restrain a people intent on throwing off any and all restraints. History is full of examples of empires that collapsed from within before they were conquered from without.

The Supreme Court has narrowly, but effectively, removed another standard on the way to full acceptance of its right to redefine marriage and raise itself to a level higher than the Creator.

What or who is to stop them? Various religious and cultural groups formed over many years to confront the cultural revolution in retreat and increasingly ineffective.

Modern courts might have trouble with the Thomas Jefferson's declaration, "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

Even a secular person should be required to answer a question before removing such an important cultural underpinning as traditional marriage: If marriage is no longer to be reserved for one man and one woman, as it has for millennia in many different cultures and religions, what is the new standard on what is it based? Should we change America's Constitution to "in polls we trust"?

The New York Times' recently editorialized in favor of transgenders. Polygamists against them have made it known they wish to benefit in line to enjoy full constitutional protection for their lifestyle. Utah was forced to outlaw polygamy before addiction to polygamy and now same-sex marriage is that they are confronted by growing numbers of people who do not believe in, or can be perverted by, ancient, biblical, instruction constraining human behavior. Many young people whose parents are divorced, or who are cohabiting without marriage, are not influenced by such commands or "preaching."

While the Supreme Court's 5/4 decision overturning the Defense of Marriage Act does not establish a constitutional right to same-sex marriage, it has put those who want to defend marriage on notice. Justice Antonin Scalia predicted it would a decade when the Supreme Court has decreed that the government can no longer benefit financially by recognizing homosexual conduct in Lawrence v Texas. One doesn't have to approve of the Court's "reasoning" in order to hand it to the gay rights campaigner who has engineered a magnificent job advancing their objectives, but they couldn't have done it alone. A verse from the Old Testament warns about the detrimental effects such "advances" can have on individuals and nations that abandon moral boundaries. "In those days Israel had no king, everyone did what was right in his own eyes."—Judges 17:6, NIV

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OPEN DOORS names new president to lead American operations

Christian Examiner staff report

SANTA ANA — Open Doors USA, which provides advocacy and support in some of the world’s most oppressive and restrictive countries, has appointed a North American rescue mission executive to serve as its next president and CEO.

Dr. David Curry, who served as CEO of The Rescue Mission in Tacoma, Wash., was set to take over the leadership of the Arizona-based ministry on Aug. 1. He is expected to lead the ministry as it prepares for its 60th anniversary in 2015.

“During interviews board members were impressed with his spiritual gifts, his administrative ability which he demonstrated in previous roles,” board Chairman Roger Spoolman said. “He clearly has a passion for persecuted Christians around the world.”

Curry, who is married and has two teen sons, called the appointment an honor. "Open Doors is doing incredibly important work to support and advocate for those persecuted for their faith,” he said. “For many years I have been troubled and concerned about the increasing persecution Christians have faced for their faith and the neglect by some governments to take a stand. While I’ve always been an advocate for the persecuted church, it’s my belief that the neglect is causing this growing greater persecution. As a result, we need a deeper awareness to support and advocate for those who face prison or even death for their faith in Jesus Christ.”

Since 1970, Open Doors USA has worked in more than 60 countries, helping to empower Christians to stand strong in the face of persecution. The ministry works to provide a means for them to share Christ in particular dark spiritual places, its services include support and prayer for imprisoned believers, literature, training Christian leaders, facilitating social economic projects and uniting believers in the West in prayer for Christians.

For more information, visit OpenDoorsUSA.org.
MEET AUSTIN
AGE 12
- Olympic hopeful in cannonball
- Knows the names of all the
  presidents in order
- Never cared about Santa,
  wants to believe in Dad

Consider adopting from foster care.
Older youth in foster care awaiting adoption are often overlooked. Yet they need
love and security as much as any of God’s children—and your family may be
the one they’ve been waiting for. To learn more, visit iCareAboutOrphans.org

Wait No More®:
Finding Families for California’s Waiting Kids
Saturday, September 14th 10 am - 2 pm
Saddleback Church
Register at iCareAboutOrphans.org

Although Austin is fictional, there are thousands of youth just like him waiting to be embraced by the love of your home. Focus on the Family is not an
adoption agency, but rather an educational resource for adoptive families.
MISSIONARY...

Continued from page 1

John, who has assisted the Rev. Dr. T. Valson Abraham, founding pastor of the Los Angeles congregation, since 2000, began the San Diego church as an outgrowth of India Christian Assembly.

Ten years ago, God opened a door in San Diego for us to minister to the Indian community,” he said. “Initially, a few families met once a month to pray and seek God’s will. As the Lord began to send more people, our gatherings became weekly. God added many to the church over the years, and there are now 30 families in our fellowship. They include many who came to know Jesus Christ from various backgrounds such as Hinduisim and Catholicism. “

After floating from home to home for worship, prayer and fellowship, the fellowship has, for the past three years, been holding regular services from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Saturdays at a local church.

“As the Lord blessed us in number, we approached many area churches in San Diego to rent a place,” he said. “After years of prayer and searching, the Lord opened a door at the Community Church of Poway.” Services are conducted in English and several Indian languages. “Our vision is to reach every Indian person in Southern California with the gospel,” John said. “We aim to reach them through personal evangelism and building relationships. We have special outreaches during Christmas and Easter that draw many non-Christian families to hear the gospel message. Many of our Hindu friends send their children to attend our summer VBS programs.”

John, who has also been responsible for the San Diego campus of India Christian Academy, continues to minister there.

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In sharing the gospel, we are finding that with increased affluence comes increasing apathy towards spiritual matters,” he said.

“Having our members scattered throughout the city is sometimes a hindrance. We desire to have a permanent place of our own so that we would not have to keep moving around. Having access to our own facility throughout the week will enable us to be more effective with our outreach goals.”

John said he’s been pleasantly surprised by how his ministry here has continued to bless others in his native India.

“We have a member who is a physician,” the pastor said. “He comes from a high-caste Hindu family and was introduced to Christ while in medical school. His mother was a recipient of a high-civilian honor in India. God has used him to share the gospel with his family members in India. These individuals would usually not be easily reachable with the gospel.”

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“Snare of materialism

Unlike India, where millions are cast aside because of a lack of wealth and persistent fears of persecution, John said one of their biggest hindrances to ministry in Southern California is materialism.

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“While the persecution threat is greatly reduced over what is experienced in India, the pastor said Hindu influences are still a concern.

“The Hindu community, too, is very active in establishing their temples and yoga studios here,” he said. “They bring over many ‘gurus’ and priests from India to keep their people in faith. What is unfortunate is that many Americans are swayed by these New Age teachings.”

“Even so, John said the transforming power of Jesus Christ is evident among his flock as they develop an increased passion to reach others for Christ.

“We are seeing a hunger for God and a greater dependence on Him,” he said. “When a family encounters a crisis situation, the church responds in prayer and support. It is encouraging to see individuals drawing closer to God in prayer.”

For more information, visit www.californiangeles.com or call (562) 824-0137.

Hijacked K-12

The Commandeerding of California’s Public Schools

An informative new 48-page booklet for parents and teachers offering a realistic view of the culture that has been created within California public schools during the last two decades—a culture that is propelled by anti-Christian and radical ideologies. Throughout these pages, you will be informed of the intellectual and social hazards your kids will be exposed to if they are enrolled in a publicly-funded school in California.

“Hijacked” is an excellent resource for parents. (It) unveils the truth about public school agendas. — Ron Prentice, CEO of California Family Council

www.faith-freedom.com

For more information, visit www.californiangeles.com or call (562) 824-0137.
ZamBikes has sold more than 3,000 churches in Southern California

ZamBikes, registered as a for-profit in Zambia, is supported by the separate ZamBikes USA, a non-profit based in Southern California, where McBride and Spethmann were raised. Profits made in Zambia stay there to fund expansion of the social enterprise, while the American ministry pays the administrative salaries.

While McBride and Spethmann mastered the mechanics of drafting a business plan and the need for the bikes, they were acutely aware that the logistics of building them went far beyond their educational training. Through Larson, they were introduced to Daryl Funk, a high-end bike designer based out of Denver.

“They were both business majors, and they created the business plan as a project for one of their business classes,” Larson said. “While they both had very entrepreneurial minds, they knew nothing about building bikes.”

So Funk, whose customs bikes can fetch as much as $130,000 in the states, helped them create wheels with the right balance of sturdiness and value.

“Our bikes were specially designed to stand up to the rigors of African roads,” Larson said. “Compared to the cheap and junky bikes that are everywhere in Africa, our bikes feature stronger frames, double-walled rims and heavier gauge spokes. That makes them more rugged and more reliable. Although our bikes are a little more expensive, Africans are learning that they’re worth the extra money because they’ll hold up better.”

Expanding focus

Over time, ZamBikes expanded its offerings to include Zamcarts, bicycle cargo trailers and bamboo bikes that use the organic material as tubes in the frames. The bamboo bikes, which are too expensive for the local markets but provide jobs to women in Zambia, are exported to Japan and Europe. In all, ZamBikes has sold more than 10,000 bicycles.

After spending the first few years focusing on the manufacturing and distributing of bicycles to the locals, McBride and his team became increasingly aware of an even more critical issue: the lack of basic medical transportation in rural Africa.

“They saw people being taken to clinics and hospitals in wheelbarrows, ox carts, on the back of a bicycle or carried on someone’s back,” Larson said. “They also saw that many clinics in Africa are cemeteries for people who don’t make it to the clinic in time.”

To fill the gap, Funk used his design skills to create the Zamulances, a locally built ambulance trailer that can be pulled behind any bicycle or motorcycle.

“We welded the frames, install the wheels and tires, and build the frames for the canopies that provide privacy and protection from the elements,” Larson said.

To date, ZamBikes has sold more than 1,000 Zamulances to organizations like World Vision, Samaritans Purse, Catholic Relief Services and Compassion International. Those organizations then use the Zamulances in their own projects throughout Africa.

Manufacturing dreams

Even as the early vision of ZamBikes was being fleshed out in the mottled streets of Zambia, bricklayer Mambwe was cultivating his own dream, one that extended far beyond the four warehouse walls he was helping to construct.

“Dustin,” the laborer said to McBride. “I think I can do marketing for our bicycles in the city. Can’t I try to be a marketer for ZamBikes?”

McBride said he was skeptical, adding that it was common for local workers to be exuberantly enthusiastic but unqualified, for certain employment opportunities.

“I tried to polite but did not give him a chance,” McBride said. “But with that addictive smile, I knew that someone who grew up in the village outside the city could never get to the education level or have the ability to present in a suit with a PowerPoint to big organizations.”

But Mambwe was persistent, unwilling to settle for the gentle deflections McBride kept offering.

“I finally gave Tiki a chance after months of persistence,” McBride said. “He started as a marketer on a small stipend to run around and try and sell bicycles. Within five years, Mambwe was serving as ZamBikes Sales and Partnership Manager.

“He now holds the World Vision account along with dozens of other big organizations that he coordinates,” his proud boss said. “He has been able to buy land, build a house and just had his first child with his new bride.

“Tiki is my brother. Watching him go from a bricklayer to manager and take the extra responsibility given seriously and apply it himself has been one of the most rewarding testaments and relationships for me.”

Similar stories have unfolded throughout the region since the advent of ZamBikes.

In April, just a day after an order of five Zambulances was delivered to Samaritans Purse for its work in the northeastern corner of Uganda, one of the units was put to work.

“A woman from the village was giving birth and was not able to make the four-mile trek to the local hospital,” McBride said. “In those remote places, there is no means to transportation, unless you can walk.

“She was able to have a safe birth at the hospital with a skilled nurse attending to her needs. I am so thankful to be able to hear these stories and be a part of saving mothers and children’s lives with the Zamulances.”

For more information, including how to sponsor a Zamulance, visit www.zambikes.org.
Youth seminar promotes Christian worldview

CHINO HILLS — RENEW, a youth faith seminar focusing on the “Christian Worldview,” will be held at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 18 at Calvary Chapel Chino Hills.

The free event will feature Jack Hibbs, the church’s pastor and an expert in apologetics and culture. In addition to his pastoral duties, Hibbs serves on several national executive boards, including Family Research Council in Washington, D.C., a nationwide advocacy group defending America’s faith, family and freedom.

According to the organizers the event is designed as a “practical exploration of the Christian worldview to awaken youth to the profound necessity of identifying and properly stewarding the Christian worldview in such a way that it is integral to their lives.”

The Walnut-based RENEW is a youth community movement living with purpose for the glory of Jesus Christ. Its mission is to partner with adults to re:new their faith by equipping churches to challenge youth and young adults to renew their faith by equipping them with the resources to know more of Christ, providing a venue for them to use their gifts to the full extent of their Kingdom purpose, and ultimately, encouraging them to live with purpose.

For more information, visit www.renewresponse.org/fai/ta/min.”

Adoption workshop planned at Saddleback

LAKE FOREST — Saddleback Church, in conjunction with Focus on the Family and California’s Health and Human Services, will host “Wait No More Finding Families for California’s Waiting Kids” from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 14.

Last year’s event drew more than 350 people from 94 churches, with 42 families2 initiating the adoption process.

“Right now thousands of children and youth in California foster care are waiting for adoptive families,” the event’s Lessie east said. “California has more than 30,000 children, and God has given clear commands for Christians to take care of the orphans. So if the command is clear and the need is apparent, why are these kids still waiting?”

During the seminar, patrons will hear from children who are waiting for homes and their family’s advocacy and stories of successful adoption from foster care and ways to support adoptive families.

Agen-

The next session, set for Sept. 21, will feature prominent author and speaker, the Rev. John C. Reynolds, executive vice president for Azusa Pacific University. Reynolds is the former global CEO for World Vision International.

As an adjunct professor he specializes in leadership, organizational effectiveness, change management and strategic communications. Tickets, including the price of parking, are $40.

The Greater Long Beach Leadership Prayer Breakfast, patterned after the National Prayer Breakfast, celebrates America’s Judeo-Christian heritage by offering prayers and inspiration to elected officials and individuals who represent the community and the country.

For more information, visit www.careaboutorphans.org.

Love Song to appear at Upper Room

MISSION VIEJO — The Upper Room, a Christian coffee house and ministry center, will host “An Evening with the Songstress.” with special musical guest Kelly Wil- lard from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Aug. 17.

Love Song is an early pioneer of contemporary Christian Music and was a part of the legendary Jesus Movement in the 1970s.

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Christian art exhibit in Glendale

GLENDALE — The Seed LA, a Christian art exhibit held every other month, will hold its next show at 6:30 a.m. Aug. 31 at Chey Chace Baptist Church.

The free exhibit features a variety of genres, including art, live music, poetry, photography, film and murals. A food truck is also scheduled for the show, which runs until 10 p.m.

The church is located at 1209 E. Garfield Ave.

For more information, search TheSeed LA on Facebook.

Angel City promotes ‘Soul Samurai’

BELLAGO — Angel City Café will feature a soft opening of contemporary Christian Music artist, The Songstress. with special musical guest Kelly Willard.

The guest speaker for the break-

The Uppe-

The Upper Room is located at 24851 Christana Drive. For reservations, visit wwwupperroompre- sent.com.

APU official to speak at LB Breakfast

LONG BEACH — The Long Beach Rescue Mission will hold its 31st annual Greater Long Beach Leadership Prayer Breakfast from 7 to 9 a.m. Sept. 19 at the Hyatt.

The guest speaker for the break-

The Uppe-

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The guest speaker for the break-
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Donations at the Move Gospel Rally, 10:30am-4pm. Venice Beach Boardwalk, corner of Pacific & Windward Sts. (310) 876-4326
Big Gospel Musical with We Are Soldiers, Deacon Christ White, Voices of Praise & Big Gospel Musical with We Are Soldiers, Streets • (626) 676-4324

AUG 13 • SATURDAY
Door Chain Christian Women's Retreat. Radisson Hotel Ontario, $220/person • (626) 375-4510

AUG 13 • SUN-THU
Spirit West Coast, with Newboys, Tenth Avenue North, Jeremy Camp, The Do-It-Harmonies, Jamie Grace. For King and Country, Moran Peters, Nick Hall, the Georgia Constables & more. The Laguna Sea Recreation Area, Monterey • spiritwestcoast.org

AUG 13 • SUN-THU
Open Door Chapel Women's Retreat. Radisson Hotel Ontario, $220/person • (626) 375-4510

AUG 14 • FRIDAY
“Murder at Sea” mystery dinner & angelfish dance (couple welcome), Khoury’s Waterfront Restaurant, 110 N. Marina Drive. Long Beach, 6pm (dinner served) at $45 prepaid, $50 door. 8pm-dining at $20 prepaid, $25 at door. (714) 622-4977, spectaculareventz.com

AUG 14 • SUnday
Avalon, $315/camper • (310) 510-0015 & Conference. Sun 3pm-Fri 11:30am, Luchador Summer, High School Camp. Teaching Children Effectively “Lead A...“ Tour Reunion #1, 6pm. Christ Community Church, 1050 S. Hill St., Los Angeles • fearlessocean.org

AUG 15 • SATURDAY
“Murder at Sea” mystery dinner & angelfish dance (couple welcome), Khoury’s Waterfront Restaurant, 110 N. Marina Drive. Long Beach, 6pm (dinner served) at $45 prepaid, $50 door. 8pm-dining at $20 prepaid, $25 at door. (714) 622-4977, spectaculareventz.com

AUG 15 • SATURDAY
Sunset Christian Fellowship, 2200 E Colorado Ave., Monrovia • (626) 357-4510

AUG 15 • SATURDAY
“Murder at Sea” mystery dinner & angelfish dance (couple welcome), Khoury’s Waterfront Restaurant, 110 N. Marina Drive. Long Beach, 6pm (dinner served) at $45 prepaid, $50 door. 8pm-dining at $20 prepaid, $25 at door. (714) 622-4977, spectaculareventz.com

SEP 14 • SATURDAY (cont.)
“Wait No More: Finding Families for Children who are Adopting kids from foster care. 10am-4pm, Saddleback Church, 1 Saddleback Way, Lake Forest. Sponsored by focus on the Family • careaboutorphans.org

SEP 15 • SATURDAY
Miracle Faith Church Women in White & Men in Black. 3:30pm. Miracle Faith Church, 6160 Atlantic Church, Long Beach • (562) 429-5056

SEP 16 • SATURDAY
“Miracle Faith Church Summer Gospel-...“ Tour Reunion #2, 6pm. First Presbyte...r Church, 400 W. Orange, Fullerton, CA. • resetmovement.com

SEP 18 • SATURDAY
Christian Life Church, 16075 Bellflower Blvd., Bellflower. $5 donation • (510) 261-0368

SEP 20 • SATURDAY
Roaring 20’s Mystery Dinner & Dance. 7pm. Christ First Baptist Church, 200 N. Second Ave., Covina • (714) 622-4977, spectaculareventz.com

SEP 22 • SUNNAY
University presents Kirk Cam...and Signature Sound, in “The Glorious...“ Tour, 7pm; Fri-Sat, 10am. Free • joycemeyer.org

SEP 23 • SUNDAY
Los Angeles — A new......” the movie. Select primates; we are primates.”

SEP 24 • SUNDAY
“We had no idea that there would be......“ Tour, 7pm. Christ First Baptist Church, 200 N. Second Ave., Covina • (714) 622-4977, spectaculareventz.com

SEP 25 • SUNNAY
Harvest America 2013 with Greg Laurie. Streamed nationally from Philadelphia Harvest of Faith. $25 • itickets.com, 1-800-965-9324

OCT 12 • SATURDAY
Steven Curtis Chapman, “The Glorious Unfolding Tour,” with Laura Story and Jason Gray, Calvary Church, Santa Ana. $25-35. CEF Bookstore, 16815 S. Bellflower Blvd., Long Beach • (562) 375-4510

OCT 19 • FRI-SAT
National Day of Prayer Convention • nationaldayofprayer.org/prayercast

NOV 22 • NOV
Christian Singles Hawaii Cruise on Celebrity Cruise Line’s ‘Silhouette’ to the Hawaiian Islands • christian singlesleavenutem.org, (714) 622-4902

Christian Examiner staff report

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Miracle Faith Church Women in White & Men in Black. 3:30pm. Miracle Faith Church, 6160 Atlantic Church, Long Beach • (562) 429-5056

SEP 19 • THURSDAY
11 Annual Greater Long Beach Lead-...“ Tour, 7pm. Real Life Church, Los Angeles (480) 395-5302, theblush-network.com

SEP 21 • SATURDAY
Ernie Haase and Signature Sound, in “The Glorious Unfolding Tour,” with Laura Story and Jason Gray, Calvary Church, Santa Ana. $25-35. CEF Bookstore, 16815 S. Bellflower Blvd., Long Beach • (562) 375-4510

SEP 22 • SUNNAY
Jars of Clay, The Observatory, 3535 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana. By Transpar...ransportproductions.com

SEP 24 • TUESDAY
“Miracle Faith Church Summer Gospel-...“ Tour Reunion #2, 6pm. First Presbyte...r Church, 400 W. Orange, Fullerton, CA. • resetmovement.com

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OCT 18 • FRI-SAT
National Day of Prayer Convention • nationaldayofprayer.org/prayercast

Hilong Foundation Conference USA, Nokia Th...ea, Los Angeles • hilongfoundationconferenceusa.com

NOV 22 • NOV
Christian Singles Hawaii Cruise on Celebrity Cruise Line’s ‘Silhouette’ to the Hawaiian Islands • christian singlesleavenutem.org, (714) 622-4902

Christian Examiner staff report

LOS ANGELES — A new documentary debunking the scientific theory of the earth’s origins has already received thousands of downloads since its July 9 release on the Internet.

“Evolution vs. God: Shaking the Foundations of Faith,” challenges the traditional theory offered by Charles Darwin and championed on university campuses around the globe.

“Nothing I do or would think is a response like this, but it shows that this is an issue of great concern to a certain group,” said Ray Comfort, a bestselling author, TV host and producer of the movie. “It was Isaac Newton who said that atheist s are ‘so insane.’ How could anyone believe that nothing ever happened or that it’s scientifically impossible.”

Comfort, a best-selling author and TV host, said he believed the movie challenges anti-intellectualism with the question: Is there observable evidence to support the perspective of Darwinian evolution? “I ask university students and scientists from UCLA and USC if they have confidence, because we have confidence, because we have evidence... We are not ‘related to primes’ is a primatologist.”

According to Christian New Service, one of the professors featured in the movie, Paul Zachary “PZ” Myers, a biology professor at the University of Minnesota, critiqued the movie and his pending appearance.

“Someday maybe I’ll get to be in a movie in which I’m not selectively edited and misrepresented. It will not be this movie,” he wrote.

Comfort shrugged off the response that he understands why atheists are so angry.

“They cling to faith in evolution because their belief in a doorway into undying and exciting treasures in the past and somewhere boring, the producer said. “If there’s no God and anything happened through a random process rather than through billions of years, then godification is not morally wrong. It’s fine—it’s simply an animal instinct to promote our species. It gives the light to dresses, homosexuality and adultery and anything else that society thinks is morally OK.

“This movie is more than a wet blanket, it’s a Niagara Falls. It’s the ultimate party pooper because it uniquely uses—expanding the world of evolutionary scientists at prestigious universities—the lunacy of Darwinian evolution.”

In addition to the on-site downloads, the film was also scheduled to be released on DVD and YouTube on Aug. 7.

For more information, visit www.evolutionvsgod.com.
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‘Peacemakers of LA’ TV reality show prompts an online petition

By Lori Arnold

LOS ANGELES — Oxygen, the cable network that broadcasts the reality shows “Bad Girls Club: ‘The Next Level’” and “Snapped: Killer Couples,” will broadcast its latest original series, “Peacemakers of L.A.,” this fall.

“In the glitzy and glam city of Los Angeles live six megapeople,multiply by thousands for their spiritual sermons and high-profile lifestyles,” a promotional blog read.

The network, which has already posted trailers of the program, describes the show as a “docus-series” that “will give viewers a candid and revealing look at six boldly different and world renowned megapeople in Southern California, who are willing to share diverse aspects of their lives, from their work in the community and with their parishioners to the very large and sometimes provocative ways they ‘press they feet away from the pulpit.’

The show, announced in a May 13 news release, will feature Bishops Clarence McClendon, Ron Gibson and Noel Jones, Pastors Jay Haupl and Wayne Chaney, and evangelist Deitrick Haddon.

“The show is being produced by Lemen Plummer, the son of a pastor and religious broadcasters, and Holly Cartier, an industry veteran who holds a doctorate of ministry from the Southern California School of Ministry.

“I come to this project with a respect and understanding of their world, having grown up in the son of a pastor and religious broadcasters,” Plummer said.

“We intend to portray the human side of these pastors and the real world in which they live and work,” Carter said. “It’s a dose of reality and a pound of redemption coming from a creative team reared in the church,” she said. Rod Aria, senior vice president of original programming and development at Oxygen, added that the show fills the need for a promoting black gospel blog.

See REALITY SHOW, next page

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By Lori Arnold

CHINO HILLS — As same-sex marriages have resumed and down the state by order of California Gov. Jerry Brown, evangelicals and spiritual leaders are urging churches to prepare for an increasing discrimination against Christians in the wake of the Proposition 8 ruling, the nation's highest court’s decision to redefining marriage by removing same-sex marriage as an option for all California couples.

"I think that the church needs to understand that these recent developments are not the end game in the battle," said the Rev. Robert Tyler, general counsel for Advocates for Faith & Freedom, a nonprofit religious liberty organization. "This is just yet another chapter in the long story of the war against the church in America."

The court judge from invalidating a nationwide constitutional amendment declaring marriage as only between one man and one woman, said he believes that Brown and his administration have misinterpreted June's S. U.S. Supreme Court decision in that ruling, the nation's highest court voided Proposition 8, the California Court of Appeals determination that Proposition 8 is unconstitutional, while legal scholars contend that the ruling only declared the law unconstitutional.

The coalition behind Proposition 8, the coalition that opposed the measure, has filed a lawsuit to challenge the Proposition 8 decision in the California Supreme Court. That lawsuit is pending before the court.

At least for the interim, experts foresee incremental encroachments on religious liberty.

"It is a changing of our ways," the San Diego pastor said. "So when we begin to ask questions about how we are going to maintain God's definition of marriage, we are repenting. When we repent, we are using the law with a vengeance to strike down the rights of Christians."

"We are entering a post-Christian era in which faithful Christians will have to make decisions of Christian discipleship in a pagan Roman empire."...

Evangelist Derek Haddison performs during a scene of "Preachers of LA".

REALITY SHOW...

Continued from last page

By asking for Oxygen Media said the credentials of the producing team will allow them to deliver this authentic series with integrity.

"Although trailers for the show reveal how the pastors are serving the local community, viewers, they also seem to celebrate a fast-paced and extravagant lifestyle," replete with mansions, high-end cars and shiny bling, prompting a petition against the series. The anonymous group is called "Preachers of L.A." and launched the campaign in early July on an online petition site.

"They are not operating in a fashion that looks more like anything other than a minidit of the Rome," said the Rev. John Murrietta, attorney for Oxygen Media. "For example, churches that rent their facilities to the public for weddings will probably be told that they can't deny renting to same-sex couples because they are 'discriminatory.'"

"Our legal department is willing to review the bylaws and assist with any plans you have if you're interested," he said. "And if the church bylaws are 'discriminatory,' can the church be far away?"

"Would every church be able to hold on to their property if they were forced to pay taxes, especially if they are paying a mortgage? What would happen to our churches in that event?" Clark postulated.

"That is where the health and strength of a church's small group ministry is crucial," the San Diego pastor said. "If the church were to lose its property, the small groups would continue; and if the church were to lose its property, the church will continue. So that one ministry becomes critically vital to the other."

Evangelist Derek Haddison performs during a scene of "Preachers of LA."
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