

PANViews



Newsletter of PA Nonbelievers, Inc., affiliated with American Atheists, Atheist Alliance International and the Council for Secular Humanism.

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President's Report

Josh CruverKibi

Welcome to the end of year *PANViews*. Good riddance to 2020 and to a potentially happier and healthier new year.

If you have not renewed your membership to PA Nonbelievers, please do, so that you can vote in our annual meeting in March. <http://www.panonbelievers.org/> We will have to wait and see if the Corona virus infection numbers will be at acceptable levels in March to have an in person annual meeting or an annual meeting online.

On behalf of the PAN Board, I hope that all PAN members have a happy new year.

Dcourier.com



Atheist News in Pennsylvania – The Nation – The World!

“Religious Freedom” Day

Yes, the United States has a Religious Freedom Day! It’s January 16, and it commemorates the day the Virginia General Assembly adopted Thomas Jefferson’s Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom in 1786. It has been proclaimed by the president every year since 1993.

Religious freedom doesn’t mean the same thing to everybody, of course. American Atheists, atheist.org, reports that the Trump administration will use the day remove to nondiscrimination and religious freedom protections for people receiving tax-funded services from religious providers. Specifically, 10 agencies, the Departments of Agriculture, Education, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Housing and Urban Development, Justice, Labor, and Veterans Affairs and the Administration for Children and Families and USAID will be affected.

Religious providers will no longer have to inform people receiving services that they cannot be discriminated against because of their religion, and they can’t be forced to participate in religious activities. If an aid participant objects to religious proselytization as a condition for receiving services, religious providers will no longer have to find the recipient another provider.

President Obama issued executive orders in 2010 to protect people receiving taxpayer funded services from religious indoctrination. In 2016, agencies passed regulations to implement these executive orders.

Nick Fish, president of American Atheists, explains AA’s opposition. “No person in need should be forced to worship as a religious service provider does or convert to that religion simply to access basic, taxpayer-funded services. The common-sense protections the Obama Administration put in place were not an ‘attack’ on religious freedom. These new regulations, on the other hand, are.”

Still Here? Silly Christians



Hindu Domination

Hindu nationalists continue to flex their muscles in India. According to the *New York Times*, nytimes.com, police in northern India have made their first arrest under a new law meant to stop “love jihad.” This term is used by Hindu nationalists for Muslim men who supposedly marry Hindu women just to have them convert to Islam.

Muslims dispute that this is happening. However, the Uttar Pradesh legislature passed a law that makes forced conversion by marriage punishable by up to 10 years in prison.

Owais Ahmad was arrested after being accused of pressuring a Hindu woman to leave her husband, convert to Islam, and marry him. Her father had filed a kidnapping charge against Ahmad, but dropped it when his daughter came home. After the new law passed, her father filed against Ahmad again. The law was pushed by Yogi Adityanath, a radical Hindu monk who is the head of the Uttar Pradesh state, and belongs to the Hindu nationalist party, Bharatiya Janata. He is virulently anti-Muslim; he once referred to Muslims as “a crop of two-legged animals that has to be stopped.”

Adityanath has called for India to become an official Hindu nation which, since heads of Uttar Pradesh have become prime ministers in the past, concerns India’s 200 million Muslims. He has worked to popularize the term “love jihad.” In 2007, after a Hindu youth was killed in a clash with Muslims, he said, “If one Hindu is killed, we won’t go to the police. Instead we will make sure we will kill 10 Muslims.” For that he was arrested and held for 15 days.

Intermarriage is rare in India, because of social pressure in both religions. Marriage and divorce are handled by the respective religions, according to their own rules. When India was a British colony, when there was a mixed marriage, either the bride or groom had to convert. That law was repealed when India became independent, because back then India wanted to uphold secular ideals.

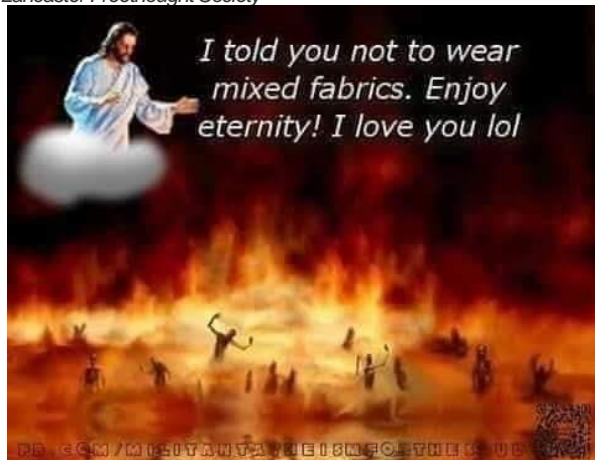
In another example of Hindu aggression, observers.france24.com reports on the activities of gau rakshaks, or cow protectors. Cow vigilantism occurs when Hindu groups take action against Muslims accused of transporting, harming or slaughtering cows. A video shows a herdsman and his nephew being beaten by a mob reciting Hindu nationalist slogans. The herdsman’s son apparently chased away some cows who were grazing on his father’s land. It is alleged that he injured one of the cows. The cows’ owner reported the injury to the police. When the police didn’t respond quickly enough, a mob attacked the Muslims, shouting “Desh ke gaddron ko, goli maaro salon ko” (“Those who have been traitors to the nation, shoot them dead”), a slogan which has been used by Bharatiya Janata Party politicians at rallies in reference to Muslim protestors. Police did arrest three of the attackers, as well as the young man accused of harming the cow.

Lancaster Freethought Society

Satan Did It

Michele Bachman, former Minnesota representative and all-round crazy person, says that Satan stole her vote in the presidential election because he is trying to end American democracy in 2020. Why? Because it’s the 400th anniversary of the Plymouth colony.

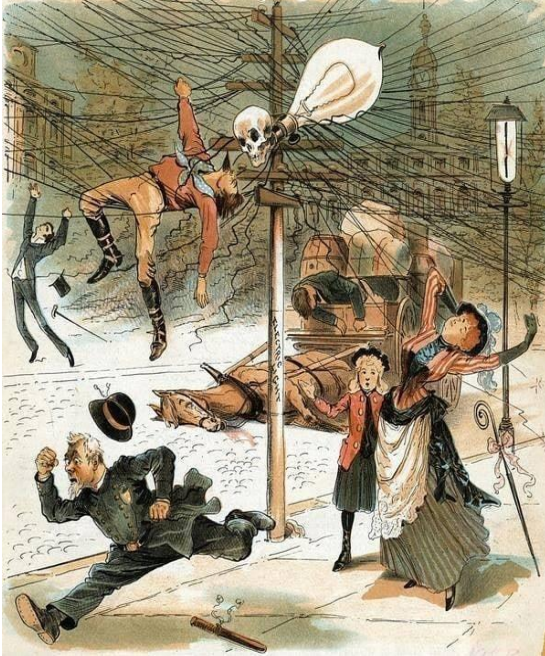
As described on lgbtqnation.com, Bachman expounded on this theory at a rally at Salem Baptist Church in Dalton, GA.



“From the political point of view, from the legal point of view, from the moral point of view, America is not on board with Joe Biden as the next president of the United States...When the clock was striking 11:59 and 59 seconds on the 400th anniversary of this gift of God to the world,” Bachmann told the crowd “this idea, of voting for the people and the laws that you live under, that we take for granted? That’s exactly when Satan was snatching away from America rule by the consent of the governed.” Bachmann explained that Satan was “stealing from us our right to vote. I am highly offended, insulted, angry, and I’m not going to stand for the fact that my vote was stolen!”

The Plymouth Colony anniversary was November 9, 2020, which is close enough to the November 3 election to work for conspiracy buffs. As a side note, the article mentions that far-right groups prefer to use the Plymouth colony as the founding of America instead of Jamestown, because Jamestown brings us the messy issue of slavery.

Mateus Leroy-Gatti
Dr. John Campbell's Corona Party Boat



This is an anti-electricity cartoon from 1889.
Science had its doubters back then, too.

However, the Vatican disagrees. The Associated Press reports on apnews.com that the Vatican has declared that it is “morally acceptable” for Catholics to receive the vaccines, even if they use cells from aborted fetuses. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the office that referees doctrinal disputes, said that it has received several requests for a ruling on the vaccine question. Its decision is that such vaccines may be used when “ethically irreproachable” vaccines aren’t available. The statement emphasized that this “does not and should not in any way imply that there is a moral endorsement of the use of cell lines proceeding from aborted fetuses.”

Prejudice Against a Mormon – in Utah?

The football players at Utah State University voted not to play their final game. Why? Concerns about coronavirus? No. A story in the *Deseret News*, deseret.com, says the players were upset by what they described as “concerns about religious discrimination during the search for a new football coach.”

According to the players, Utah State’s president, Noelle Cockett, expressed reservations about interim coach Frank Maile’s religious and cultural background in a Zoom meeting with the team. Maile is a Utah native, a graduate of Utah State, a member of the LDS church, and of Polynesian descent. The players were reported as being “dumbfounded” by her remarks.

Immoral Vaccine?

The Catholic Church objects to vaccines that are made from cells from aborted fetuses. One problem: those cells are used in the manufacture of Covid-19 vaccines.

According to losangeles.cbslocal.com, two Catholic bishops are urging followers to hold off on receiving the vaccine. Joseph Brennan, a bishop in Fresno, CA, spoke to the flock: “We all want health for ourselves and for others. We want to promote that also...but never at the expense of the life of another.”

Joseph Strickland, bishop in Tyler, TX, went even further. He tweeted: “Moderna vaccine is not morally produced. Unborn children died in abortions and their bodies were used as ‘laboratory specimens.’ I urge all who believe in the sanctity of life to reject a vaccine which has been produced immorally.”

What PANViews finds dumbfounding is that Utah State would object to a Mormon coach. A survey by dailyutahchronical.com shows that approximately 35.92% of the 32,994 students on campus identify as Latter-day Saints. (By the way, this survey also reported the next largest religious identities are atheist and agnostic, tied at 14.41% each.)

President Cockett defended herself. "I am devastated that my comments were interpreted as bias against anyone's religious background. Throughout my professional career and, especially, as president of USU, I have welcomed the opportunity to meet directly and often with students about their experiences."



"Same thing every September. He begins to doubt the existence of man, then football season begins, and he snaps out of it."

The players also released a statement, and it appears that Maile's ethnic background might be more of a problem than his religion: *The Utah State football players have decided to opt out of our game against Colorado State due to ongoing inequality and prejudicial issues between the players, coaches, and the USU administration.*

On Tuesday, December 8th, the Utah State University Football Leadership Council held a zoom meeting with Noelle Cockett, President of USU, and John Hartwell, the Athletic Director. The purpose of the meeting was to have a say in the search for our new head coach. During the meeting, we voiced our support for Interim Head Coach Frank Maile. In response to our comments, their primary concern was his religious and cultural background. Players, stating their diverse faiths and backgrounds, then jumped to Coach Frank Maile's defense in treating everyone with love, equality, and fairness.

It is not the first time issues of repeated discrimination have happened. In December 2019, our head equipment manager used a racial slur against one of our African-American teammates. After disregarding the incident, pressure resurfaced to investigate in the summer of 2020. After the investigation, the administration concluded he would continue to be employed.

The university claims that it took disciplinary action against the equipment manager the players complained about.

The Salt Lake *Tribune*, sttrib.com, printed a statement from leaders of the Utah Pacific Islander community that gives more insight into what was said during the Zoom call: "Cockett asked the players if they felt Maile's religious and cultural background would impact the University's future recruiting. Players were then asked about their own religious backgrounds and perceptions coming to USU."

Utah State has hired a new coach, Blake Anderson. He committed to hiring a diverse staff. According to deseret.com, here's what he thinks about religion: "I'm a Christian before I'm anything else. I love the Lord and I feel like God put me in coaching. ... We're going to talk about faith. We're going to be about faith, and the guys that want to be a part of that environment are the guys that are going to say 'yes' to us in recruiting because they want to be around that environment every day." He is, of course, white.

Religious Relief

There have been lots of stories about the misuse of corona virus relief funds. Here are a couple of particularly egregious examples.

Inside Edition, insideedition.com, reports on Marcus Lamb, the leader of Daystar Television, a large religious network connected to a prosperous, and, of course, tax exempt church. Lamb and his family live in a mansion with a lovely pool.

Daystar Television received \$3.9 million from the Paycheck Protection Program to pay employees' salaries. Two weeks after receiving the money, Daystar bought a private 1997 Gulfstream V jet. Lamb says he paid less than half market value, and didn't spend PPP money. He claims the jet is used in his ministry. Funny, in July he flew his family from his home in Dallas to Fort Lauderdale, from where they posted lots of fun videos. His wife wrote, "Our amazing fam on vacay," and his son chimed in, "Lots of great memories made on our family beach vacation this year!" It was a leadership retreat, Lamb claims, because his family are all ministers in his church. In September, the family used the jet to fly to California for 2 days, where they played golf, and in October, Lamb and his wife flew with friends to Florida, where they again played golf. Lamb claims he had 5 meetings while there, and spoke at a church.

After Inside Edition questioned Lamb about these trips, the church paid back the \$3.9 million.

Religiondispatches.org



The CARES Act allows payments to nonprofits, which is unusual for programs administered by the Small Business Administration. Under the Constitution, the SBA is prohibited from funding religion. The CARES Act only mentions religion to state that universities can't use the money "capital outlays associated with facilities related to athletics, sectarian instruction, or religious worship." But the SBA issued rules that state the forgivable loans under the CARES Act "can be used to pay the salaries of ministers and other staff engaged in the religious mission of institutions."

Under these rules, American churches received as much as \$10 billion under the Act. More than 400 evangelical churches received loans of at least \$1 million, and the Catholic Church is thought to have been given \$3.5 million.

Lakewood Church, home base of Joel Osteen, may be the biggest individual church in the US, with about 50,000 members. It does not have to release financial data, but its budget is estimated at \$90 million; Osteen's personal net worth is around \$50 million. In other words, he doesn't need more money. And yet his church received \$4.4 million in PPP funds. Osteen says the money will be used "to provide full salaries and benefits, including health insurance coverage to all of its employees and their families." Of course, no one will ever know if that's true, because churches, unlike other 501(3)(c) organizations, do not have to file any financial disclosures with the IRS.

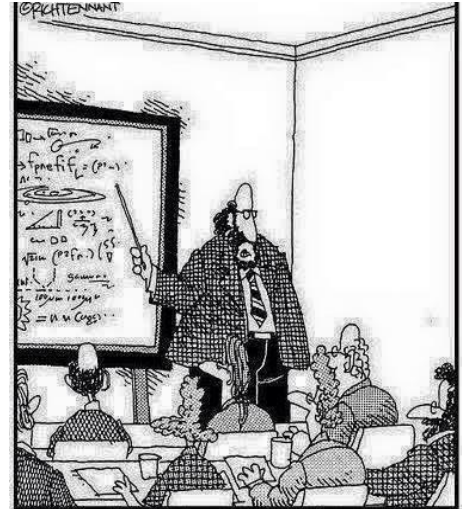
None of this is a surprise. The Freedom From Religion Foundation filed formal comments with the SBA when the program was first announced, noting that churches would avoid any accountability for money they receive. The SBA went ahead anyway, with predictable results.

Now What?

Lots of preachers predicted confidently that Donald Trump was God's choice in the presidential election, and that assured Trump's victory.

Now what? The website pjpc.org, Pentecostals for Peace & Justice, begins an article on this topic with the following quote: *"When a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD and the message does not come to pass or come true, that is a message the LORD has not spoken. The prophet has spoken presumptuously. Do not be afraid of him."* – Deut. 18:22

The article lists the following "prophets" who claimed Trump would win, often saying it would be a landslide: Pat Robertson, Paula White-Cain, Kris Vallotton, Mark Taylor, Kat Kerr, Marcus Rogers, Kevin Zada, Greg Locke, Taribo West, Denise Goulet, Curt Landry, Jeremiah Johnson. Vallotton actually apologized, but took the apology down when his followers complained.



"Along with 'Antimatter,' and 'Dark Matter,' we've recently discovered the existence of 'Doesn't Matter,' which appears to have no effect on the universe whatsoever."

An article on huffpost.com quotes John Fea, a history professor at Messiah University, who blogs about Trump's religious followers. He says the above "prophets" are split between those who believe that the election was stolen, and those who aren't saying anything at all. None of them, Fea says, have rejected the election fraud narrative. Robert Jeffress, pastor of First Baptist in Dallas, wrote that it "appeared" that Biden won, pending legal appeals. When he was criticized for even that mild statement, he complained about the "false media reports" that he'd broken with the president. Other religious allies, such as Franklin Graham, Paula White and Tony Perkins are waiting for the "truth" to be revealed.

Liberty University's Falkirk Center has been aggressive in pushing the election fraud narrative. The Falkirk Center describes itself on liberty.edu as "a modern think tank set to renew and defend God-given freedoms and Christian principles throughout American politics and culture." Right-wing activist Charlie Kirk and Trump lawyer Jenna Ellis are among its fellows. Another fellow, Christian author Eric Metaxas, claims that the election was stolen, and has gone so far as to compare this "theft" to the 9/11 attack.

On his radio show, Metaxas proclaimed, "I'd be happy to die in this fight. This is a fight for everything. God is with us."

Some Things You Just Can't Say

Professional athletes have been known to use strong language on the field, as any lipreader knows. But according to Hemant Mehta at friendlyatheist.patheos.com, Italian professional soccer has a line that can't be crossed.

Bryan Cristante, who plays for the Italian professional soccer team A.S. Roma, received a one game suspension for blasphemy. He apparently said the Italian equivalent to "goddamn" during a match.

The Italian league carefully investigated the situation, and then issued a statement which said, “The Sports Judge received a formal report from the Federal Prosecutor regarding the conduct of the player Bryan Cristante.” It went on to say, “[Cristante] pronounced a blasphemous expression at the 23rd minute of the first half. The relative TV images acquired and examined, with full technical and documentary guarantee; considering that the player in question was clearly framed by the TV footage while uttering a blasphemous expression, identifiable and audible without margins of reasonable doubt. “

Note that swearing doesn't generate a penalty. Only blasphemy does. Cristante isn't the only player to be suspended; 2 players were last year, as well, and many others since the rule went into effect in 2010.

An article on by Mike Lieberman on bleacherreport.com points out how illogical this is. He notes that in 2006 Italy won soccer's World Cup after an Italian player said something insulting to French star Zinedine Zidane, who is of Algerian descent but was raised in Marseille. Zidane head-butted the offending Italian. The resulting penalty against Zidane was a large part of France's losing the game. Lieberman suggests that Italian officials are “creating an opponent they can beat, instead of taking on real issues and failing.” Immigration in Europe has resulted in racial tensions in soccer, including neo-Nazi chants. Italian fans have been heard chanting “a black Italian does not exist” toward players from other teams.” Much easier just to defend God.

Bloody hell Alexa, I ordered baby cheeses



LDS Fights Racism

It's well-known that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints did not allow Black men to be part of its lay priesthood (which is the only priesthood it has) until 1978. Although the ban was eliminated, the Church did not apologize, or indicate that the ban had been a mistake until 2013, when it blamed racial tensions of the times for the ban.

Apnews.com reports that the church has been trying to take a more aggressive stand against racism over the last 5 years. Leaders have recently been speaking out, and it added new language to the LDS handbook. The new wording says, “The church calls on all people to abandon attitudes and actions of prejudice toward any group or individuals. Members of the church should lead out in promoting respect for all of God's children.”

The new language points out that prejudice can be based on many factors, such as “race, ethnicity, nationality, tribe, gender, age, disability, socioeconomic status, religious belief or nonbelief, and sexual orientation.” The article quotes W. Paul Reeve, the Simmons professor of Mormon studies at the University of Utah as saying that adding this wording to the handbook gives it more “cachet and power.” He goes onto say, “It is now part of the official handbook that local leaders have and can refer to in counseling with their members and also in giving guidance and direction from the pulpit.”

While agreeing that speeches and handbook changes are good, Phylcia Norris-Jimenez, a Black church member, thinks that it is only the beginning. Members who behave in a racist manner should be held accountable. She is part of the Black LDS Legacy Committee, an unofficial group of women

who organize annual conferences to discuss racial issues. “We can say all these really nice things, but our members are still ignorant as to what it (racism) even means,” Norris-Jimenez said.

Patrick Mason, who is the Arrington Chair of Mormon History and Culture at Utah State University notes that church President Russell M. Nelson has talked about eliminating racism, and even started a formal partnership with the NAACP. The handbook is considered law by church members, Mason says, so changes to its language are important. He also thinks younger members are particularly interested in addressing racism in church history.

In 2018 the church, for the first time, selected a Latin American and a person of Asian ancestry to the all-male governing panel. But it has never chosen a Black man from its admittedly tiny number of Black members.

In addition, the handbook also now tells members that they need to rely on factual information, and to avoid “baseless conspiracy theories.” It tells members to avoid sources that promote “promote anger, contention, fear, or baseless conspiracy theories.” This appears to be a reaction to church members promoting fraud claims about the election, or refusing to wear masks to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The War on Christmas

Donald Trump enlisted in the fight against the War on Christmas when he signed an executive order making Christmas Eve a federal holiday. In a (naturally) fund-raising letter, he said, “This is a HUGE victory in the Democrats’ pathetic WAR ON CHRISTMAS, and I want YOU to be a part of it.

As Gillian Brockell explains in the Washington Post, washingtonpost.com, the real war on Christmas was fought a long time ago, and by warriors who were far from liberal. In the 1600s, Massachusetts Puritans made any celebration on December 25 illegal, and it remained illegal for decades.

*Rik Illeaks – Four Horseman of the Anti-Apocalypse
Dawkins, Dennett, Harris and Hitchens*



Christmas back in the England Puritans left behind was not the jolly, family-oriented event people idealize. It was an excuse for drunken mobs to march through town, men dressed as women, boys as bishops, with a peasant or town drunk picked to be the “Lord of Misrule.”

The article credits the book *The Battle for Christmas*, by Stephen Nissenbaum, for the details of the 17th century celebration. The mobs would descend on houses of the wealthy, making noise and demanding to be let in. After they got in, they were given alcohol, food and money. People gambled and had promiscuous sex. This would keep up until the Epiphany, January 6, which is where the 12 days of Christmas originated.

Wealthy homeowners had little choice but to let the mobs in, they would break in, scaring the residents and taking food and drink anyway. In those days, December was a time of rest. Crops had been harvested, beer and wine had time to mature, and animals could be slaughtered in the cold weather without any worry about the meat going bad. December, the article notes, was often the only time Europeans got to eat fresh meat.



Although some religious leaders complained about the riotous tradition, most were resigned to tolerating it. They were aware that the early church leaders had borrowed pagan traditions to establish the Christmas story in the first place.

Puritans were not willing to put up with all the bad behavior. They thought that if God had wanted Christians to celebrate the day of Christ's birth, he would have been clearer about exactly when it occurred. When Puritans achieved power in England in the mid-1600s, they made Christmas celebrations illegal, ordered fasting and repentance, even scheduled Parliament to meet on December 25. These reforms didn't go well; there were riots and insurrections, and once the Puritans were overthrown, Christmas became a holiday again.

The ban lasted longer in New England, extending until 1681. However, even though it was no longer technically illegal to celebrate Christmas, the day continued to be downplayed for well over a century. So the people most up in arms about the so-called War on Christmas today may be descendants of the people who originally fought the War.

Member Submissions

Responding to a Meme of the Faithful(Iy Uninformed)

Ally Consoli

I was visiting a friend's storyline on Facebook. This was someone I used to know in high school. I hadn't given most of her stories much thought, but this one stood out to me. It was a post titled, "Limiting Beliefs Can Present As..." I instantly thought, *well, this ought to at least be worth a laugh!* By the end, though, I was more angry than amused. I knew that posting this as a response on Facebook would get me nowhere, except to shame the poster. I didn't want to do that; not because I cared about her feelings, but because I recognized her ignorance. It was a post that looked and sounded good, so why not share it?! Never mind that it was promoting hypocrisy with each one of its points.

Limiting Beliefs [referring to not adhering to the author's limited beliefs, of course] Can Present As...

- Lack of faith in your capacity to reach simple goals
 - [as in how many believers will pray for things they can get and do for themselves?]
- Relying only on assumptions and past experiences as a metric for what is possible

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- *[right. So a magical thousands year old fairy tale is a better indicator? And we don't rely on assumptions and past experiences exclusively, we rely on the truth and facts]*
- Believing that other people know what is best for you - AKA outsourcing the inner work
 - *[One word: Pastor. Accepting belief is authoritarian at its core. It's hierarchical. Atheists are the ones who seek truth independently.]*
- Finding fault or claiming failure as soon as something doesn't meet expectation
 - *[I suppose the answer of 'you didn't pray hard enough' is the believer's response? And that's acceptable? Besides, look at all of the hate, blame, and death from historical religious tribalism.]*
- Fear of asking for what you are worth and what you need.
 - *[Because your god will provide it? 'If I just pay extra hard, my genie will grant my wish...']*
- Survival fears at the end of every stress, fear of looking at your bank account.
 - *[The only reason this has any validity at all is because we atheists live within reality. We know that leaving our problems to a god does nothing; it's all on ourselves.]*
- Escaping into addictions or numbing habits.
 - *[Like prayer? Church? Seeking all wisdom from the priest/pastor/minister? Not thinking or reasoning for yourself?]*
- Competing with or extracting from peers
 - *[Competition is natural for all walks of life, I grant you. But we atheists have never had a 'my god is smitier than yours' battle to the death.]*
- Finding yourself in unhealthy patterns that are clearly repeating
 - *[Like going to church, tithing, upending all of your time, money, and effort on a fairy tale for a lifetime?]*
- Any of these sounds familiar?
 - *[Yes. They all sound like symptoms of faithfulness.]*

Greetings from Florida!

Long-time PAN members Cheryl and Carl Huber, who recently moved to Florida, send this picture of their new license plate.

Notice that it not only has the word Imagine, but there's a drawing of John Lennon in the middle. Way to go, Florida!



The following was written on December 20.

Dear PAN Friends:

Tomorrow will be the winter solstice of this "most immemorial year" (thank you, E.A. Poe), and instead of celebrating together, we'll just have to remember those great December parties at Jeannie's or Jen's, when we toasted our friendship and the return of lighter days with wine and delicious delicacies.

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We will have to cancel as well our planned meeting on the 4th Wednesday this month, due, of course, to restaurant closings.

We do have hopes for those coming lighter days, with new faces in Washington and the promise of vaccine. We'll be hoping that we may even be able to meet again on the 4th Wednesday in January, and eventually to meet with a full complement of members on our accustomed two days a month.

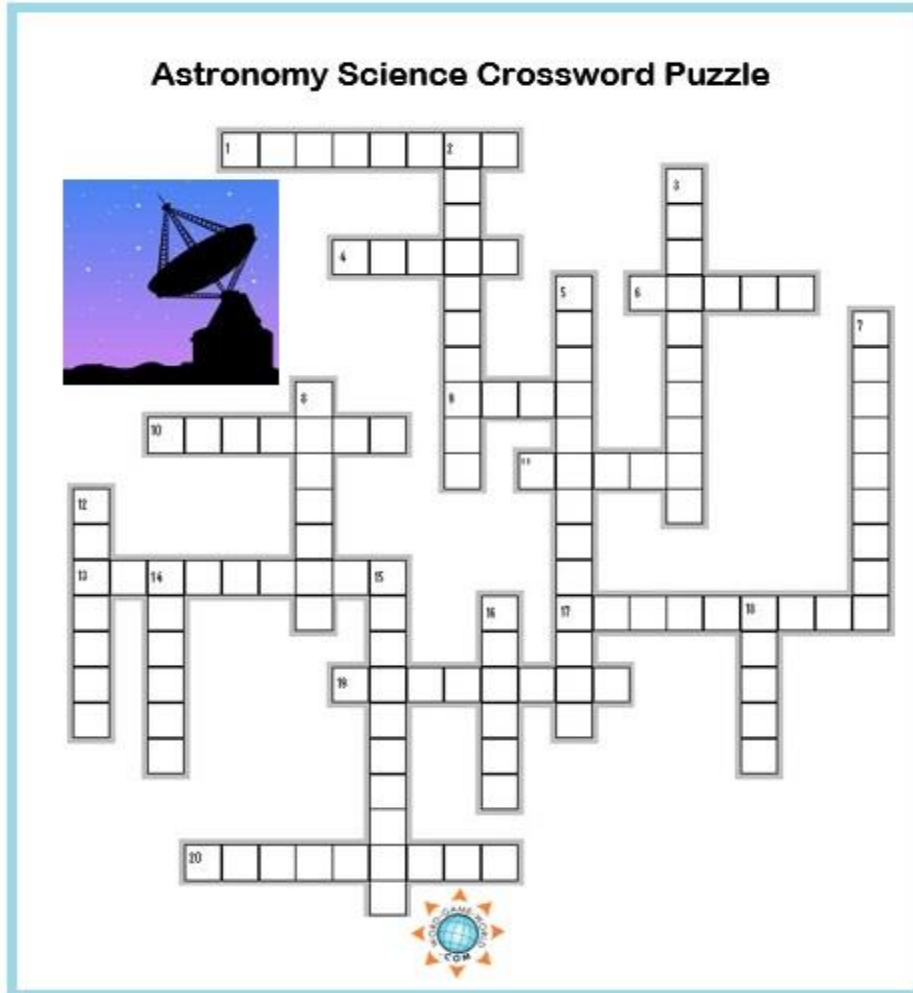
Meanwhile, we'll be facing the unsettling facts of life these days, unpleasant though they may be, unlike those for whom, as Paul Krugman pointed out, "Rejecting fact comes naturally to people who insist that they're acting on behalf of God."

Happier New Year to us all,

Priscilla Oppenheimer

FUN!





ACROSS

- 1. The name of our galaxy
- 4. A very small star
- 6. The planet closest to Earth
- 9. The "Red Planet"
- 10. The planet closest to the Sun
- 11. Number of stars in the Big Dipper
- 13. The distance light travels in one year
- 17. An instrument that makes distant objects look larger and closer
- 19. The spinning of the Earth on its axis
- 20. Small rocky objects that revolve around the sun, mostly in the area between Mars and Jupiter

DOWN

- 2. A scientist who studies stars and planets
- 3. A star much larger than our sun
- 5. A group of stars with a definite pattern or arrangement
- 7. A star's brightness is called its _____.
- 8. The largest planet in our solar system
- 12. Another name for the North Star
- 14. A large group of stars, gas and dust
- 15. The movement of the Earth around the Sun
- 16. The planet with rings
- 18. A mass of material with a long tail that travels around the Sun

Solution provided on request!

PAN News & Update

Meetings –PAN is also holding virtual meetings at 6:00 pm on Wednesdays for the time being. Get more information on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/panonbelievers.

- Carlisle – Fourth Friday of the month, 5:30 pm, Hops and Barley, 398 North York Street, Mechanicsburg
- Chambersburg – Second Thursday of the month, 7:00 pm. Please check website/Facebook for location.
- Harrisburg– First Wednesday of the month, 6:30 pm, Midtown Scholar, 1302 N. Third St.
- Lancaster – Fourth Wednesday of the month, 6:00 pm, Centerville Diner, 100 S. Centerville Rd.
- Lebanon - Second Wednesday of the month, 7:00 pm, Batdorf Restaurant, 245 W. Main St., Annville
- Reading – Third Wednesday of the month, 6:00 pm, Oakbrook Brewing Company, 628 Park Avenue
- York – First Sunday of the month, noon, I-ron-ic Coffee Shop and Art Boutique, 256 W. Philadelphia St.

How to Contribute to PAN

Giant Cards - We will have Giant grocery store cards available for purchase at PAN meetings. You pay face value for the card and use the face value at the store, but Giant let's PAN have 5% of that face value. If you shop at Giant, anyway, use the cards in lieu of cash and help PAN. What could be easier?



Pennies for PAN - Finally, we are happy to take money the old-fashioned way. You can give your tax-deductible contribution to a Board Member at one of our meetings or events, you can donate via PayPal on our website, www.panonbelievers.org, or you can mail a check to us at PA Nonbelievers, Inc. PO Box 702, York, PA 17405. Remember when you donate you can indicate what fund you want your donation to go to, you can find the list of our funds on the PAN website in the Donate section.

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