

Newsletter of PA Nonbelievers, Inc., affiliated with American Atheists, Atheist Alliance International and the Council for Secular Humanism. Visit us on the web at panonbelievers.org or like us on Facebook at <u>facebook.com/PennsylvaniaNonbelievers</u> Follow us on Twitter @panonbelievers

## President's Report Josh CruverKibi

PA Nonbelievers cannot endorse a specific candidate, but we can certainly clarify the distinction between our 501(c)(3) policy positions and other non-profit organizations such as the Heritage Foundation. Yes, the Heritage Foundation is currently classified as a tax-exempt non-profit. And no, they are not allowed to endorse political candidates or write an 888-page christian nationalist government and political policy opus, such as Project 2025. A direct quote from the IRS website states that 501(c)(3) organizations "may not be an action organization, i.e., it may not attempt to influence legislation as a substantial part of its activities and it may not participate in any campaign activity for or against political candidates." Also, "an organization will not qualify for tax exemption under IRC 501(c)(3) unless it 'does not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office," (Kindell & Reilly, 2002).

Here is a specific example of the Heritage Foundation violating its tax-exempt status by attempting to influence legislation and making statements in opposition to a candidate in public office. "The next Administration will face a significant challenge in unwinding policies and procedures that are used to advance radical gender, racial, and equity initiatives under the banner of science. Similarly, the Biden Administration's climate fanaticism will need a whole-of-government unwinding. As with other federal departments and agencies, the Biden Administration's leveraging of the federal government's resources to further the woke agenda should be reversed and scrubbed from all policy manuals, guidance documents, and agendas, and scientific excellence and innovation should be restored as the OSTP's top priority," (The Heritage Foundation, 2023, pg. 60).

My take on what I have read and researched about Project 2025, is that it is a christian nationalist political and governmental initiative on how to deconstruct American democratic governance and consolidate power in the executive branch. I found much of what I read to be typical Orwellian fascism in that there are contradictions and extremism, obvious to the detail-oriented person, but missed by an authority compliant mind. The first section of the Project 2025 conservative political instruction manual, aptly named "taking the reins of government" is a detailed and systematic way of consolidating power under the executive branch and reducing the powers of the legislative and judicial branches abilities to be the check and balance on the executive branch. I found a particularly contradictory Orwellian statement of purpose for the Heritage Foundation compared to the near entire premise of the document, in that they want to "halt the centralization of power in the federal government" (The Heritage Foundation, 2023, pg. 887).

But sadly, and true of many religious people, they are likely just complying with the groupthink and did not read any of the 888 consequential pages, if they are even aware of it at all. We often find at tabling events that the religious adherents who come up to our booth have not read their religious books. A book written by their god or prophets for how to prevent them from going to their hell for eternity. We often know more about their holy books than they do (usually the reason we left the religions). And notably, when I read parts of the christian bible (the religion I was brought up in) and in reading sections of Project 2025, I found that both are anti-atheist, anti-women, anti-LGBTQ, and anti-other than the in-group rights. Of note,

Project 2025, appears to have expanded on its interpretation of the mark of Cain, or non-white christian, by focusing on being anti-Black and Latino rights as well.

PA Nonbelievers and other secular organizations represent the antithesis of Heritage Foundation and the Project 2025 goals. PA Nonbelievers goals and mission is to educate ourselves and the community about the dangers of supernatural and unquestioning religious belief, promoting skeptical, rational, and critical thinking, advocating for the civil rights of all people, the separation of church and state, and to challenge and confront those who would impose religious values or laws on others in our society. I have cited and placed some links below for anyone interested in reading and researching these topics further. Project 2025 is a political initiative (currently tax exempt) to disenfranchise and reduce the democratic rights of nearly, if not all, the members of our community.

Kindell, J. E. & Reilly, J. F. (2002). *Election Year Issues*, Internal Revenue Service. <u>https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-tege/eotopici02.pdf</u> The Heritage Foundation (2023). *Mandate for Leadership: The conservative promise*. Project 2025: Presidential Transition Project. Retrieved from: <u>https://static.project2025.org/2025 MandateForLeadership FULL.pdf</u> Internal Revenue Service. <u>https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/charitable-organizations/exemption-requirements-501c3-organizations</u> PA Non-believers. <u>https://panonbelievers.org/home/about/</u>

## Atheist News in Pennsylvania– The Nation – The World!



I shall make you an imperfect flawed being who is sinful by nature.



How dare you be an imperfect flawed being who is sinful by nature!



You deserve to be punished for being the imperfect flawed being who is sinful by nature that I created you to be.

## PA Budget and Religious Schools

Pennsylvania's recently passed budget increased education funding. But it also increased the funds for voucher programs, which disproportionately send money to private, often religious schools.

A report from the Keystone Research Center, keystoneresearch.org, notes that there are two existing voucher programs, which have received about \$2.6 billion in state tax credits since their inception.

The report explains the voucher programs aren't fair. Private schools often don't reach rural students, and religious private schools can and do discriminate against some students for a variety of reasons including sex, disabilities, sexual orientation, religion, and gender identity. The report asserts that almost all the private schools clearly state their right to discriminate.

Pennsylvania does not require private schools receiving tax-payer money to report on their students' academic progress or provide any information about the quality of the education they provide. Their students don't have to take any tests to measure their academic progress. By state law, the Department

of Community and Economic Development cannot request any details about the education these schools provide, or the demographics of the students they provide it for.

Keystone Research Center estimates that "at least" 78% of the voucher funds go to religious schools, or \$240 million in 2022-2023. Pennsylvania does not impose any accreditation requirements on religious schools. While many religious schools offer an education similar to public schools, many don't. The report says "a significant number" teach creationism. The Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) received about \$9 million in voucher funds in 2022-2023, for 155 Pennsylvania member schools. According to Keystone, "ACSI describes its member schools as having 'the highest belief in biblical accuracy in scientific and historical matters."

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#### **Clever as a Serpent**

The Dover school board enacted an LGBTQ+ sports policy, while tabling a pronoun policy. Both proposals were backed by the Independence Law Center (ILC), a so-called Christian law firm that has been active in several central PA school districts. ILC's chief counsel is Randall Wenger, who filed briefs as an interested party supporting the teaching of intelligent design in the Dover school district nearly 20 years ago.

Per the York *Dispatch*, yorkdispatch.com, the ILC's marketing materials says its purpose "to preserve religious liberty."

The approved policy mandates that student athletes must compete on teams that conform to the gender on their birth certificate.



The pronoun policy would require parents to agree to their child's pronouns before they are used in school records, or by the staff. (What happens if the parents don't agree with each other?) Staff members would not have to use the student's preferred pronouns, even if the parents signed off, if it conflicted with the staff member's beliefs. The vote on pronoun policy was delayed as the policy undergoes a legal review.

What's especially interesting is that the Dover school board has apparently learned something since the disastrous intelligent design case, which wound up costing the district more than \$1 million. The article notes that several school board members "took pains to emphasize that the anti-LGBTQ+ policies weren't rooted in religious beliefs." School board members weren't quite so discrete in the past. One of the reasons Dover lost the intelligent design case was that they were open about their religious motivation.

Wenger made sure board members understood what not to say. He is quoted as telling them to avoid mentioning religion, adding, "I think we need to do a better job at being clever as serpents." This may be a reference to Matthew 10:16: "Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves. Be ye therefore wise as serpents and harmless as doves."

Apparently, he's not interested in the "harmless" part.

## Sainthood Tries to be Trendy

Ally Consoli

The internet gets the holy treatment with the first Millennial saint. Carlo Acutis, a fifteen-year-old who died from leukemia in 2006, has become the "patron saint of the internet" with a fast-tracked canonization

made official earlier this month. This move is another desperate attempt by the Catholic church to connect with more young parishioners. The official date of his canonization is yet to be set, but it will presumably occur in 2025 to go along with the Catholic church's jubilee year celebrations. His "miracles" included the blessing of a Brazilian boy who had been unable to eat regularly due to a pancreatic birth defect and the recovery from head trauma of a Costa Rican girl who fell off of her bicycle. Catholics, in a rush to jump on the popularity, have waived the necessary year gaps (because there are no rules and things can be adjusted based on current needs) in order to speed up the youngster's getting a feast day. So, prepare your trainers and get your PlayStations ready to be blessed with some holy water, here comes the latest saint and the first millennial to get the honor!

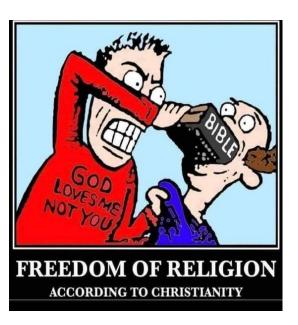
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## **Trouble in Moon Township**

The residents of Moon Township, located outside of Pittsburgh, are angry. What's the problem? A church.

According to the Pittsburgh *Post-Gazette*, postgazette.com, it's not just a church. It's the Revival Today megachurch that draws huge crowds and holds services that can be heard miles away. Dozens of residents showed up at a recent Moon municipal meeting which was held in the middle of a week-long special event held by the church.

The township tried to get an injunction, claiming the church was violating several ordinances, to stop the big event, but a judge denied that request.



People at the township meeting voiced complaints about the church. Preaching, magnified by loudspeakers, could be heard throughout the neighborhood from 7:00 am to midnight, they said. Another resident had a video, shot at 6:30 am, where a sound check from the church could clearly be heard.

The police department received 40 calls over the weekend complaining about the church. One resident described children directing traffic, and armed guards patrolling the property. What about emergency vehicles, one speaker asked. Could they get through the neighborhood with hundreds of cars filling the streets? As proof of the church's determination to continue, another resident mentioned that Revival Today has asked him and his neighbors if they would sell their houses to the church.

The Board of Supervisors noted the injunction had been denied only for the week-long festival. The church still needs to apply to be a "place of worship" under the township's zoning laws. The township had previously denied the church's application because it had not completed a traffic study.

The township's records show that Moses Land, LLC bought the property in May 2024. The building on the property was originally a private residence, and after several other iterations, it was used as a private club. Since the Moses Land purchase, many alterations have been made to the property without any inspections, approvals or permits.

Revival Today has maintained a lofty silence about the situation, as it continues to do what it wants.

"I'm an Angel, God sent me to deflect this bullet away from a philandering, whoremongering, adulterous, business cheating, religious pretender into the body of a retired firefighter."



#### **God's Subtle Hints**

The gunman who shot Donald Trump in Butler fired his bullets at 6:11 pm. So?

So it's a sign from God. Many right-wing commentators pointed to Ephesians 6:11: "Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes." Of course!

Others came forward to explain God's involvement. NPR, npr.org, listed the following quotes:

Republican politician and businessman Vivek Ramaswamy: "I personally believe that God intervened today, not just on behalf of President Trump but on behalf of our country."

Pastor Robert Jeffress, First Baptist Dallas: "What happened yesterday is also a demonstration of the power of almighty God. I mean, what happened was inexplicable apart from God. God spared him for the purpose of calling our nation back to its Judeo-Christian foundation."

Sen. Tim Scott, R-SC: "If you didn't believe in miracles before Saturday, you better be believing right now. Thank God Almighty that we live in a country that still believes in the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords, the Alpha and the Omega. Our God still saves. He still delivers and he still sets free. Because on Saturday, the devil came to Pennsylvania holding a rifle. But an American lion got back up on his feet."

From *New York Magazine*, nymag.com, House Speaker Mike Johnson: "GOD protected President Trump yesterday."

From *Wired*, wired.com, former Trump adviser Steve Bannon: "Trump wears the Armor of God." Jake Paul, professional boxer: "If it isn't apparent enough who God wants to win. When you try and kill God's angels and saviors of the world it just makes them bigger."

And of course there was Trump's own take, per CNN, cnn.com: "It was God alone who prevented the unthinkable from happening. We will FEAR NOT, but instead remain resilient in our Faith and Defiant in the face of Wickedness."

All this thankfulness makes skeptics wonder, of course.

- A) Why did God let the shooting happen in the first place?
- B) And why did he let Corey Comperatore die?

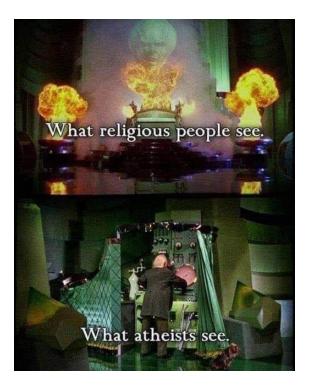
## Art, or the Artist?

Many works of art have become controversial after the behavior of the artist is exposed.

#### An article in Daily Art Magazine,

dailyartmagazine.com, provides some example of artists whose character seem wanting. Paul Gauguin deserted his wife and children, leaving them in poverty, and moved to Tahiti. He married three children, the youngest of whom was 13. The children he fathered with these girls all were infected with syphilis. Edgar Degas was aggressively anti-Semitic.

People are often uncertain about how to view the art created by imperfect, and sometimes downright evil, artists. The article includes this quote from Berys Gaut, *Art, Emotion and Ethics*, Oxford University Press, 2007: "The test must be whether, in the light of one's knowledge of the artist's attitudes outside his work, one can detect in the work traces of these attitudes."

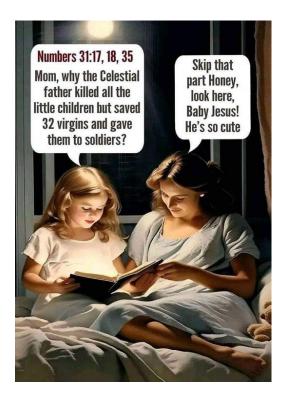


Reuters.com reports that the Vatican is facing this problem. Father Marko Ivan Rupnik, a member of the Jesuit order of priests, has created murals in about 200 churches, as well as the Vatican. However, he has been accused of abusing nuns and other women. The accusations date from when he was the spiritual director of a convent in Slovenia about 30 years ago, and continue after he moved to Rome to concentrate on his art. The Jesuits investigated the accusations, and called them "very highly" credible, and expelled him.

Five women who accused him of sexual and/or psychological violence have asked bishops to remove Rupnik's mosaics from their churches. Cardinal Sean O'Malley, president of the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors, wrote to Vatican officials: "Pastoral prudence would prevent displaying artwork in a way that could imply either exoneration or a subtle defence ...We must avoid sending a message that the Holy See is oblivious to the psychological distress that so many are suffering."

A lawyer representing some of Rupnik's victims sent a letter requesting the removal to more than 80 bishops around the world. The letter stated that some women were abused during the creation of the mosaics, when they were models, or during the installation of the artwork.

So far, the Vatican has not acted. Paolo Ruffini, the head of the Vatican's Disastery for Communication, spoke at a Catholic media conference, opposing the removal. "I don't think we have to throw stones, thinking it is the way of healing someone...The Christian faith is saying other things."



## Polygamy? Really?

The Catholic Church is a staunch opponent of gay marriage. Can't compromise moral principles, it sniffs. But polygamy? Not so much.

Apparently after something called the first session of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in October 2023, the Vatican issued a directive to "discern pastoral care towards persons in polygamous unions." The Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar (SECAM) has established a commission to discuss polygamy. This is according to a report in AMECA, Association of Member Episcopal Conferences in East Africa, at communications.ameca.org.

A report on the topic "Towards a listening and accompanying Church," the delegates proposed that SECAM "Promote a theological and pastoral discernment on the question of polygamy and the accompaniment of people in polygamous unions who are coming to faith."

The goal is for the commission to report on its work during the next SECAM assembly, which is happening in July. One of the representatives explained, "If the bishops agree with the results, we will send the results to the Vatican's Dicastery of Doctrine of Faith. They will then start a new conversation between the Dicastery and our team from Africa to reach a consensus and final decision on the matter." The report asks the question, "What would need to change for those who feel excluded to experience the Church as more welcoming?"

Polygamy has been a Catholic Church issue in Africa for a long time. It's a common practice there, even among priests and bishops who theoretically aren't allowed to marry at all. An article in *Catholic Herald*, catholicherald.co.uk, discusses the situation. The author explains that monogamy is for lower class men who can only support one wife. The article quotes Archbishop Charles Palmer-Buckle of Accra, Ghana, "There are people in polygamous relationships, who were involved in it before becoming Christians... Their family had to make a choice: to let go of one woman or two women with all their children without hurting the children, without hurting the wives. So, it is an issue." This article points out Pope John II condemned polygamy in 1990.

Why the apparent softening on polygamy? Perhaps it's because of the growth of the Catholic church in Africa. According to the National Catholic Register, ncregister.com, the Catholic population of Africa is now 265 million. Africa accounted for 19% of all Catholics in 2021, slightly behind Europe's 21%. But this is misleading, because Africa's number of Catholics is on the way up, and Europe's on the way down. For example, Europe's Catholic population dropped by 244,000 in 2021, but Africa's rose by more than 8 million. Africa's share of the Catholic population is projected to be 32% by 2050.

#### Another Day, Another Pastor Scandal

Tony Evans, an evangelical pastor and radio host, recently stepped down as senior pastor at Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship in Dallas. Why? He was a little vague – something about a "sin," that he declined to identify.

USAToday, usatoday.com, has a bit more information. A spokesperson for the church told USA Today that he would be "temporarily stepping away from his senior pastor's duties." Evans posted on the church's website that he "committed no crime," but "did not use righteous judgment in actions."



The article points out that this sort of thing happens a lot in American Christianity. Deborah Whitehead, a religious studies professor at the University of Colorado Boulder, notes "One of the perils of celebrity is that you have this high-profile status and a lot of the fame and fortune that comes with that and as well as additional publicity for your mistakes. It can definitely generate controversy around the faith."

Tony Evans was well-known in evangelical circles. He founded Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship in 1976 with ten members; it now has more than 10,000. His radio program, "The Alternative with Dr. Tony Evans," is broadcast on more than 1,000 stations, and he's the chaplain for the Dallas Cowboys and the Dallas Mavericks, and he's written several religious books.

Evans says that he made his decision to leave after "tremendous prayer and multiple meetings."

He's just the latest in the list of televangelists who got themselves into trouble. Jimmy Swaggart and Ted Haggard both fell from grace for similar reasons: Swaggart was caught visiting a prostitute. Haggard was involved with a prostitute, too, but in his case, the prostitute was male.

World-wide Hillsong Church has gone through two scandals. In 2020 Carl Lentz was fired after an extramarital relationship. Lentz was a minister to the stars, most prominently pop singer Justin Bieber. The allegations included an accusation of sexual abuse, which he denied, although he didn't exactly deny everything: "I am responsible for allowing an inappropriate relationship to develop in my house with someone that worked for us. Any notion of abuse is categorically false. There were mutual adult decisions made by two people who lied profusely, mainly to my wife." He now works for a Tulsa megachurch. Brian Houston, Hillsong's founder, was found guilty of failing to report his father's sexual abuse of a minor.

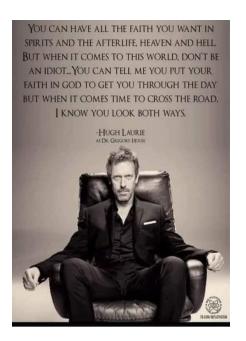
That wasn't all, though. Brian was later accused of "inappropriate behavior" with two members of the church. He eventually resigned.

Mark Driscoll of Mars Hill Church in Seattle, former pastor and co-founder, was accused of bullying, overseeing mismanagement of church funds among other things in 2014. He resigned and the church fell apart. None of these charges were proven. Some people bore a grudge, however. Others objected to his presences at a religious Stronger Men's Conference because he compared the conference's opening sword-swallowing act to a strip club act for women. He has found another job, too.

Finally, pastor Robert Morris admitted to "inappropriate sexual behavior" with a 12-year-old girl in the 1990s, according to npr.org. Morris' church, Gateway in Dallas, is one of the largest in the US, and he was on of Donald Trump's team of evangelical advisers. Gateway has more than 100,000 members with nine locations in Texas, Jackson Hole, and St. Louis.

The 12-year-old told her parents about Morris' abuse when she turned 16. Her father insisted Morris leave the ministry, or he would tell the police. Morris did quit, but then came back two years later. The abused girl has subsequently said she told Church elders about the abuse much earlier. Gateway's leaders now claim Morris was not "transparent" with them.

It's hard to believe megachurch leaders keep fooling people.



## Who Gets to Choose?

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The Dalai Lama, leader of Buddhists in Tibet, is 89. Who will succeed him?

According to Reuters, reuters.com, that's a good question. The government of China insists that it will appoint his successor. That's a problem, because Tibetan Buddhists believe that "learned monastics" are reincarnated. In the past the Dalai Lama has said he will explain how his succession will work around his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. He has previously suggested eliminating reincarnation but has also said the Chinese government should not be involved.

The Medium of Tibet's Chief State Oracle is responsible for foretelling the future. The medium would normally enter a trance to consult the oracle, who would then identify the child who is the reincarnated leader.

The current Dalai Lama is a well-known international figure who won a Nobel Peace Prize in 1989 for keeping the cause of a Tibet independent of China alive while he was in exile. The Chinese leaders see him a danger to their control of Tibet, although the Dalai Lama maintains he espouses a "middle way" of maintaining autonomy and religious freedom for Tibet within China.

Tibet's history with China is complicated. Tibet became part of the Mongol empire in the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. Chinese leaders say they have ruled Tibet since then, although some historians maintain the relationship shifted over the centuries, and Tibet essentially ruled itself during much of this time.

Mao's People's Liberation Army invaded Tibet in 1950, announcing its "peaceful liberation." The Dalai Lama went into exile in India in 1959, after a failed uprising against China.

In 1995 the Chinese government and the Dalai Lama identified two different boys as the Panchen Lama, the second most important Tibetan Buddhist. The boy chosen by the Dalai Lama disappeared after being removed by the government. Many Buddhists did not acknowledge the government chosen boy. Most Tibetans assume that the government and the Dalai Lama will follow a similar process for the selection of the next Dalai Lama. The Chinese government agrees that he will reincarnate but says it must approve the successor.

Michael McCaul, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, has said the Chinese government has "tried to insert themselves into the succession of the Dalai Lama but we will not let that happen." It's hard to see how the US can stop it.

#### Life Advice from Joel Osteen

Joel Osteen, Texas megachurch pastor and televangelist, offered some homespun advice on X (formerly Twitter.) He wrote, "It's the simple things in life that bring us the most joy. You may not have a lot of resources, but if you have family, you're blessed. If you have your health, you're blessed. If you can look up at the stars at night, you're blessed."

According to Newsweek, newsweek.com, he received about 5,000 likes, and some positive comments.

However, a lot of other people pointed out a few facts about humble ol' Joel.



Mr. and Mrs. Josh Osteen

His net worth is estimated at anywhere from \$40 million to \$100 million. He owns two homes, one worth \$2.9 million in Houston, and another worth \$10.5 million in Dallas. There are rumors about other lifestyle perks, such as a yacht and a sports car, but no proof has been found.

Among the negative comments he received:

"The simple things in life? Give me a goddamn break."

"Joel Osteen worships money. Greedy, self-serving, liar."

"You donating your salary then?"

"There's nothing 'simple' about your lifestyle. Why don't you sell your million dollar mansions and sports car? Stop being a hypocrite Joel Osteen ... you're a hypocrite."

"Joel Osteen, worth \$100 million, living in multiple mansions, and owning multiple yachts wants you to know that money won't bring you joy—but he still wants you to send him all of the money you can." "This the same Joel Osteen, that wouldn't open his church up for the folks suffering during a hurricane?" "Yet people still flock to his church and keep giving him money—how naive and ignorant do you have to be?" During Hurricane Harvey in 2017, Osteen's church was closed, due, it said, to "severe flooding." People accused Osteen, and his church, of turning away people whose homes had been destroyed. Osteen denied that, stating "Lakewood's doors are open and we are receiving anyone who needs shelter."

The *Daily Mail*, dailymail.co.uk, notes Joel professed to be unbothered by the negative comments. He wrote online: "When your mind is filled with the positive, there's no room for the negative. When you're full of faith, praise, gratitude, believing for the best, then when the negative comes, you won't pay it any attention."

As he retreats into one of his multi-million dollar mansions.

# **FUN!**



#### And Fun for Grown-ups! Answers at the end of PANViews

**Logic Puzzle #1:** Susan and Lisa decided to play tennis against each other. They bet \$1 on each game they played. Susan won three bets and Lisa won \$5. How many games did they play?

**Logic Puzzle #2:** If five cats can catch five mice in five minutes, how long will it take one cat to catch one mouse?

**Logic Puzzle #3:** There is a barrel with no lid and some wine in it. "This barrel of wine is more than half full," says the woman. "No, it's not," says the man. "It's less than half full." Without any measuring implements and without removing any wine from the barrel, how can they easily determine who is correct?

**Logic Puzzle #4:** There are three bags, each containing two marbles. Bag A contains two white marbles, Bag B contains two black marbles, and Bag C contains one white marble and one black marble. You pick a random bag and take out one marble, which is white. What is the probability that the remaining marble from the same bag is also white?

**Logic Puzzle #5:** Three men are lined up behind each other. The tallest man is in the back and can see the heads of the two in front of him; the middle man can see the one man in front of him; the man in front can't see anyone. They are blindfolded and hats are placed on their heads, picked from three black hats and two white hats. The extra two hats are hidden, and the blindfolds removed. The tallest man is asked if he knows what color hat he's wearing; he doesn't. The middle man is asked if he knows, he doesn't. But the man in front, who can't see anyone, says he knows. How does he know, and what color hat is he wearing?

PAN News & Updates

**Tabling Events –** Red Lion Street Fair, August 10, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

**Meetings –** PAN holds in-person and online meetings. Locations, times, and dates below.

Online meeting: Fourth Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm. We hope to split the meeting into an hour of chat and an hour of presentation or more structured discussion. Anyone with a book/movie review, discussion topic, or potential guest speaker should contact Dietrich

Dellinger @ guyinnagorillasuit@gmail.com

Chambersburg – Second Thursday of the month, 6:30 pm, Volcano Japanese Restaurant 955 Wayne Ave, Chambersburg

Cumberland/Mechanicsburg – Third Wednesday of the month, Gather Your Party Gaming & Hobby, 219 North Hanover Street, Carlisle, PA. This group plays board (atheist) games!

Harrisburg– First Wednesday of the month, 6:30 pm, Zeroday Brewing Company Taproom, 923 North 3rd Street.

Lancaster – Fourth Wednesday of the month, 6:00 pm, Centerville Diner, 100 S. Centerville Rd. Lebanon - This meeting is currently on pause.

Reading – Third Thursdays at 7:15pm, 3rd & Spruce Drafthaus, 238 S 3rd Ave, Reading, PA 19611 York Meeting – First Sunday at noon, Mexitaly Brick Oven Brewhouse, 2440 East Market 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 lets 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, <u>www.panonbelievers.org</u>, 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.

#### PAN Board of Directors

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#### Answers:

- 1. Eleven. Because Lisa lost three games to Susan, she had lost \$3 (\$1 per game). So, she had to win back that \$3 with three more games, then win another five games to win \$5.
- 2. Five minutes. Using the information we know, it would take one cat 25 minutes to catch all five mice (5x5=25). Then working backward and dividing 25 by five, we get five minutes for one cat to catch each mouse.
- 3. Tilt the barrel until the wine barely touches the lip of the barrel. If the bottom of the barrel is visible, then it is less than half full. If the barrel bottom is still completely covered by the wine, then it is more than half full.
- 4. 2 out of 3. You know you don't have Bag B. But because Bag A has two white marbles, you could have picked either marble; if you think of it as four marbles in total from Bags A and C, three white and one black, you'll have a greater chance of picking another white marble.
- 5. Black. The man in front knew he and the middle man aren't both wearing white hats or the man in the back would have known he had a black hat (since there are only two white hats). The man in front also knows the middle man didn't see him with a white hat because if he did, based on the tallest man's answer, the middle man would have known he himself was wearing a black hat. So, the man in front knows his hat must be black.