

Kingdom Chronicle

School Sales Tax Put on November Ballot After Dramatic City Council Meeting

BY NICOLE BRAUCHLI
Kingdom Chronicle Staff

The September 5th City Council meeting was met with much anticipation. After reports had surfaced that the new IGA between the Woodland Park School District RE-2 and the City had been signed on August 29th, the general understanding was that this would satisfy the demands by the council and make the ballot initiative unnecessary. The November 5th meeting consequently also started with the report that the school district had agreed to every single demand by the city and had not requested any amendments. The newly signed IGA, thus, requires the school district to change its accounting method to provide for separate accounting of the 1.09% sales tax collected by the city for the benefit of the school district, similarly to a grant process. By January 2025, the district would provide monthly line-by-line reports on the spending of the tax, around 3.2 million USD yearly, of which a large chunk, around 740,000 USD, is deducted to pay back the bond between the city and school district (last payment expected in FY36), and the majority of the remaining funds (around 90%) is used for teachers' salaries.

The City Council meeting was well attended with over an hour dedicated to public comment on the issue, specifically the question whether the sales tax should nevertheless be put on the November 5th ballot for citizens to repeal. Whereas proponents of the ballot initiative mainly voiced their frustration and lack of trust in the school district, the opponents advocated for the new IGA to run its course and reminded the council that the sales tax and the new IGA are exactly designed to bring the transparency the public was crying out for. The ordinance had come about out of frustration of the prior City Council beginning of the year in order to force the school district around the table, an issue that later proved to be more on the city's fault and resulted in a first amended IGA between the city and the school district. The new council, however, was not satisfied enough with the new reporting requirements of the school district and had voted to

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Charis 30th Year Celebration

BY GABRIELLA BUCCI
Kingdom Chronicle Staff

If you are not familiar with Charis Bible College, you may not be aware that they spent this last weekend celebrating 30 years of discipling people in the Word of God. This huge milestone was celebrated by all the staff members, many students, and alumni. Friday, September 6th, and Saturday, September 7th, Charis had an amazing lineup of events. As an attendee of the event, I got to watch on Friday how they went through Charis' past and how Andrew Wommack started the Bible College, to how the ministry is doing presently, and, finally, ending with vision-casting for the future.

We got to hear from some people who helped Andrew start the Bible College such as Wendell Parr and Linus and Kay LaFever. Both the LaFever couple and the Parr's prayed about the decision when Andrew first asked them, but it was evident that this was God. Together they began Charis Bible College, originally Colorado Bible Collage, in Colorado Springs in 1994. Kay said "We wouldn't be right here if it weren't for, in the beginning, the "yes". The obedience". Even if they went to Colorado for just one student, that is still a "yes". Andrew stated in this interview "If you wait til you get it figured out before you start, you'll never get it done." Which further exemplifies the value of saying "yes". It was a real treat to see them reflect on humble beginnings and their thankfulness for Andrew and Jamie Wommack's obedience.

For the present, Andrew brought up current staff and instructors such as Barry Bennett; the Executive Director of Academics, Daniel Bennett; CEO, Billy Epperhart; ARMI Ambassador, Greg Mohr; Wendel Parr; and current Directors and Vice Presidents, Mike and Carrie Pickett. Now, Charis Bible College has expanded not only the Colorado campus to Woodland Park, building amazing facilities and growing staff as well, but 53 Charis locations around the world. 21 of those locations are within America. It is safe to say Charis has been busy expanding! There are 14,000 Charis Bible College Alumni as of now.

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continue the ordinance until the signing of a further adapted IGA, which was completed on August 29th.

After listening to public comment the City Council proceeded to casting its vote. As expected, council-members Jones and Harvey, who was involved in the negotiations with the School Board, as well as Mayor Case voted in favor of killing the ballot measure. Council-members Geer, Smith, and Baldwin voted in favor of putting the question on the ballot in November. The deciding vote was council-member and mayor pro tem Catherine Nakai, who had previously signaled she was going to vote against the ballot measure should the IGA be signed in time. Struggling to keep her poker-face, Nakai leaned into her microphone and voted “yes”.

Outrage erupted in the audience and the council had to call a recess until order was reestablished. And with that, the special sales tax for the School District will be on the ballot on November 5th, where citizens of Woodland Park – and only the citizens of Woodland Park, excluding the larger population of the school district – will vote on whether they want to abolish the sales tax. A yes vote in November will take away 11% of the schools’ – including the charter school Merit Academy’s – budget starting in July 2025 with dramatic consequences. Considering that most of the sales tax is mainly spent on teacher salaries, that is where the biggest cut would have to be expected. According to the public comment made by Merit Academy’s CFO, the sales tax covers 30 full time teacher positions. A 'yes' vote would effectively defund our school district, which is already one of the lowest funded districts nationwide. As a comparison, whereas New York’s per pupil funding amounts to 24,881 USD, Colorado only allocates 11,070 USD per child according to World Population Review. This will impact parents, teachers, citizens, and businesses alike, as the sales tax was introduced as a way to limit property taxes and let tourists and other non-citizens, who account for about 30% of the collected sales tax, contribute to the funding of our public schools.

It will be crucial in the next two months, to educate Woodland Park voters on the importance of this tax for the education of our children. As a community, we need to find ways to bridge the divide currently splitting

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Charis 30th Year Celebration

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Each instructor shared how they got connected to Andrew and where the ministry is now. Carrie said it best that, “It is multiplying at such a fast rate”.

“One thing that I've really seen here, it starts with Andrew and goes all the way down through the staff is that there's a genuine love for the transformation for people and for students,” said Mike Pickett during the interview. Billy explained that within the last 5 to 6 years, they have actually doubled the size of the ministry – what a statement! On top of that, they have recently reached their goal of 1,000 enrolled students in Woodland Park alone!

To look to the future, they showed the continual growth with the upcoming Gospel Truth Network, launching this month with programs for people of all ages. Shows ranging from Andrew's classics, to trivia games, to Truth and Liberty, to a show dedicated to teen girls. Andrew shared that he decided to start this network because he realized that the networks he airs his 30 minute show on could be canceled by one disagreement. Beyond that, he shared that this network would out-live him, making the gospel message and this ministry go beyond himself, something that many other televangelists didn't do well. The new Student housing was also shown since its opening this school year for woman - making Charis history. This dorm being the first of many for both males and females. 3-D rendering was shown of the massive, 1 Billion dollar expansion as well. Andrew shared, “We need to make this so that people don't have to do without something,” which God spoke to him concerning this expansion. I love this because it shows the abundance God has for us, but, also, the extent that these Executives are going with this project. It is safe to say I was not the only one there just in awe of all that is part of the vision.

Andrew formally and publicly announced that Mike and Carrie Pickett will be taking over the ministry, taking his own position. This coincided with Mike Pickett's ordination. However, Andrew made it clear that he is not going anywhere anytime soon. The state of things was compared to Joshua and Moses. This decision was made almost 4 years ago when Andrew asked them if they would be willing and since then he has been

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Charis 30th Year Celebration

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entrusting them with more and more. He brought Mike and Carrie up for a last interview where they all shared their thoughts, including Jamie Wommack. During this interview, Mike said, “We’re not the legacy, the Word of God is the legacy.” If that does not show their hearts, I don’t know what will. Andrew ended the morning by inviting his board of directors up to pray over the Picketts as they begin this new chapter in their lives. The couple expressed their gratitude for this opportunity. I, personally, loved when they thanked Andrew and Jamie Wommack as well as Billy Epperhart and Wife Becky Epperhart for being their spiritual parents. This had many of the audience, me included, in tears. Different board members gave words of encouragement to the couple as they prayed, putting many of them in tears as well.

The schedule was just as packed on Saturday. They played a couple videos, one being of all their ministry friends and the other being all the worldwide directors. We got to hear teachings from Mike and Carrie, followed by Rick Renner, and finishing up with Andrew Wommack. What a lineup! During his teaching, Mike said, “You come to Charis, you come to the Word of God,” and I love that, because this is the heart of Andrew’s ministry. They’ve put an importance on the Word of God like no other. Knowing that the Word of God produces fruit, this is why you and I see such amazing fruit across the world. This is, also, why they took the time to celebrate 30 years – because the word produced the harvest! The Pickett’s focused mainly on John 3:30, “He must increase, but I must decrease”. This being an exhortation to the students and Alumni but also showcasing the heartbeat of Charis and AWM. Like Carrie said, “Can you learn to decrease?” Each leader at this ministry has learned to die to themselves and let God increase, this is why 30 years is something to celebrate, because it was God.

Rick Renner taught from John chapter 6. He spoke about giving to the Lord all you have. Illustrating, as he does, the feeding of the 5,000. One quote I found impactful was that he explained the crowd to be “Habitually following Him” (Jesus). It is faithfully following the Lord and giving Him what you have, because He can multiply it – a similar message to Mike and Carrie.

Andrew taught on our purpose in life. At one point he said, “I didn’t know what I was doing and I still don’t

know what I’m doing. All I’m doing is just saying yes to God.” That is humility right there! He used his own life to show that God’s purpose for us is greater than our purpose for ourselves. After the teaching, they invited the audience out front to watch the time capsule burial. Their time capsule was buried later that afternoon and will be dug up on the 50th anniversary.

Overall, the event was a reminder for everyone what the Lord has done over the last 30 years. He never stops working through us, so we can always expect more. Even though there is a lot that Charis Bible College has already accomplished and lives that have been transformed across the globe, there is still more to come. Andrew said, “My vision hasn’t peaked yet, it’s just getting started,” and that is exactly where they are at. It’s all just getting started. As I heard many times through the event, the best is yet to come. If you weren’t at the event, I highly encourage you to go online and watch it! It was a blessing to be there.

Freedom Church

BY KYLE GONZALEZ

Kingdom Chronicle Editor-in-Chief

Upcoming Events

◆ 09/28/2024: Jerry Garcia is coming to Freedom Church for a lively Saturday Night Service.



◆ 10/09/2024: Richard Harris is coming to Freedom Church for our Saturday Night Service from the front-lines of what God is doing in the political realm.

Here Is A Local, Christian-Owned Business We'd Like To Highlight:

bitcreed
bitcreed.us

Agile Project management, apps, security audits, recruiting, etc.
Contact us at info@bitcreed.us for a free initial consulting.

Your partner in all software matters

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the population and to ensure we cast our vote in November based on the best interest of the kids and not our personal feelings towards the school board.

Here Is A Local, Christian-Owned Business We'd Like To Highlight:



Yourmoneymakeover.com

Coming Up @ Your City Council Meeting:

BY NICOLE BRAUCHLI
Kingdom Chronicle Staff

Please find the current agenda and supporting documents on the city's website:

<https://woodlandparkco.portal.civicclerk.com/>

We encourage you to attend these public meetings and voice your opinion during public comment. Also, please email your council-members to make sure your voice is heard. Even a few emails have a tremendous impact on the council-member preparing for these meetings.



Calling All Intercessors: Join Us For Strategic Prayer

BY AMANDA LOCKMAN
Kingdom Chronicle Staff

Are you passionate about standing in the gap through prayer? We invite you to join us for Governmental Intercession, where we pray and intercede for everything from our local city council and school board to the nation of Israel.

When: Sunday afternoons from 3:00-4:00 PM

Where: Java Haus Conference Room

Additionally, we are gathering for intercession focused specifically on our public library and community. Your prayers are vital in these challenging times!



When: 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month from 6:15-6:45 PM

Where: Downstairs of the library, first room on your left as you enter from the lower level

Please note, we start and end on time as there are events scheduled after each prayer meeting. Don't be late—every minute of prayer counts! Come, let's unite in prayer and make a difference.



Teller County Young Republicans:

LAUNCH PARTY

SEPTEMBER 29TH
4-7PM

MUSIC / GAMES /
FOOD / MEET AND GREET WITH
RUNNING CONGRESSMAN
SERGEI MATVEYUK

COME LEARN HOW
YOU CAN
SAVE AMERICA!
WE'RE IN THIS
TOGETHER

210 E MIDLAND AVE
WOODLAND PARK, CO

Cry Out! - Ari's Zigzag Journey

BY JOY OTI

Kingdom Chronicle Staff

Sitting across the table with his best friend, Ari locked eyes with Abel as he assured him that God would come through with help for his situation. Abel wants to get into medical school, and it's been very difficult. Two years had passed and that dream was yet unrealized and seemed more impossible with the pass of time.

"I know God is able to do it, Ari. But when?" Abel asked, feeling frustrated with his situation.

"I wish I could tell you when it would happen. Abel. But I can't. But I know that if you stay the course, it will happen." Ari responded.

Abel didn't feel encouraged by Ari's words at all. He had heard that a lot, especially in church. Now, those words have become like a recorded message. "I'm sorry Ari, but your words haven't helped." He thanked Ari, and then left, leaving Ari asking, 'when is the right time?'

As soon as Abel shut the door behind, Ari became overwhelmed with sour emotions. He recalled the many years of trouble he had to go through before achieving his dream of being a doctor. The most important people in his life didn't live to see him achieve his dream, and that was his greatest pain. He was so sure he would have his parents beside him on his graduation day. While his admission into medical school delayed, one after the other his parents passed. That memory stirred up in him some anger. With his head on his table crying profusely, he asked God, "What is the point when the people that matter most to me do not get to share in my joy? Why do You make things happen when they don't mean much anymore?" Throwing himself to the floor, he continued to cry as the memories of his parents telling how they longed to see him be a doctor flooded his heart, bringing more pain and anguish. Soon, he was beginning to choke in his own tears, and much as he tried to stop, he couldn't. He reached out to his drawer, brought out a bottle of valium and took double the dose to knock him off. Shortly, his crying turned to sobbing, and eventually he slept.

Fifteen minutes into his sleep, he found himself alone at his church. It was winter, and the church was very cold. He wrapped his hand around himself, hoping to get some warmth. Suddenly, the piano began playing a familiar song: 'Be thou my vision,' but there was no one sitting at the piano. Surprised, he walked closer to the piano and could see the keys moving, like some invisible fingers were hitting the cords. He jumped back in fear,

and fell to the ground. Suddenly, the door behind him flung open and a ray of light flashed right into his position, almost blinding him. He closed his eyes and stayed in a fetal position, shaking with fear. The piano went low, and then he heard footsteps like those of a horse gallantly, yet slowly counting its steps. The cold he felt had turned to heat from the overwhelming fear he was feeling.

As the footsteps got closer, the volume from the piano got lower. Suddenly, the footsteps stopped, the music stopped, the light faded away and a voice gently called out his name from the PA system, "Ari!" Crying now from fear, Ari would not answer. Again, the voice spoke more gently, "Ari, we need to talk. Please sit down, I'll wait until you are ready."

Still in his fetal position and contemplating on what to do, Ari felt a hand touch him on his shoulder so gently, the fear he felt was immediately lifted, and a warmth of peace flowed from his heart through his body. Ari gently got himself up, but the intensity of the light that hit his eyes had not waned. "Am I blind?" he asked himself.

"No, you are fine. You'll hear me better with your eyes closed." the voice responded.

Searching with his hands, Ari felt the handle of a chair, he lifted himself to it and sat down. His eyes were still wet with tears and his nose still dripped with the liquid fear he had felt. He could do nothing about it. There was an overwhelming presence in the room and seconds later, Ari felt a hand gently wipe his tears, his nose and then kissed him on the forehead. Ari felt so much joy and love from that kiss and touch, that he rested his back on the chair he sat on, heaved a sigh of relief and smile.

"There you go, little one," said the voice, "now, you are ready."

CALL TO ACTION

The story of Ari is yet unfolding. Some of you might have figured out whose presence filled that church room with him – it's obvious. In part two of the story, we'll get to see how Ari's conversation with this compassionate presence goes, and how it ends. But at this point,

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Raise Your Voice!

BY NICOLE BRAUCHLI

*Kingdom Chronicle Staff***Upcoming Community Dates:**

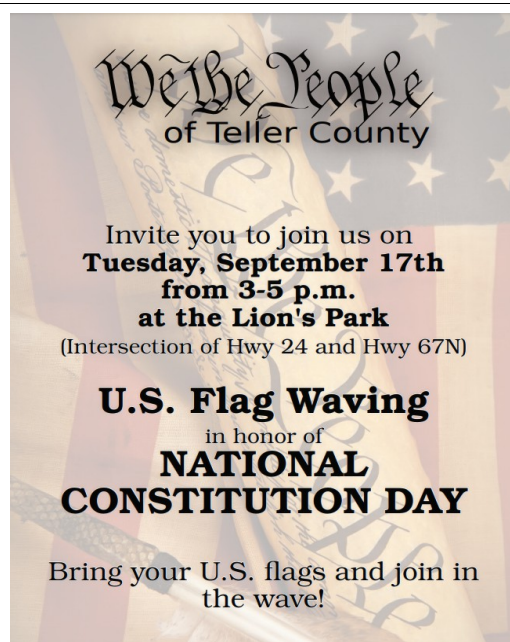
- ◆ 09/12-14/2024: Truth & Liberty Conference at Charis Bible College.
- ◆ 09/15/2024, 3-4 p.m.: Governmental Prayer at Java Haus.
- ◆ 09/17/2024: **National Constitution Day** – Flag waving from 3-5 p.m. at the Lion's Park (intersection of Hwy 24 and Hwy 67N).
- ◆ 09/17/2024, 5.30 p.m.: Chambers Business After Hours (for members) hosted by the Community Partnership Family Resource Center.
- ◆ 09/17/2024, 6:15-6:45 p.m.: Prayer meeting for our library (Woodland Park library, first room on the left when entering from lower level).
- ◆ 09/18/2024, 6 p.m.: Community Engagement Forum with the Woodland Park Police Department at the police station (moved from 09/11/2024).
- ◆ 09/19/2024, 6:30 p.m.: City Council meeting at City Hall, 220 W South Ave. ***pre-briefing and prayer at 6 p.m. at the Memorial Park flagpole.**
- ◆ 09/22/2024, 3-4 p.m.: Governmental Prayer at Java Haus.
- ◆ 09/24/2024, 5-6:30 p.m.: Braver Angels Event on the topic of Election Integrity at the Woodland Park Library.
- ◆ 09/29/2024, 3-4 p.m.: Governmental Prayer at Java Haus.
- ◆ 09/29/2024, 4-7 p.m.: Teller County Young Republicans official launch party at the Ute Pass Cultural Center.

Cry Out! - Ari's Zigzag Journey

BY JOY OTI

Kingdom Chronicle Staff

I want to draw our attention to His care, love, compassion, and the dramatic ways He can make His presence known. When we cry out, He goes; “one of my children needs my attention,” just like any good parent would do. He cares and pays attention when we cry out to Him. And even when we don't hear Him like we should, He ensures that we know He heard us; either through the answer to that cry, or a gentle soothing of our hurting hearts, until He satisfies our desires in the perfect way He always does. So, if you've got something to cry out about, go ahead and cry out!



DC MALL, OCTOBER 12, 2024

A MILLION WOMEN

CALLING A MILLION ESTHERS AND MORDECAIS TO PRAY, FAST, STAND ON THE DAY OF ATONEMENT.

A million Esthers gather on the DC mall, to cry out for the children for death has climbed through our windows. There we take a stand for truth and mercy. There we lift up the blood of Jesus declaring the victory of the cross over the powers. Gather the mothers and the daughters and the Mordecais and sons on the Day of Atonement. A day that must not be missed, who knows if you have come into the kingdom for such a time as this!



REGISTER NOW AND JOIN THE MOVEMENT

September 5th City Council Meeting

BY AMANDA LOCKMAN
Kingdom Chronicle Staff

Last Thursday our city council voted 4-3 to pass an ordinance that will put the 1.09% tax back on the November ballot for the voters to vote on. I want to share the importance of maintaining our 1.09% city sales tax, which is dedicated to funding our schools in the Re-2 School District.

Let me start by sharing some critical numbers. WPSD Re-2, like many districts across Colorado, is facing significant financial challenges. Our state ranks 42nd in the nation for per-pupil funding. WPSD RE-2 receives significantly less funding per student compared to many other districts in Colorado. This means our schools are already operating on far less than the national average.

The 1.09% sales tax we have in Woodland Park generates approximately \$3.2 million annually for our school district. This funding is absolutely essential. It helps us keep class sizes manageable, retain high-quality teachers, and offer vital programs such as music, art, athletics, and more.

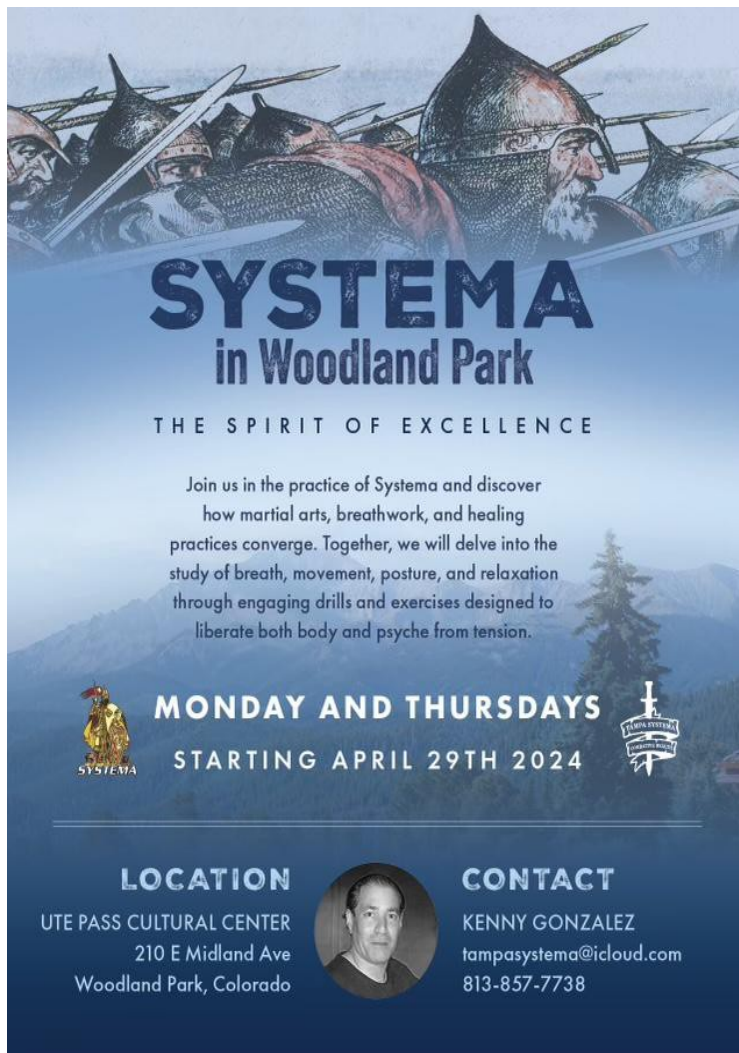
Without this tax, our schools will face devastating cuts. According to the Colorado Department of Education, more than 80% of school budgets are spent on staff salaries and benefits. If this funding were to disappear, we'll be looking at teacher layoffs, larger class sizes, and a significant reduction in the programs that make our schools special.

Consider what has happened in other districts where funding has been cut. Class sizes have increased by 20%, elective courses have been slashed by nearly 40%, and students—especially those from low-income families—are falling further behind. We cannot allow this to happen in Woodland Park. Our children deserve better.

As it stands right now, not only do Woodland Park residents that choose to shop here help fund our schools but so do all the visitors that come to and through our city, as well as the residents of surrounding cities, both within and outside the RE-2 district. We've all heard the saying, "many hands make light work". All the visitors and travelers making purchases in our city make the burden on the residents of the RE-2 district lighter. To be able to fund our schools in this way is a beautiful thing.

When you see this measure on the ballot, vote "NO"!

Here Is A Local, Christian-Owned Business We'd Like To Highlight:



SYSTEMA
in Woodland Park

THE SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE

Join us in the practice of Systema and discover how martial arts, breathwork, and healing practices converge. Together, we will delve into the study of breath, movement, posture, and relaxation through engaging drills and exercises designed to liberate both body and psyche from tension.

MONDAY AND THURSDAYS
STARTING APRIL 29TH 2024

LOCATION
UTE PASS CULTURAL CENTER
210 E Midland Ave
Woodland Park, Colorado

CONTACT
KENNY GONZALEZ
tampasystema@icloud.com
813-857-7738

The next classes will be 09/24, 10/22 and 10/29 from 6 p.m. To 7:30 p.m.

Contact for more information.

A true warrior sees both his pride and tension and works to defeat them. The bodywork of Systema seeks to cleanse the body of excess tension, to facilitate deep relaxation, to balance mind, body, and spirit, to assist alleviating deep trauma, emotional stress & accumulated tension.

Systema is not an external system of moves and cool tricks. It is a journey into the interplay between your conscious and unconscious mind and the awareness and opportunities therein. The key principle of the Systema is non-destruction.

Love Letters With God - “Love's Song”

BY JULIA LEE
Kingdom Chronicle Staff

I truly believe that God's Word is His love letter to His world. I am thankful that when I read the Bible, I see and hear His voice in my heart as it begins to renew my mind. I will never forget when I read Zephaniah 3:17 for the first time. I did not just come upon this verse in a random encounter. On that day when I did read it, I had no idea that the love letter “Love's Song” flowed from this verse. It might sound odd, but when the Lord began to write this love letter in my heart, I was mowing the yard. I have always enjoyed mowing our yard on a big John Deer diesel mower because I was outside alone with God. I often sang to Him as I mowed because it was only Him that could hear me over the roar of the engine. One day I was singing to Him and He began to write “Love's Song” in my heart. At the end of this love letter, He said “Zephaniah.” I had not read any verses in Zephaniah in a long time and at that time I had never read this book of the Bible in its entirety. I had no idea what was in Zephaniah, but I was getting ready to find out. My heart became so excited that I kept saying “Zephaniah” repeatedly so much that I stopped the mower, went inside, and started reading this book of the Bible. When I got to Zephaniah 3:17 huge tears started to fall from my eyes as I read,

Love's Song

For I shall Sing over you a Song your heart has never heard,
for your worship has touched Me with Wings of Love
gentle beauty praise True in Spirit and Word,
For I know the desires of your heart
and on Mighty horses We shall ride upon the sand,
For My Plans are Good and Never-ending
as I hold your heart within My Hand,
Drink of My Living Water and Dance in My Fields of White,
Then We shall Walk in the Splendor of the Meadow
and Rest in the grasses of brilliant Life,
For I shall Sing over you My Love,
Even the Water and Fire will be filled with Light
for such Joy you have never known,
Each Note will fall like Rain upon the earth
and Wash you in My Love,
For you have fully given
your heart to Me Alone,
And I cannot stop Singing,
To you, My Own, Eternal,
My Love's Song.

Love Letters, JVL

“The Lord your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save;
He will rejoice over you with gladness,
He will quiet you with His love,
He will rejoice over you with singing.”

I heard the Lord speaking directly to me through His Word, and I was so amazed that Jesus rejoices over us with singing. It was His song that I was hearing and seeing in my heart. It is wonderful that our magnificent God is always looking and listening to our hearts. In 1 Samuel 16:7 (NKJV) it says, “But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”” What has continued to amaze me is that we have heart eyes and ears. I first heard and saw the love letter “Love's Song” in my heart before I wrote it on paper. What I have discovered is that as we draw near to God and He draws near to us through His Word this is a place of beginning for a beautiful heart conversation – and of singing. I also realized that even as I was riding around on a very loud and noisy lawn mower, I did not hear the noise anymore. I heard His voice – His singing. He had indeed quieted my heart with His love. Jesus can quiet all the sounds of the enemy, the noise of lies and condemnation, the attacking voices of fear, doubt, despair, and isolationism. Jesus will truly quiet you with His Love. Believe and trust God – He is faithful - He will do it.

If I could encourage you in anything it would be to surrender your heart to God, spend time with Him in His Word, and sing praises to Him with a melody from your heart. God is listening to your heart. This is a doorway which will open, and He will come in and sing over you a song you have never heard. Jesus loves you with everlasting love and He will draw you with lovingkindness (Jeremiah 31:3) and He will sing His Love's Song over you. It is a song that is written only for you.

To Unite And Effectively Activate The Conservative Patriots Of Teller County

BY NICOLE BRAUCHLI
Kingdom Chronicle Staff

We The People of Teller County

Dear Patriots,

Many of you are still digesting September 5th's City Council meeting. I want to thank each one of you who was there in person, in prayer, sent emails, or support messages. Our opponents rallied, but without a lot of success. We clearly outnumbered the group that strongly opposes our conservative school board and was speaking in favor of putting the special sales tax for the school district on the November ballot. We had one amazing speaker after the other lined up yesterday in a public hearing session that took over an hour, while our opponents were not able to come up with one single reason why this sales tax is no longer needed. Their arguments were lack of transparency, needed maintenance repairs, alleged mismanagement of funds, etc., all things that would speak in favor of keeping the special sales tax and the newly signed IGA that binds the school district into monthly line by line reporting on the use of the tax money. Without the sales tax, the school district would have no reporting duty towards the city anymore.

Unfortunately, in the end and despite all the public comment, the City Council voted 3:4 in favor of putting the sales tax on the November ballot for the citizens of Woodland Park - not the county mind you - to decide on, a result that even surprised our mayor. They questioned the overall assumption in the room that voters would reject the sales tax and stated that voters will be able to vote in the best interest of the children and would not vote based on emotions. Wouldn't that be a novel thought. After six council-members had made their public statement, the deciding vote rested on council-member Smitty, who claims that all the parents and teachers he talks to, want this issue on the ballot. The fact that 30 teachers would lose their job without the tax, as Merit Academy's CFO pointed out, did not affect him. According to him, teachers are already expecting to lose their job. The rhetoric is mind blowing.

We have our work cut out for the next few months. It will be of utmost importance that we inform voters by November, what they are voting on and the potential consequences this will have on our kids. If you want to be on board and would be willing to write letters to the editor or be part of other campaign activities such as door-knocking, social media, etc. please let us know! Please take the time today to thank council-members Jones and Harvey, as well as Mayor Case for their fight yesterday. <https://www.city-woodlandpark.org/159/City-Council>

In line with this note, I would like to leave you with the following reminder of history and of the first Continental Congress that took place these days exactly 250 years ago (credit to Wallbuilders, thank you Sue for forwarding!):

On September 5, 1774, the First Continental Congress met at Carpenters' Hall in Philadelphia. Among the delegates who attended were George Washington, Patrick Henry, Samuel Adams, John Adams, John Jay, and many other notables. This meeting was important since it was the first time the colonies united on a large scale (though one colony was not represented), thus the tone it set would be crucial for America's future. The congress had been called to address increasing British tyranny, including the Intolerable Acts, which had ended self-government in Massachusetts and shut down the port of Boston to commercial shipments.

On the second day of the gathering, Congress got down to business. There was a call to open the meeting with prayer, but some delegates doubted they could pray together since there were different denominations present. Samuel Adams ended the debate when he announced that he was not a bigot and could "hear a prayer" from anyone "who was at the same time a friend to his country." He then nominated Rev. Jacob Duché to conduct the prayers. It was amidst all these circumstances that on the third day, September 7th, the Rev. Duché led the first prayer in Congress.

Delegate Silas Deane reported Duché prayed for a full ten minutes and then read the Scripture for the day. John Adams related to his wife how much this time of prayer meant for the attendees:

[Rev. Duché] read several prayers in the established form, and then read the collect for the seventh

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To Unite And Effectively Activate The Conservative Patriots Of Teller County

BY NICOLE
BRAUCHLI
Kingdom Chronicle
Staff

day of September, which was the thirty-fifth Psalm. You must remember, this was the next morning after we heard the horrible rumor of the cannonade of Boston. I never saw a greater effect upon an audience. It seemed as if Heaven had ordained that Psalm to be read on that morning.

That time of prayer united the delegates despite their differences. In fact, Daniel Webster, "Defender of the Constitution," later reminded the US Supreme Court of the unifying power of prayer:

Mr. Duché read the Episcopal service of the Church of England and then, as if moved by the occasion, he broke out into extemporaneous prayer. And those men who were then about to resort to force to obtain their rights, were moved to tears; and flood of tears, Mr. Adams says, ran down the cheeks of the pacific Quakers who formed part of the most interesting assembly. Depend upon it, where there is a spirit of Christianity, there is a spirit which rises above form, above forms, independent of sect or creed, and the controversies of clashing doctrines.

It was prayer and the Scriptures that united the Founding Fathers, and they can still unite us today.

<https://youtu.be/FWNCuQ8VvVg>

Many blessings,

Nicole

Kingdom Chronicle Updates

BY KYLE GONZALEZ
Kingdom Chronicle Editor-in-
Chief

The Kingdom Chronicle is looking to fill some important roles in our team. If you feel the call to come alongside us in helping to provide Godly news to the city of Woodland Park, please contact us via editor@kingdomchronicle.news. Also, if you find our content to be a blessing, have suggestions for us, or feedback (to include testimonies) please send us an email at editor@kingdomchronicle.news. I pray that you all have a blessed day.

Why I Died For You - A Devotional

BY GABRIELLA BUCCI
Kingdom Chronicle Staff

Within the last week or so, I was taking communion in my own time. My heart needed rest so I sat there meditating on what Jesus has done. I asked Him, "Why did You die?"

He brought back many memories of times where He revealed Himself personally, times we had long conversations or He embraced me with love. He showed me my prayer journal, with many conversations of ours written down.

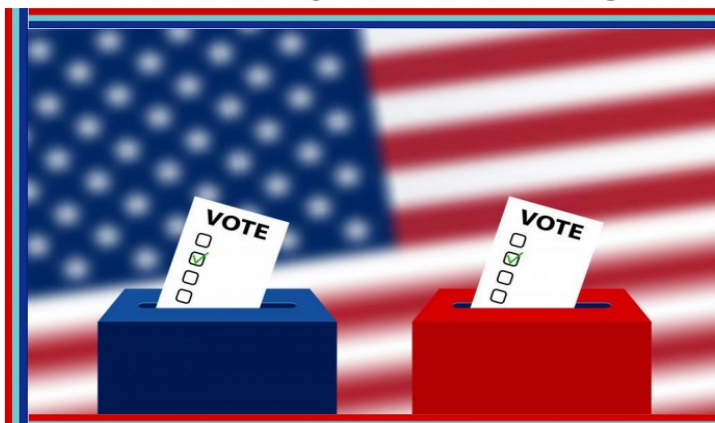
He said, "That is why I died for you."

We all may already know this, but Jesus died to know us. He did not die for you to do something, but be something. Many times we focus so much on our calling

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ELECTION INTEGRITY: A Community Conversation

Tuesday, September 24th 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.
Woodland Park Library Downstairs Meeting Room



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COLORADO BRAVER ANGELS

JOIN US FOR GREAT REFRESHMENTS AND LIVELY DEBATE!

- What gives an election "integrity"?
- How do we ensure *fair and accessible* elections?
- How worried should we be about voter fraud and voter suppression?
- Does technology help or hurt the accuracy and security of elections?
- Are Colorado mail-in ballots safe and secure?
- other questions *you* bring to the table :-).

Monthly COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS are a place where people with diverse opinions come together to *respectfully* listen and learn, practicing the art of **CIVIL DISCOURSE**.

Why I Died For You - BY GABRIELLA BUCCI A Devotional *Kingdom Chronicle Staff*

or gifting – I know I'm guilty of that – but we were called to BE His children. You are called to know Him. At the time He revealed that to me, I was struggling to put my focus on Him and not become anxious. It was hard to quiet my thoughts and sit with Him. I realized later on that He really just wants to talk to me and love on me, forget asking Him for something or pressuring Him with doing something. We can all get so busy with either serving Him and doing things for God, or asking Him for things, that we never really advance our relationship with Him. We just end of using Him as a genie. Hosea 2:16 says this:

*When that day comes," says the Lord,
"you will call me 'my husband'
instead of 'my master.'"*

This verse is referring to the day Jesus would be born into the world. That has already come, so we don't have to wait any

longer. He is not a master we need to work for or plead, but a Father or Husband we can do life with. This is what He wants. The bible also says seek first the Kingdom of God and all else will be added to you (Matt 6:33). All



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we have to do is seek Him. It doesn't matter how urgent a problem may seem, the Holy Spirit is more urgent. He already has all you need. Expect him to come though for you, but in the meantime, rest in His presence.

Psalm 27:8 says

"My heart has heard you say, "Come and talk with me.""

And my heart responds, "Lord, I am coming."

He always desires to talk with us. It is why Jesus PAID for us. When He says 'come talk to Me'. Are we sensitive enough to hear Him? Are we humble enough to obey?

Explain Christianity In Just Two Words ... Could You Do It? BY ALEX MCFARLAND *Kingdom Chronicle Contributor*

Theologians are often accused of making knowledge about God unnecessarily complicated. Scholars of the Bible are known for giving long, verbose answers to short questions. (In all fairness, however, the more complicated a subject the less likely a brief answer is to be adequate. And certainly the Lord – and our knowledge of His revelation – are subjects with so many layers of content that the odds for wordy answers and discourse is great).

Regarding apologetics (the discipline of defending the Christian faith), getting tangled up in depth of content is just an occupational hazard. I once heard a TV preacher (clearly, no fan of apologetics), say that, "Apologists could make falling off a stool complicated!" Perhaps so. Picture all that comes to mind in some one, "falling off a stool": ("What kind of stool was it?" "Why did the subject fall, and how far?", "Did he have an aneurism?", "Was the stool in a bar, and was the fall was due to intoxication on the subject's part? Because this raises discussion about the subjects of sin and salvation...").

If one sincerely wants to find out truth, then having to sift through some content to get there should not be viewed as completely burdensome. It is usually beneficial. Because on the way to solving one specific question the diligent seeker will likely come across other truths. This is certainly so regarding the message of Jesus. The Gospel of salvation through Christ is endlessly fascinating, I believe, because it is profound and simple. The brightest scholars exhaust their stock of adjectives in attempting to depict it, yet a child may understand the love of Jesus, too. And reality's two most indelible precepts – that God exists and that He loves me – stir our hearts to countless other topics of discussion as well.

The Quests: Make it simple, make it vivid

While fielding questions in an open-forum college class, a student gave me a request that mandated simplicity: Describe Christianity in just two words. Could you do it? Only two words, in which to explain the message of history. How would you respond?

I thought for a moment, said a silent prayer, and replied, "Loving substitution." Fortunately, the class gave

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Explain Christianity In Just Two Words ... Could You Do It?

BY ALEX MCFARLAND
Kingdom Chronicle Contributor

gave me a few moments longer in which to explain. But one with even a basic knowledge of the Bible knows that God, in love, sent His Son to die on the cross in our place. I believe this “loving substitution” is what Isaiah 53:5 means when it said, “The chastisement of our peace was upon Him.” One modern translation renders this, “Everything we’ve done wrong was piled on Him (Jesus).” That is God’s “loving substitution.”

The life of Anthony Perez was a poignant picture of “loving substitution.” In a New York park, the 11-year old gave his life to save a drowning pal. The friend had fallen through the ice of a small pond in the park, and Anthony entered the water to save him. The friend was pushed to shore and lived. Young Anthony didn’t make it. Emergency responders got hypothermia trying to save him, but to no avail. Hailed as a hero, Anthony did for a friend what Jesus did for the world: He laid down his own life.

Painful as it would be, Jesus jumped into the icy water for us. Think about His “loving substitution” when you need to be reminded how much God loves you. Perhaps you’ll have opportunity to share this precious truth with others today who are longing to hear it. Through words or in real-life actions, what a privilege we have to convey simple, though life-changing truth.

Alex McFarland teaches at Charis Bible College (charisbiblecollege.org). He regularly speaks in revivals and conferences throughout the US (alexmcfarland.com).

What Is Amendment 79?

BY KYLE GONZALEZ
Kingdom Chronicle Editor-in-Chief

In November, Colorado residents will be going to the ballot for a lot more than just who will be our next President of the United States. The issues we will be voting on will be numerous, each with lasting impacts. One of such issues will be Amendment 79. While there are entire websites dedicated to providing you with in-depth information about Amendment 79, I intend to give you just the entry-level perspective on what Amendment 79 means for Colorado.

Amendment 79 would amend the Colorado Constitution to enshrine the right to abortion. This would mean that there would be no opportunities to prevent or otherwise change the right to elective abortion, for any reason. It would, also, allocate tax dollars to provide “free” abortions.

We will have other articles with more in-depth coverage of Amendment 79 in upcoming issues of the Kingdom Chronicle. However, I felt it was necessary and right to at least begin the discussion here with the above.

I pray that each of you will begin researching and praying about how you should vote concerning Amendment 79. You can begin praying for wisdom to prevail concerning the topic. As many are hastily moving for the amendment to pass, without time to research the full extent and scope of the amendment. You can begin praying against a lack of knowledge in each and every voter going to the ballot box in November.

Lets keep growing in your relationship with Jesus, and focus on the leading of the Holy Spirit for each decision in our lives. Be blessed.

More From Our Partners At Great Commission Publishing

BY KYLE GONZALEZ
Kingdom Chronicle Editor-in-Chief

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