

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: NEED VOLUNTEER!
Cradle Roll 2: NEED VOLUNTEER!
6:30 p.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: NEED VOLUNTEER!
Cradle Roll 2: NEED VOLUNTEER!
Wed. Evening Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: NEED VOLUNTEER!
Cradle Roll 2: NEED VOLUNTEER!

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of July 10, 2016

Sunday School ----- 24
Sunday Morning Service ----- 31
Sunday Evening Service ----- 24
Wed. Eve., 07/13/16 Service ----- 16

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

Week of July 10, 2016

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 1,040.03
Total Received for Week of 07/10/16: \$ 1,040.03
Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed
to operate the church EACH WEEK,
as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00



**GIVE OUT A
GOSPEL TRACT
THIS WEEK!**

LISTEN TO -



ABIDINGRADIO.COM

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. Admit that you are a sinner.
2. Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.
3. Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.
4. You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).
5. By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.



**Please Remember To
Be Faithful to Give!**

As with everything else, the costs of keeping a church going never go down - they always go *up*. Bills wait for no one, and churches are no exception to this. An extra, sacrificial gift today by everyone present would go a long way...

We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). *If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!*

Everything is expensive, especially for a small church like ours, but ours is a BIG God, and He LOVES to bless His children when they are obedient to Him!

If you are already a tither, we thank you, and encourage you to also give offerings as well. If you're currently not tithing, won't you please start *today* - **OK?** Thank you.

Church Directory

Todd W. White ----- Pastor
Mickie Shatwell ----- Pianist
Lois Mae Floyd ----- Pianist/ Organist
----- Greeter
Shayne Hooper, Brian Crawford, Charity Crawford ----- S.S. Teachers
Larry & Mary Byars, ----- Outreach
Bertha Segebarr ----- Custodian
Flowers ----- Shirley White, Charity Crawford

SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY
REMINDER

Volume XVI

July 17, 2016

Number 27



**Understanding
"Pokémon Go"**

by Eric Barger, Take A Stand! Ministries

I would like to take the opportunity to address the Pokémon Go craze that is literally sweeping the world and offer a resource for those who may need one.

In short, to play the game users download the Pokémon Go app to their iPhone or Android phones. Then, they begin hunting down 150 different Pokémon creatures capturing them in virtual reality. Pokémon Go is unlike any other game or fad we have seen because the game is based on a players whereabouts and users need to actually *go* to particular locations to capture the virtual Pokémon. Various Pokémon appear on their screens as they hunt in places like offices, schools, hospitals, businesses, parks, backyards, freeways - everywhere and anywhere (*the sign above the front door of the South Heights Baptist Church of Sapulpa is one of the places programmed as one of the locations in the game, incidentally*). Many users have been meeting together at key locations such as well-known landmarks in their quest to electronically gather *Pokeballs*.

The balls are then hurled (virtually, of course) at the game's Pokémon characters to capture them. Players often visit sites such as churches (like ours), which digitally become "gyms," where battles are fought. (Huh? What are Christians doing playing a game that has its basis in the occult - and doing so in Church? More on the spiritual implications in moment.)

Just How Big Is It? Since the recent release of Pokémon Go, over \$7.5 billion has been added to Nintendo's stock market value. To give you an idea of the relative popularity, the Los Angeles Times reported that downloads of Pokémon Go (over 7 million so far) are running ahead of Facebook, Snapchat and Instagram in the Google Play store and will pass Twitter soon.

Most players are not aware that before they even embark into the virtual world of Pokémon Go that in the user agreement allowing them to download the app they are forfeiting their privacy and possibly even the control of their phones to play the game. More worrisome to some is the fact that the company who developed the game was owned by Google! Go to this link for details on this disturbing factor: <http://missourieducationwatchdog.com/why-pokemon-is-not-a-go-and-how-is-google-involved/>

Besides the notion of placing all of your private data at risk, participating in Pokémon Go has proved physically perilous for some. A pair of men fell off a cliff on July 14 while playing near a beach in the San Diego area. One of the men fell 90 feet, the other 50. One was found unconscious and both were taken to a hospital with unspecified trauma injuries. As I write there is no word on their particular conditions.

A New York man escaped with just minor injuries when he crashed his car into a tree while playing the game. His car wasn't as fortunate.

Armed robbers in Missouri used the app to lure victims to isolated locations, police said. Others have been injured chasing the imaginary characters without paying attention to their real-life surroundings.

Stores and malls are reporting a marked increase of foot traffic and a unique security issue because of the game. Kids and adults on a quest to capture the virtual Pokémon creatures are so intense that they sometimes stumble down stairs, knock down other

(continued inside)

patrons, and even end up behind store counters or in offices marked “employees only.” If Pokémon Go had arrived on the scene just a few months ago then reports of men being found in women’s rest rooms would probably be surfacing but now that’s a sad accepted practice in a culture resembling ancient Sodom!

Police in Darwin, Australia, said they have discovered people trying to find Pokémon characters at their police building, and have since posted signs that the station house is off limits to Pokémon Go fanatics.

Police did offer the following advice to Pokémon Go players:

- Don't play the game while driving a car or bicycle.
- Don't trespass on private property just to “catch” a Pokemon.
- Avoid staring down at your phone and be aware of hazards like roadways, drop-offs and waterways.
- Be cautious of who you share your location with.
- Don't travel alone.

Besides the possibility of the development of various problems for some players such as emotional issues (because of an individual's prowess in playing) or eye problems (due to the strain of watching a screen for long periods, especially at night), Pokémon Go may present perverts and pedophiles with unusual opportunities to prey upon victims.

However, Most Players Have No Biblical Understanding of Just What They May Be Embracing. That's expected in the secular world. But many Christians seem to have a problem with just jumping in the pool before checking to see if there are sharks present!

Pokémon Go was developed by Niantic Inc. and is funded by Nintendo. However, the original Pokémon franchise was developed by **Wizards of the Coast**, who gave the world the occult games, **DUNGEONS & DRAGONS** and **MAGIC THE GATHERING**. Pokémon comes from a long line of anti-Christian, occult, and evolutionary development. For example, did you know that the very word Pokémon means “pocket monster” - i.e. “demon?”

To help readers understand more about Pokémon I want to offer free access to a chapter from my book **Entertaining Spirits Unaware: The End-Time Occult Invasion**, titled **“The Weird World of Pokémon.”** It is one of multiple sections in the book where I dealt with Pokémon, the popular **Yu-Gi-Oh** game/cards/TV show, and the **Anime & Manga** genre in general.

Read or download the chapter “The Weird World of Pokémon” here:

<http://www.ericbarger.com/chapter16.esu.pdf>

Two quick points as I close:

1. I realize that many reject warning like this and accuse us of just being “against everything.” Still, I gotta say it: **Christians playing Pokémon Go need to consider the occult roots of Pokémon.** Defending it is akin to putting lipstick on a pig. I've

heard “it's only a game” or “it's just fantasy” more times than you can imagine yet where does the Bible give us license to ignore God's warnings and strong condemnation of the occult just because something may be fantasy - or virtual? (Read Ephesians 5:1-7)

2. Let's Add up the Sheer Amount of Time We're Spending on Stuff like Pokémon Go. The word “idolatry” comes to mind and instead of focusing on our mission in the last days we are going to great lengths literally running around attempting to capture a virtual demon. How Satan must be pleased.

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

9 ONE WORLD CHURCH ON THE MOVE - The following is excerpted from “300 denominations meet for ecumenical gathering in Munich,” Christianitytoday.com, July 5, 2016:

“Some 1,700 Christians from around 300 denominations have met in Munich for a ‘Together in Europe’ gathering of the Ecumenical Congress promoting unity between Catholics, Protestants and Evangelicals. In a meeting supported by Pope Francis and Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew I, leaders of the Catholic Church, the Anglican Church, several Orthodox Churches, Protestant denominations and free evangelical denominations, including some Baptists and Pentecostals, debated for three days about how to walk towards ‘encounter, reconciliation and hope in a better future.’

... Pope Francis and Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew I of Constantinople sent video messages to the meeting. ‘We want to contribute towards reconciliation of Christians and of Churches,’ the organisers said on their website. ‘Through our witness of unity and reconciliation we also hope to impact on society as a whole. We want to encourage all people of our time to respond with a decisive and hopeful yes for going ahead together and overcoming barriers among people, nations, social and cultural groups.’

The Congress finished with an open air rally attended by around 5,000 people under the banner: **‘500 years of division is enough--unity is possible.’**

CONCLUDING NOTE: True Christian unity requires oneness of mind, not an ecumenical “unity in diversity.” The Word of God says, **“Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment” (I Corinthians 1:10).**

9 THE NEW CAMPUS GESTAPO - The following is from “Meet the New Campus Gestapo,” New York Post, June 26, 2016:

“On campuses across America, the Thought Police have a new tool: Bias Response Teams, administrators who crack down on classroom insensitivity. More than 100 US colleges have set up BRT's.

The newshounds at Heat Street last week dug up a taste of how it works.

A professor at the University of Northern Colorado got visited by the school's Bias Response Team - for imploring his students to think about opposing viewpoints. Heat Street's Freedom of Information Act request revealed that the professor

1) Had students read an Atlantic article about rising sensitivity of college students, and

2) Asked them to consider un-PC views on topics like global warming and transgender issues. A trans student finked to the BRT that the professor mentioned the idea that ‘transgender is not a real thing, and no one can truly feel like they are born in the wrong body.’ She wrote she ‘was very offended and hurt by this.’

The BRT told the professor to never talk about transgender issues again, or even mention un-PC opinions on the topic, whether his or someone else's.

If professors can't ask students to engage in critical thinking, we might as well close down the universities now.”

9 “800,000-YEAR-OLD” HUMAN FOOTPRINTS - The following is excerpted from Ken Ham's Blog, July 9, 2016:

“Researchers claim to have uncovered possible Homo erectus footprints from a desert in southeast Eritrea (a coastal African country bordered by Sudan, Ethiopia, and Djibouti). These footprints--size 12 if they had been wearing shoes--appear to have been made by a group of tall individuals, and evolutionist researchers say the footprints were made 800,000 years ago.

Now, in an evolutionary worldview, H. erectus is considered to be ‘physically close to modern humans,’ and these footprints were supposedly left behind 600,000 years before modern man. The researchers believe these prints ‘may provide important clues on how H. erectus's gait evolved until Homo sapiens ... came about.’

Despite their belief that these footprints offer an insight into evolution, the researcher who led the dig noted that **“the prints show toe details, a marked longitudinal arch and an abducted toe, all features distinctive of human feet.”**

Another article describes the prints as **‘nearly identical to modern human footprints.’** So human footprints that look just like modern human footprints provide vital clues into the evolution of the human gait?

A view that's much more consistent with the evidence is the biblical view - Homo erectus is not another human species that is ‘physically close’ to us. The observational evidence confirms these individuals were humans--descendants of Adam and Eve, just like us. They made and used tools, buried their dead, built fires and seafaring vessels, and spread out to settle three continents. After leaving Babel, these humans were some of the earliest people to settle around the world and leave remains that we can find today. The minor differences we see between them and us are simply part of the enormous variety God built into the

human genome.

When we start with God's Word, the observational evidence makes sense, can be consistently interpreted, and confirms the Bible's true, historical science that humans have always been humans! That's because it's God's Word--not human imagination--that provides the true history of the world.”

9 AGATES FOR THE GLORY OF GOD - The child of God is at liberty to enjoy life to the fullest in God's perfect will. He **“giveth us richly all things to enjoy” (I Timothy 6:17).**

To enjoy the creation without putting the Creator first in one's affections is idolatry, but when God is put in the proper place, the creation can be enjoyed, and it all points back to Him and teaches us about Him.

Geologist Bill Kitchens studies agates and has a web site GodMadeAgates.com that features studies about agates and beautiful photos of them. He says, **“Agates are treasures of God's grace that, through natural processes, fill voids in rocks around us for people to find, wonder at, and use. ... The appreciation of beauty and the desire to create beauty, and to understand it, are parts of the ‘image of God’ built into mankind ‘in the beginning.’”**

The Bible says of Israel in Christ's coming kingdom, **“And I will make thy windows of agates, and thy gates of carbuncles, and all thy borders of pleasant stones” (Isaiah 54:12).**

