Communique'

President - Scott Lane 599-7240 Vice President – Ed Salzwedel
Secretary – Clarence Johnson Treasurer – Carl Williams, M.D.
[website – [www.sabbsa.org](http://www.sabbsa.org/) ] [P.O. Box 34478, San Antonio, TX 78265]

**December 2021**

The Christmas lights are out, we are seeing more cold fronts, and shopping is in full swing. It must be Christmas time. We pray that you find a way to remember this Christmas that **“Jesus is the Reason for the Season!”**

This month’s **Communique’** features an article detailing how **Norse mythology** shows remnants of the biblical creation account. We also have information on the great challenges our churches and clergy are experiencing coming back from COVID. In the Christmas spirit, we have an article on the medical data for the biblical tenant of **“gratitude to our maker!”** We have also have a script from another of our radio programs giving you insight on the topics of **“Panspermia”** and the possibility of “Life from Outer Space.”

Our **Genesis Commentary** section this month details Abram in Egypt in **Genesis 12**. As always, we have a full rundown of all creation education opportunities coming up in our area. We at SABBSA will also be presenting the **“Rocks Cry Out”** video series to our friends at FEAST this coming year at their FEAST science workshops. We had a great response to our opening sessions this fall! Details inside. We will also have a wealth of Christmas gift ideas available at our December meeting.

**-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

**Fascinating Facts About Norse Mythology**

(Adapted from a story from Trivia Genius in 2020)

There are facts about Norse mythology which show their origin in the creation account from the Bible in spite of the huge distance in time and geography from the Hebrew culture.

 Viking helmets in a row

Credit: Ryszard Filipowicz/ Shutterstock

**Ymir and the creation of Earth**

Ymir, also called Aurgelmir, was the first being that ever existed. When an ice world and a fire world collided, Ymir the giant was formed by the melting ice. He then produced a six headed cow from his legs, as most people do, and drank its milk for nourishment. The cow survived by licking salt stones. Eventually, the cow licked the stones enough that they formed the shape of a man, who came to life. The man’s name was Buri, and he was the grandfather of Odin and great-grandfather of Thor. (Bible parallels – a first single deity and man formed from stone (dirt).)

Despite all Ymir did, Odin and his brothers later killed him and used his body to make the Earth. His flesh became the land, his blood became the oceans, the mountains were made from his bones, stone came from his teeth, the sky from his skull, the clouds from his brains, and his eyebrows, of all things, were made into a fence that held everything together. (Very skewed from the original, but there is a hint here of Cain and Abel with his brothers killing Ymir.)

**Instead of Adam and Eve**

Like Adam and Eve from Abrahamic religions, Norse mythology claims that humans started with just two people as well. One day, Odin and two other gods were walking along the beach of the newly created Midguard (the world made from Ymir’s remains) and saw two pieces of driftwood in the sand that were shaped like people. Seeing their figures, Odin decided to give them life. He and the gods worked together to give the pieces of wood life, mental activity, complexion, and the ability to speak, hear, and see.

The man, Ask (starts with an “A” like Adam), was made from ash wood while the woman, Embla, was made from an elm. The gods clothed the two new beings and gave them the world as their home. (This part is very reminiscent of the biblical account of life with Adam and Eve just after the fall with their being clothed and injected into the world outside the garden.)

The gods ate the same meal every night (boar)

Norse heaven is called Valhalla, and it’s a pretty big place. Not only do most of the primary gods live there, but so do all the fallen warriors who’ve died valorous deaths in battle. Every night, a single boar provides all the meat for everyone’s dinner. What makes it extra interesting is that it’s the same boar night after night. (This is again very skewed from the Hebrew, but the idea of an afterlife, heaven, heaven being a massive place and feasting in heaven are all very consistent with the biblical narrative.)

Sæhrímnir is a, presumably, giant boar that lives in Valhalla. When it comes close to dinner time, the godly cook Andhrímnir butchers the boar and makes him into a delicious meal for all the battle-weary residents. The next day, the gods bring Sæhrímnir back to life, and they do it all over again! The afterlife might not be so good for poor Sæhrímnir, but it’s quite delicious for everyone else. (This sacrifice of the boar is very reminiscent though twisted of all the animal sacrifices in the Old Testament with the twist of the picture of Christ coming back to life after death.)

**The days of the week are named after Norse gods**

The seven-day week was established by the genesis account. Our names for the days come from the Romans, and the days were named after their gods. As the Roman calendar became more widely accepted, different cultures needed new names for the days in their own native languages. When the seven-day week was accepted by the Anglo-Saxons (early English speakers), they used the Norse gods as inspiration.

Tuesday – named after Tyr, the god of war and the bravest of all.

Wednesday – named after Odin (also called Wodin).

Thursday – Thor’s day.

Friday – named after Frigg, Odin’s wife.

Saturday, Sunday, and Monday all retained their planetary Roman names based on Saturn, the Sun, and the Moon, respectively.

**People still practice Odinism**

After almost 1,000 years of extinction, the religion practiced by the Vikings is starting to resurrect itself. Just up a hill from the Icelandic capital of Reykjavik is a brand-new temple in which people can worship Odin, Thor, and Frigg. Followers of Ásatrúarfélagið, as it’s known, don’t necessarily believe that the stories about the gods are true, but that they serve as metaphors for life. Today, it’s the fastest growing religion in Iceland.

The religion has gained so much attention over the past few years that the United States Veterans Administration has allowed Thor’s hammer to be an officially accepted religious symbol that can be added to military gravestones the same as the Cross or Star of David.

**Editor’s Note: It is fascinating and sad that this archaic religion is till practiced and expanding. It shows man’s innate need to fill the hole in our hearts which only God can fill, but all too often we fill that hole with false gods. Satan revels in a religion where most people do not believe in the stories, but see them as only moral metaphors.**

**Just as fascinating is seeing how the biblical narrative of the creation in genesis is weaved throughout Norse mythology again underscoring the source of most mythology today comes indirectly from the original and true creation account in the Bible.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**The “Great Resignation” has come to American churches as nearly four in ten Christian pastors have seriously considered leaving ministry this year!**

(Excerpted from an article by Robert Bowen, staff writer for fundamentalforums.org)

Nearly 40 percent of pastors 'seriously' considered quitting ministry this year, survey finds and people not returning to the pews

The career soul-searching comes as American churches deal with disputes over masks, social distancing and COVID-19 vaccinations, and broader disagreements over racial and political issues, according to surveys released recently by Barna Research Group, a California company that specializes in issues affecting Christians. Burnout has been particularly high among pastors from mainline denominations such as the Episcopal, Presbyterian and Methodist traditions. Half of such clergy told Barna they had considered leaving ministry since January, compared to 31 percent of other clergy.

“The year 2020 — and now 2021 — are arguably the two hardest years to ever be a pastor in the United States,” said William Vanderbloemen, head of the Houston-based church consultancy group Vanderbloemen Search Group. “This is the hardest it’s ever been. I’ve never seen more people ready to check out.”

It may get worse: Almost half of pastors younger than 45 told Barna they had considered leaving ministry - a trend that, if sustained, could have profound effects on American religious life, leaving a shortage of clergy to lead churches and minister to congregations, said Barna President David Kinnaman.

“It seems to be something like an existential crisis,” he said. “Nobody went to seminary and took Pandemic 101. Nobody trained for this.”

Broadly speaking, American clergy and their churches were greying long before COVID-19. A report last year by the interfaith research firm Faith Communities Today found the average clergy member is 57 years old today, compared to 50 years old in 2000.

The pandemic brought new pressures on pastors, many older and at the helm of cash-strapped churches. The virus shuttered congregations and forced pastors to quickly to adapt to new and more expensive technologies for livestreaming almost overnight.

After churches reopened last year, pastors then faced divisions in their congregations over masks and vaccinations, as well as infighting over politics and former President Donald Trump.

At Memorial Baptist Church in Pasadena, two staff positions remain unfilled, while applicants are dwindling. Lead pastor Jason Havner said roughly 50 solid candidates applied for the vacant youth leader position when it was last open a few years ago. But he’s received only a handful of applications since advertising the job earlier this year, he said.

Most American churches count fewer than 100 regular members, and only a handful of full-time staff, if any. Many are located in rural and politically conservative parts of the country, adding to the tension that some pastors said they felt when trying to implement COVID-19 safety precautions or move to virtual services…

Burnout is not a new issue in the occupation that has many demands and often helps people deal with the most painful aspects of life, including the loss of loved ones. Those who stick with it often do so out of a passion to help others, which only became more difficult during the pandemic.

As pastors were forced by COVID-19 to keep their distance and communicate virtually, they struggled to foster the intimacy and trust needed to be an effective counselor.

“It’s already such a lonely profession,” said Rev. Timothy Sloan, pastor of the Luke Church in Humble. “And so going through this season and having to be accessible but also lonely has been heart-wrenching.”

Sloan’s congregation is mostly African American, and didn’t resume in-person services until August out of an abundance of caution. One young member also died of cancer earlier this year, and Sloan said he was devastated that he couldn’t preside over her funeral.

But arguably the hardest part, he said, has been wrestling with the American church’s role in movements for racial justice, debates that have dominated Christian circles in the wake of widespread protests over the murder of George Floyd and other Black men last year.

American Christians have long been divided on perceptions of inequality and injustice. Surveys conducted by Barna last year found that roughly 40 percent of white, practicing Christians “believe the U.S. has a race problem.”

More than twice as many Black Christians believed the same. About 70 percent of Black Christians also said they were “motivated to address racial injustice” — twice the number of white Christians who said the same.

Sloan said it’s been exhausting to try to have nuanced and productive conversations on race amid the chaos of the last two years. Still, he’s hopeful that the widespread burnout in the field will prompt what he said are much-needed conversations about mental health and counseling for clergy and churchgoers alike.

And so, he recently began a new sermon series.

The theme? “I Am Overwhelmed.”

**Editor’s Note: This article highlights one facet of a huge challenge for the church as we move post-COVID. Church going and religious faith were already waning in America pre-COVID. But now, so many people got so used to staying home on Sundays, some watching services remotely and others turning away from worship that getting them back into church is a daunting task and our pastors are feeling the burden of that.**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**The Profound Health Benefits of Being Grateful**

Learn the basics of how the simple practice of gratitude can have profound positive effects on your health and well-being; it might even help you recover faster from trauma and injury. **The Bible promises this, and medical data confirms it!**

Gratitude is a simple practice that can have profound effects on your health and well-being. Positive effects linked to gratitude include social, psychological, and physical benefits, which increase the more you make gratitude a regular part of your daily routine.

“The limits to gratitude’s health benefits are really in how much you pay attention to feeling and practicing gratitude,” said neuroscientist Glenn Fox, a gratitude expert at the University of Southern California. “It’s very similar to working out, in that the more you practice, the better you get. The more you practice, the easier it is to feel grateful when you need it.”

**How Gratitude Changes Your Brain**

Gratitude has distinct neurobiological effects, including in brain regions associated with interpersonal bonding and stress relief. When Fox and colleagues told stories of survivors of the Holocaust to elicit gratitude in 23 female subjects, they found that “ratings of gratitude correlated with brain activity in the anterior cingulate cortex and medial prefrontal cortex,” which are associated with moral cognition, value judgment, and theory of mind. Theory of mind is a psychological term that refers to our capacity to understand other people by attributing mental states to them.

Fox grew deeply interested in gratitude after his mother’s death from ovarian cancer. During her illness, he would send her studies on the benefits of gratitude in cancer patients, and she kept a gratitude journal in her final years.

In one example, 92 adults with advanced cancer engaged in mindful gratitude journaling or routine journaling. After seven days, those who kept a gratitude journal had significant improvements in measures of anxiety, depression, and spiritual well-being, so much so that the researchers concluded that “mindful gratitude journaling could positively affect the state of suffering, psychological distress, and quality of life of patients with advanced cancer.”

“Grateful people tend to recover faster from trauma and injury,” Fox told The Pulse. “They tend to have better and closer personal relationships and may even just have improved health overall.”

As it turns out, putting your gratitude in words can be an effective way to improve your mental health. Among 293 adults who sought psychotherapy services, those who engaged in gratitude writing reported significantly better mental health after four and 12 weeks than those who didn’t write or who wrote about their thoughts and feelings.

**Gratitude Boosts Health, Well-Being**

Gratitude can be difficult to define, as it has elements of an emotion, a virtue, and a behavior all rolled into one. Gratitude involves a two-step process, as explained in “The Science of Gratitude,” a white paper by the Greater Good Science Center at the University of California–Berkeley. Those two steps include “1) ‘recognizing that one has obtained a positive outcome’ and 2) ‘recognizing that there is an external source for this positive outcome.’”

In this regard, the benefits of gratitude may be gleaned from the actions of other people or experienced in an internalized manner, such as when feeling gratitude about good fate or nature. In this way, gratitude is both a state and a trait.

As a state, gratitude is based on a person’s ability to be empathic and experience grateful emotions that promote prosocial behavior. As a trait, it describes the practice of being grateful, noticing the little things in life, and appreciating the positive in the world and in other people. Gratitude can be felt from both being helped by others and habitually focusing on the good in your life.

A study published in Clinical Psychology Review found that gratitude has a positive effect on psychopathology, especially depression, adaptive personality characteristics, positive social relationships, and physical health, including stress and sleep. What’s more, they noted that “the benefits of gratitude to well-being may be causal.”

Fox also explained that “benefits associated with gratitude include better sleep, more exercise, reduced symptoms of physical pain, lower levels of inflammation, lower blood pressure, and a host of other things we associate with better health,” including improved resilience.

It’s likely that gratitude leads to benefits via multiple mechanisms, not only by improving life satisfaction, but also by contributing to an increase in healthy activities and a willingness to seek help for health problems. Those who are grateful have even been found to have a better sense of the meaning of life by being able to perceive good family function and peer relationships.

**Gratitude Could Help You Sleep Better, Be Less Materialistic**

Gratitude is known to facilitate improvements in healthy eating, and it benefits depression by enhancing self-esteem and well-being. A 2021 study comparing gratitude and optimism similarly found that both traits were associated with lower heart rate and blood pressure, better sleep quality, more exercise, less stress, more positive expectations and reflections, and greater feelings of appreciation toward others.

Feeling grateful can help you sleep better and longer, perhaps by improving your thoughts prior to sleep. “The relationship between gratitude and each of the sleep variables was mediated by more positive pre-sleep cognitions and less negative pre-sleep cognitions,” a study in the Journal of Psychosomatic Research reads.

Those who scored higher on measures of gratitude had better sleep quality and sleep duration, as well as less sleep latency (the amount of time it takes you to fall asleep) and daytime dysfunction.

Further, people who are more grateful tend to be happier, less materialistic, and less likely to suffer from burnout. Among adolescents, the simple practice of keeping a gratitude journal significantly reduced materialism and the negative effect of materialism on generosity.

Those who wrote down what they were grateful for donated 60 percent more of their earnings to charity, for instance. There’s good reason to teach children the importance of gratitude, as doing so can improve school performance and orient individuals toward a positive life approach.

**Positive Gratitude Interventions**

If you’re not a particularly grateful person, you might have to work on your gratitude skills. Fortunately, gratitude is something that you can practice, according to Fox.

“I think that gratitude can be much more like a muscle, like a trained response or a skill that we can develop over time as we’ve learned to recognize abundance and gifts and things that we didn’t previously notice as being important,” he said. “And that itself is its own skill that can be practiced and manifested over time.”

Rather than a magic bullet, it’s the regular practice of being grateful that makes a difference, according to Fox…

Showing gratitude to your partner is also a good way to boost your relationship. In a study of romantic partners, gratitude from interactions was linked to increased connection and satisfaction in the relationship, with researchers suggesting that “gratitude had uniquely predictive power in relationship promotion, perhaps acting as a booster shot for the relationship.”

**Editor’s Note: Robert Emmons, a professor of psychology at the University of California–Davis and PhD Glenn Fox at USC (both say they are “gratitude experts”) are the sources of this article and their writings even say gratitude is akin to “counting our blessings.” This story has been posted widely online by Joseph Mercola and others.**

**Two things you may have noticed in the article. The notion of gratitude is closely associated with the idea of having a positive/joyful attitude which is also biblical and has equally positive medical data for. Also, you may have noted they specifically ignored who you were to be grateful to, so as to make the study somehow more clinical and scientific. Instead, what they did was lose their focus on the main source of our gratitude and how all this positive energy is supplied through gratitude to our Creator and God. We hope this story helps you to see Jesus as we celebrate His coming this month!**

**-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

Below you will find another script with discussion topics from one of our “Believing the Bible” radio programs. We pray this gives you insight into the topic of “Panspermia” and “Life from Outer Space.”

**Life from Outer Space; Is That a Fact?**

Grandchild: Grandpa, Grandpa, guess what? My teacher said that life on earth came from outer space!

Grandpa: Is that a fact? Did you ask your teacher how she knows? Was she there?

Grandchild: Oh Grandpa. It’s in the science book, so it’s gotta’ be right.

Grandpa: Once Science books said that we only use 10% of our brains, but that was wrong. Be careful about trusting everything you read in a science book. But there is a book that’s never been proven wrong, the Bible, the Word of God.

When I asked if your teacher was there when life began on earth, I knew the answer was ‘No’, but God was there. Do you know when life started on earth?

Grandchild: My teacher said about 3 billion years ago, but I’m guessin’ that’s wrong, hunh, Grandpa?

Grandpa: Very wrong, indeed! Let’s read from the first book of the Bible; Genesis 1:11- *Then God said, “Let the earth produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit with seed in it, according to their kinds.” And it was so*. See, this says God made plants as the first forms of life on earth and it happened on Day three of creation. So, do you think God used stuff from outer space to make life happen here on earth?

Grandchild: Oh, no, Grandpa, not at all.

Grandpa: You’re right. For the theory of evolution to work, life has to start all by itself, but the more scientists study and experiment, the more they find that it’s impossible. So, some of them decided to simply believe that life started somewhere else and wound up coming here. But does that solve the mystery of where life came from?

Grandchild: Sounds like they gave up on finding the right answer and just made something up. But that’s not scientific, is it?

Grandpa: Not at all. Science should be observable, testable and repeatable, but having life come from outer space just has to be trusted by faith. If life did come from space, then there would be no need for God and there could be no Sin which means there would be no reason for a Savior such as Jesus Christ.

Grandchild: Oh no! Those people are mixed up. They need Jesus like I do.

Grandpa: And like I and everyone else does, too. When we trust the history found in Genesis, then the life we find on earth makes sense. But for those who hold to the belief of evolution, they can only see millions of years because they don’t want to see God.

Grandchild: That’s awful, Grandpa. What can I do?

Grandpa: First, you can pray. Pray for people who believe in evolution to have their eyes opened to the evidence of creation. Once someone sees that it is truly impossible for life to have come about except through a loving and all-powerful creator God, then they can accept the evidence for Jesus being their Lord and Savior. That’s when they’ll find the true origin of life… eternal life. And that’s a fact.

**Discussion:**

Panspermia (life coming to earth from outer space) can be undirected (random, unintelligent), directed (intelligent design anyone?) or even eternally and universally existent (cosmic ancestry).

Who are some proponents of panspermia? While ancient Greeks may have introduced the idea of life coming from beyond earth, recent scientists such as Lord Kelvin in the 19th century considered undirected panspermia as well as 20th century astronomers Fred Hoyle and Chandra Wickramasinghe who both recognized that it was mathematically impossible for life to have arisen spontaneously on earth. DNA co-discoverer Dr. Francis Crick even suggested that directed panspermia started life on earth, using DNA “seeds” of course.

While it may be gratifying to see evolutionists admit that abiogenesis (generation of life from non-life) could not have occurred on earth, substituting panspermia for abiogenesis is no more scientifically plausible nor testable than abiogenesis itself.

[Heiser-Panspermia-article.pdf (drmsh.com)](https://drmsh.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Heiser-Panspermia-article.pdf)

**Life Is Precious: January 28, 2022**

Through feature presentations by [Ken Ham](https://answersingenesis.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=64f33455f1d3d751fe97c6de6&id=c312848532&e=b6f27cafcb), [Dr. Georgia Purdom](https://answersingenesis.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=64f33455f1d3d751fe97c6de6&id=cac54cf715&e=b6f27cafcb), [Stacia McKeever](https://answersingenesis.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=64f33455f1d3d751fe97c6de6&id=549ab3f158&e=b6f27cafcb), and [Camille Cates](https://answersingenesis.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=64f33455f1d3d751fe97c6de6&id=f4c8d3cedb&e=b6f27cafcb), you’ll discover that science confirms life begins at fertilization and that the Bible teaches all life is precious to God.

This is a one-of-a-kind, life-affirming event for anyone who wants to learn more about what the Bible says about the value of life. **The $50 conference ticket includes admission to the conference and a free one-day admission to the Ark Encounter to be used another day before December 31, 2022.** Go to **www.answersingenensis.org** for more information.

**Genesis Commentary**

**Abram in Egypt**

**10**Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe. **11**As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, “I know what a beautiful woman you are. **12**When the Egyptians see you, they will say, ‘This is his wife.’ Then they will kill me but will let you live. **13**Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you.”

A great Bible study can be done by going through Genesis chapters 12 to 25 and evaluating every act by Abraham as either being within God’s direction or will, or against God’s direction or will. In doing so you will see an amazing demonstration of the sanctification process as this normal human with some faith oscillates between faithful acts and sinful ones. But it is an upward progression which shows he is getting better, but never perfected in this life.

After leaving his homeland and his wealthy ranch he fully followed God’s direction in the first part of Genesis 12 by leaving home when God told him to move. However, as he ventures through Egypt, we see his frail human side and “half lies” about his wife (Sarai was not only his wife, but also his half-sister).

This also brings up the genetic truth of Abram’s time circa 2100 BC. God will not bar us marrying a close relative (incest) for another 700+ years when Moses does so around 1400 BC. That will be done by Moses because unbeknownst to us by 1450 BC enough mutations are building up in our genomes (called “genetic load”) such that close intermarriage (incest) which we abhor today (via Moses’ command) would often produce defective births due to the accumulation of defective genes not covered by a fresh and more differentiated DNA. In Abram’s time more than 700 years earlier this “genetic load” had not yet accumulated to that great an extent and thus it was commonplace and safe for close relatives to intermarry and not fear tragic birth defects, and it was not yet prohibited by God in Abram’s time.

**14**When Abram came to Egypt, the Egyptians saw that Sarai was a very beautiful woman. **15**And when Pharaoh’s officials saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh, and she was taken into his palace. **16**He treated Abram well for her sake, and Abram acquired sheep and cattle, male and female donkeys, male and female servants, and camels.

**17**But the Lord inflicted serious diseases on Pharaoh and his household because of Abram’s wife Sarai. **18**So Pharaoh summoned Abram. “What have you done to me?” he said. “Why didn’t you tell me she was your wife? **19**Why did you say, ‘She is my sister,’ so that I took her to be my wife? Now then, here is your wife. Take her and go!” **20**Then Pharaoh gave orders about Abram to his men, and they sent him on his way, with his wife and everything he had.

This is just one of a vast number of examples of God chastising His people to get their attention when they fall out of His will and sin. This episode and Abram’s future indiscretions will not cause God to abandon him, nor detour God from using Abram to seed God’s chosen people!

**Prayer Needs and Praises!**

**Relief for the world from COVID-19 and its new variants**

**Heal our nation from the civil unrest and violence in our cities.**

**Pray for spiritual healing in our nation.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Coming to SABBSA on the second Tuesday of each month at Faith Lutheran Church**

December - **The Transgender Agenda**

January 2022 – **SABBSA Author’s Day**

****

**Cartoon Corner**

Thanks to **Answers in Genesis** who provides many of these cartoons each month for our newsletter and our presentations. Please think about donating to them in gratitude for this and all the ministries they give us.

**Joke of the Month** - Why did Adam and Eve get kicked out of the garden? Because they did not read the Apple terms and conditions!

**SABBSA on KSLR**

Please join the **San Antonio Bible Based Science Association** “on the air” each Saturday afternoon with “**Believing the Bible!”** Join us **Saturday afternoons at 1:45 pm on radio station KSLR 630 AM in San Antonio and airing for 12-million people across the U.S. in twelve major markets and internationally in 120 countries on WWCR.**

Here is our schedule of upcoming program topics-

12/11  **Human Chimp Chimeras**

12/18  **Star of Bethlehem - Stepanek**

12/25 **What is Christmas?**

1/1  **Manger of Jesus**

1/8    **SABBSA Author's Program**

1/15 **Always Question?**

1/22 **Natural Selection**

1/29  **When were Angels Created?**

2/5    **Apostasy in the Seminaries**

2/12 **Creation: Chance or Choice?**

2/19  **SETI**

2/26  **Racism (Stepanek)**

3/5  **Life in Outer Space**

3/12**Radiometrics, Age of the Earth and the Bible**

3/19 **Dinosaurs and the Bible**

3/26 **Why do we do what we do?**

If you cannot tune in on Saturday afternoons or would like to sample our program or hear previous shows, they are available on podcast on the KSLR website (kslr.com). Click on the link below to go to the KSLR podcast page and scroll down till you find "**Believing the Bible**."

 ["Believing the Bible" - SABBSA on KSLR Radio](https://am630theword.com/radioshow/local)

**FEAST Science Workshops 2021-2022** - **"The Rocks Cry Out"**

**The Rocks Cry Out** creation curriculum provides the perfect tool for use in churches, fellowship groups, youth groups, and home schools to educate those around you with the credibility of God's Word in every area - including science and history. This material is provided by **Bruce Malone** (a member of Logos Research Associates) and his ministry with **Search for the Truth Ministries.** Bruce is an engaging speaker and his 45-minute teaching videos include a lot of on location live action shots and demonstrations.

We will meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 10 am at FEAST during the months of January, February, March, and April 2022. We are happy to again be partnering with FEAST. SABBSA will be giving these presentations for the 18th consecutive year. Each session will include one of the videos listed below, along with a question-and-answer session with one of SABBSA's trained associates.

January 26, 2022 - **Design Testifies to Creation** (The mechanisms of evolution cannot explain the design of life)

February 23, 2022 - **Noah's Flood and Geology** (Overwhelming evidence that our globe has been deluged by a world-covering flood)

March 23, 2022 - **Dragons and Dinosaurs**(Dinosaurs provide some of the strongest evidence for a Biblical worldview)

April 27, 2022 - **The Age of Creation**(Why belief in long ages distorts God's character and why dating methods can be unreliable)

We pray that you will plan to be a part of this dynamic series of teaching sessions melding Science, real history, and God's word!

**FEAST’s** **Location:**7735 Mockingbird Lane, San Antonio, TX 78229

**Around Texas**

**Houston:**
The **Greater Houston Creation Association** (**GHCA**) normally meet at Houston's First Baptist Church at 7 pm every first Thursday, in Room 143. Their meetings can be streamed live! For more information, go to [www.ghcaonline.com](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=bztaencab&et=1103662222545&s=545&e=001xF-6WOYzM5Yyre44Ea_qUjH5EOT_fFIGjrfpfa5h-rD53IlUVbz3Vc0Dp47_VEwW3iQQ6F1b6K0EtKc_vUxYKpzN_8V2upXFbsOScvUeD92nJdUTjDIFeg==).

**Glen Rose:**
Dr. Carl Baugh gives a “***Director’s Lecture Series***” on the first Saturday of each month at the Creation Evidence Museum just outside Glen Rose, TX. This museum is also a great and beneficial way to spend any day. Presentations are at 11 am and 2 pm. For more information, go to [www.creationevidence.org](http://www.creationevidence.org/)

**Dallas:**

The Museum of Earth History uses the highest quality research replicas of dinosaurs, mammals, and authentic historical artifacts to not only lay out for the visitor a clear and easily understood connection between Genesis and Revelation, but will do so in an entertaining and intellectually challenging way. Open M-F 9 to 6. <http://visitcreation.org/item/museum-of-earth-history-dallas-tx/>

Of course, the **ICR Discovery Center for Science and Earth History** is the foremost creation history museum in the Southwest. They are open from 10am to 5 pm Mondays through Saturdays. For more information on this exceptional facility go to <https://discoverycenter.icr.org/>

**Dallas-Ft Worth:**
The Metroplex Institute of Origin Science (MIOS) meets at the Dr. Pepper Starcenter, 12700 N. Stemmons Fwy, Farmers Branch, TX, usually at 7:30 pm on the first Tuesday of each month. <http://dfw-mios.com/>

**Abilene:**

The Discovery Center is a creation museum/emporium that exists primarily to provide scientific and historic evidence for the truthfulness of God’s word, especially as it relates to the creation/evolution issue. It also features some fascinating “Titanic Disaster” exhibits. <https://evidences.org/>

**Lubbock Area (Crosbyton):**
All year: Consider a visit to the Mt. Blanco Fossil Museum, directed by Joe Taylor. The Museum is worth the visit if you live near or are traveling through the Panhandle near Lubbock. If you call ahead and time permitting, Joe has been known to give personal tours, especially to groups. For more information, visit [http://www.mtblanco.com/](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=bztaencab&et=1103662222545&s=545&e=001xF-6WOYzM5bqqt6T1G_CwJWJosrOSIhLAagtnP0Z504J-gEROEBe22S3gq720x6ofjFVqK-AfJcsjrsuQyRtoepYiAQVVUFC-cF56fLwwBJ0SQ-44KlLmw==).

**Greater San Antonio area:** Listen to **Answers with Ken Ham** online at the address below. (No nearby station for this broadcast). <http://www.answersingenesis.org/media/audio/answers-daily> To hear creation audio programs from the **Institute for Creation Research**, listen online at this address. <http://www.icr.org/radio/>Also, tune in KHCB FM 88.5 (San Marcos) or KKER FM 88.7 (Kerrville) for **Back**

**to Genesis** at 8:57 AM Mon-Fri, then **Science, Scripture and Salvation** at 1:30 AM, 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM on Saturdays.



**Last Month at SABBSA**

**Biblical Authority vs. Church Authority**

On All Hallows Eve, 1517, Martin Luther posted his 95 Thesis on the Wittenberg church door, questioning church teaching. What was the basis for Luther's challenge? The Bible. Was Luther right? Was the church right? How should we look at this today? Do we trust our church leaders who are the professionals? Do we trust them to interpret the Bible for us since they have studied this and know more than we do? Or do we check things out for ourselves? How does this come into play in the creation/evolution debate?

Terry Read

**SABBSA Director Terry Read** addressed these questions with his multimedia presentation at our monthly meeting in November.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Next SABBSA Meeting:**

**Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at 7 pm**

**Coming to SABBSA in December**

**The Transgender Agenda**

Don't recognize the culture you live in today? You are not alone. One of those huge shifts in our society which seemingly happened overnight has been the acceptance of transgenderism. How are we to respond to this? This month's meeting has some answers.

"**The Transgender Agenda**" is a video from **Answers in Genesis** with a scientific and compassionate response to an ideology that cannot be supported by science nor the Bible, namely transgenderism. The focus is to safeguard children from this ideology that suggests they can be any gender they choose. Mature theme content. Our normal Q&A will follow the video.

**We will offer a large assortment of books and DVDs specifically tailored for little children, kids and youth at our December meeting giving you the opportunity to get these and give gifts to foster a biblical worldview in our kids. We also will have adult devotionals which make great gifts to spread the gospel and foster that same biblical worldview in adults.**

Please join us in December for creation science and biblical apologetics teaching you will find nowhere else in Bexar County. Our current COVID protocols are masks optional for all individuals who have been vaccinated or have had COVID-19, and all children. We meet at **Faith Lutheran Church** just **south of the corner of Jones Maltsberger and Thousand Oaks**. The address is 14819 Jones Maltsberger Rd., San Antonio, Texas 78247.