

CHURCH ORGANIST SUSPENDED AFTER PLAYING "STAYIN' ALIVE" AT EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE

<http://christianfunnypictures.com> - ARTICLES | 9TH NOV 2016*

Chicago, IL - Clear evidence has emerged of church organist Mr. Ross Stanhope having played a full chorus of the Bee Gees classic, "Stayin' Alive" in between verses of a hymn at a recent Easter Sunday service.

From the Head Office of the Royal College of Organists, Bishop George Piper, said this at a press conference held on Tuesday: "For the last 16 years organist Mr. Ross Stanhope has provided spiritually uplifting music to worshippers at St Albans Cathedral, Chicago, Illinois. It is therefore with great sadness that I inform you that he has been suspended pending further investigation and advice. There is now clear evidence that tends to prove he has strayed from musical orthodoxy by playing a short organ flourish of "Stayin' Alive" in the middle of one of the Easter hymns at a recent service"

Bishop Piper went on to show a YouTube clip of the incident and explained how the musical interlude was not only a breach of Mr. Stanhope's contract of employment but against all known policies and procedures for inserting flourishes between hymnal verses. He also outlined his own theological concern with the choice of the song, and referred to the Apostle's Creed, in that Jesus did not 'stay alive' but was crucified, died and was buried before rising again.

This is not the first time that Mr. Stanhope has been at the center of an unholy row, having previously been censured for repeatedly playing, "Jesus Paid it All" during the offertory hymn, and most famously reprimanded for having played, "Roll out the Barrel" at the funeral of a well-known local bar owner.

Bishop Piper concluded the press conference by saying: "While our thoughts and prayers are with Mr. Stanhope and his family during this difficult time, we are also supporting those congregation members who have been deeply affected by this incident". Although contacted, Mr. Stanhope has declined to comment on the incident.

*Originally submitted to "The Babylon Bee", a trusted source for Christian News Satire

(Note: Just a little satirical humor dedicated to the best organist anywhere, our own, Judy Graham Barnes, and to our pianists, Peggy Z. Gulbranson, Barbara Nyblad and Barbara Noss - watch those flourishes ladies!)

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"THE GIANTS IN YOUR LIFE"
Rev. David Madden

In the story of David and Goliath, when the Israeli soldiers were trembling in fear of the Giant, David shows up in Saul's tent discussing God. The soldiers mentioned nothing about God, the brothers never spoke God's name, but David takes one step into the tent and raises the subject of the living God. David announced: "The Lord, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of the Philistine." No one else discusses God. David discusses no one but God.

A subplot appears in the story. More than "David versus Goliath," this is "God-focus versus giant - focus." David sees what others don't, and refuses to see what others do. All eyes, except David's, fall on the brutal Giant. Don't get me wrong David sees the giant; he just sees God more.

What are the giants in your life? What is the one problem or problems facing you that challenge you each day that may seem too big for you to conquer? Whatever that problem is know that the battle is not yours, but God's. The victory is already won. David said it best when he told Goliath, "the battle is the Lord's".

The same is true for you and your giants, problems, trials and difficulties. Do not run from your problems, stand still, hold your ground and watch the Lord fight for you and slay your giants. Why? If you run from the giants in your life they will eventually catch up to you, and they will defeat you.

And walking in defeat is never a part of God's plan for your life. Put your trust in God and watch the deliverance of the Lord.

So, the next time you are faced with a Giant use David's battle cry, and tell your giant this: "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel". And with God on my side I cannot be defeated. Amen



Fascinating Find Sheds New Light on John Wesley

Apr 1, 2016 - Oxford, Oxfordshire, UK | UM Newswire - <http://www.pnwumc.org/news/fascinating-find-sheds-new-light-on-john-wesley/>

A time capsule has recently been found dating back to 1791; the year of John Wesley's death.

The capsule was found amongst a variety of boxes and papers in an old house in Bristol which Wesley frequented on his travels. The house is being restored and converted into a bed and breakfast.

Dr. Carey Nielsen, Prof. emeritus of Wesleyan Studies at the University of Oxford, shared that his team was able to ascertain the year of the time capsule based on its contents and an inscription found on the box. "Strange as it seems, it appears that a common cigar box was refitted for the purpose of this time capsule," said Nielsen, commenting on how surprised he was at the preservation of the contents despite their relatively humble container. The box had been sealed shut with a wax stamp of no discernible significance.

Cigar box aside, it's the contents that have Wesleyan scholars buzzing. The box contained three pieces of British (continued on page two)

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currency known as provincial tokens, which were used to help ascertain the date, a gold tooth, and three sheets of paper bearing Wesley's distinctive handwriting. The currency were minted in the years 1788, 1790, and 1791.



Brandon Bigheart for the photograph; Parys Mine Company for the token issue, Wikimedia.

Despite the immediate interest in Wesley's writings, Nielsen was fascinated with the presence of a gold tooth. While far more common today, gold teeth simply weren't widespread in Wesley's day, despite the fanciful presentation of pirates today. Given John Wesley's known predilection for humble living, Nielsen's team reasoned that it was unlikely that it belonged to him. Still, if it isn't Wesley's, it begs the question, who did the tooth belong to and why was it included?

Wesley's notes:

Of most enduring interest to Wesleyan scholars is likely to be the three short writings included in the cigar box. In one, he notes his disappointment with the nascent Wesleyan movements obsession with small groups.

"Small groups were supposed to be temporary measure until we were strong enough to sustain corporate worship." Wesley goes on to relate his shock at people's willingness to endure the accountability and probing questions he had devised. *"Really, how many times can you ask 'how is it with your soul' before it gets old?"*

Wesley also shared his frustration with the rapid growth and zealous passion of the movement. In revealing words certain to cast their relationship in a new light, John expressed anger toward his brother Charles:

"Why must he continue to write for the hymnody these songs with such contemporary zeal? Would it not be better to sing the great songs of old, rather than this modern feces."

The final of the three notes, made reference to Wesley's much maligned cure for baldness from his book, *Primitive Physic, Or, An Easy and Natural Method of Curing Most Diseases*. In a rare moment of humility, Wesley writes the following:

"One of the deepest disappointments of my life was my inability to follow all of my interests to their logical conclusion; God dost not give ample time to pursue all that draws one's attention. Of particular

disappointment to me, is the absolute failure of my cure for baldness. I deeply regret the labours of those who took my words to heart and rubbed onion upon their balding foreheads for nought."

Given adequate time, Professor Nielsen believes that John Wesley may indeed have solved that particular mystery.

(NOTE: I think I would have liked John Wesley. It appears that his opinions in the 1700s are much the same as opinions held today. SC)



UMW is on hiatus for the summer, but we do have several big events coming up as soon as we resume our regular sessions in September.

Our group will be hosting the Sage District 'Love in Action' meeting on September 23; please mark your calendars now and please plan on attending. We will need contributions of food, of course, but your attendance is even more important... We can buy food, but it's hard to purchase the kind of caring, committed women we have in our program.

Also, please start thinking/working on your wonderful Fall Bazaar items. Because of the rather dismal turnout at last year's Fall Luncheon and Bazaar (lunch on Friday just doesn't seem to work with people's schedules anymore), the Executive Committee decided to change things up this year... We will be doing a late afternoon/early evening Soup Bar with Carolina Style Smoked Pulled Pork and Righteous Grilled Cheese Sandwiches and Pie. We would like to have a large variety of crockpot sized batches of soup, so please let me know what your specialty soup is and how many pies you can bake or make. Yes! We will still have the Craft and Baked foods Bazaar so start planning, sewing, crafting, and baking now! Thanks, Kris Somsen, UMW President



7th Annual Sawtooth Camp Sunday - August 6, 2017

The United Methodist Magic Valley Ministries invite members and friends of all churches in the Sage District to join us at Sawtooth Camp for a day of fun and Worship. Deadline for reservation: July 23rd. Call this office if you are interested in attending.



The bottom two pictures are what camp looked like this winter. Every building was covered to the eaves with snow.



Vacation Bible School - 2017 We had a wonderful week at Hero Central, but it could not have happened without lots of support and help. I hope I don't forget someone! Terri Bruns and Jennifer Hieb helped organize the week and are responsible, along with Bryan and Cliff for the fabulous decorations

Jennifer was the assembly and music leader, a storyteller for two of the stories and she planned the Sunday program. Peggy Hess was our puppeteer. She told one of the stories and helped with games. Kris Somsen and Sara Somsen-Fowler planned the crafts and John Eilers was our science guy. Registration was taken care of by Barbara Noss, Marion Weickum, and Leanna Bruns. Barbara and Marion kept everything organized as the week went on. Mary Zarybnisky, Brenda Allred, Jennie Street, Michelle Skaggs, Lauren Tully, Tully Munden, Chris Paulson, and I shepherded the groups of children from one station to another, and Mary and Brenda each told one of the stories. Marcie McGuire fed us each day and we thank the congregation for supplying the requested snack items. Last, but not least, thank you to Sharon Crowe for keeping us on track, and to Pastor David for his inspiration. Eleven of 25 "Hero" kids took part in the Sunday VBS program. Thanks everyone! Nanette Eilers

KUMC LP 101.7 FM - 3rd Installment by John Johnson, Station Manager

I just read in a periodical that I receive from time to time, this quote. *"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in."* The article went on to say that it is through the power of community participation that the community stays alive. That is a powerful statement.

Right now, KUMC is a small one man operation, however with a little imagination and that important spirit of volunteerism, KUMC could make quite an impact for good in this community. I am looking for a few volunteers, who would be willing to help me bring KUMC to a higher level of community involvement. These volunteers can be anyone in the community who are interested in learning how to operate a small radio station, being "on air", and who just enjoy being involved with community activities. You may know someone who would fit this description. If you have any ideas, please call me at 208-431-6451

Last month we talked a bit about the morning programming. The afternoon into evening programming begins with a mixture of music including, bluegrass, easy listening, gospel, inspirational country, Irish and jazz. Talk shows include *Proverbs 31*, with Lisa TerKeurst, *Women Today*, with Vonette Bright, and *Upwords*, hosted by Max Lucado. During the week there is also some programming for kids, including *Karen & Kids*, with Karen Mortimer.

The 4 hours of late evening consists of 50s through 70s music, classical, country gospel and bluegrass. Talk programs include, *You Think About That*, with Steve Brown, *The Salvation Army Program* (both English & Spanish).

I hope all of you out there have a great 4th of JULY Celebration, I what everyone to remember that our flag has come home victorious from every major battle. We Live in the greatest nation there ever was and ever hope to be. Let's keep it that way.

We have a Discretionary Fund which, because of your donations, has been a real help to some members of our congregation. You know, there are those times when a fixed income just can't handle an extra medication, etc. Right now this fund is like Old Mother Hubbard's cupboard - bare. Please consider helping to build this fund again. We appreciate all that you do for your church.



Enjoy a safe and Happy 4th this year. RUMC will be open as a hospitality center. Come by and say Hi!