

THE NORTH TEXAS CHURCH OF FREETHOUGHT Bulletin

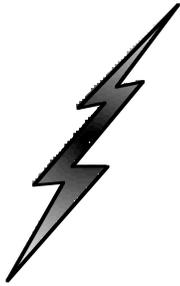
A FELLOWSHIP OF UNBELIEVERS

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Sunday, March 2nd, 2008

TODAY'S SERVICE



Dr. Ellery Schempp

We are honored to have a special guest joining us today- an individual who has contributed to the advancement of science, promoted humanistic and rational principles throughout his life, and of course was an early pioneer in religious freedom in America.

Dr. Ellery Schempp is a native of Abington Township, Pennsylvania. While attending high school in 1956, Dr. Schempp and his fellow students were required by state law to read ten verses from the Bible every day. As a Unitarian, Dr. Schempp protested this requirement, which resulted in school discipline. His father Edward accepted help from the American Civil Liberties Union and brought a lawsuit against the school district, which eventually was heard by the Supreme Court of the United States in 1963. Their decision rendered unconstitutional any school-led Bible reading in public schools. In addition to his role in the struggle to keep church and state separate, Dr. Schempp is an accomplished physicist, whose work has helped develop the principles that have led to Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), a crucial medical imaging technology. Dr. Schempp is a member of the American Humanist Association, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, and serves on the Advisory Board to the Secular Student Alliance.

Although the NTCOF is proud to bring distinguished speakers to our services, we rely primarily on the contributions of our NTCOF members for regular content. As members of this valuable organization, it's our responsibility to ensure that it remains the very best source of freethought-related activities in the Metroplex. We need YOU to contribute by presenting a 5-10 minute talk on any subject you think would be interesting to your fellow freethinkers. After all, all of our regular presenters were once sitting in the chair you're in right now. Please see NTCOF Pastoral Director Tim Gorski or Executive Director Zach Moore at today's Service, or send them an email to explain your idea. You can reach them at:

pastor@churchoffreethought.org
exec-director@churchoffreethought.org

COMING IN APRIL

Regular members will recall that a debate has been in the works between Executive Director **Zach Moore** and a local Christian apologist and philosophy professor **John Ferrer**.

The details have now been decided- the debate will take place on Thursday, April 10th, 2008, at 7PM in the University Center of the University of Texas at Arlington. The question at hand will be: **Is God Good?** John will be defending the affirmative position, and Zach will be defending the negative.

To stay current on this event, be sure to check out the Freethinkers of UTA website, found here:

www.freethinkersofuta.org

And of course, check back with the NTCOF website on a regular basis, and keep watch for email reminders in your inbox!

DAWKINS IN AUSTIN!

Richard Dawkins is going to be back in the States this month, lecturing at Universities all across the country. The Atheist Longhorns and the Secular Longhorn Alliance will be sponsoring a lecture at the University of Texas at Austin, on March 19th at 7:00 PM in the Hogg Memorial Auditorium. For more information, visit:

www.campusfreethought.org

MARCH EVENTS

Social Luncheon: Today, immediately after our Service, join us for lunch and friendly discussion at Jason's Deli in Irving, located just south of I-635 on MacArthur, at 7770 N. MacArthur Blvd. To reach Jason's from the Wyndham: turn **RIGHT** out of the parking lot onto Esters Blvd., **RIGHT** onto Freeport Parkway, **RIGHT** to enter I-635 EAST. Exit I-635 at MacArthur Blvd., then **RIGHT** onto MacArthur, and **RIGHT** again just ahead into the Jason's parking lot.

Games Night: The NTCOF Games group meets nearly every Friday night at the smoke-free IHOP at 2310 Stemmons Trail in Dallas. For more information, send an email to:

ntcof_games-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Secular Singles Social Luncheon: Sunday, March 23, 1:30 PM. The Freethinking NTCOF Singles meet for lunch and Freethought fellowship on the fourth Sunday each month at Mimi's Café in Grapevine, located in front of the big Target store along Hwy. 114 just west of Wm. D. Tate; phone 817/410-7270.

Join the NTCOF Secular Singles e-list for the latest info. To get on the list, just send any e-mail message to:

ntcof_singles-subscribe@yahoo.com

NTCOF Food Critics: This new social group has been organized to allow Freethinkers to sample new and interesting restaurants in the Metroplex, while also promoting casual conversation and friendship. The restaurant in February was Buca di Beppo on Park Lane in Dallas-contact Social Director **Brad Watson** for more details:

social@churchoffreethought.org

FREETHOUGHT PODCASTS

Since July of 2007, the NTCOF has been podcasting its monthly services from its website. We're currently reaching about 75 people per day, and have provided over 5000 downloads. But in addition to the NTCOF, there are a lot of Freethought podcasts available to keep your MP3 player full of Freethought the whole month long.

Atheist Viewpoint: atheistviewpoint.tv/podcast.xml

The Rational Factor: therationalfactor.libsyn.com

Reasonable Doubts: doubtreligion.blogspot.com

American Freethought: americanfreethought.com

Polyschizmatic Reprobates' Hour:
reprobateshour.com

SHOP WITH NTCOF!

In addition to donating generously to the NTCOF, you can also support the church when you shop! Whenever you plan to purchase an item on Amazon.com, just start from the Amazon link on any page of the NTCOF website, and up to 6% of Amazon's profits on your purchase will go towards the church, without costing you another cent!

For those who still shop in the 'real world,' make sure to grab a Kroger 'Share Card' for your grocery shopping- just scan the barcode, and the NTCOF receives a donation from Kroger. You can also as your friendly Tom Thumb cashier to link your Rewards Card to our 'Good Neighbor' number: 5827. Both stores happily donate 1% of your purchase amount to the NTCOF, and it doesn't add anything to your bill!

SECULAR SOBRIETY

Individuals who break the law as a result of substance abuse are often ordered by the court to attend sobriety meetings that promote dependence on superstition! Fortunately, secular alternatives exist, such as the Secular Organizations for Sobriety (SOS). If you know someone

who would benefit from this group, please talk with **Bob McComas**, or visit:

www.sossobriety.org

APRIL BLOOD DRIVE

It's almost that time again for us to spill our Free-thinker blood to help save the lives of our fellow North Texans, no matter their religious affiliation. Carter Blood-Care will be setting up a mobile collection unit at Jason's Deli just after our April service- be sure to eat a good breakfast, come to the service, and try to donate! We have a reputation as the most prolific church-based donor group (per capita), so please help us keep it that way! Contact our Outreach Director **Cash Foley** for more details:

outreach@churchoffreethought.org

FEBRUARY FINANCIAL REPORT

Folks, you hear this over and over, but it's true: **Free-thought is NOT Free!** Our continued growth is only possible through your generous donations and contributions to the church- our success depends on the commitment of ALL our members. We'll be sharing a more detailed financial summary later in the year, but here's a snapshot of our financial activity from last month:

Total Income: \$850.00
Total Expenses: \$1,128.33
Deficit: **-\$278.33**

Our continued financial health is the responsibility of everyone in the NTCOF family- your generous **TAX-DEDUCTIBLE** donations enable us to bring you high-quality Freethought today, as well as into the future.

The North Texas Church of Freethought

A Fellowship of Unbelievers

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|--------------------|---------------------|
| Tim Gorski, MD | Pastoral Director |
| Zachary Moore, PhD | Executive Director |
| --- | |
| Deborah Boak | Youth Director |
| Cash Foley | Outreach Director |
| Georgene Harkness | Treasurer |
| Don Lewellyn | Operations Director |
| Brad Watson | Social Director |

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