

THE NORTH TEXAS CHURCH OF FREETHOUGHT Bulletin

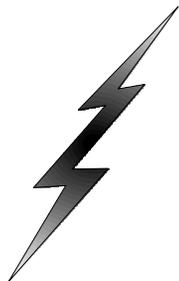
A FELLOWSHIP OF UNBELIEVERS

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Sunday, January 6th, 2008

TODAY'S SERVICE



Solving Problems with Reason

We hope everyone had a wonderful solstice season, no matter which holidays they prefer. Now, however, it's back to more excellent Freethought discussions, presented by our own NTCOF members, each of which highlights the ways in which we can use facts and reason to solve life's most confounding problems.

Trey Elmore has returned (you'll remember his "Reason or Will?" presentation from our August service) for a respite from his studies, and will be pointing out the Problem of Hell. In addition, **Don Lewellyn** has spent some time visiting one of the biggest and most successful churches in the Metroplex, and will explain to us why megachurches are such a successful church paradigm. And finally, Merlin Michaud will lead us on a fascinating voyage that was sparked by the timekeeping frustrations of sailors and the uncanny politics of clock development. And as always, we'll be treated to a **Moment of Science™**, be invited by **Brad Watson** to **Smell the Roses**, and learn more about the **Reason Driven Life**.

Of course, a service as packed with interesting content as this relies primarily on the contributions of our NTCOF members. 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. Freethinkers pride ourselves in being confident and effective communicators of our ideas- after all, as a tiny minority in this area of the Bible Belt, we HAVE to be just to stay afloat in a sea of superstition and supernaturalism. The best way to hone these skills is to present a 5-10 minute talk on any subject you think would be interesting to your fellow freethinkers. After all, everyone you see presenting today was once sitting in the chair you're in right now. Please see NTCOF Executive Director Mike Sullivan or Dr. Zach Moore at today's Service, or write us at info@churchoffreethought.org. THANKS!

COMING IN FEBRUARY

Our next Sunday Service will be on **Sunday, February 3rd, 2008**. We'll be back at the Wyndham D/FW North Hotel in Ir-

ving, located at the corner of Hwy. 114 (John Carpenter Freeway) at Esters Blvd. The address is 4441 Hwy. 114, Irving, TX 75063, and the telephone number is 972/929-8181. We'll begin promptly at 10:30 AM, and Freethought Sunday School will be available for young Freethinkers.

Our Sunday Service for February will include another vibrant mixture of topics, speakers and ideas unlike any other church in the nation, and we invite you to be part of it. Join us on the first Sunday of February for another unique, fun and interesting morning with your fellow Freethinkers, and have something cool to talk about around the water cooler on Monday morning!

Also, there's word that the Freethinkers of UTA are recruiting **Ellery Schempp** (of the famous court case Abington School District v. Schempp, which declared that public school-sanctioned Bible readings were unconstitutional) to the Metroplex at the end of February, and there's a chance that the NTCOF will be able to welcome him to speak at our March service. Stay posted!

JANUARY 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., phone 972/432-0555. Easy driving directions: To reach Jason's from the Holiday Inn: 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.

The IHOP is adjacent to the Radisson Hotel along Northwest Highway, about a 1/2 mile east of Loop 12. For the latest details, join the NTCOF Games e-list by sending any e-mail message to:

ntcof_games-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Freethought Forum Discussion Group: The Forum is re-organizing! If you'd like to be part of the new Freethought Forum group, check in online with the plans and talk about where & when to meet and how to kick-start the new group! It's online now in the Freethought Forum section of the NTCOF Bulletin Board:

<http://churchoffreethought.org/bb>

Secular Singles Social Luncheon: Sunday, January 27, 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@yahoogroups.com

TEXAS SECULAR NETWORK ONLINE

Did you know that there are more than two dozen Freethought, atheist, humanist and student Freethought groups in Texas? Probably not, and that's one of the reasons why Texas Freethinkers sometimes think they are so alone here in the Lone Star State: we don't even know others like us are "out there!"

Fortunately, there's a new website that serves as a directory and news page for all Freethought and secular groups in Texas. It's not a comprehensive list yet, and so if you know of any other secular groups in this great state, please contact them about this new website, or post a link button to your own website, MySpace or Facebook page. You can find it here:

www.txsecular.net

FREETHOUGHT PODCASTS

Since July of last year, the NTCOF has been podcasting its monthly services from its website. We're currently reaching about 70 people per day, and have provided over 4000 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.

Freethought Radio: ffrf.org/radio/podcast

The Way of Reason: infidelguy.libsyn.com

Point of Inquiry: www.pointofinquiry.org

Freethought Fresno: www.freethoughtfresno.com

Robert Ingersoll Podcast:

becominghuman.hipcast.com/rss/robertingersoll.xml

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Also, remember that you can get 'official' NTCOF apparel and merchandise at our CafePress online store. Visit today, and help support the NTCOF!

www.cafepress.com/ntcof

UPCOMING DEBATE

Debates can be excellent settings for the exchange of ideas, and can also be quite entertaining. Another thing that debates can be useful for is bringing wide attention to the speakers and the organizations they represent.

To these ends, **Dr. Zachary Moore** of the NTCOF has agreed to participate in a live debate with a local Christian apologist. No specific date has been set, but it will be hosted by the Freethinkers of UTA, and take place sometime this spring at the University of Texas at Arlington. Both Zach and his gracious opponent have agreed to wrestle with the "Problem of Evil," and will be arguing both sides of the question, **"Is God Good?"**

Stay posted for more information, which will be shared here in the NTCOF bulletin, and also on the NTCOF website.

The North Texas Church of Freethought

A Fellowship of Unbelievers

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