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# Faith healings, dead raising teams part of Bethel experience

By [Amanda Winters](#)

Posted January 18, 2010 at midnight

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PHOTO BY GREG BARNETTE

Jonathan Lair of San Diego receives prayers from members of the Bethel Healing Rooms Ministry in December. Lair, who has had flat feet, was hoping the prayers would heal his arches.

Jonathan Lair stood in the middle of Bethel Church's Healing Room on Dec. 5 and joyfully got straight to the point: "I'm going to get new feet today."

A pastor at a church in San Diego, Lair said he came to Redding so he could go to the Healing Rooms at Bethel and be cured of a painful condition that has caused his feet to be flat his whole life. Lair, 27, was



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Updated 1/23/2010 at 9:38 a.m. 25 comments

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barefoot and had rolled his jeans up above his ankles, exposing his flat, calloused feet.

**Seeking health through faith**

"I will see my arches healed," he said just before two women on Bethel's Healing Rooms Ministry team approached him. "I really believe that."



1 of 5

As Lair closed his eyes and bowed his head, the two older women stood on either side of him and began to pray quietly, tapping him on the chest and back. They motioned for another woman, one with a ram's horn known as a shofar, to come to where they stood. She began to blow the shofar at Lair's feet and in moments he fell to the ground, shaking.

**Healing Rooms**

Every Saturday morning from 9 to 10:30 a.m., two large rooms in Bethel Church are transformed into the Healing Rooms Ministry; a place where people can come and receive prayer for any kind of ailment.

Randy Castle, who was acting director that Saturday, said the healing rooms generally see 100 or so visitors - and up to 300 on a busy weekend.

Four teams with about 70 people each work the Healing Rooms. Many pray over visitors, commanding the body to be healed, speak in tongues and invite the presence of the Holy Spirit through impartation, or laying on of hands. Others, Castle said, play worship music in the "Encounter Room" where people can go bask in the presence of God.

Music performed in the Encounter Room made its way through the Healing Room speakers, repeating "God is good, God is good, God is good," while worshippers prayed, danced, laughed, cried, fell down and lay on the floor under what they say is the power of God. According to Bethel leadership, this is the room where people are cured of cancer, broken bones, chronic pain, multiple sclerosis and a host of other diseases.

**Supporters of the supernatural**

Adam Short, a 28-year-old from North Carolina, runs [www.Healingherald.org](http://www.Healingherald.org) where he posts stories of miraculous healings from the Healing Rooms and beyond.

Short is a third-year intern at the Bethel School of Supernatural Ministry (BSSM) and said he has received words of knowledge and signs from God leading him to people who needed to be healed.

During an April 2008 mission trip to Mexico with Bethel, Short said he noticed a man with a full leg cast.

"There was a thought that came to my mind, which I believe was God, and said, 'This man will walk out of here healed,'" he said.

Short said he prayed for the man and the man said the painful bone spur under the cast had dissolved. Short then prayed for the man's tunnel vision to be healed and it



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JAN	JAN	JAN	BROWSE
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	MORE
<b>Annual Antique Show and Sale</b> 11 a.m. Mt. Shasta Mall			
<b>"Achieving Sustainable Living Now" lecture</b> 2 p.m. Redding Library			
<b>Public pancake breakfast</b> 7 a.m. Frontier Senior Center			
<b>Palo Cedro public breakfast</b> 7 a.m. IOOF/Rebekah Hall			
<b>Happy Valley Lions Club breakfast</b> 7 a.m. Happy Valley Elementary			
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was, he said. During the prayers, he made declarations, he said.

"In this case we command the eyes to line up according to heaven," he said. "We're commanding those eyes to come back into alignment as to the purpose that God made for them because God made eyes to see, not to be confined to a tunnel."

Short said his goal for the Web site is for people to be encouraged by the good news and not question it.

"Nobody ever questions bad news," he said.

### **'Things just happen'**

Bill Johnson, Bethel's senior pastor, settled into a plush black couch in his office, his arm around an animal-print pillow. Before anything else, he wanted to talk about healing.

"We just had another brain tumor case of cancer healed," he said. "We have a lot of that kind of stuff happen. It's verified by doctors, they do the tests and the cancer's gone. We have a lot of that sort of thing - miracles."

Johnson, who himself required hernia surgery last year and wears prescription glasses, teaches that the supernatural miracles that happened in Biblical times still happen today if people just value God's presence and open themselves up to receiving it.

"Because we have such value for his presence with us, things just happen," he said.

Johnson said that healings happen all the time and he doesn't feel he needs to provide any documentation or hard evidence to inquiring minds. He also said he doesn't check up on people who come to Bethel for healing - he doesn't have the time.

"If you're sitting here and you say, 'I've been deaf in my left ear since childbirth,' and I pray for you and then I have you close your right ear and I whisper 10 feet away and you can hear me, I don't feel like I need to get a doctor's report," he said. "I'm happy you're happy you can hear. That's enough for me."

Though he had people praying for his hernia to heal early in 2009, the condition still required surgery and Johnson said that was OK because God can use doctors as well as he can use Bethel's healing teams, though both are necessary.

"The doctors serve a great purpose but they'll tell you they can't fix everything," he said. "Some things need to be fixed by a miracle or just aren't fixed at all."

Johnson said in his sermons he often tells the congregation stories of miraculous healings to encourage them. One such story was about a group in the small, rural city of Shelton, Wash., whose goal it is to raise people from the dead.

### **Dead Raising Team**

In an Oct. 19, 2008, sermon, Johnson shared a story about a former BSSM student who moved to Washington State and started a ministry called the Dead Raising Team.

"DRT," he repeated the acronym dramatically at several points during the story.

In a video of the sermon, Johnson said the team got approval from Mason County to be listed along with other county services and had been given badges so they can go behind police lines if there's an accident or fatality. Johnson told the audience, who erupted in shouts of "come on, Jesus" and cheers, that there had been one resurrection so far.

Marty Best, manager of the Mason County Department of Emergency Management, said he met the Dead Raising Team and suggested they become volunteers for his department so they could have access to emergency situations.

"Our mandate is to protect life, property and environment," he said. "If a person is raised by a defibrillator and adrenaline or by prayer they still return to their loved ones."

Best said the team must first get the permission of the unit commander before they can start praying over a fatality and they can never impose it on anyone.

In contrast to what Johnson said, the DRT is not included in the services listed on the Mason County Web site.

Nor have there been any resurrections, Best said.

"Not yet," he added.

Johnson said the resurrection he mentioned in his sermon was from a DRT report and that he never said it had happened behind police lines.

### **SkepDoc weighs in**

Harriet Hall, a retired family physician and former Air Force flight surgeon, writes a column in "Skeptic" magazine and "O," The Oprah Magazine, on topics including science, alternative medicine and what she calls "quackery."

"When faith healings have been diligently investigated by qualified doctors, they have found no evidence that the patients were actually helped," said Hall, who also writes under the name "SkepDoc."

After Hall took a look at the healing testimonies posted on Bethel's Web site - specifically addressing the testimony of the woman healed of brain cancer - she had a host of questions.

"Where are the medical reports? Where are the X-rays? Why was this case not written up in a medical journal? What happened to the patient afterwards?" she said in an e-mail.

Hall said the Journal of the American Medical Association formerly featured a testimony of a patient who was cured of cancer on one page with the patient's death certificate printed on the opposite page, showing that the patient had died of cancer shortly after providing the testimony.

Faith healings, Hall said, are never properly documented or investigated because the people involved want and need to believe. Without evidence, the claims ring hollow, she said.

"If you challenge the pastor to participate in a formal study to establish that these healings are really occurring, you will get lots of rationalizations and backpedaling with no understanding of how science can go about testing for the truth of a claim," she said. "They have no interest in finding out if the healing is 'real' because they already 'know' it is real for them."

Indeed, Johnson said he has no interest in proving anything to anybody.

Hall closed her e-mail with a warning: "Faith healing can be deadly when patients are led to believe they don't need conventional medical treatment."

### Waking up

Back in the Healing Room, Jonathan Lair lay peacefully on the floor, covered in a dark green blanket, while the three women continued to pray over him and blow the shofar at his feet. At one point he got up and hopped up and down in the middle of the room where people were painting pictures on easels, before lying back down again. Eventually, one by one, they walked away and left him lying still on the floor.

Lair slowly sat up 10 minutes later and looked around. He looked at his feet, then stood up.

He said he had expected bones to crack and form an arch but his feet were still flat.

"I look at them, and they don't look healed," he said.

But his faith was not shaken, he said, because he felt so loved and maybe the physical healing was secondary to the spiritual experience he had.

And he still believes that, someday, God will heal his feet.

Reporter Amanda Winters can be reached at 225-8372 or [awinters@redding.com](mailto:awinters@redding.com).

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January 18, 2010

**timster8#214437 writes:**

12:15 a.m.

What's with the Bethel coverage, RS?? This seems more like promotional stories rather than news.

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January 18, 2010

12:54 a.m.

**raideragent writes:**

Justin Peters has cerebral palsy, watch this video documentary on Benny Hinn and "miracles". Justin Peters will be in the Northern California area teaching his 3 day seminar on the Word Faith Movement. [www.justinpeters.org](http://www.justinpeters.org)

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[http://www.cbc.ca/fifth/main\\_miracles...](http://www.cbc.ca/fifth/main_miracles...)

January 18, 2010

12:59 a.m.

**not2bright writes:**

one of them wanted to do a healing on me...i told him "you touch me...i'll deck ya...i'm on disability, and i'm in no hurry to return to work!"

[Suggest removal](#)

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January 18, 2010

1:40 a.m.

**LucidDream writes:**

in response to [timster8#214437](#):

What's with the Bethel coverage, RS?? This seems more like promotional stories rather than news.

[Suggest removal](#)

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Seems more like an expose of some crackpots to me. What a bunch of drones.

January 18, 2010

3:36 a.m.

**jwolf6589 writes:**

Bill Johnson is a heretic and a false teacher who denies the deity of Christ.

[Suggest removal](#)

Check out this audio file

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[http://www.cerm.info/audio\\_files/bj\\_j...](http://www.cerm.info/audio_files/bj_j...)

John

[www.cerm.info](http://www.cerm.info)

January 18, 2010

4:34 a.m.

**rationalwhackjob\_aka\_Fireguy writes:**

Theres no miracle here, theres no celestial body manipulating magic...its simple!!! Its called frequency and vibration, we cant exist without either, so if you manipulate the very item which creates our existence, than you can perform miracles, the problem I have with places like Bethel and every other church like it, is they take your true strength away by taking it from you, and giving it to a single unseen deity...that sounds controlling to me! HmMMM Genesis 1:26...Then God said let US make man in OUR image and in OUR likeness...why would anyone talk about them selves using plural grammar! Plural means more than 1, so this only tells me that "GOD" wasnt alone! If you believe a book written and structured by men of power!

[Suggest removal](#)

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January 18, 2010

4:45 a.m.

**bear writes:**

in response to [not2bright](#):

one of them wanted to do a healing on me...i told him "you touch me...i'll deck ya...i'm on disability, and i'm in no hurry to return to work!"

[Reply to this post](#)

*(This comment was removed by the site staff.)*

January 18, 2010

4:55 a.m.

**bear writes:**

*(This comment was removed by the site staff.)*

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January 18, 2010

5:54 a.m.

**Goldnutz writes:**

Just another wacko cult!!!!

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)January 18, 2010  
5:59 a.m.**johnharris writes:**

I thought all of the charlatans in Redding worked at City Hall and the Builders Exchange. But some of them escaped and work their frauds at the Bethel Church of Crackpot Ministry!

[Suggest removal](#)[Reply to this post](#)January 18, 2010  
6:02 a.m.**420PoolGuy writes:**

This is 2010 and people still do this kind of crackpot witchcraft? It's stories like this that make the regular church going people look bad. I have no problem with anyone's religion or beliefs but this is sorcery and it is crazy.

[Suggest removal](#)[Reply to this post](#)

Good thing we dont burn people at the stake anymore or the whole Bethel congregation would be up in smoke.

January 18, 2010  
6:08 a.m.**ginkgo#265998 writes:**

<http://whywontgodhealamputees.com/>

[Suggest removal](#)[Reply to this post](#)January 18, 2010  
6:35 a.m.**mtnclimber writes:**

*(This comment was removed by the site staff.)*

[Reply to this post](#)January 18, 2010  
6:35 a.m.**inmyopinion writes:**

in response to [timster8#214437](#):

What's with the Bethel coverage, RS?? This seems more like promotional stories rather than news.

[Suggest removal](#)[Reply to this post](#)

Agreed!

January 18, 2010  
6:37 a.m.**thevoiceofreason writes:**

I say we force those who believe to opt out of public healthcare. It will save us lots of money and they will get the care they want.

[Suggest removal](#)[Reply to this post](#)January 18, 2010  
6:39 a.m.**parentsoftwo writes:**

Whatever happened to just reporting news. Why is RS having this big article on this in the first place. Sounds more like an advertising campaign for this business then a newspaper article. A church is a place of worship to God not a for profit healing center.

[Suggest removal](#)[Reply to this post](#)January 18, 2010  
6:41 a.m.**Treebones writes:**

This says it all for me. Thanks Amanda...

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"Johnson, who himself required hernia surgery last year and wears prescription glasses..."

It's one thing for people to believe whatever it is they want to believe, but this organization is training people to evangelize their brand worldwide, let alone in Redding.

Maybe the marijuana advocates are going about it all wrong.

Rastaman get up, stand up, stand up for your rights!

January 18, 2010  
6:46 a.m.**Patrecia\_Barrett writes:**

I hope tomorrow's article in this series will address what this "church" does with the millions of dollars it rakes in by exploiting people who are sick and in pain.

[Suggest removal](#)

And cults like this are tax-exempt?

[Reply to this post](#)

January 18, 2010  
6:46 a.m.

**DILLIGAFF writes:**

Thank God I'm an atheist!!

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

January 18, 2010  
6:56 a.m.

**veph writes:**

I levitate, but I can't raise the dead.

[Suggest removal](#)

Wait a minute. Who says I can't raise the dead?

...Never tried it...yet...

[Reply to this post](#)

January 18, 2010  
7:10 a.m.

**concernedlady writes:**

I find it hard to accept that we get a skimpy paper and about the only local news is this church??

[Suggest removal](#)

I also noted from yesterday's article that the minister earns over \$300,000. More than our county leadership??

[Reply to this post](#)

January 18, 2010  
7:17 a.m.

**rucrazy writes:**

I love you Jesus!!!

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

January 18, 2010  
7:18 a.m.

**Andersingirlie writes:**

in response to [mtnclimber](#):

*(This comment was removed by the site staff.)*

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

Thanks! I needed a good laugh this morning! Really though, I was thinking about how all these seemingly intelligent people get sucked into such a profound cult! All the cults that I have read about are pretty private, but this one is SO in the open and readily accepted... I dont get it!

January 18, 2010  
7:20 a.m.

**JustBob writes:**

I consider myself a serious, dedicated Christian. I tithe my income to the church and other charities and attend church almost every Sunday. -- But my brand of Christianity is far removed from the Bethel variety. -- I'm afraid that Bethel is building a house of cards that will fall and bring shame on the church. I mourn the fact that many will think Bethel represents all of Christianity, which it most certainly does not!

[Suggest removal](#)

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January 18, 2010  
7:22 a.m.

**pbminor writes:**

I agree. What's up with all the church coverage? Redding isn't intending on making a city ordinance that we have to attend church are they? I'm sure they can find a way to manipulate reality so as too justify mandatory attendance.

[Suggest removal](#)

This town is really starting to scare me.

[Reply to this post](#)

January 18, 2010  
7:27 a.m.

**number441 writes:**

This series of articles is one of the few good things the Flashlight has done recently. I appreciate knowing about this type of activity in the Northstate.

[Suggest removal](#)

This type of stuff just shows how easy it is to manipulate the human mind. It's happened time and time again throughout history, and will continue for however long humans exist.

[Reply to this post](#)

The bottom line for me is if you need to believe in this witchcraft and supernatural doings to be a law abiding, tax paying, happy person in our society that's fine by me. Just leave me out of it.

Outfits like this(and most other religious organizations)should of course not be tax exempt.

January 18, 2010  
7:34 a.m.

**joeblow writes:**

Someday, we will be hearing about this place on a national level. It will be the embarrassment to our entire community. I am looking in my crystal ball and I see a very large empty compound on a hill just off the freeway.

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

January 18, 2010  
7:36 a.m.

**lol\_pwnies writes:**

There's the word I was looking for...Witchcraft. Was wondering when someone was going to bring up that word.

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

It's only brought up when people do things others don't understand or agree with.

If people of this church believe in this type of 'healing' then let it be so. I see it as no different than someone being 'saved'. So long as the 'healed' actually seek scientific medical help with this 'healing' then I hope they are happy.

As for the amount the minister makes, I'm sure Pat Robinson, The Bakers and other Evangelists made about that if not more. Everyone needs something to believe in. If this makes them happy without causing trouble or hurting the general populous then I'm glad they are happy.

I haven't met (to my knowledge) any of these worshipers, but I do have to say I'm curious. Not enough to actually be apart of it, but to observe.

Tomorrow's part 3 should be even more interesting.

January 18, 2010  
7:38 a.m.

**Workingman writes:**

These people are your neighbors. Very scary...

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

January 18, 2010  
7:39 a.m.

**joeblow writes:**

Here is a thought, Lets have the Dead Raising Team visit the graves of some important people. I'll throw Ronald Reagans name in the hat. Any other suggestions?

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

January 18, 2010  
7:39 a.m.

**ReddingCritic writes:**

I'm not sure if the pastor's salary figure of \$300,000 is correct, but if it is, it is worth noting that Billy Graham's top salary was in the \$60,000 range. Bethel's pastor ain't no Billy Graham!

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

January 18, 2010  
7:45 a.m.

**justmy2cents writes:**

Yikes and I know a lot of members! I had no idea!

[Suggest removal](#)

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January 18, 2010  
7:47 a.m.

**joeblow writes:**

I wonder if they wouldn't mind blowing that horn on my hemorrhoids?

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

January 18, 2010  
7:49 a.m.

**whoknows writes:**

in response to [number441](#):

This series of articles is one of the few good things the Flashlight has done recently. I appreciate knowing about this type of activity in the Northstate.

This type of stuff just shows how easy it is to manipulate the human mind. It's happened time and time again throughout history, and will continue for however long humans exist.

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

The bottom line for me is if you need to believe in this witchcraft and supernatural doings to be a law abiding, tax paying, happy person in our society that's fine by me. Just leave me out of it.  
Outfits like this(and most other religious organizations)should of course not be tax exempt.

I agree. Thanks RS. I heard a lot about this "church" and wondered why it is so popular. In this day & age people want something to believe in I can't believe so many people fall for it. Save your money. These articles sure answer my questions. How many Redding-ites have been taken for tithing to this church?? No pastor/preacher/minister should be making that kind of salary and traveling around the world on their hard earned dollars. I bet he loves that leather couch. Probably cost a fortune. Wake up people!

January 18, 2010  
7:49 a.m.

**raideragent writes:**

No such thing as the "gift of healing", check this out:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RaOo11...>

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

January 18, 2010  
7:54 a.m.

**hyleejn writes:**

Amanda, great job on the article. This is most certainly news worthy as Bethel Church is a huge influence on our community.

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

It is time that frauds in the church world are exposed. But it is also time that the truth begin to be revealed to people as well. Jesus said "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth" John 4:23. Our country needs to find the truth again and remember what we were founded from. Liberty and Freedom are God-given rights. And our founding fathers, through faith, knew exactly where the source of freedom came from.

Christ does not need "fake miracles" to validate Himself. He wants worshippers who worship in TRUTH. I believe in miracles, I believe they happen and scripture bears that out. But when a true miracle happens, it would indeed be validated by science and by people who are not believers.

Power to heal and perform miracles does not rest in a dead raising team or a supernatural school. It comes from the sovereign God. If you read the book of Acts, the miracles recorded takes place over a span of 30 years of church history... those miracles were not happening every church service, but rather at important times of Gods choosing and always to glorify Jesus Christ, never to glorify a "church".

I know that the charismatic movement quotes "faith" as the driving force of miracles... that if we had "faith as a mustard seed we could move mountains" which Jesus did say, but you have to read the entire context. He also said eat of my flesh and drink of my blood, but He did not mean literal flesh and blood... the apostles did not move actual mountains with their faith. They did not raise from the dead the thousands of christians who died in the roman colosseum b/c of persecution. But incredible miracles did happen through them and since them. When a miracle happened, they preached Jesus Christ as the sole miracle worker and talked about the miracle of sacrifice and His resurrection that Christ laid down for us on the cross.

January 18, 2010  
7:54 a.m.

**Innocent writes:**

No worse than medical marijuana. If these people get relief, fell better or are "healed" and they have the money to donate to their church....leave them be.

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

January 18, 2010  
7:58 a.m.

**momosop writes:**

This is wild! I attended Bethel Church back in the 80's. I remember they had a 'healer' as a special guest one time, and I, as a teenager, could not believe the line of people to get 'healed'. Now they have a whole healing room? I do not think they should be getting all this publicity. They are preying on people through prayer.

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

January 18, 2010

**Firestorm writes:**

7:58 a.m.

in response to [thevoiceofreason](#):[Suggest removal](#)

I say we force those who believe to opt out of public healthcare. It will save us lots of money and they will get the care they want.

[Reply to this post](#)

the problem with your post is this: the religious tend to be more conservative, and the conservatives didn't want this healthcare bill to begin with. I would gladly "opt out" of this atrocity we've had shoved down our throats by Pelosi and Feinstein. Now as for the spiritual healing - I don't know if it works or not because I have never attended one. There was a time when it was a ridicule to consider the world round, and its always the open minded that prevail.

January 18, 2010

7:59 a.m.

**Buddynet02 writes:**in response to [JustBob](#):[Suggest removal](#)

I consider myself a serious, dedicated Christian. I tith my income to the church and other charities and attend church almost every Sunday. -- But my brand of Christianity is far removed from the Bethel variety. -- I'm afraid that Bethel is building a house of cards that will fall and bring shame on the church. I mourn the fact that many will think Bethel represents all of Christianity, which it most certainly does not!

[Reply to this post](#)

It's always the kooks that get the press and then the rest of us Christians have to take the heat. The Christians who head up charitable organizations, dedicate their time to serving up in soup kitchens, doing drives to feed and clothe people are too busy to draw attention to themselves and usually go quietly unnoticed.

January 18, 2010

8 a.m.

**ozz#216509 writes:**in response to [Innocent](#):[Suggest removal](#)

No worse than medical marijuana. If these people get relief, fell better or are "healed" and they have the money to donate to their church....leave them be.

[Reply to this post](#)

I agree, and honestly, even if they don't have the money the government shouldn't step in and protect them. It isn't their job.

But front page news? I don't think so.

January 18, 2010

8:01 a.m.

**joeblow writes:**in response to [Innocent](#):[Suggest removal](#)

No worse than medical marijuana. If these people get relief, fell better or are "healed" and they have the money to donate to their church....leave them be.

[Reply to this post](#)

No, they are all bad. But these wackos are not quite as annoying. Sunlight is the best disinfectant. Finally a story about these Kool-aid drinkers.

January 18, 2010

8:03 a.m.

**Patrecia\_Barrett writes:**

If the information in this article is accurate, there is a lot of misrepresentation by the church heirarchy. I'm no expert on the law, but doesn't that constitute fraud where money is involved?

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I agree with pbminor that the RS should be much more of a watchdog for the public in relation to local government, etc., but I believe articles like this also provide a public service.

If a classmate or neighbor invites your child to attend Bethel Church with them, it's important to know that your child may be expected to take part in the mass hysteria and loss of control that is probably what makes this church so popular with young people.

January 18, 2010

8:05 a.m.

**TangerineSky writes:**

This is some of the most off-the-wall insane stuff I've read in a long time. I've encountered many Bethel Sheep, and they creep me out; I'm actually glad the RS is opening this to the public - it really exposes the pure nut-job line of thinking they encourage up on that hill.

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They "heal" people but never follow up w/ any proof of diseases cured? They actually don't even follow up with the HUMAN they "healed" because they 'don't have the time'; that's compassionate and heart-felt; yeah, it's clear how much they "care".

My dad died of colon cancer at 51 because of BS thinking like this; his church members encouraged him to be an "example of Jesus' love" by beating cancer without medicine. I lost my dad in a slow painful way; all the while in complete 'denial' of the reality of the disease... ugly and painful situation. not to mention, completely mind-boggling to the people that really loved him (family and friends; not the churches that just hoped they might get a 'miracle' in their church to brag about, "Oh, oops, that's didn't work. Bummer.").

I agree w/ JowBlow - we're gonna hear about this place on a National level some day.... when hundreds of followers (maybe thousands??) drink "special healing kool-aid"... WHACK JOBS.

January 18, 2010  
8:06 a.m.

**loveredding2002 writes:**

in response to **DILLIGAFF:**

Thank God I'm an atheist!!

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How can you THANK someone that you say does not exist...

January 18, 2010  
8:10 a.m.

**DILLIGAFF writes:**

in response to **joeblow:**

I wonder if they wouldn't mind blowing that horn on my hemorrhoids?

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

Sounds kinda kinky to me Joe. I wonder if you have to get a shofars license to operate that thing?

January 18, 2010  
8:11 a.m.

**joeblow writes:**

in response to **Patrecia\_Barrett:**

If the information in this article is accurate, there is a lot of misrepresentation by the church heirarchy. I'm no expert on the law, but doesn't that constitute fraud where money is involved?

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If a classmate or neighbor invites your child to attend Bethel Church with them, it's important to know that your child may be expected to take part in the mass hysteria and loss of control that is probably what makes this church so popular with young people.

Finally, something you and I are in 100% agreement on. In the article the music, setting, atmosphere and mindset of the attendees are all programmed to induce a mild hypnosis. That is why people feel better, for a little while. Keep your kids away from this place, just like a drug dealer.

January 18, 2010  
8:12 a.m.

**srexley writes:**

in response to **thevoiceofreason:**

I say we force those who believe to opt out of public healthcare. It will save us lots of money and they will get the care they want.

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"I say we force those who believe to opt out"

Many folks on the left like to "force" people to do all kinds of things. It used to be folks on the left were for freedom. Now it's all about handouts.

"opt out of public healthcare"

The truth is the new health care will FORCE everyone to buy health insurance. Or you will get fined.

January 18, 2010  
8:12 a.m.

**joeblow writes:**

in response to **DILLIGAFF:**

[Suggest removal](#)

Sounds kinda kinky to me Joe. I wonder if you have to get a shofars license to operate that thing?

[Reply to this post](#)

I'm sure there is, but I bet you have to attend some pretty expensive classes first.

January 18, 2010 8:17 a.m.

**NeoNot writes:**

[Suggest removal](#)

[Reply to this post](#)

Amanda, great articles, yesterday and today. Look forward to tomorrows. This is part of our community up here. Being a not for profit can you find out how much this Pastor and staff make? If his previous 2007 salary was \$300,000 + I would think he makes more now, and who decides his pay scale? Not bad for a high school graduate that dropped out of college and seminary school. Maybe the DRT's should be assigned to the Paramedic Units up here, and when ALS doesnot work then the DRT's could run their protocols! LOL!

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