

The Atheist Voice

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE METROPLEX ATHEISTS

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Protest at Robert Jeffress' Church



Metroplex Atheists protested Pastor Robert Jeffress' sermon titled "America is a Christian Nation" in front of the First Baptist Church in Dallas on Sunday morning June 24th. We were not so much protesting, as this is free speech, as we were attempting to educate his followers and the general public on the fact that we are not a Christian Nation but a free nation established on a secular Constitution. There were about 25 protesters supporting Metroplex Atheists in this effort.

Jeffress has a record of inflammatory and bigoted statements about other religions and atheists. His sermon excludes all but the set of Christians who meet his narrow definition of what a Christian is. His message is both exclusionary and divisive as well as being totally wrong. Neither God, Jesus nor Christianity is ever mentioned in the Constitution. The only two references to religion are both exclusionary, one being "there shall be no religious test to hold public office" and the other being the establishment/free exercise clause in the 1st amendment.

There were numerous peaceful discussions between members of the First Baptist Church and the atheists. One Christian lady did get down on her knees in front of us and prayed but we have yet to see any results of that one way conversation with the air. No one was known to have been de-converted or re-converted.

Courtney Stewart, our current President, did an excellent job of representing MA's position on this issue to the press. Media present were the Fort Worth Star Telegram and one local TV station. Courtney did an interview on a local Christian AM radio station as well.

Our Favorite Christian



Shown at left is James Walker with flowers sent from Metroplex Atheists members. James suffered a heart problem while preaching, yes preaching, and had to be revived with a defibrillator. He survived and now has a pacemaker. James is one of the Christians that meet with a group of atheists on a regular basis and is also active in the local atheist/Christian book club.

Metroplex Atheists' Facebook page was inundated by messages from his Christian friends thanking us for being so thoughtful and caring. We did not expect that response from the Christian community as we were truthfully thinking about James' well being and flourishing.

MA would much rather build understanding and acceptance through civil dialogue. James, please don't do this again just for us.

Adopt-A-Highway

Our Adopt-A-Highway program serves two purposes for us. First it is a way to show that atheists care about their community and secondly it is a way to get our name displayed to the public. Participation in our quarterly clean ups has been declining and we need your support to continue to benefit from this program. Please check our Meetup.com site for clean up dates. We do these pick ups once a quarter from about 10AM to 12PM on Sundays including a lunch so it does not take much time. So please come out and join us for our next clean up.

Metroplex Atheists Business Meeting Location

METROPLEX ATHEISTS MEETS AT 1:00 P.M. THE MEETINGS ARE HELD ON A SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

**THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED AT:
Irving, Texas—monitor Metroplex Atheists Meetup announcements for the exact date and location**

ALL ARE WELCOME!!



TEMPTED?

Go to www.metroplexatheists.org

MA Membership

Metroplex Atheists membership enrollment is now accessible on our web site. Membership is not required to participate in any MA event but by joining, at any of the membership levels we offer, you help us to continue to provide a wide variety of events and other services to the non-believing community in the Metroplex.

You can also join by filling out a membership form, available from an officer of MA at any of our events or social gatherings, and return it to an officer or mail it in when completed.

Mark Your Calender—Winter Solstice Party

The Metroplex Atheists' winter solstice party will be here in no time. This years party is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 15th from 12– 4PM at the Fort Worth Botanical Gardens.

- Socialize, meet new people
- Families/children welcome
- Alcohol permitted-BYOB-ice provided
- MA will provide main food course
- Bring side dish
- White elephant gift exchange (bring gift to participate)
- Silent auction
- After party party

STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS

Support Secular Values

MA is an endorsing organization for the Secular Coalition of America (SCA) which is a secular values lobbying group. SCA has an option for email Action Alerts to contact your local representatives about specific legislative concerns - secular.org. This is very important to all of us based on the current political climate. It is time to resist!!!!

Town Hall Project is a simple website where you can type in your zip code and it will list when/where any local, upcoming town hall meetings are happening - townhallproject.com.

Separation of Church and State

Possibly the most important initiative of Metroplex Atheists is the fight for the complete separation of church and state as well as “religious” civil liberties for non-believers under the Civil Rights Act.

Please report any violations of separation of church and state or religious civil liberties to Metroplex Atheists at director@metroplexatheists.org.

THE ATHEIST VOICE is a quarterly publication of Metroplex Atheists.
For more information, please visit our website: www.metroplexatheists.org
To submit an article or letter to the editor, please email us.
The Atheist Voice Editor: editor@metroplexatheists.org

WHY DO WE FIGHT?

‘Because we must. Because we have the call. Because it is nobler to fight for rationality without winning than to give up in the face of continued defeats. Because whatever true progress humanity makes is through the rationality of the occasional individual and because any one individual we may win for the cause may do more for humanity than a hundred thousand who hug superstition to their breasts.’

– Isaac Asimov, when asked why he fights religion with no hope for victory



**Metroplex
Atheists.org**
NO STRINGS ATTACHED.

Metroplex Atheists is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organized for the purpose of education, maintaining Constitutional separation of government and religion, protection of atheists' rights and to provide social meetings for those of similar worldviews. We are affiliated with American Atheists, Secular Coalition of America and the Dallas Fort Worth Coalition of Reason.

Contact Info

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