

<https://blockclubchicago.org/2023/06/08/at-these-chicago-churches-drag-performers-are-welcomed-with-open-arms-god-is-calling-on-us-to-expand-our-circles/>

At These Chicago Churches, Drag Performers Are Welcomed With Open Arms: 'God Is Calling On Us To Expand Our Circles'

Chicago church leaders say developing a more inclusive community attracts more parishioners and helps LGBTQ+ people heal from trauma.

Religious communities have started to include drag artists in their faith traditions more frequently, allowing space for LGBTQ+ people to heal from religious trauma and the broader community to learn from their experiences.

A few churches throughout the city regularly invite drag artists to perform in their sanctuaries, help lead worship services and read storybooks to children.

Drag artists say that these experiences have helped them to better connect with their spirituality through safe community spaces. Church leaders say developing a more inclusive community has attracted more parishioners and helped to counteract traditional church structures that have harmed people for centuries.

<https://www.foxnews.com/world/pastor-spends-easter-jail-after-another-arrest-drag-queen-event>

Pastor spends Easter in jail after another arrest at drag queen event
Derek Reimer faces 8 new charges after protesting drag queen story time

A Canadian pastor who has been arrested three times during the past five weeks for protesting drag queen story events for children spent Easter weekend behind bars for alleged hate speech.

The Rev. Derek Reimer, 36, was arrested on outstanding warrants last week while protesting near a drag story time event, according to the CBC. He now faces eight new charges, including criminal harassment, causing a disturbance and breaching his release conditions.

The Calgary police confirmed to the CBC that the charges are being investigated as hate-motivated.

<https://www.popularmechanics.com/science/animals/a43509580/tardigrade-dna-human-stem-cells-super-soldiers/>

Scientists Put Tardigrade DNA Into Human Stem Cells. They May Create Super Soldiers. Here's why water bears could help us withstand nuclear warfare.

Tardigrades—also known as water bears and, occasionally, moss piglets—are spectacular. They are so spectacular, in fact, that Chinese military scientists think the tiny animal's powerful genes could be used to create radiation-resistance within humans. At least, that's the latest plan in motion: creating super soldiers able to withstand nuclear warfare.

In a report first published in Chinese in Military Medical Sciences and reported by South China Morning Post, researchers from the Academy of Military Sciences in Beijing say they believe inserting a gene from the microscopic water bear into a human embryonic stem can help significantly increase the cells' ability to withstand radiation. And they have some data to back it up.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-01001-2>

First monkey–human embryos reignite debate over hybrid animals

The chimaeras lived up to 19 days — but some scientists question the need for such research.

<https://abcnews.go.com/Technology/Health/story?id=465202&page=1>

Mixing Humans and Animals for Science

Feb. 7, 2005 Animal-human hybrids have long been the stuff of fairy tales and myths -- from the half-man, half-horse centaur to singing mermaids.

Now the swift pace of genetic engineering has some worried that such mixed creatures, known as chimeras after the fabulous beasts of Greek mythology, are making the leap from the pages of fiction to reality.

<https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk/science-and-technology/human-pig-hybrid-created-in-the-lab>

Human-Pig Hybrid Created in the Lab

Scientists hope the chimera embryos represent key steps toward life-saving lab-grown organs.

In a remarkable—if likely controversial—feat, scientists announced that they have created the first successful human-animal hybrids. The project proves that human cells can be introduced into a non-human organism, survive, and even grow inside a host animal, in this case, pigs.

This biomedical advance has long been a dream and a quandary for scientists hoping to address a critical shortage of donor organs.

“In ancient civilisations, chimeras were associated with God,” he says, and our ancestors thought “the chimeric form can guard humans.” In a sense, that’s what the team hopes human-animal hybrids will one day do.

<https://crisprtx.com/>

Gene-based medicines

Transforming the lives of patients with serious diseases

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-736475>

Modern slavery in Israel: The women victims of human trafficking

The US State Department TIP report states that Israel does not meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking but is making significant efforts to do so

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/30000-march-in-jerusalem-pride-parade-under-tight-security-but-without-incident/>

30,000 march in Jerusalem Pride Parade under tight security but without incident

National Security Minister Ben Gvir jeered by participants, who shout 'Nazis out' at the far-right minister; marchers also call to protect democracy, hold anti-overhaul banners