

## Apostacy Watch

<https://www.christianpost.com/news/andy-stanley-gay-churchgoers-have-more-faith-than-a-lot-of-you.html>

Andy Stanley says gay churchgoers 'have more faith than a lot of you'

Do gay individuals who go to church have more faith than most Christians?

According to megachurch Pastor Andy Stanley, the answer, apparently, is a resounding yes.

Stanley, who leads the multi-site North Point Ministries and North Point Community Church based in Alpharetta, Georgia, said in a now-viral sermon clip that any LGBT individual who continues to go to church has "more faith than a lot of you."

"A gay person who still wants to attend church after the way they've been treated, I'm telling you, they have more faith than I do," Stanley said in the clip, which had over 1.2 million views on Twitter alone as of Thursday. "They have more faith than a lot of you."

He also noted the courage it takes for LGBT individuals to continually attend churches that don't accept their lifestyle.

"A gay person who knows, 'You know what? I might not be accepted, but I'm going to try it anyway,' and as a straight person, have you ever, where do you go that you're not sure you're going to be accepted over and over and over?" asked Stanley.

The message — which reportedly came during North Point's Drive Conference in May 2022 — also spoke directly to the "gay men and women who grew up in church and the gay men and women who've come to faith in Christ as adults, who want to participate in our church."

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2012/mayweb-only/andy-stanley-homosexuality.html>

Andy Stanley Sermon Illustration on Homosexuality Prompts Backlash

<http://theeconomiccollapseblog.com/the-collapse-of-faith-in-america/>

## The Collapse Of Faith In America

Once upon a time the United States was known as a “Christian nation”, but now our country is moving away from those roots at a pace that is absolutely breathtaking. I spend a lot of time writing about the ongoing collapse of our economic system, but the truth is that we are witnessing a collapse of faith as well. In 1972, a Pew survey found that 92 percent of all Americans identified as Christians, but the most recent Pew survey that asked this question discovered that only 63 percent of Americans still identify as Christians at this point...

Pew Research Center has been measuring religious identity since 2007 using a slightly different question wording – “What is your present religion, if any?” – as well as a different set of response options. Since 2007, the percentage of adults who say they are atheist, agnostic or “nothing in particular” in the Center’s surveys has grown from 16% to 29%. During this time, the share of U.S. adults who identify as Christian has fallen from 78% to 63%.

Assuming that this trend continues, it won’t be too long before we are under 50 percent.

And it is very important to note that many Americans that still identify as “Christians” want absolutely nothing to do with traditional Christian values.

Church attendance in the United States has been steadily falling for decades as well, and the shift that we have seen since the pandemic started has been particularly dramatic...

Protestant pastors reported that typical church attendance is only 85% of pre-pandemic levels, McConnell said, while research by the Survey Center on American Life and the University of Chicago found that in spring 2022 67% of Americans reported attending church at least once a year, compared with 75% before the pandemic.

Churches are closing at rapid numbers in the US, researchers say, as congregations dwindle across the country and a younger generation of Americans abandon Christianity altogether – even as faith continues to dominate American politics.

As the US adjusts to an increasingly non-religious population, thousands of churches are closing each year in the country – a figure that experts believe may have accelerated since the Covid-19 pandemic.

<https://apnews.com/article/psychedelic-churches-ayahuasca-5101fe47fe9a6e28de686272ed96ff46>

The tea tasted bitter and earthy, but Lorenzo Gonzales drank it anyway. On that frigid night in remote Utah, he was hoping for a life-changing experience, which is how he found himself inside a tent with two dozen others waiting for the psychedelic brew known as ayahuasca to kick in.

Soon, the gentle sounds of a guitar were drowned out by people vomiting — a common downside of the drug. Some gagged; several threw up in buckets next to them.

Gonzales started howling, sobbing, laughing and repeatedly babbling “wah, wah” like a child. Facilitators from Hummingbird Church placed him face down on the grass, calming him momentarily before he started laughing and crawling on all fours.

“I seen these dark veins come up in this big red light, and then I seen this image of the devil,” Gonzales said later. He had quieted only when his wife, Flor, put her hand on his shoulder and prayed.

<https://www.hummingbirdchurch.com/>

Our goal is to ensure that we are only accepting participants that are truly seeking healing through a spiritual experience. As we are unable to meet the demand of the amount of people who are interested in attending ceremonies, we need to reserve spaces only for those who are prepared to do the hard work that this process requires. If you are looking for just a psychedelic experience, you are in the wrong place. Our ceremonies are sacred and deeply spiritual.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/anti-religious-bigotry-nebraska-dem-s-amdt-would-ban-kids-from-vacation-bible-schools-church-youth-groups/ar-AA16XrTY?ocid=entnewsntp&pc=U531&cvid=a34dabb88e2d4124a9eacbf70f0872c1>

'Anti-religious bigotry': Nebraska Dem's amdt. would ban kids from vacation Bible schools, church youth groups

A Democratic lawmaker in Nebraska is being accused of "anti-religious bigotry" by Republicans after she proposed to ban children from attending church youth groups or vacation Bible schools.

State Sen. Megan Hunt says her amendment, which would ban children under 19 years of age from attending a "religious indoctrination camp," is intended to kill the underlying bill, LB 371, a measure put forward by Republicans to ban minors from attending drag performances. The text of the amendment asserts there is a "well-documented history of indoctrination and sexual abuse perpetrated by religious leaders and clergy people upon children."

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/sports/nfl/mysterious-donors-are-paying-millions-to-run-commercials-for-jesus-during-the-super-bowl/ar-AA16Ujza?ocid=entnewsntp&pc=U531&cvid=9476df19cbee4c50ac91ba0c1fe176f5>

Mysterious donors are paying millions to run commercials for Jesus during the Super Bowl

A group of anonymous donors seems to think so and will run two ads in Super Bowl LVII, ponying up the \$7 million Fox is asking for each 30-second spot. It's the latest in a series of commercials that have run for the past 10 months under the banner "He Gets Us".

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/hindu-vigilantes-carry-out-wave-of-anti-christian-violence-in-india/ar-AA16YNip>

Hindu mobs, enraged by conversions, attack Christians in India

Over two decades of practicing and proselytizing Christianity, Badinath Salam had been kicked out of his home several times and often harassed. But in December, he recalled, the vitriol turned virulent.

Leaders in his Indigenous Indian village beat drums to summon all 100 households to a clearing, he said. There, gathered villagers pummeled their Christian neighbors, who made up one-fifth of their village, and left Salam hospitalized for three days.

Since December, Hindu vigilantes in Chhattisgarh state in eastern India, enraged by the spread of Christianity and rallied by local political leaders, have assaulted and displaced

hundreds of Christian converts in dozens of villages and left a trail of damaged churches, according to interviews with local Christians and activists and as seen during a recent trip to the area.

Matthew 24:9-10

Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. 10 And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.