



Churches Under Christ Newsletter

July 1, 2019

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior and one and only head of **HIS** churches. This "Churches Under Christ Ministry" is headed by Christian Attorney Jerald Finney under the authority of Pastor Ben Hickam and Charity Baptist Tabernacle, Amarillo TX. We are allied with the Biblical Law Center which was originally founded by Attorney Al Cunningham and continued by Dr. Greg Dixon, his son Greg A. Dixon, and then by Jerald Finney.

- Matthew 16:18 "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock **I** will build **my** church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."
- Ephesians 1:22 "And hath put all things under his feet, and gave **him to be the head over all things to the church.**"

A BRIEF REVIEW OF SOME DEVELOPMENTS AND ACTIVITIES DURING June 2019

I continue to work with churches organizing and already organized using the Resolution to Adopt the Declaration of Trust, the Declaration of Trust, and Appendix.

Thought: For by one book are we all [**believers in a local church under Christ who study God's Word**] brought into the unity of the faith.

In June, I worked with pastors, churches, and other believers to include the following:

1. June 2, 2019 call from a pastor planting a church out of an incorporated 510(c)(3) church who has talked to a pastor of a church the BLC helped organize in 2003. He wants to organize outside corporate 501(c)(3) status by establishing a trust relationship. I told him I would call him back next week since I was very busy at that time. I called him back and sent him the Initial letter and "Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines" on June 15, 2019. Added his name to e-mail list. He answered the questions I included in the Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines and I sent him the documents and Instructions for execution of the documents on June 29, 2019.
2. June 5, 2019 call from a lady in NY who is a member of an incorporated 501(c)(3) church. We talked for some time. She wanted more information on incorporation and 501(c)(3) and how to organize according to Bible principles and to be added to our mailing list. I added her to the list and sent an e-mail with some relevant

links. Based upon her story of being conned by a religious charlatan which she put in writing, I published [Religious Charlatans Don't Care Who They Con And They Con Millions](#) on June 15, 2019.

3. June 10, 2019 call from church member in PA with whom I talked last November. Church is incorporated & 501c3. He is very interested in getting the church out of corporate 501c3 status and has discussed it with the pastor and other church members. We talked for some time. E-mailed him a copy of the initial letter and attachment ("Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines).
4. June 14, 2019. Received call from Pastor Dan Hardin, Pastor of a DOT church in Michigan, saying he has received calls from two ladies in Michigan who are looking for a non-incorporated, non-501(c)(3) church near where they live in different parts of Michigan. I had to report that I know of none.
5. **May 18, 2019 began to help with a case in which a local property tax board maintains that incorporation and 501(c)(3) status are elements in the definition of a church for property tax exemption purposes.** I started the case while living and licensed in Minnesota, but it has taken 3 years for the Minnesota tax court to get to the case. I moved to Texas in May, 2018. They have 6,000 cases a year to deal with. Of course, most involve disputes over home property tax evaluations and such. Our case is novel to the county property tax office that denied the church property tax exemption because the church was not incorporated and 501(c)(3). Minnesota has no property tax agency process, so the only recourse is to go to Minnesota Tax Court. I have been working with a Minnesota attorney and prepared the substantive portion of a **Response to the States Motion for Summary Judgment** which the lawyer filed at the end of June. **PLEASE KEEP THIS MATTER IN PRAYER.**
6. June 15, 2019 published [Religious Charlatans Do Not Care Who They Con and They Con Millions](#) (letter from a dear Sister in New York who has been conned more than once by Joshua Media Ministries and other so-called Christian ministries with my comments).
7. Near end of June: Helped a church in Massachusetts which is planning to establish a trust as they try to lease a piece of property from an incorp. church. The lawyer who drafted the lease included in the lease that they agree to incorporate. I talked with the law firm and explained the 1st Amendment and corresponding provisions in the Mass. Const., the trust, and other matters. The lady I talked to seemed not to believe me at first, but as we talked she seemed to understand better the things I told her. Gave her my website for more study, etc. A church member called me and informed me that the lessor has agreed to structure the lease so that the requirement for the church to incorporate was removed. The church has not yet established a trust relationship.
8. June 29, 2019 published [E-mail Blessing, Exhortation, and Inquiry](#) with my reply.
9. I continue to preach and display signs and banners on the sidewalk outside Trinity Fellowship Church. See the [May 1, 2019 Newsletter](#) for more on this ministry. See also, [Doing God's Work God's Way: A Bible Call To Preach Outside The Typical American Church Explained](#) (050919).
10. Answered other calls and e-mails.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THIS MINISTRY. IT WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THE LORD TAKES ME HOME OR MY HEALTH FAILS. I PRAISE THE LORD FOR KEEPING ME JOYFUL AND HEALTHY AT AGE 72. THE MINISTRY WILL GO FORWARD, PRO BONO (WITHOUT CHARGE), AS THE LORD PROVIDES AND LEADS. I WANT TO THANK THOSE FEW WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS CAUSE AS WELL AS THOSE WHOM THIS MINISTRY HAS COUNSELED AND/OR HELPED TO ORGANIZE BUT COULD NOT AFFORD TO GIVE TO THE MINISTRY. IT IS A BLESSING TO BE OF SERVICE FOR THIS TREMENDOUS CAUSE.

Featured Sermons, Essays, and Books

Sermons: Go to the sermons page of the Biblical Law Center: Separation of Church and State/The Biblical Principles and the American Application website (<https://jeraldfinney.com/miscellaneous/sermons/>) for links to great relevant sermons such as Dr. Greg Dixon 2005 sermon "**Authority, The Greatest Thing In The Universe**", Jerald Finney's message, "**Is an Incorporated 501(c)3 Church a Church of Christ?**" **The Rose of Sharon** (Transcript of a sermon depicting the love relationship between Christ and His local visible church , emphasizing the importance of organization under Christ only as opposed to corporate 501c3 or 508 status or legal status of any kind) etc.

Books by Jerald Finney are free online in PDF, online form, and Kindle, and may be ordered. Go to the [free online, PDF and order page for books by Jerald Finney](#).

Churches Under Christ Ministry Website: <https://jeraldfinney.com/> (Browse this page for a wealth of informational resources)

PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT US FOR ANY REASON. YOUR COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS, ENCOURAGEMENT, AND CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

For the Glory of God,
Brother Jerald Finney

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