

Churches Under Christ Newsletter

June 1, 2020

The Newsletter for Churches who choose to glorify God by remaining under the sole authority of the Lord Jesus Christ; as opposed to those churches who choose to place themselves under the authority of man through incorporation (corporation sole or aggregate), Internal Revenue Code § 501(c)(3) or § 508(c)(1)(A) tax exempt status, charitable or business trust, etc.

- 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."
- Acts 5:29 "Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men." [A church in America can organize so as to glorify both God and man without persecution because of the highest law of the land concerning church state relationship: the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. That alone cancels the false Romans 13 argument given by many churches for betraying God through incorporation, 501(c)(3), 508(c)(1)(A) or other status created by man's laws.

When viewing this Newsletter online, left click the name of the article, book, or website address to go directly to it.

Feel free to give me a call at 512-785-8445 if you cannot access a resource in the Newsletter.

UPCOMING MEETINGS RECOMMENDED BY THIS MINISTRY

Old Paths Baptist Church of Washburn TX, Pastor Rusty Bradbury, is hosting a Camp Meeting on **June 5-6, 2020**. Old Paths Baptist Church is a church plant out of Charity Baptist Tabernacle of Amarillo TX, Pastor Ben Hickam. The following letter is from Pastor Bradbury:

Dear Brothers,

Another year has gone past and we are making preparations for the campmeeting here at Old Paths Baptist Church in Washburn, Tx. We hope to find all is well with you. We have had a good year here. We would like to invite you to come to our camp meeting on June 5th and 6th 2020. Food and lodging will be provided for everyone. We are always encouraged and blessed to have you join us. Please let us know if you will be able to come. I always look forward to hearing from everyone even if you can't come. We will be sending out a reminder letter in April, so be looking for it. Thank you for your prayers looking forward to seeing you in June.

God Bless Rusty Bradbury

Contact Information

Old Paths Baptist Church Rusty Bradbury: Home – (806) 279-0037 Cell – (806) 886-0072

Email: rgn_brdbry_23@yahoo.com

Charity Baptist Tabernacle Larry Hickam: Home – (806) 944-5320 Cell – (806) 220-9922 Ben Hickam:

Cell – (806) 220 – 9622

Pastor Dan Hardin and Gateway Baptist Church of Monroe, Michigan has founded the The Non-registered Bible Baptist Fellowship, "Encouraging and enabling Baptist preachers to have a Bible based ministry, and "that ye should earnestly contend for the faith once delivered unto the saints."

<u>The Non-registered Bible Baptist Fellowship</u> will host a conference July 1-2, 2020. See: <u>Non-Registered Baptist</u> Bible Fellowship Meeting July 1, 2020 – July 2, 2020: 10AM-1PM, 6PM-9PM.

A BRIEF REVIEW OF SOME DEVELOPMENTS AND ACTIVITIES DURING MAY 2020

To listen to the 501(c)(3) Song, click here

Activity of the Month

May 25, 2020 Text from Bro. ______. We then talked over the phone. He had contacted me about a year ago (On March 19, 2019), and I sent him link to online materials. He is a member of a church made up of legal immigrants from former Soviet Bloc countries. These believers witnessed much persecution, and some were persecuted. He talked some about those persecutions and the problems with state registration in the old country (like no one under 18 could go to church services, etc.). He and other members are ready to do the DOT. He said they have been unsuccessfully trying to get the lead pastor and others to agree to get out of corp. 501c3 status. As a result, several families decided to peacefully withdraw and form another church in another state. They will be moving there. They have contracts to build houses. They will be moving there within 6 months, and one family has already moved there. They want to start the process of establishing the trust. They have plenty of time to get everything done correctly.

May 30, 2020 Emailed him the first mailing (initial letter; Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines; Questionnaire 1). Note: Several of these American churches, made up of members from former Soviet Bloc nations, have executed trust documents and operate under the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ alone.

Below are some other ministry activities. The ministry worked on the website, responded to some other calls and e-mails not included below, etc.

May 4, 2020: Call from a lady who has a helps ministry for the elderly as part of the church she is a member of. She is single and her kids are grown, so she can give a lot of time to the ministry. The church wants her to get a 501(c)(3) tax exemption for the ministry. We talked for 1 hour 45 minutes. She stated that doing so was against her Holy Spirit convictions. I explained that the ministry should be under the authority of a local church. I also

explained the issue of authority—that a church should never submit to any authority other than the Lord Jesus Christ and that a church does so when it chooses to become a legal entity of anykind (corporation, 501c3 or 508c1A tax exempt religious organization, charitable trust, etc.). Her church is incorp. & 501c3. I gave her a lot of Bible verses to look at. She has been reading the material on the website and readily understood these matters. She knows of an unregistered fellowship of Christians who agree that a church should not incorporate. Etc.

May 5, 2020: Call from one of the pastors of a DOT church who is opening a new bank account. He had some

On Friday, May 8, 2020, 10:48:50 AM CDT,	<	@yahoo.com> wrote:
My name is and I am with	mi	nistries. We minister to foster families. We had
been working on our 501 c3 and then someone shared v	with me son	ne videos from Mark Taylor. I want to be
obedient God's desires but I don't know what my option	ns are to give	e people tax write off for donations. Can you
direct me to some information to help?		
Sincerely,		
Jerald Finney jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To:	F	Fri, May 8 at 7:56 PM
Dear Ms,		
This ministry helps churches state under Jesus Chr	rist and Hin	n alone. This ministry is under the authority of
Charity Baptist Tabernacle of Amarillo TX. The ministry d	does not hel	p non-church organizations.
However, I will give you a little information that m	nay be of he	elp. No organization or church has to apply for
501(c)(3) status and no church has to apply for any type	e of legal sta	itus such as incorporation, 501(c)(3) tax exempt
status, charitable trust status. Churches in America are g	_	
United States Constitution. Most choose to place an au	thority or a	uthorities other than the Lord Jesus Christ over
them by incorporating, getting tax exempt status, etc	. Those chu	urches have a form of godliness but deny the
power (authority) of God to one degree or another.	The New 1	Testament makes very clear that Christ wants
churches who name Him to be solely under His authorized	ority; and t	that God ordained civil government as well as
church government and that the two are so distinctly of	different th	at they are mutually exclusive - by that I mean
that mixing church with state combines the holy with the		
To better understand these matters, you can read (God Betraye	ed. It is free online in online form and PDF. Links
to all versions of the book, including ordering info. for the	ne paperbac	k edition are at:
Order information, free PDF, and free online version page	ge for books	s by Jerald Finney
A shorter read, although not nearly as thorough is S	Separation o	of Church and State/God's Churches: Spiritual or
Legal Entities? Both books mentioned above cover the	issue of tax	deductions for tithes, offerings, etc., including
an explanation of Internal Revenue Code Regulations reg	garding sucl	h gifts.
The website has a wealth of information which cover	ers all aspec	ts of these matters.
I hope this proves to be of some help.		
God bless.		
For His Glory,		

He had not received an EIN yet, even though applied for. I explained that when the request is mailed in, it can take

Brother Jerald Finney BAB, HB, BA, JD	
OF A LOCAL CHURCH. God bless.	
matters are covered on the website. I would be gla	matter related to your inquiry, I am your humble servant. Most id to direct you to teachings concerning issues you are studying HARGE AS THIS IS A MINISTRY OF GOD UNDER THE AUTHORITY
the things of God, period."	member or church should be, "We are going to obey God as to
and guidelines. I prefer "church under Christ," or believe the latter are more accurate, from God's sta	"New Testament church." That is a technicality, I know, but I andpoint.
but God gives all one needs to know about His	local churches in His Word. He gives many commandments, sires churches to conform to those commandments, principles,
I do not particularly like the term "free church," a	a term I first learned from Peter Kershaw's books, online videos, rse, any church is free to obey or disobey God if she so chooses,
Amendment protections. She has betrayed her first	t love, the Lord Jesus Christ. These conclusions are based upon d organization. I explain these and many other matters in my
I am here to help any church or church member alone (Christ as the <i>only</i> authority). A church which	r understand New Testament Church organization under Christ has chosen to incorporate, get 501c3 or 508c1A or any other il government, and has chosen to give up many of her First
Dear Brother, Since the 1980s, this ministry, and its predeces organize under Christ and Christ alone.	ssor, have helped many churches from many different states,
Re: Reference Request here in Wichita, KS Jerald Finney jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To:	Mon, May 11 at 8:08 PM
[Address and Phone No.]	
Your guidance would be greatly appreciated, Sincerely,	,
Would it be possible to refer me to a church that	would be close to my location, 200 or so miles, that is currently ship to see how the transition has gone or if it's a new church,
leadership to look at removing the 501c3 status. I	am so glad to have discovered this website and all the amazing n full support of. I remember reading Peter Kershaw way back
May 9, 2020, 10:52:18 AM CDT, < Dear Mr. Finney, I am currently a deacon at a church here in	
me.	
many purposes. We agreed to all other matters. He	will have to discuss this with other members and get back with
	church under Christ is compromised if the ministry is not totally o under the authority of the state and federal governments for
	<u>.com</u> . They have a youth ministry that is incorp. $501(c)(3)$ ministry is not biblical and also compromised the non-
May 0, 2010 Paturned call to	com. They have a youth ministry that is incorn

Pardon me i recently heard about the 501c3 i was curious to the effect this will have on myself and my husband. I saw this info on a show on youtube They were cautioning people to be aware of the 501c3 that churches have aligned with. Thank you
Jerald Finney jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: Tue, May 12 at 7:42 PM Please feel free to give me a call. If you get a VM, leave a message and I will return your call asap. Jerald 512-785-8445
From: < @gmail.com> Date: Tue, May 12, 2020 at 3:06 PM Subject:
Subject: 501c3 restructure Dear Sir,
We have just applied to the IRS for the 501c3 status. We are a house church, but we really wanted it for an orphanage that we are building in Honduras. We would like to keep building orphanages around the world and form NGOs as needed. I would like your advice on to proceed with the future of the ministry. With Kind Regards,
Fw: Weblog title "501c3 restructure" Jerald Finney jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: 7:22 PM
Feel free to give me a call. Please keep in mind that this ministry helps churches organize according to New
Testament principles. If I do not answer, leave a VM and I will return your call asap. For His Glory
Brother Jerald Finney
512-785-8445
On Monday, April 13, 2020, 11:12:06 PM CDT, < @gmail.com> wrote: Hi Jerald, In this crisis it has become very important for churches to separate from the state. I live in San Diego. Do you
know of any churches out here that are separated per your training? I would like to attend one. I have found a few churches open this Easter. But every church out here appears to be incorporated even if they were open contrary to the state governors orders.
I am also curious how a church could funtion wo a bank or how a bank can be opened wo an ein. Thanks
Jerald Finney jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: Tue, May 12 at 7:58 PM Dear,
Please forgive me for taking so long to get back to you. I just went back through my e-mails and noticed that I had never answered yours. I do not know of any churches near you which are not incorporated. The closest one I know of is
, Pastor: Los Angles, CA [Phone No. given].
The answer to your question would take some time to explain. In a nutshell, a church can establish a trust in which all property is held in a trust estate owned by the Lord Jesus Christ. Such a church cannot have a bank account; but all gifts, tithes, offerings, are put in a bank trust account owned by the Lord Jesus Christ. Some banks will use the trustees SSAN, but if a bank requires an EIN, the trust can get an EIN "for banking purposes only."
Carried forward from April – received follow up on May 13:
On Monday, April 27, 2020, 06:50:02 AM CDT, <@gmail.com> wrote:
We have established a ministry and want to stay non 501c3 and also not incorporated as a non-profit corporation. Can you help us? We are in the process of establishing several hundred house churches and also homes for abused or addicted children.
Thank you,

On Monday, April 27, 2020, 08:51:31 PM CDT,	<	@gmail.com> wrote:
Thank you. I will call you tomorrow		
On Apr 27, 2020, at 9:49 PM, Jerald Finney <jerald.finney@< th=""><th>)sbcglobal.net> w</th><th>vrote:</th></jerald.finney@<>)sbcglobal.net> w	vrote:
This ministry helps churches organize according to NT Ch	_	
for abused or neglected children. That is another matte		
controlled by state law and have to meet licensing requirem	nents. The first ch	urch I was a member of after salvation
in the early 1980s fought a battle with the state of TX over t		
to law school. I entered the University of TX School of Law ir		=
I would be glad to discuss this with you. Give me a call at 5	512-785-8445.	•
For His Glory,		
Jerald Finney		
You may want to look at the website at:		
Churches Under Christ Ministry: Church organization accord	ling to Bible doctr	ine and the First Amendment
April 30, 2020 E-mails and call from	,	Ministries, an extensive US and
international ministry;;		
and pastor house churches. They dissolved the corp. &		
about 508c1A. Their bookkeeper sent out IRS acknowledge	ements last year	for contributions. Explained that that
made the ministry 508c1A, subject to the same rules and	regulations as a	501c3, etc. Explained that should not
send out IRS acknowledgements and that the church	h should make	clear that they do not give IRS
acknowledgements, that if a giver claims a deduction for the	e gifts on the IRS	filing, it is up to him to go forward and
fight the IRS, why and how in nutshell, etc. Put him, with pe	rmission, on ema	il list.
On Wednesday, May 13, 2020, 07:46:59 PM CDT	<	mail.com> wrote:
Good day Attorney Finney I hope all is well. Attached with the	his email is a resp	onse to Question 1 from Omega
Kingdom Ministries.		
V/R		
Jerald Finney jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To:	Wed, May	13 at 10:44 PM
Dear Mr,		
I talked with Mr about this. Where did	l you get this Que	stionnaire 1? It is not something
supplied by this ministry.		
This ministry has certain procedures. After talks, if this mi	inistry feels it can	be of help, I send out an initial letter,
a policies and procedures paper, and Questionnaire 1. We a	are not past the p	point of initial talks. At this point, I am
not convinced that this ministry can be of help. I explained	what the ministr	ry does to Mr See
the procedures at https://jeraldfinney.com/posts/need-helg	<u>o/</u>	
God bless.		
Jerald Finney		
May 14, 2020: Returned call to She & h	nushand are men	nhers of a Rantist Reformed Church in
, TX. They read some of Barbara Ketay's work ar		
I talked to her a good hour or more. They are talking with the		
etc.	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
May 17, 2020 Received Executed docs from Pastor		
open bank account a sap. I emailed him congratulating him	_	
him to send the Appendix since without property in the App	endix, there is no	trust.

May 18, 2020 Call from Bro Went over the procedures for opening a trust bank account. He wants to use an EIN, not his SSAN. I informed him to get back with me if the IRS mails him after he gets the EIN and tells him that he will have to submit IRS Form 1041 each year. Also, I sent him via email attachment the EIN PowerPoint which explains how to get the trust EIN "for banking purposes only.' Told him to fill out the Form SS-4 and email it to me before submitting it. May 31, 2020 Received form SS-4 from for review before submitting the form requesting an EIN "For Banking Purposes Only." I had sent the trustee the line by line guide PowerPoint. Nevertheless, 3 mistakes were made in filling out the form. I e-mailed him the following: Jerald Finney jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: Sun, May 31 at 5:08 PM					
Dear Bro,					
Please redo and send me the corrected form before submitting. 1. Line 1 should be filled in (according to PowerPoint Line by Line Guide) as follows: Trust. 2. Line 6 should be left blank (according to PowerPoint Line by Line Guide and also the instructions on page 2 of the SS-4). Line 6 says, "County and state where principle business is located. This common law trust is not a					
business. If you fill this in, it will misinform the IRS.					
3. On the second line from the bottom put, "[Name of Trustee], Trustee;" (as on the Line by Line Guide) not "[Name of Trustee], Pastor," as you now have it. You are not here acting as the Pastor. You are acting as the trustee House of Prayer Trust. The church appointed you as trustee of House of Prayer Trust.					
The rest of the form is correct. Please do not send it in before sending me the corrected form. Mistakes can cause very hard to correct problems in the future.					
God bless.					
Brother Finney					
On Tuesday, May 19, 2020, 04:36:51 PM CDT, < @gmail.com> wrote: Bro. Finney: You probably don't remember it, but I talked with you on the phone perhaps 6-8 months ago. You had contacted me about the church listing that you were compiling and asked if it was all right if our church was added to your list. I said at the time that it was all right to add our church to the listing, but I have been doing some thinking about this and have changed my mind about some things. I would like you to remove our church from the list, if you would. I certainly haven't changed my mind about being unincorporated, but I think that we would prefer a more subdued profile for the church, if that makes sense. Our church is Church in, Michigan. Thank you for your help and your many efforts. Sincerely in Christ, Pastor Eph 5:16					
Jerald Finney <u>jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net</u> To: Wed, May 20 at 8:35 PM					
Dear Brother ,					
had already decided not to publish the state by state list. I assume that it will be OK to give your contact info. to any inquiries from Michigan seeking a non-incorporated 501c3 church. Let me know if you do not want that. God bless. Brother Finney					
501 c3 Church Song					
D L songsbydl@gmail.com To:jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net Tue, May 19 at 9:33 AM					
Hope you won't mind me contacting you. My name is David. I'm a college professor and songwriter,					
lifelong/musician. I wrote this song about 501 c3 churches and came across your web-page on-line, and because					
somebody posted a link to this song (an older studio version) on Youtube. That link had some contact info, and led me to this page. Pastor, I hope you enjoy this song. Challenging and interesting times we live in, as they say. David					
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BtamdR-kD70					
[He quoted the lyrics to the song.]					
[dangen					

I linked to the song on the following webpage: Separation of Church and State/God's Churches: Spiritual or Legal **Entities?** Jerald Finney jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To:D L Wed, May 20 at 8:51 PM Dear David, I am excited that you contacted me. Great song with great insights. I and others have greatly enjoyed the song. Would you mind if I publish your e-mail? I will not without your permission. God bless. **Brother Jerald Finney** May 20, 2020 Received call from ______ in Atlanta, Georgia. He has been looking into church corp. sole organization and also studying the material on the ministry website. He already has understanding of the trust concept, etc. We talked for some time. They only have an assembly of believers and are carefully studying church organization. May 21, 2020 I emailed him the link to the following online booklet: which explains in much detail the lies of the church corporation sole organizations and that the corporation sole is just like any other corporation with the exception that it has only one officer. May 21, 2020: According to the Bible, God Grieves when a Church Chooses to Organize Under Any Law of Man (Non-Profit Corporation Law, Federal Tax Exempt Law, Charitable Trust Law, Etc.) On Monday, May 25, 2020, 01:27:53 AM CDT, _______ @gmail.com> wrote: Brother Finney, I am doing some initial research with my pastor on what it would take to dissolve our church corporation, so that we could submit our church to the- Lord as he intended. We are a small church in California, __ County and hold ... land, a parsonage, meeting house, one other building, and a checking and savings account. The original articles of incorporation are from the mid 1980's to early 1990's if my memory serves me well. I have been perusing the biblical law center website and your jeraldfinney.com website. I could only glean in one essay that a 501c3 could not dissolve it's property without giving it to another 501c3 entity. Our church constitution/bylaws state that upon dissolution we must give the property over to another like minded 501c3 entity. I know we can change our constitution but would it stand up with the California Secretary of State if we made that change to allow us to enter it into a trust so we can become a new testament church. Is there a way for us to change our constitution and resubmit to the secretary of state and then later dissolve and transfer title to a trust. It is our ultimate goal to become a new testament church. This is just a preliminary question and after hear back from you I'll report back to my pastor and advise him of how your ministry works and the questionnaire process that we would have to answer for you. With the current Covid restrictions set by our state and county we are sure we will be subject to some challenges shortly as we are again assembling in obedience to our Lord. We stopped services for a short time initially to be prudent, but our pastor decided it was time to meet again. Praise God almost all our congregation as decided to come back to worship in person. Looking forward to hearing from you. Best Regards, [Phone Number given here] Jerald Finney jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: ______ Mon, May 25 at 9:48 PM

Just now getting to my emails received today. You need to check your CA non-profit corp. law as well as you by-laws. As long as the corporation is up and running, unless the law or your by-laws provide otherwise, the

corporation can convey property as well as obtain property. However, upon dissolution, the law probably requires that any corporate property must go to another 501c3 (incorp.) entity.

If you need to discuss this, give me a call. 512-785-8445. If you call and get a VM, leave a message and I will call you back asap. I will be tied up until 5 or 6 pm tomorrow. If you call, we can pull up the Calif. non-profit corporation law and see what it says.

Good to hear that you are assembling again God bless.

Brother Finney

May 28, 2020 Conference call with Bro. ______ and his pastor, ______; He has researched corporate sale of corporate property. He said that a CA corp. can buy and sell property. He looked at the church by-laws and went to the CA Sec. of State website and attny. gen. Corp. Code ... CA does not recognize the death of the corp. if you use the same name. He and pastor have been in anguish about this. _____ does the finances. Filling out W-2 forms, and all the other red tape. Etc. They recognize the need to educate the church members first, etc. We talked for some time. Added both to e-mail list.

May 27, 2020 Published A Short Treatise on Romans 13

May 28, 2020 Call from coordinator of a church in Oregon. They want to get out of 501c3 and get under 508c1A. A company in Washington wants \$2500.00 to help them do this. They are changing the name and structure. They have by-laws. The elders are discussing this. They have educated the whole elder team. The pastor is reluctant to discuss it. We talked for some time. Added this elder to e-mail list.

Basics of the love story between Christ and His churches, and the common law Bible trust and false reasons for church legal entity status (1-5):

- 1. Christ and His Local Visible Churches: A Love Story
- 2. One Church Under God
- 3. Common Law Bible Trust Explained Resources
- 4. Bible Basics The Trust Relationship of Churches under Christ
- 5. False Reasons of "Christian" Lawyers and Pastors for Corporate, 501(c)(3) Status or Legal Status of Any Kind

How a church can establish a common law (Bible) trust (5-10):

- 6. Need Help?
- 7. Initial Mailing
- 8. Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines of the Churches Under Christ Ministry
- 9. Questionnaire 1
- 10. Questionnaire 2
- 11. Documents Used To Establish a Church under Christ and Christ alone

Featured Sermons, Essays, and Books

Featured Study: Render Unto God the Things that Are His/A Systematic Study of Romans 13 and Related Verses

Essays published this month:

- A Short Treatise on Romans 13;
- According to the Bible, God Grieves when a Church Chooses to Organize Under Any Law of Man (Non-Profit Corporation Law, Federal Tax Exempt Law, Charitable Trust Law, Etc.)

Featured publications:

- Why Understanding and Applying Church and State Law Is Important for Believers and Churches
- Obtaining a Church Common Law Trust Employee Identification Number "For Banking Purposes Only"
- Stewards of the Mystery of the Church and Arguments by Believers and Others To Support Unholy Union of Church and State

Links to short teachings on questions important to churches under Christ: **Short Answers to Some Important Questions.**

Books by Jerald Finney are free online in PDF, online form, and Kindle, and may be ordered. Go to the <u>free online</u>, PDF and order page for books by Jerald Finney.

<u>Churches Under Christ Ministry Website</u> Biblical Law Center Website

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 512-785-8445

E-mail: jerald.finney@sbcglobal.net