



From the back pew:

Submitted by the Rev. Rich Hinkle of Tecumseh,
Neb. —

Okay, we all know that 666 is the Number of the Beast.
But did you know?:

- \$665.95Retail price of the Beast
- 00666.....Zip code of the Beast
- 1-666.....Area code of the Beast
- 1-900-666-0666Live Beasts! Call Now! Only
\$6.66/minute.
- DCLXVI.....Roman numeral of the Beast
- 1010011010.....Binary of the Beast
- 666 F.....Oven temperature for roast
Beast
- 666k.....Retirement plan of the Beast
- 6.66%.....5 year CD rate First Beast
National Bank, \$666 min.
deposit.
- 668.....Next-door neighbor of the
Beast
- 666 mg.....Recommended Minimum
Daily Requirement of Beast
- Word 6.66Word Processor of the Beast
- Beverly Hills 66666.....Beast's favorite TV show
- 6/6/66.....The birthdate of the Beast
- 666-66-6666The Social Security number
of the Beast
- 6666.....The PIN of the Beast
- 25.806975The square root of the Beast
- Motel 666.....Beast Western

CBS to air 'Micah 6' special

*Presbyterian Hunger Program is collaborator
on television program*

by Jerry L. Van Marter

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — “Answering Micah’s call” — the second in a series of four religious specials produced by CBS this year in cooperation with the Interfaith Broadcasting Commission, of which the National Council of Churches (NCC) is a member — will be sent to CBS affiliates for airing June 24.

The Presbyterian Hunger Program was a key contributor to the program, which highlights six outreach ministries in Atlanta, including that of First Presbyterian Church.

Segments also depict Ebenezer Baptist Church, the Intown Community Assistance Center, St. John’s Lutheran Church and First African Methodist Episcopal Church and the ways in which they interpret the NCC’s Micah 6 Project for their own church communities.

The Micah 6 Project is a coordinated outreach program of the NCC, based on Micah 6:8b — “What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” Its goal is to enlist churches in ministries that reach into their communities and build up their congregations.

At Ebenezer Baptist Church the Rev. James Victor and volunteer Anna Davenport show how faithful and committed individuals work in justice and healing ministries, and how Ebenezer is able to partner with other Micah 6 congregations.

St. John's Lutheran demonstrates building relationships toward advocacy work and asking the tough question "who's not here" (around the table).

First Presbyterian — the Rev. George Wirth, pastor, and the Rev. Charles Black, associate pastor — feed the hungry through a volunteer Meals on Wheels program.

Rev. Dr. Earl McCloud at First African Methodist Episcopal Church works at a prison ministry that builds relationships within the community.

While the program will be fed by CBS to its affiliates on June 24, local stations have a six-week window in which to air the program. For information about when to see "Answering Micah's Call" in your area, contact your local CBS station or visit www.interfaithbroadcasting.com and click on "IBC Program Information." Then click on "CBS Answering Micah's Call" and again on "Clearance Report."

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Survey finds Americans believe that religion can improve society

Silent prayer is best solution to public school prayer dilemma, respondents say

by Episcopal News Service

NEW YORK CITY — A recent survey finds that most Americans believe that religion can improve contemporary society, although they are wary about any direct injection of religion into the nation's politics.

The national survey of 1,507 included people from the general public, focus groups and consultations with experts on religion and public life. It was conducted by the New York-based, nonpartisan, nonprofit Public Agenda, supported by The Pew Charitable Trusts. It is called "For Goodness Sake: Why So Many Want Religion to Play a Greater Role in American Life."

Respondents said that children benefit from religion. For example, 85 percent said that parents would do a better job if they were more religious and 69 percent said that "more religion is the best way to strengthen family values and moral behavior." But over half said that public schools should deal with the issue of prayer by having a moment of silence, not an expressly religious prayer. And over half feel that public schools often go overboard in taking the meaning out of holiday celebrations for most students by limiting the use of religious symbols.

About 60 percent said that deeply religious elected officials should be willing to compromise with their colleagues who may hold different views. Evangelical Christians, however, are more likely to say that officials should vote based on their own religious views.