I recently heard a radio news report of an incident that occurred at a nearby middle school. The school is located not far from my home church. I’m certain that many of our Christian youth are enrolled in this school and others in our local Shawnee-Mission school district.

I highly suspect that the new "Common Core Curriculum" being adopted across the country is behind the sex education material discussed below. I’m sure many of our readers would agree that our youth should not be exposed to such material. I believe using the below-described poster in a so-called course on “abstinence” is absolutely unnecessary -- especially for students 13 years of age.

I found the full report at http://fox4kc.com/2014/01/14/father-upset-with-terms-on-schools-sexual-education-poster. I suggest you read the following quote from that site before viewing the video link that appears at the top of the web page.

Warning: This story contains terms that some may find offensive or inappropriate; reader and viewer discretion is recommended. (If readers find the video offensive or inappropriate, is it appropriate for students who are only 13 years old? -- DRD.)

SHAWNEE, Kan. – A father said if his 13-year-old daughter hadn’t taken a picture of a questionable public poster and shown him, he’d never have known the content. Now that he knows, he’s not happy.

Mark Ellis says his daughter goes to Hocker Grove Middle School in the Shawnee Mission School District. She was so shocked by what she recently saw on a poster at school, that she took a picture of it home and showed her parents. Her dad initially assumed it was a student prank, until he called the school and found it was part of the curriculum.

“Why would you put it in front of 13-year-old students?” he asked.
He thought the poster, which lists things like “oral sex” and “grinding,” might’ve been a prank until he contacted the school principal. He was told it was a teaching material. But Ellis is now concerned that what’s on this poster is being taught to his daughter in school.

“It upsets me. And again, it goes back to who approved this? You know this had to pass through enough hands that someone should have said, ‘Wait a minute, these are 13-year-old kids, we do not need to be this in-depth with this sexual education type of program,’” he said.

District spokeswoman, Leigh Anne Neal, says the poster needs to be viewed in the context of a bigger curriculum, which she calls abstinence-based for students in middle school.

“The poster that you reference is actually part of our middle school health and science materials, and so it is a part of our district approved curriculum,” Neal said. “However the item is meant to be part of a lesson, and so certainly as a standalone poster without the context of a teacher led discussion, I could see that there might be some cause for concern.”

She said that the approved curriculum is in line with what other schools around the country do as well.

“The curriculum it is a part of, it (sic) aligns with national standards around those topics, and it’s part of our curriculum in the school district,” she said.

But Ellis thinks if that’s the case, the curriculum needs to change.

“This has nothing to do with abstinence or sexual reproduction, actually, a lot of these things,” he said. “I would like to see that this particular portion of the curriculum is removed from the school.”

And if the curriculum doesn’t change, Ellis plans to remove his daughter from the sexual education classes.

I agree with Mr. Ellis and other concerned local residents. As editor of this newsletter, I have written several articles on how the Common Core Curriculum is being foisted on educators across the country by federal bureaucrats. My numerous objections include the following:

1. The curriculum deliberately emphasizes the theory of evolution, with no mention of the concept of creation (our main concern), and to the continued abandonment of the teaching of any Christian principles -- not only with regard to creation/evolution, but now to the extent that it is teaching perverted notions of sex to middle school students.
2. The intent is to deliberately "dumb down" the students, as well as to simplify all school curricula, so that even mediocre students will be capable of passing exams. This is an insult to our brightest youth -- those who are yearning to excel, but are held back by their less-motivated classmates.
3. Parents are deliberately left out of the loop, and are thus denied the opportunity to properly prepare their children with sound teaching on sex and interpersonal relationships.

4. The entire program is being paid for by the taxpayers. This is especially egregious when Common Core’s basic principles run counter to those taxpayers’ moral standards and religious beliefs.

I continue to recommend that parents who are concerned about Common Core’s dangers take control of the education of their children. Concerned parents can, and should, enroll their children in faith-based schools that can legally refuse to follow the federal mandates; or, better yet, become head masters of their own home schools.

It’s time to stand up and be heard. Many parents have already educated their children at home. It is not impossible, and the results are well worth the extra effort.

On a side note, the Kansas City, Missouri school system’s educational quality is widely understood to be deteriorating rapidly. Yet there are scores of young people there who desire an excellent education. Would it be possible for some families to "adopt" some of those students and give them a quality home school education?

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March Monthly Meeting
Tuesday March 4th, 2014
“The Mystery of the Cambrian Fossil Record” DVD
moderated by Bob Farwell


Darwin’s Dilemma will explore the so-called Cambrian Explosion and the scientific controversy that surrounds it to this day: Although earth’s surface is covered with countless deposits of rich fossil beds, why is every one of them completely devoid of any of the numerous transitional forms necessary for the development of the fully-formed organisms that we find in the Cambrian rocks? Is this due to, as Darwin put it, “the imperfection of the geological record”? Examine the issue for yourself in this fascinating look at the mystery that continues to dumbfound evolution’s best experts.

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CSA Monthly Meeting Location
Westbrooke Church
9777 Antioch
Overland Park, KS 66121
10 blocks east of 69 Highway (or Switzer) on 95th St. to Antioch, south two blocks on Antioch, on east side of street.
Fellowship & book table: 6:15PM. Meeting: 7:00PM.

Monthly Meetings
2014

(1st Tuesday of each month; content subject to change; no signup or registration necessary.)

- February 4th: “God Created Birds” DVD, moderated by Douglas Roger Dexheimer.
- April 1st: “Evolution vs. God” DVD, moderated by Kevin Anderson.
- August 5th: “Ice Age and Global Warming” DVD, moderated by Kevin Anderson.
- September 2nd: “Relativity and Creationism,” by Dave Penney.
- October 7th: To be announced.

2014 Creation Safaris

Several safaris not held last year are returning to this year’s schedule. We are modifying our first safari to southeastern Kansas to include a return visit to “Big Brutus,” and also to Pitcher, Oklahoma. Our December Squaw Creek safari will be held earlier this year, in hopes of foregoing weather issues we encountered in our December, 2013 trip. Hopefully we’ll see more snow geese, yet still catch a glimpse of some eagles.

Please note: Astronomy Safaris are held (weather permitting) at The Berry Patch, 22509 State Line Road, in Cleveland, Missouri. Each safari consists of an inspiring slide seminar, followed by a tour of the heavens using tracking telescopes and binoculars. Don’t wait to see if the weather will permit. Instead, sign up, and we’ll contact you if we decide to cancel.

March 28 (Friday, 7:30 pm) – Astronomy Safari.

April 25 (Friday, 8:00 pm) – Astronomy Safari.

April 26 (Saturday) – Southeast Kansas Fossil and Mineral Safari – A day trip to see “Big Brutus,” and a short trek to Pitcher, Oklahoma. We’ll hunt for fossils and minerals along the way, and have some inspiring discussions about fossil and coal formation.

May 30 (Friday, 8:30 pm) – Astronomy Safari.
May 24 - 26 (Saturday - Monday) – Western Kansas Safari – A three-day Memorial Day weekend trip that begins at the “grand canyon of Kansas” in Manhattan. We’ll travel to fence post rock country in central Kansas. There we’ll visit an ash fall site, and dig for clam fossils. The next two days we’ll explore the Niobrara chalk country for clams, sharks’ teeth, fish fossils, and maybe a mosasaur. The Chaulk Pyramids are also very scenic, and make for some stunning photos.

June 7 (Saturday) – Photo/Nature Hike Safari at Overland Park Arboretum – Join us for a nature hike and photo safari in the botanical gardens and nature trails of the Overland Park Arboretum. Not a photo bug? We’ll present some basic photo techniques to help get you started. We’ll also discuss God's wonderful creation and suggest photo subjects so you can share what you’ve learned by posting photos on Facebook, other social media, e-mails, or perhaps by simply sharing them in a slide show for your Sunday school class or other venue. So pack your camera, water, trail mix, and comfortable shoes, and join us as we learn to appreciate God's wonderful creation.

We do not charge for the safari, but the arboretum does charge, as follows:

- $3 for visitors 13 and over
- $1 for visitors 6 to 12
- Free for 5 and under
- Free for “Friends of the Arboretum” members

June 28 (Saturday, 8:45 pm) – Astronomy Safari.

June 19-21 (Thursday - Saturday) – A float trip down the Ozark River – A beautiful river that will provide family fun, fishing, and fellowship. By getting there on Thursday and floating on Friday we miss most of the noisy groups, which makes for better fishing.

July 19 (Saturday) – Kansas University Natural History Museum Safari – This very popular safari is back. Last year we did it three different times. Again we will go into “evolution’s cathedral” to unmask its misleading displays and show that the same evidence better supports creation. We’ll also do some fossil hunting on the way there, so that you can collect some evidence of your own.

July 25 (Saturday, 8:45 pm) – Astronomy Safari.

Rock Bridge / Connor’s Cave Safari (not scheduled this year) – A day trip to Rock Bridge Memorial State Park for a walk through karst topography. We’ll see many karst features such as a rock bridge, springs, sink holes, and a cave window. We’ll also explore the unlit and wild Connor’s Cave. It’s not very long but you’ll get far enough in to get past the “twilight zone.”

August 16 (Saturday) – Greater KC Fossil Hunt – We visit many of Kansas City’s fossil sites and bring home lots of fossils and a respect for the Biblical flood.

August 22 (Friday, 8:15) – Astronomy Safari.

Aug 29 - Sept 1 (Friday - Monday) – Southeast Missouri Safari over Labor Day weekend – three days of exploring Missouri’s volcanic past. We’ll swim and play in chutes carved into volcanic ash rock at Johnson’s Shut-Ins, explore a huge granite pluton with strange and fanciful
boulders at Elephant Rocks State Park, climb up a mountain to see the Devil’s Post Pile, visit an old silver mine for mineral samples, camp, and enjoy stimulating discussions and fellowship.

**September 19 (Friday, 7:30 pm) – Astronomy Safari.**

**Safari Zoological Park, Caney, Kansas (not scheduled this year)** – There are zoos that are closer, but you have to deal with the crowds, and the animals are difficult to see. This zoological park may have a limited selection but you get a guided tour and the animals come up close so you can see them. “Lions, tigers, and bears -- oh my,” plus leopards, baboons, lemurs, macaques, alligators, and more. Our tour will be conducted with a creation perspective, with an emphasis on the awesome diversity of God’s creation. We’ll also try to throw in some fossil and mineral hunting on our way there.

**October 18 (Saturday) – HaHa Tonka Safari** – We’ll visit the *karst topography* (caves, sinkholes, rock bridges) of *Ha Ha Tonka* State Park around Camdenton, Missouri, and later, *Jacob’s Cave*.

**October 24 (Friday, 7:15 pm) – Astronomy Safari.**

**Bike Safari on the Katy Trail (not scheduled this year)** – Come ride bicycle along with us on the Katy Trail, an old gently-graded railway bed below the bluffs and alongside the Missouri River. Suitable for the entire family! Bring your own bikes, or rent them at the trail head.

**November 21 (Friday, 7:15 pm) – Astronomy Safari.**

**November 22 (Saturday) – Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge Safari** – Depending on the weather, we’ll see somewhere around 400,000 snow geese and 124 bald eagles, along with ducks, herons, and trumpeter swans. A bird lover’s paradise – although it can get quite cold – it’s well worth bundling up for. We’ll fossil-hunt on the way. We’ll stop to see and discuss some ice age *loess* soil. We also discuss migration patterns and the “dinosaur-to-bird” evolution story.

Surely you can find a safari here to suit your interest, so escape to reality with us and learn more about God’s wonderful creation. Check out the CSA photo albums of previous safaris on our website and on Facebook. Further details will be posted soon on our website in a *safari detail booklet*.

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You must register for any safari. To register please visit:  
**www.csama.org**  
*or call*  
(816) 618-3610 or (816) 246-4517

**Astronomy safaris only, call:**  
(913)-515-6421.

**For detailed safari information:**  
**www.csama.org**
This is a preview in a series of forthcoming articles addressing a number of significant astronomical events which will occur during the next several years. What are the “special events” to which I am referring? They are lunar eclipses.

Creationists believe that the LORD put the sun, moon and stars in the heavens:

Then God said, “Let there be lights in the sky to separate the day from the night. They will be signs and will mark religious festivals, days, and years. They will be lights in the sky to shine on the earth.” And so it was. God made the two bright lights: the larger light to rule the day and the smaller light to rule the night. He also made the stars. God put them in the sky to give light to the earth, to dominate the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw that it was good. There was evening, then morning—a fourth day. (Genesis 1:14–19.)

I chose this particular translation because it specifically states that the sun, moon, and stars "will be signs and will mark religious festivals." Did you know that the LORD specified the days of His feasts based on the Hebrew calendar... which is based on the lunar cycles?

The first of the seven feasts is known as The Feast of Passover. It always occurs on the night of a full moon in the middle of the lunar month, Abib:

In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at even, ye shall eat unleavened bread, until the one and twentieth day of the month at even. (Exodus 12:18, KJV.)

The seventh of the LORD's feast days is The Feast of Tabernacles, which occurs exactly six lunar months after Passover.

The Lord said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites: ‘On the fifteenth day of the seventh month the Lord’s Festival of Tabernacles begins.’ ” (Leviticus 23:33–34.)

This year (2014) Passover falls on April the 15th of the Gregorian calendar. This date is very special, for it coincides with the first of four total lunar eclipses: two on Passover, and two on The Feast of Tabernacles:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Passover</td>
<td>April 15, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feast of Tabernacles</td>
<td>October 8, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passover</td>
<td>April 4, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feast of Tabernacles</td>
<td>September 28, 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A blood moon rising over "the Kotel," or Wailing Wall, in Old Jerusalem. The Lunar eclipses that occur on Passover and Tabernacles are referred to by this name. (Do you see why?)

In conclusion...

Dr. Danny Faulkner is an astronomer associated with Answers in Genesis. Here’s his take on the upcoming Lunar Tetrad:

I began this article by providing a brief overview of Mark Biltz's finding, then cited verses that remind us that nobody knows the specific time of Christ's return. I then examined how Pastor Biltz has uncovered an amazing pattern wherein a major event related to the Jewish people happened each time there was a tetrad that year and I provided you with further evidence that God has, time and time again, used celestial events to point to earthly events. I examined why 2015 can not be related to the Second Coming, yet explained that we should still be paying attention to the tetrad in 2015. I then provided some scripture that clearly warns us to be ready and watchful — to include paying attention to the heavens.

And finally, Dr. Faulkner has this to say:

In no way does the possibility that some major event impacting the Jewish people in 2015 influence the imminence of the Rapture. Since the Rapture can occur at any time, with it not being necessary that any event precede it, the fact we are seeing end-times signs (a looming tetrad; wars and rumors of wars; earthquakes and other natural disasters; worldwide economic stress; technological advances; etc.) just brings us all the closer to the end times and, therefore, we can, more than ever, expect the Rapture at any moment!
THEORIES... ONE PROVEN, ANOTHER DEBUNKED.
IS THIS WHAT YOU CALL GLOBAL WARMING?
by Douglas Roger Dexheimer

Part 1: Arctic Ice and Drowning Polar Bears

Readers are certainly aware of news stories in recent years of the shrinking arctic ice sheet, and are familiar with photos of polar bears caught on small ice floes, seemingly in imminent danger of “drowning.” One of the claims made by former Vice President Al Gore in his video about so-called “global warming” is that because the ice at the North Pole is melting, polar bears are facing extinction, and coastal cities fear the prospect of rising sea levels.

I have been quite skeptical of those claims because I remember hearing numerous times in the 1950’s that American nuclear submarines had surfaced through arctic sea ice at the North Pole. This happened while I was still in high school. Accounts like this are what launched me into the field of mechanical engineering, with hopes of working on submarines and nuclear power.

A recent search provided me with this half-century-old account:

For example, one crew member aboard the USS Skate which surfaced at the North Pole in 1959 and numerous other locations during Arctic cruises in 1958 and 1959 said: “the Skate found open water both in the summer and following winter. We surfaced near the North Pole in the winter through thin ice less than 2 feet thick. The ice moves from Alaska to Iceland and the wind and tides causes open water as the ice breaks up. The ice at the polar ice cap is an average of 6-8 feet thick, but with the wind and tides the ice will crack and open into large polynyas (areas of open water); these areas will refreeze over with thin ice. We had sonar equipment that would find these open or thin areas to come up through, thus limiting any damage to the submarine. The ice would also close in and cover these areas crushing together making large ice ridges
both above and below the water. We came up through a very large opening in 1958 that was 1/2 mile long and 200 yards wide. The wind came up and closed the opening within 2 hours. On both trips we were able to find open water. We were not able to surface through ice thicker than 3 feet.” (James E. Hester, personal email communication, December 2000.)¹

![The USS Skate, surfacing through the ice at the North Pole, 1959](image)

Notice that the cracks in the arctic sea ice open and close as the floating ice moves from Alaska toward Iceland. Ice driven by wind and tides would close in and cover the open areas in just a few hours. Such phenomena have occurred in the polar regions for ages. I take a particularly personal interest in sea vessels known as icebreakers, having spent some time working at Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company (NNS&DDC) in the late 1960's and early 70's. During that time the supertanker, Esso Manhattan, was modified to be utilized as a huge icebreaker by the addition of a special bow structure that would ride up on the ice and break through by its weight. As a young engineer at NNS&DDC, I often went to look at, and walk around on, ships in drydock. From the company’s engineering building I watched through the window at my desk as the special bow was being fitted to the Manhattan. During my lunch breaks, I’d walk around the shipyard and explore the ship.
Interestingly, a scientific and historic experiment was conducted with private funding soon after the oil-rich fields off Prudhoe Bay, Alaska were discovered. The theory was postulated that it might be possible for supertankers to pass through the Northwest Passage around the top of North America, with the intent of shipping the oil to the east coast. The theory was tested and found to be valid. However for various reasons, rather than opting for the sea route, the Trans-Alaska Pipeline was built to transport the oil from the North Slope, and across Alaska to Valdez, the northernmost ice-free port in North America.

The Northwest Passage is a series of channels and islands across northern Canada. Recently a number of small craft attempted to make the trip through the region, only to discover that "[t]he Northwest Passage after decades of so-called global warming has a dramatic 60% more Arctic ice this year than at the same time last year [emphasis in original]." Unfortunately those who made the attempt had not believed the reported accounts of shifting sea ice. A number of yachtmen turned back, and others abandoned their yachts. Some vessels, however, remain trapped in the ice. Evidently these yachtmen were deceived by the global warming propaganda, and are paying a high price for their trust in Al Gore. The decreasing temperatures, and the increasing ice coverage in the arctic and Antarctic areas, are not recent phenomena. Nor are they the result of so-called anthropogenic (i.e., man-caused) global warming.

Part II: What is Going On Near Antarctica?

Now shift your attention to the other pole: Antarctica.
Back in October of 2013, news writer Mark Robison reported that a strange situation was developing on the polar ice caps: the arctic sea ice was shrinking, but the Antarctic sea ice was growing more expansive.7

We reported in the December issue of this newsletter that on November 3rd of 2013, there was news of record sea ice surrounding Antarctica. Recent developments add further impact to that article.

An article appearing in Newsmax on Sunday November 3rd, 2013 said, in effect, that Antarctic sea ice reaches its minimum extent in February or March, and then grows until reaching its maximum in September or October. Two months after the article appeared, we observed that the Antarctic sea ice did not follow the predictions; instead, it kept expanding and thickening, a phenomenon which dominated the news for at least two weeks afterwards (as of this writing).

You can understand my interest when I read that, “[f]or the second year in a row, we set a record high winter maximum (extent of sea ice)... 3.6 percent above the 1981-2010 average maximum.”8

NASA disclosed that growth in the extent of sea ice of about 1.5 percent per decade is due to “[m]ultiple factors -- including the geography of Antarctica, the region's winds, as well as air and ocean temperatures.”9

Despite the measured sea ice growth observed by scientists, the so-called climate scientists managed to convince governments to spend "$359 billion to fight global warming in 2012.... Of that total, 94 percent was spent to support ‘greenhouse gas mitigation,’ according to the report, which included more than 2,000 large-scale projects involving renewable energy in 19 countries.”10

First tongue-in-cheek question: If the $359 billion had not been spent to “mitigate global warming,” would the sea ice have grown even thicker?

The thickness of the Antarctic sea ice was in the news again during the recent Christmas holiday. Surely you heard that a Russian icebreaker had been taking tourists and scientists to observe the thinning Antarctic ice sheet. However before that icebreaker reached its destination, it became trapped in record thick sea ice, estimated by the experienced captain of the Russian icebreaker to be 13 feet thick.

After about a week of being trapped in the sea ice, they called for help.

First a Chinese icebreaker came within 10 miles of the trapped vessel before it could advance no further through the ice, and turned back.

Next, an Australian icebreaker attempted a rescue. It too was unable to get to the stranded tourists and crew.

Finally, a Chinese helicopter from the Chinese icebreaker air-lifted the tourists from their Russian icebreaking cruise, to the Australian icebreaker.

Second tongue-in-cheek question: Since all three icebreakers failed in their futile attempts to navigate through the ice -- despite their crews’ and passengers’ belief in global warming -- how could they ever have conceivably managed to navigate through such ice -- before it had been globally warmed?

It is clear that the Antarctic ice sheet has not been thinning, but thickening. The global-warming theory was quite handily debunked -- by an accidental encounter with scientific reality!

Bottom line: Climate is cyclic. It has been warm before, and it will eventually be warm again. At present, it is not warm, but frigid -- note the current record cold temperatures being recorded across the northeastern U.S. and in Europe.

My Creator has the climate under control -- always has, always will. Here is but one personal testimony to that effect, as recorded in scripture (with commentary by John MacArthur):
Jesus arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea, saying, “Hush, be still.” (Mark 4:39.) At the word of the Creator the storm could do nothing but become perfectly calm. The winds stopped, the waves ceased, the air cleared, and the water became as glass. Storms normally subside gradually, with winds and waves diminishing little by little until calm is restored. But this storm subsided faster even than it had come; it came suddenly and ceased instantly. Though small in comparison to hurricanes and typhoons, that storm on the Sea of Galilee had generated multiplied millions of units of horsepower. Yet Jesus stopped it with a word -- an easy feat compared to His bringing the entire world into existence with a word.

The one who had control over diseases and demons also had control over nature. And as Matthew would proceed to show, He also had power to forgive sins and to raise the dead.11

What a mighty Creator we serve!

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2 Ibid.
3 http://www.aukevisser.nl/inter-2/id950.htm
4 http://www.sail-world.com/USA/North-West-Passage-blocked-with-ice%E2%80%94yachts-caught/113788
5 http://www.pprune.org/jet-blast/522689-yachts-trapped-northwest-passage-ice.html
6 http://www.cfact.org/2013/09/19/gullible-green-sailors-trapped-in-the-arctic/
7 http://blogs.rgj.com/factchecker/2012/10/06/does-record-antarctic-sea-ice-refute-global-warming/
8 http://news.newsmax.com/?Z6CvYspuR47jVBWe9Wqz6nM113yzbfU1Z&ns_mail_uid=8813324
9 Ibid.
10 Ibid.
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Never miss an opportunity to debunk the "millions-of-years" notion that evolutionists insist is necessary for life as we know it.

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