

The David Slayton---Kyle Wall---Matt Fry—Ed Stetzer Connection

Who is Kyle Wall?

This is not a commentary on David Slayton, Kyle Wall, or Matt Fry as persons, but out of the pulpit again, David Slayton has arranged for a personal friend from Liberty University, and former pastor of Atlantic Shores, Virginia Beach, [Rev. Kyle Wall](#), to substitute. [Rev. Wall is involved in the work of an independent, non-Baptist “Timothy Initiative” church planting for-profit organization, in Florida.](#) He presented an Eisegetical message that was theologically tissue-thin, and it was very apparently devised to promote the urban “Social Gospel” ministry of David Slayton; along with publically promoting his “The Timothy Initiative” website; **he even made the suggestion to the congregation of making donations to this program, which is not a Southern Baptist program!**

This “Initiative” is a “Emergent-Church/Seeker Sensitive” co-op, that has established churches that endorse heresy across the country in an organizational network called [“ARC” \(Association of Related Churches\)](#) which is a strictly non-denominational, loosely run organization, that has sponsored new churches, **which have both husband and wife as pastors in several cases;** and who have slim to none theological training. (One man stated that he started preaching and leading worship at age 14! A closer look revealed that this man, as well as many others involved in this organization who are “planting churches” under their direction, went to “diploma mill” non-accredited schools.)

With no Southern Baptist seminary degree, [Kyle Wall](#) has an “interesting” background: in addition to recently preaching (July 2013) at the heretical “C3 Church,” Clayton, NC (an “Emergent/Seeker Sensitive” organization which is in the [“ARC” and has ties to Rick Warren, and also the heretical “Hillsong” movement](#)); he stayed only 4 years as Pastor at Atlantic Shores, resigned in September 2014, (and where 2 pastors there were recently forced to resign in October 2014); he stayed 3 years as Associate Pastor at a non-denominational, “Seeker Sensitive” church in Franklin, TN; then 3 years as Pastor at a small Southern Baptist Church, Clovis, CA; as a student intern at a Dallas area Baptist Church for 4 years

while attending a university; Student Minister at a Baptist Church in Orlando, FL for 2 years; Student Minister at a Methodist Church for 2 years (which church has left the Methodist Church, dropped the name “Wesleyan” and is now an “Emergent Church” involved in the Jewish Messianic movement with a Rabbi on their staff); Student Minister at London Bridge Baptist for 6 years. He is currently a member of the “Emergent” and heretical New Life Providence Church, Virginia Beach.

Nevertheless, Wall’s appearance comes on the heels of a member of the congregation, Ted Nance, the previous Sunday, giving his testimony; and somewhat previous to that, Lynn Hardaway.

Because Rev. Slayton is intimately familiar with Kyle Wall (they both went to Liberty University; stayed on the same residence hall floor; Wall admitted in his sermon he knew Slayton well; Wall was also a roommate of Matt Fry, a leader in the heretical C3 Network, currently in a C3 ‘church’ in Clayton, N.C.) we must therefore conclude that Slayton has endorsed the Heresy of the C3 Network of Churches and the “ARC” Network of Churches....or else why would he have allowed him into the pulpit? (More about Matt Fry, later in this paper).

From the “C3 Church Watch” website, we learn:

Author John Barclay records the history of the C3 Movement from its early beginnings in his book “Arise” (endorsed by heretic Phil Pringle).

Chapter 12 is titled ‘Counseling’. On page 115, Barclay writes about the testimony of someone called Peter McHugh between 1982-3. Barclay wrote, “He [Peter] and Mark Kelsey had studied together at University” (pg. 115).

Barclay records Peter McHugh getting saved and explores the process how his wife got ‘saved’. John Barclay writes,

“He got a letter away as soon as possible to Lyn, and when the reply came back it was to tell him very simply she never wanted to see him again. That of course took no account of a number of factors, which had since come into operation, factors which Lyn then could never understand.

The exercising of faith by a very determined man of God can work miracles, and Peter began the positive confession of the restoration of their marriage. In the week prior to Lyn's return to Australia he spoke constantly aloud to affirm that she would be saved. He said it over and over, out loud, speaking his faith in thanks to God, and both Mark [Kelsey] and Phil [Pringle] agreed with him.

His own conversion had been so total and so swift that now there was no room for either doubt or failure. No possibility of it. He gave it no thought, but spoke out success.

'Life and death' we are told, 'are in the power of the tongue', and Peter now used that power to inject life into a once dead marriage."

(Source: John Barclay, Arise, 12 Counseling, Covenant Publishing, 1987, pg. 116-117.)

Above, John Barclay recorded McHugh, Pringle and Kelsey practicing the Word of Faith Heresy. We have to stress this again: Phil Pringle endorsed and allowed John Barclay to record these events. Phil Pringle exposed Mark Kelsey and himself practicing the Word of Faith heresy.

If you read our older articles, (on the C3 Church Watch website) readers will be shocked to see the Word of Faith's connections to New Age and Occult practices.

You can see more at the website: <http://c3churchwatch.com/tag/heretics/>

Now, let's take a closer look at the "ARC" (Association of Related Churches) to which Kyle Wall belongs:

(From the Wartburg Watch website:

<http://thewartburgwatch.com/2014/11/07/a-closer-look-at-pastors-in-the-arc/>)

Fast growth appears to be a top priority of leaders in the ARC church planting network. Perhaps their mantra is: "If we build it, they will come..."

That certainly appears to be the case for a number of pastors who associate with ARC (Association of Related Churches). As far back as 2007, ARC was well represented on a list of the [100 fastest growing churches 2007](#) (this is the corrected list). To be considered, a church must have . . .

- (1) grown by at least 500 people in attendance from '06-'07,
- (2) averaged over 1,000 people in weekly attendance in 2007, and
- (3) grown by a measurable percentage from '06-'07 (about 10% growth or more).

Here are some of the churches on the list that we have identified as belonging to ARC and their heretical 'pastors':

6. [New Life Church](#) (Conway, Arkansas) [Rick Bezet](#)
14. [Church of the Highlands](#) (Birmingham, Alabama) Chris Hodges
31. [Life Church](#) (Edmond, Oklahoma) [Craig Groeschel](#)
35. [Celebration Church](#) (Jacksonville, Florida) [Stovall Weems](#)
37. [Champions Center](#) (Tacoma, Washington) [Kevin Gerald](#)
78. [Seacoast Church](#) (primarily South Carolina) [Greg Surratt](#)
94. [Gateway Church](#) (Texas-multiple locations) [Robert Morris](#)

What an impressive list! The trend continued as the quote at the top of the post indicates.

Some of these pastors have such great friendships that they send congratulatory messages in the form of a rap.

What's even more amazing is that this group of pastors is closely associated with leaders outside the ARC circle. For example, let's take a look at the pastors who are members of the heretical Elevaton Church's Compensation Committee where heretic Steven Furtick 'serves'. The Christian Post published an interesting article last year entitled [Who are the megachurch](#)

[leaders who decide Elevation Church Pastor Steven Furtick's secret salary and influence his ministry?](#)

Here is the stunning excerpt from that piece (see how many ARC names you recognize):

The 2011 annual report also discloses the names of the men who comprise Elevation Church's Board of Elders:

"**Pastor Dino Rizzo** (Healing Place Church – Baton Rouge, LA), Dr. Jack Graham (Prestonwood Baptist Church – Plano, TX), Pastor Perry Noble (Newspring Church – Anderson, SC), **Pastor Kevin Gerald** (Champions Centre – Seattle, WA), **Pastor Stovall Weems** (Celebration Church – Jacksonville, FL), [and] Pastor Steven also serves on the Board, but does not vote on his salary."

The Board of Overseers members were personally recruited by Pastor Furtick, according WCNC-TV.

As we have previously discussed, Dino Rizzo has been relocated to Birmingham after his indiscretion came to light. And you may remember who recently spoke at the Gateway Conference (and cozied up to Mark Driscoll) – [Steven Furtick](#). Furthermore, you may recall that it was **Robert Morris**, pastor of Gateway Church (which hosted the Gateway Conference), who introduced Mark Driscoll and had him address conference attendees. Note also, Stovall Weems is part of this *compensation* group as well. Three members of the ARC are/were on Furtick's salary committee yet Furtick's church is not a member of the ARC? Never forget that Furtick [built a mega mansion](#) in North Carolina. The compensation committee did a great job making sure Furtick was compensated...

Speaking of Morris, we found it rather odd that he wears the title of "**Apostolic Leader**" for Trinity Fellowship ([link](#) – scroll down to bottom). Hmm... where have we heard that label before??? [C.J. Mahaney immediately comes to mind...](#)

Only recently has heretic Robert Morris come onto our radar screen, and we are just beginning to research his theological beliefs. In so doing, we came across a [post](#) written last year by FBC Jax Watchdogs, which includes an enlightening clip that reveals what Robert Morris believes about tithing. As

you probably know, we absolutely do not buy what Morris is preaching here.

There is so much to learn about Robert Morris and the ARC, but what stunned us the most was their prominence on the [Church Law Group](#) website. Check out this screen shot.

The screenshot shows the Church Law Group website. At the top is a dark navigation bar with the logo on the left and links for Home, Our Firm, Our Team, and Our Services. Below the navigation bar is a section titled "Our Clients" with a dropdown menu currently set to "Robert Morris" and a "Select A Client:" label. Underneath, the testimonial for Robert Morris is displayed, including a "Back" button. The testimonial features a portrait of Robert Morris and a quote from him.

church
LAW GROUP

Home Our Firm Our Team Our Services

Our Clients Robert Morris Select A Client:

Robert Morris Back

*Gateway Church,
Southlake, Texas*

"I believe wisdom is found in wise counsel. My staff and I have found such counselors in Matt Anthony, David Middlebrook, and the entire team at The Church Law Group. As a church, we exist to help people and I have found that same heart and spirit in them. I want the world to look at the church and see excellence in all aspects, and Anthony & Middlebrook bring excellent legal counsel to the church."

Robert Morris, Senior Pastor
Gateway Church
Southlake, Texas

Chris Hodges, pastor of Church of the Highlands, is also featured on the Church Law Group website as is this group (see screen shot below).



Association of Related Churches

Birmingham, Alabama President

Gregg Surratt

This law firm even represents heretics T.D. Jakes and Kenneth and Gloria Copeland!

Because these guys are closely aligned with a law firm specializing in church matters and go so far as to publicize their association on the internet, we would urge those who are considering joining an ARC church to be especially cautious. Caveat Emptor!

Rest assured, there will be much more to come on this "Association of Related Churches". The investigation has just begun.

Building the ARC – An Overview of this Church Planting Network

"The organization maintains an annual funding base of \$2 million dollars with ARC churches giving over \$8 million a year to missions.

Today, over 400 churches strong, ARC has become not only a movement, but a collection of many “tribes” – all with a focus of planting those 2000 churches and impacting the world!"

[History of ARC](#)

In Orange County, California the **2014 ARC Conference** is in full swing. Have you heard of **ARC**? It stands for "**Association of Related Churches**". This three-day conference, which is being held at the Saddleback Church Main Worship Center, wraps up tomorrow and features an interesting line-up of speakers ([link](#)).

ARC has recently come onto our radar screen, and here is some of what we are discovering about this church planting network.

History

According to the ARC [website](#), six pastors met together in 2000 and formed the Association of Related Churches. Those men were: Greg Surratt, Billy Hornsby, Rick Bezet, Chris Hodges, Dino Rizzo, and Scott Hornsby. Greg Surratt, pastor of Seacost Church in Charleston, South Carolina, felt led to plant 2,000 church but didn't have a plan.

Here's what happened next (from the ARC website):

Greg offered both guys [Rick Bezet and Chris Hodges] \$25,000 to fund their plants and any monthly support needed to meet budget for their first year – a safety net that bolstered their confidence in planting. Going forward, Greg asked Rick and Chris to invest that same amount back into other church planters. Rick and Chris went on to plant their churches on the same day – February 4, 2001. Their successful launches and subsequent growth became the model for future ARC church plants.

By the following year, other church planters were “reusing” the money originally funded to Rick and Chris.

Billy Hornsby became ARC's president and served from 2001 to 2011. Under his leadership, the ARC network grew slowly at first. In 2006 nine churches were planted. In the years that followed this number was exceeded, and by 2009 around 50 churches were being planted per year. ARC began training hundreds of church planters each year. Billy Hornsby was diagnosed with terminal cancer in the latter part of 2010 and lost his battle on March 23, 2011.

The following year, Greg Surratt (whose vision was to plant 2,000 churches) became ARC president. As the website states:

The organization maintains an annual funding base of \$2 million dollars with ARC churches giving over \$8 million a year to missions. Today, over 400 churches strong, ARC has become not only a movement, but a collection of many “tribes” – all with a focus of planting those 2000 churches and impacting the world!

Church Planting

ARC is comprised of quite a few churches as this [map](#) shows. Of course, being identified on the map comes at a price — the website [indicates](#) that:

ARC will recognize our Partner Churches and Ministry/Organization Partners that have invested in ARC a minimum amount of \$2400 annually (\$200/month) by placing their respective church or organization on our "Find a Church" page on the ARC website. The "Find a Church" page is our most viewed webpage where people find where ARC churches are located around the world.

ARC plans to plant 24 churches soon, as this [list](#) indicates.

Benefits of Becoming a Church Planter through ARC

There are definite advantages to planting a church under the Association of Related Churches umbrella. Here they are according to the [FAQ](#) section of the ARC website:

\$30,000 – \$50,000 toward the launch.

Additional \$20,000, if needed, during the first six months to help your new church meet its budget.

Coaching and training from successful church planters and pastors.

Mentoring from some of the fastest growing churches in America.

Access to ARC's influence and resources.

"ARC Report" video and printed material at the end of the year.

Church listed on the ARC website map.

Regular communication and notification of all upcoming church launches.

Advanced Training

Getting back to the ARC conference taking place in California, it's no wonder that church planters and those who aspire to be are flocking to the West Coast. Then there's the [Advanced Training](#) event coming up in early December which has a registration fee of \$499.00 (you may bring your spouse) followed by the [Start a Church](#) Assessment. Of course, travel, food, and accommodations are additional expenses to be incurred by the prospective church planter.

Funding

Once a church plant gets up and running, the following financial guidelines are spelled out on the ARC [website](#):

It takes big money to plant a church, and when it comes to funding, our goal is to make sure you have the resources you need. If you complete all steps in the ARC process we will match the money you raise by contributing \$30,000 – \$50,000 in the form of a zero-interest loan plus and up to an additional \$20,000, if needed, during the first six months to help your new church meet its budget.

Starting on month seven, after your launch, you will begin to repay ARC at a rate of 10 percent of your church income. Since ARC churches give 10 percent (or a tithe) to missions, this amount counts as your missions dollars during the repayment period.

Once you have repaid the funds loaned to you by ARC, your missions giving will be 2 percent to ARC and 8 percent or more to your choice of recipient(s).

And last but not least, here is the [ARC Team](#) that makes all of this church planting possible. One name particularly stands out – **Dino Rizzo**. You may remember that Dee wrote a [post](#) last November about his scandalous relationship with a church staff member. He was whisked away by his colleagues and now serves as Executive Director at ARC headquarters.

In addition to the expedient restoration of Rizzo, there are other concerns we have about ARC and those associating with this church planting network, which we will discuss in our upcoming post.

(End of website report)

The Kyle Wall----Matt Fry—Ed Stetzer Connection

Shortly before appearing at South Norfolk Baptist, Kyle Wall was at Matt Fry's C3 Church in Clayton, NC. (Full name: Matthew Dwight Fry. Father, Malcolm Craig Fry, who preached Matt's ordination sermon, was a leader in the Free Will Baptist movement. The elder Fry was a Free Will Baptist

minister for 54 years. He pastored 25 years in five states - Louisiana, Texas, Arizona, North Carolina and Tennessee. He had 3 sons: Craig, Jr., Franklin, and Matt; and 2 daughters: Pamela and Rebecca).

The C-3 website is instructive in the way this heretical church conducts itself. Ed Stetzer lowered himself to preach at this church in 2008, and made this statement from an article he wrote: “At C3 they have really thought through their mission, core beliefs and strategy. Front and center is an aim at being biblical while making Christ known and developing leaders.” That does NOT square with what we found on the C3 website:

First and foremost on their website is their plan of operation. [Not having a church constitution as such, they follow something called “The Flow”:](#)

“The Flow is a set of core values that are an expression of the heart of our community. Everything we do is influenced and guided by them.”

And at the head of this list is “We are relevant,” which is the “Seeker Sensitive/Purpose Driven” model for “doing church.” They also include such things in “The Flow,” as: “We honor: We are a church that honors our leaders.” “We are a church that believes leaders go first.” (The pastor and his wife, as co-pastor, are definitely in charge here). “We are a church that focuses on building up disciples by relationships through Connect Groups.” [\(This is the same flawed business model \(aka “The Sticky Church”\) which David Slayton is now endorsing as of January 2015\).](#)

Then, down near the bottom of their website, you see a set of watered down short list of doctrines they believe: God Jesus Spirit Salvation Scripture Sacraments. And, that’s it. Brief, not detailed, all pastor/pastor-wife led.

[And Stetzer comments, unknowingly, on the heretical music used at C3:](#)

“The worship was very high energy. It has a concert feel and a [Hillsong](#) flavor. Matt tells me about 60% of the songs are Hillsong music.”

[Then, Stetzer made this telling comment:](#) “They are all about worship and making more worshippers through reaching the unchurched.”

“Making more ‘worshippers’?” What about leading people to Christ? They are “all about worship?” Anything else?

Matt’s wife, Martha, is also a “Pastor!”:



Trying to be “relevant” and appeal to the pagan culture, Matt Fry picks out his clothes from a Harley Shop, according to Stetzer:



C3: Innovative or Compromising

Last Sunday, (June 2005) the *Raleigh News & Observer* ran a feature on a fast-growing church located southeast of Raleigh in Johnston County, North Carolina, near Clayton. [Cleveland Community Church](#), or "C3," as it's more

commonly called, has a relationship with the Southern Baptist Convention and is pastored by a graduate of Jerry Falwell's Liberty University. However, the 7-year-old, non-denominational church isn't anything like your typical Falwell-inspired Southern Baptist church, as the *N&O's* Yonat Shimron reports: . . .

Baptist in its roots, C3 works hard to draw in people who might otherwise spend their Sunday morning mowing the lawn or pushing a shopping cart at Home Depot. [Pastor Matt] Fry and his wife, Martha, try to dispel people's preconceived notions of church. They want them to feel comfortable physically, mentally and spiritually. The church's Web site encourages people to wear shorts, and the service, called a "celebration," presents a cheerful, hopeful Christianity with few strings attached.

Nearly each service includes familiar pop songs U2's "Pride (In the Name of Love)," Foreigner's "I Want to Know What Love Is" or Queen's "You're My Best Friend" meant to be heard in a new context. And Fry's sermons all touch on some emptiness in people's lives for which there can only be one answer: Jesus.

"The goal is not to be cutting edge," said Fry, 39, who has developed a late-night TV dress code black T-shirt, jacket and jeans with a microphone attached to his ear. "It's to be relevant. That's the value. Are we relevant to our culture?"

Despite its unconventional ways, C3, which is growing at a rate of 30 new members a month, states as one of its core beliefs in the [Mission & Values](#) section of its Web site, "We believe that the Bible is God's inspired word and is without error. While our theology is conservative, our methods are progressive."

Is Matt Fry and Cleveland Community Church on to something with their culturally relevant methods to reach people for Christ? Or have they crossed the line of being too much of the world and therefore compromising the message of the Gospels they are trying to convey?

In 2014, Fry attended the "Ultimate Life Conference" for Seeker Sensitive/Purpose Driven pastors. Several of his sermons have been reviewed by "Fighting for the Faith" and have been found to be "Purpose Driven" and Eisegetical.