

- Black Forest Community Center, 12530 Black Forest Rd. at Shoup Road. Last names A-Q, please bring appetizers; R-Z, please bring desserts. Cost: \$10 general, \$5 BRAS members, \$5 nonmember students with ID. Info: Joe Maio, 528-6119, jrmtn@comcast.net, www.blackroseacoustic.org.
- **St. Peter Catholic Church: *The Love of Christmas Concert***, Fri., **Dec. 14**, 7 p.m., 55 Jefferson, Monument. All are welcome for an evening of holiday music. The concert is free, however, a free-will offering will be collected to benefit Tri-Lakes Cares. Info: www.Petertherock.org. See ad on page 2.
 - **Tri-Lakes Music Association Annual Christmas Concert**, Fri.-Sat., **Dec. 14-15**, 7 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 16, 2 p.m., Palmer Ridge High School, 19255 Monument Hill Rd., Monument. Christmas favorites for choir and orchestra. Free; donations will be accepted to support Tri-Lakes Cares and student scholarships. Info: trilakesmusic@gmail.com, www.trilakesmusic.org.
 - **Gallery 132 Ice Carving Demonstration**, Sat., **Dec. 15**, noon, 251 Front St., Monument. Make your own gifts or shop locally made items at this local artisan cooperative. Info: www.gallery132.com. See ad on page 5.
 - **Calhan Country Christmas Holiday Light Display Competition & Bull Riding**, Sat., **Dec. 15**, 6-10 p.m., El Paso County Fair & Events Center 366 10th St., Calhan. Free, except for bull riding. Hay rides, live music plus carolers, Parade of Lights, Santa, and more. Sponsored by Mountain View Electric Association. Info: (719) 520-7882.
 - **Annual Palmer Lake Yule Log Hunt**, Sun., **Dec. 16**, 1 p.m., Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Crescent. Trek up the mountain in search of the Yule Log. Hunt participants should arrive 11 a.m.-noon. The winner will ride the Yule Log back to town and get the first cup of wassail. Non-hunters can stay warm indoors with carols and stories. Info: 481-2953.
 - **Holiday Dance Party at Jackson Creek Senior Living Community**, Thu., **Dec. 20**, 4-6 p.m., 16601 Jackson Creek Pkwy, Monument. In partnership with Tri-Lakes Senior Center. Holiday music by singer and pianist Skip Moore. Appetizers and drinks will be served. Free. RSVP & Info: 259-1331.
 - **Monument's Santa on Patrol**, Sat., **Dec. 22**, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. The Monument Police Department, Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District, and the Palmer Lake Police Department will team up to deliver toys and good cheer to many children in the Tri-Lakes area. Info: 481-3253.
 - **Wescott Fire Department Santa Patrol**, Sat., **Dec. 22**, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Meet Santa on his fire truck with the Wescott firefighters. See the schedule map at www.wescottfire.org. Info: 488-8680.
 - **The Church at Woodmoor: *Christmas Eve Services***, Mon., **Dec. 24**, 3 p.m. (children/family), 5 p.m. (traditional candlelight), 18125 Furrow Rd., Monument. Info: 488-3200, www.thechurchatwoodmoor.com. See ad on page 10.
 - **Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church Christmas Eve Services**, Mon., **Dec. 24**, 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m. & 9 p.m., 20256 Hunting Downs Way, Monument. Info: 488-1365, www.tlumc.org. See ad on page 8.
 - **St. Matthias Episcopal Church Christmas Eve Services**, Mon., **Dec. 24**, 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. 18320 Furrow Rd. (1/2 mi. N of 105). Traditional music and Holy Eucharist. Info: 426-9809, www.saint-matthias.org. See ad on page 5.
 - **County's Annual TreeCycle**, Sat.-Sun., **Dec. 29-30**; Jan. 5-6, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Baptist Road trailhead, Baptist Road & Old Denver Hwy. Recycle your Christmas tree. Trees are ground into mulch that is given away free. Remove all decorations from your tree before dropping it off. Bring your own tools and containers for mulch. Cost: \$5, benefits community youth sports programs. Info: 520-7878, www.TreeCycleCOS.org.
 - **Sisters of Benet Hill Monastery: *Taizé Prayer for Peace***, Sat., **Dec. 31**, 7-8 p.m., 3190 Benet Lane, Colo. Springs. A few words sung over and over again reinforce the meditative quality of prayer. All faith traditions are welcome. Cost: \$45. RSVP & Info: 633-0655 Ext 132, registrations@benethillmonastery.org, www.benethillmonastery.org. See ad on page 12.
 - **New Parent Night at Monument Academy**, Tue., **Jan.**

- 15, 6-7 p.m., 1150 Village Ridge Pt., Monument. Info: 481-1950, www.monumentacademy.net. See ad on page 11.
- **Rocky Mountain Music Alliance Concert: *Music of Light & Darkness***, Sat., **Jan. 19**, 7 p.m., The Church at Woodmoor, 18125 Furrow Rd., Monument. Pianist Dr. Zahari Metchkov will perform works of Liszt and Messiaen. Tickets: adults \$12 online at www.rmma-online.org or \$15 at the door. Students with ID, and children 12 and under are free. Info: Coleen Abeyta, 630-8165, Coleen.Abeyta@gmail.com, www.rm-maconcerts.org.

Our community calendar carries listings on a space-available basis for Tri-Lakes events that are sponsored by local governmental entities and not-for-profit organizations. We include events that are open to the general public and are not religious or self-promotional in nature. If space is available, complimentary calendar listings are included, when requested, for events advertised in the current issue. To have your event listed at no charge in Our Community Calendar, please call (719) 339-7831 or send the information to calendar@ocn.me or P.O. Box 1742, Monument, Colorado 80132.

Letters to Our Community

Our Community News welcomes letters to the editor on topics of general interest to readers in the Tri-Lakes area. We do not knowingly print letters that are substantially the same as letters that have been submitted to other publications. To ensure that OCN contains a variety of viewpoints, each letter writer is limited to a maximum of six letters within a twelve month period. To submit a letter, please:

- Email your letter, preferably as an attached Microsoft Word document, to editor@ocn.me or mail a copy to Our Community News, P.O. Box 1742, Monument, CO 80132-1742.
- Identify your submission as a letter to the editor and confirm that it has not been submitted to any other publication.
- Include a suggested headline or title that summarizes the topic you are addressing.
- Limit letters to no more than 300 words.
- Include your full name, home address, phone numbers, and email address, if you have one. Only your name will be published.
- Send your letter at least 14 days before the “first Saturday of the month” when the paper is published. Later submissions may be deferred to our next monthly issue.

If you have not received an acknowledgement two days after your email submission or one week after you mailed your letter, please contact Lisa Hatfield, Managing Editor, at (719) 339-7831 or editor@ocn.me. At OCN's sole discretion, letters may be edited for grammar and we may ask you for clarification of your statements. Include references, such as website links, in your letter for any facts and figures you cite. Letters containing personal attacks will not be published.

Content

Articles in Our Community News focus on the deliberations of Tri-Lakes area governmental bodies such as the Monument Board of Trustees, Palmer Lake Town Council, and many of the local water, sanitation, fire, and school district boards.

Unlike papers that try to figure out what the “story” is and then get quotes on each side to presumably lead the reader to conclude what the “truth” is, OCN's role is to report in detail on public meetings of local governmental entities. We report what was talked about and what was decided. By reading OCN, you can find out what you might have learned if you had attended those public meetings. In this context, “truth” is that the articles accurately represent what transpired at the meetings.

The content of ads and inserts in OCN is solely the responsibility of the advertisers who place those ads and inserts. The appearance of an ad or insert in OCN does not imply endorsement of the ad or insert's content or purpose. While OCN does not knowingly run false ads or inserts, we do not research the accuracy of that content. Readers are encouraged to do their own research prior to committing to use the products or services offered.

Contact Lisa Hatfield, Managing Editor, at editor@ocn.me or (719) 339-7831 with any questions.

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The Rabbi's Corner

Right or Wrong, Part I

By Rabbi Oswald Garagorry

If we were to take the entire existing record on the life history of Jesus Christ and we were to ask the question was he right or wrong in his affirmation of being God, when speaking to his contemporaries; what would be the response we might get?


The response would depend on to whom the question was being asked, or in other words, who is responding to the question. A Jewish person would most likely affirm that he was wrong; because God is a spirit and not a human being. And probably add to the answer: he was no god, he was the son of a carpenter and we know his relatives. Then, that person would conclude his view with a strong statement like: Definitely wrong.

If you were to ask the same question to a Christian person, the response would probably be that he was right; and it would be accompanied with an explanation that he is part of the “godhead” or the second person of the holy trinity, who came to earth to die on the cross as a sacrifice to save humanity from their sins and to give eternal life to men.

So let me ask you my dear reader: where do you find yourself with this very same question? Please pray to the great “I AM” that He will make it clear to you and God willing I will talk with you next month. Between now and then....Shalom to you.

Dr. Garagorry is the Rabbi of Aliyah Congregation that meets on Saturdays at 10 a.m. at the Mountain Community Mennonite Church, 643 Highway 105, Palmer Lake, CO 80133 www.aliyahcongregation.com • (719) 330-2382

Visitors are welcome!



Support Our Community. Volunteer with OCN!

Please join us today! Meet a group of interesting and committed people. Learn new skills—use your enthusiasm and creativity to benefit our community and celebrate unfiltered information. Please call Managing Editor Lisa Hatfield at (719) 339-7831, or email editor@ocn.me to see how you can contribute. Contact us today!

Look for our next issue

Saturday, Jan 5

Ad space reservations due: Fri., Dec. 14
Finished ad artwork due: Fri., Dec. 21
Letters to the editor due: Fri., Dec. 21
Calendar items due: Fri., Dec. 28

Visit our website to read, download, and search all the back issues at **WWW.OCN.ME**



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Our Community News, Inc.
John Heiser, President
(719) 488-3455 (ofc & FAX)

Advertising: ads@ocn.me
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Our Community News (OCN), with a circulation of 19,000, is a unique all-volunteer monthly newspaper mailed FREE to every resident and business in the Tri-Lakes area. OCN is a primary source for Tri-Lakes area news that gives advertising preference to Tri-Lakes area businesses. OCN's contract-free low ad rates and monthly publication schedule help stretch your ad budget while supporting an important Tri-Lakes-focused effort to present factual, comprehensive news to all Tri-Lakes area residents and business owners.

For advertising information, contact John Heiser, (719) 488-3455, ads@ocn.me, or visit www.ocn.me.