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Kentucky Church Hires Registered Sex Offender as Pastor; Man Now Faces Charges

[Christian Post Reporter](#) ^ | 6/24/2014 | Morgan Lee

Posted on **6/25/2014, 6:44:46 PM** by [wonkowasright](#)

A Kentucky church that hired a pastor with full knowledge that he's a registered sex offender, is now the scene of another alleged crime in which the minister is accused of sexually assaulting a 14-year-old boy who attended the church.

Roy Neal Yoakem, who leads the New Gospel Outreach Church in Scottsville, Kentucky, allegedly raped a 14-year-old boy at the church and police believe that another incident occurred in a nearby town, reported WSMV.

"He's a predator and he doesn't need to be on the street. I'm glad we got him," Detective Chad Keen told WBKO.

According to Keen, the boy's mom, a church attender, discovered "graphic messages and photos from Yoakem on his phone."

"They were along the lines of really, really affectionate. There was some emotion in them. He was calling him a liar and telling him he didn't have any feelings for him anymore," Keen said.

Yoakem, 46, who is married and has a 14-year-old son himself, was a registered sex offender when he was hired by the church roughly three years ago.

"When he first became pastor about two and-a-half, three years ago, he informed the church of that right off," Stephen Bratcher, the interim pastor at New Gospel Outreach Church told WSMV. "He explained that those allegations were false."

The church took Yoakem at his word and Bratcher defended the hire.

"We're firm believers in the Bible, so if God's forgiven you, then we're in no position to treat you otherwise," Bratcher said.

Keen said that he believes that the teenage boy was not Yoakem's only victim.

"This is through the victim that I talked to, that there's another victim in Bowling Green that I'm going to have to speak with that Mr. Yoakem's been doing this to as well," Keen said.

Yoakem joined New Gospel Outreach Church after Billy Minix, the church's long-time pastor, was accused of embezzling \$300,000.

Yoakem was arrested on several charges, including rape and sodomy. The former pastor could be heading to federal court because the alleged sexual abuse transpired in both Kentucky and in Tennessee. Yoakem is set to be extradited to Tennessee later this month.

TOPICS: Evangelical Christian; Ministry/Outreach

KEYWORDS: church; evil; homosexualagenda; pedophile; preacher; sexoffender; sexualpredator; sodomy

While Yoakem is truly vile, the entire group in charge of hiring him should also swing from a gallows with him.

1 posted on **6/25/2014, 6:44:46 PM** by **wonkowasright**

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To: **wonkowasright**

Yoakem joined New Gospel Outreach Church after Billy Minix, the church's long-time pastor, was accused of embezzling \$300,000.

Wow, they sure can pick 'em.

2 posted on **6/25/2014, 6:47:04 PM** by **gov_beans_counter** (Romans 1:22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools)

[[Post Reply](#) | [Private Reply](#) | [To 1](#) | [View Replies](#)]

To: **wonkowasright**

"He's a predator and he doesn't need to be on the street. I'm glad we got him," Detective Chad Keen told WBKO.

You already had him, you idiot, and you let him go.

3 posted on **6/25/2014, 6:49:48 PM** by **Veggie Todd** (The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants. TJ)

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To: **wonkowasright**

"We're firm believers in the Bible, so if God's forgiven you, then we're in no position to treat you otherwise," Bratcher said.

God forgave him? Did God send a letter saying this?

4 posted on **6/25/2014, 6:51:49 PM** by **GeronL** (Vote for Conservatives not for Republicans)

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To: **wonkowasright**

“We’re firm believers in the Bible, so if God’s forgiven you, then we’re in no position to treat you otherwise,” Bratcher said.”

This leaves me almost speechless. What about their duty to protect the vulnerable in their church? For crying out loud, a registered sex offender.

I'm going to an all day seminar and getting a back ground check so I can work with children at my church.

5 posted on **6/25/2014, 6:52:06 PM** by **Mercat**

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To: **Mercat**

If they believed he was not guilty of sex with a teenaged boy, as they claim, then what did God need to forgive him for, other than the general run of sins-that-are-not-crimes?

6 posted on **6/25/2014, 6:59:34 PM** by **Tax-chick** (Told 'em not to science those burgers too hard. ~ Darksheare)

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To: **Tax-chick**

bump

7 posted on **6/25/2014, 7:01:39 PM** by **GeronL** (Vote for Conservatives not for Republicans)

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To: **wonkowasright**

"We're firm believers in the Bible, so if God's forgiven you, then we're in no position to treat you otherwise," Bratcher said."

That doesn't mean you should give him authority over young boys. Exactly how many sex offenders offend just once? It's a sick, compulsive behavior that you can't just "get over".

8 posted on **6/25/2014, 7:02:56 PM** by **Politicalkiddo** (The more helpless the victim, the more hideous the assault.)

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To: **wonkowasright**

I don't understand the judges and parole boards that release these predators; the problem is playing catch-and-release with people who are a danger to society. I'd be happy with life sentences for those who harm children (I'd be happier with the death penalty, but the Supremes incorrectly ruled that Old Sparky is only constitutional for treason or murder).

9 posted on **6/25/2014, 7:03:49 PM** by **Pollster1** ("Shall not be infringed" is unambiguous.)

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To: **wonkowasright**

Generally don't unorganized(bottom up) congregation members vote in an election? so the whole group knew?

It is pretty disgusting. It goes to show how human emotions can really screw things up. I'm sure he weepingly told them of how it was false and this and that, and they bought it hook, line, and sinker.

10 posted on **6/25/2014, 7:04:32 PM** by **vpintheak** (I will not comply!)

[[Post Reply](#) | [Private Reply](#) | [To 1](#) | [View Replies](#)]

To: **wonkowasright**

Bankrupt the 'church'; bankrupt its officers, and for good measure, bankrupt the members.

11 posted on **6/25/2014, 7:05:01 PM** by **PAR35**

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To: **wonkowasright**

I have know people like the board that hired this guy. Just gibber a bit about Jesus, claim an anointing, cry a little and you get the keys to the kingdom. Ridiculous.

12 posted on **6/25/2014, 7:06:18 PM** by **DariusBane** (Liberty and Risk. Flip sides of the same coin. So how much risk will YOU accept? Vive Deco et Vives)

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To: **Tax-chick**

Quit asking logical questions. How dare you oppose a Man of God?

13 posted on **6/25/2014, 7:07:52 PM** by **DariusBane** (Liberty and Risk. Flip sides of the same coin. So how much risk will YOU accept? Vive Deco et Vives)
[[Post Reply](#) | [Private Reply](#) | [To 6](#) | [View Replies](#)]

To: **wonkowasright**

There is a difference between forgiveness and shrewdness.

14 posted on **6/25/2014, 7:08:22 PM** by **FourtySeven** (47)
[[Post Reply](#) | [Private Reply](#) | [To 1](#) | [View Replies](#)]

To: **PAR35**

This is the same church where the pastor was caught after embezzling over \$300K about five years ago. The church might well be bankrupt. Unfortunately this sort of thing is pretty common throughout the faith community. The RC has no monopoly by a long shot on bent clergy.

15 posted on **6/25/2014, 7:10:17 PM** by **robowombat**
[[Post Reply](#) | [Private Reply](#) | [To 11](#) | [View Replies](#)]

To: **Politicalkiddo**

~~~That doesn't mean you should give him authority over young boys.~~~

Agreed

**16** posted on **6/25/2014, 7:11:01 PM** by **F15Eagle** (1Jn4:15;5:4-5,11-13;Mt27:50-54;Mk15:33-34;Jn3:17-18,6:69,11:25,14:6,20:31;Ro10:8-11;1Tm2:5-6;Ti3:4-7)  
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To: **wonkowasright**

"We're firm believers in the Bible, so if God's forgiven you, then we're in no position to treat you otherwise," Bratcher said.

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Many Christians end up hurting innocents by forgiving predators and allowing them into their lives.

Forgiving the devil doesn't mean you have to invite the devil into your house

**17** posted on **6/25/2014, 7:11:25 PM** by **RginTN**  
[ [Post Reply](#) | [Private Reply](#) | [To 1](#) | [View Replies](#) ]

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To: **gov\_beans\_counter**

zWhoever picked them needs to be excommunicated.

**18** posted on **6/25/2014, 7:11:55 PM** by **Blood of Tyrants** (Haven't you lost enough freedoms? Support an end to the WOD now.)  
[ [Post Reply](#) | [Private Reply](#) | [To 2](#) | [View Replies](#) ]

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To: **wonkowasright**

bizarro world

**19** posted on **6/25/2014, 7:12:49 PM** by **knarf** (brooklyn bridge)  
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To: **DariusBane**

Oh, sorry.

Maybe they believed the misinformation that only an unmarried man can be a predatory homosexual.

**20** posted on **6/25/2014, 7:12:55 PM** by **Tax-chick** (Told 'em not to science those burgers too hard. ~ Darksheare)  
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To: **wonkowasright**

Obviously, this bunch missed the Bible's advice to be "wise as serpents."

**21** posted on **6/25/2014, 7:16:14 PM** by **txrefugee**  
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To: **wonkowasright**

What fools. You don't just take a guy's word that he's not a sex offender! They all bear responsibility for the damage done to this 14 year old boy.

22 posted on 6/25/2014, 7:26:25 PM by leapfrog0202 ("the American presidency is not supposed to be a journey of personal discovery" Sarah Palin)  
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To: wonkowasright

*While Yoakem is truly vile, the entire group in charge of hiring him should also swing from a gallows with him.*

So long as we're going down that road...

[*Faithful Departed* author Philip Lawler] points out that while less than five percent of American priests have been accused of sexual abuse, **some two-thirds of our bishops were apparently complicit in cover-ups**. The real scandal isn't the sick excesses of a few dozen pedophiles, or even the hundreds of priests who had affairs with teenage boys -- the bulk of abuse cases. No, according to Lawler, it is the malfeasance of wealthy, powerful, and evidently worldly men who fill the thrones -- but not the shoes -- of the apostles. In case after case, we read in their correspondence, in the records of their soulless, bureaucratic responses to victims of psychic torture and spiritual betrayal, **these bishops' prime concern was to save the infrastructure, the bricks and mortar and mortgages. Ironically, their lack of a supernatural concern for souls is precisely what cost them so much money in the end.**

-- Inside Catholic's John Zmirak, from the thread [Kneeling Before the World](#)

23 posted on 6/25/2014, 7:29:51 PM by Alex Murphy ("the defacto Leader of the FR Calvinist Protestant Brigades")  
[ Post Reply | Private Reply | To 1 | View Replies]

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To: wonkowasright



Roy Neal Yoakem

24 posted on 6/25/2014, 7:33:20 PM by sockmonkey (Of course I didn't read the article. After all, this is Free Republic.)  
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To: **wonkowasright**

I would like to know what other Pastors have to say about this, so please if you are a Pastor, please identify yourself and your denomination.

**25** posted on **6/25/2014, 7:34:58 PM** by **The\_Republic\_Of\_Maine** (Be kept informed on Maine's secession, sign up at [freemaine@hushmail.com](mailto:freemaine@hushmail.com))

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To: **wonkowasright; Chode**

"A Kentucky church that hired a pastor with full knowledge that he's a registered sex offender"

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**26** posted on **6/25/2014, 7:40:28 PM** by **Morgana** ( Always a bit of truth in dark humor.)

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To: **sockmonkey**



27 posted on 6/25/2014, 7:42:47 PM by Morgana ( Always a bit of truth in dark humor.)

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To: **txrefugee**

Ya beat me to it, I was gonna say just that. Another way of saying it is “don’t be so open minded that your brains fall out!”.

CC

28 posted on 6/25/2014, 7:43:33 PM by Celtic Conservative (tease not the dragon for thou art crunchy when roasted and taste good with ketchup)

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To: **wonkowasright**

They better have a very high limit “incredibly stupid” insurance policy!

29 posted on 6/25/2014, 7:52:09 PM by RetiredTexasVet (Surgeon General Warning: Operation of Government Motors vehicles may be hazardous to your health)

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To: **Celtic Conservative, Tax-chick, txrefugee**

"Yoakem joined New Gospel Outreach Church after Billy Minix, the church's long-time pastor, was accused of embezzling \$300,000. "

Open minded? These people just can't seem to win for losing. I think it's just best to fold in the cards and walk off.

**30** posted on **6/25/2014, 7:53:23 PM** by **Morgana** ( Always a bit of truth in dark humor.)

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To: **wonkowasright**

Let me be the first to call this for "Homosexual Agenda" ping.

They are everywhere. (Everywhere, where there are children.)

There are too many laws protecting the perps, but not the victims.

**This monster needs to take a short trip to his Eternity. Smoking or non-smoking? How do you vote, Freepers?**

**31** posted on **6/25/2014, 7:58:07 PM** by **Perseverando** (In Washington, it's common knowledge that Barack Hussein Obama is ineligible to be POTUS.)

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To: **Morgana**

I can recall nothing in the bible that states that believers in Christ must be earth shatteringly stupid and gullible. and as far as forgiveness: Forgive, but do not forget, and for petes sake, use the brains the good lord gave you for something other than a hat rack!

CC

**32** posted on **6/25/2014, 7:59:42 PM** by **Celtic Conservative** (tease not the dragon for thou art crunchy when roasted and taste good with ketchup)

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To: **Morgana**



and they thought hiring a REGISTERED filthy disease ridden queer was a good idea, BECAUSE???

**33** posted on **6/25/2014, 8:06:48 PM** by **Chode** (Stand UP and Be Counted, or line up and be numbered - \*DTOM\* -vvv- NO Pity for the LAZY - 86-44)

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