

People

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Anthony Flew, 81, a British philosopher who has long championed atheism, has changed his mind about the existence of God, at least in a limited way. “I don’t believe in the God of any revelatory system, although I am open to that,” Flew told the journal of the Evangelical Philosophical Society, *Philosophia Christi*. Flew, a prolific writer, first disclosed his new views in a discussion with several others at New York University organized by the Institute for Metascientific Research. “I think that the most impressive arguments [for God] are those supported by recent scientific discoveries,” he said, even contending that the argument for “intelligent design” is “enormously stronger than it was when I first met it.”

The suicide death of musical conductor **Johnnie Carl**, 57, at the Crystal Cathedral church complex in Garden Grove, California, “deeply saddened” the senior pastor, Robert Schuller. “Johnnie was a beloved member of our church family and a close personal friend,” Schuller said in a statement. Carl, who had struggled with depression, killed himself December 17 in a bathroom at the facility after a nine-hour standoff with police. Carl had been on the staff of the cathedral for almost 30 years and was known worldwide as a composer and conductor. He arranged more than 3,500 musical pieces, according to church officials.