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'The Faithful': A John Grisham / C.S. Lewis Mash-up
Minister joins emerging "religious horror" genre

WHO: Jonathan Weyer - campus minister at Ohio State University, ordained minister in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and author of the debut novel, *The Faithful* (Brio Press, Oct 2010). Weyer, who is currently on a speaking tour for the book, is also the founder of The Thomas Society, a student led ministry dedicated to answering questions from religious skeptics.

WHAT: *TIME* magazine says, "As a first time novelist, Mr. Weyer brings a combination of religion, suspense, and romance in a way that could be compared to authors such as John Grisham, combined with extraordinary C.S. Lewis for prose. His writing style is beyond expectations."

In *The Faithful*, Weyer meets the church, the paranormal, ritualistic murders and magic head on in a haunting, seductive thriller. *The Faithful* incorporates elements comparable to the religious intrigue of *The Da Vinci Code* and dark magic of *Harry Potter*. Through the eyes of the novel's main character, an assistant pastor of a Presbyterian Church, Weyer tells the story of a young man shattered by the ritualistic killing of his ex-fiancée and a minister's loss of faith.

Under the emerging sub-genre, religious horror, this novel leaves the reader questioning the moral values of the church as an historic institution. Weaving strong threads of religious history and writings from the Bible with pop culture references, paranormal situations, and sexual innuendo, Weyer keeps the reader fully immersed in a deeply disturbing and dark scenario. *The Faithful* is not outside the realm of fanatic ritual killings that might actually take place, but Weyer's insight into sacred doctrine sheds light on motives that are buried within a chronological timeline of spiritual teachings.

The Faithful appeals to those who love non-fiction and fictional works, as they are invited into the inner sanctum of holy men where truth may well be stranger than fiction. Weyer combines dogma and sorcery in an intelligent fast-paced style, lending sharp appeal to Christians, agnostics, and atheists.

"This suspenseful debut novel is a spine-tingling addition to the emerging genre of Christian horror (e.g., by Ted Dekker, Tom Pawlik) and is sure to appeal to readers who enjoy tales where good wins over pure evil." – **Library Journal starred review**

Reverend Jonathan Weyer is an editorial contributor for TAPS Paranormal Magazine (The Atlantic Paranormal Society also known for the hit TV series Ghost Hunters). He lives in Columbus, Ohio with his wife and three children. For more information, please visit www.JonathanWeyer.com and follow him at <http://twitter.com/spookypastor> and <http://facebook.com/jonathanweyer>.

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