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## **New Season of CBS Television's "The Amazing Race" Features Metropolitan Community Churches' Clergy**

Los Angeles--Among the contestants on the new season of the CBS reality TV show "The Amazing Race" will be a member of the clergy from the predominantly-gay denomination of Metropolitan Community Churches.

Rev. Mel White, an MCC clergyperson, gay rights activist, and co-founder of Soulforce, will be joined by his son Mike when the new season of "The Amazing Race" begins on Sunday, February 15, at 8 PM Eastern Time.

Rev. White has been a pastor, author, seminary professor and filmmaker -- and was a ghostwriter for evangelical Christian leaders, including Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson, Jim Bakker and Billy Graham, prior to coming out as an openly gay man. He and his husband, Gary Nixon, are co-founders of Soulforce ([www.soulforce.org](http://www.soulforce.org)), a nonprofit organization that works for freedom from religious and political oppression for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people through the practice of relentless nonviolent resistance.

Mel will be joined on this season's show by his youngest son, Mike.

Mike White is a successful Hollywood screenwriter, actor, and producer. Mike's writing credits include the movies "Nacho Libre," "The Good Girl," and "School of Rock," the latter of which he also starred in with Jack Black and Sarah Silverman. He also served as a writer and producer of the TV series "Freaks and Geeks."

The new season of "The Amazing Race" begins on Sunday evening, February 15, on CBS. Check local listings for broadcast time in your area.

Founded in 1968 by Rev. Troy Perry, Metropolitan Community Churches is today the world's largest and oldest Christian denomination with a primary, affirming ministry to lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgender people. Known as "The Human Rights Church," MCC congregations are located in 27 countries. The MCC denomination actively participates in ecumenical and interfaith work, HIV/AIDS ministry, marriage equality, and global justice issues, and is the sponsor of the international "Would Jesus Discriminate?" campaign. Additional information on the MCC movement can be found at [www.MCCchurch.org](http://www.MCCchurch.org).

### **FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

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