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## Tip Sheet for

# **BEYOND THE PEWS:**

## **Breaking With Tradition and Letting Go of Religious Lockdown**

Jillian Maas Backman, minister's daughter, intuitive coach, psychology major, and award winning radio personality brings to readers another viewpoint on religion, spirituality, intuition and love from the soul. She combines her life experiences, along with a lifetime of learning, into an "interactive biography" in her first book, **BEYOND THE PEWS: Breaking With Tradition and Letting Go of Religious Lockdown** (Lake Street Press; August 25, 2011; ISBN 978-1936181346; \$16.95; Trade Paperback).

### **What you need to know about the Book and the Author:**

At a time when chaos seems to reign on the physical earth, human observers see that there is still a need to believe in a higher power, enhancing lessons learned from traditional religious studies and connecting with beings on a higher plane to know God and His divine will.

According to polls ([Newsweek/Beliefnet](#), 2005), 55% of those polled said it was very important to connect with something larger than themselves as a reason for practicing their religion.

**BEYOND THE PEWS** guides readers through soulful exercises as the story of the author's experience is woven into lessons for the average believer to become tuned in to the divine presence within.

**BEYOND THE PEWS** is a culmination of an upbringing within a Christian home and the traditional church, along with insights and messages from a world rarely visible to the naked eye.

**BEYOND THE PEWS** is an extraordinary book which guides readers to a deeper awareness of God's constant loving presence in our lives, to a rebirth from a religious dogmatic cocoon into an active awakened butterfly.

**Jillian Mass Backman** is an award winning on air radio personality with WLKG Fm Radio in Geneva, Wisconsin. Her show, I.T.'s For You, delved into the soul work through on air lessons as well as e-lesson plans creating a unique dynamic. Her new show, Change, Already! Will air in late 2011. [www.jillianmaasbackman.com](http://www.jillianmaasbackman.com)



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Dear Editor/Producer:

**Religion and Spirituality: One in the same or different?**

**According to one poll, about 24% of the United States population identifies itself as spiritual but not religious. (Beliefnet.com)**

**Jillian Maas Backman**

**BEYOND THE PEWS:**

*Breaking With Tradition and Letting Go of Religious Lockdown*

In generations past, traditional religion mandated teachings be heard from the pulpit of organized houses of God. To examine ones spirituality, outside the confines of the church, was hardly conventional and those who explored outside the sanctuary for the embodiment of their spirits often were not looked upon favorably.

Over the past few decades it has become more acceptable to investigate other spiritual paths while searching for a better understanding of the human condition and one's own relationship with the kingdom of God and the Earth He created. This pursuit has led to a convergence of spiritual growth and knowledge which extends beyond what is offered by long-established teachers of religion and unites tradition and current attitudes. **BEYOND THE PEWS** explores the shift that is changing the state of organized religion and offers practical teachings that lead to spirituality beyond dogma.

In **BEYOND THE PEWS**, author **JILLIAN MAAS BACKMAN** references what she calls "spiritual acts of duty." She defines this term as heeding one's calling to a higher existence and living out the soul's intentions. When seen within from the perspective of spirit, however, all of our challenges become opportunities to grow and evolve into a greater awareness of the divine presence.

**BEYOND THE PEWS** is more than a narrative of religion and spirituality, or the chronicles of an intuitive who is tuned in to the "other side," but is considered an "interactive biography" which readers will not only learn about the author and her life through a skillfully written story woven throughout, they are also given exercises in soul work to better enable them to truly find the path toward their personal sacred journey. Readers will learn that traditional Biblical teachings still hold timeless lessons of faith and are never forgotten, but combined with naturally occurring spiritual innocence, a connection to divine wisdom residing in the soul, is the reward.



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**JILLIAN MAAS BACKMAN** is a minister's daughter, a direct descendent of what she calls "American Spiritual Royalty"—an elite subculture of individuals chosen to help God's people down the century's-worn trail toward human salvation. Maas Backman also happens to be an "awakened receiver" who hears angelic communications and soulful insights from a world rarely visible to the naked eye. She has been a catalyst for change in the lives of her numerous clients. Her diverse clientele come to her seeking clarity and healing, and they often leave with an understanding of the greater meaning of their lives. Among those she has guided are corporate executives, international business leaders, celebrity musicians, artists, authors, and school administrators.

**JILLIAN MAAS BACKMAN** is an Award-Winning Radio Personality and Intuitive Life Coach. She addresses the spiritual and emotional sides of everyday life through personal interaction with people she meets during her life's journey. With her degree in psychology from the University of Texas in San Antonio, she is able to see beyond the surface and deep into the self to understand human nature and emotion, the complete person.

**JILLIAN MAAS BACKMAN is available for national and local media interviews. Please call us at your earliest convenience to discuss media opportunities.**

Sincerely,

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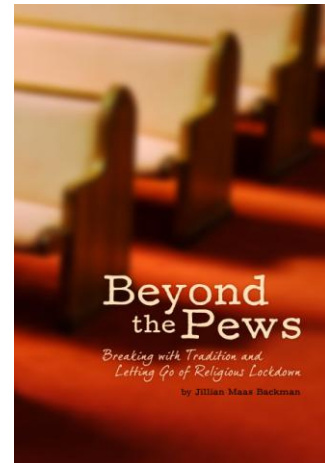
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Award-Winning Radio Host and Intuitive Coach, Jillian Maas Backman, Launches BEYOND THE PEWS**

**Interactive Biography Captures the Essence of Traditional Religion and a Spiritual Evolution**

The acclaimed Intuitive Life Facilitator and award winning radio host, Jillian Maas Backman, has written what she's termed as an "interactive biography" which weaves the story of her life into a working lesson plan allowing readers to understand their personal journey towards intuitive enlightenment and self-discovery.

Jillian Maas Backman is the quintessential preacher's daughter, raised in the traditional church, honoring her faith and her church, while tapping into intuitive abilities discovered early in her childhood. The self-awareness of her soulful connections, melded with her intellect and intuition, culminated in an understanding of how this process could enlighten all aspects of her life, while at the same time seeking to enlighten others.



**BEYOND THE PEWS** is part poetry, part biography, and a complete guide to personal and natural communications, not forsaking traditional religious doctrine, but enhancing the contribution to the essential nature of divine intuition. As an intuitive explorer, Maas Backman and her book encourage readers to seek and embrace their own true essence and ignite the divine grace which exists within each of us.

Through a series of exercises included in **BEYOND THE PEWS**, readers create a personal "Spiritual Intuitive Handbook" in which responses are recorded to each "soul work" lesson, provided to give a clear picture of the work and its progression.



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According to Jillian Maas Backman, “You have the capability of tapping into this abundant resource of positive energy if you do it for the right reasons. So that the information you receive is not misused, you must become clear on your intentions for committing to this type of awakened sensing.”

The information contained in **BEYOND THE PEWS** works synergistically with traditional beliefs, expanding the senses through tapping into the messages of the soul, leading to a greater awakening to God’s spirit and His divine plan.

**BEYOND THE PEWS** is Jillian Maas Backman’s beautifully written experience and instruction offered to readers that reveal the essential love that is God.

Jillian Maas Backman can be heard on WLKG FM broadcasting from Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. Her new program, “Change, Already!” will debut in late 2011.

**Book Details:**

Title: **Beyond The Pews**

Author: Jillian Maas Backman

- Trade Paperback: 192 pages
- Publisher: Lake Street Press (August 25, 2011)
- Language: English
- ISBN-10: 1936181347
- ISBN-13: 978-1936181346
- Available at all online and local book retailers



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## Praise for Jillian Maas Backman's

### BEYOND THE PEWS

*Jillian Maas Backman is a gifted intuitive, a generous and amazing empath, and a treasured teacher who brings all of those characteristics and qualities into each of our homes with her new autobiography and spiritual guidebook, **Beyond the Pews**. Now a new face on the publishing scene, Backman empowers each of us with her hands-on best life blueprint while also showing each of us how to easily but very effectively develop our own innate intuitive abilities. A fascinating read and a tremendously powerful tool to make dreams come true!*  
—**Ellen Whitehurst, bestselling author of *Make This Your Lucky Day* and *CEO of Experience Your Extraordinary Life*** ([www.ellenwhitehurst.com](http://www.ellenwhitehurst.com))

*This is a very moving, original wise memoir of someone who travels beyond the narrow confines of institutional Christianity to a broader embrace of the authentic mystical path. I am certain it will help and inspire all those who are looking for a more universal spirituality.....***Andrew Harvey, author of *The Hope a Guide to Sacred Activism***

*Beyond the Pews is a wonderful blend of spiritual growth work, relationship with God guidebook, and autobiography. Jillian has not only shared her personal journey beautifully, but she has also shared how we can grow in our spiritual relationship with God. Perhaps you will be awakened by the small, still voice calling you!....***Edward F. Leonard, PhD President Bethany College**

*"**Beyond the Pews** is a beautifully written, illuminating book. The author's experiences and lessons She offers to readers reveal the essential love that is God—the medicine that can cure all." ...***Swami Mohan Das Bairagi**

*"Jillian Mass Backman is an intuitive explorer; her unique exercises show you how to become aware of the presence of divine intuition in nature, in yourself, and in other people. **Beyond the Pews** is filled with psychic-spiritual epiphanies and insightful exercises for increasing intuition and appreciating the awesomeness of life." ....***Dennis Fairchild, author of *The Kitchen Tarot* and *The Fortune-telling Handbook***



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## Additional Praise for Jillian Maas Backman's

### BEYOND THE PEWS

*"Jillian Maas Backman is an extraordinary teacher. For years she has been guiding her clients along the path of self-discovery to peace and understanding. Now her astounding book, **Beyond the Pews**, is destined to transform countless more lives." ....**Susan Murphy Milano, violence expert, author of Times Up: How to Safely Leave an Abusive and Stalking Relationship***

*"In **Beyond The Pews** Jillian Maas Backman delicately and necessarily bridges the gap between religion and spirituality, showing that there is no difference at all when you listen to the inner voice and follow your heart. Her personal trials and discoveries inspired her to embrace her true essence. She encourages her readers to seek their own answers as she provides guidance along the path of creative self-discovery and ignites that which already exists within." ....**April Claxton, CEO and Founder of The Movement Within, author of The Movement Within: 8 Steps to Ignite The Movement Within You and The Power of Self Love: A Mini Book.***

*"This book is part biography, part poetry, and all spiritual guidance. It's the story of the growth of an intuitive, and it's a workbook for readers to come to understand and contribute to the essential interdependence of human and angelic beings. Backman writes with color and grace, and invites us all on a journey of pure joy." .... **Louise Marley, author of Mozart's Blood and The Brahms Deception***



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## About Jillian Maas Backman



Jillian Mass Backman is an Award-Winning Radio Personality and Intuitive Life Facilitator. Her work reflects the deepest questions of life.

A graduate from the University of Texas in San Antonio, with a degree in psychology which equipped her with the foundation to see and articulate understanding human nature, emotion and response.

Her groundbreaking work in the criminal justice system embraced the “Alternatives to Juvenile Delinquency” programs. Utilizing the knowledge, along with her degree in psychology, she embarked on her career.

The quintessential preacher’s daughter, she was raised in the traditional church, honoring her faith and her church, while tapping into her intuitive abilities. The self-awareness of her soulful connections, melded with her intellect and intuition, culminated in an understanding of how this process could enlighten all aspects of her life, while at the same time seeking to enlighten others.

Through years of study and experience Maas Backman developed her career around her intuitive ability to assist those who required a distinctive, natural healing and knowledge, that of the soul. She opened a successful spa and wellness center in Wisconsin, and before long requests for her to speak and teach poured in from around the globe. The next step became clear as she developed her message for the masses. Radio would be the logical extension for enlightening others. In Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, at [WLKG.FM](http://WLKG.FM) she could be heard teaching live from inside the studio with her show “**I.T.S’s For You.**” Her show became an interactive opportunity for her audience as she created “e-lessons” that could be downloaded directly from her Website.

This groundbreaking approach allowed the audience a step-by-step method that would be incorporated into their daily lives. Jillian’s world-wide client base includes corporate executives, international business leaders, celebrity musicians, artists and school administrators.

**BEYOND THE PEWS**, is a brilliant insight bringing the readers from the pews to empowerment. Her new show titled the show, “**Change, Already!**,” debuts in the fall of 2011.

Jillian Maas Backman is the author of **BEYOND THE PEWS: Breaking With Tradition and Letting Go of Religious Lockdown**, an interactive journey exploring the presence of divine intuition and how combining it with tradition illuminates the true essence of our human beings.



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## Suggested Interview Questions

**Jillian Maas Backman, Author**

### **BEYOND THE PEWS**

1. When a person has gone through a traumatic experience, they may be struggling with upsetting emotions, frightening memories, or a sense of constant danger that the person just can't kick. Or a person can feel numb, disconnected, and unable to trust other people. Talk about the importance of this as it relates to your book.
2. Can you give an explanation of "soul work" and the lesson plans in **BEYOND THE PEWS** as it applies to the average person who is involved in a traditional church?
3. Bad things happen to all of us why is it that some people seemingly can shake it off and others cannot?
4. Are there specific signs or sensory perceptions that one should recognize as being from divine beings?
5. Are we better equipped to handle trauma at certain stages of our lives?
6. Why is it important for readers of **BEYOND THE PEWS** to do the lesson plans?
7. One of the goals for the book you provide is to understand it's not the objective facts that determine whether an event is traumatic, but your *subjective emotional experience* of the event. The more frightened and helpless you feel, the more likely you are to be traumatized.
8. In **BEYOND THE PEWS** you talk about your childhood experiences and the ability to communicate with angelic beings, do you think human beings are chosen , or is this ability available to everyone?
9. People are more likely to be traumatized by a stressful experience if they're already under a heavy stress load or have recently suffered a series of losses.
10. Why is it important to balance ego in order to gain clarity?
11. In **BEYOND THE PEWS** you talk about a spiritual "second awakening." Do you see this as being a fringe ideology or something that can or will become mainstream thinking.
12. Where does one find their own "spiritual leader?" How would you describe the ability to recognize this leader, and are they on a higher spiritual plane?
13. Do we as human beings play different roles within the spiritual world? How does one define what that role may be?
14. After reading **BEYOND THE PEWS** will readers move earthly habits out of the way and receive enlightenment?



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## EVENTS

August 25, 2011 - ***Invocation and Book Launch, Bethany College, Bethany, KS***

September 14, 2011 - ***Rainy Day Books, Kansas City, KS***

September 15, 2011 - ***Highland Community College Presentation, Highland, KS "The World View From Within"***

October 14-15, 2011 - ***Great Lakes Independent Booksellers Fair, Featured Author, representing Wicker Park Press***

November 9, 2011 - ***Boswell Books, Milwaukee, WI, Author Event***

November 16-17, 2011 – ***Private Consultations, Delavan, WI***

November 19-20, 2011-***Chicago Book Expo, 2011***

December 13-14, 2011-***Private Consultations, Lake Forest, IL***