

“Growing God’s Family To Share God’s Word”

First Christian Church



Visitor

Volume 62, Number 17

January 5, 2005

TSUNAMI RELIEF

Just one day after the Week of Compassion Committee approved an initial pledge of \$250,000 on behalf of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to earthquake and tsunami relief in southern Asia, the overwhelming outpouring of support from Disciples members and friends has enabled Week of Compassion to wire \$55,000 to Church World Service to cover the cost of the first of 3 shipments WOC will fund as part of the major humanitarian response CWS is mounting in the aftermath of a natural and human disaster of historic proportion. Each shipment costs \$50,000 but is valued at more than \$500,000 and is comprised of material aid requested by our local partners on the ground and includes food, family shelter kits, health\hygiene kits and medicines. By sending money through Week of Compassion 100% of donations go to tsunami relief, not administrative or overhead expense. Our annual Week of Compassion offering that is taken each February provides a ready and compassionate response to world disasters. One of the major concerns in the aftermath of this calamity is the impact on children. It is estimated that a third of the now more than 120,000 people killed were children. Tens of thousands have been left orphaned, traumatized and vulnerable to a host of problems. Last Sunday we collected a special offering to help with the tsunami relief and we will be collecting again this Sunday.

DEACONS MEETING

All Deacons are encouraged to attend a brief meeting immediately following the service Sunday morning in the sanctuary. The meeting is to elect a new chairperson.

TRANSYLVANIA CHOIR

Don't forget the concert at 7:30 P.M. Saturday night at the college, and Sunday morning here at the church. Potluck lunch will follow!

MEMBERS IN THE MILITARY

Spc. Zach Street, Capt. Tom Waters, Spc. Michael Gayso, Danny Randolph, Keith Michels, CPL William Cotner, SPC Matthew Buchanan, Troy Street, LCPL Jon E. Arnold, Chaplain Major Jim Summers, SPC 4 Mark Homan, Jonathan Smith and Joe Swift.

OPERATION PRAYER SHIELD

Please keep all those in service whose pictures are on display in our lobby in your prayers.

SERVING IN JANUARY

Diaconate: Ray Street, Paula Street, Ricki Hays, Bryan Calverley, Debbie Calverley, Marc Calverley, Lisa Benedict, Ben Benedict

Custodial Deacon: Ray Street

Communion Preparers: Evelyn Frick & Mary Jo Birley

Acolytes:

Camera Person:

Elder on Call: Pat Williams

Sanctuary Straightener: Eudine Tyler

ELDERS SERVING

January 9, 2005: Gary Bellessa & Larry Peterson



Those listed: Orlando E., Guy More, Trudy Lewis, Margaret Brookheart, Gladys Pope, Dave Duell, Frances Wood, Jeff Ankenbrand, Harold Meadows, Julie Wahler Girtten, Eleanor Smith, Patty Sutton, Wanda Robinson, Ray Farrar, Don McClane, Jake Raibley, Nell Kinney, Bonnie Burns, Alice Warmoth, Bea Alka, Phyllis Crow, Dwight Hughey, Edythe Randolph, Mary Lucille Cox, our country, its leaders and all service men and women.

JIM'S NEW E-MAIL AND SNAIL MAIL ADDRESS

Chaplain Major Leslie J. Summers, Jr.
332 AEW/HC

APO AE 09315-9997

Email: leslie.summers@blab.centaf.af.mil

GUEST PREACHER

Our Regional Minister and President, Dr. Herb Knudsen, will be our guest preacher on Sunday, February 13th. There is a copy of his State of the Region address from the Regional Assembly in the church office. Read the address and come hear him preach to learn more about our Regional church.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Our denomination's General Assembly will be held July 23-27, 2005 in Portland, OR. Highlights include:

- *A keynote address by Dr. Samuel Kabia – General Secretary of the World Council of Churches
- *Installation of the next General Minister and President
- *Daily Bible lectures
- *An Elders Conference
- *Vision Fest – A celebration of congregational ministries
- *Youth worship
- *A cultural Festival
- *Pre-Worship concerts
- *Area mission projects

If you are interested in more details or want to attend, please contact Jackie very soon.

GATHERING FOR WOMEN 2005

“Global Positioning – Search for God’s Direction” is the theme. We will go on Saturday, April 2nd, to the Holiday Inn at Mt. Vernon, IL. The cost before March 15 is \$22.00. See the church office for registration forms. This is a nice day out for women to relax, think about your faith and how you practice your faith. All women of the church and friends are welcome.

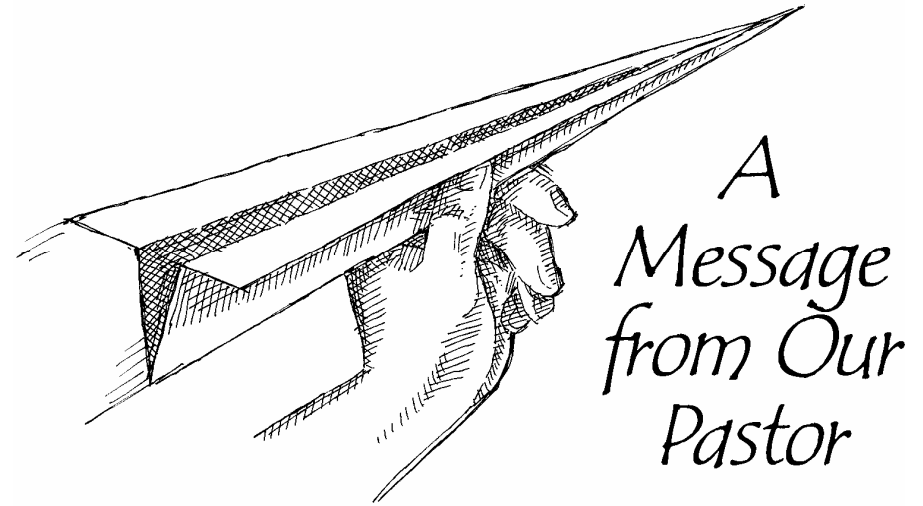
OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2005 offering envelopes are in the lobby in front of the elevator and are ready to be picked up.

SYMPATHY

Sympathy is extended to the family of Grace Sigler who passed away this past week.

Grace Sigler
2-27-24 to 12-31-04



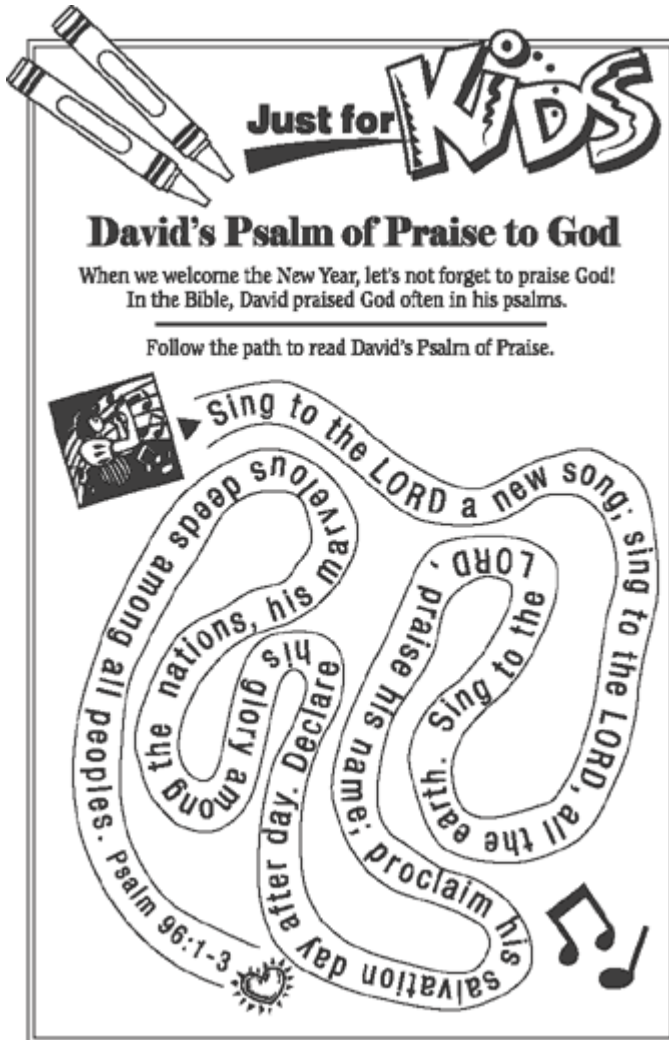
Dear Everyone,

As you all have heard by now I have arrived alive and well in my duty station in Iraq. Ian Wiser wrote me a letter along with his family and asked me to answer some questions about where I am. I know most of you want to know the same answers to the same questions so here goes. Ian asked me what is it like in Iraq. Well, believe it or not right now at night it is cold and I have to wear a coat outside. The daytime is also chilly with temperatures in the 40s through 60s. You often hear about the 120 degree heat and it does get that way in the summertime. It will warm up before I get home and yet I should miss the worst heat. Ian asked me if I have seen any Iraqis. The answer is yes. I have seen them here on the base. They are dark haired, dark skinned people who are mostly very respectful and want a free nation of their own. Ian asked if I have to sleep in a tent. No, I get to sleep in a trailer. I guess rank has its privileges. The main thing you need to know is that I am safe and I miss you all. Keep the prayers coming and I will write you again soon.

God Bless You All,
Jim

LOGOS CAMP REUNION

Want to go to Logos Camp Reunion? The applications are in the church office, stop by and pick one up. It's only \$10.00! Reunion will be held Friday, January 14th starting at 7:30 P.M. and go until Saturday, January 15th at 10:00 A.M. Amanda says the van will be leaving from the church parking lot at 4:30 P.M. Bring money for supper on Friday and a snack on the way home on Saturday! Try to get your applications turned in by Wednesday, January 12th!



JIM

**SUMMERS
 JACKIE MEECE SUMMERS
 CO-PASTORS
 PARSONAGE PHONE (618)263-0714
 CHURCH (618)262-7331 & (618)262-7344 FAX: (618)262-5774
jfccmc@mtcarmelonline.com – Pastors Email
fccmc@shawneelink.net – Office Email
www.geocities.com/fcc_doc_mc - Website
www.afnews.af.mil/iraq/balad.htm - Balad AFB Website**

SUNDAY SERVICE – Jan. 9th

Sermon: “No Partiality”
 Rev. Jackie Summers
 Scripture: Acts 10:34-48
 Morning Worship 9:30 AM
 Sunday School 10:30 AM

**WATCHING OUR FIGURES
 Sunday Worship**

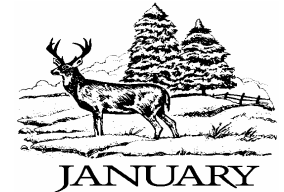
1/2 119

CHURCH SCHOOL

<u>Date</u>	<u>Tea.</u>	<u>Pupils</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Offering</u>
1/2	6	43	49	25.00

OFFERING – Jan. 2nd

General	\$3,867.35
Church School	25.00
TOTAL-General Offering:	\$3,892.35
Helping Hand	20.00
Elevator	10.00
Initial Offering	26.00
Building Use	15.00
Tsunami Relief	323.00
Transylvania Pizza	20.00
TOTAL-Special Offering:	\$414.00
Grand Total Offering:	\$4,306.35



**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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 803 Market Street
 Mt. Carmel, IL 62863-1499**

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