

Christian Church of God Newsletter



The Pastor's Pen

January 2005

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Hello!

As we bid farewell to 2004, we are shocked and saddened by the earthquake-induced tsunami that ravaged the coasts of a number of Asian countries. As we watch news reports and see the death toll climbing towards 100,000 at the time of this newsletter writing, the horror and terror is overwhelming.

As Christians, we are moved with compassion, praying for God's healing touch and looking

for ways to assist those poor souls trying to survive the aftermath of those towering walls of water. We are taking up an offering in Amarillo and the Church will be adding some funds from our assistance fund to send to those suffering in Asia.

Tragedies such as this deadly tsunami remind us of our vulnerability to the power of nature and of our need for God. Over and over we see that mankind cannot solve our problems nor protect us from all dan-

ger. God allows such disasters for He has given man the power to rule this world, use it as we wish live under the rule of free moral agency.

Look at *Psalm 8:4-6*,

"What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him? For You have made him a little lower than the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honor. You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; |>

Special points of interest:

- On the lighter side: Mother taught me . . .
- The world's suffering — hope beyond this age
- Plans for a new year

Paint Bucket Donations



Still need

\$550.00

Please donate if

Pastor's Class



You are cordially invited to attend a special series examining the preexistence and deity of Jesus entitled JESUS, MAN OR GOD? An in-depth Biblical study to determine if Jesus is deity and therefore pre-existed, or if Jesus was man, coming into existence at His birth to the virgin Mary.

Beginning January 15th in our Continuing Education Program. Currently meeting at 10:45 a.m. each Sabbath.

On the Lighter Side: “I OWE MY MOTHER!”

MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME . . .

1. . . . TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE: “If you’ re going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning! ”
2. . . . RELIGION: “You better pray that will come out of this carpet! ”
3. . . . TIME TRAVEL: “If you don ’t straighten up I ’ m going to knock you into the middle of next week!”
4. . . . LOGIC: “Because I said so, that ’s why! ”
5. . . . HOW TO PLAN AHEAD: “If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, you ’re not going to the store with me! ”
6. . . . IRONY: “Keep crying and I ’ll give you something to cry about! ”
7. . . . SCIENCE OF OSMOSIS: “shut your mouth and eat your supper! ”
8. . . . CONTORTIONISM: “ Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck!”
9. . . . STAMINA: “You ’ll sit there until all that spinach is gone! ”
10. . . . HYPOCRISY: “if I ’ve told you once I ’ve told you a million times, don’ t exaggerate! ”

Do You Have a Plan? Do You Have a Plan?

Another year just slipped through our fingers like sand. If we dwell on its losses we’ll probably get caught in a whirlpool of regrets and sorrows. So, it’s best to recall the bad times, the sad times, only to learn from any mistakes we might have made. Our fallen soldiers in Iraq, our fallen Christian soldiers at home, those dead and dying in the natural disaster in Asia, we honor with our grief. But we must face tomorrow. Hopefully, a little wiser and a little more determined to make our lives count for others and God.

So how do we change? How do we accomplish more? How do we make this year better?

It takes a plan. Do you have one, or will you simply sigh and shrug your shoulders, and repeat the famous line from *Gone With the Wind*: “I’ll think about that tomorrow”? MacDonald, in *Ordering Your Private World* insists that we have to plan our lives as Christians.

J B Phillips transliterates Paul’s power-packed statement in Ephesians 5: 15-17, “Live life, then, with a due sense of responsibility, not as men who do not know the meaning and purpose of life but as *those who do*. Make the best use of your time, despite all the difficulties of these days. Don’t be vague, but firmly grasp what you know to be the will of God.”

That kind of planning will translate into a happy new year!

~ JDM

PRAYER REQUESTS: “ . . . The prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up; . . . Pray for one another that you may be healed.” — James 5:15-16.



Julia McKinney — Underwent removal of a malignant tumor and will be undergoing radiation. Judy is resting at home.

Vickie Crevoi — chronic progressive MS (Linda Booth’s sister)

Rickey Wright — severe stroke, now in therapy (Tracie Strahan’s cousin)

Hank Unruh — two-year battle with cancer (friend of John Stickel)

Dollie Meil — cerebral palsy

Carrie McClenan —weekly dialysis for

severe kidney failure

Audrey Strahl — irregular heartbeat (Jeff Booth’s mother)

Kathryn Scott — severe MS, losing use of arms and swallowing ability (friend of Baileys)

Randy Gnessett — pulmonary hypertension and awaiting a lung for transplant (friend of Candace Sellers)

Velvet Green — schizophrenia (Gary’s wife)

Amber & Dylan Clark — cerebral palsy (grandchildren of Betty Clark)

Nell Foster — nursing home, dementia and blood clots in leg (friend of Betty Clark)

Ralph Moore — colon cancer (Francis Carlson’s uncle)

Dan Copenhauer — disabled, chronic pain (Betty Clark’s brother)

Bob Wertz — achalasia, a disorder of the esophagus

CELEBRATIONS



MONTH of JANUARY	
BIRTHDAYS	
Virginia Sellers	2nd
Francis Carlson	4th
Rudolph Rankin	15th

Norma Hamilton	25th
Roy Carlson	31st
ANNIVERSARIES	
Darrell & Linda Sehorn	6th

Sing songs from your heart to Christ. Sing praises over everything, any excuse for a song to God the Father in the name of our Master, Jesus Christ. ~ Ephesians 5:19-20, Msg.

Hymns for

Psalms have always been a part of Judeo-Christian worship. Centuries of worship did not include hymn books, but were expressions of worshipers whose lives were steeped in the Scriptures. It often began by “lining-out,” where a clerk would give out a line

of a song line-by-line, singing the words for the congregation to hear and repeat. Eventually men like Martin Luther wrote many hymns utilizing popular folk tunes, earning his new churches the moniker “The Singing Churches.” Many of

these hymns were lost because of oral tradition without any printed tunes or words. The popularity of hymnbooks took off with the growth of Methodism in the 1700s, the Wesley family discovering the power of congregational singing. A century later, Dwight Moody

rejuvenated the concept which remains vibrant to this day.



Christian Church of God

Praise the LORD.

Praise God in his
sanctuary;

praise him in his
mighty heavens.

PS 150:1



Christian Church of God

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Happy New Year!

11. . . . ENVY: " there

Looking Back

To what might have been in a.d. 55 . . .

are millions of
world who don 't have

12. . . . ANTICIPATION:

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less fortunate children in this
wonderful parents like you do! "

" Just wait until we get home. "

"This is a letter from Paul. And these are some
study guides, maps, and workbooks I've made
available on a no-risk, ten-day trial offer."

And as we approach the 55th Inauguration of the President of the U. S. on January 20, we
look back . . .

- In 1793, George Washington's address was only 135 words.
- African Americans first participated in the inaugural parade in 1865, at Abraham Lincoln's second inauguration.
- On November 22, 1963, U. S. District Judge Sarah T. Hughes became the first woman to administer the oath when she swore in Lyndon Johnson aboard Air Force One after John Kennedy's death.
- In 1997, Bill Clinton's inaugural ceremony became the first broadcast on the internet.

—Reprinted from Uhlig Communications,

Looking Forward

To a new year . . .

"Drop last year into the silent
limbo of the past. Let it go, for
it was imperfect, and thank
God that it can go. —Atkinson

"Each age has deemed the
new-born year the fittest time
for festal cheer.

—Sir Walter Scott

"An optimist stays up until
midnight to see the new year
in. A pessimist stays up to
make sure the old year leaves."

—Bill Vaughan

Pastor's Pen, cont.

You have put all things under his feet" (NKJV).

For God to prohibit natural disasters would mean that God has established His kingdom on this earth, an event yet in the future, after man's tenure of reign has run its course. And of course, when we pray, "thy kingdom come", that is exactly what we are asking for; a time yet future when there shall be no more disasters, pain, suffering or loss. A time John saw in the vision of Revelation.

Rev 21:1-4, "Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." (NKJV)

It is the duty of all of us to lend a helping hand when our neighbors are in need. I am confident that the people of America will rise up with the generosity and helping hand that has consistently shown that, the U.N. and anti-Christian humanists notwithstanding, we are still a nation "under God"!

Let us resolve to grow in Christian faith, commitment and works of love for 2005.

May The Lord Be With You And Your House This Year!

Jeff Booth

Condolences to the family of Sam Kiser who lost his battle with cancer on December 19th. Our prayers and thoughts to the family.

