



WindSong NOTES

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Formerly Sixth and Izard

SERVING THE GREATER LITTLE ROCK AREA

Volume 5

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Number 1



Purpose, Ministry, and Mission

Bobby B. Boaldin

In January 2006, we began a series of sermons based on our purpose statement as a congregation. Also, using WINDSONG as an acronym we brought lessons on the “Eight Principles that Guide the Mission and Ministry of WindSong.” I find it hard to believe it has been a year since we began this study. This year has been busy and productive. The Lord has blessed us in many ways. I am confident that many of those blessing have come because we honored God through our planning and preparation. The purpose statement that we adopted and the mission and ministry focus that we have implemented have provided us with not only an overall direction for our journey, but also the details of how to get there. Revisiting our purpose statement and mission and ministry strategy on a regular basis is essential. In fact, as these words are being typed, I am certain this is something I did not do enough from the pulpit in 2006 and I prayerfully plan to remedy this in 2007.

Another way I hope to keep our purpose, mission, and ministry before us is to write a series of articles here in *WindSong Notes*. Lord willing, each month for the next few months we will examine not only what the Scriptures say about our purpose, mission, and

—Continued on Page 3

Happy New Year 2007



Austin Carlisle



Victoria Hill



Dyllan Priest



Joseph Shields



Joshua Wade



Noah Walker

“Yes,” replied Jesus, “have you never read,
From the lips of children and infants
you have ordained praise?”

Matthew 21:16

THINKING OF OTHERS

Yet, taught by time, my heart has learned to glow
For other's good, and melt at other's woe.
Homer—Odyssey

What is the word we write most often in our check book? "Self?"

Is it not true that we live in a world of selfishness? Everyone seems bent on getting what he wants, even if it is at the expense of others.

One man lived a different kind of life. He was always thinking of others. It caused Him to leave heaven and come to earth. He became one with us in all of our trials and temptations.

He had compassion on the hungry crowds and fed them. His loving heart went out to the sick and sinful. He showed love and kindness to the lame, the blind, the demon possessed. He was there for His disciples in the storm. Even as he was on his way to the Cross, He stopped to heal blind Bartimaeus. And in the hour of His arrest, His concern was for His disciples. As His enemies approached to serve what would prove to be His death warrant he asked, "Who is it you want?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus' response was, "I am he." Then He added, "If you are looking for me, then let these men go." Even in that hour He was thinking of His disciples.

Fast-forward to the Cross. While dying, He makes provision for His mother. And He is still thinking of others when He prays, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

After His resurrection He is thinking of Peter who had denied Him at His trial, and made a special appearance to this sorrowful disciple.

What Homer said he learned "by time," I have learned "by Christ." And I would change Homer's lines to read:

Yet, taught by Christ, my heart has learned to glow
For other's good, and melt at other's woe.

**JOHN GIPSON
WINDSONG CHURCH OF CHRIST**



A World of Partnering

Bill McDonough

“Ship of Life”—After months of waiting, praying and working, the Prime Minister of Cambodia signed the necessary documents for the “Ship of Life” to be brought into the country duty free. I was informed by the Minister of Health that we would be able to bring the boat up the river from Saigon, Vietnam, in January.

Partners In Progress Chorus—Under the direction of **Claude Lewis**, the Partners In Progress Chorus presented a program of ten songs at the Hotel Royal in Phnom Penh, on Sunday, December 2nd, for the enjoyment of one hundred sixty-nine family and friends. We expected a large crowd and were not disappointed. We met the family and friends of many of our students and young Christians. Claude has been working with the group for three months. They were wonderfully received and thrilled to get to make the presentation to their friends and families. We made more than one hundred new friendships with people who are connected to the young Christians and many of them asked to study with us. This response again demonstrated the wonderful opportunities that exist here to share the hope we have in Jesus.

Russ and Rosemary Burcham from Kennett, Missouri, arrived to take over the direction of the English Bible Study program for the next four months. Dr. & Mrs. Burcham have worked two months a year for the last three years here in Cambodia, as well as across Europe, and are eminently qualified. They are one of three couples who are working on a rotational basis to direct this productive teaching program.

Euro/American Retreat—Having served as a director of this meeting of missionaries from across Europe for more than twenty years, we stepped down at the close of this year’s meeting in Berchtesgaden, Germany, and handed the baton to a committee with young leadership. **Phil Jackson**, long-term missionary to Romania, was chosen to

fill the position and we know he will do an excellent job. We have enjoyed serving missionaries families who attend from as many as twenty-four nations each year and will be praying that this event can continue to encourage European missionaries for another forty-three years.

Mali, Africa, Medical Mission—We accepted a request from **Dr. Phil Slate** to assist the North Boulevard church in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, in conducting a Medical Mission in Mali in November. We co-led the team with **Dr. Jeremy Harrison** to treat one thousand patients and strengthen two congregations which North Boulevard co-sponsors with a congregation from Ghana in a unique approach to missions.

Now feeding eight hundred kids in nine villages—Sovann and Bora, our Nutritional team, drive one hundred and twenty to two hundred and fifty miles five days a week to deliver nutritional food to our kids. While I was away for three weeks, they increased the number of children they feed to more than eight hundred. By altering their routes, the team figured out how they could work in one more village. Sovann said, “There are so many little children who need food, we just felt we had to do more to get it to them.” Many of you are partners in this work.

Purpose—from Page 1

ministry, but also evaluate our activity from the previous year and our planned activity for this year based on these benchmarks. Everything we do and plan to do as a congregation needs to be assessed on the basis of our purpose and strategy. If an activity, program or event does not enhance, augment, or facilitate our overall aim, we should not invest the volunteer man-hours needed for that activity, program, or event. The volunteer time that members of WindSong give to the work of this congregation is too precious to spend on something that does not fulfill our purpose or strategy.

In closing, I want to challenge those who are members of WindSong to recite from memory our Purpose Statement. If you were able to do so, take it one step farther and recite one or more of the letters from the WINDSONG Strategy from memory. Is it important to be able to do so? The Purpose Statement and Strategy remind us of the reasons we exist, where we are going and what we are about as a congregation. I think that makes them very important. What are you doing to fulfill the purpose, ministry, and mission of the WindSong congregation?

8 Principles that Guide the Mission and Ministry of WindSong

- W**orship with Services Geared Toward Edification and Evangelism
- I**mplement Methods for Reaching WindSong Neighbors
- N**ourish the People with Applicable Messages
- D**riven by our Purpose Statement
- S**hepherd the Church Applying a Christ-like Model
- O**perate from the Premise of Every-Member-Ministry
- N**urture an Atmosphere of Unity and Love
- G**row Individually and Numerically Through Growth Groups

Our WindSong Purpose Statement

We believe
a great commitment
to the
Great Commandment
and the
Great Commission
will grow a
great Church.

BULLETIN BOARD

OUR DECEMBER RECORD

Average Attendance.....206
Average Contribution.....\$14,277

Restored

Jessica McCullough
Pamela Sanders

With Sympathy

We express our sympathy to the family of **Andrew Brady**, who died on Sunday, December 3. Our sympathy is also extended to the students, teachers, and staff of Central Arkansas Christian Schools. The funeral was Wednesday, December 6, with the interment following at Marcus Hill Cemetery in Enola, Arkansas. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Central Arkansas Christian Schools or to Camp Wyldewood.

Our sympathy is expressed to **Melinda Nelson Herring** and **Steven Nelson** on the death of their father, **Charles Nelson**, on Sunday, December 3. There was a graveside service in North Little Rock, Arkansas, on Monday, December 11.

We extend our sympathy to **Stan and Judy Jones** and **Christie Kischer** on the death of Stan's father, **Vernon Jones**, on Friday, December 8. The funeral was Tuesday, December 12, in Omaha, Nebraska.



Christmas
Cafe



Hosted by
Our Teens



CONNECTIONS

Congratulations to **Erica Favers** and **Taylor Hinson**, who were married on Wednesday, November 29, in White Hall, Arkansas. The couple will be living in Sheridan.

Congratulations to **Lindsay Hickerson**, who graduated from Harding University on Saturday, December 16, with a BS in Art.

Russell and **Rachel Messer** were married at WindSong on Saturday, December 16. Congratulations and best wishes for many happy years together.