



# WindSong NOTES

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Formerly Sixth and Izard

SERVING THE GREATER LITTLE ROCK AREA

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Number 2



## Searching for Additional Shepherds

Bobby B. Boaldin

The second Sunday in February our WindSong Family will begin a search for additional shepherds to serve with our current leaders. The first step in this process will be having our adult Sunday morning Bible classes combine and meet in the auditorium. The plan is to study the basics concerning the eldership. Topics, Lord willing, will include: "What Are Elders?"; "Why Have Elders?"; "The New Testament Names Used to Describe Elders and Their Implications"; "The Biblical Qualifications for Elders"; "The Role of the Elders in the Congregation" and "The Role of the Congregation toward Elders." The goal of this study is to familiarize and/or re-familiarize our WindSong Family with the basics concerning who an elder is, and what an elder does. Time will be taken to address any questions or concerns our members may have about the role and responsibilities of those who serve in this capacity. This study will last as long as is needed to cover the material and answer questions.

The second step in this process will be for our congregation to submit the names of those we would like to see serve as elders. Our current leaders will examine the list of the names submitted. Special attention will be given to the candidates who have the confidence of a larger number of our members. In order

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## Women of WindSong



The **Women of WindSong** meet once each month for fellowship and/or service projects. Last month **WOW** met for a "Tacky Brunch" at the building. We enjoyed eating from miss-matched leftover place settings on a patchwork of several seasons of tablecloths. The service project this month is a **Valentine's Day Parent's Night Out**. Any parent(s) who would like to leave their children at the building from 5-9 p.m. on Thursday, February 14, should sign up at the Welcome Center.

## VALENTINE'S DAY

Think back. Way back. All the way to high school, and your first encounter with Geoffrey Chaucer and his *Canterbury Tales*. What a joy it was attempting to decipher the English language of the thirteen hundreds! (Maybe you even had the thrill of memorizing some of those lines. I know I did.)

Now I am being told that the first recorded association of Valentine's Day with romantic love is in *Parlement of Foules* (1382) by our old friend, Geoffrey Chaucer:

*For this was on seynt Volantynys day  
When euery bryd comyth there to chese  
[choose] his make [mate].*

In modern times Valentine's Day symbolizes showing love through cards, candy and flowers (I wonder who thought that up?).

Would you like to show your love in a different sort of way? The apostle Paul, long before Chaucer, tells us how:

“Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things” (1 Corinthians 13:4-7 RSV).

I have a hunch that anyone would appreciate being showered with this kind of affection on Valentine's Day. What do you think?

**JOHN GIPSON  
WINDSONG CHURCH OF CHRIST**



## Asia Is Ready

Bill McDonough

Asia is rapidly becoming the most receptive area of the world to the gospel according to many mis-siologists. As its billions of people (sixty-three percent of the world's population) are awakening to the hope Christ provides, they are responding in large numbers. You are to be commended for your oversight of works in China and Southeast Asia. Know that the Lord is pleased with your concern for these lost souls, most of whom have never even heard the name of Jesus before.

Burma (Myanmar), a country of forty-seven million, is showing great receptivity as it struggles to survive under a very oppressive dictator. We are leading a team to Myanmar next month to follow-up with some of the more than four thousand correspondence students who have responded to our advertisements for Bible correspondence study. Please be prayerful about this work.

The new University church here in Phnom Penh had a record attendance of sixth-three last week. Made up of bright, young university students who have come to the Lord through their study with our English Bible Study teachers, this congregation is growing steadily. The mutual ministry program is providing capable leadership as they are learning to teach, preach, and evangelize. I have been teaching a leadership class each Saturday morning. Marie-Claire is teaching three ladies' classes to be able to accommodate the different schedules of all the young women that want to attend.

Joe & Areva Chesser, Joe Chesser's parents, are with us directing the nine other English Bible class teachers. They are doing a great job. Ken Fox, whom you will remember was the missionary who went to jail for his work in Laos a few years ago, has been with us a month teaching in the preacher training school.



## A Unique Perspective

Joe Chesser

You've been there too, haven't you? You've read a particular passage from the Bible a hundred times, but this time is different. You discover something you've never noticed before—as if it were not there the previous ninety-nine times—as if it were waiting to jump out at you on this day. Why?

I don't know why, but perhaps it's to keep us coming back for more. Today's "fresh" passage was Genesis 31:42, a passage in which Jacob is speaking to Laban about the God of Abraham and Isaac. Although Jacob uses the term "the God of Abraham," he seems to change tone as he chooses to describe his own father's god as "the Fear of Isaac." Jacob refers to "the Fear of Isaac" twice in this chapter, and God is never again so described. I found that to be so intriguing and puzzling that I've spent the better part of this morning trying to figure out why.

The top answers include a) Jacob is commenting on the fact that his father feared (i.e. had reverential awe for) God, and b) Abraham had passed the test, had died, and was now with God, but Isaac was still alive and his eternity was still a matter of his choosing to "fear" God. Those explanations don't satisfy me, especially in light of the fact that the Hebrew word "fear" used here is not the same as the one used in Ecclesiastes 12:13, a passage surely directing us to "reverential awe."

Further compounding my dissatisfaction with these explanations is that I found only four other references to this same Hebrew word in the Old Testament, all choosing to use the word that could be interpreted as "dreadful" and "terror." Space won't permit me to elaborate, but I've got to wonder just how I would have described God to my children had I once been bound and nearly stabbed to death by my own father who was merely doing as God had instructed?

## Shepherds—*from Page 1*

for one to lead effectively, one must have the backing and support of more than just a handful of people. The current elders will meet with these candidates to discuss their qualifications and willingness to serve.

In the third step of this process, the names of the candidates will be submitted to the entire congregation for consideration. In the past, two weeks were given to our members to offer any scriptural objection to the candidates. Any objections will need to be written, signed, and submitted to one of our leaders.

The final step, if there are no scriptural objections, is to install those who have completed this process. All of our members should be praying for our study and the procedures that follow. This study and selection can, and should be, a joyous time for our church family. We have been blessed to have the elders we have had in the past, we are blessed to have the ones we have now, and I am confident that we will be blessed by those who serve in the future. As in everything, to God be the glory!

## Ready—*from column 1*

Several students working with the **China Now** program have also paid us short visits recently during their holidays in China. Yours for sharing the love of God with all while there is yet time.

## Perspective—*from column 2*

Perhaps Isaac had a unique perspective through which he viewed, described, and loved God.

I came across this passage in part because the teens and I are reading through the entire Bible this year. What a great way to discover treasures you've unknowingly passed over for years. Please encourage the teens as we take this journey together and pray that they too discover "fresh" stories.



## BULLETIN BOARD

### OUR JANUARY RECORD

Average Attendance	210
Average Contribution	\$11,144
Building Fund	\$932

#### Membership

**Bryson and Alicia Howard**  
**Mike and Lynn Lucas**  
**Mary Lois Martin**

*With Sincere  
Sympathy To...*

**Ray Medlock** on the death of his cousin, **Alice Biscoe**, on December 23, 2007, in Vero Beach, Florida, and on the death of his aunt, **Brunita Medlock**, on January 5, 2008, in San Antonio, Texas.

**Linda and Jim Stripling** on the death of her aunt, **Lee Cook**, who died on Wednesday, January 9, 2008, in Katy, Texas.

The family of **Thelma Blythe** who died on Saturday, December 29. The funeral was Monday, December 31, at the McGee Church of Christ.

The **Boaldin** family on the death of **Bobby's** aunt, **Gloria Blassingame**, who died on Tuesday, January 22. The funeral was Friday, January 25, in Longview, Texas.

**Clif and Lynette Gilliam** on the death of her niece, **Jennifer Bozeman**, on Thursday, January 24, in Nashville, Tennessee.

## 26TH ANNUAL MEDICAL MISSIONS SEMINAR



Last month, several members of our *WindSong* family attended the **Annual Medical Missions Seminar** in Ft. Worth, Texas. **Don Johnson** gave a report on Partners In Progress' work in Cambodia, including a report on the clinic boat, *The Ship of Life*, and its work in reaching thousands on the Mekong River.

### CONNECTIONS

Welcome to **Mike and Lynn Lucas**, who placed membership Sunday, January 13, and to **Bryson and Alicia Howard** and **Mary Lois Martin**, who placed membership on Sunday, January 27. Please make a special effort to meet our newest members and let them know how glad we are to have them as part of our *WindSong* family.

The **Women of WindSong** are collecting toiletries or other small gifts for bags that are made by the women in our congregation and distributed to the women at the Recovery Center by **Nelda Michael**, who teaches a Bible class at the center. If you have anything you would like to contribute, please bring it to the church office or give it to **Nelda Michael** or **Ann Baker**.