



WindSong NOTES

CHURCH OF CHRIST

SERVING THE GREATER LITTLE ROCK AREA



Volume 5

October 5, 2007

Number 10



What a Month!

Bobby B. Boaldin

Yes, indeed. What a month! During September we saw some exciting things happen at WindSong. The *No Debt No Sweat!* seminar was a resounding success. Steve Diggs did an excellent job of presenting material that was both relevant and well-received. A good number of people from the surrounding communities who heard our radio advertisement attended the event. This brought people to the WindSong building that might not have otherwise ever darkened our doors. Lord willing, when those who attended the seminar come to terms with their need to have God in their lives, they will remember what WindSong did to assist them with their financial needs.

Also, during the month of September, we introduced "The Church for People Like You" television advertising campaign. This series of six commercials is designed to communicate to our neighbors that no matter what your personality, ethnicity, marital status, age, occupation or status in life, WindSong is the church for people like you. We have the exclusive license to these commercials and the "People Like You" slogan for the next two years in the Greater Little Rock area. Based on the research, this advertising campaign will greatly increase our chances to experience significant numerical growth over

—Continued on Page 3

MAUMELLE

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Volunteers painted faces and handed out gift bags with treats and information about **WindSong** at the Maumelle Family Fest on Friday and Saturday, September 28 and 29.

“NOT RICH TOWARD GOD”

“Not rich toward God.” These are the words Jesus used to conclude one of His well-known parables. But what was Jesus talking about when he made that statement?

I’m sure you remember the story. Jesus told of a man whose crops were so abundant that he didn’t have a place to store all the surplus. This was a problem (but a good one for a farmer to have). Many of us would love to face the concern of having to deal with excess wealth. But back to the story. After some consideration, the farmer decides that the best thing to do is to tear down his barns and build larger ones. After that his future will be assured. He can retire without any money worries.

Jesus permits us to listen in as this rich man talks to himself. *“And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.’”* (Luke 12:19)

There is no indication that this man was especially wicked. He had worked hard and his efforts had paid off. He was now prepared for the future—he thought.

“But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’” (Luke 12:20)

What is the point of the parable? Jesus expressed it in these words: *“So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”* (Luke 12:21)

Earthly riches, the object of so much concern and effort, can become utterly meaningless in an instant of time. How much more important it is to be “rich toward God.”

**JOHN GIPSON
WINDSONG CHURCH OF CHRIST**



Are You An Anomaly?

Joe Chesser

I picked up a magazine the other day that contained an interview article with TV and movie actor, Steve Carell (*American Way*, September 15, 2007). You may recognize Carell as the “emotionally blind” character Michael Scott; the mid-level management boss on *The Office*. It seems that Carell has for the most part kept his nose clean (comparatively) and Hollywood has begun to take note. I don’t usually keep up with actors and their personal lives, but Carell’s response to the “why are you such a nice guy” inquiries caught my attention.

He says, “...this whole aspect of me being recognized as nice, as if it’s so abnormal or an anomaly to what people should be—well, I just don’t think that you should be given credit for being a decent person.” Good thoughts, Steve. Why should it be such a big deal if someone is a decent person? Should that be so “abnormal?” Shouldn’t decency be the norm or what’s expected?

I think this plays out in the church as well. What should be the norm is often the exception, and the exception is hailed as this great anomaly. We’re impressed with the Christian who brings an unchurched friend to our assembly. We’re inspired when a soul is publicly passionate about their redemption story. The big giver, the hard worker, the missionary, the humble servant—the list goes on. We witness what should be normal Christian behavior and stand amazed. I don’t know if I’ve ever impressed anyone with my faith, or passion, or love, or humility, or goodness; but this I know, I once was lost but now am found and the God who pulled off this amazing feat does not want me to quietly and contently squeeze by with the bare minimum, but wants my all. And for Christians, that should be normal.



Encouraged by Brethren—Challenged by Opportunities

Bill McDonough

Our trip through Tennessee, North and South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama to discuss the work in Asia with churches and individuals has been filled with encouragement. The elders of one congregation in Tennessee said, “We are giving forty cents of every dollar contributed to foreign missions, supporting a work in Miami, Florida, and think spending sixty percent of our wealth on ourselves is still selfish.”

A congregation in South Carolina where we stopped in on a Sunday night while traveling through the country inspired us by their pre-service Bible drill and singing with their children. A church in North Carolina reported recent conversions and growth through planned evangelism efforts, and the kids were leading singing, praying and reciting Bible verses from memory. The Lord’s people are faithfully sharing the Word across America.

At the annual World Evangelism Workshop at Heritage Christian University in Florence, Alabama, we met lots of people interested in taking the gospel abroad. Some of those are talking with us about opportunities in Asia.

The headlines coming out of Burma (Myanmar) this week have everyone’s attention. This little nation has been under harsh dictatorships since 1961, but is now telling its leaders enough is enough. The people tried demonstrating twice before and backed off when the government started shooting people. This time their religious leaders are heading up the protest and it looks like a more determined onslaught. We are currently running advertisements for Bible correspondence course study in Myanmar and are preparing to lead a team of teachers to follow up on the hundreds of students now studying. Please pray that peace and renewed freedoms may come about soon.

What a Month!—from Page 1

the next two years.

Another major happening during the month of September was the **Maumelle Fall Family Fest**, of which WindSong was a sponsor. For two days volunteers from our congregation manned a booth at the Festival, handed out reflective trick-or-treat bags to parents and children, provided free face painting for the kids, and distributed information about the events and activities of our congregation. More than a few people went beyond demonstrating an interest in the goodies that were provided and sought information about our congregation’s location, activities and events. This is yet another opportunity for the Lord to bless our efforts as we send our workers into the harvest field.

Yes, what a month! There is good reason to be encouraged and excited by all the purpose-driven activity happening at our congregation. Pray that God will bless all our efforts to reach our neighbors and will make us as effective as he would have us to be in our outreach efforts. As always, to God be the glory!

NO DEBT NO SWEAT! MONEY BOOT CAMP VIDEO SERIES WITH



Beginning October 21, we will be offering the **No Debt No Sweat! Money Boot Camp**. This Christian money management study will be offered as a video series at 9 a.m. each Sunday morning. Christians and seekers alike will learn the principles of Godly money management.

Visit our websites at
www.partnersinprogress.org
 and
www.windsongchurch.org

BULLETIN BOARD

OUR SEPTEMBER RECORD

Average Attendance	187
Average Contribution	\$9,920
Building Fund	\$1,247
Special Grounds Fund	\$41,823
Orphans in India & Arkansas	\$400
Tom Ekpot	\$695

With Sincere Sympathy to...

The family of **Jim McMillian**, who died in St. Louis on September 6. The burial was September 10, at the National Cemetery at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri.

Glena Criner on the death of her husband, **Tommy Criner**, on September 7. There was a graveside service on September 11, at Forest Hills.

The family of **R. Deva Krupamma**, who died in India, on September 8, and was buried on September 9. She was the widow of the late **T. Joseph**, our missionary in India.

The family of **Jeff Hogan**, who died on September 17. Jeff and his wife, **Joy**, were houseparents at Southern Christian Home in Morrilton, Arkansas.

Betty Armstrong on the death of her husband, **A. W. Armstrong**, on September 28. The funeral was September 30, with the burial following at Kyler Cemetery near Batesville, Arkansas. Memorials may be made to WindSong church of Christ.

Juanelle Hooten on the death of her son, **Gary Hooten**, in Tyler, Texas, on September 28. The funeral was October 2, followed by the burial at Forest Hills Memorial Park.



New Member's Luncheon



CONNECTIONS

On Sunday, September 9, \$2,628 was raised in our special contribution for the victims of the fires in Greece

Congratulations to **Sean** and **Elizabeth Rogers** of Herndon, Virginia, on the birth of a son, **Donovan Monroe Rogers**, on Thursday, September 21. He weighed 9 1/2 lbs. and was 20 1/2 inches long at birth. Congratulations also go to the proud grandparents, **Ron** and **Phyllis Love**.

Congratulations to **Archie** and **Kara Stanphill** on their marriage at WindSong on Saturday, September 29.

Welcome home to **Luke McCartney**, **Marjorie McCartney's** grandson and **Myron McCartney's** nephew, and **Brian Presson**, **Sherry Chesser's** nephew, who both returned home from Iraq on Saturday, September, 29.

Bobby Boaldin will begin a new **Young Adult Bible Class** on Sunday, October 7.