



# WindSong NOTES

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Formerly Sixth and Izard

SERVING THE GREATER LITTLE ROCK AREA

Volume 4

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## Looking Back

Bobby B. Boaldin

The grand opening at our new location was just over a year ago. Looking back at the events that have transpired since we have moved into our new building can help us evaluate our progress and give us perspective as a congregation. Some great things have happened in these months. One thing that immediately comes to mind is we adopted a purpose statement for our congregation. This statement is the litmus test for all of the activities and ministries of WindSong. It guides us and ensures that we stay on track as we strive to fulfill the great commandment and the great commission. Along with the purpose statement, a strategy was implemented to guide our mission and ministry. These eight principles are the practical application of our purpose statement.

So has our strategy been successful? If numbers can be an indicator of success, here are some to consider. In the time that we have been at WindSong Drive, we have had nine baptisms and thirty-four people have placed membership. Our Growth Groups have grown from having eight small groups meeting last year to ten this year. In spite of these numbers, our average Sunday morning attendance has increased only slightly. How can this be? Over the past year we have had a considerable number of people move away from the Little Rock area and a few have gone to be with the Lord. So overall, I would say our strategy is working and if we stay the course we will continue to grow at a sustained rate.

The biggest factor, in my opinion, to consider about the past year is the sentiment that the deacons echoed in our most recent Elders, Deacons, and Staff Meeting. To a man, the deacons were

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# Friends' Day Sunday October 29

Fellowship meal after morning worship, followed by  
"Trick or Trunk"  
in the parking lot for the kids.

Bring a friend or neighbor who usually does not attend church services for an afternoon of food, fellowship and fun.

Members bring salads, vegetables, desserts, and Halloween candy for the kids.

Meat and drinks provided.



## DEAD OR MEDIUM DEAD?

Be careful what you read. You are liable to run across something that will stick in your throat, and ultimately penetrate your brain. Such was my unhappy fate as I read an epithet suggested by H. W. Nevinson,

His soul lies mouldering in the grave  
But his body goes marching on.

The emphasis on the body is pervasive in our society. Exercising, dieting, routine check-ups, medications—all to keep the body marching on—are regularly employed.

But how long has it been since I gave my soul a check-up? Is it weak through a lack of nutrition? Exercise? Neglect? Is it possible that the cares of this world have choked my soul to the point that it is medium dead? Or is it “mouldering in the grave” without so much as a death notice appearing in the paper? Was it buried without the decency of a funeral service? No sorrow? No mourning? No tears?

Isn't something out of whack if I give my body more attention than my soul? The body may live for some seventy or eighty years, but the soul is destined for eternity. It's value is beyond compare. As Jesus said, *“For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”*

To be very frank, I didn't enjoy reading Nevinson's epithet. It struck too close to home. I would much prefer it read,

His body lies mouldering in the grave  
But his soul goes marching on.

What plan do I have to insure that outcome? What plan do you have? Isn't that our most important task?

**JOHN GIPSON**  
**WINDSONG CHURCH OF CHRIST**



### Rubbing Elbows with 21st Century Heroes of Faith

Marie-Claire McDonough

Have you ever tried to imagine how the twelve Apostles passed their time together when retiring in the evening? Have you ever pictured them lying down on the floor of a boat, or at the foot of a mountain for a short nap? What did they talk about? Did they sing together? Did they talk about what happened that day or about what Jesus taught? Did they wonder often, how and why they had been chosen by Jesus as his special workers?

For three years now, by the grace of God working through you, Bill and I have been able to cross paths with wonderful disciples and workers for the kingdom. They are young and old, male and female, married and single, Americans, Europeans, Canadians and Asian—but most of all with the common purpose of seeing the kingdom of God grow. We too, have been chosen for that special task of putting our hands together to do the work that God has prepared for us; being used in Asia for the expansion of the kingdom.

What a privilege, what a blessing—working side by side with people whom we would not have otherwise met, listening to stories of Cambodian students coming to an understanding of our Heavenly Father. As Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote in his book *Life Together*, “Let him who until now has had the privilege of living a common Christian life with other Christians praise God’s grace from the bottom of his heart and let him thank God on his knees and declare: It is grace, nothing but grace that we are allowed to live in community with Christian brethren.”

Why don’t you give it a try and come join us for a month or two at the Partners In Progress Center in Phnom Penh, Cambodia? In doing this, you will meet wonderful, but yet very humble, 21st century heroes of faith. We will be back in Cambodia when you read this, but we were encouraged and thankful for our brief encounter with you while in the states in September.



### Hands-On Opportunity

Joe Chesser

We’ve been here at WindSong for over three years now and have before us a great opportunity to become a vital part of the Maumelle community. We could adopt a policy where we expect our neighbors to learn about us through their own initiative, or we could be proactive and make ourselves visibly known in this community. Allow me to pitch an idea in support of the second option.

Just this morning I had the opportunity to meet some one hundred fifty parents and grandparents, chat with office staff members, speak briefly with the school principal, and heckle the lunch lady (she threatened to put me to work so I stopped). One and a half hours of my time, immeasurable impact. I don’t know if you’re aware of this, but Marcus Perkins, Josh Perkins, Daniel Agin, and Lacey Agin all attended Pine Forest Elementary School. Currently enrolled are Will Young, Max Chesser, Amanda Young, Alisa Young, Evan Perkins, and Grace Perkins. This is a significant place for the better portion of our younger youth group, and we should capitalize on it. As you know all schools require volunteers and Pine Forest is no exception. Let me encourage you to find ways to get involved and help. WindSong needs visible ambassadors if we are to make an impact on this community and this is a simple area in which to help. What an opportunity, especially when you consider all this is in addition to the impact you could have on the kids here at WindSong.

I hope you see hands-on ministry to our neighborhood as something worthwhile and our children as more than Joe’s responsibility. If you want to get involved, call me; I’m passionate about these kids. P.S. I signed WindSong up to provide lunch for the teachers of Pine Forest on Friday, October 20th. Look for a sign up sheet in the foyer if you would like to help.

### Looking Back—from Page 1

encouraged and pleased by the spirit of optimism and cooperation that is permeating our congregation. The pulse of our congregation is positive and upbeat. This is not something that is just noticed among the members, but visitors who attend are impressed by the positive vibe and friendly atmosphere that saturates the body here. There is no way to quantify this quality but one can be certain it is essential to the success of our fellowship.

Looking back over the past year I am greatly encouraged and optimistic about the coming year. As a church we are doing a number of things that church growth experts say growing churches are doing. Although I am not a prophet or the son of a prophet, I think the coming year will be even better than the previous one. What we must do is to continue down the road we are currently traveling. Stay active, remain optimistic and give God the glory for every good thing that happens at WindSong. The Lord will give the increase.



### The Women of WindSong

will meet next at 7:30 pm at **Monda Fletcher’s** home on October 10. This Month W.O.W. will be collecting non-perishable food items for the food pantry at River City Ministry. Suggested items are: any canned goods; peanut butter; dried beans or peas, rice, spaghetti/macaroni/noodles (all in one pound bags please); and especially any items like vienna sausage, tuna, beanie weenies, peanut butter and crackers, etc. that have pop tops or can be eaten straight out of the can or package. Donated items may be placed in the specially marked box in the foyer cloak room. Also, pick up a recipe format for the W.O.W. Cookbook on the counter on the north side of the doors to the auditorium. Don’t forget to bring your recipe for an “Appetizer” and a “Main Dish/Casserole” to the meeting, or give it to anyone on the Cookbook Committee: **Kara Baker, Michelle Boaldin, Carol Coffey, Diane Johnson, or Linda Powell.**

# BULLETIN BOARD

## OUR SEPTEMBER RECORD

Average Attendance.....198  
Average Contribution.....\$10,429

### *With Sympathy To...*

**Beth Nelsen** on the death of her sister-in-law, **Shelby Bowlby**, of Carruthersville, MO, on August 24. The funeral was August 27.

**Chad and Kerry Hatman** on the death of their friend, **Josh Seamon**, age twenty-two, in an ATV accident on August 28. The funeral was September 1.

The family of **Marjorie Miller Casey**, who died on September 5, in Oklahoma City. She and her husband, **Orlan Miller**, were once missionaries to Greece. The funeral was September 8, at the Saturn Road Church of Christ in Garland, TX.

**Frances Clardy** on the death of her husband, **Winfred Clardy**, on September 27. The funeral was September 30.

**Lee and Dave Conner** on the death of her mother, **Ruth Button**, on September 29. The funeral October 2, in Perryville, AR.

**Joe Bowen** on the death of his wife, **Monnie Bowen**, on October 2. There was a graveside service on October 4, at Jonesboro, AR.

## Grandparents' Day Cafe Hosted by Our Teens



**New Members' Luncheon  
Sunday, October 22**

## CONNECTIONS

Congratulations to **Beth Nelsen** on the birth of a granddaughter, **Aubrey Savannah Nelsen**, on August 17. Congratulations also go to the proud parents, **Adam and Monica Nelsen**, and big sister **Dylan Skye**.

**Kara Baker** has a new job as Case Coordinator at UAMS. Congratulations, Kara.