



WindSong NOTES

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Formerly Sixth and Izard

SERVING THE GREATER LITTLE ROCK AREA

Volume 4

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Number 12



Merry Christmas!
(No. That Is Not A Typo,)
Merry Christmas!

Bobby B. Boaldin

Have you heard? Once again, it is acceptable to say, "Merry Christmas." A major retailer (that shall remain unnamed in this article) is now allowing their employees to greet customers with the time honored seasonal salutation of "Merry Christmas!" According to the radio and television networks this is not only breaking news, but news worthy of air time in both local and national media outlets. Why all the hoopla? Really, what is the big deal?

In case you haven't noticed it, there is not only a war going on **IN** Iraq, but there is a war going on **IN** America. A war is being waged against not only Christianity, but also everything that symbolizes Christianity. This is a war waged against the Christian religion by those who interpret, "Freedom **OF** Religion" to mean "Freedom **FROM** the Christian Religion." Under the banners of religious pluralism and tolerance, Christianity is the only religion that is no longer tolerated. The goal of those fighting against our beliefs seems to be to completely eliminate from public life anything that communicates the concepts, symbols and beliefs that are unique to the Christian faith. On the other hand, if a person or group wishes to portray Hindu, Buddhist, Taoist, Jainist, Sikhist or Islamic symbols and values, that person or group is embraced and defended by those who attack all things Christian.

That is what all the hoopla is about. That is why being able to say "Merry Christmas!" is a big deal. Never mind whether or not Jesus was actually born in December, the bigger picture, the reality of our current circumstances is, **WE ARE AT WAR.**

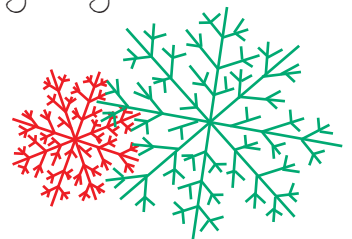
—Continued on Page 3



Wishing you the best of God's Gifts
for the holidays and always.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

from our family to yours.



HOW TO HIT THE NAIL ON THE THUMB

Been there. Done that. One summer was spent in building sheet metal garages for an oil company. (I soon learned there's a lot of bounce when nailing through sheet metal).

Permit me, if you will, to give some directions for doing a thing in a manner sure to miss it's value entirely.

Get up late on Sunday morning without having decided which clothes you are going to wear. Fuss at the children. Hurry through breakfast. Look for your Bible. Yell at your companion, "We're going to be late." Fuss at the children. Tell them that they don't have time to eat. Drag them into the car. Honk your car horn at your spouse to hurry up. Go back in the house to get your contribution check. Drive off in a huff. Turn around and go back to see if you turned off the stove, or forgot to close the garage door. Arrive late for the service and stumble over people getting into the pew. Stare back at those who are staring at you.

Focus on the things you don't like: The temperature is too hot/cold; The songs are too new/old, or too slow/fast; The preacher said "git" instead of "get;" The usual order of worship was changed; Why don't parents take their children to the nursery, or the Training Room?; Somebody needs to turn the sound up/down; If this service lasts any longer I'm going to miss the kick-off to the football game.

Leave the building without speaking to anyone, but rejoicing in knowing that you fulfilled your duty in worshiping God, and setting the right example for your family.

On the way home comment on those people playing golf when they ought to be in church. Too bad that they don't have the spirit of David who said, "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD!'"

JOHN GIPSON
WINDSONG CHURCH OF CHRIST

Merry Christmas!—from Page 1

Lest we think this is something new to our generation, consider the words of the Apostle Paul, “*We are human, but we don’t wage war with human plans and methods. We use God’s mighty weapons, not mere worldly weapons, to knock down the Devil’s strongholds. With these weapons we break down every proud argument that keeps people from knowing God. With these weapons we conquer their rebellious ideas, and we teach them to obey Christ*” (2 Corinthians 10:3-5).

Christians, you are at war. You are at war fighting for the minds and ideas of those around you who do not share your beliefs. Part of your commission is to be engaged in this war. So when the often anti-Christian media outlets report a major retail chain will again be allowing their employees to greet customers with, “Merry Christmas,” consider it a defeat for those who oppose everything we hold so dear. This holiday season, whether I am greeted with, “Happy Holidays,” or “Happy Hanukkah,” “Shalom” or “Merry Christmas,” my reply will be “MERRY CHRISTMAS!”

WindSong Growth Groups



Beginning the week of December 3, our small groups will begin a new study from Philippians entitled:

Shining Like Stars: Nine Weeks to a New Attitude

If you would like to start meeting with a small group, please contact **Tony Fowler, Don Johnson, or Kelly Shields.**

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



Opportunity in Cambodia

Bill McDonough

Dale and Evelyn Lundy recently spent a month in Cambodia teaching at the Partners In Progress Study Center. They arrived in Phnom Penh one Friday night and by Tuesday they were each teaching six to eight non-Christian students a day. On Tuesday night Dale began a Bible study with university students who have become Christians. Dale is experienced at teaching and discipling, having served as an elder for a number of years. He has led evangelistic teams, in-depth Bible studies and small groups, and has also led short-term mission efforts abroad. He worked as a manager for AT&T and is currently doing consulting work while they raise funds to go to Cambodia. Evelyn served as a teacher in a Christian preschool for a number of years. Dale has produced an excellent DVD on the work in Cambodia and is willing to make it available to congregations who are interested in supporting them or sending workers to help with the ongoing projects in Cambodia. You can request the DVD from **Partners In Progress, P. O. Box 13989, Maumelle, AR 72113.**



The Lundys have decided to return to Cambodia in March and work with the new congregation of university students converted from the English Study Program and assist in the other efforts in Cambodia as well. They are desperately needed. Please prayerfully consider partnering with them in Cambodia. You may reach the

Cambodia—from Column 2

Lundys by mail: **1019 Kiefer Ridge Drive, Ballwin, MO 63021**, telephone: **(636) 391-8550**, or email: **Dale.Lundy@gmail.com.**



The Image of God

Joe Chesser

Sherry and I took the boys to the theater Saturday morning to see the movie *Happy Feet*. Max and Alex both left the Rave theater doing their best tap dancing routine, so I guess the movie was a hit. I enjoyed it as well, but I’m not sure my dancing could have been written off as “cute.” I’ve got a bit of a beef though, and frankly, I’m getting a little irritated by it. The movie’s fun and has lots of positive messages, but as we filed out of the theatre, I couldn’t help but dwell on the movie’s underlying message that the world would be a much better place if it weren’t for all those humans. Now I’m not a big fan of trying to destroy the earth before God’s plans for its demolition, but I’m not going to give up a kidney to save some swamp land either. Here’s the deal—the creation story in Genesis begins with the stretches, the calisthenics, and the tuning of the orchestra all in anticipation of the main event, the creation of human life. We’re it! We are the pinnacle. We bear the image of God! If you want to see the best of the best, look in the mirror. We are what the Creator was aiming for. Don’t get me wrong, the heavens declare the glory of God, but for all its beauty, creation is empty without God’s image. Then, at just the right time, God himself came to live here, not as a mountain, a tree, or an eagle, but as a human, the firstborn of creation (Joy to the world!). We’re not insignificant, we’re not a bother to this world, and we were worth dying for. For an interesting read on this topic, try **Eugene Peterson’s *Christ Plays in Ten Thousand Places.***

BULLETIN BOARD

OUR NOVEMBER RECORD

Average Attendance.....197
Average Contribution.....\$10,315

Membership

John & Megan Calvillo
Jim & Patti Lee

CONNECTIONS

Welcome to **Jim and Patti Lee**, who placed membership on Sunday, October 29, and to **John and Megan Calvillo**, who placed membership on Sunday, November 5. Please make a point to meet each one of our new members and let them know how glad we are they have decided to work with us here at WindSong.

Congratulations to **Lee and Lydia Hinson** on the birth of a daughter, **Mariah Brooke**, at Conway Regional Hospital on Tuesday, November 14. Brooke weighed 8 pounds 9 ounces. and was 20 inches long at birth. Congratulations also go to the proud grandparents, **David and Diane Hinson**, and great grandparents, **Tom and Joyce Carlon**.

Congratulations to **Britt and Ashley Lynn** on the birth of a son, **Braden Harris Lynn**, in Searcy, on Tuesday, November 21. Braden was 9 pounds and 7 1/2 ounces at birth. Congratulations also go to big sisters, **Haley and Rebecca**, and to the proud grandparents, **Gary and Linda Hickerson**.

With Sympathy

We express our sympathy to the family of **George Gill**, who died on Wednesday, November 1. The funeral was Thursday, November 9, in Fordyce, Arkansas, with the burial following at Tanyard Cemetery.



*Annual Chili Supper
and
Thanksgiving Devotional*

