



WindSong NOTES

CHURCH OF CHRIST

SERVING THE GREATER LITTLE ROCK AREA

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Tis the Season

Bobby B. Boaldin

Once again Christmastime is upon us. I love this time of year. It is the season when familiar sights, sounds, and smells are all around us. It is also the time of year when the secular progressives of this world turn their attention more sharply to anything and everything that is decidedly "Christian."

It is the season when municipalities ban, or attempt to ban, nativity scenes, Christmas trees, and Christmas lights—not only on public property, but in private businesses as well. It is the time of year when the long beloved greeting of "Merry Christmas!" is replaced, by corporate mandate, with "Happy Holidays," "Seasons Greetings," or "Happy Hanukkah." Tis the season when the smallest minority of Americans, atheists, get a great deal of air time to attack Christianity and Christians from our openly anti-Christian, liberal media outlets. It is the time of the year when it is most clear that organizations like the ACLU interpret the words "freedom OF religion" to mean "freedom FROM the Christian religion." It's the time of year when our public school administrators must walk a tightrope and decide if our children can sing Christmas carols with religious themes, learn about

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Merry Christmas

and warm wishes for
a happy holiday season!

THINK ABOUT HIS LOVE

“Tis the season to be jolly,” we are told. Shoppers are bustling about, driving to and fro, picking up gifts for family and friends, mailing out greeting cards and making plans “to be home for Christmas.” Special music fills the cold, crisp air, and smile after smile creeps across the faces of those we meet. Children wait in eager expectation of what is to come, and excitement continues to build.

Mothers and grandmothers are busily engaged in preparing the special meals of the season. Delightful odors in the kitchen cause the mouth to water in anticipation of good things to come.

On the streets the greeting “Merry Christmas,” is heard time and again, and “Joy to the World” fills the airwaves.

Now admittedly, no one knows the month of Jesus’ birthday, much less the exact day, but it was an earth shaking event. The Bible speaks of this momentous turning point in the history of the world in these words, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.” This occasion caused both men and angels to rejoice in the long ago, and its echo has permeated the universe from that hour to this.

Talk about love! “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

O worship the King, all glorious above,
And gratefully sing His wonderful love.

In the midst of all of the activities and bustles of the season, *Think About His Love!*

JOHN GIPSON
WINDSONG CHURCH OF CHRIST



Listen to Your Prayers

Bill McDonough

Did you give God thanks on Thanksgiving Day? As our society turns more and more inward and thinks primarily about “Number One,” and less about the rest, I have noticed a gradual change in the things I hear prayed about in public prayers. When I have been a part of prayer groups and someone asks what we want to pray for, there is always a list of sick, requests for help in making decisions, help with relationships, and guidance for government leaders—all of which are things worthy of the Father’s ear.

Few of the prayers I hear include much of expression of thankfulness for the blessings heaped upon us. I know we are thankful and God knows it, but he also likes to hear it expressed. Actually, there are more admonitions in the Bible to thank God in prayer, than to ask him for things. Review just a few:

Give thanks in all circumstances for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus. (I Thess. 5:18)

I will give you thanks in the great assembly, among throngs of people I will praise you. (Psalms 35:18)

... always giving thanks to God the Father for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Eph. 5:20)

Living in one of the poorest nations of the world has helped us to be thankful as we try to teach people here to give thanks for the very little they have. Thankfulness does not depend on how much we have been blessed. “The Lord sends the rain on the just and the unjust” and a lot of other blessings as well.

Join me in remembering to give thanks this week, because **He Cares**.



The Two Basics

Joe Chesser

In 1682 while exploring the Mississippi River, Robert de La Salle “discovered” the mouth of the Arkansas River and claimed all the lands drained by the Mississippi in the name of King Louis XIV—hence the name Louisiana. In 1803, Napoleon sold the entire Louisiana Territory (approximately 830,000 square miles!) to the United States for \$15,000,000. In an effort to distribute land to our nation’s veterans, Prospect K. Robbins and Joseph C. Brown were commissioned to begin the survey of the Louisiana Territory by establishing a point from which other surveys would originate.

There is a monument marking this point about twenty miles south of Brinkley, Arkansas. From this point two lines were established which would become the lines on which all others would be based—to the north the Fifth Principle Meridian, and to the west a line called the Base Line (Little Rock’s Baseline Road is, in part, built on this line). So we have the two foundational lines: two lines on which all other lines are based, two lines that, if ignored, would cause nothing but trouble.

This kind of reminds me of a time when Jesus was asked about the most important “lines” of the law. His response, as found in Matthew 22:36-40, was that first and foremost we should love God with our entire being and, secondly, we should love each other as we love ourselves. These two, Jesus said, are the points by which everything else will be measured. Robbins and Brown followed the standard established, how much more important is it that we stay on course?

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the biblical origins of holidays, display religious symbols, write about the birth of Jesus in assignments, or even refer to the break from classes that occurs from late December to early January as “Christmas Break.” Tis the season when the words, “separation of church and state,” are twisted, misapplied, and perverted beyond anything that our founding fathers had in mind.

Yes, tis the season when the words of the Apostle Paul ring loudest, “Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but **against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms**” (Ephesians 6:11-12). Tis the season to wake up and realize that we are at war with the ideologies of the god of this world. Tis the season for Christians to take a stand against the devil who is attempting to eradicate everything Christian from our cities, our states, and our country. Tis the season for spiritual warfare. To God be the glory!

Christmas Cards for the Calvillos



We would like to send as many Christmas cards as possible from our church members to **John and Megan Calvillo** with their December package. Please place your cards in the basket for the Calvillos on the front counter in the foyer and **Linda Powell** will mail the cards to them. Cards should be brought to the church building by Sunday, December 9th.

From China

We wanted you to know that when we list what we are thankful for, all of you are at the top of our list. We love you and cannot tell you what your love, support, and “Thoughts” do for us. May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and give you peace.

With Love, **Megan and John Calvillo**

BULLETIN BOARD

OUR NOVEMBER RECORD

Average Attendance	196
Average Contribution	\$10,518
Building Fund	\$2,832

Membership  Chad Lowry

With Sympathy To...

The family of **Rodney Carlton** of Texarkana, who died on Friday, October 19

Brandon and **Rebecca Martin** on the death of his uncle, **Keith Alarid**, on Friday, October 26, in Austin, Texas. The funeral was Wednesday, October 31.

Lola and **Earl Biggs** on the death of her brother-in-law, **Hollis Tippet**, of Casa, Arkansas, on Tuesday, November 6.

Linda and **Jim Stripling** on the death of her uncle, **Joe Cook**, Tuesday, November 20, in Houston, Texas.

The family of **Martha (Collar) Clark**, who died on November 23, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Zora Bowman on the death of her husband, **Riley Lawrence (Buddy) Bowman**, who died on Saturday, December 1, in Hot Springs, Arkansas. The graveside service was Tuesday, December 4, at Pine Crest Memorial Park.

Thurl Allison and **Linda Reynolds** on the death of Thurl's sister, **Lelia Dykes**, on Wednesday, November 28. The funeral was Saturday, December

Gifts of Service



Annual Chili Supper and Devotional November 21



Blood Drive December 2



CONNECTIONS



Welcome to **Chad Lowry**, who placed membership Sunday, November 18. Chad has two daughters, **Madeline** and **Meredith**. Please make a special effort to meet Chad and let him know how glad we are to have him working with us at WindSong.

Tim Hall, Frank and **Thelma Hall's** son, spent his forty-first birthday in Baghdad.

Sam Palmer, Stan and **Judy Jones' son-in-law**, is home from Iraq. He is stationed in Alaska.

Congratulations to **Max Chesser** who won a special certificate for his memory work in Bible class. Great job, Max.

Congratulations to **Ray Cox, Jr.**, who was named as one of The Best Lawyers in Arkansas 2007 in Intellectual Property Law and Technology Law by The Best Lawyers in America, the oldest lawyer-rating publication in the United States.

Ayrton Bishop, Max Chesser, and **Zac Griffith** made straight "A"s for the first nine weeks of the school year. Congratulations!

Congratulations **Scott** and **Loan Wofford** on the birth of a daughter, **Sofie Wofford**, on November 1. Congratulations also go to the proud grandparents, **Richard** and **Mary Wofford**.

Congratulations to **Blaine Alexander**, who received the "Good Apple Award" at the Pulaski County Special School District School Board Meeting in November. Blaine was nominated by his teachers for his genuine caring attitude toward his students at College Station Elementary and for improving the culture of the school.