

Arkansas Christian Herald

A STATEWIDE NEWSPAPER FOR MEMBERS OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN ARKANSAS

Published by the Institute for Church & Family at Harding University • www.harding.edu/icf/herald.html

CALENDAR

JANUARY

12-14 *Teen Retreat* at the Hugh Groover Retreat Center at Camp Wyldewood, 305-3000 or office@camp-wyldewood.org.

FEBRUARY

10-11 *Critical Issues Seminar*, "Line of Departure: Evangelism in the 21st Century," sponsored by Institute for Church & Family, Harding University, Searcy.

23-24 *WINGS Conference*, "Freedom!" Harding University, Searcy.

23-25 *CHRISTeens*, "Dependent," West Side church of Christ, Russellville.

APRIL

6-8 *Youth Forum*, Harding University, Searcy.

JUNE

16-21 *Uplift Session 1*, "Going Deep," Institute for Church & Family, Harding University, Searcy.

23-28 *Uplift Session 2*, "Going Deep," Institute for Church & Family, Harding University, Searcy.

30-July 5 *Uplift Session 3*, "Going Deep," Institute for Church & Family, Harding University, Searcy.

AUGUST

28 *Arkansas Ministers and Wives Day*, Harding University, Searcy.

SEPTEMBER

30 - October 3 *84th Annual Lectureship*, "Near to the Heart of God: Reflections on the Psalms," Harding University, Searcy.

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Kachelman meets with Sudanese ambassador to plan relief shipments



MEETING IN WASHINGTON: John Kachelman (center) met Thursday, December 14, with Sudanese Ambassador John Ukec Lueth (left), Charge d'affaires, Embassy of the Republic of Sudan and Aban Pagan Othow (right), third Secretary, Embassy of the Republic of Sudan

JUDSONIA

John L. Kachelman, Jr., Judsonia church of Christ, was invited to meet with the Sudanese Ambassador in Washington, DC on December 14 to discuss plans, strategies, objectives, and logistics of shipping humanitarian aid into that war-torn and devastated nation. Civil war, the encroaching desert, and genocide have ravaged Sudan resulting in millions of lives being lost.

The Sudanese ambassador, Dr. John Ukec Lueth, is the first non-Muslim Sudanese ambassador to the US in the recent history if ever. Dr. Lueth scheduled a meeting with Kachelman to discuss the opportunity for getting critically needed relief into his country.

The tragedy of Sudan is easily documented. Series of conflicts have damaged Sudan's economy and led to food shortages, resulting in starvation and malnutrition. In recent years the greatest conflict has been in the Darfur Region of Sudan. On September 9, 2004 the United States Secretary of State Colin Powell termed the Darfur conflict as "genocide," acknowledging it as one of the worst humanitarian crises of the 21st century. The tragedy is escalating because many relief agencies are leaving Sudan's critical areas due to the instability and danger that is present.

In the past three years Kachelman and the Judsonia Church of Christ have

shipped over three dozen 40-foot containers of humanitarian aid to nations that are struggling with desperate situations.

In March Kachelman was approached with the opportunity to send relief into Sudan. Since then he has been working with individuals in Washington DC, Sudan, and Americans interested in the project. With the help of Senator Blanche Lincoln's office, Kachelman was accepted into a Department of Defense program and approved to ship containers of relief items into Sudan.

The overall objective is to ship three containers into Sudan with one going to each of the three main cities in South Sudan. Distribution will begin from those points and it is planned to go into the northern districts that have been hardest hit by war. Working with Kachelman and other contacts in the USA in this project is Peter Lasu Ladu, a Christian in Juba, Sudan.

The Cloverdale Church of Christ in Searcy, AR has agreed to become the collection coordinators of this project.

In response to the action proposed by Kachelman, Ambassador Lueth has guaranteed cooperation in every possible way so Sudan can be helped. The Sudanese government in Khartoum has already quickly responded with required documents assuring that the containers will be permitted duty-free entrance and Customs clearance.



Yang Fu Jiao, a Chinese orphan, displays her quilt which was made by the ladies in Mountain View.

Mountain View ladies make quilts for Chinese orphans

MOUNTAIN VIEW

Ladies of the School Avenue Church of Christ have made more than 700 quilts in the last 30 months for orphaned children in China. They quilt at the church building every Tuesday morning from 9 to 12.

Mary Anne Hayes, one of the quilters, said that about a dozen quilters usually attend each quilting session. About twice that many are involved in the ministry, but some cannot quilt every week.

The quilters work with Ron Brown of the China Missions program at the Peachtree City Church of Christ in Atlanta to get the quilts to the needy children. The ladies began the ministry after hearing him talk about the needs of Chinese orphans during one of his visits to the School Avenue congregation. "He goes to China three or four times a year with medical teams," Hayes said, "and he has workers who deliver the things that are sent to the children. We get reports and pictures of the children who get quilts."

In May, the quilters sent some quilts with a Conway congregation to Piedras Negras, Mexico, for an orphanage that the young people were working on. Amber Taylor, who took the quilts to Mexico, reported

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