

Embracing Your Global Family

If we could have one prayer answered, it would be that all of our members and churches had a strong sense of their global church family - within the whole church of Jesus Christ.

Our churches have always proclaimed of course, that the church of Jesus Christ is 'essentially, intentionally and constitutionally one'.

However, barriers exist when putting this understanding into practice, barriers which we are challenged to overcome. Here are five barriers. You may think of others.

- Our movement emphasises strongly (and correctly) the need for each person to accept Christ as Lord and Saviour, but we do not always emphasise the equally important reality that at the same moment we become Christians, we also become 'members' of the body of Christ - His church.
- We also emphasise the autonomy of the local congregation. There is absolutely no doubt that the local church is church. However in our movement, with 'unity as our polar star', we have also understood that the church is more than local. This is a dichotomy we've never really resolved. More than that, it is unhealthy for us to see the church centred on our own congregation.
- Our nondenominational un-

derstanding of the church sometimes leads us to feel that we have no formal links with anybody else. But in 'acting locally' we must always see ourselves as 'members of the body'.

- Often the desire to be correct has led to division (not something we have on our own of course) instead of simply, diversity. We have too easily and too often chosen correctness over community. In places where our movement has broken into streams, many find it challenging mentally and emotionally to understand that in Christ we belong together and are challenged to express that (no matter how hard that might be in our minds), 'so that the world might believe'.

- It may be simply that we no longer know and tell 'our story' (or the whole story) so we don't gain a sense of who we are now (and who we are going to be) from who we've been.

We have a heritage (and often sing) of one Lord, one faith, one baptism. What can we do to help ensure this heritage shapes our destiny and strengthens the church of Jesus Christ? Here are just seven suggestions.

- **Think globally, act locally.** Our pioneers had this universal vision long before this slogan was coined.

- **Visualise a seamless church.** Don't just see over walls, see through them - make them disappear.

Continued on page 2.

New General Secretary Appointed

Jeff Weston, currently Executive Director of the Overseas Mission Board of Churches of Christ in Australia, has accepted the call to the position of General Secretary of World Convention.

Jeff will take over as General Secretary at the beginning of 2005 when Lyndsay & Lorraine Jacobs retire, although he expects to arrive in Nashville during October to provide a period of overlap. He will be inducted during the final service of the World Convention on Sunday August 1 (World Convention Sunday) in Brighton, England.

Jeff was a missionary in Papua New Guinea 1974-76. He graduated from the Australian national College of the Bible in Melbourne in 1981 with a Bachelor of Theology and College Diploma of Ministry with Honors. Following successful ministries he joined the Overseas Mission Board in 1994, first as Assistant Director and then, in 1996 as Director.

Jeff will become the fifth General

Secretary since World Convention was established in 1930.

Jeff is married to Rosemary and they have two adult children.



Jeff Weston

The World Convention of Churches of Christ

Christian - Churches of Christ - Disciples of Christ

2000-2004 Executive

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Allan W Lee

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Sam Stone, USA

Robert Welsh, USA

Hazel Wilson, England, UK

Contacting World Convention

World Convention

(Christian - Church of Christ - Disciples of Christ)

4800/B Franklin Road, Nashville,

TN 37220-1199, USA

Phone: +1 (615) 331-1824

Fax: +1 (615) 331-1864

Email: worldconv@aol.com

Web Site:

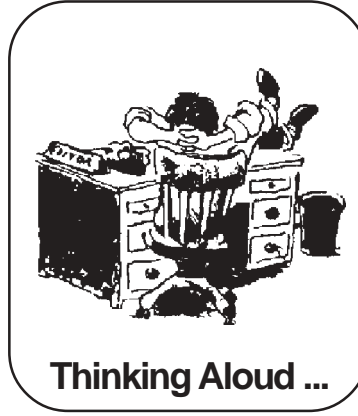
www.worldconvention.org

General Secretary:

Lyndsay Jacobs

Associate General Secretary:

Lorraine Jacobs



Continued from page 1.

Embracing Your Global Family

appear. New Testament writers decried them. They are outside the will of God.

• **Give up on simple definitions.** Life is complex and dynamic. We try to simplify. Categorising is one way we do this. In our twelve years with World Convention, we have learned that our movement is different in each of the 167 countries where we have churches (don't define other countries through your understanding of your own.), that the 'streams' are diverse, individual congregations are rich in their variety of views and understanding - and that even individuals change over time!

• **Practise unity endlessly.** Build bridges wherever you find problems or stone walls. Continue to look for solutions.

• **Work to make your congregation or ministry a model of what the whole church should be.** If we cannot do it there, can we do it anywhere?

• **Never put the church down.** Your congregation, your global family or your Christian neighbours. Concerns must be expressed in love, and not with arrogance. To do otherwise is to continue to crucify Christ.

• **Embrace the ministry of World Convention.** World Convention exists for every member and every church within our global family. Every day *World Convention* seeks to build up fellowship, understanding and common purpose within our unique movement.

Embrace your global family! Embrace the Church!

Lorraine & Lyndsay Jacobs

It won't be too late until it's over

But if you haven't registered for World Convention in Brighton and you can come we suggest you register now!

And, yes - with the addition of some coaches we have spaces on all of the following World Convention tours:

- A. 12 day pre tour of England & Scotland
- B. 15 day pre tour: History of Christianity in the British Isles (Ireland, N Ireland, Scotland, England)
- C. 15 day post tour of England, Wales, Scotland and N. Ireland
 - D. 13 day post tour of Europe (France, Germany, Czech R, Austria, Italy)

Death of Allan W Lee

Dr Allan Lee, General Secretary of World Convention from 1971 - 1993, died peacefully on March 8th. He had been unwell for some time.

A graduate of Phillips University, Peabody College and Brite Divinity School, he received the honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from Texas Christian University in 1968.

Before his appointment as General Secretary, Dr Lee served pastorates in New York, Texas and Washington states. He served on a number of Disciples of Christ and ecumenical Boards. He also wrote no less than eight books and many articles and stories. In his retirement he served Melissa Christian Church in Texas.

Allan Lee served World Convention with distinction. The re-structure of the Christian Church in 1968 and the sudden death of the World Convention president, Dr W Barnett Blakemore in 1975, made his term a particularly challenging one. Our global church family owes Dr Lee a huge debt of gratitude for ensuring the ministry of World Convention continued strongly through this time.

We extend our sympathy to Allan's wife, Mildred (who served World Convention as the office manager through Allan's ministry), their daughter Cyndi and her husband David.



Dr Allan W Lee



The World Convention Forward Fund:

\$50,000 needed this year

2004 looks like being one of World Convention's best years. However, it also one of its most challenging!

At the end of the year, **Lyndsay and Lorraine Jacobs** return to New Zealand after twelve years as the executive staff for World Convention.

Jeff Weston will be installed as **General Secretary** at 'Brighton' on August 1 (World Convention Sunday), and will begin full time in October to give a period of essential overlap with Lorraine and Lyndsay.

The **Brighton World Convention** with its theme, *Founded on Christ - Building for Tomorrow*, is creating great excitement - and of course more work for the staff.

World Christian, *ChristiaNet*, the World Convention **Web Site** with **national profiles** of our movement being added every week, the **11:11 - Get Connected** global prayer network and all the other things the World Convention office is doing every day, are growing fast to take advantage of opportunities that exist right now!

**A year of
extra, special
need.**

**Can you help
with extra,
special
support?**

The Need

The essential appointment and relocation/transition costs, the extra 'overhead' requirements of the *Brighton* convention, and the exciting growth in the day to day ministry of World Convention mean that **an extra US\$35,000 is needed this year.**

To cover the 'overlap' salary a further \$15,000 will be required.

That is a huge amount for a ministry which has an annual budget of just US\$165,000 per year.

The only way World Convention can achieve all that is necessary this year is for gifts, from those who believe in World Convention, to rise by \$50,000 from the 2003 record of \$57,000.

The total need is for a Forward Fund of \$50,000 - almost doubling present annual giving.

Can it be done? God alone knows that and will be working through us all to achieve it if that is God's will.

Is it necessary? We believe there is absolutely no doubt about that.

Meeting the need

• **We are asking Friends of World Convention**, a wonderful group of people, to make an extra effort this year for this vital ministry. Please examine the special need of World Convention this year and your resources to see what you can contribute (in addition to your regular gift) to the *Forward Fund*.

• **We are asking all those who are on our mailing list** but have never made a *Friends* gift, to make a special contribution to the *Forward Fund* this year.

• **We are asking congregations (and groups within congrega-**

tions) that make direct support gifts, to make a special extra gift for the World Convention *Forward Fund* this year.

If God moves us all, we know the need will be met, and this year will be one of growing impact for World Convention and our global family.

Supporting gifts for World Convention have been growing in number and generosity. For example, *Friends of World Convention* which totalled just \$7,500 in 1992, rose to \$57,000 in 2003.

Withn your support, the every day ministry of World Convention (building up fellowship, understanding and common purpose within your global church family) has grown rapidly.

All Forward Fund gifts will be acknowledged with a special certificate and will be listed in a special panel in *World Christian*.

Gifts made earlier in the year will be listed in each issue. Gifts made later in the year will be added to the panel.

Gifts will be listed in sections

- \$5000 or more
- \$2000 - \$4999
- \$1000 - \$1999
- \$500 - \$999
- \$150 - \$499
- \$75 - \$149
- Up to \$75

Your generous gift in any category will be gratefully received and every gift will help us reach our goal.

Please do all you can to make sure World Convention can respond to its calling to build up fellowship, understanding and common purpose within your church family in 2004.

If you appreciate the ministry of World Convention, we need you to show your appreciation now.

Friends and Forward Fund Gifts

The global day to day ministry of World Convention depends on gifts from *Friends of World Convention* (churches and individuals) for all that it does.

- Your current label (pg 8) gives the date of your latest gift.
- Australian/Canadian/USA/UK currency checks/cheques please.
- Or use your credit card.
- (New Zealand cheques to Dr David Coulter, 264 Highgate, Dunedin.)

Thank you for your gift!

Friends: \$.....

Forward Fund: \$.....

Name _____

Mailing address _____

Email _____

If using credit card:

Visa _____ Mastercard _____

Discover _____ Diners Club _____

Card Number _____

Expiry date ____ / ____

Amount \$US _____ or other

currency (state) _____

Signature _____

• **Credit card gifts** are entered in \$US. Please indicate clearly if your gift is in another currency.

- **Friends gifts from the USA** are acknowledged in four groups:
 - Contributor - up to \$75
 - Supporter - up to \$125
 - Sustainer - up to \$300
 - Benefactor - over \$300

Mail: 4800 B Franklin Rd, Nashville, TN 37220-1199, USA
Email: worldconv@aol.com
Fax: +1 (615) 331-1864

World Convention 2004 - Outline Program

Meeting in Brighton, England. Theme: Founded in Christ - Building for Tomorrow!

	Wednesday 28 July	Thursday 29 July	Friday 30 July	Saturday 30 July	Sunday 1 August
8.30 am - 9.00 am	Early Registration (8.15 am - 9.15 am) for those on morning tour or attending Leaders' Forum.)	Prayers for the convention and the world	Prayers for the convention and the world Business Mtg 9.10 am	Prayers for the convention and the world	Prayers for the convention and the world
9.30 am - 11.00 am	• Open Registration (9.30 am - 7.00 pm; 9.00 pm - 9.45 pm) • Leaders' Forum* • Half Day Tour (9 am)*	Worship and Bible Study. Speaker: Merrill Kitchen	Worship and Bible Study. Speaker: Musa Dube	Worship and Bible Study. Speaker: Gene Boring	Closing Communion Service. Convention will end before noon.
11.30 am - 12.30 pm		Tools for the Task: Ministry & Mission Groups. (See below.)	Tools for the Task: Ministry & Mission Groups. (See below.)	Seminars (Group A) (See below.)	Preacher: David Thompson
12.45 pm - 2.15 pm	• Leaders' Frm Lunch* • Half Day Tour (1 pm)*	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Women's Luncheon and program and World CWF Meeting.* Men's Luncheon.* Speaker: Ben Merold Ministers' Luncheon.* Spkr: Chris Hobgood	Post Convention Tours begin following morning service.
2.30 pm - 3.30 pm	• Registration continues • Leaders' Forum continues* • Afternoon tour cont.*	Tools for the Task: Ministry & Mission Groups - session 2.	Tools for the Task: Ministry & Mission Groups - session 2.		
4.00 pm - 5.00 pm		Tools for the Task: Ministry & Mission Groups - session 3.	Tools for the Task: Ministry & Mission Groups - session 3.	Seminars (Group B) (See below.)	
7.00 pm - 9.00 pm	Opening Session. Speaker: Martin Robinson	Evening Session. Speaker: Verna Cassells	Evening Session. Speaker: Joel Edwards	Special Celebration: An Evening in Britain	
9.00 pm - 9.45 pm	Presidents' Reception				

- ***Tickets required.** These events include meals and/or transport.
- All day **Tools for the Task groups** - see below. Pre-selection desirable & guarantees place. Form, page 8.
- One hour **Seminars**, Saturday. You will be able to choose two. These will be detailed in the next issue of *World Christian*.
- **Registration/information desk** open 9 am - 7 pm daily.
- **Exhibits** will be open 11 am - 10 pm daily (Convention Centre closes 10 pm) except during evening program, 7-9 pm.
- The **Friday morning plenary session** will begin at 9.10 am to allow for a brief World Convention business meeting.

Tools for the Task groups (Thursday and Friday)

These exciting and valuable three-session groups will be presented on Thursday, 11.30 am - 5 pm and repeated on Friday. Choose one of the following for Thursday and another for Friday. On Friday you may choose instead to share in the excursion to Arundel Castle (after Windsor Castle, the largest inhabited castle in the United Kingdom) and 900 year old Chichester Cathedral. Those completing this form and returning it by May 10 will be guaranteed their first choices. After that places will be awarded as requests are received.

A. Growing Healthy Churches Naturally. **Christian Schwarz.** Christian is the Director of the Institute for Natural Church Development in Germany.

B. The Ministry of Small Churches. **Dan Yarnell.** Dan is National Coordinator of the Fellowship of Churches of Christ in the United Kingdom.

C. The Ministry of Rural Churches. **Jenny Carpenter.** Jenny is the UK Rural Officer for the United Reformed and Methodist churches.

D. The Church in the City. **Gordon Moyes.** Gordon is the Senior Minister of Wesley Mission in Sydney, Australia, Australia's largest Christian complex.

E. Migration & Mission: The Cross Cultural Challenge. **Derek Wensley, Emmanuel Nkusi, Martha Mazuera Ramos.** Derek, a United Reformed Church minister and

Church Growth Consultant for the Bible Society, has developed twelve social action programs in East London. Emmanuel (Community Worker and Community Development) and Martha (Educational/Stress Management Consultant) work in East London also.

F. Maintaining Personal Life in the Midst of Ministry & Mission. **Roy Searle.** Roy is a Baptist minister and a founder/leader of the Northumbria Community which focuses on spirituality, mission & cultural issues.

G. Hungry for God: Helping others develop their Spiritual Life. **John Johansen-Burg.** John is Chairman of the Reflection Group for the Living Spirituality Network (Churches Together in Britain & Ireland) and author of *Prayers of the Way & Prayers for Pilgrims*.

H. Leadership Development. **Tony &**

Rhonda Sands, ministry team with the Fellowship of Churches of Christ in the UK.

I. Taking Your Church from Good to Great. **Barry McMurtrie and Ben Merold.** Barry and Ben are megachurch senior ministers with Christian Churches/Churches of Christ in the USA.

J. Transformational Change. **Chris Vermuelen.** Chris works as a consultant with congregations in the United Kingdom as they transition from historical/traditional to missional churches.

K. Communication in the 21st Century. **Doug Smith.** Communication in the local church and the wider world. Doug is Executive Director for the Virginia (USA) Interfaith Center for Public Policy.

L. Youth in Mission. A group led by a local youth project team.

Conventioners :Use this form
for Special Requests

SPECIAL REQUESTS

Every conventioner should complete this form & return it to arrive by May 10th to get their first choice of 'Tools for the Task' groups (see bottom of page four). After that we'll do our best with space available.

- If you have not already registered please do so on the form to the right and leave it attached.
- If you have already registered please complete section A below for identification.

A. I/we have already registered. (If not, please complete form on right)

Name/s _____

Address _____

Registration number/s (if available) _____

B. Tools for the Task groups. Please choose from groups A - L on page four. Remember these groups are on Thursday and repeat Friday so you can choose two. The cost of these groups is covered by your registration fee. On Friday there is the additional option of an excursion to Arundel Castle (box lunch provided there) and Chichester Cathedral. See below for cost (coach, lunch and entrance fees).

Please check/tick your choices: (One check/tick per person, per day)
Thursday A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G ___ H ___ I ___ J ___ K ___ L ___
Friday A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G ___ H ___ I ___ J ___ K ___ L ___

or (Friday only) Arundel / Chichester (number on this tour: ___) Total tour cost

C. Leaders Forum (9.30am - 4 pm Wednesday). All interested in our church family today & tomorrow invited. Lunch is provided and considered part of the program as it provides opportunities to identify and meet people.

Number of tickets required (costs below) ____ Total cost

D. Half Day Tours of Brighton. Wednesday prior to convention opening. Leaving from the convention centre at 9 am and 1 pm.

Number of tickets required (costs below) ____ Total cost

E. Saturday Luncheon programs. Three simultaneous lunches for Men, Women (including World CWF) and Ministers.

Number of tickets required (costs below).
 Men ____ Women ____ Ministers ____ Total cost

F. World Youth Convention. Information is in World Christian # 42 (Fourth quarter, 2003). Tick/check here if you need a copy ____ Ages: 11-18 on July 28, 2004. List name/s of attendees below and include fee.

 _____ Total cost

G. Children's Program. (6-12 years) (Overlap with youth is intentional; you choose.) Morning session like Vacation Bible School; afternoon outings; evening - children's worship. List name/s of attendees below and include appropriate fee.

 _____ Total cost

	US\$	UK£	AUD\$	CANS
Leaders' Forum	29.50	16.50	39.75	39.75
Half Day Tours of Brighton	16.00	9.00	21.75	21.75
Chichester/Arundel Excursion	55.00	29.50	69.50	69.50
Saturday Luncheon Programs	20.00	11.00	26.50	26.50
World Youth Convention	150.00	90.00	215.00	215.00
Children's Program	50.00	30.00	72.50	72.50

Total amount you are enclosing. Currency ____ Amount

Please enclose check/cheque (payable to 'World Convention') in Australian, Canadian, New Zealand or USA dollars or £stg only. To pay by credit card complete credit card details to the right on registration form.

Use this form to register
for World Convention

REGISTER NOW

World Convention: July 28 - August 1, 2004

Please print very clearly

• **Name/s** (Christian and family names as for name badges)

(1) first _____ last _____

(2) first _____ last _____

Children attending (age: August 1, 2004)

_____ () _____ ()

_____ () _____ ()

• **Contact information**

Street _____

City/Town _____ State/province _____

Postal/zip code _____ Country _____

Email _____

Phone: Area code - _____ Local number - _____

Local Congregation _____

• **Registration (check/tick)**

___ Attending. (I/we hope/plan to be there!)

___ Non-attending. (Supporting; mailed materials)

___ Electronic (email). Daily email reports. (Attending and non-attending registrants may wish to receive this information too; add the email registration fee.)

• **Payment**

- Fees are per person. (Refundable after convention if requested by May 31, 2004.)

- No registration fee for children/youth (up to/including high school) attending with parents. For those who share in children's and youth programs there is a fee to cover costs. Youth US\$150 or £90; Children US\$50 or £30. Details in World Christian #43. See adjacent form.

- Youth/Young adults beyond high school need to pay the registration fee. Those who choose to be involved in the youth event will receive credit for their registration towards the youth event program costs.

Please calculate fees from this chart and enter total below.

From:	2004	Supporting	Email
Australia	AUD\$165	AUD\$50	AUD\$40
Canada	CAN\$150	CAN\$45	CAN\$35
New Zealand	NZ\$180	NZ\$55	NZ\$40
United Kingdom	£75	£15	£15
United States	US\$130	US\$50	US\$35
Other countries	US\$60/US\$85*	US\$30	US\$25

(*Higher amount for those with 'one third world' incomes; lower amount for those with 'two thirds world' incomes)

• Method of Payment: Check/cheque ___ or credit card ___ (provide details below)
 Cheques (payable to 'World Convention') in Australian, Canadian, New Zealand or USA dollars or £stg only.

• Circle the amounts you are paying above. Add youth/children fees for those joining these programs. (Remember amounts are per person for attendees).

ENTER THE TOTAL you are paying here:

• If paying by credit card please supply

Card number _____

Expiry date ____ / ____

Visa ____ Mastercard ____ Discover ____ Diners Club ____

Signature _____

Mail to: World Convention, 4800 B Franklin Road, Nashville TN 37220-1199, USA

Thank you: *Friends Gifts* in 2003 a Record; Small Annual Deficit

Gifts from *Friends of World Convention* totalled US\$7,000.00 in 2003 - the highest amount of annual support ever received. Our very grateful thanks to every person who contributed. Every gift helped in achieving this total and helped World Convention in its extensive global ministry. Because World Convention's ministry continued to widen in 2003 we do have a small deficit of \$4722 carried forward into this year. The following gifts have been received and used since the last issue of *World Christian* in November.

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World Convention Contributors

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Oklahoma Disciples Foundation
Overland Park CC (DOC), Overland Park KS
Southland CC, Lexington KY
Tates Creek CC, Lexington KY
Webster Groves CC (DOC), St Louis MO
Westminster Church of Christ, MD
Westwood Hills CC, Los Angeles CA
Wheeling Charitable Trust, Tulsa OK

Australia

Chris & Mary Ambrose, Goolwa SA
Peter Amos, Wellington Pt, QLD
Keith & Robin Bowes, Shelley, WA
Dorothy Cant, Carine WA
Joseph Gager, Northgate QLD
Ana & Tod Gobledele, Mulgrave VIC
Lorraine Hensby, N Turrumurra NSW
Janson & Miriam Holloway, Innaloo WA
Andrew & Sally McMillan, Maidstone VIC
Ron & Joy Sansome, Mansfield, QLD
Shirley Wallis, Altona Meadows VIC
Wembly Downs Church of Christ, WA
Zion Western, Nedlands WA
Elaine Wilson, Bathurst NSW

Canada

Melinda Benoit, Nepean ON
Lillian Bergman, Edmonton AB
Neil Bergman, Bedford NS
Roy & Jean Mansfield, Milton NS

Hong Kong (China)

Benjamin & Karen Rees, Kowloon

Jamaica

Barbara Christian
Raymond & Ruth Coke
Lena Lawrence
Clovis & Lucille Mendez
Michael Reid
Muriel Rose

New Zealand

Associated Churches of Christ in NZ
- national gift.
Ray Blampied, Bishopdale, Christchurch
Betty Coats, North East Valley, Dunedin
Olga Cook, Waikanae
David & Anne Coulter, Roslyn, Dunedin
Pam Courtney, Mataura
Shirley Davison, Wanganui
Neil & Hazel Griffith, Christchurch
Muriel Laing, Stoke, Nelson
Moorhouse Ave Church of Christ Trust
Aline & Eric Russ, Nelson
Betty Weir, Lynfield, Auckland
Woolf/Stade families, Southgate, Wellington

United Kingdom

Jean & Peter Arthur, Glasgow, Scotland
Alistair Smeaton, Workington, England
United Reformed Church, national gift.

Endowment Fund

Jeanne & Bill Dunn
for Allan & Mildred Lee
Gail & Carol Dunning, Louisburg MO
Robert & Virgie Lee Shaw, Coral Gables FL
Richard & Peggy Ziglar, Tulsa OK
for Bill Howland, Lyndsay
Jacobs, Sid & Elizabeth Spain,
Yvonne Lambert, Fan Life.

Friends Gifts

USA *Friends* gifts are recognised in four categories:

- Up to \$75.00: Contributing Friend.
- Up to \$125.00: Supporting Friend.
- Up to \$275.00: Sustaining Friend.
- Over \$275.00: World Convention Benefactor.

Because of the different value of other currencies, gifts from other countries are listed by country only.

Are you receiving *ChristiaNet*

a monthly email of news of your global Church family?

Keep up to date yourself and include paragraphs in church newsletters.

Send your name and email address to worldconv@aol.com

Around Your World

¶ The **National Benevolent Association** of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the USA has filed for a protective bankruptcy so it can reorganise its finances. The filing (which affects NBA & 25 of its affiliates only) is seen as a positive opportunity and could last up to two years. NBA has 20,000 resident and clients.

¶ Pakistan Christian Evangelical Services reports that the **Foreign Minister of Pakistan** visited Kangunpur to celebrate the new year with village Christians. Christians and Muslims participated in the cake cutting ceremony. Songs were sung and scripture was read.

¶ **Haiti** has been very much in the news. It has recently been moved down to the third poorest nation by the UN and some believe the current trouble will lead to it moving to second place. Many are turning to the churches and our churches (600 plus), agencies and partners are doing all they can to meet spiritual and material need.

¶ Tim James has been appointed Associate General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the **USA and Canada**. He is also the Administrative Secretary of the Disciples' (African American) National Convocation.

¶ The North American Christian Convention will be held in Phoenix, Arizona, USA this year from July 5-8. The main speakers are Kyle Idleman, Dick Alexander (president), Gene Appel and Dudley Rutherford. Information at: nacetheconnectingplace.org

¶ 1101 baptistries have been given

to prisons by ARM Prison Outreach International in its 30+ years of ministry. 4.8 million greeting cards (for prisoners to send greetings) were distributed through chaplains last year. 12,300 Bibles in January this year (in partnership with the American Bible Society. www.arm.org)

¶ Asia Pacific Christian Mission International - Indonesia reports that they are working in 29 of the 30 provinces in **Indonesia** and the southern part of Mindanao in the **Philippines**. There are 148 church planters, mission students, staff and field workers. apindo@attglobal.net

¶ The International Christian College in Manila, The Philippines, established by Ross and Cheryl Wissmann had its first official interview with the Commission on Higher Education (Philippines government) recently. US\$20,000 of upgrades will meet physical requirements. Graduation was March 20. 50-60 new entrants are expected for the new semester. wissmann@yahoo.com

¶ Week of Compassion (caring agency of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) reports more than 1.7 million people in the east African nation of **Eritrea** are facing severe food shortages after a prolonged drought. WOC is helping. www.weekofcompassion.org

¶ IDES (caring organisation of Christian Churches/Churches of Christ in the USA) disbursed \$1,875,000 in much needed and varied help in 2003.

¶ TCM (Training Christians for Ministry in **Eastern Europe**) estimates 35 people will receive degrees at graduation on April 18. 545 students from sixteen countries are currently enrolled - over 400 of these in 'Masters' degree programs. www.tcmi.org

¶ Global Ministries (Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ) recently appointed eleven new missionaries to **Honduras, Japan, Israel, Kenya, Guatemala, Lithuania and Angola**. www.globalministries.org

¶ Two new churches were established in **Fiji** in 2003.

Jottings

- Chris Baigent in **New Zealand** is leading a mission trip to **Zimbabwe**, May 12 - June 2.
- Gospel Broadcasting Mission is building a new studio to record gospel radio programs near Chiang Mai in **Thailand**. www.gospelmissionbroadcasting.org
- Harvey & Nancy Bacus are committed to establishing a Christian Library in **Amman**, Jordan over the next five years. hbacus@occedu
- Morning Glory Christian School in **Guatemala** is going well with 470 students in new buildings. www.zianet.com/nima
- The **South African** Christian Church/Churches of Christ National Youth Seminar has formed a partnership with Christ In Youth (Joplin, MO, USA) to hold two day Youth Leader Training School each year before the national conference.
- 300-400 deaf children will be involved in two camps run by Deaf Ministries International in the **Philippines** in March April. A team from Melbourne, **Australia** will run the camps.
- 10,000-12,000 people are attending the annual International Soul Winning Workshop in Tulsa, Oklahoma, **USA** March 25-27. www.tulsaworkshop.org
- The churches of Christ Zambia Mission Fund has sent four 40 foot containers of dried vegetables to **Zambia** to distribute with maize they are providing.
- The first students graduated from the Bible Institute of the church in Campinas, **Brazil** on February 1
- Clothes-Minded employs 325+ workers in **Ukraine** and **Kosova** to distribute clothing there. www.masterprovisions.org
- Whitefields Evangelism reports 3020 baptisms during a mission to **India** in January and February
- Darryl and Carol Krause are planting a church in Kalibo, a provincial capital in The **Philippines**.
- Ben and Karen Rees have provided leadership for 22 years for a Filipino congregation in Kowloon, **Hong Kong**. Many return to the Philippines where their leadership training in Hong Kong is very valuable.

What Next?

Some Significant national and global events we are aware of.

Please send us your dates!

2004:

- # **National Convention of Christian Churches/Churches of Christ in the Philippines**. April 14-18.
- # **USA Stone-Campbell Dialogue celebration** in Indianapolis. April 25-26.
- # **Fellowship of Churches of Christ in the UK** national day. May 2
- # **Cane Ridge 'Day'**. June 26-28. Celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the *Last Will & Testament*.
- # **United Reformed Church Assembly**. July 4-6, Glamorgan, Wales, UK
- # **North American Christian Convention**. July 5-8, Phoenix, AZ.
- # **USA/Canada Disciples of Christ Men's Sessions**. July 15-18. Midway College, Lexington, Kentucky, USA
- # **International Disciples Ecumenical Consultative Council**. July 23-26. Brighton, UK.
- # **World Convention**, Brighton, UK. July 28-Aug 1.
- # **All Japan Christian Churches Convention**. Osaka. July 28-30.
- # **Pan European Lectureship** (a cappella Churches of Christ.) Edinburgh, Scotland, UK. August 1-5.
- # **National Missionary Convention**. September 30 - October 3, Peoria IL, USA
- # **Restoration Forum XXII**. October 15-17. Detroit area. mstorm@rc.edu

2005:

- # **Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the USA & Canada**. Portland OR, July 23-27.
- # **National Missionary Convention**. Atlanta GA, Nov 17-20.

The European Evangelistic Society
(wvehuxford@earthlink.net)
and the
Hisportic (Portuguese) Christian Mission
(wlong@hcm.org) will each have meal functions at *Brighton*.
Use the email addresses to obtain more information.

Do you live in Europe?

Are you in touch with members of our churches in Europe?

Our goal: Every country in Europe represented at Brighton!

- Register yourself now.
- Contact those you know.
- Send us names and addresses in Europe so that we can send *World Christian* to them.



Have you included the everyday global ministry of World Convention in your will?

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World Christian

Quarterly Paper of World Convention

First Quarter 2004 issue specially prepared for:

**Sixteenth
World
Convention**

•
**Brighton
England**

•
**July 28 - August 1
2004
Register Now**

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What's that you said?

Key points from this issue of World Christian



- Just as we finished preparing this issue of *World Christian*, we learned of the **death of former General Secretary, Dr Allan W Lee**. See page 2.
- **Jeff Weston** of Australia has been called as **next General Secretary** of World Convention. See page 1.
- **It's important for our members and churches to embrace their global family - and the every day ministry of World Convention**. See pages 1 - 2.
- **Conventioners:** It's time to choose your special '**Tools for the Task Group**' and order tickets for convention functions. **Choose your group by May 10** to guarantee your choice. Page 4 - 5.
Check you **passport** is valid too. If you need a letter to support a **visa** application, ask us now!
- Yes, we have added coaches and have room for you on the **World Convention pre and post tours**. Ask for the coloured brochure (World Christian #41 - second quarter last year or check our web site.) Page 2.
- **Register for World Convention** if you can possibly come. You'll be glad you came! You and your church will benefit. Page 4 - 5.
- Catch up on **news of your church family** around the world. Page 7.
- **2004 will be one of World Convention's best. It will also be the most challenging!** Page 3.