



The Peacekeepers

Association for Ministry to Military Personnel Newsletter

April, 2011

TIM'S SERVICE

by Tim "K9" Kunzweiler, President

The Lord is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Recent events - including the *Easter* remembrance and an April 10th worship service, webcast live from the Independence Temple - present us some timely opportunities to dwell upon the life and example of Christ and the role of Community of Christ in today's world. Have you thought about this statement from Doctrine and Covenants Section 164:9 lately? "The mission of Jesus Christ is what matters most for the journey ahead." Now is a good time to *Dwell in the Word*.

President Steve Veazey specifically speaks to "The Meaning of the Resurrection" in a 16+ minute presentation available from the Church website (2011 Media Archives: <http://www.cofchrist.org/broadcast/2011archive.asp>). I encourage your prayerful consideration to Brother Steve's testimony in relation to Acts 3: 1-12 and our available path for action in this time.

The April 10 webcast provided the forum for Prophet/President Steve Veazey's annual address to the Church and a significant address it was! I hope you will be as excited as I was at hearing, for the first time, about Community of Christ [Mission Initiatives](http://www.cofchrist.org/mission/default.asp) (<http://www.cofchrist.org/mission/default.asp>). Our Mission Initiatives affirm that "Christ's mission is our mission" and will help *make mission real* for all who are willing to serve. You are already in the



world. Will you dwell - with me, and with the World Church - on our developing roles: to be focused on the whole mission of Jesus Christ through these five, *life-changing, church-changing, and world-changing mission initiatives*:

- Invite People to Christ (Christ's mission of evangelism)
- Abolish Poverty, End Suffering (Christ's mission of compassion)
- Pursue Peace on Earth (Christ's mission of justice and peace)
- Develop Disciples to Serve (Equip individuals for Christ's mission)
- Experience Congregations in Mission (Equip congregations for Christ's mission)

If you did not have the chance to share directly in the evening's events you can still enjoy the experience by linking to streaming media clips; this link remains available as I write near the end of April 2011: <http://www.cofchrist.org/broadcast/2011archive.asp#mission>.

As you continue to serve a world in need I pray that these initiatives will shape your daily path.

In Christ's Victory!
May God bless all Peacekeepers.

Tim "K9" Kunzweiler, President.

The Community of Christ Association for Ministry to Military Personnel is dedicated to bringing ministry to Community of Christ members serving on active duty world-wide.

Curt's Column

by Curt Heaviland

Spring has sprung, the grass has riz, I wonder where the words for this article is?



This is a take off from a local jeweler in Lamoni, Iowa. I can remember well the implication he made when printing it in the Graceland Tower. Of course, this is ancient history as I was a freshman at that point in time. As I look back at those years I find I have very fond memories of the events that occurred.

As you look back at your life now, what kind of memories do you have? I think this is true for all of us. We tend, for the most part, to remember the pleasant things that have occurred in our lives and tend to forget or at least don't call readily to mind the unpleasant ones. Isn't it great that the Lord has put this mechanism in our thought process?

The occurrences that stand out in my mind while I spent time in the Navy was the fact that each and every time we went to sea I got seasick. Even now, just the thought of these times gives me a queasy feeling in my stomach.

So much for the unpleasant thoughts. What I'm trying to get at is the fact that at this point in time you are gathering memories for the future. Certainly, there are things that take place that are not pleasant but for the most part each day can be filled with your thanks to God for another day.

Each day as someone asks me how I am I respond "Fantastic, I woke up this morning". That is the philosophy I want to carry with me each day. I thank God that he has given me another day on His creation. Be positive, not negative. People would rather be around those who are positive in nature and not negative. Make the most of every day that you have and be certain to take the Lord with you every step of the way. You'll find the days getting better. May the Lord keep you from harm's way is my prayer for you.

GOD BLESS,

Curt

Denzil West wrote recently, passing a note from a friend to another Marine (as I understand there's no such thing as an "old" Marine).

I could not locate the original material and so do not wish to infringe on any copyright. Even so, the offering was very appropriate to those "in service" and so I will paraphrase the content.

The matter dealt with *releasing the fragrance of Christ* which appears to align with II Corinthians 2:15, from NIV: "For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing."

The invitation given was to embrace the sweet aroma of service (can kind of catch a service-member's attention right there!). The author wrote how nothing may get attention as much as "doing something for nothing." Such actions can be a shock to others (for example: when assistance is offered *without a catch*.)

The conjecture is how Christ would have us embrace the sweet aroma of service to Him in order to reach the spiritually lost. In a world that's, in many ways, focused on anything BUT Christ, individuals are not in touch with God or even other people. Peacekeepers may look around and see this evidence. The author states a wonderful way to shine the light of Jesus is to lend a *no-strings attached* helping hand that leaves "the fragrant scent of our Savior lingering in the souls of those we help." The invitation is to join in prayerfully considering how to allow the Lord to release His fragrance through our willingness to serve.



Good advice to all who would be in service!

Chaplain's Call

by Chaplain, Major Scott Jobe

Flowing Lava & Sinking Sand (A Sermon).

Scripture: Psalm 18:2 (NIV) The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Matthew 7:24 – 27 (NIV) ²⁴ Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and

puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.



²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.

²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.

Sermon: After almost two weeks of leave when we didn't have any questions harder than "Should we go to the beach or the pool?" I'll admit that it was a little hard to get back into the work mindset. Knowing that I needed to come up with a sermon when I got back helped me to see a lot of it with an eye to God's lessons, though. Our trip to the Volcano National Park especially made me think about today's scripture when one of the rangers urged us to come back to visit in the future, saying that the park might be very different the next time, due to the still-flowing lava. In fact, he indicated that the Kona coast, where most of the resorts and restaurants are, was overdue a lava flow that would bury the entire area. That had already happened to one area near the park, and we were frequently shown videos of houses and whole subdivisions being consumed by the slow-moving lava flows. There wasn't anywhere we went that we didn't see evidence of lava flows, since that was the origin of the entire island — though some of the flows were obviously more recent than others and still didn't have anything growing on them.

Now, I don't know about you, but where I grew up, the ground didn't move much. Except for the occasional sinkhole (or collapsing coal mine in southern Illinois), houses tended to stay where you put them. It took being stationed on the coast in Florida and then in Mississippi for me to see what happens to houses that are built too close to the coast — houses literally built on sand. The irony, of course, is that those were (at least before Katrina) the most sought-after, the most prestigious addresses! But the truth of the matter is that hurricanes happen on the Gulf, and those physical houses built on sand (and even a few churches) don't weather the storm. What really impressed me

when we PCSed to Keesler two years after Katrina, though, was the number of people who testified that the things they lost were just *things*. Their faith in God was as strong or stronger **after they came through the storm**. Their houses may not have been built on solid rock, but their faith in God was.

Now, I know this saying of Jesus is familiar to most of you, but let's take a closer look at it. This is part of what we call "the Sermon on the Mount," as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew.

In Matthew chapter 5, Jesus gave the moral basis for life in His kingdom: Jesus' people are transformed from within, and their godly values are expressed in a holy life that fulfills not just the letter of the Law, but its spirit and intent.

In chapters 6 & 7, Jesus described the lifestyle of those who live in His kingdom. The major emphases in these chapters indicate that the person who lives, in any age, as a citizen of heaven's kingdom will:

- ✠ Seek to please God, who sees in secret, rather than men who judge by what is on public view.
- ✠ Trust God completely to meet material needs, and so concentrate on God's kingdom and righteousness.
- ✠ Express trust in God in prayer and by looking to Him to meet every need.
- ✠ Act on and obey the words of Jesus, which are the only sure foundation for the kingdom lifestyle.

Christians who develop the lifestyle Jesus explains in the Sermon on the Mount will experience the presence and the power of our God.



The entire sermon is continued on the Peacekeeper Website: [Flowing Lava & Sinking Sand](#).

Kid Stuff

by Mary Yocum



We all know how fast children grow up. I think Dominic has been pushing things a bit though. Not long ago he told his mom, "I'm going to miss you when I go to college." He's only five, but had recently watched a "Toy Story" movie about Andy going away to college and leaving Buzz and Woody behind. A few weeks after that he said he would miss her when she dies.

"Let's worry about you learning to tie your shoes before we worry about me dying, is that all right?" answered Beth.

He likes to compare himself to animals is I did too. His claims range from being strong as a bear, starving like a duck, to being fast as a chicken.

He once asked us if he could have dessert. Grandpa teasingly asked him what dessert was. "You know, Grandpa," he replied, "dessert is the fake you get to eat if you ate all your real food." We laughed and then Don said, "If dessert is fake food you don't need any, right?" Needless to say, Dominic wasn't happy with that turn of phrase.

Dominic has learned to riffle the pages of a book with his thumb. He often asks to read my book to me. Not so long ago I obliged him is handing over my book.

"Do you want a long story or a short story, Grandma?"

"A short story I guess," I replied.

Thumbing the edge of the pages he said, "Once upon a time is blah, blah, blah is the end."

Laughing I asked for a long story.

Again turning the pages he intoned, "Once upon a time is blah, blah, blah, blah is a wolf, the end."

Our daughter, Beth, has had a best friend forever (or BFF), since 5th grade. Daylin has two daughters, Alexia is age eight, and Jayden is just turning six. Recently they spent an overnight at a friend's house so all the kids could play together. Deciding to check on them she opened the door and peeked in.

Dominic said, "You know, there's this new thing called knocking."

She came back with "Is that right?"

"Yes," said Dominic, "I'll put your nose in the corner." Trying to push her toward a corner he discovered how difficult it can be for a five year old to control a grown up.

He also says he's going to "get me" for telling all these stories about him. Think I should worry? Me neither.

Available in an E-mail and a "snail mail" edition. Active-duty military members who join the association can receive either edition for free. Non-active-duty sustaining members receive either edition with a paid Association membership; those dues are **\$10.00/yr, due in April (multi-year discounts available)**. Archive newsletters also available on our Web site: <http://www.cofchristpeacekeepers.org/>

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**You Give Your todays in order that
we might have our tomorrows.**