



Out of My Mind...

A Publication of the Mobilization Unit of the Mideast Baptist Conference

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FROM THE FIELD...


Pastor Max McCullough sends this report of a recent outreach

“Over 600 visitors participated in the *Journey to Bethlehem*, an interactive nativity presented by the Bethany Community Fellowship, Sylvania, Ohio. Guests entered the church basement which was transformed into a marketplace where buying and selling took place, and “Roman” currency was given each journeyman who registered. These coins were spent throughout the market on such items as cookies, candies, snacks, school supplies and crayons. As they were shopping, the names of ten to twelve guests were announced, and they were ordered to join a Centurion, who then led them out of the building to Caesar’s Palace. There they were instructed by Caesar to go to Bethlehem, their hometown according to their lineage. Led by a Centurion, they met shepherds, sheep and even robbers before arriving at the inn, only to find no room available. From the inn, the travelers were led by the innkeeper’s daughter to the stable, where they encountered the Baby, His mother and Joseph. A portion of the Matthew account was quoted before the group was directed to a tent where the Gospel was presented and tracts and a gift were received.

Nearly the entire church family participated in the outreach. It was a terrific opportunity to share the Gospel in the neighborhood and involve the entire church.

We received 148 response cards and learned that:72% came as a result of personal invitation;15% came from advertisement (bill board, posters, ads, etc.);12% came because they drove by and saw all the activity;48% indicated that they would like to know more about our church family.”

The Bethany family looks forward to offering the journey again next year.



Happy New Year

For Your Consideration...

Having just celebrated the birth of Christ (and seen *The Nativity Story*), it’s good to remember that Joseph paid attention to his dreams and aren’t we glad he did??!!

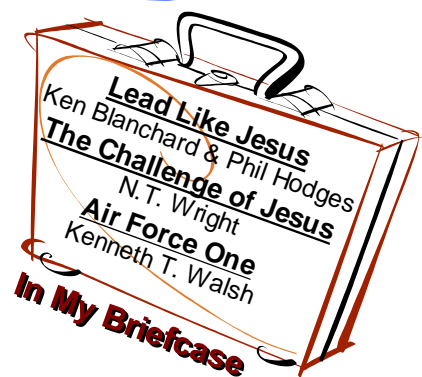
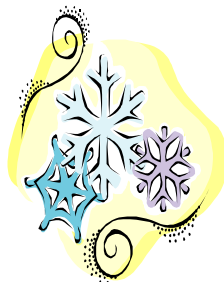
As we start the New Year, it would be fun to sit down with you and talk about your dreams, for your family and your congregation. Perhaps you already have some new initiatives planned; maybe God has put some ideas on your radar screen that will require some risk. Here at the “mothership” we’d be glad to hear about what’s going on in your church and support your ministry more effectively by praying more specifically in the months ahead. Prayer is certainly one of the ways we can feel like part of your life and ministry, however distant we may be. Please feel free to click “Reply” and let us in on the direction God is leading you, personally or corporately, or both, in 2007.

SURROUNDED IN LOVE:

The Badar Family

ON THE MEND:

Barbara Wheeler:
on going health issues
Marianne Hazel:
debilitating back pain
Beth Rodriguez:
recovering from surgery



Selah: “We believe that the next great movement in Christianity will be demonstration. If we want people to be interested in our faith in the future, Christians must practice what we preach.”
Ken Blanchard & Phil Hodges