

FEBRUARY 2009
VOLUME 14 ISSUE 2



Zion Lutheran Church

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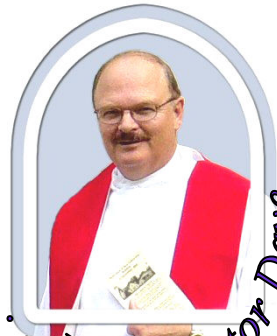
Rev. David Johnson, Pastor
E-mail: johns468@gulftel.com
<http://www.LutheransInSilverhill.com/>

Sunday School 9:00 AM
Worship Service 10:00 AM
Communion: 1st & 3rd Sundays
Wed Bible Study 7:00 PM
Women's Bible Study
3rd Saturday 10:00 AM

Hear Pastor Dave's
God's Loving Kindness
in the Morning
WHEP Radio AM 1310
6:44 AM Sundays



Tribulation Far, Far Away!



From Pastor Dave

1 Chronicles 22:11

"Now, my son, may the LORD be with you; and may you prosper, and build the house of the LORD your God, as He has said to you."

John 16:33 "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

Acts 12:5. "Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church."

1 Corinthians 15:57 "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

News We Don't Hear. Pastor Gene Enderlein, Executive Director of Alpha Omega Compassion, forwarded this information to me on January 29, 2009. It was from a news service called <christiansunite.com> and reported what is happening to Christians about a 100 miles or so northwest of Chirala, the city I visited in India a couple years ago. You may remember that my friend from seminary days, Pastor Martin Luther Sastry, leads the AFLC-India in that city. Here's what we know:

Pastor Yakobu was attacked by Hindu militants on January 16. He was at home in Gumpula, Andhra Pradesh, India, at midnight. He hears a knock on the door. He opens the door. Six men burst in,

beat him, cut him with a knife, shave his head, set fire to his clothes, burn his books, and shout, "We don't want any pastors in the village." Pastor Yakobu with several other local pastors filed a complaint with the police against the attackers the next morning. There is indeed tribulation for the followers of Christ today (John 16:33)!

Prayer in the Face of Tribulation. There is not a whole lot that Christians in Silverhill, Alabama, can do. India is a faraway nation. Its culture is a foreign culture. Its people honor many gods. Yet, the Bible explains that we have options. Think of Acts 12:5. Peter was in jail, and the outlook was very poor. What did the church do? Pray! Listen to this: "Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church." Go to Acts and read the rest of the story, but you get the idea. We can learn from that early church. In fact, <christiansunite.com> requests some very specific things compatible with Bible teaching:

"Pray for healing for Pastor Yakobu. Pray that he, his wife and their children will rely on God's guidance and care. Pray for an outpouring of the Lord's Spirit in India to embolden and strengthen Christians facing trials for their faith." We can pray for those poor, lost militant Hindus that are behind this persecution, that they may find the love of Jesus for them.

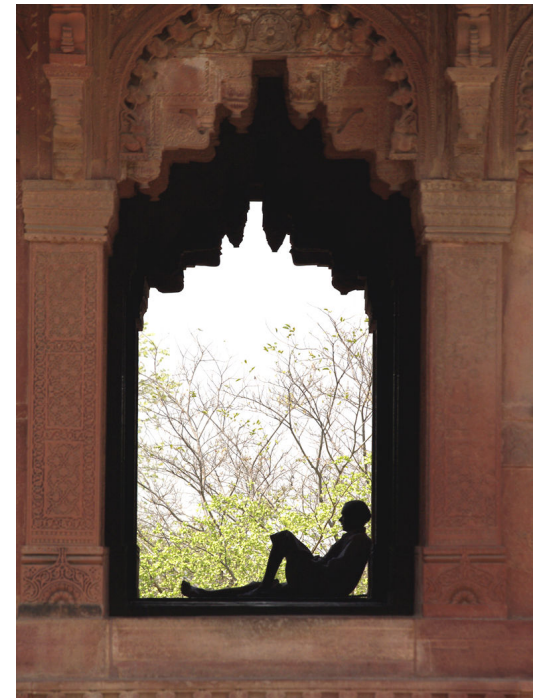
Suffering for the Faith. People do suffer for the cause of Christ today. In our country we often forget that our brothers and sisters in the faith in less tolerant countries actually suffer physically. We can pray for them. <christiansunite.com> invites people to go to <www.persecution.net/India.htm> to learn more of what is exactly going on in India.

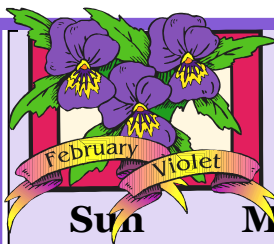
Victory for the Down-Trodden Christian People of India? The "down-trodden people" of India used to be called the "untouchables" in generations past. Many of them live where this violence is tak-

ing place and some are Christians. Is there any hope for the disenfranchised there? Remember 1 Corinthians 15:57? It reminds us of Who is in control of our universe. Paul writes, "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." Jesus is in control of this situation!

Prayer for the Christians Suffering from Hindu Persecution. Lord Jesus, we thank You that You love the Indian people, those in power and those who are powerless. We ask You to keep our brothers and sisters in Christ close to Your bosom in this time of tribulation there. Especially, Lord Jesus, confuse the enemy of Your people and build the fellowship of Christian believers. Protect pastors and flocks in Andhra Pradesh and throughout the Indian subcontinent. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

~Pastor Dave





February 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 Groundhog Day 	3	4 	5	6	7
8	9 	10 	11 	12 Lincoln's Birthday 	13 	14 St. Valentine's Day Party
15 	16 President's Day 	17 	18 	19	20	21
22 Washington's Birthday 	23	24	25 Ash Wednesday 	26	27	28



Altar This Month:
Canning

Activities

- Mon Feb 9 Council Meeting 7 PM
- Tues Feb 10 Men's 710 7:10AM
- Sat Feb 14 Valentine Party 5:30 PM
- Mon Feb 16 President's Day
- Sat Feb 21 Women's Bible Study 10 AM
- Wed Feb 25 Ash Wed
- Wed Nights: Bible Study 7 PM

Birthdays

- Feb 13 Pastor Dave
- Feb 14 Inez Langenbach
- Feb 17 Jeremy Gibbs
- Feb 21 Ralph Utter



From the Treasurer . . .

Budget Recap

End of Year 2008

YTD	Receipts	Expenses
Gen Fund	\$67,952	\$71,015
Debt Fund	\$9,245	\$9,245

~ D. Tasso, Treasurer

Zion's 2009 Valentine's Day Party

Join us on
Saturday
February 14, 2009
5:30 P.M.

Delicious Lasagna Dinner

Followed by
Music and Fun

Dessert is Optional!
(You are invited to bring a dessert to share)

Cost:
\$3.00 per person
\$10.00 for a family greater than 3

Reservations must be in by Sunday, Feb. 8.

Count Your Blessings

Author Unknown

Count your blessings instead of your crosses;
Count your gains instead of your losses.
Count your joys instead of your woes;
Count your friends instead of your foes.
Count your smiles instead of your tears;
Count your courage instead of your fears.
Count your full years instead of your lean;
Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.
Count your health instead of your wealth;
Count on God instead of yourself.