

The Christ for Humanity Newsletter

THE **CFH** CHRONICLES

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Stepping Down

After 15 years as President of Christ for Humanity, Mark Rollins retires. “Stepping down from the leadership of CFH is the most difficult decision I have ever had to make. The greatest adventure and joy of my life has been serving the Lord through Christ for Humanity’s various local and international programs. After all, what could be better than seeing people brought into a relationship with Christ! However, for the past 5 years, health issues have made it more and more difficult for me to perform my ministry duties effectively. The time has come to turn the reigns of leadership over to someone physically able to be the spiritual head of the ministry – someone who can actively represent Christ for Humanity within the Christian community and move the ministry forward in this new millennium.”

Mark Rollins would be the first to say that he is proof that God can use “any willing heart” for His service. Trained as an attorney, Mark practiced law in California for 10 years before moving to Tulsa and becoming involved in the oil and natural gas business. “Given my background and training, I should be last person God would choose for ministry.” However, on a family vacation to the Copper Canyon of northern Mexico in 1989, Mark witnessed first hand the physical and spiritual poverty of the Tepejuan Indians, many of whom lived in caves along mountain paths. Returning to Tulsa, he discovered that New Tribes Mission was evangelizing the various indigenous tribes in the Sierra Madre Mountains, and God touched Mark’s heart to help these dedicated Christian field workers. In 1990 Christ for Humanity was established in anticipation of God’s call to Christian service. When New Tribes indicated that missionaries needed medical teams to enhance their witness to people with little or no healthcare, CFH began arranging short-term mission trips to remote areas in the Sierra. The success of these trips, particularly dental missions, encouraged the ministry to purchase portable dental equipment to have on-site so CFH dental teams could perform restorative dentistry instead of merely pulling teeth. These units are still used today by CFH sponsored dentists and those of other Christian ministries serving in Mexico.

“God had bigger plans for CFH than I ever imagined. Having always had an interest in the Soviet Union, in 1991 I jumped at the chance to be part of a mission trip to Russia. My heart’s desire quickly became to help people within the former Soviet block hear the *good news* of Christ, but how to get people to listen remained a problem.”

God’s answer was again through meeting physical needs. In 1992 CFH received a shipping grant from the US State Department. Since that time, the ministry has shipped nearly 9 million pounds of food, clothing, and medical supplies to Christian groups evangelizing the length and breadth of the former Soviet empire. “I never dreamed that a small Christian ministry based in Tulsa, Oklahoma would become one of the top shippers of humanitarian aid under the government’s Project Support Freedom Program, but by His grace God allowed just that to happen. And thanks to the help and support of the ministry’s faithful core of permanent volunteers, medication, medical supplies and clothing from our Tulsa warehouse have touched more than 35 other countries worldwide during the past 15 years. ”

When the ministry moved into its own building in 1996, the Lord again stretched CFH – this time into the area of local ministry. By 1998 Christ for Humanity had an emergency food pantry, a well-stocked clothes closet and a Director of Local Outreach. Gradually, CFH expanded its local program from meeting the physical and spiritual

needs of walk-in clients to ministry within various housing projects around Tulsa. Today, Christ for Humanity is working with 7 area churches, providing monthly worship services and food distributions at 9 Tulsa Housing Authority facilities. In 2003 Lord prompted CFH to offer a weekly discipleship program (1st Steps) for individuals interested in learning the basics of the faith.

“During the past 15 years, I have been blessed to see the Lord use Christ for Humanity in a multitude of ways: helping build a church and medical clinic in Mexico and a Christian school in Uganda; providing multiple containers of food for starving people in 6 African countries; supplying short-wave radios to underground churches in Vietnam and bicycles for rural pastors in India. God has been so faithful in these projects and so many others over the years! Our current Global Missions program has been one of my greatest joys. Seeing Christian young people interested in serving the Lord abroad, particularly in closed Muslim countries, has renewed my hope for the Great Commission in this country.”

“I am excited to see where the Lord will lead Christ for Humanity in the future and have every confidence in the CFH Governing Board (of which I remain a member) to find a talented Christian leader whose vision is to see CFH continue to be a beacon of light for Christ in a world lost in darkness.”

Tuesday Miracle Workers

Retirement often leaves men isolated and lonely. Not so with the *Tuesday Miracle Workers*, a group of retirees who have banded together to make the dream of homeownership a reality for many of America's low-income families. Working as an arm of Habitat for Humanity, the Tuesday Miracle Workers volunteer their time and energy building Habitat homes in the Tulsa area. Though Tuesday is the group's appointed workday, many men volunteer several days a week. Remaining vital members of society and establishing bonds of friendship with fellow workers is a top priority for these men. However, all of them maintain that the real thrill comes at each house dedication. A family's look of pride, wonder, and joy when receiving the keys to that first home never ceases to make sore muscles and bruised thumbs worthwhile.

Occasionally, the *Tuesday Miracle Workers* undertake special projects within the Tulsa community, and in July 2005 they turned their attention to Christ for Humanity. The ministry's building is quite unique in appearance – much like Miss Kitty's establishment on the TV series *Gun Smoke*. Yet, after enduring nearly 30 years of Oklahoma summers and winters, many of the exterior decorative elements have deteriorate. Recently, one of Oklahoma's infamous thunderstorms blew part of the upper level railing into the parking lot. Fortunately, no one was hurt, but the need for immediate repairs became critical for safety reasons. But where to look?

As Habitat for Humanity's office is just catty-cornered to CFH on 13th Street, that organization seemed the obvious place to approach for the names of some skilled carpenters. After touring the ministry, the president of Tulsa's Habitat chapter () mentioned that our problem seemed perfect for a Habitat “miracle.” On Tuesday July 5th, the Miracle Workers arrived, looked the project over, sketched a design, and carefully removed all the dangerous wood remaining on the upper level of the building. On the 12th the crew was back, this time with a new, beautifully painted handrail which was lifted into place by a special forklift and safely secured. What a relief to know that CFH clients wouldn't be harmed by falling debris from the roof!

Christ for Humanity can't thank Habitat for Humanity enough for its generosity to the ministry. Habitat absorbed all of the cost for project materials and the Miracle Workers donated their time and talent. What a blessing to learn that the ministry would not have to use its limited funds for this much needed repair. The men also volunteered to build a ramp onto the front porch, giving easier access to the building for the handicapped. Praise God for serving hands and willing hearts!

Side note: God is so good at meeting special needs. At a ministry appreciation luncheon for the Miracle Workers after the completion of the work, our new friends passed the hat, giving CFH some money for our

benevolence fund. The following day, one of CFH's *1st Steppers*, just home from the hospital after having part of his foot amputated, needed that exact amount to help pay his rent. If this divine provision doesn't give you goose bumps, nothing will.

Feinstein Donation

The figures for the *2005 Feinstein Challenge* have been totaled. In July CFH received a check for \$306.22 for the more than 8,000 Challenge points submitted to the Feinstein Foundation. While this dollar amount may seem a small, the Challenge experience provided Christ for Humanity's food pantry with enough canned goods from contributing churches, schools, and individuals to cover the demands of ministry outreach programs for several months. Praise God! The good news is that the hundreds of non-profit organizations participating in this year's event collected more than 133,000,000 cans of food, making the *2005 Feinstein Challenge* the "most successful, grassroots campaign ever to fight hunger in America."

Partner with CFH to Fight Hunger

It's as easy as buying your groceries!

Christ for Humanity has qualified for membership in Albertsons Food Center's *Community Partner Program*. Shoppers at Albertsons need only present their Christ for Humanity Community Partner Card at the register when checking out, and a small percentage of the purchase amount will be designated to help fund Christ for Humanity's emergency food pantry. Using the card costs the consumer nothing but could yield CFH substantial revenue, depending on the number of people carrying and using the CFH Community Partner Card.

If you shop for groceries at Albertsons and feel led to participate with CFH in this program, please contact Camille Wellnitz at 836-2424, ext. 202. She will be happy to send you on of Albertsons' card. Every time you purchase food for your family, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you are also helping less fortunate men, women, and children in Oklahoma. Last year CFH fed more than 8,100 poor through its various community outreaches.

International Update:

Receiving containerized aid overseas can be a curse and a blessing. Both the US sending agency and the consignee abroad must file mounds of paper work to insure that the aid enters the country duty-free. Once the container arrives in the destination country, the receiving ministry has the daunting task of clearing customs and getting the aid off the docks as quickly as possible before penalty fees begin accruing. Finally, the law requires that aid be distributed in a timely fashion (usually within 30 days). Accomplishing everything required takes time, patience, and prayer, particularly in countries rife with bureaucracy and red tape.

For a number of years Christ for Humanity has provided humanitarian aid to Bob and Judy Van Sant, missionaries with large deaf and hearing ministries in the Ukraine. Below is part of a May 22nd e-mail CFH received regarding the distribution of a recent cargo container from Tulsa.

Humanitarian Aid:

Most people say they don't like to get humanitarian aid because of all the hard work and hassle involved. But there are good sides to receiving aid, as well. Recently, our church distributed a container of aid. Half of the container (crutches, IV poles, hospital beds, toilet chairs, etc.) went to area hospitals. In an area where Baptists are believed to be all bad, this aid only soften what people think of us.

The rest of the container was clothing – half of which were uniforms. At first we were disappointed and confused as to what we were going to do with 1000's of uniforms. However, the uniforms were the first to go. We contacted a prison and a couple of hospitals, which were more than excited to take the uniforms off our hands. Last night, one of the prison guards was in church and thanked us. This past week we gave away the remaining clothes. Monday was the deaf church's day, and each person received 15 lbs. of free clothing. Tuesday we distributed to the hearing church. Several individuals commented that the clothing was of better quality than in the past, and many of our teenagers and women were able to get some nice skirts for church.

There was still a pile of clothing left. One of the ladies in our church works with the handicapped organizations. She called them and they gladly came and took the rest. I think this was one of the fastest clothing distributions we have had.

Praise the Lord that this container was successfully distributed. We thank Christ for Humanity in Tulsa, Oklahoma, for providing the container and doing all of the necessary paperwork on their side.

Praising the Lord in Simferopol: Bob and Judy Van Sant

And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. Galatians 6:9

Psalm 23

The **23rd Psalm** is one of the most quoted passages of Scripture. The analysis below sheds a wonderful light on the meaning of the verses in the life of Christians.

The Lord is my shepherd, (Relationship)

I shall not want. (Supply)

He makes me lie down in green pastures; (Rest)

He leads me beside quiet waters. (Refreshment)

He restores my soul; (Healing)

He guides me in the paths of righteousness (Guidance)

For His name's sake. (Purpose)

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, (Testing)

I fear no evil; (Protection)

For Thou art with me; (Faithfulness)

Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me. (Discipline)

Thou dost prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; (Hope)

Thou hast anointed my head with oil; (Consecration)

My cup overflows. (Abundance)

Surely goodness and loving kindness will follow me all the days of my life, (Blessing)

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord (Security)

Forever. (Eternity)

God's Yellow Pages

Where to Look and When:

- **Afraid**
 - ? Psalm 34:4
 - ? Matthew 10:28
 - ? 2 Timothy 1:7
 - ? Hebrews 13:5-6
- **Anxious**
 - ? Psalm 46
 - ? Matthew 6:19-34
 - ? Philippians 4:6
 - ? 1 Peter 5:6-7
- **Backsliding**
 - ? Psalm 51
 - ? 1 John 1:4-9
- **Bereaved**
 - ? Matthew 5:4
 - ? 2 Cor. 1:3-4
- **Bitter - Critical**
 - ? 1 Corinthians 13
- **Conscious of sin**
 - ? Proverbs 28:13
- **Defeated**
 - ? Romans 8:31-39
- **Depressed**
 - ? Psalm 34
- **Disaster threat**
 - ? Psalm 91
 - ? Psalm 118: 5-6
 - ? Luke 8:22-25
- **Discouraged**
 - ? Psalm 23
 - ? Psalm 42:6-11
 - ? Psalm 55:22
 - ? Matthew 5:11-12
 - ? 2 Cor. 4:8-18
 - ? Philippians 4:4-7
- **Doubting**
 - ? Matthew 8:26

- ? Hebrews 11
- **Facing crisis**
 - ? Psalm 121
 - ? Matthew 6:25-34
 - ? Hebrews 11
- **Faith fails**
 - ? Psalm 42:5
 - ? Hebrews 11
- **Friends fail**
 - ? Psalm 41:9-13
 - ? Luke 17:3-4
 - ? Rom. 12:14 -21
 - ? 2 Tim. 4:16-18
- **Loneliness**
 - ? Psalm 23
 - ? Hebrews 13:5-6
- **Need protection**
 - ? Psalm 27:1-3
 - ? Psalm 91
 - ? Philippians 4:19
- **Need guidance**
 - ? Psalm 32:8
 - ? Proverbs 3:5 -6
- **Needing Peace**
 - ? John 14:1-4
 - ? John 16:33
 - ? Romans 5:1-5
 - ? Philippians 4:6-7
- **Overcome**
 - ? Psalm 6
 - ? Romans 8:31 -39
 - ? 1 John 1:4-9
- **Patience**
 - ? Hebrews 10:36
- **Peacefulness**
 - ? John 14:27
 - ? Romans 12:18
- **Prayerful**
 - ? Psalm 4
 - ? Psalm 42
 - ? Luke 11:1-13
 - ? John 17
 - ? 1 John 5:14-15
- **Protected**
 - ? Psalm 18:1-3
 - ? Psalm 34:7
- **Righteousness**
 - ? Matthew 5:6
 - ? Matthew 6:33
- **Sick / in pain**
 - ? Psalm 38
 - ? Matthew 26:39
 - ? Romans 5:3-5
 - ? 2 Cor. 12:9-10
 - ? 1 Peter 4:12-13
- **Sorrowful**

- ? Psalm 51
- ? Matthew 5:4
- ? John 14
- ? 2 Cor. 1:3-4
- ? 1 Thess. 4:13-18
- **Steadfastness**
 - ? 1 Cor. 15:58
- **Stewardship**
 - ? 1 Cor. 4:2
 - ? 2 Cor. 9:6-7
 - **Tempted**
 - ? Psalm 1
 - ? Psalm 139:23-24
 - ? Matthew 26:41
 - ? 1 Cor. 10:12-14
 - ? Philippians 4:8
 - ? James 4:7
 - ? 2 Peter 2:9
 - ? 2 Peter 3:17
 - **Thankful**
 - ? Psalm 100
 - ? 1 Thess. 5:18
 - ? Hebrews 13:15
 - **Trouble, in**
 - ? Psalm 16 & 31
 - ? John 14:1-4
 - ? Hebrews 7:25
 - **Truth**
 - ? John 14:6
 - ? John 17:17
 - ? Eph. 4:14-15
 - **Victory**
 - ? 1 Cor. 15:57
 - ? 1 John 4:23-24
 - **Watchfulness**
 - ? Mark 13:34-37
 - **Weary**
 - ? Psalm 90
 - ? Matt. 11:28-30
 - ? 1 Cor. 15:58
 - ? Galatians 6:9-10
 - **Worried**
 - ? Matthew 6:19-34
 - ? 1 Peter 5:6-7
 - **Worship**
 - ? John 4:23-24
 - **Zeal**
 - ? Romans 12:11

[**CLOSE**](#)