



THE DOOR

Luke 13:24

The Newsletter of Darby Chapel

Volume 1, Issue 5

18 December 2008

Staff & POCs:

- Chaplain (CPT) Kelly Porter
- SGT Tokovia Sanda
- Roberto Federighi (contract priest)
- Jessica Barlow (contract youth minister)
- Karen Pryor (contract Protestant Religious Education)

Special points of interest:

- Jessica is on leave through January 2009. Contact the chapel regarding Club Beyond activities.
- An abbreviated issue of The Door will be sent next week. Next full issue: 07 January 2009

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Is Your Life Wonderful?

In the 1946 classic, "It's A Wonderful Life," the character George Bailey reaches an all-time low point before he discovers his life really has been meaningful. If you asked me what the best Christmas movie of all time is I'd be hard pressed to choose between *White Christmas* with its great song writing and military connection, *The Nightmare Before Christmas* with its stark contrast between good and evil and *It's A Wonderful Life* and its incredible message of hope and purpose. Hmmm. I guess Jimmy Stewart tips the scale in favor of IAWL.

What a great movie. Even after the one hundredth viewing I'm still moved by the radical transformation of a happy-go-lucky kid who lets trouble slide off his back in pursuit of his dream to travel the world and then build things. Once a young man full of joy and adventure, in the end George becomes distraught, paranoid, angry and extremely resentful. He hates his life. He hates the situations he's been forced into regarding work and home town and school. He seems to have zero control of any aspect of his life.

Been there lately? If not, just wait. Stressors from the war are compounded and many are wondering whether they can make it. Suicide rates are on the rise in the military. As if all that wasn't enough we then add the self-imposed stress of the holiday season. Being the product of an Air Force family who dropped kids off as they moved around the country has its benefits. I sense no obligation to buy \$10,000 worth of Christmas presents for my 15 siblings and 24 cousins living across the street. Sure, military families are separated from home-home by long distances. Piling in the van for a 15 hour drive over the hill and through woods has its expense and share of strain but our family decided to not get caught up in a manufactured holiday that leaves people disgruntled or even downright miserable.

As Christians we don't have fairy tale endings. It's even better! That Jesus the Messiah became man, lived to show us God, died in our place, rose again to defeat death and then commissioned His followers to tell the story is better than any basket of money George Bailey received. And yet

millions of people around us don't know that story. Millions of people around us are unhappy and don't know how to get out of the hole where they're living.

Maybe you're one of those. Is *your* life wonderful? That cute little baby in the manger said he came so that people could have an abundant life (John 10.10). What does an abundant life look like though? Large house, fast car, nice clothes and all the latest electronics?

How about these. According to Galatians 5.22 we know God is at work in our lives when we see the following traits exhibited.

- Love Joy
- Peace Patience
- Kindness Goodness
- Gentleness Faithfulness
- Self-Control

If we can say that we have nothing else but these happening in our lives, then yes, life is pretty wonderful. Only then do we accept as truth what King David wrote in Psalm 37.25, "I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread." †

Wait With Wisdom & Joy

by: Amber Gaglione

Hopefully the Advent season has encouraged you to get into your Bibles and learn more about our savior, Jesus. Throughout the Bible we see Jesus waiting to make decisions. He is not rash but rather takes his time, gathering information and wisdom from himself and his father. Through his example, we are encouraged to do the same. We are asked to think through our own challenges, turn to the Lord for guidance, and make our decisions based on wis-

dom. God implores us to wait, to take the same precaution his son did. While we wait for this wisdom, we can find joy in the fact that we are not required to make our decisions on our own. We are able to turn to our friends, family, spiritual leaders, and most importantly, our Lord, for help and for wisdom.

The pink candle we light during this week is for joy, joyful expectance of Jesus' coming. Take time this week

to wait, turning to the Lord for wisdom, joyful knowing we can and will receive help. Pray to the Lord to remind us to wait when making decision and reacting to others. Pray to be a joyful person. Spread this wisdom of this joy with others.

Week 4: Wait with Anticipation

Holy Day Schedule

Mass will be held at the following dates and times

4th Advent	Sunday, 21 December 2008	1000
Christmas*	Thursday, 25 December 2008	1000
Octave of Christmas	Thursday, 01 January 2009	1000

Note: Darby Chapel is invited to attend midnight mass at Roberto Federighi's parish on 24 Dec. Service will be in both English and Italian. The address is Piazza San Ranieri 1, Pisa (PI). A map will be available on Sunday.

Leaving Camp Darby, turn left on Via Livornese (SP 22). Travel north through the traffic circle and pass the Esso station. At the split, turn left toward S. Piero a Grado. Turn left at the Basilica, going toward the Marina di Pisa traffic circle and take the 1st exit (SS 224/SP 224). Travel 3.5 km to the traffic light. Turn left and cross the Arno River (Ponte del C.E.P.) to the traffic circle. You will see the church building at the circle. After the first exit, take the exit into the church parking lot.

From the FI-PI-LI, exit SS 1 Aurelia and travel north. Cross the Arno River and turn left at the second intersection (next to the military barracks). Travel on Via della Fossa Ducaria until you reach the traffic circle. Enter the circle and immediately turn right into the parking lot.

**Sunday
14 December 2009**

Mass Attendance: 20

Regular Offering: \$127.28

For more information about Catholic programs, to volunteer in the Catholic congregation or schedule the facilities please see Sheri Colegrove.



This Sunday: 21 December

Dec Worship Theme Advent: God's Christmas List
Sermon Jesus is the Prince of Peace
Text Isaiah 9.6

Sunday
14 December 2008

Worship Attendance: 49
 Regular Offering: \$321.80

True peace is a gift from God wrapped up in Jesus – The Prince of Peace Himself. In a culture where it seems that rest, security, freedom, stability, and safety seem to be disintegrating on a daily basis – unwrap something this Christmas that will bring peace back to your life.

God's peace never lessens. God's control over all things, including us, never gets weaker. His peace and His Kingdom will always be available and will always increase with time. His love and life, His help and hope, His rulership and peace will never, ever end.

Advent Services: 30 November - Christmas Eve



Advent Readings

21 Dec– Cole Family

Advent Concludes with:
 6:30 Dec 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Sunday School

Children and adult classes will continue to meet on 21, 28 Dec and 4 January. Have a blessed Christmas and very Happy New Year.

The children's class meets in Mertz Hall and the adult class meets in the pastor's office.

Christmas Eve Service

A Candlelight Service is scheduled for 24 December from 6:00-7:00. Invite the community to this awesome event.



Club Beyond is an ecumenical Christian ministry reaching out to every military teen. Club Beyond is sponsored by military chaplains as a part of the overall Command Religious Program at a military installation.



What's Happening?

Middle School Events while Jess is gone. Tracey Magowan is the POC at mythreesons1970@yahoo.com or call the chapel if you need to phone her.

Monday Lunch: 15 Dec and 12, 26 Jan

Wed Club: 17 Dec and 14, 21 Jan

No activities the week of 5-9 January 2009. This is the first week of school. Have a great New Years!

Camp Darby Monday Lunch

Club Beyond is partnering with Youth Services for the Monday lunches. Beginning 5 January 2009 the lunches will still be held at the chapel but YS will provide the meals. This is a big help both with the cost and the labor so make sure to thank their staff for all the work.

Romania Service Project Update

First deposit is due this Friday 19 December 2008. The cost is \$100. Call Stephanie ASAP if you haven't done so already.



Club Beyond Camp Darby is teaming with Youth Compass for the 2009 Spring Service Project. We will help to rebuild houses and roads in the town of Taut, Romania. You can reach me at jessintuscany@yahoo.com.

Stephanie Feagin is the main High School POC at stephanie.feagin@us.army.mil. Call the chapel at 633-7267 if you need to phone her. She will be in the USA from Dec 23-Jan 11. She will collect checks for the Service Project and I will equip her with Event Deposit Forms to send checks and deposit monies into MCYM. She will also assist with a fundraiser while I am gone in January. Students, I really need you to work on raising as much money as you can.

2009 Service Project

Taut, Romania

10-19 April

US ARMY
GARRISON LIVORNO

Darby Chapel
Unit 31301
Box 53
APO AE 09613

DSN: 633-7267
COMM: 050 54 7267
EMAIL:
kelly.porter@eur.army.mil
tokovia.n.sanda@eur.army.mil

Regular Activities

- Mass 10:00
- Sunday School 10:00
- Prot Worship 11:15
- Women's Bible Study
Tues 12:00-13:00
Wed 17:30-18:30

THE DOOR and pictures
from chapel events can be
found on the web at [http://
www.usag.livorno.army.mil
/sites/RS.html](http://www.usag.livorno.army.mil/sites/RS.html)



Club Beyond

Office: Bldg 301 (Chapel), 633-7261

Chapel Wide Announcements

- **Night of Praise.** Next planning meeting 11:30-12:30, Thurs 08 Jan 09
- **Be a good steward.** Take care of the building by:
 - ⊕ Keeping windows and doors closed. Lower utility bills means more money for ministry.
 - ⊕ Ensuring your children are picking up the restrooms and Mertz Hall after use.
- **Men's Ministry**
Organizational meeting 1700, Thursday 08 January at the chapel. This will be our first meeting for all the men to meet each other and talk about the direction of men's ministry at Darby.
- **Men's Ministry Leadership Conference** (aka PMOC). Although it's called *Protestant Men*, we will combine efforts at Camp Darby to have a more effective program. The 2009 Conference at the Sauerland Stern Hotel in Willingen, Kneippwed Germany takes place on 13-16 February. The conference will train men to lead local ministries and plan the 2009 Fall Men's Conference. Your only cost is transportation to the event. See Chaplain Porter ASAP to register.
- **Prayer Requests: Send your requests to SGT Sanda or CH Porter**
 1. SGT Sanda— eye problems. Referral back to LRMC.
 2. Pregnancies: Rachel Porter, Amy Burrell
 3. TDY's: several are away on missions
 4. The Lord of the Harvest to change hearts at Camp Darby
 5. SGT Christopher Everett. His mother Pam has had blood clots and an infection resulting from surgery. Pray for her healing and SGT Everett's ability to remain in close contact.

"Prayer doesn't change things.
Prayer changes people who
change things."

Dr. Dan Crawford, Professor of Evangelism and Missions, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Chapel Usage Policy

The last few weeks the chapel has been left very messy. The chapel usage policy states that all groups, whether a chapel ministry or a tenant unit, using the building are responsible to sweep floor(s), put away tables and chairs, clean equipment and wash dishes/utensils used during their event. That hasn't been happening. The only ongoing scheduled groups using the chapel are:

Protestant Sunday School, Catholic Mass, Protestant Worship, Women's Bible Study, Club Beyond

The chapel staff will remind these activities of the policy. All other groups using the building must reserve the facility through SGT Sanda by signing the Chapel Usage Request Form, agreeing to the responsibilities in this policy.

This is a respect issue and a responsibility issue. The chapel staff coordinates ministry. It doesn't oversee all programs. Don't disrespect the staff by putting extra work on their schedule. Also don't assume, as some have said, "Oh, the cleaning ladies will take care of it." This is not the cleaning ladies' chapel. This is where *WE* worship. It is our responsibility.

CAMP DARBY'S LITTLEST ANGELS



WHAT: Tapping for the savior's birthday!!

WHEN: 19 Dec 2008

WHERE: Post Movie Theater

TIME: 1900

Please come and see Camp Darby's littlest angels tapping for the Savior's birthday. Please bring a guest.

**Skies Unlimited, a program of Child and Youth Services
Instructor: Patricia Spann**