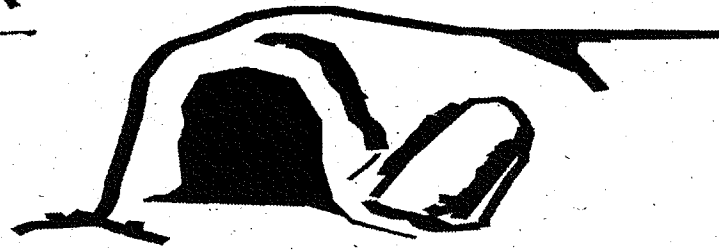


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Vol. 39, No. 2

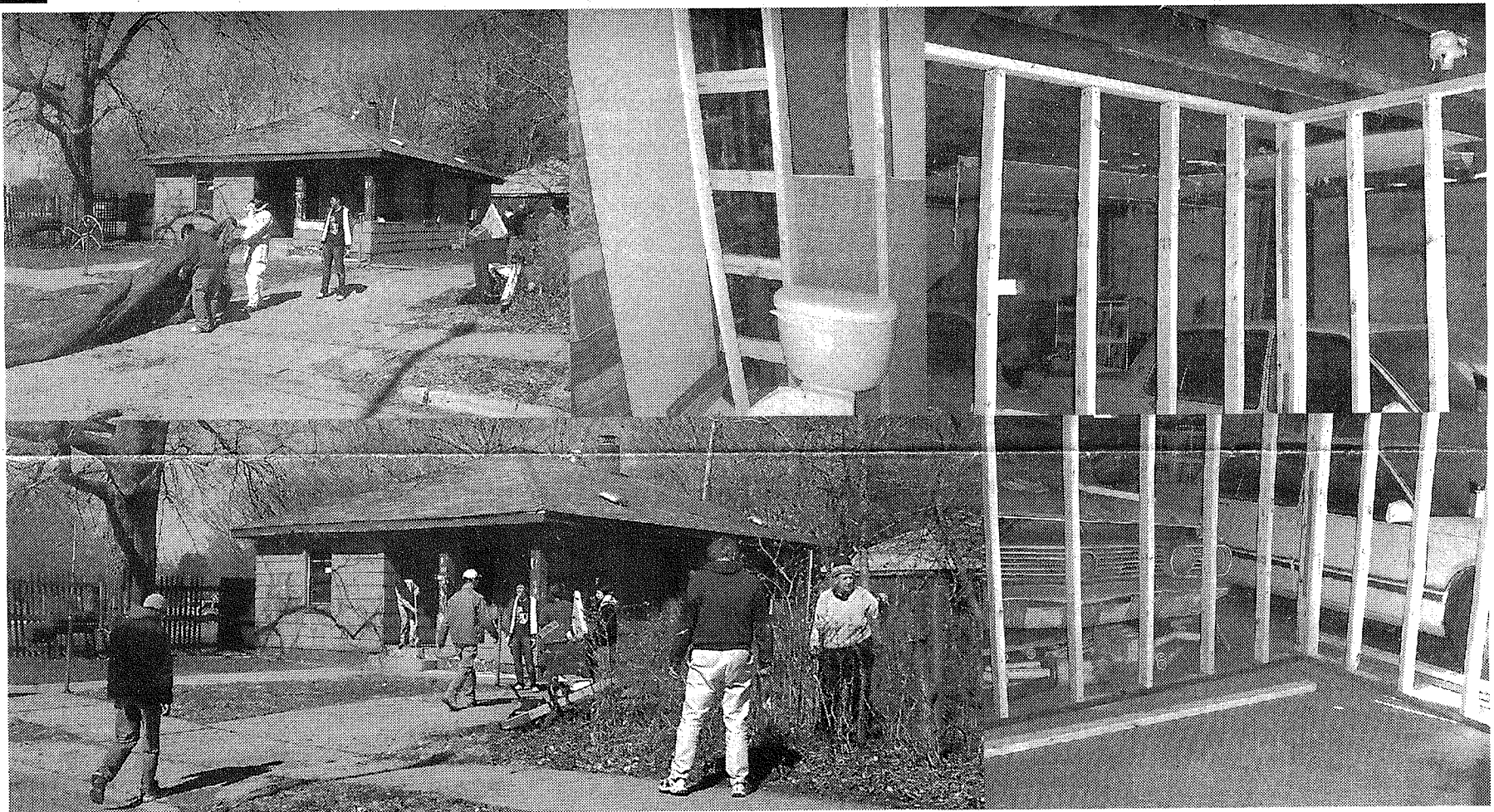
A Bimonthly Report of the Works through empty tomb, inc.

April-May 2010

# God's Grace, Our Blessing



by Cecil Billingsley  
Home Maintenance Coordinator



We will not know the extent of the needs of our neighbors until we are involved in their lives. The desperate situations that exist in our midst sometimes include circumstances that we believe are reserved for severely impoverished places far from here.

Ms. K. had inquired about getting help with her home, located about a mile from the empty tomb building. She said that the plumbing had been giving her problems "for awhile." A church stepped up last fall to accept the job as an empty tomb Home Maintenance Adopt-a-Project. When we began work she said, "I have been praying to God and I knew He would help me."

We began to work on what was described as "some leaks" and soon discovered that major work was needed. The sewer line had collapsed outside the house. It turned out that the toilet and drains had not worked properly for months. The line was replaced and the drains were back in service in 3 days. As we became more acquainted with Ms. K. and her family, we also became "acquainted" with more of the problems with the house.

We discovered that the floor joists in the bathroom had completely rotted away...The toilet sat at about a 30-degree angle and the floor sagged when you walked on it. We discovered many electrical problems.

Ms. K. talked to one of the City agencies and let them know of her circumstance and that empty tomb was willing to provide labor. We received a letter from the agency stating (in part) that the "work would not be possible without the participation of empty tomb."

The project moved forward. There was a moment when Ms. K. was looking down into the crawl space at the debris and pieces of rotted wood that were once her bathroom floor and said, "Sometimes things get bad around you little by little and so you don't really notice how bad they are." She went on to say, "My husband did all he could to keep things working. He passed away two years ago and I have had no one to help me...I thank God for all of you...I don't know what I would have done without you."

There is generally heavy traffic moving through this modest house. Many grandchildren and the neighborhood kids seem to make this home their home. Ms. K.'s mother moved in with her after her own home burned down. Now we have added scores of eager volunteers to this "Eternal Relationship." We have laughed together, worked together, and prayed together. And when we pray, Ms. K. prays this with us: "Lord, may I be a blessing to others as you have blessed me."

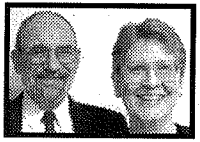
## IN THIS ISSUE

- Planning To Fulfill the Law of Love
- Page 2 • What is Your Plan?
- Wow. Think Exponential

- From a Family To a Family
- A Heart for Service
- Page 3 • A Long-Time Friend's Coin Donation
- The Body of Christ In Action
- Statistics for Feb-Mar 2010

- empty tomb's First Work-a-Thon Saturday, March 6, 2010
- Serving Jesus by Serving Others
- Page 4 • Employment Opportunity
- God Will Provide
- Current General Fund

Why empty tomb? See the  throughout this newsletter.



### Planning to Fulfill the Law of Love

by John and Sylvia Ronsvalle

“The entire law is summed up in a single command: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself’” (Gal. 5:14, NIV).

The adventure lies in figuring out just what we do to embody Christ’s power to love others in Jesus’ name.

Pastor Jim McClarey of Savoy United Methodist Church, C., reflected on that very idea in the February 2010 Savoy UMC newsletter. We enjoyed his writing so much that we include the article below (bold and italics emphasis as in the original).

Then, at the end of February, we heard from longtime friend Pastor Gene Peisker. Gene moved to Ottawa, IL, to serve at Trinity Lutheran, after serving at St. Matthew’s Lutheran in Urbana for many years. In his February call, Gene told us that he was planning to meet with some returned missionaries and requested materials that outline empty tomb’s Mission Match Discipleship Tree. We updated a couple of pages. They turned out so well, we wondered if you might find them of interest. So the two pages are enclosures with this newsletter.

Looking over some old (How old? Pretty old!) materials, we found a December 4, 1975, empty tomb Exploratory Group document. In

those early years, we gathered with a few people to think through what God might want for various works. This particular document was titled, “empty tomb, inc. Famine Work: Bread from Jesus.”

The document talked about how in June 1973, a group of us (some of you reading this newsletter will know who you are!) began meeting regularly to pray for a famine reported in a May *Newsweek* of that year. Out of those prayers grew a slide show we took around to area churches. And that eventually led to a Meager Meal at St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church, U., where Gene was then pastoring.

One of the paragraphs in the 1975 Exploratory Group document really jumped out at us:

So, even though it is reasonable to assume that Christians in this wealthiest of lands should assist people in this world, including Christians, who are hungry and/or starving, how do we approach pastors and lay Christians in local congregations who are probably able to give considerably more, but who have difficulty in meeting their annual congregation budgets?

The answer, as finally developed over more than three decades, is Mission Match.

**Seven degrees of separation.** We had an exciting email about Mission

Match. A regional denominational official in the Southeastern U.S. wants to make the 1,400+ congregations in his region aware of Mission Match. Wow! At this point we have enough money left in the account to work with nine congregations.

That’s why we’re striving to develop the Mission Match Discipleship Tree. Like a telephone tree, friends contact friends to spread the news about the potential of the church, and to encourage those friends to contribute \$48 a year to offer through Mission Match, and have three of their friends join the tree and so on.

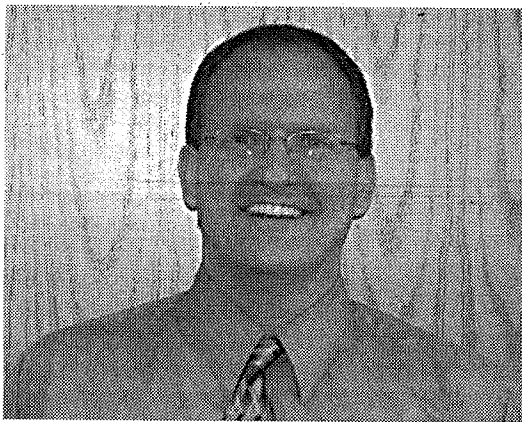
Microsoft has a study that tested the old “six degrees of separation” theory. It turns out, analyzing 30 billion interactions of 185 million participants, the number is actually closer to 7.

Well, that works here. It turns out Gene Peisker’s father was a denominational publication editor who considered—and Milo thinks purchased—an article from young Milo Kaufmann. Milo and Helen Kaufmann are now on the Mission Match Discipleship Tree. Truly, through one-to-one contacts, we can reach the entire church in the U.S. with the idea that God is able to work through the church to love a hurting world in Jesus’ name.

A copy of Milo and Helen Kaufmann’s Mission Match Discipleship Tree MyWhy™ is also below Jim McClarey’s thoughts that follow.

The adventure continues to unfold.

#### What Is Your Plan?



By Rev. Jim McClarey, Savoy United Methodist Church, Champaign, IL

It was a “usual” good discussion about spiritual things... but then he asked a question that made me sit up straight – and my soul was quickened. He simply asked, “Jesus calls all of us to be a part of spreading His Gospel and advancing His Kingdom... ***what’s your plan for doing that?***”

Sounds so innocent, but it hit me with turbulent energy. I realized that though I am a pastor, and though I do try very hard to spread the Gospel and advance the Kingdom through my ministry and the mission projects I like to be involved in, I really have not been a part of a specific strategic movement aimed at *drawing the world-wide Church together* to be in Mission for my Lord Jesus Christ. And here I was being presented with a way to do so. My soul jumped!

It’s called “The Discipleship Tree” and here’s how it works. As Christians sign up to be on the Discipleship Tree, and commit to contribute \$48 per year, the money is pooled into Mission Match, which is a fund that offers mission contributions to churches who will commit to raising new mission money, for mission projects anywhere in the world. Our church was a recipient of a Mission Match matching contribution a few years ago, for one of our Mexico mission trips. (That was the year we were able to build the restroom for the boys at the orphanage.)

***For \$48 per year, I can join with Christians of all denominations, helping churches be in mission, in ways that directly affect people with the transforming grace of the Lord, all around the world. Just like Jesus calls us to do!!! (Matthew 28:16-20, Matthew 25:31-46)***

For me, I can skip a candy bar a week, and be involved in a specific plan, aimed at advancing the Kingdom of God on this earth. I’m glad he asked me, “...what’s your plan for doing that?” I realized, I didn’t have a plan. Now I do. I’m on “The Discipleship Tree.” Interested? Ask me how you can serve as well...

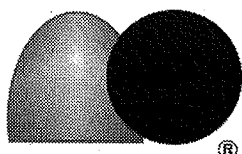
See you at worship, and around the community, as we grow in what it means to serve the Lord and His people. – Rev. Jim

Mission Match® Discipleship Tree™ MyWhy™: Milo and Helen Kaufmann (See other participants’ MyWhys at <<http://www.discipleshiptree.org>>.)

# Wow. Think Exponential



I understand that this tech-savvy approach to mobilization of Christian resources has all the promise of a mustard seed.



The empty tomb Opportunities Newsletter is published bimonthly to report on the opportunities developed by empty tomb, inc. for service to others through Christ’s Body, the Church.

Layout and Production: Administrative Secretary, Nya Turner;  
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Champaign, IL 61825-2404  
(217) 356-2262  
[www.emptytomb.org](http://www.emptytomb.org)



## From a Family To a Family

by Jennifer Young  
Helping Coordinator



Food volunteer Jo Lynne Clauson from Savoy United Methodist Church, C., grocery shops for a family in need with her children Alex, Ben, (and not pictured) Kate.

We praise God for each of the thirty churches that partner with empty tomb's Food Work! Thank you for faithfully serving those in need by providing a week's worth of groceries and ultimately sharing God's love!

## A Long-Time Friend's Coin Donation



A longtime friend felt the Lord told her to give her "mad money" to empty tomb. She brought it by and said she hoped the Lord might be telling others to do it, too! We were all delighted that this change amounted to \$71.95 that can help us change the world in Jesus' name!



## A Heart for Service

by Karen Seiter  
Volunteer Coordinator

Volunteer Drew Larkin grew up in Naperville, IL and is a junior in Chemical Engineering at the U of I. He is a member of Intervarsity (IV), a Christian campus ministry. Looking for a way to connect Intervarsity IV with a service opportunity, Drew contacted empty tomb at the end of spring semester last year. Drew and various members of different IV small groups have since been coming regularly on Saturdays to volunteer with Home Maintenance and in the Clothing Room. In addition, Drew has encouraged groups from Campus Crusade for Christ and Navigators to volunteer at empty tomb as well.

Drew says, "Service should be a part of every Christian community's witness and empty tomb makes it very easy." I asked Drew what does he enjoy most about volunteering here? He said, "The constant prayer. It is a very Jesus-filled atmosphere."

Will you consider joining Drew and the many others who volunteer at empty tomb?

- Serve any day Monday through Saturday, helping to sort clothes in our Clothing Room.
- Help deliver furniture during the week or Saturday afternoons.
- Join the Home Maintenance team on Saturday mornings from 9:00 a.m. – noon.
- Serve as an on-call mailing volunteer when our bi-monthly newsletter and other mailings are ready to go out.
- Answer the phone and provide office help as an on-call Receptionist.

Through empty tomb, you can make service a part of your witness and experience a blessing!

For all volunteer opportunities, email me at <volcoor@emptytomb.org> (subject: Volunteering) or call 217-356-2262.

**Why the Clothing Work?** So a young man could find a nearly new suit to wear to church. And because the Bible says, "And do not forget to do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased" (Hebrews 13:16, NIV).

**Why the Helping Work?** So a man who came in for an appointment, who had no car and no job, could receive bus tokens to get around to search for jobs. And because the Bible says, "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men" (Galatians 6:10, KJV).

## The Body of Christ In Action

We thank God for the many caring Christian individuals who volunteer at empty tomb. Also, following are specific Christian church groups who contributed time and effort at empty tomb February 1, 2010 through March 31, 2010:

**Clothing Work:** Campus Crusade for Christ, C.; Champaign Church of Christ, C.; First Baptist Church of Champaign at Savoy; First United Methodist Church, C.; Fisher United Methodist Church; Grace Lutheran Church, C.; Korean Church of Champaign-Urbana, U.; Mattis Avenue Free Methodist Church, C.; The Navigators, U.; New Horizon United Methodist Church, C.; Paxton United Methodist Church; Quest United Methodist Church small group, U.; St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, C.; St. Joseph United Methodist Church; Stratford Park Bible Chapel, C.; and Twin City Bible Church, U.

**Food Work:** Apostolic Christian Church, C.; Church of the Brethren, C.; Champaign Church of Christ, C.; Church of the Living God, C.; Emmanuel Memorial Episcopal Church, C.; Faith United Methodist Church, C.; First Baptist Church of Champaign at Savoy; First Christian Church, C.; First Mennonite Church, U.; First

Presbyterian Church, C.; First United Methodist Church, C.; First Wesleyan Church, U.; Garden Hills Baptist Church, C.; Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, C.; Grace United Methodist Church, U.; Hessel Park Christian Reformed Church, C.; Mattis Avenue Free Methodist Church, C.; Morning Star Free Will Baptist Church, U.; New Covenant Fellowship, C.; Philo Road Church of Christ, U.; St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, C.; St. John's Lutheran Church, C.; St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, U.; St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Gifford; Stratford Park Bible Chapel, C.; Savoy United Methodist Church, C.; Temple Baptist Church, C.; Trinity Lutheran Church, U.; Wesley United Methodist Church, U.; Westminster Presbyterian Church, C.; and Windsor Road Christian Church, C.

**Furniture Work:** First Baptist Church, Rantoul; First Presbyterian Church, C.; First United Methodist Church, C.; Garden Hills Baptist Church, C.; Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, C.; Grace United Methodist Church, U.; Mattis Avenue Free Methodist Church, C.; New Horizon United Methodist Church, C.; Quest United Methodist Church, U.; St. Joseph United Methodist Church; Sangamon Valley Christian Center, Mahomet; Stratford Park Bible Chapel, C.; Twin City Bible Church, U.; and Windsor Road Christian Church, C.

**Home Maintenance:** Bethel AME Church, C.; Campus Crusade for Christ, C.; First Baptist Church of Champaign at Savoy; First Christian Church, C.; Grace Lutheran Church, C.; Intervarsity Christian Fellowship-Pegatory Area, C.; Intervarsity Christian Fellowship-Peabody Area, C.; Koinonia Cooperative, C.; Mattis Avenue Free Methodist Church, C.; St. Patrick's Catholic Church, U.; Twin City Bible Church, U.; and Windsor Road Christian Church, C.

### The Following Presentations were made:

3/11/10 Shannon Cook gave a presentation about empty tomb to the St. John's Lutheran Church, C., Mary-Martha Society.

3/15/10 Cecil Billingsley gave a presentation about empty tomb to the Koinonia Cooperative, C.

3/27/10 Shannon Cook gave a presentation about empty tomb to a women's group New Life Church of Faith, Danville.

Please contact Shannon Cook, Coordinator, if we neglected to include your church or student group who made a group effort to assist others in Jesus' name through empty tomb, inc. We will plan both to thank you and include you in the next issue!

**Why the Furniture Work?** Because volunteers were able to deliver a dresser to a woman who had been without a dresser for over a year and had been using hampers as a dresser. And because the Bible says, "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" (Ephesians 2:10, NIV).

## Statistics for Feb. 1, 2010 - Mar. 31, 2010

Christian Family to Family Relationship	
Families in Partnerships	0
Christian Health Services	
New cribs shared	13
Layettes shared	9
Number who received Medical Fund Assistance	90
Medical Fund Assistance	\$3,448
Other In-Kind Help	14

Clothing	
Visits to the Clothing Room (including onetime, occasional, and regular visitors)	3,295
Bags/boxes sorted, estimated	2,849
Volunteer Hours	595
Free Food	
Deliveries coordinated through empty tomb	135
Number of people in households receiving deliveries	419
Beans purchased, pounds	0
Number of times beans shared	84
Powdered Milk purchased, boxes	0
Number of times powdered milk shared	92

Furniture	
Items delivered	108
Items shared through Display Room	73
Volunteer hours	109
Helping	
Times Assistance given	81
Helping Fund Shared	\$5,803
Extraordinary circumstances: In-Kind Help	8
Home Maintenance	
Projects completed	0
Volunteer hours	572
Office and Other Volunteers	318
Total Volunteer hours	1,594



## empty tomb's First Work-A-Thon Saturday, March 6, 2010

by Shannon Cook  
Coordinator

empty tomb's first Work-A-Thon was successful. What made it successful was Christians coming together to share the love of Jesus. We had 39 volunteers who participated, generating 72 donations. The amount raised was \$2,962.50.

Christian volunteers shared the love of Jesus by working on a low-income woman's garage and bathroom; a man with no money for food was given one week's worth of groceries; a bed was delivered to a family on our waiting list; clothes were sorted and household items were displayed for people who expressed a need for them. These services were given free in Jesus' name.



To see more photos: [emptytomb.org/workathon.html](http://emptytomb.org/workathon.html)



## Serving Jesus by Serving Others

by Marge Starr  
Clothing Coordinator



Linda Frye, New Horizon United Methodist Church, C., (left) and Molly Ritchie, St. Andrews Lutheran Church, C., (right) are restocking the Clothing Room with household items that are given away to those who need them free in Jesus' name.

**Why the Christian Health Services Work?** So a man who had no money, was homeless and had no transportation but had a great need for help paying for his prescription, could rejoice after we paid for both medications that he really needed. And because the Bible says, "Whoever loves God must also love his brother" (1 John 4:21, NIV).

Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done.

(1 Chronicles 16:8, NIV)

We celebrate with Matthew and Jennifer Young at the expected birth of their first child in July 2010. That means we have also an

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY HELPING COORDINATOR

Compassionate Administrator who loves Jesus, People, and Detail.

Connect concerned Christians in discipleship opportunities that assist people in need.

Assist low-income people through specific works.

**Beginning:** July 2010; minimum of two-year commitment for this fulltime position

**Hours:** 9 AM-5 PM Monday through Friday  
Two weeks paid vacation plus six paid holidays

**Salary:** \$20,000 plus HMO for individual/family

**Contact:** Shannon Cook, Coordinator  
empty tomb, inc.  
301 N. Fourth St. P.O. Box 2404  
Champaign, IL 61825-2404  
(217)356-2262

coor@emptytomb.org, Subject: Job Inquiry

Join a dedicated team calling the church to greater faithfulness in Jesus' name.

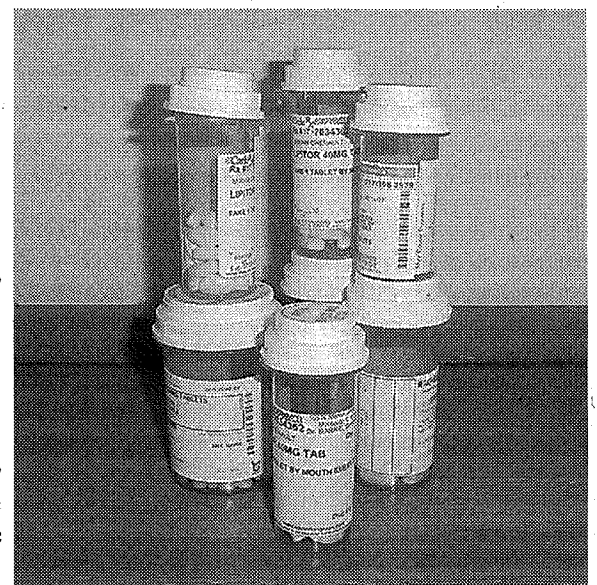
For further details about this position, please see [www.emptytomb.org/jobad](http://www.emptytomb.org/jobad).



## God Will Provide

by Miriam Chenault  
Christian Health Services, RN

Prescriptions can be very costly and many people tell us that they have to go without their needed prescriptions due to lack of funds to purchase them. empty tomb's Medical Fund helps many people obtain their needed prescriptions. A few weeks ago, a woman came in for help with her medications. She has degenerative joint disease and needs knee surgery, which she cannot afford. She is unable to work because of her knee, but has been denied a medical card because of this preexisting condition. She felt hopeless. We were able to help her purchase her prescriptions and tell her about God's love for her.



**Why the Food Work?** Because a single mother of three children (ages 7, 4, 2) lost her LINK card and was unable to purchase groceries. And because the Bible says, "A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed" (Proverbs 11:25, NIV).

### Current General Fund as of March 31, 2010

General Fund positive balance or (deficit):	\$404.78
Monthly Reserve (can be drawn on as needed)*:	\$6,959.71
Annual Operating Reserve**:	\$ 0.00
Summary Balance as of March 31, 2010:	<u>\$7,364.49</u>

Salaries were paid late 0 times as of March 31, 2010 (current calendar year).

Salaries were paid late 0 times as of March 31, 2009 (last calendar year).

Peter Helfrich, Bookkeeper

John K. Jones, Treasurer

\*The Monthly Reserve was \$35,000 set aside as "one month ahead" from December 2009 donations for 2010. The Monthly Reserve balance shown is the unused amount as of March 31, 2010.

\*\* There were not enough funds donated during December 2009 for the Annual Operating Reserve for 2010.

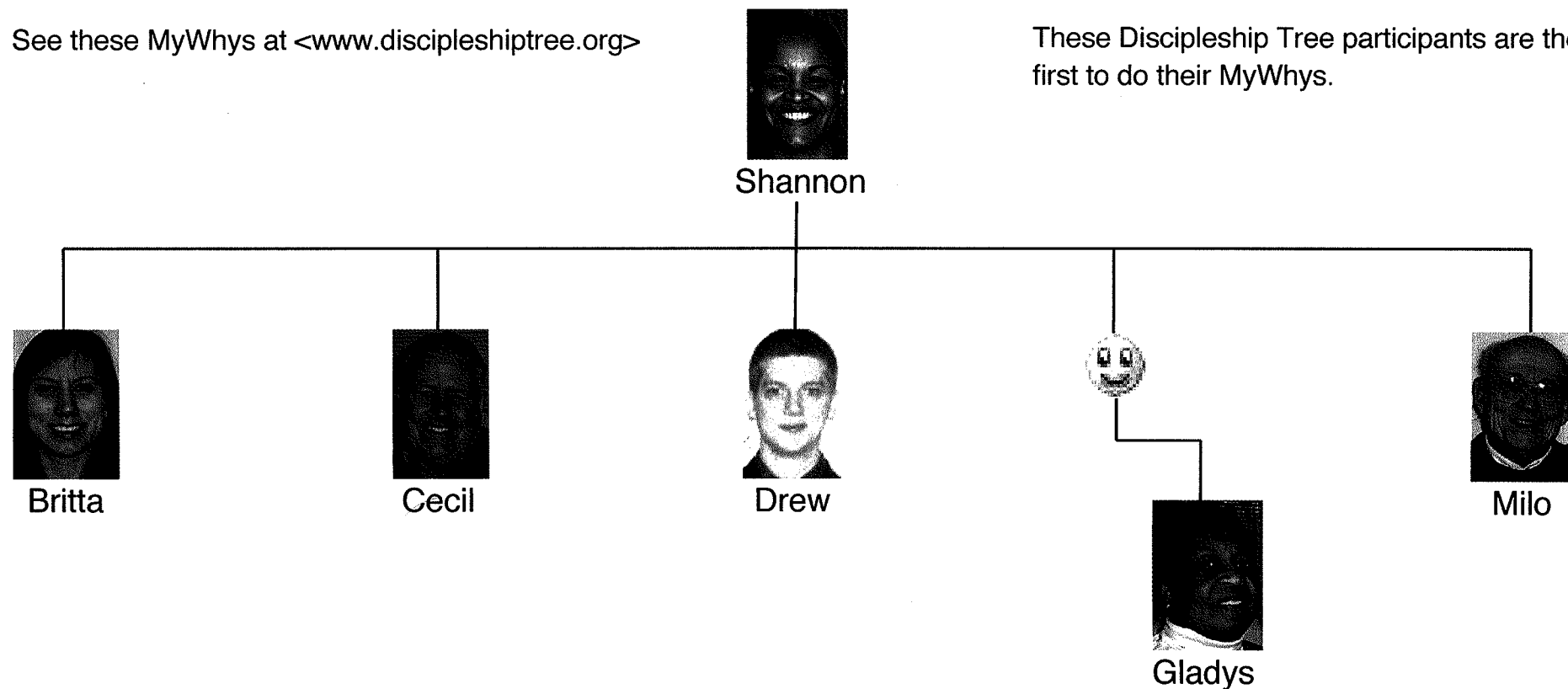
# *empty tomb's* Mission Match® Discipleship Tree™ MyWhy™

MyWhy is a way for Discipleship Tree participants to let you know why they are excited about what God wants to do.

## This can be the start of SOMETHING BIG !

See these MyWhys at <[www.discipleshiptree.org](http://www.discipleshiptree.org)>

These Discipleship Tree participants are the first to do their MyWhys.



**Witness. Oneness. Discipleship. Encourage the church, both in the U.S. and around the world.**

You can live anywhere in the U.S. to be part of the Discipleship Tree.

**Find out about being part of the Mission Match Discipleship Tree:**

1. Contact one of the above people about their MyWhy™.
2. Contact Shannon Cook at <[wakegiant@emptytomb.org](mailto:wakegiant@emptytomb.org)> or call Shannon on the empty tomb National Ministries line, (217) 356-9519.
3. Check the Discipleship Tree box on the Volunteer Form in this newsletter and return it to the empty tomb office by mail or fax it to empty tomb at (217) 356-2344.
4. Get more information at <[missionmatch.org](http://missionmatch.org)> and click Grow the Movement through the Discipleship Tree.

## *empty tomb*<sup>®</sup>, inc. Mission Match<sup>®</sup> Discipleship Tree<sup>™</sup> : Why and How

**Why is the Mission Match Discipleship Tree needed?** Research by *empty tomb*, inc. shows the following:

- While Benevolences (the portion of congregational budgets spent beyond the congregation's own operations) represented 21¢ of each dollar in 1968, it was down to 14% in 2007. This number suggests congregations are turning inward.
- Of each dollar donated to the congregation, on average, only 2¢ is spent on denominational overseas missions.
- While Americans spend billions of dollars on, for example, chocolate, greeting cards, jewelry, and soft drinks, church leaders have not organized church members to increase missions giving at a scale that could meet the estimated costs of global word and deed needs.

**How did *empty tomb*, inc., design Mission Match and the Discipleship Tree?**

1976-1998: In 1972, *empty tomb*, inc., a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt charitable organization, began organizing “discipleship opportunities” for Christians in the Champaign County, IL, area to serve, in Jesus’ name, local people in need. Then in 1976, *empty tomb*, inc. implemented the Bread from Jesus project in the Champaign County, IL, area. Bread from Jesus brought together churches across the theological spectrum in a cooperative effort to help a needy area in Northeast Brazil. *Lesson learned:* Christians will cooperate to help meet specific needs in another area of the world.

1989-2000: *empty tomb*, inc. organized The National Money for Missions Program. This effort provided a budgeting structure for congregations to embrace. Basic operations were met, and contributions to the church over that amount were directed to expanding missions. *Lesson learned:* In at least three instances, when income increased beyond operational needs, and more money went out to missions, the congregational leadership withdrew from the program. Observation: Strong forces can keep congregations from increasing missions outreach.

2001-Present: *empty tomb*, inc. organized Mission Match. In Mission Match, a congregation submits an application, identifying a mission project the congregation wants to support. The congregation agrees that the money to be matched will be raised from within the congregation, in addition to current giving. If the project is in the U.S., to qualify the project must be focused on low-income people, and carried out in Jesus’ name. If the project is international, the project must be carried out in Jesus’ name. Funds are available on a first-come, first-served basis for those congregations that provide a complete application for qualified projects that meet the Guidelines (see [missionmatch.org](http://missionmatch.org)). *Lesson learned:* Congregations will commit to raise additional mission funds when matching funds are available for projects the congregations want to do.

**How are the Mission Match matching contribution funds raised and shared?**

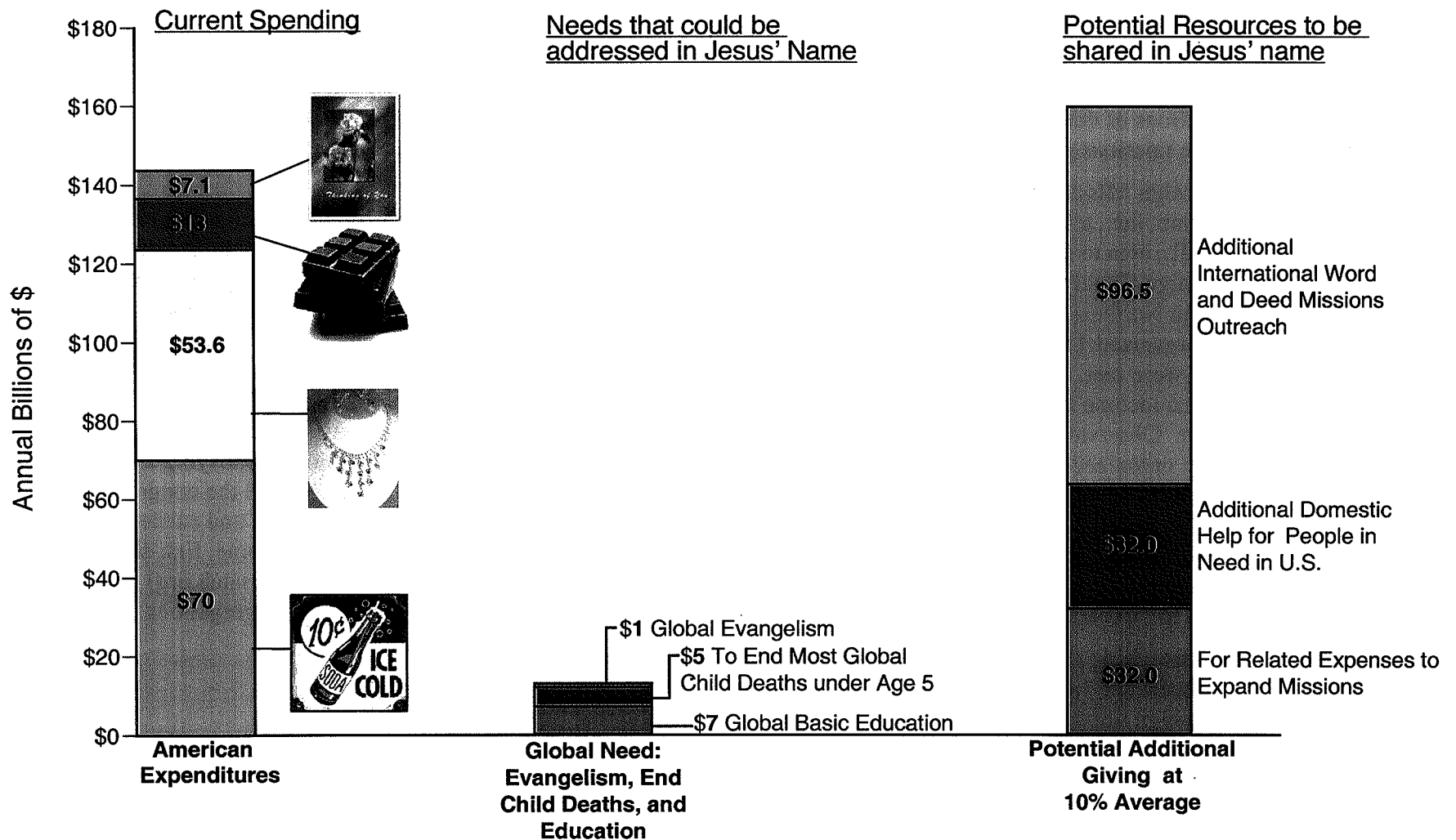
Initially, money from a bequest and two designated gifts provided *empty tomb* with the first matching funds.

A general fundraising campaign titled Wake the Sleeping Giant then raised additional funds.

The current effort is the Mission Match Discipleship Tree. The Discipleship Tree is a grassroots movement, similar to a telephone tree. The news is spread that together, we can help expand missions spending by churches in the U.S. Each participant is asked to add to his or her “missions giving portfolio” through a tax-deductible \$48 annual gift to the Discipleship Tree. Also, each participant is asked to spread the word to three other Christians who each donate \$48 a year and add three people to their “branches” and so on. The spreading branches provide both the matching contributions, and a way to spread the word about the potential of the church to impact word and deed need in Jesus’ name. The funds are pooled in an *empty tomb* account (any interest is added to the matching funds). Of each \$48 donated, 85%, or \$40.80 is made available as matching funds; 10%, or \$4.80, is available to support the Discipleship Tree communication system and other fundraising costs (e.g., PayPal fees for online donations); and 5%, or \$2.40, is available to support congregational support (e.g., postage, long distance calls). The 15% may also help fund church giving related research, and education activities, in the future.

**For more info:** Email [wakegiant@emptytomb.org](mailto:wakegiant@emptytomb.org), Subject: Discipleship Tree, see [missionmatch.org](http://missionmatch.org), or call (217) 356-9519.

# Why the Mission Match® Discipleship Tree™?



Currently 2¢ of each dollar donated to a congregation goes for denominational overseas missions.

Stats for: Greeting Cards: 2004; Chocolate: 2004; Jewelry: 2004; Soft Drinks: 2006; Potential: 2007; 2¢: 2007

Let your roots grow down into the heart of Christ... Ephesians 3:17 (NLT)

## Why the Mission Match® Discipleship Tree™?

For 11 denominations, the average amount spent on denominational overseas missions during 1916-1927 was 8¢ per dollar donated to the congregation. By 2007, the average amount spent on denominational overseas missions in 34 denominations was 2¢ per dollar donated to the congregation.

**Table 21: Overseas Missions Income, Excluding Any Investment or Government Income, as a Percent of Total Contributions to congregations, 34 Denominations, Ranked by Cents per Dollar, 2007**

1	Primitive Methodist Church in the U.S.A.	12¢	3,635
2	Christian and Missionary Alliance <sup>20</sup>	12¢	195,481
3	Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (General Synod)	10¢	34,954
4	Evangelical Congregational Church	9¢	19,339
5	Free Methodist Church of North America	8¢	67,259
6	General Association of General Baptists	7¢	46,242
7	Allegheny Wesleyan Methodist Connection	7¢	1,414
8	Church of the Nazarene	6¢	635,526
9	Brethren in Christ Church	5¢	26,468
10	The Wesleyan Church	4¢	116,985
11	Presbyterian Church in America	4¢	270,605
12	Seventh-day Adventists <sup>20</sup>	4¢	1,000,472
13	The Orthodox Presbyterian Church	4¢	21,031
14	Church of the Lutheran Confession	4¢	6,262
15	Fellowship of Evangelical Churches	4¢	6,834
16	Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod	3¢	309,658
17	Churches of God General Conference	3¢	33,083
18	Evangelical Lutheran Synod	3¢	15,734
19	American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A.	3¢	1,358,351
20	Moravian Church in America, Northern Province <sup>20</sup>	3¢	17,554
21	Evangelical Covenant Church	2¢	123,150
22	Church of God General Conference (Oregon, Ill.)	2¢	3,039
23	Southern Baptist Convention	2¢	16,266,920
24	Reformed Church in America <sup>20</sup>	2¢	162,182
25	Church of the Brethren <sup>20</sup>	2¢	125,418
26	The United Methodist Church <sup>20</sup>	1¢	7,899,147
27	Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod <sup>20</sup>	1¢	1,835,064
28	Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)	1¢	447,340
29	Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	1¢	3,533,956
30	United Church of Christ	1¢	1,145,281
31	The Episcopal Church <sup>20</sup>	1¢	1,720,477
32	Cumberland Presbyterian Church	1¢	78,451
33	Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) <sup>20</sup>	0.3¢	2,209,546
34	Conservative Congregational Christian Conference <sup>20</sup>	0.2¢	41,772

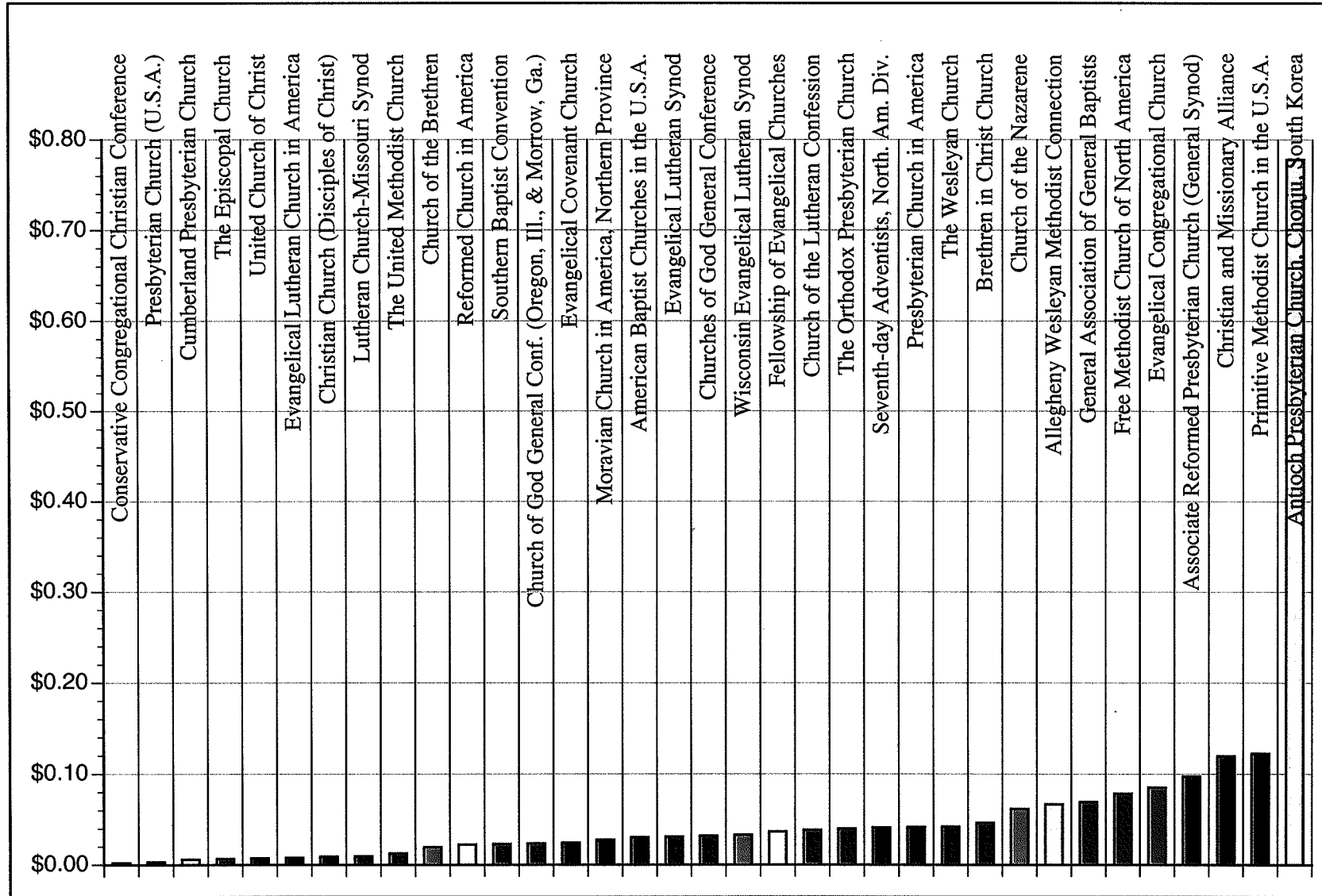
From *The State of Church Giving through 2007: What Are Our Christian Billionaires Thinking—Or Are They?*, 19<sup>th</sup> edition (Champaign, IL: empty tomb, inc., October 2009), p. 64 [see pages 75-76 for footnotes].

The folks at empty tomb have spent over three decades developing a way to help churches tap more of their missions giving potential. Mission Match works. Churches that apply for matching funds report increased missions giving. Help us expand missions through the Mission Match Discipleship Tree. For more info, see [missionmatch.org](http://missionmatch.org) and *Grow the Movement*, email [wakegiant@emptytomb.org](mailto:wakegiant@emptytomb.org), Subject: Discipleship Tree, or call (217) 356-9519. Together we can change the world in Jesus' name!



**This is where we are. Help the church in the U.S. move to where we can be through the Mission Match® Discipleship Tree™!**

**Figure 18: Cents Directed to Denominational Overseas Missions, Per Dollar Donated to the Congregation, 34 Denominations in the U.S., 2007, and Antioch Presbyterian Church, Chonju, South Korea, 2005**



Source: empty tomb, inc. Analysis

empty tomb, inc., 2009

From: *The State of Church Giving through 2007: What Are Our Christian Billionaires Thinking—Or Are They?*, 19<sup>th</sup> edition (Champaign, IL: empty tomb, inc., October 2009), p. 65.