

# United People in Christ, Inc.

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**A registered and licensed non-profit organization**

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## THE CHRISTIANS OF THE MIDDLE EAST ARE EVAPORATING!

During the month of October, 2,000 Christian Iraqi families were forced out of their homes in the city of Mousel (Nineveh) in Northern Iraq, to become refugees among the Kurds in Kurdistan, Iraq or in neighboring Syria, they were given 3 simple choices: one—convert to Islam; two—leave their home only with the clothes on their backs; third—be killed. For the past four to five years prior to this past October, I was told they were paying (Al-Jizia) a tax for protection by the thugs and to keep their Christian faith. More that 100,000 Christian Iraqi have left the city of Mousel since the beginning of October of this year, many have been killed, execution style, none had left the faith and converted to Islam.

The number of Christians in Iraq has dwindled from 900,000 in 2003 to less than 100,000 left as of the writing of this letter. The same religious cleansing, which is tak-

ing place in Iraq over the past 5 years, has already taken place in the West Bank and Israel, with less than 100,000 Arab Christians left in Israel, less than 80,000 Arab Christians left in the West Bank and approximately 500 Arab Christians left in the Gaza Strip.

What is happening to the Christians of the Middle East is exactly what happened to the Christians in Turkey this past century. In Turkey, there were 2,000,000 in 1920. Now there are only a few thousand left and it is my prediction that the same will happen to our Christian people in the Middle East.

There is no question in my mind that there are devious powers behind the disappearance of the Arabic speaking Middle East Christians. These people were called by his name (Christians) first in Syria, in the city of Antioch are the apple of his eye, and once these people are gone, I

think darkness will engulf the whole area as these people are the Light of the World, and I am certain that their shepherd will be very angry and will pour His ~~...~~ on the entire area and possibly the entire world, who stays silent watching these people disappear from their own homeland, or becoming refugees in their own homeland or the surrounding countries.

This Christmas, I am asking each and everyone of you to pray for the safety and the protection of our people in the Middle East, especially in Iraq, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and Israel and despite our economical hardship in this country, we need not to forget these people and show them love and compassion, not only in words, but also by deeds.

Wishing every and each one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Amid Habib, M.D.

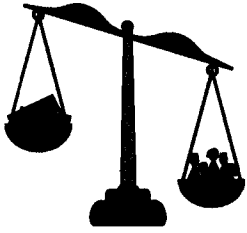
### ***This Christmas, we need your help!***

Please use the enclosed self-addressed envelope and send your tax-deductible donation, not to help us, but to help your needy brothers and sisters in Christ in the Middle East.

I do know most of us are having financial difficulties these days, but I also know our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Middle East are in a much worse economical situation than us and desperately need help.

What better way to celebrate the real meaning of Christmas, than to help a needy Christian you do not even know.

# WHAT HAVE WE DONE WITH YOUR MONEY?



This past November, United People in Christ celebrated its *10th Birthday* helping our needy brothers and sister in Christ in the Middle East.

Since its inception in 1998, your donations have totaled (as of November 30, 2008) **\$231,101.82** of which we have distributed **\$207,346.14** to help our needy brothers and sisters in Christ living in Egypt, Sudan, Jordan, Palestine, Israel, Iraq, Lebanon and Syria. We continue to spend less than 10% of your donations on administrative operations. Your donations for 2008, (as of November 30, 2008) totaled **\$26,120.00**.

At this time, I want to thank the UPIC board members who donated their time, money and talent to help me through the years. I want to give special thanks to YOU, who donated money through the years, helping us to help our needy brothers and sisters in Christ in the Middle East.

I want to thank a very special person, *Esther Phelps*, who continues to contribute \$1,000.00 per month to UPIC and has done so faithfully over the past 5 years.

## The distribution of funds in 2008 were as follows:

<b>EGYPT:</b>	
\$4,000.00	Coptic Care.
<b>IRAQ:</b>	
\$1,000.00	via St. Vincent De Paul charity in Damascus, to care for Iraqi refugees in Syria.
\$2,000.00	via the Caldese Catholic Church of USA.
<u>\$2,000.00</u>	Via Peter and Paul Good Samaritan fund, South Field, Michigan.
\$5,000.00	
<b>ISRAEL:</b>	
\$2,000.00	Via the House of Grace, Haifa.
<b>LEBANON:</b>	
\$1,000.00	My Brother and Road Companion Society.
\$1,000.00	Rossol School for Children's Scholarships.
\$1,000.00	Lebanese Society to Eradicate Leprosy.
\$1,500.00	via S.O.S. of Lebanon
<u>\$2,000.00</u>	Auxilia of Lebanon
\$6,500.00	
<b>PALESTINE:</b>	
\$3,000.00	Via The Bethlehem Association to the Poor & Needy Christians in Bethlehem, Beit Jala and Beit Sahour.
<b>SUDAN:</b>	
\$2,000.00	Via the Voice of the Martyrs.
<b>SYRIA:</b>	
\$1,000.00	Syrian Orthodox Beneficiary Orphanage in Homs, Syria.
\$ 500.00	to The Christian Mercy Society, caring for the elderly, Latakia, Syria.
\$ 438.78	To The Annunciation Church of Adra, Adra, Syria
\$ 543.48	To the Damascus Charitable Society.
<u>\$3,000.00</u>	Via St. Vincent DePaul in Damascus to be distributed to 25 families@ \$20.00 per month.
\$5,482.26	

**TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS IN 2008 WERE \$27,982.26**

## SUCCESS!!

The UPIC Spring Picnic and Fall Dinner were a great success, and everyone had a good time.

Picnic donations were \$3,317.00; dinner donations were \$3,686.00; for a total of \$7,033.00

Thanks to everyone who attended and helped to make these two events a real success.

*I am indebted to Janet Williamson and Linda McAleer for preparing and editing this newsletter.*

## The Ways You Can Help UPIC ?

Here are some ideas on how each of us can contribute and help in our cause:

- All of our board members are volunteers serving the Lord, they have no personal benefit or interest and receive no salary or compensation. Become an advisory board member, the board meets on the third Monday of each month. If you are interested in helping, please come.
- Tell your friends and relatives about UPIC and its cause.
- We need someone with computer knowledge and expertise to help us on the Internet.
- Make a monthly contribution, even if it is as little as \$10.00 per month. If you need donation envelopes, please call our office to have these envelopes mailed to you.
- Teach your children to save their change in a piggy bank and bring it to our Spring picnic or Fall dinner. Teach them their change will help a lot of people in the Middle East who are hungry.
- UPIC is interested in opening a branch or sister organization in one city in each state. If you have friends or relatives, in other states in the United States, you think would be interested in helping our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Middle East and help our cause, please ask them to call us.
- Please notify us of any change in your address so we can make appropriate corrections. We do not want to waste money.
- If you have suggestions, corrections, criticisms, advice, equipment or any other items that can be used, please call or write us.
- If you have old or new clothes, shoes, furniture, medical equipment or any other items that can be used, please deliver them to my office address or call us to send someone to pick it up. We continue to send these items to our needy brothers and sisters in Christ in Egypt through Dr. Mansour.



**YES!**

I want to help my needy brothers and sisters in Christ in the Middle East ( check all that apply and send to UPIC)

- I want to make a contribution of :  \$500  \$250  \$100  \$50  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- I want to pledge a monthly contribution of:  \$250  \$100  \$50  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month
- I want to help UPIC's mission, Please ask a board member to contact me at \_\_\_\_\_
- Please sign me up to receive e-newsletters. Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Jesus is Better than Santa



Santa lives at the North Pole.  
 JESUS is everywhere.  
 Santa rides in a sleigh.  
 JESUS rides on the wind and walks on the water.  
 Santa comes but once a year.  
 JESUS is an ever present help.  
 Santa fills your stockings with goodies.  
 JESUS supplies all your needs.  
 Santa comes down your chimney uninited  
 JESUS stands at your door and knocks and then enters your heart.  
 You have to stand in line to see Santa.  
 JESUS lets you rest in his arms.  
 Santa doesn't know your name, all he can say is, "Hi little boy or girl, what's your name?"  
 JESUS knew our name before we did. Not only does he know our name, He knows our address, too. He knows our history and future and He even knows how many hairs are on our heads.  
 Santa has a belly like a bowl full of jelly.  
 JESUS has a heart full of love.  
 All Santa can offer is "HO HO HO."  
 JESUS offers health, help and hope.  
 Santa says, "you better not cry."  
 JESUS says, "cast all your cares on me for I care for you."  
 Santa's little helpers make toys.  
 JESUS makes new life, mends wounded hearts, repairs broken homes and builds mansions.  
 Santa may make you chuckle, but  
 JESUS gives you joy that is your strength.  
 Santa is a myth, but  
 JESUS is the Truth, the Way and the Life.  
 While Santa puts gifts under your tree  
 JESUS became our gift and died on the tree.  
 It's obvious there is really no comparison.  
 We need to remember WHO Christmas is all about.  
 We need to put Christ back in Christmas.  
 JESUS is still the reason for the season.

May the Lord bless and watch over you  
 and your loved ones this Christmas and may He prosper  
 and bless the work of your hands in the New Year.

[www.share-christmas.com/poems/santa\\_jesus](http://www.share-christmas.com/poems/santa_jesus)