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**Incarnation: God's Christmas
Gift for His Creation**
By Gustavo A. Crocker

Jordanian Nazarenes often remind me of their love and admiration for the late King Hussein of Jordan. Among the many stories they share around the dining table is the story of their king, who “every once in a while would dress like a common man and visit the marketplace, the government offices, hospitals, and public places.” He liked to go incognito so he could experience the everyday life of his subjects, the quality of service they received from civil servants, the cost of living, etc. He lived like a commoner for a little while so he could be a ruler who better understood his people. For our Jordanian brethren, this model of leading was one of the traits they found most admirable in their king.

On Christmas night, however, God did not pay a sporadic visit to our neighborhood in order to empathize with us. He “moved into” our neighborhood! The miracle of Christmas is that the almighty God, the omniscient God who did not need to descend in order to know the needs and suffering of His people (Exodus 3:7), decided to come in the person of Jesus and show us the essence of His kingdom in grace and truth.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.
We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only
Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.
(John 1:14, NIV)

Christian leaders need to follow this incarnational model in the same way that Jesus showed us the Father by becoming Immanuel, God with us. We should not make only sporadic visits to the communities in order to “check things out.” If we want to show Jesus to the world, we must move into the world, into the communities, into the neighborhoods. Perhaps incarnation is the best Christmas gift we can give to a world in need of hope.



Budget Report as of November 30, 2013

Church Name	District	Olivet	NMI	SDMI	NYI	WEF	P & B
Anna First	\$5,047.29	\$2,419.64	\$282.46	\$423.40	\$380.62	\$5,914.66	\$2,419.64
Arcola First	\$970.55	\$516.67	\$54.32	\$81.41	\$73.19	\$1,043.48	\$430.30
Arcola Spanish	\$558.40	\$281.00	\$31.25	\$46.84	\$42.11	\$686.00	\$300.00
Auburn	\$1,729.43	\$606.43	\$96.79	\$145.08	\$130.42	\$1,699.33	\$700.09
Barry	\$812.73	\$0.00	\$45.48	\$68.17	\$61.29	\$0.00	\$0.00
Beardstown	\$2,803.95	\$1,164.77	\$156.92	\$235.20	\$211.44	\$1,851.14	\$590.98
Beardstown Liberty Hispanic	\$786.26	\$0.00	\$44.00	\$65.95	\$59.29	\$0.00	\$0.00
Belleville Emmanuel	\$401.15	\$450.00	\$22.45	\$33.65	\$30.25	\$610.00	\$484.00
Belleville First	\$6,129.09	\$2,593.83	\$343.00	\$514.14	\$462.17	\$3,000.00	\$2,593.83
Belleville Korean	\$802.27	\$0.00	\$44.91	\$67.31	\$60.51	\$150.00	\$150.00
Benton	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,516.00	\$0.00
Bethel	\$1,733.78	\$846.00	\$97.03	\$145.43	\$130.73	\$2,120.00	\$846.00
Bluff View Christian Center	\$381.38	\$228.32	\$21.35	\$32.00	\$28.77	\$386.89	\$168.76
Carbondale New Beginnings	\$1,144.02	\$548.44	\$64.03	\$95.97	\$86.27	\$1,224.58	\$516.39
Carlinville First	\$1,307.76	\$569.70	\$73.18	\$109.71	\$98.62	\$954.87	\$390.62
Carmi	\$1,610.44	\$771.21	\$90.12	\$135.09	\$121.44	\$258.34	\$543.04
Casey	\$7,334.45	\$3,432.86	\$410.47	\$615.23	\$553.07	\$10,555.67	\$3,591.30
Centralia	\$1,650.32	\$791.00	\$92.37	\$138.44	\$124.44	\$1,956.00	\$807.00
Champaign First	\$4,308.73	\$1,822.23	\$241.14	\$361.43	\$324.91	\$2,951.18	\$1,214.84
Champaign New Day	\$303.22	\$324.00	\$16.98	\$25.45	\$22.87	\$0.00	\$325.00
Chrisman	\$2,430.17	\$1,377.00	\$136.00	\$203.85	\$183.25	\$0.00	\$1,377.00
Clinton First	\$3,369.66	\$1,750.00	\$188.58	\$282.66	\$254.10	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00
Collinsville Good Samaritan	\$1,740.72	\$0.00	\$97.42	\$146.02	\$131.26	\$0.00	\$0.00
Decatur First	\$18,212.89	\$7,460.70	\$1,019.27	\$1,527.75	\$1,373.41	\$21,234.88	\$8,773.65
Decatur Oak Grove	\$1,012.56	\$437.00	\$56.68	\$84.95	\$76.35	\$1,317.15	\$535.70
Decatur Parkway	\$117.83	\$58.49	\$6.59	\$9.88	\$8.89	\$973.30	\$0.00
Decatur Trinity	\$1,669.51	\$936.40	\$93.43	\$140.04	\$125.88	\$2,488.98	\$936.40
Decatur West Side	\$3,520.18	\$3,145.07	\$197.01	\$295.30	\$265.45	\$4,421.90	\$1,739.37
Du Quoin	\$1,203.03	\$798.04	\$67.33	\$100.92	\$90.72	\$0.00	\$0.00
East St. Louis Rush Mem.	\$272.77	\$145.00	\$15.26	\$22.88	\$20.57	\$243.00	\$110.00
Edgemont Grace	\$583.37	\$127.49	\$32.66	\$48.94	\$43.99	\$195.29	\$84.29
Fairfield Fountain of Life	\$802.30	\$0.00	\$44.90	\$67.30	\$60.50	\$40.00	\$350.00
Fairview Heights Parkway	\$1,957.02	\$414.08	\$109.55	\$164.17	\$147.59	\$952.86	\$896.78
Flora	\$4,194.19	\$1,775.63	\$234.71	\$351.83	\$316.27	\$3,744.55	\$1,488.73
Georgetown	\$1,849.90	\$884.05	\$103.54	\$155.17	\$139.49	\$2,118.21	\$537.72
Glenview	\$3,239.64	\$1,224.37	\$181.30	\$271.75	\$244.29	\$3,832.00	\$1,224.37
Godfrey	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Granite City CTM	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Griggsville	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Harrisburg Oasis Community	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Highland	\$20.06	\$0.00	\$1.12	\$1.68	\$1.51	\$0.00	\$0.00
Jacksonville CTM	\$174.86	\$0.00	\$9.79	\$14.67	\$13.19	\$0.00	\$0.00
Jerseyville	\$489.39	\$0.00	\$27.39	\$41.05	\$36.91	\$470.00	\$0.00
Laclede	\$391.23	\$140.03	\$21.90	\$32.82	\$29.50	\$342.28	\$140.03
Lincoln	\$1,220.32	\$590.00	\$68.30	\$102.37	\$92.03	\$1,575.00	\$590.00
Mahomet	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
Mansfield Community	\$730.89	\$0.00	\$40.90	\$61.31	\$55.12	\$0.00	\$0.00
Marion First	\$421.21	\$315.96	\$23.57	\$35.33	\$31.76	\$90.00	\$315.96
Marshall	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mattoon East Side	\$3,079.41	\$1,376.27	\$172.33	\$258.32	\$232.20	\$5,070.05	\$1,376.07
Mattoon Real Life Community	\$1,827.68	\$778.09	\$102.28	\$153.32	\$137.82	\$2,562.47	\$912.42
Monticello	\$1,467.47	\$608.94	\$82.13	\$123.10	\$110.66	\$1,326.55	\$530.41
Mount Carmel	\$1,032.53	\$40.00	\$57.79	\$86.61	\$77.86	\$666.67	\$496.00
Mount Erie	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mount Sterling	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mount Vernon	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$560.00	\$451.00
Murphysboro	\$2,329.53	\$0.00	\$130.37	\$195.42	\$175.67	\$0.00	\$1,100.33
Nebo	\$2,752.90	\$1,329.35	\$154.06	\$230.92	\$207.58	\$3,809.52	\$1,571.54
Oakwood	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ogden	\$2,511.71	\$607.42	\$140.58	\$210.68	\$189.41	\$2,502.49	\$1,034.37
Olivet	\$1,335.83	\$641.00	\$74.76	\$112.05	\$100.73	\$0.00	\$641.00
Olney	\$2,605.61	\$1,249.09	\$145.80	\$218.55	\$196.46	\$1,287.00	\$1,080.60
Pana First	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$853.70	\$516.78
Paris First	\$1,655.73	\$808.01	\$92.65	\$138.89	\$124.85	\$1,267.37	\$493.76
Pittsfield	\$8,963.30	\$4,396.93	\$501.64	\$751.88	\$675.90	\$12,473.77	\$4,896.93
Quincy Emmanuel	\$3,352.52	\$1,287.42	\$187.60	\$281.22	\$252.78	\$5,768.60	\$1,707.48
Rantoul	\$1,850.11	\$400.00	\$103.54	\$155.19	\$139.51	\$680.00	\$200.00
Roxana	\$9,556.23	\$2,350.42	\$534.82	\$801.60	\$720.61	\$12,101.96	\$4,132.07
Royalton First	\$2,723.79	\$961.00	\$152.44	\$228.49	\$205.40	\$3,007.00	\$372.00
Salem Grace	\$15,498.67	\$8,127.78	\$867.37	\$1,300.07	\$1,168.71	\$19,867.90	\$8,166.16
Shelbyville	\$8,421.43	\$2,762.50	\$471.29	\$706.41	\$635.04	\$7,897.50	\$3,258.09
Sherman	\$2,760.87	\$1,336.62	\$154.51	\$231.58	\$208.19	\$3,239.04	\$1,336.62
Sparta	\$481.38	\$0.00	\$26.94	\$40.38	\$36.30	\$0.00	\$0.00
Springfield First	\$9,570.46	\$4,522.47	\$535.59	\$802.81	\$721.69	\$0.00	\$4,522.47
Springfield Trinity	\$0.00	\$457.16	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Taylorville First	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tuscola	\$1,015.05	\$700.00	\$56.80	\$85.15	\$76.55	\$905.00	\$400.00
Urbana Lighthouse	\$245.84	\$121.00	\$13.76	\$20.62	\$18.54	\$1,447.05	\$617.87
Vandalia	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Virden	\$640.76	\$277.89	\$35.87	\$53.75	\$48.31	\$0.00	\$230.47
West Union	\$519.97	\$0.00	\$29.10	\$43.62	\$39.21	\$175.30	\$0.00
	\$175,637.70	\$74,084.77	\$9,829.47	\$14,733.17	\$13,244.42	\$171,586.48	\$76,716.23