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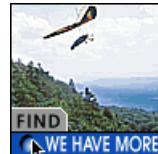
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## Judsonia pastor coordinates national tsunami relief aid

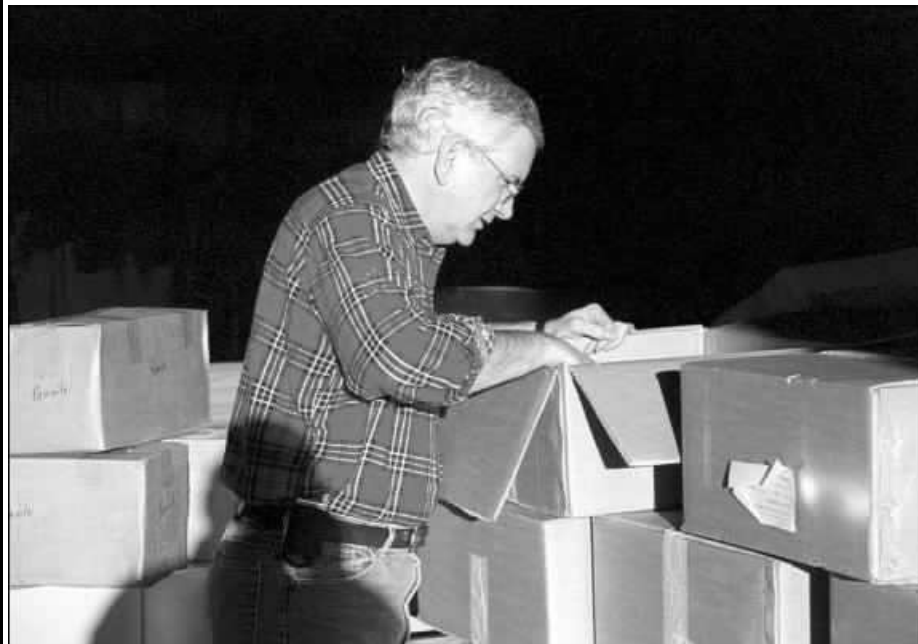


has been with the Judsonia Church of Christ for three years. "We have at least two teams that we have helped coordinate who are going to Sri Lanka. Those teams take medicine, and we help put those things together for them if we can assist."

quickly, he said. "You still have like a great need," Kachelman said. "It's an indefinite timeline as far as our involvement goes. [Through] our efforts here, we will always be focused on helping others."

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Courtesy: Kachelman at (501)

# Judsonia pastor coordinates national tsunami relief aid



Submitted photo

John Kachelman, pastor of Judsonia Church of Christ, is coordinating relief efforts for victims of the tsunami that devastated South Asia Dec. 26.

By John Worthen  
PROMOTIONS STAFF WRITER

has been with the Judsonia Church of Christ for three years. "We have at least two teams that we have helped coordinate who are going to Sri Lanka. Those teams take medicine, and we help put those things together for them if we are needed."

A local connection with a family in India has allowed the Judsonia Church of Christ to gain closer access to tsunami victims. Through Stanley Daniel, a native of India and member of the Judsonia Church of Christ, and his brother, Sebastian, who lives less than 10 miles from one of the hardest hit areas along India's coastline, the church has an active supply line to those in need.

"The day the tsunami struck, [Sebastian] took his own money and delivered bread to those in need," Kachelman said. "He now gives us reports [on how people are doing] and we send him money."

For the past eight months, Kachelman and his congregation have been utilizing a Searcy warehouse to store medical equipment and other supplies that will eventually be sent not only to tsunami victims but to poor areas of Europe as well. The warehouse's owner is allowing the church to store items at no charge — the building features

quickly, he said. "You still have folks in great need," Kachelman said. "It's an indefinite timeline as far as our involvement goes. [Through] our efforts here, we will always be focused on helping others." More information is available by calling Kachelman at (501)

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John Kachelman is no stranger to helping those in need. The Judsonia Church of Christ pastor has coordinated numerous food and aid missions to impoverished areas of Europe for more than five years. Last year alone, he oversaw the shipment of nine cargo containers to the Ukraine. So when the United States government asked for his help following the devastating tsunami that hit South Asia

Dec. 26, it came as no surprise to those who know him

“Our distribution [to Eastern Europe] went really well and [everything was] distributed well; the people involved in [tsunami] aid saw that we were able to energize and mobilize a large group and get the job done,” said Kachelman. “That’s what threw our name into the pot and we got things going.”

At first, Kachelman and his congregation weren’t planning to accept cash donations for tsunami victims, but when

people starting giving them money, they had no choice but to take it, he said. The money is being used primarily for victims in India and Sri Lanka, a small island republic south of India. Kachelman, through the government’s US-AID program, is coordinating tsunami relief efforts by making sure that money and supplies reach their destinations unscathed.

“We are using some funds to send to Sri Lanka to help with medical efforts that are ongoing,” said Kachelman, who

eight truck bays, where trailers can easily access, load and unload items.

Kachelman said that there is currently an urgent need for medical care in all areas affected by the tsunami. Diseases and famine could easily allow the death toll to rise

