

Donations to EDF are supporting the CWS response as well as shipments of material goods from the Brethren Service Center. Recent shipments include 50 cartons of medical supplies to Indonesia on behalf of Lutheran World Relief and 100 cartons of Interchurch Medical Assistance (IMA) Medicine Boxes and three skids of dry food to Indonesia on behalf of IMA, CWS, and the Presbyterian Church. The shipments were combined on one flight along with 1,512 Relief Kits from Mennonite Central Committee. Staff of the General Board's Service Ministries also began packing another 50 IMA Medicine Boxes for Thailand. In other shipments, the center put together a container bound for Sudan with 40 cartons of Gift of the Heart Layette Kits, 70 cartons of Gift of the Heart Health Kits, and 450 cases of canned chicken.

Emergency Response/Service Ministries also has publicized an urgent request from CWS for Gift of the Heart School Kits. The request follows a request for Gift of the Heart Health Kits. Needs stemming from the tsunami are prompting CWS to ask for help to replenish the supply of school kits, which will be used first in temporary schools likely to be housed in tents. Information about assembling kits has been sent to district offices and is available at www.brethren.org. For more information about the Church of the Brethren relief effort see www.brethren.org. For more information about CWS work see www.churchworldservice.org. The National Council of Churches (NCC) also is posting audio, photos, and reflections from NCC envoys to Sri Lanka and Indonesia at www.ncccusa.org. - *Newsline* is produced by Cheryl Brumbaugh-Cayford, director of news services for the Church of the Brethren General Board

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"Would you mind preaching on something other than sin for a while? There are a few things I need to do next week..."

Food for Thought

[There] is the story of an old Italian artist who had lost some of his skill. One evening he sat discouraged before a painting he had just completed. He noticed that he had lost some of his touch. The canvas didn't burst with life as his previous work had once done. As he went to bed, his son, also an artist, came to examine his father's work, and he, too, noticed that it did not reflect his father's usual work. Taking the palette and brush, he worked far into the night, adding a little touch here, smudge there, a little color here, a bit of depth, a shadow or two, some highlights. The son worked until he knew that the work would fulfill his father's vision. Morning came, and the father descended into the studio. He stood before the perfect canvas and in utter delight exclaimed, "Why, I have wrought better than I knew!" --Gigi Graham Tchivdjian, with Ruth Bell Graham, *A Quiet Knowing*

