continued from front

more information but my pride wouldn't let me. I wanted to ask her when and where they met but I was embarrassed. I was such a sinner! How could I dare call someone to ask questions about Jesus. But wait! That church had a website. I could check it to see where they were meeting. I could then go, on my own, and not have to bother anyone. Perfect. And so, that's exactly what I did.

I would log on every Saturday and Tuesday night to find out where service was being held the following day. It was at one of those midweek services that a wise man by the name of John Brush approached me and challenge me to get serious about my faith. It was at those services that I forged relationships with brothers and sisters that I am still close to to this very day. Services that I would have known nothing about had they not been posted, and kept up to date, on a church website.

I can't tell you how discouraged it makes me when I'm visiting a new city and look up their church website to find either outdated information or worse, dead links to their worship services. A calendar marked August when it's January, a link that says "click here" that leads to nowhere, or content that's completely not user-friendly. All I can think of is the lost soul that, like me, was too afraid to reach out to a real person for more information and who relied on a website to inform them of church activities. A soul who was looking for an open window and was met with locked bars — or in this case, inaccurate information. I can attest that it is not an encouraging feeling.

I am so grateful for sites like Disciples Today and the Church Locator that have remained consistent over the years. I'm grateful for the webmasters, designers, and for all those that work diligently to keep our churches websites updated. It takes work, but it is so needed in this age of instant information, hashtags, and retweets. The same warm hugs and greetings we give people in the fellowship can be extended to our church websites. We would never turn our back and ignore someone tapping on our shoulder in an attempt to get our attention at church, but in essence, that's what it's like trying to get information from a dysfunctional website. People are lost and seeking, even if it is just for an updated HTML screen.

www.DisciplesToday.org hosts thousands of pages of news, articles and images to help connect disciples and churches around the world. All information and content is freely available for everyone.

Latest Stories on www.DisciplesToday.org:

Go to www.DisciplesToday.org to read the latest Hot News articles and to access the archives for all channels.

- ***First Baptism After Many Years in Athens, Greece***
  Theophanis Roropoulos, Athens, Greece — Thursday, 08 January 2015
  I'm excited to announce the good news that today, the day of Theophany/Epiphany in Greece, my dear friend and neighbor Spiros Koulos has been baptized in the cold Mediterranean sea, in a day of snow, but also...

- ***The Impact of 2014 HOPE Youth Corps on the Kreider Family***
  HOPE worldwide — Wednesday, 07 January 2015
  Brett and Beth Kreider are members of the Northern Virginia Church of Christ. They have three children (Logan, Noah and Elena) who are also disciple...

- ***Great News from Auburn Tuskegee Christian Church***
  Mike Gross, Auburn, AL — Wednesday, 07 January 2015
  The Auburn Tuskegee Christian Church is expanding to areas outside of our name. Our small church of 51 spans across the eastern border of Alabama into Georgia, and covers a three hour drive from side to side. We have expanded from Auburn and Tuskegee...

- ***Brits Invade Life-Changing Worship!***
  Jerry Maday, Worcester, MA — Tuesday, 06 January 2015
  As we begin 2015 at Life-Changing Worship, we are enjoying a United Kingdom invasion. Malcolm Cox (Thames Valley, England) has composed for us an outstanding 6-part series entitled "Worship Matters...

• UPCOMING EVENTS

Shine! European Arts Gathering
Bracknell, Berkshire England
May 2-3, 2015

Festival de las Americas 2015
Los Angeles, CA, USA
May 22-24, 2015

2015 Southeast Conference
Greenvilla, South Carolina, USA
September 4-6, 2015

ICOC Delegates Meeting
Montego Bay, Jamaica
October 13-16, 2015

Steps of Jesus & the Apostles
Israel, Greece, Turkey, Italy
October 17-31, 2015

North American Discipleship Summit
St. Louis, Missouri, USA
July 7-10, 2016

CONNECTING DISCIPLES IN CHURCHES AROUND THE WORLD

International News reprinted courtesy of Disciples Today
www.DisciplesToday.org
www.DTSpace.net
KNN@DToday.org
All rights reserved ©2015

INTERNATIONAL & LOCAL NEWS BULLETIN
To Inspire, Inform, Unify and Grow the International Churches of Christ
DISCIPLES TODAY
WWW.DISCIPLESTODAY.ORG • ISSUE 485 • JANUARY 18, 2015

How One Website Changed My Life

Blondy Moore, Miami, FL



January 3, 2004. That was the day that I decided to change my life by giving it over to Christ. While I know this decision was paved out in the book of life for me, I can tell you that, save for one very important resource, I may have had to take a much longer and harder road to get here. That one resource was the Internet.

I was invited out to the South Florida Church of Christ in 2003 by a friend of mine who was attending school in Tallahassee at the time. Though I was curious about Jesus, I wasn't curious enough to regularly study the Bible or attend church services except for the occasional holiday when my friend would visit from out of town to Miami. I was a seasonal churchgoer. That was until later that year when I found myself fighting with feelings of complete emptiness and unfulfillment in life. On the outside, things looked great for me. I was in college, I had my own place, my own car, and was living the "good" life. But on the inside, I was dying. I was missing the one thing that superceded all of the material things I thought I needed to be happy: a relationship with Jesus. I desperately wanted and needed something but I didn't know where to find it.

Then I remembered that church I'd been to a few times with my friend. The church where all those friendly people were around waiting to pass out hugs and warm greetings. It was different, sure, but I always felt welcomed there. I wanted to call my friend and get

continued on back