

Celebrating

Free



50-Year Anniversary

1973-2023

Will please come!!



we Love you.



50 years ago... in Chattanooga,
Something new... A stirring of the heart

The eyes of a visionary could see
beyond just a rundown building to
fix it up into a pretty restaurant with
a quaint atmosphere and good food...
it is a new way of Life!



On a very cold day in the winter of 1972, a young
man set his heart to make something new. He had
the hope that men could live together in peace,
keep a good conscience in an unselfish environment
governed by the love of God... The Way must be
found... He had not seen it before, but he believed
it could be. He found some
young friends who were
willing to do the Will of
God. They helped him...



Springtime, May 1973, the Yellow Deli was ready... But what would this tiny sandwich shop really become???



May 13, 1973, the doors opened... People came in. Everyone loved it. The clothespins were always filled with sandwich orders. We all learned to work hard. The potbelly stove kept us warm...ONE WAY marked the entrance to our small restroom. No compromise on our faith. People loved to hang around... This is not just a "job" - it is a Way of Life. Can true faith be lived 24 hours a day? Do we need to get dressed up and go to church to be believers? Where does it say that in the Bible? We thought we were just normal believers... but why were we so different?





More were added to our number... we made seven Yellow Delis in the next few years in surrounding towns. We sang and told everyone about the amazing salvation we had found. God's love was poured out into our hearts. All we wanted to do was just to show the world that "God is Love"...



So, together we made a sandwich. The local paper proclaimed it was noteworthy... Big article in the Sunday paper...the World's greatest sandwich!
OH, LITTLE YELLOW DELI WHERE WILL YOU GO FROM HERE?



Disciples met together, seeking wisdom... We learn not to rely on public opinion. The people of that area of the South proved as fickle as the crowds that called: "Hosanna, to the Son of David," and a week later crucified their Savior.

Though demand for our sandwiches continued, the local media made it appear as if we were bad people. The committed brothers and sisters never wavered.

We packed up the Yellow Deli...



and in the 80s and 90s the little Yellow Deli moved north to Vermont and made little delis under the name Common Ground Cafe hoping to calm down the hostility against our people. Our sweet life of unity continued because we loved God with all our hearts and worked together. But 2006 brings the return of the Yellow Deli... to Chattanooga.

THE SAME SANDWICH,
THE SAME SPIRIT.

Yes! Just down the road from the original Yellow Deli of 1973 we restored another authentic Yellow Deli. Courageous enough to meet the opposition, the Yellow Deli came back to the fertile soil of Chattanooga.



Witnessing our communal existence they could no longer deny that this movement was not going away even if they made it hard on us. The local people came back in, recognizing the "sign" - "Is this really the Yellow Deli?"... Everything looked the same. There was old barnwood, handmade tables.... smiles on the face of the waiters..."Oh, it seems so familiar!". Seeing the sandwiches on a menu they also looked just the same as in the first Yellow Deli. They made their orders. The kind waiter brought their food and once they finished their meal, they read the words on the check, "We serve the fruit of the Spirit, why not ask?" The customers had to proclaim happily: "Ah.. It is the same sandwich and the same SPIRIT..."

TIMES OF REFRESHING ... RESTORATION

By the mercy of God the years of discipleship up north only strengthened those of us who were determined to bring about a restoration. The Yellow Deli had been restored as a demonstration that the selfless life of the first-century church was still possible! It is a sign to all those around. All the prophets proclaimed: "It is time for the 'Restoration of All Things!'" Acts 3:20-21 ...times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Messiah appointed for you, Yahshua, whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began....

THE STIRRING OF THE HEART

In the late 1960s and early 1970s, there was much unrest in men's souls. Radicals began to arise. It was an unsettled time. This is when the Jesus Movement started within the realm of the "hippie movement" (people who wanted change were called "hip"). But the movement quickly declined into the carnal realm that has plagued fallen man since the Garden of Eden. Still, there were some who were clinging to the hope that something could be good and true, which could bring about a change. In the abundance after World War II, the youth of America became a "spoiled generation" of those who had "everything." But the empty feeling of being without God caused some young people's hearts to stir. They began to look for God.

In Chattanooga, Tennessee, in the early 70s a major stirring began. The Yellow Deli was right at the center of this. It was not just another restaurant, but the symbol of a people who wanted to live by the pattern of the first-century church. They were stirred to take the Bible very seriously, living together and sharing all things in common just as the Bible describes in Acts 2:44.

A long and interesting journey has happened since that day 50 years ago when they opened their first Yellow Deli. Strong leadership based on the Word of God caused this movement to endure when the thousands of others came and went like shooting stars...

Inspired by the stories of endurance in the Bible, the young apostles and prophets of a new generation endured much opposition to continue to put forth the truth of what they and their parents before them believe. Their hearts had been stirred by God...



STIRRING

Throughout history there have been times when men became stirred deep in their hearts toward some kind of change. In the Old Testament there are many stories about men who were moved to make amazing and courageous stands for righteousness' sake.

You would have thought that when the ruler of Babylon announced the release of all the Israelites from their captivity, their response would have been overwhelming. However, it wasn't that way at all. Although they were in a foreign land, with foreign customs and gods, most of the Israelites did not want to leave. According to the ancient historian Josephus they had become quite prosperous in Babylon, and most of them did not relish the idea of leaving all and starting all over in the desolate land of fallen Israel.



So, although a few did return, the majority did not. They had grown comfortable in Babylon, in spite of the many commandments from their God not to mix with other cultures. They had become successful in business, owned property, accumulated possessions, some amassing great wealth. So most questioned in their minds, “Why, when we are beginning to do so well in society, does God want us to up and leave? Did he really mean to leave everything — even family members, if they were unwilling to come? All they had to return to was a desolate wasteland full of wild animals and rubble. Surely He did not expect them to abandon all they had gained for that!? What kind of witness would it be if they were so irresponsible as to suddenly leave to return to Jerusalem?”

The wishful thinking of some was that perhaps they would be able to make Babylon into a better place. Besides, they had built synagogues and a very respectable religious establishment in Babylon. Perhaps they could influence their society politically and financially, and change things for the better.

Oddly enough, upon reading that intriguing story in the Bible, we find that God actually

did want them to leave. It was their prophetic destiny to return and to rebuild Jerusalem. A few Israelites' hearts were stirred!

STIRRING

So, how is this ancient story in the Bible relevant today? We see the answer in the prophet Ezra 1:5, where he identifies “the faithful few” as those “whose heart was stirred by God.” They were the ones who responded to the call. Something was awakened in their hearts by the prophetic voice to return to Jerusalem. This was a once-in-a-lifetime chance to

hear and obey. It is what many had lived their lives in anticipation of. They did not want to settle for a comfortable life in Babylon. They knew that God wanted more than that. These people set their face like flint to return and rebuild. It was like another exodus from Egypt.

THE FIRST CHURCH was a new beginning...

The stirring of the heart to go and rebuild can be compared to the stirring of the heart to hear Christ's message and follow him — setting one's face like flint to rebuild the Kingdom and not look back. Looking at the gospel of Christ, it is not difficult to see the parallel between his call to leave everything to follow Him and what God called the Jews in Babylon to do. Many of the Jews in Babylon thought it was unreasonable to expect them to leave everything behind, even unwilling family members, and many people today think the same way about Christ's call to forsake everything, including unwilling family members, to follow him.

America today is very similar to how it was in Babylon: people are quite comfortable in their living conditions, careers, schools, and social circles. They've accumulated property and possessions. Many are doing "quite well" in the world today. But what if the call came from God to abandon all that in order to follow Christ and build his kingdom? Would their hearts be stirred to obey? Or would they rather stay and live out their days in Babylon?

We know that anyone who is of the truth will hear the Messiah's voice and follow Him.¹ Anyone who is unable to hear His voice is still under the sway of the ruler of this world. If someone wants to follow Messiah and build up the Kingdom of God, then he must change kingdoms and allegiances. He must leave Babylon (the world) in order to build up Jerusalem (God's kingdom).

For he rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved son. (Colossians 1:13)

I have given them your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not pray that you should take them out of the world, but that you should keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. (John 17:15-16)

*If the world hates you, you know that it hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, **but I chose you out of the world**, therefore the world hates you. (John 15:18-19)*

The gospel of Jesus Christ called men to leave everything behind and follow him. They could not stay where they were and build — they had to get up and follow after him. They could have no other allegiances. The

¹John 18:37

response by those first disciples when they heard his message validates this:

*And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." **Immediately they left their nets and followed him.** Going on from there He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them. **Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.** (Matthew 4:19-22)*

*Peter began to say to him, "**Behold, we have left everything and followed You.**" Jesus said, "Truly I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or farms, for my sake and for the gospel's sake, but that he will receive a hundred times as much now in the present age, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and farms, along with persecutions; and in the age to come, eternal life." (Mark 10:28-30)*

The first disciples did not think it was unreasonable for him to expect them to leave everything, and follow him. This was the normal response to his gospel. Those first disciples had to face the same hardships that those who left Babylon did; they had to leave behind those who weren't stirred in their heart.² They had to leave behind whoever was not stirred to go and build what God was building.³

Even Abraham, the first one God called, had to leave behind his homeland, and his father's house and go to the land God would show him.⁴ He left one place and went to another place. He was called out by the same voice:

And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely. (Revelation 22:17)

The word *come* denotes motion from one place to another.⁵ The very same essential requirement that Abraham had when he was called by God is present in all the Gospels — movement from one place to another. The first step in obeying the gospel is to leave one place in order to go to another place — a new place and environment. When a person is born again he receives a brand-new heart and is immersed into the brand-new culture of the Body of Messiah — he does not remain in the culture of the world.

Abraham had to leave his land,⁶ turn his back on his previous life, and obey what God was calling him to do. He had to do this before God could show him all the other things he would do through him.⁷ Abraham did not shrink back even though he was commanded to leave his life in this world behind him, turning his back on his family and friends and the world

² Matthew 10:34-35,37; 12:46-47

³ Luke 14:26

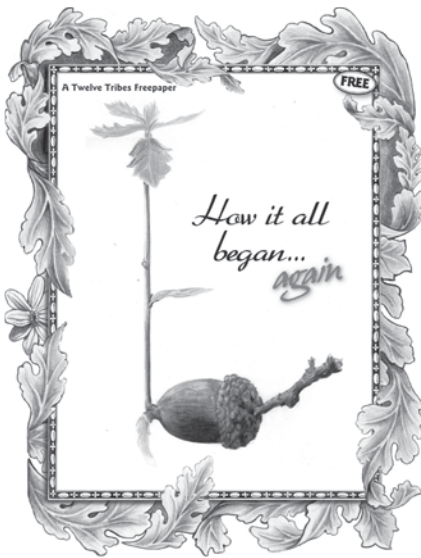
⁴ Genesis 12:1

⁵ John 6:44

⁶ Genesis 12:1-2

⁷ Hebrews 11:8

How small and insignificant is **The MUSTARD SEED!**



IT'S SO SMALL THAT EVEN A BUG OR A BIRD WOULDN'T NOTICE IT. And that little seed doesn't have faith in itself when it goes into the ground to be planted. Surely it doesn't think, "I may look small now, but you watch, in a few years I'm going to be really big." It just goes into the ground and does what it's supposed to do, and it becomes a huge tree.

As a seed, it didn't feel a lot of worth in its own greatness. It probably sat down there on the ground, looking at the huge things around it,

and felt really small. But Yahshua said that the Kingdom of Heaven is going to be like that. He was comparing something as vast as the Kingdom of Heaven to something as tiny as the tiniest seed.

HE MUST HAVE FELT AS SMALL AS A MUSTARD SEED HIMSELF AT TIMES. And his followers were just a little rag-tag bunch of men that were barely making it. They had not gone to any fancy schools, or even studied much at all. Yet Yahshua had the sense that the whole universe was resting upon his shoulders, and upon those who would follow him. And who was he? He was just nothing but a mustard seed.

Maybe one of those little seeds just happened to have been caught in a gust of wind that blew by Yahshua as he sat there, considering these deep things. And he picked it up on his finger and examined its smallness. He may have thought, "Oh, this little insignificant seed..." And then came that

horrible, depressing doubt from the evil one, “So, who do you think you are, anyway? What high hopes do you have? You are as insignificant as that little mustard seed! Give up now; you’ll never become a tree. You talk about the universe and the stars, righteousness and ruling, many awesome things, but who do you think you are? You’re just nothing!”

But somehow that little seed just does what little seeds do, and ends up turning into a great and mighty tree. One plants, another one waters, but it’s God who makes it grow.¹ So all the little seed has to do is be obedient and fall into the ground and die. That’s all. There is no way he could get organized enough to plan out how he’s going to become the huge tree that he wants to be. He just has to die. And then the Father makes him into what he’s destined to be.

¹1 Corinthians 3:6 “I planted, Apollos watered, but God [all the while] was causing the growth.”



It is so enlightening that Yahshua compared the Kingdom of Heaven to a mustard seed. I’m sure he looked around at his rag-tag bunch of followers and wondered sometimes. It got very hard for them, and he saw Peter puzzling, and John struggling, and people falling away, and at one point he said to them, “Are you going to leave me, too?” But they said, “Where would we go? You are the only one who has the words of eternal life.”

And so there they were — just a little, tiny mustard seed ... 🌱

THE STIRRING OF THE HEART, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

he had known. He said his farewells, kissed his loved ones goodbye forever, and placed his life in the hands of the one who spoke to him saying, “Leave your life, your family and friends, your job and security. Trust me and I will take care of you.”⁸ Those who are Abraham’s seed will have Abraham’s faith and will do what Abraham did.⁹ 🌱

⁸ Matthew 6:31-33

⁹ Galatians 3:7,29; John 8:39; Romans 4:12
yellowdeli.com

THE NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES

In the days of the New Testament, the preserved language of the devout Jews in the land of Palestine was Hebrew. So, when the angel Gabriel brought the good news to the Hebrew virgin, Mary (or Miriam in Hebrew), that she would give birth to the Savior of the world, he also told her what His name should be. So, what language do you suppose he spoke to her in? Hebrew, of course! And certainly she named the child just as the angel had commanded. That name was Yahshua.

Joshua in the Old Testament had the same name as the One called Jesus in the New Testament, for Joshua was the prophetic forerunner of the Son of God, bringing Israel into the Promised Land and leading them to victory over their enemies. But since the translators obviously knew that it was the same, why did they not translate the “name above all names” accurately? The NIV New Testament even has a footnote supporting this fact under Matthew 1:21: “Jesus is the Greek form of Joshua.”

You may also find it interesting that in Acts 26:14-15, it says that the apostle Paul heard the name of the Savior pronounced “in the Hebrew tongue” by the Savior himself. In the amazing vision that knocked him off his high horse, Paul heard a voice and takes the time to write in what language the voice was speaking to him. Thus, he certainly didn’t hear the Greek name Iesous or the English name Jesus, but rather the

יהושע
Yahshua

Yahweh is powerful to save

Hebrew name, the name above all names, Yahshua.

Wouldn’t it be better to call the Savior by his true name — the name his own mother and father

used when addressing him, and which all of his Jewish friends called him?

The realization that somehow the actual name of the Savior was lost led us to look into what else could have been “lost in translation.” Not only have we found out what his true Hebrew name is, but we have found his true Body on earth as well. We could see in Acts 2 and 4 the story of the first Church and how differently they lived than the name-brand denomination of today’s Christianity depict. Thus, many unbelievers will point out that the people they know as “Christian” do not live any differently than the regular “sinners” they know. There has been such confusion in the world of religion. But if you just stop and go back to the original, you will see it so clearly. Men were meant to live together and to love one another as the Savior commanded:

1 John 3:23 This is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Yahshua, the Messiah, and love one another, just as he commanded us.

So, that is really the whole story of the Yellow Deli... it is a restoration of the original faith of the First Church... You are always welcome to visit us in any of our communities. On the back cover, you can find a list of addresses where this wonderful life exists. 🌿



Orio, Spain



San Sebastian, Spain



Plymouth, Massachusetts



Where
in the world
is a
Yellow Deli?

yellowdeli.com



Rutland, Vermont



Vista, California



Arcadia, Florida

yellow flowers



near Buenos Aires, Argentina



Chattanooga, Tennessee



Courtenay, BC, Canada



Boulder, Colorado



Hiddenite, North Carolina

Springing up everywhere



Honiton, England



Kingston, ON, Canada



Kyoto, Japan



Warsaw, Missouri



Londrina, Brazil



Oneonta, New York



Katoomba, Australia



LOCATIONS

USA

- 315 East Broadway, Vista, CA 92084 ☎ 760-631-1888
- 32011 Lilac Road, Valley Center, CA 92082 ☎ 760-742-2064
- 966 Manitou Avenue, Manitou Springs, CO 80829 ☎ 719-685-3235
- 908 Pearl Street, Boulder, CO 80302 ☎ 303-996-4700
- 22 N. Polk Avenue, Arcadia, FL 34266 ☎ (863) 842-7545
- 401 East Hall Street, Savannah, GA 31401 ☎ 912-235-2906
- 801 Egmont Street, Brunswick, GA 31520 ☎ 912-264-1069
- 59 Main Street, Plymouth, MA 02360 ☎ 508-747-3354
- 145 W. Main Street, Warsaw, MO 65355 ☎ 660-438-2581
- 134 Main Street, Oneonta, NY 13820 ☎ 607-431-1155
- 7771 State Route 81, Oak Hill, NY 12460 ☎ 518-239-4240
- 18 S. River Street, Coxsackie, NY 12051 ☎ 518-655-1655
- 5081 NC Highway 90 E, Hiddenite, NC 28636 ☎ 828-548-3354
- 737 McCallie Avenue, Chattanooga, TN 37403 ☎ 423-468-1777
- 219 S. Third Street, Pulaski, TN 38478 ☎ 931-363-8586
- 23 Center Street, Rutland, VT 05701 ☎ 802-775-9800

CANADA

- 490 Des Meurons, Winnipeg, MB R2H 2P5, Canada ☎ 204-453-5156
- 202 Vernon Street, Nelson, BC V1L 4E2, Canada ☎ 250-352-0325
- 45859 Yale Road, Chilliwack, BC V2P 2N6, Canada ☎ 604-702-4442
- 596 Fifth Street, Courtenay, BC V9N 1K3, Canada ☎ 250-897-1111
- 647 Princess Street, Kingston, Ontario K7L 1E4, Canada ☎ 613-546-8384

BRAZIL

- Estrada Major Achilles Pimpão 5000, Jardim Vale Verde, 86020-040 Londrina, Paraná ☎ 55-43-3337-4562
- Rua Porto Alegre 10, Itapecerica da Serra-SP, 06850-440 ☎ 011 4210-4942

ARGENTINA

- Pedro Whelan 501, 1748 Gnrl Rodriguez, Buenos Aires ☎ 54-11-5984-2500

UNITED KINGDOM

- 43-47 High Street, Honiton, Devon EX14 1PW ☎ 44-1404-378023

SPAIN

- General Etxagüe 5, 20003 San Sebastian, Guipúzcoa, Spain ☎ 34-943-477441
- Benta Aldea 6, 20810 Orío, Guipúzcoa, Spain ☎ 34-843-740020

AUSTRALIA

- 214 Katoomba Street, Katoomba, NSW 2780, Australia ☎ 61-2-4782-9744

JAPAN

- Kyotofu Kyotoshi Ukyouku Uzumasa Tayabucho 14-11, Japan
☎ 81-75-881-6886

More info at yellowdeli.com