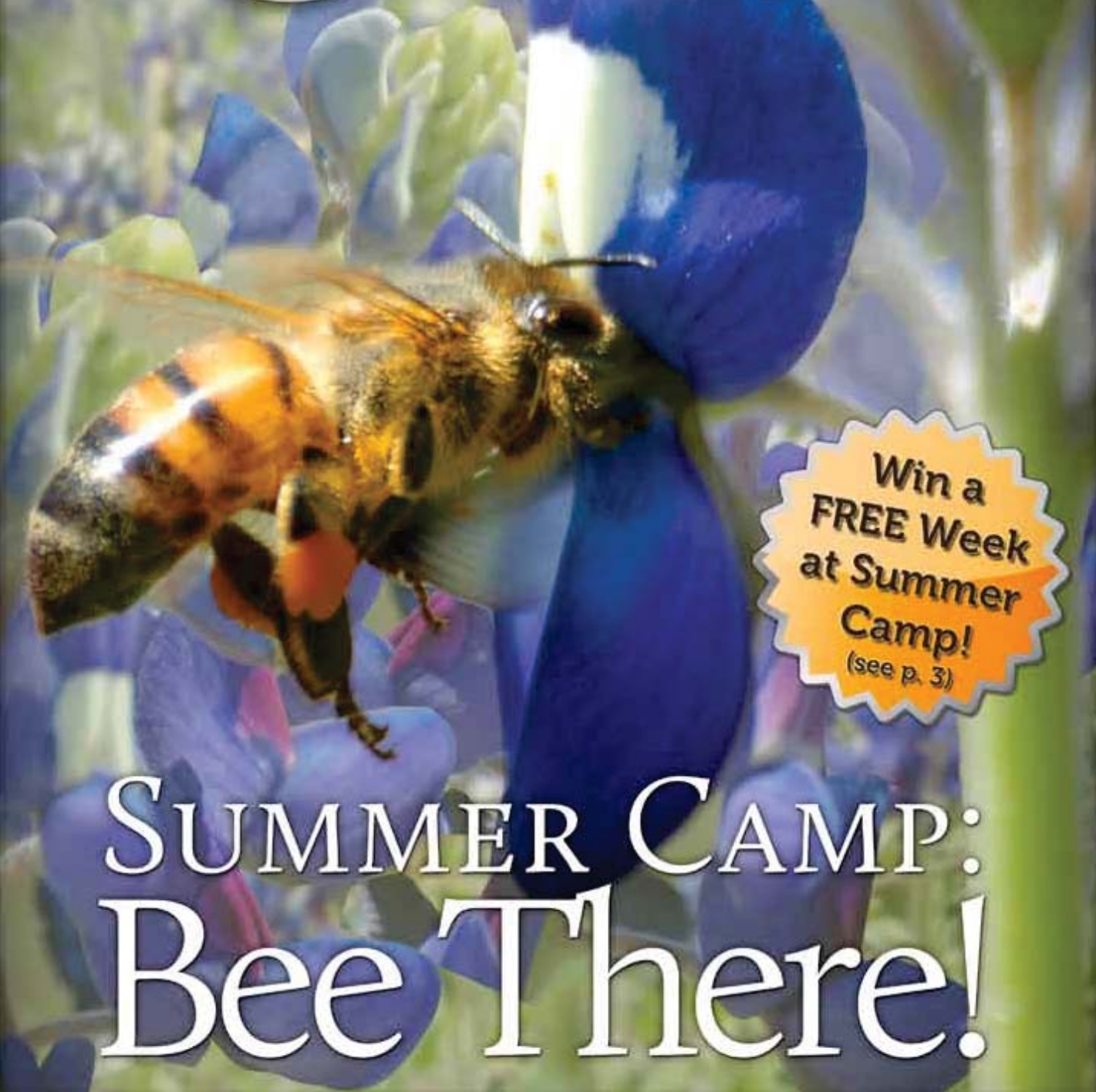


SOUTHWESTERN UNION

# Record

APRIL 2011



Win a  
**FREE Week**  
at Summer  
Camp!  
(see p. 3)

## SUMMER CAMP: Bee There!

ANNUAL CAMP MEETING AND SUMMER CAMP ISSUE



Record

APRIL 2011



# REACHING HEARTS AND MINDS THROUGH SUMMER CAMP

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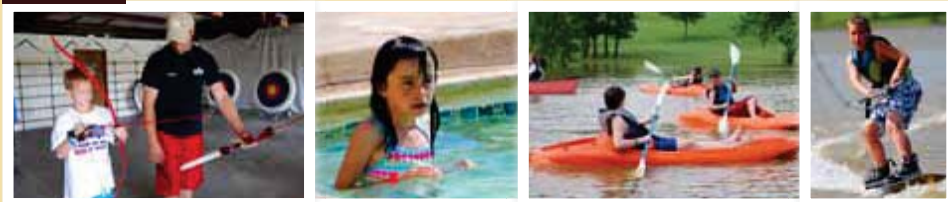
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### On the Cover

Spending time in nature is a key part of summer camp. In this issue we take a lesson from nature by learning about bees. Bees are amazing creatures. They play an intricate role in their ecosystem, pollinating flowers and food crops while collecting nectar to make honey at the same time. They do it all by using the power of cooperation (see p. 10). [Photo by Reggie Johnson]

# President's Perspective»

BY MAX TREVIÑO » SOUTHWESTERN UNION CONFERENCE PRESIDENT



## Let's Bee Together!

**Spring is in full swing, and the bees are buzzing.** Here in the Southwestern Union, that means it will soon be summer camp and camp meeting season.

I'm extremely proud of our union's collective efforts to make each summer a meaningful time of revival and reformation. Like the bees, no one works alone. We join together to accomplish greater goals.

At camp meeting, we hear stories of how God is working in and through the lives of others, giving us hope and a sense that we're part of something greater than our own lives or local churches. Our kids get the same experience at summer camp, where many of them make firm decisions to follow Christ for themselves.

This summer, there are opportunities for you and your children to get away from your daily concerns and grow closer to God and to fellow believers in beautiful, natural settings. They're listed in this issue on pages 12 and 13. We invite you to take advantage of those opportunities.

Ellen White gave the same invitation rather poetically when she

wrote, "Do come, all ye weary ones, whose lives are spent in service of others, either for love's sake or for gain, come and for once be ministered unto. Mother nature will take you in her lap, will woo you with the breath of apple blossoms and clovers, will fan your cheek with perfume-laden airs, will soothe you to sleep with drowsy hum of bees, and murmur of streams, and rustle of myriad fluttering leaves, will waken you with joyous voices, will take away from your spirits the peevishness and littleness that is sure to gather in a narrow round of care, and put in their place something of her spirit of charity, and largeness, and harmony, and bring you into sympathy with the divine" (*Health Reformer*, May 1, 1871).

Whether it's camp meeting or summer camp,

the rewards of *being* a part of the summer festivities will *bee* sweet, and you won't stop *buzzing* about it for years to come. Make a *beeline*, bring your children, and come!



**Max Treviño** is the Southwestern Union Conference president

## Win a Free Week at Summer Camp!

Annual *Southwestern Union Record* Summer Camp Contest

**B**ees are amazing insects. Not only are they very social creatures, but they play an important role in maintaining the ecosystem in which they reside. You can read more interesting facts about bees on **pages 10-11**. A nearby colony of bees went looking for food sources in this month's issue of the *Record*. As a result, there are lots of bees scattered throughout the pages of this magazine. Your job is to count how many bees are browsing this special issue. Begin with the bee on the cover and keep counting until you find them all. Then submit your answer to the question "How many bees are in the April *Record*?" along with your name, age, gender, and the name of the local church you attend, and you could win a free week at summer camp (age restrictions apply; transportation to and from camp is not provided). One boy and one girl from each local conference will be randomly selected out of all the correct entries to receive a free week at summer camp. All entries must be received by **May 15**. Submit your entry online at [www.swurecord.org/summercamp](http://www.swurecord.org/summercamp) or e-mail your entry to [summercampcontest@swuc.org](mailto:summercampcontest@swuc.org). Winners will be notified individually and will be announced in the June issue of the *Record*.





# CREATION Health

BY LYNELL LAMOUNTAIN

## CREATION Health: Finding Happiness at Church

**How would you answer someone who asked,** “Does going to church make you happier and more satisfied with life?” Well, is there a connection between attending religious services and being happier? Chances are, your pastor thinks so, but is there any *evidence*?

Apparently, yes (and the sound you just heard was the collective sigh of relief coming from ministers throughout North America!). But before I share the research, why do you think people who attend church might be happier and more satisfied with life? What experiences create these outcomes?

Jr., executive vice president of Business Development for Florida Hospital, and author of the book *Original Love*, say, “Love is always plural—never singular. You can hate in the singular but you can’t love in the singular. Love is always plural. On the first six days of creation, God created life, but on the seventh He created love. Love is something that can only exist when it’s shared between two or more people.”

In *The Complete Guide to Your Emotions and Your Health* we read, “It seems something deep inside our cells responds positively when we feel love. Love appears capable of sparking healthy biological reactions in much the same way as good food and fitness.”<sup>[iii]</sup>

Dr. Bernie Siegel, Yale physician and author of the bestselling book, *Love, Medicine and Miracles*, affirms the power of love, by stating that, “Unconditional love is the most powerful stimulant of the immune system. The truth is: love heals.”<sup>[iv]</sup>

We are a family of believers. And one of the sacred blessings we cherish most is our social connection with each other. It is within this dynamic spiritual experience of trust, belonging, and hope that we begin enjoying the abundant life Jesus promised. The result is a powerful witness that God is not only real, but that He is real to us because we are being transformed into His likeness by His unconditional love and indwelling presence.

This reminds us of Christ’s words in John 13:34, 35 (NIV), “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

*That’s CREATION Health!*









Lynell LaMountain writes from Florida Hospital in Orlando, Fla.

<sup>[i]</sup> [http://www.usatoday.com/yourlife/mind-soul/spirituality/2010-12-07-happy-religion07\\_ST\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/yourlife/mind-soul/spirituality/2010-12-07-happy-religion07_ST_N.htm)

<sup>[ii]</sup> Ibid.

<sup>[iii]</sup> Padus, E. *The Complete Guide to Your Emotions and Your Health: New Dimensions in Mind/Body Healing*. Emmaus, Penn.: Rodale Press, 1986, 648.

<sup>[iv]</sup> Siegel, Bernie. *Love, Medicine and Miracles: Lessons Learned About Self-Healing from a Surgeon’s Experience with Exceptional Patients*. New York: Harper Perennial, 1986, 181.

- C Choice 
- R Rest 
- E Environment 
- A Activity 
- T Trust 
- I Interpersonal   
 RELATIONSHIPS 
- O Outlook 
- N Nutrition 

explained if you have these close interactions.”<sup>[iii]</sup>

In the book *American Grace: How Religion Divides and Unites Us* by Robert Putnam and David Campbell, 33 percent of people who attend religious services every week and have three to five close friends in their congregation report being “extremely satisfied” with their lives.

The book also shares these findings: 15 percent of weekly church attendees report having no close friends at church, and people who engage in private religious services at home are no happier than people who never attend corporate religious services.

I was at an event the other day where I heard Des Cummings,





# Shades of Grace

BY MIKE TUCKER » SPEAKER/DIRECTOR, FAITH FOR TODAY

## God's Great Grace

**While flying from Puerto Rico to Dallas I had a conversation with a retired Navy Seal who was sitting in the seat next to mine.** He was returning home from the last vacation he would ever take with his wife, since she was suffering from the early stages of Alzheimer's.

This man was also raising his twelve-year-old grandson. His daughter was a single mom who had suffered slight brain damage in an auto accident and could not keep up with a twelve-year-old boy.

My new friend had spent three tours of duty in Viet Nam when he was a Navy Seal. His unit had been asked to do some things he didn't like to talk about.

When I told him what I did for a living, he paused and said, "Well, I hope my grandson can make it to heaven, but I know there is no chance for me."

I said, "Well, first of all, of course your grandson can make it if he chooses Jesus as his Savior, but why couldn't you do the same thing?"

He answered, "You don't know what I've done. I've killed hundreds of men. I see their faces every night. They haunt me! And of course, the Bible says, 'Thou shalt not kill', right?"

I said, "The exact translation is 'Don't murder,' which some biblical commentators believe excludes acts of war. However, even if God declares that you broke the commandment while in Viet Nam, God's grace is still sufficient for you."

He shook his head. "I wish I could believe that. I remember one night when our squad was surrounded by superior forces. Our orders were to defend our position, so we fought all night long. The enemy charged us throughout the night. I would fire my automatic weapon until it was empty, reload, and empty it again. I shot at anything that moved.

"As the morning drew near we were exhausted. We had lived on the edge of life and death for 10 hours and were now working on reflex alone.

"Then a shadowy figure jumped into my foxhole. Impulsively I turned and squeezed off two rounds into his abdomen. It was then I realized I had just shot my best friend! He died in my arms. So you see, I'm a lost man."

I said, "I cannot even imagine what that must have been like. But I know for certain that our God has paid the price for every sin you've ever committed. If you accept his sacrifice for your sins, you can make it to heaven too!"

Our plane landed and as he left, he said, "You've given me a lot to think about."

I said, "Don't just think about it. Accept Jesus' pardon today."

Recently, I told the story of the Navy Seal at Redwood Camp Meeting in California. After the meeting a large young man came up to me and gave me a big bear hug!

Weeping, he said, "Thank you! That last story changed my life." Then he turned and walked away.

A couple of days later an older man introduced himself to me, telling me that he would soon become the father-in-law of the man who had hugged me. He shared the rest of the story with me.

His future son-in-law had been a Marine serving in Iraq. One night while on patrol with his squad they came under attack. Taking cover, they returned fire. Then this young Marine flanked the enemy in order to remove the threat.

When he found the enemy he saw that the man had been wounded. Protocol demanded that he take the man prisoner and provide medical attention. But rage overcame the marine and he killed the wounded combatant.

The marine felt that God could never forgive him. He was severely depressed, feeling that he was a lost man.

Until, that is, he heard the story of the Navy Seal. Then it dawned on him that if the Navy Seal could be forgiven, so could he. God's grace was big enough even for his sin!

God's grace is big enough for Navy Seals and Marines. And God's grace is big enough for you and me.

You can trust God's grace.

Mike Tucker



# Pass it On...

A Monthly Focus on Evangelism in the Southwest

BY BRANDON WESTGATE » ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA CONFERENCE YOUTH DIRECTOR

## It's Time...

### A TIME TO GAIN

Ecclesiastes reminds us that there is a time for everything. We are rapidly approaching one of the most exciting times of the year, CAMP TIME! In a few short weeks campers will be lining up to register for a week or two of summer camp. The campers will be chomping at the bit to experience tons of fun that can't be had at home with an Xbox or a Wii, and they will build new friendships that will last for years to come. Moms and dads will be anxious as they place their young ones into the care of other young people they hardly know. It is a roller coaster of emotions and adrenaline that fuels the air with energy.

It is my favorite time of year. I have been so blessed to be able to witness the "behind the scenes" view of camp for the past few years. A whirlwind of activity and care, of mentoring and soul searching, of challenges and victories, and all of it focused on leading the campers, and staff alike, into a deeper relationship with Jesus. I have seen many campers and staff being profoundly impacted by what takes place in just seven days at camp.

It truly is a time to gain. A time to gain new friendships, new insights, new focus, new hope, and even new life. I have seen it. I have experienced it. If I had never been a part of summer camp, I do not think I would really understand it. Even now, it is difficult to put into words.

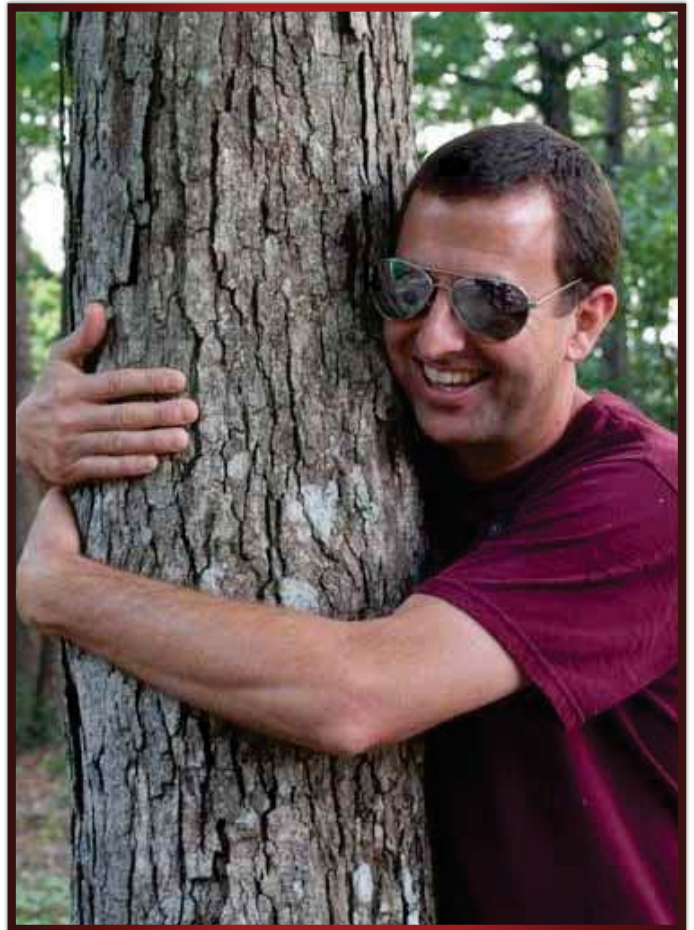
I do know that camp changes perspectives. Maybe it's the different environment, or the worship time, or sleeping in a cabin with a bunch of other campers your own age who are going through the same challenges that facilitates the change. Maybe it's the way the staff encourages campers to sing, praise, and pray and be "real" with Jesus that makes an impact. Maybe it's the absence of parents and caregivers that allows campers to expose their struggles in a way that won't get them "in trouble," but instead will get them counsel, advice, and encouragement from a Spirit-led believer about their own age. For whatever reason, camp changes lives.

### A TIME FOR THANKS

I want to take the time here to thank you. Thank you for the opportunity I have had to spend some time with your camper. Thank you for continuing to trust us with your most precious commodity. Thank you for encouraging your young people to be a part of the ministry team at camp. Being a staff member at camp

means you are underpaid, overworked, and sleep deprived. Yet, every year staff members sign up for what amounts to an eight-week mission trip. Why, you may ask? It is because they want to be a part of the experience of summer camp.

So, thank you. From the bottom of my heart I thank you. If you have never been a part of camp, or never sent your child to camp, please, send them to camp. While I cannot guarantee your child will fall in love with Jesus and gain "newness," I can promise that we will do what we can to show them how much He loves them. When they discover this truth, they will thank you, too.



**Brandon Westgate** is the youth director for the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference.



# Visión Hispana

REGIONAL DEL SUROESTE

UN BRÉVE NOTICIERO MENSUAL DEL SUROESTE

## Invitación al Campestre Familiar Hispano

**Muy apreciados colegas y hermanos que esperan la segunda venida.** Ha llegado el momento esperado por todos nosotros. Nuestro campestre familiar y día de la hermandad hispana.

Desde el 29 de Abril hasta el 1 (ro) de Mayo del corriente año, estaremos regocijándonos de un banquete espiritual y de recreación familiar, además de varios seminarios de capacitación, liderazgo y ministerio femenino.

Cuando nos apartamos del bullicio de la ciudad y nos concentramos en la naturaleza podemos escuchar la voz de Dios más claramente a nuestros oídos. El contacto con la naturaleza nos permite contemplar a nuestro Creador, familiarizarnos con él, orar y meditar en sus obras maravillosas y pensar que un día, muy cercano, estaremos con él en su reino eterno para nunca más separarnos. Ven y disfruta de la linda experiencia de este campestre.

**Nuestro orador principal:** Eduardo Canales, Vicepresidente y coordinador Hispano de nuestra Unión del Suroeste.

**Orador para jóvenes:** Roger Wade, Director de Jóvenes de nuestra Conferencia Regional del Suroeste.

**Habrán** devocionales, seminarios familiares, de grupos de unidades de acción y liderazgo.

**Música:** Josué Interiano, desde ciudad Juárez y otros.

**Recreación:** Caballos, esquí acuático, bote de pedal, baloncesto, voleibol, manualidades y más.

**Niños:** participarán de un lindo y ameno programa preparado para ellos por Jacky Martin.



## Campestre Familiar Hispano

**Cuándo:** 29 de abril al 1 de mayo

**Dónde:** Campamento Lone Star Camp, 6829 FM 317, Athens, Texas

**Orador principal:** Eduardo Canales, Vicepresidente y coordinador Hispano de nuestra Unión del Suroeste

**Orador para jóvenes:** Roger Wade, Director de Jóvenes de nuestra Conferencia Regional del Suroeste

**Comuníquese** al 214-943-4491, ext. 211

¡No faltes, te esperamos. Nos uniremos para el reino!

**K. D. Mota**, coordinador Hispano de la Conferencia Regional del Suroeste

# REACHING HEARTS AND MINDS THROUGH SUMMER CAMP

Geraldo Alonso II

*“Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it” (Prov. 22:6, NIV).*

Many parents have been claimed the promise of this verse as they work to raise their children to follow the footsteps of Christ. That is why our denomination has invested countless resources to develop ministries and programs that parents and churches can use to reach out to their children and youth.

In fact, the majority of Seventh-day Adventist churches in the North American Division run several of the following programs in their congregations: Children’s and youth Sabbath School classes, Adventurers, Pathfinders, Master Guides, AY Society, Adventist education, Vacation Bible School, summer camp, et cetera. All of

Allan Walshe, associate professor of Christian Ministry at Andrews University, during a speech given at the 2010 180° Symposium held on the campus, mentioned that 80 percent of our youth are leaving the church. However, if that was not appalling enough for you, Allan Walshe went on to mention that, for the first time in history, the majority of our youth are not returning to church once they grow older or begin to have families of their own.

Most people find this information rather depressing. Some people might even feel that our efforts in raising Christian Seventh-day Adventists are futile. However, this is not the case, because God has told us that our job is to spread the word to everyone. Regardless of the outcome, our job is to reach everyone. (See Matt. 28:16-20.)

Now consider the following report that was published by the Barna Group, which “indicates that nearly half of all Americans who accept Jesus Christ as their Savior do so before reaching the age of 13 (43 percent), and that two out of three born-again Christians (64 percent) made that commitment to Christ before their eighth-



these ministries and programs are designed to encourage our children and youth to follow Christ.

However, many parents face the challenge of watching their children leave the church around the age of 18. When this happens, parents begin to claim the second part of Proverbs 22:6. Parents pray that their children will come back to church as their children grow older or begin to raise families of their own.







to utilize the ministries we have in place now, but we also need to take them to the next level.

Summer

camp does this because camp is not just about entertainment. Summer camp ministry targets mind, body, and soul. Every one of our camps seeks to bring our campers to a decision for Christ, and in camp ministry we have an advantage that many of our sister ministries do not have. We get children and youth for a whole week, and during that time we get them to detox from everything that the world has to offer.

Our greatest tool in bringing children and youth alike to Christ is nature. For seven days they are

exposed to the grandeur of God's handiwork and it is here they get to meet their Savior. Consider what Ellen White mentions: "In the Garden of Eden the existence of God was demonstrated in the objects of nature that surrounded them. Every tree of the garden spoke to them. The invisible things of God were clearly seen, being understood by the things which were made, even His eternal power and Godhead" (*Selected Messages*, book 1, p. 290).

It is in this setting that we begin our ministry. Many of our activities take place outdoors, such as wakeboarding, horseback riding, archery, canoeing, swimming, mountain biking, etc. It's through these activities that many of our campers discover new things about themselves as they brave getting onto a horse for the first time or looking down at the pool from the high dive. Whether the campers are experiencing an activity for the first time or for the hundredth time, we begin with a word of prayer.

God is at the center of every camp activity. Each camper gets to know who God is through their counselors and every single one of our support staff. The best way to disciple our children and youth is by being their example. This is what summer camp ministry is all about.

We share Jesus with our campers by offering them an example that they can follow.

**Geraldo Alonso II** is the camp director at Wewoka Woods Camp in Oklahoma.

teenth birthday. One out of eight born again people (13 percent) made their profession of faith while 18 to 21 years old. Less than one out of every four born-again Christians (23 percent) embraced Christ after their twenty-first birthday. Barna noted that these figures are consistent with similar studies it has conducted during the past 20 years." (Note: The Barna Group is a well-respected organization that compiles information on the state of the Christian church. To read more about this article, go to the following Web site: <http://www.barna.org/barna-update/article/5-barna-update/196-evangelism-is-most-effective-among-kids>.)

These statistics show that the best time to reach someone for the kingdom is when they are young. It is true that many of our youth will, in fact, leave the church, but that is not to be an excuse for doing nothing. I think we are to work even harder to get the message of Christ across to our children and youth, but this is not enough. We need to make children and youth disciples of Jesus Christ.

For a long time, the Seventh-day Adventist Church has placed a lot of emphasis on evangelism and outreach, and now the emphasis also has to be on making disciples. The best way to keep our children involved in the church is for them to be disciples.

And the best way I know to get our children incorporated into this life-changing experience is summer camp ministry. However, I am not foolish enough to believe that summer camp is the solution to the problem of youth leaving the church. We must continue





# SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL SOMETHING SWEET



## A lesson from the bees

Reggie Johnson



**B**ees are very interesting animals. They are insects that are a part of the phylum *Arthropoda*. Bees have six legs, four wings—a forewing and a hind wing on each side, and three body parts—the head, thorax, and abdomen.

Many varieties of bees are quite social and live in colonies of just a couple dozen bees in some species, while other colonies have up to 60,000 honey bees. Inside of a bee colony, different members have different jobs. Worker bees, queens, and drones all have their own special jobs to do in the colony.

What makes bees really interesting is their behavior and their vital role in the ecosystem, especially as it relates to pollinating plants.

Bees are well known for pollinating flowers. But did you may not know that bees also pollinate over 100 species of crop plants, including fruits, vegetables, nuts, and seeds? In fact, honey bees pollinate about one-third of all the food we eat! This equals about \$15 billion in crops each year.

Bees also have an important task in pollinating flowers and producing honey. So why do bees pollinate flowers? Is it because they know how much humans enjoy the beauty of these colorful blossoms? Is it to provide something for a young man to give to a young lady on a first date? The truth is that bees don't really understand the importance of what they do. But they do it anyway,

because that's how they are made. And they do all these amazing things through a very important tool: **cooperation**.

## Bees cooperate with plants

Bees notice the pretty colors of flowers just as we do. But they can see colors that we can't see, and we can see some colors that bees can't see. Many flowers have special markings, such as spots and lines, that are visible to bees but not to us. That means that bees can see more colors and markings on a flower than we can. To a bee's eyes, some flowers even have little runway strips drawn on their petals! These features of the flower act like a neon sign in front of a restaurant, attracting customers to come in and eat. In the same way, bees are attracted to the flowers' "neon signs" that invite them to land on those flowers. By this advertising system, bees are able to find the flowers that produce nectar that the bees drink for energy (it takes a lot of energy to fly, after all!). Bees also collect pollen from flowers in special pollen baskets on the back of their legs. on the cover of this magazine you can see a full pollen basket colored bright orange on the leg of the bee visiting a bluebonnet flower. The pollen provides protein for the bees and is mixed with honey to create a special food for baby bees.





But here's the interesting part: Bees don't just fly to one flower and then go home. They fly to many different flowers in one trip or flight. In fact, each trip lasts about an hour, and during that time the bee may visit 50 to 100 flowers. A bee can take up to ten flights per day. That's a lot of flowers visited! When a bee collects pollen from one flower and then lands on another flower of the same kind, some of the pollen grains that it has collected in its pollen baskets brush off on a special part of the flower used for reproduction. This is how bees help to pollinate the flower. So flowers provide nectar and pollen for the bees, which helps ensure that the next generation of bees will carry on successfully. In return, the bees pollinate the flowers, which makes it possible for the next generation of beautiful flowers to flourish. And because the work they do, we get to enjoy sweet honey and pretty flowers. You could say that the bees and the flowers are cooperating with each other for everyone's benefit!

## Bees cooperate with other bees

Bee colonies will often send out scouts to find sources of food. When the scout finds a new source of food, such as a nearby meadow full of flowers that the colony hasn't visited yet, it will fly back to the colony to share the information about the food they found.

Since bees can't talk, they have a different way of communicating. The scout bee will tell the other bees where the new food source is by doing something that resembles a happy "dance."

In one type of dance, the bee moves in a figure-eight pattern and waggles its body. This tells the other

bees that the food source is far away and where it is. If the bee walks around in circles and then turns around and circles back the other way, that means the food source is near and that the other bees can find it by flying around the colony in wider and wider circles.

Why does the scout bee go to such trouble to share the location of the new food source with the other bees? Couldn't it just keep that information to itself and not worry about the food needs of the other bees? That's just not the ways bees behave. The bee's natural instinct is to share every source of food with the whole colony. Not only does this help the other bees, but it helps the plants too. It also helps the people who harvest honey produced from the new food source. You could say that the bees are cooperating with each other for everyone's benefit!

## Bees cooperate with people

Wild honey bees live in hollow tree trunks, caves, or holes in such places as rocks. But people who raise bees (beekeepers) make a house for the bee colony out of wooden boxes, straw mounds, or pottery containers. These domestic bees receive a safe, sturdy home that is near a plentiful food source, and the beekeepers get a portion of the honey that the bees make. Most likely you've had some of this honey yourself, bought from your local grocery store. You could say that the bees and the beekeepers are cooperating with each other for everyone's benefit!

Obviously, bees don't think about what they are doing in the same way that we think and make choices. They don't realize that they are helping to create pretty flowers and making sweet honey that people can eat. But the lesson for us is clear. When we choose to cooperate, the result is always something beautiful and something sweet!

**Reggie Johnson** is the *Southwestern Union Record* designer/assistant editor.





# SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULES

## Camp Yorktown Bay

Camp	Ages	Dates
Cub Camp	7-9	June 12-19
Junior Camp	10-12	June 19-26
Pathfinder Camp	10-17	June 25-July 3
<i>(Registered Pathfinders receive \$50 discount).</i>		
Family Camp	all	July 3-10
Extreme Horses	14+	July 3-10
Extreme Water	14+	July 3-10
Blind Camp	call	July 10-17
Tween Camp	11-13	July 17-24
Teen Camp	13-18	July 24-31

**Contact:** For more information, call the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference Youth Department at 318.631.6240, or visit [www.campyorktownbay.com](http://www.campyorktownbay.com).



## Lone Star Camp

Camp	Ages	Dates
Adventurer Camp	7-9	June 19-25
Junior Camp I	9-12	June 26-July 2
Junior Camp II	9-12	July 3-July 9
Teen Camp	13-16	July 10-16

**Contact:** For more information, call the Southwest Region Conference Youth Department at 214.943.4491, ext. 209/210 or e-mail [ls-camp@swrgc.org](mailto:ls-camp@swrgc.org).

## Nameless Valley Ranch

Camp	Ages	Dates
Cub Camp	7-9	June 5-12
Junior Camp	10-12	June 12-19
Tween Camp	12	June 19-26
Teen Camp Week	14-17	June 26-July 3

**Contact:** For more information, call the Texas Conference Youth Department at 817.790.2255, ext. 201, e-mail [iescobar@txsda.org](mailto:iescobar@txsda.org) or visit [www.texasadventist.org](http://www.texasadventist.org) and click on "Youth Ministries."



## Wewoka Woods

Camp	Ages	Dates
Native American Camp	7-15	June 5-12
Adventurer Camp	7-9	June 12-19
Junior Camp	10-12	June 19-26
Teen Camp	13-15	June 26-July 3
Teen Specialty Camp	16-18	July 3-July 10

**Contact:** For more information, call the Oklahoma Conference Youth Department at 405.721.6110 or visit [www.wewokawoods.com](http://www.wewokawoods.com).





# CAMP MEETING SCHEDULES

## South Louisiana Camp Meeting

**When:** April 15-16  
**Where:** South Louisiana Convention Center, 44364 S. Coburn Rd., Hammond, LA 70403  
**Main Speaker:** Stephen Bohr  
**Contact:** Chris Simpson, 318.631.6240

## South Louisiana Spanish Camp Meeting

**When:** April 22-23  
**Where:** South Louisiana Convention Center, 44364 S. Coburn Rd., Hammond, LA 70403

## Mineral Wells Area Camp Meeting

**When:** April 23  
**Where:** Mineral Wells State Park

## Graham Area Camp Meeting

**When:** May 27-29  
**Where:** Cowboy Church of Young County at the Young County Arena

## Ozark Family Camp Meeting

**When:** May 31-June 4  
**Where:** Ozark Adventist Academy, 20997 Dawn Hill East Rd., Gentry, AR 72734  
**Main Speaker:** Dan Jackson  
**Contact:** Gentry church secretary, 479.736.8808

## Southwest Region Camp Meeting

**When:** June 17-19  
**Where:** Lone Star Camp, 6829 FM 317, Athens, TX  
**Contact:** Marion Ricks, 214.943.4491, ext. 213; mricks@swrgc.org

## Oklahoma Conference Camp Meeting

**When:** July 15-23  
**Main Speakers:** Daniel Jackson, president, North American Division; Dowell Chow, president, Adventist World Radio; Michael Smith, president, Turks & Caicos Mission; Jere Franklin, author of *You Can Survive*; Bill Kilgore, vice president for spiritual development, Southwestern Adventist University; Ben and Lisa Brown, Eden's Pathway LifeStyle Center; Gordon and Waveney Martinborough, Happy Family; Peter Neri, pastor, Nevada Conference; Dick Duerksen, assistant to the president, Maranatha

Volunteers International; Charles W. Drake III, president, Central States Conference; Bill Knot, executive publisher, *Adventist Review*; John Moyer, president, Oklahoma Conference.

## Ark-La-Tex Camp Meeting

**When:** July 20-24  
**Where:** Jefferson Christian Academy, Jefferson, TX 75657  
**Main Speaker:** Lyle Albrecht, *Revelation Insights* and 3ABN presenter  
**Contact:** Jean Hiser, 903.665.8428

## NW Arkansas Spanish Camp Meeting

**When:** July 22-23  
**Where:** Ozark Adventist Academy, 20997 Dawn Hill East Rd., Gentry, AR 72734  
**Main Speaker:** Alejandro Bullón

## Valley Rally

**When:** July 29-30  
**Where:** McAllen Convention Center, 700 Convention Center Blvd., McAllen, TX.  
**Main Speaker:** Mark Finley, **Translation:** Armando Miranda, Sr.

## DFW Metro Area Camp Meeting

**Who:** Dallas New Life, Alpha International, and Dallas International  
**When:** August 13-20

## GODencounters Conference

**When:** September 15-17  
**Where:** Arlington Seventh-day Adventist Church, 4409 Pleasantview Dr., Arlington, TX 76017

## Bonnerdale Cowboy Camp Meeting

**When:** September 30-Oct 1  
**Where:** Bonnerdale SDA Church, 709 Adventist Church Rd., Bonnerdale, AR 71933  
**Main Speaker:** Mike Tucker  
**Contact:** Sylvia Weatherford, 870.356.3093

## Springtown Fall Round-up

**When:** Oct 13-15  
**Where:** Springtown SDA Church, 12444 Fairmont Rd., Gentry, AR 72734  
**Contact:** www.springtownchurch.org

# LAKE WHITNEY RANCH

## *A Serene Stop on the Journey to Heaven*

**Kristina P. Lockhart, Texas Conference communication director**

**B**lossoming bluebonnets on more than 900 acres of land with over a mile of shoreline await you at Lake Whitney Ranch. Lake Whitney Ranch is enticing members from all over the Texas Conference, as well as other areas in our union, to come and enjoy the serene beauty it offers. If you haven't visited the camp in a while, you are in for a pleasant surprise. While maintaining the essence of a Texas ranch, new developments have refined the property in preparation for building and facility expansion. With construction already underway, we anticipate our members' visits and support. Already, we have had scores of members on site taking advantage of the camp property. Many have demonstrated their support through continued financial commitments, while others have donated valuable items. We invite you to get involved and informed on what's going on at Lake Whitney Ranch.

### **Accomplishments**

In the past four years we have installed a water waste treatment plant, completed a new well and water tower, cleaned and expanded the pond, and carved out a 9-foot x 9-foot underpass, 60 feet long, to facilitate safe travel from the north side to the south side of the property. Roads were completed in April 2010 and site preparation is 70 percent complete. Part of the road and site development included the 350-foot switchback trail that has been finished and gives us safe lake access from our property. The maintenance and storage building that began construction in 2010 is 85 percent complete. Plans for water and sewage line installations are complete and underground

electrical services have been arranged, both waiting for funding. Design work for the pool recreation complex has also begun. Naturalists Robert and Daniela Hollbrook, who have been commissioned to develop the nature center, have discovered over 130 species of birds, 100 species of flowers, and over 700 fossil specimens.

Possibly the most exciting and anticipated project to date is the construction of the Club Ministries Headquarters Pavilion and the first cabin. The pavilion is funded by a matured trust and the cabin from a single family donating \$250,000. Wouldn't it be wonderful if other families would name a pavilion after a loved one? The pavilion will provide cafeteria and food service for 300 table-seated people and meeting space for over 400 seated people. We call the cabins quadplexes, since there are two motel-like rooms upstairs that have private baths and can sleep four people each. The cabins, arranged like duplexes, have beds to sleep eight campers and two counselors on each side, each with its own bathroom and common meeting area in a two-story building that can house up to 28 people at maximum capacity.

### **Inaugural Year**

In 2010, Lake Whitney Ranch hosted Texas Conference Camporees for Adventurers, Pathfinders, and Master Guides. On their respective weekends, clubs enjoyed the outdoors through activities and challenges prepared by their leaders.

The Pathfinder Camporee in April welcomed nearly 4,000 Pathfinders and staff members. An open house was held concurrently



with a dedication prayer of gratitude to God. Visitors received maps locating future building sites and current roads.

In October, more than 800 Master Guides arrived at the camp for the Master Guide Camporee. Some of the participants got an opportunity to rappel down the bluffs as part of their pentathlon challenge. The Master Guides were the first to take advantage of wagon rides pulled by two mules that were donated earlier that year.

Toward the end of October, the Adventurers Family Camp brought in nearly 3,500 participants. Our little ones shared the joys of the outdoors with their families and clubs through age-appropriate activities. They also partook of wagon rides and explored Lake Whitney Ranch.

But visits to the ranch are not limited to just our camporees. Clubs and churches have held wilderness campouts and retreats at Lake Whitney Ranch. Over 10 groups, some with up to 300 participants, have enjoyed the property, even with its limited facilities. Lake Whitney Ranch is available to you! Contact Mark Hansen to schedule your group, church, or club campout at [mhansen@texasadventist.org](mailto:mhansen@texasadventist.org).

## Commitment

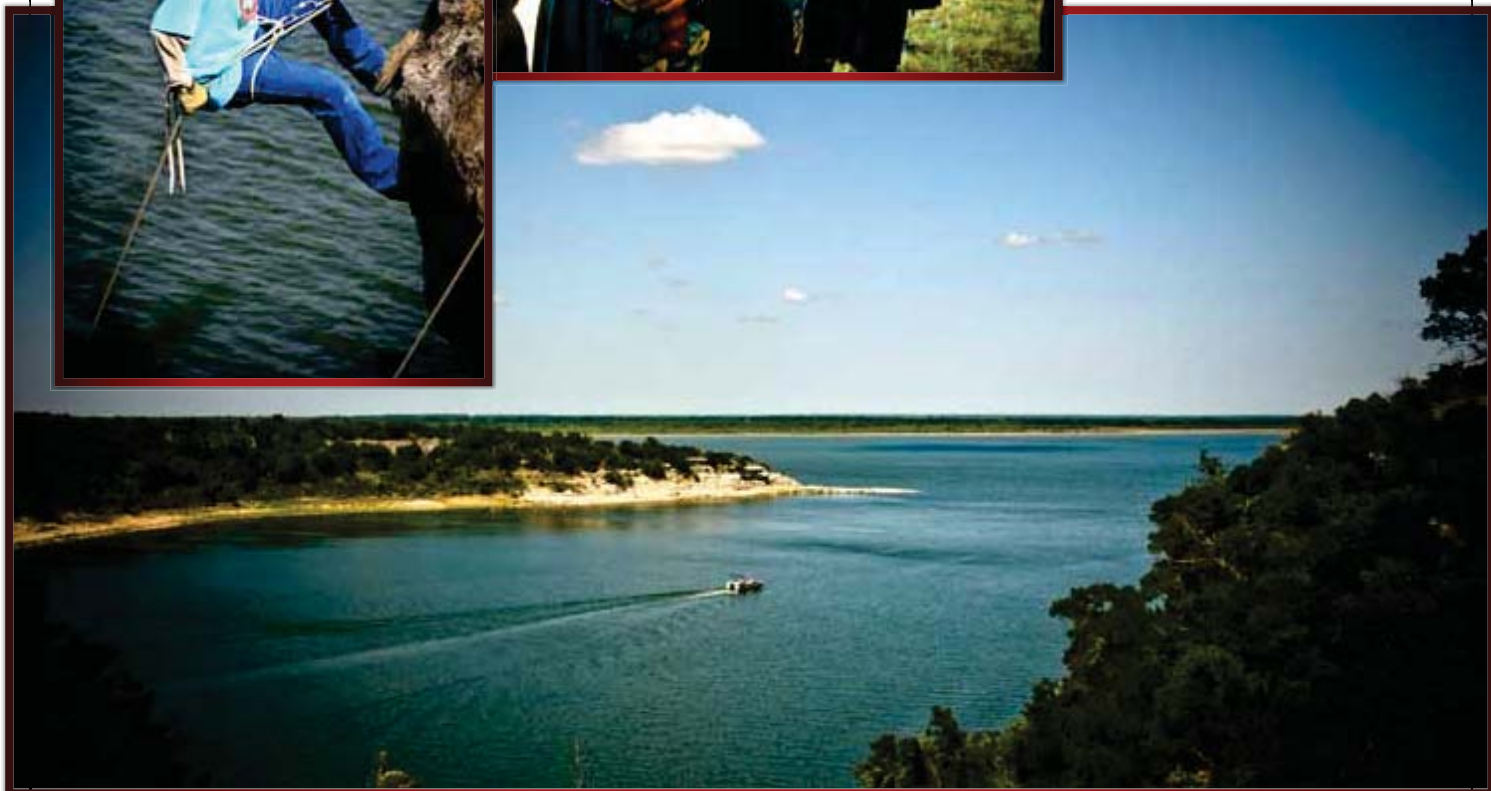
Over the years we have been tremendously blessed by indi-

viduals who have given up physical possessions in order to advance the work at Lake Whitney Ranch. In 2008, a young man and his family donated a rebuilt 2007 Toyota Tacoma pickup truck and in 2010 another member donated a flatbed Ford F350 ranch truck. In 2009, a member donated a 24-foot pontoon boat and in 2010 another member donated a 30-foot pontoon boat. If you visited during one of our open houses, you may have been a passenger on one. Mike and Jack, two handsome 1,500-pound draft mules, were donated in 2010. During the Master Guide and Adventurer camporees, many rode a wagon pulled by Mike and Jack.

We'd also like to mention the donation of time that so many members have given to Lake Whitney Ranch. In 2010 alone, 200-300 Pathfinders and Master Guides came out to help clean up and clear brush on the property. We are very thankful and blessed by those selfless members who have helped the development of Lake Whitney Ranch.

We have been blessed by the steady financial support of a number of faithful members. The development of the ranch has progressed as quickly as funds have become available. Consider the potential

that Lake Whitney Ranch has for our youth, churches, and outreach ministries. The completion of the camp can only be brought closer by every family's commitment to give as much as they can, as often as they can. Pray with us as we continue in our journey to provide a youth camp facility that enables the Holy Spirit to influence the life of each person who sets foot upon Lake Whitney Ranch on their way to the Kingdom.



## Why Do Camp?



“Why do camp?” I have been asked that by a parent who had a “good” kid. They were wondering if their child would gain anything beneficial by attending a week at Camp Yorktown Bay. They were concerned that they might be harmfully influenced by some “bad” kids, and perhaps learn some things that they were not ready to learn. I will readily admit that we cannot control what comes out of the mouths of our campers, whether for “good” or “bad.” What we can do is to try to control the environment in which they are in their walk with Jesus.

Many times the “good” kids turn out to be the ones who are really struggling in their faith. They are trying to be “good” to please

their parents, yet feel condemned by the very God they say they love, but discover they hardly even know. In the safety of a cabin full of campers who are all looking for answers, they open up and share their faith—or lack of faith—with their peers.

We have discovered that many times young people will share very openly when their parents are not around. In front of their parents they think they need to be “good” to be accepted. It is awesome when they discover that Jesus loves them for who they are, not for who they are pretending to be. So, “Why do camp?” We do camp so that your

“good” kid will deepen a “good” walk, or so your “bad” kid will ask a question that might lead them to a lifelong relationship with Jesus. That is why we do camp.

**Brandon Westgate**, ARKLA camp director

ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA CONFERENCE

## Come to Summer Camp!

**CAMP YORKTOWN BAY** is sponsoring a **Pathfinder Camp** this summer. You must be an active Pathfinder in a registered club in your conference to attend and receive the Pathfinder discount. Pathfinder members will receive a \$50 discount when they register for the week. A special Pathfinder patch has been designed and will be provided for those who attend.

The Pathfinder week will be centered around earning honors, doing unusual activities, and teaching special honors—with lots of water sports. An overnight outpost is being planned for the kayak and canoe group. This will be a great week to pick up those honors that are hard to get at home. You will need to bring your full dress uniform for Sabbath. Club tee shirts will help distinguish your club, but casual dress during the week is fine.

Come on! Go to the [www.campyokrtownbay.com](http://www.campyokrtownbay.com) Web site and get your application in for Pathfinder camp. You won't be disappointed.

**Lloyd Clapp**, ARKLA Pathfinder Director



## Sky High at CYB

**MOUNTAIN PINE, ARK.** » We are really looking forward to seeing you at Camp Yorktown Bay this summer! The newest addition to our facilities will be a zip-line course. It will offer participants a perspective of CYB that has only been seen before by birds, and perhaps a few squirrels. This is going to be a great way to build trust between campers and staff and will develop confidence in our campers.

We praise the Lord for the generous support of all of those who continue to make donations of time, influence, and finances to help with the development of CYB. We also thank the single donor who made it possible to install this newest feature at CYB. It is truly a blessing from the Lord.

So, come and see what the Lord has done, and is doing, at CYB. It just might change your perspective.

**Brandon Westgate**, CYB Director



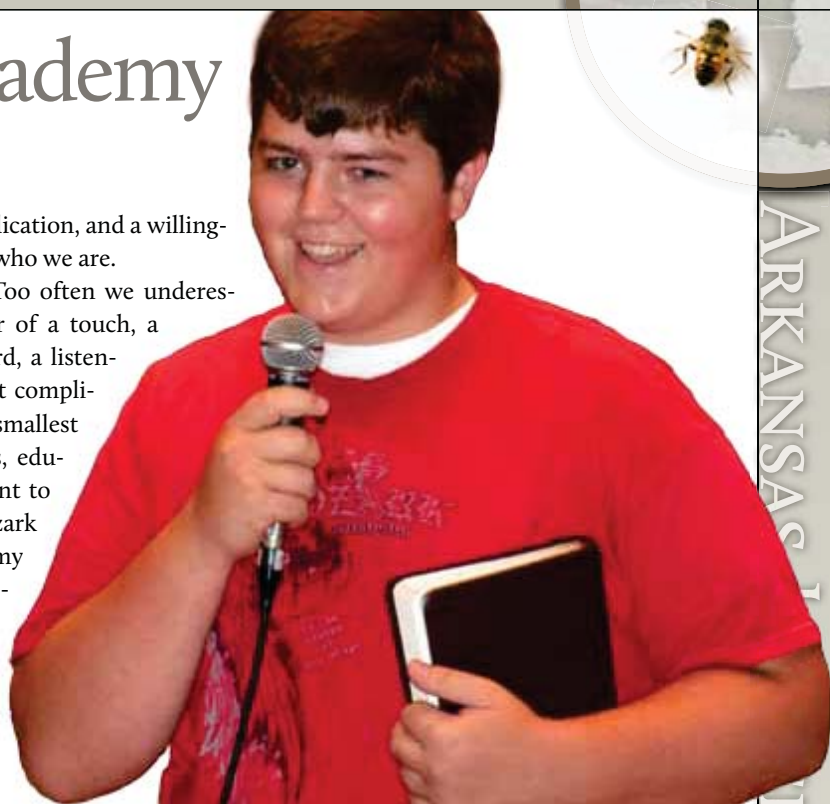
# Ozark Adventist Academy

## Who Are We?

**GENTRY, ARK. »** People continue to ask questions about Ozark Adventist Academy. Who are we? What do we stand for? What makes us different from other schools? What makes Ozark Adventist Academy different is not its beautiful setting or the great facility. What makes Ozark Adventist Academy different is that God's hand can be seen in the miracles that take place on campus. When I look at the record enrollment of dedicated young people that have chosen to attend Ozark Academy, I realize that it was because of prayer. When I walk the campus and see the character changes that have taken place and the love that many of our young people have toward one another, I know that God is a part of our school. When I witness over 200 young people re-dedicate their lives to Jesus and another 50 students being baptized during the Youth Prayer Conference, I believe that God is truly working on this campus.

commitment, dedication, and a willingness to stand for who we are.

Who are we? Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, even the smallest act of caring. Yes, education is important to all of us, but Ozark Adventist Academy is more than a report card and a lucrative future job. Some day this world will come to an end. There will be no more sunrises, no more minutes, hours or days. All the things that we have col-



When nearly 200 young people come from many schools to participate in a music cantata that sends chills up your spine, I feel the presence of God on this campus. Our students are here because they want a Christian education and nearly 100 percent of our graduating classes go on to college. Our community support speaks of

lected will pass away. What will matter is not what you bought but what you built; not what you got but what you gave; not what you learned but what you taught. What will matter is every act of integrity, compassion, courage, or sacrifice that enriched, empowered, or encouraged others to emulate your example. Living a life that

- ▲ Top: Students at Ozark Adventist Academy learn to become leaders.
- ▲ Small group ministry is a vital part of the student experience at Ozark Adventist Academy.
- ◀ Fifty students were baptized during a prayer conference at Ozark Adventist Academy.

matters does not happen by accident, it is by choice.

- **This is who we are:** we teach our young people to make good choices and to develop strong moral characters.
- **This is who we are:** we are the teachers, the students, the pastors, the community members, the parents, and the conference. We are all God's children; we are many, we are strong.

We are Ozark Adventist Academy. Come and be a part of our family.

**Mike Dale**, OAA Principal

## Benton Pathfinders Serve the Homeless

**BENTON, ARK. »** On January 15, the Benton Jesus Warriors Pathfinder Club helped serve food at the Salvation Army homeless shelter in Little Rock. It was a new experience for everyone, but the insights that our young people came away with are priceless. These are their own words:

“I learned many things that I haven’t thought about much, but I should. Don’t be greedy; that’s one thing I think about

now because someone might need it more than me, like the homeless. I need to learn to share more. I realized that some people do not have what I may have. I saw a teen at the Salvation Army shelter and I thought—he may have nothing and would probably die for the food I eat, the clothes I wear, and the bed I rest on. Now that’s what I learned and thought about. What about you?”—Annie-Laurie Young

“When I went to the Salvation Army shelter, I felt like a different person. The very first thing I thought of was how life is not all fun and games; others need help and we don’t even notice it. I felt sorry for all those people. When I learned that for some of them the backpacks they carried held all that they owned, I felt guilty for some reason. I know it’s not my fault they are suffering, but I wanted to do something to help them. I didn’t

have anything to give them but a nice warm smile and to be able to say ‘God Bless You.’ Yes, I know I learned something; that we are not the only ones with problems. While we are worrying about what to wear and who to call, they are worried about where they are going to sleep and if they are going to get any food that night. What we can do to help is donate and volunteer. At the end of the day you will feel proud and know that you made a small difference in their lives.”—Joceline Roman

“I wasn’t quite sure what to expect when we went to feed the homeless at the Salvation Army shelter, but after feeding all those people, I am really thankful to God for giving us the opportunity to help. It felt great contributing to the community. Seeing those hungry people reminded me to be grateful for all the blessings I have. Their conditions made me sad. I remember them in my prayers all the time.”—Hannah Miraglia



**Francis Caple**, Deputy Pathfinder Leader



Pathfinders Laiken Gallucci, Devin Wilcox, Annie-Laurie Young, Jaceline Roman, and Hannah Miraglia learned valuable lessons as they served the homeless.

## Adventurers Inducted

**TEXARKANA, TEX. »** On Sabbath, January 30, the Texarkana Adventurer Club, under the leadership of Rachel Harding and her staff, had an Induction service for 17 Texarkana Adventurers. Kerry Pennino, the Southern Arkansas Adventurer area coordinator, was present to help lead out in the service, along with Lloyd Clapp, Arkansas-Louisiana Conference Pathfinder director. The Adventurer Club is very active and meets every Wednesday evening.

During the morning worship service a special presentation was made to Nancy Hair of Hope, Ark. Nancy has one great passion, and that is working with the young people of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. She has devoted 35 years to leading out in Pathfinders and serves as our South-Arkansas and North-Louisiana Pathfinder area coordinator. Those who know Nancy Hair know of her love for



Pathfinders. A special award was given to Nancy in recognition of her years of faithful service.

**Reggie Phillips**, Pastor

▲ Nancy Hair received an award for 35 years of service in Pathfinder leadership.



ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA CONFERENCE



# They Came From the East and West

**BENTONVILLE, ARK. »** In Isaiah 49:12, God says that He will “bring those from afar; and lo, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim.” The Bentonville Seventh-day Adventist School has been experiencing a change in the cultural background of the student body. In order to celebrate and reach out to each student, the idea of an International Fair was born.

“Opa!” exclaimed Katie Phipps, as she introduced herself and her home country of Greece. More than 15 countries and regions were represented at the Bentonville SDA School’s International Fair as students and families gathered on a Saturday evening to celebrate the heritage of each. Each country was given a table where they could display souvenirs and artifacts, and many

came dressed in native costumes. Each country or region prepared a traditional dish from their country so everyone could taste. It was quite an experience! Olga Hamilton, school principal, represented Jamaica, and prepared a strong ginger drink to go with a spicy mock chicken over rice dish, called “Jerk Chicken.” The Melo family brought everyone a taste of Brazil with their homemade pudding that was similar to flan. Angie Unruh made two traditional cookies from Sweden, the home country of her grandfather. Pastor and Mrs. Martinez prepared homemade enchiladas to represent their Mexican heritage. Also represented were regional cultures, such as Chicago, where the Kennedy and Russell families offered Chicago-style pizza. Our home school students and families, the Joneses and Frinholts, showcased cuisine from Germany and France, with desserts featuring apples and chocolate.

The evening was also an

educational experience, as those representing a country were asked to share a couple of facts and stories from their personal experiences. Some had experiences of mission work in their country, others shared stories that had been passed down through the generations. Some were firsthand accounts of what it was like to live in these different places. There were pictures, folk art, and even music from the different countries. The students and teachers worked hard to prepare for the event. Students painted flags from all the countries represented and these were displayed around the room. The kindergarten class, under the direction of Mrs. Harris, performed a handbell song for the guests.

Dr. Subodh Pandit, internationally known Adventist author and speaker, spoke at the church on Friday evening and Sabbath morning about Christian education and how to reach out to the different cultures represented by the students. Representing the country of India, he reminded each of us that we have a purpose in life and that God has called us to reach out and minister to others. That work must first begin in our own church and school.

**Audra Huff**



Far left: Kim Byrne, Lilly Jones, Joy Jones, and Stefanie Farinholt represent France and Germany.

◀ Pastor Martinez (left) and Dr. Subodh Pandit, an Adventist author and speaker.

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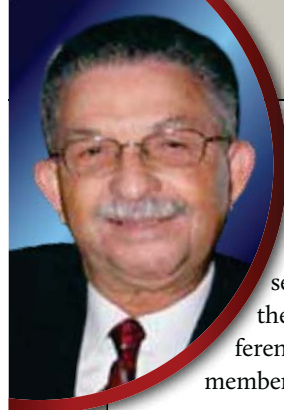


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**Reggie Phillips, Pastor**

Seventeen Adventurers were inducted on January 30 in Texarkana.

# Camp Meeting, Oklahoma Flavor



Ask the young and the seniors, the Pathfinders and the young adults, ask the conference workers and the church members, the old-timers and the newcomers; what does Oklahoma Camp Meeting mean to you? Well, be prepared for the colorful portrayal of varied perspectives and experiences that form an attractive mosaic of life at the Wewoka Woods Adventist Center in July.

If you asked Naomi Peugh, from the First Tulsa church, what her first time was like at the Oklahoma Camp Meeting, she couldn't tell you. It's not because she lost her memory. No, she has a sharp memory. You would have to ask her mother, who would tell you that she brought little baby Naomi to her first Oklahoma camp meeting. However, Naomi recollects one of her earliest experiences as a little girl at camp meeting, sitting on Uncle Arthur's lap while he told those exciting bedtime stories. All the little children would gather around and take turns sitting on his knee, listening to the celebrated storyteller, author of the famous *Uncle Arthur's Bedtime Stories*. She recalls that his eyes were kind and his voice

gentle as he spoke to them, which made her think of Jesus. He was everybody's grandpa. Naomi also remembers the time when a converted "head hunter" spoke to them and told them that if Jesus had not come into his heart, they would have become his meal. Then there was the night when she woke up and saw a Palomino pony staring at her under the tent.

The Sooner Road camp meeting days gave way to the Wewoka Woods experience, beginning in the early 80s. Then came the campus with rolling hills of forestry cradling birds and turkeys and wildlife of various kinds. Just ask the kids and they'll tell you with excitement about their episodes of boating on the lake, horseback riding on the trail in the woods, as well as the cooling effects of the swimming pool during the hot summer days.

Many plan their vacation with camp meeting in mind. There is accommodation for the motor home, the RV, the camper, or the tent, as well as the log cabins for the seniors. The daily program is planned for the spiritual enrichment of all, from beginner through kindergarten, primary, junior, earliten, senior youth, young adult, and adult.

Speakers and presenters are prayerfully selected each year, so that the high spiritual tone will be experienced by all who come to worship and to fellowship. The pastors have expressed their delight for the opportunity to bond with fellow pastors, also for the change of pace which their camp duties allow. They are also happy for the full complement of the ABC on campus, including the Sunday and Friday special sales.

However, all these attempts to provide a highly beneficial and well-balanced program for all would be extremely difficult, if not impossible to achieve, were it not for all the dedicated workers, beginning with the camp ranger, Robin East and his assistants, his wife, Lisa East, director of food service, and her staff. In addition are the carefully selected summer camp staff and the conference office staff, all contributing to make the Oklahoma Conference Camp Meeting experience one to remember and to anticipate each year. As one member has expressed, "My soul is spiritually watered each year, and I just know that God is there with us through it all."

**Trevor W. Thompson**, secretary

OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE



Jose Rojas, director of the Office of Volunteer Ministries at the North American Division, was the (surprise) guest speaker at the Broken Arrow church on February 12.

## A Secret Well Kept

The Broken Arrow church board can keep a secret. When Louis Rojas, former pastor of the Broken Arrow church, asked our pastor, Clayton Calvert, for the use of our church for his son Daniel's wedding, Pastor Calvert knew that Jose Rojas, director of Volunteer Ministries at the North American Division, would be attending. Jose Rojas accepted the invitation to speak at the Sabbath service on February 12 with the stipulation that there would be no announcement of his speaking engagement, since he didn't want to interfere with his nephew's wedding day.

The secret was kept. Broken Arrow members only knew that there would be a special guest speaker that morning that they wouldn't want to miss. Even though the weather was unpleasant, the church was packed with members filled with anticipation. And they were not disappointed. Jose Rojas challenged the congregation to share their light as Jesus did. His sermon was enlightening, entertaining, and challenging. And he blessed us with his musical talent.

It was a high Sabbath and a wonderful opportunity for our members to share a special occasion with the Rojas family.

**Judy Marquette**



# Summer Camp “God’s Resume”

Have you ever wondered what God’s resume would look like if He were to write one down? What selling points would He advertise as reasons He should be hired?

I honestly believe that God has already done this. Think of it this way. In the Old Testament God constantly tells Moses that He is the “God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob” (Ex. 3:16). After this statement God tells Moses and all the elders of Israel that he is about to save them from the hand of the Pharaoh. I think God has a message that he wants to share with us today.

Our theme for this summer is “God’s Resume” and we believe that God wants to desperately be our God. With all the distractions that you find in the world, God wants to show us what He has done for His people in the past and what He wants to do for all of us today. This summer we want to show all of our campers that God has an excellent track

record and that He is a God that can be trusted.



We will highlight God’s track record with our campers during all of our activities, whether it is swimming at the pool, horseback riding, mountain biking, crafts, archery, or wake boarding! While we are having fun we will also be learning about God. Please continue to pray for our summer camp ministry as we endeavor to teach our campers about this AWESOME GOD!

Geraldo Alonso II



## Re-Winding at Parkview



OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE

**OKLAHOMA CITY** » The October 2009 issue of the *Record* carried the story that work had begun on transforming a metal maintenance and storage building beside the Parkview Adventist Academy in Oklahoma City into a chapel. The chapel is now in use, thanks to the hard work and financial contributions of many and, most of all, the help of the Lord.

Work began in late August 2009, when members of Something Else, the young adult group at the nearby Edmond church, cleaned out the old building, moved an entire interior wall, and started construction of the chapel. Insu-

lation and wall boards were added to the sides of the chapel, electrical conduits were installed, the floor and ceiling were redone, lighting was added, and audio and visual equipment, including twin projectors and screens, were installed, and the

walls were lined with posters emphasizing the role of young people in the Christian community.

Heating and air conditioning remain to be installed, but the equipment is on site. Although not fully completed, the chapel is in full use for chapel services at Parkview every Friday, for other school events, and for the weekly Rewind program every Wednesday evening. Launched by Oklahoma Conference youth director Richard Castillo nearly two years ago, Rewind met initially in the Parkview gym. Rewind is a ministry for young people designed “to provide a safe, supportive environment to explore spirituality, connect with friends, and worship God with all our hearts.”

Prime movers of the shed-to-chapel transformation were Castillo, Edmond church pastor Frank Kean, who put his knowledge of construction techniques to good use in the project, and Something Else leaders Kris Bryant and Jeremy Lynch. The chapel design produces more of a theater effect than is found in a traditional chapel. And that fits the needs of *Rewind* perfectly. The principle platform feature is a portrait of Christ based on the famous Che poster by Jim Fitzpatrick.

Contemporary gospel music is a strong Rewind component featuring guitars, drums, and a keyboard. Castillo says funds for the conversion came from the conference, local churches, and donations. And he adds, “The best thing about it is Rewind now has a home. And we have a venue for all future youth-oriented programs.”



**Ernie Schultz**



▲ A former maintenance and storage building has been transformed into a chapel at Parkview Adventist Academy young people gather during morning chapel services and on Wednesday evenings.

◀ Rewind is a ministry that allows young people to connect with God and friends through worship experiences.

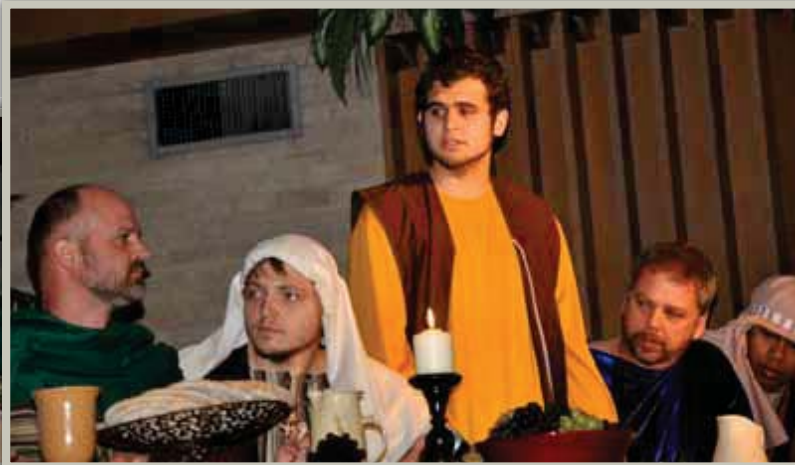


# Church Members Portray The Last Supper

**TULSA** » The Last Supper with Jesus and His disciples was vividly brought to life at the First Seventh-day Adventist Church of Tulsa when members, dressed as Christ and the twelve apostles, re-

enacted that sacred scene on February 19. Sabbath services began that morning with the “disciples” welcoming worshipers

at the doors of the church. Before the Last Supper portrayal, all who wished to do so participated in the Ordinance of Humility. When the congregation was seated in the sanctuary after the foot washing, the



## Oklahoma Campmeeting 2011

**Come let us seek for spiritual revival and blessings from heaven in 2011.**

Hear keynote speaker **Dan Jackson**, North American Division president, on opening night, Friday, July 15, at 7:00 p.m.; and Sabbath, July 16, at 10:45 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Wewoka Woods Adventist Center, Wewoka, Okla.

**WHEN:** July 15-23, 2011

Call 405.721.6110 or 405.257.5404 for more information.



disciples and Jesus took their places at a table authentically decorated as the one in the upper room so long ago. One by one, each man stood and gave a moving meditation on an aspect of Christ’s ministry as it related to His sacrifice for humanity. Our pastor, Daniel Ortega, who was portraying Jesus, concluded the presentation with the words of Christ at the Last Supper. Then, together, everyone partook of the bread and grape juice.

We sensed the presence of the Holy Spirit in this special worship service, and many of the 175 people in attendance remarked that it had been a blessing to them. As a form of community outreach, Last Supper program director Peggy Dohlman has been asked to coordinate a repeat performance for the public at the Community Center in Sand Springs, Okla.

Judi Carrico

## Summer Camp Fights Obesity



SOUTHWEST REGION CONFERENCE

As we cascade through the first few months of 2011, we are confronted with a disturbing reality in American society. Our wonderful America has become an “obesogenic” society.

We live in a culture that lends itself to increased food intake, the consumption of unhealthy foods, and physical inactivity.

The latest statistics show that “over the past three decades, childhood obesity rates in America have tripled. Today, almost one in every three children in our nation is overweight or obese. The numbers are even higher in African-American and Hispanic communities, where nearly 40 percent of the children are overweight or obese. If we don’t solve this problem, one third of all children born in 2,000 or later will suffer from diabetes at some point in their lives. Many others will face chronic obesity-related health problems like heart disease, high blood pressure, cancer, and asthma.” ([www.letsmove.gov/learnthefacts.php](http://www.letsmove.gov/learnthefacts.php)).

First Lady Michelle Obama at the “Let’s Move!” launch on February 9, 2010 said, “*The physical and emotional health of an en-*

*tire generation and the economic health and security of our nation is at stake.*” Our nation is experiencing an epidemic of obesity in our children. How can you help in the battle against childhood obesity? How can I help?

Friend, I believe we all can help through sponsoring a child or teen to Summer Camp 2011 at Lone Star Camp in Athens, Texas. You might ask, how could that help? The answer lies in the fact that to reduce obesity, two major lifestyle changes must occur: 1) get plenty of exercise and 2) maintain a healthy eating plan with plenty of fruits and vegetables and eliminate junk/fast foods. Scientific evidence has proven over and over again that a diet high in fruits and vegetables can play an important role in weight management. At Lone Star Camp, campers are given a diet of fresh fruits, vegetables, a variety of grains, fruit juices, whole grain breads, and a “choose your salad” salad bar.

The daily exercise requirements are met through a variety of activities at Lone Star Camp. In the multipurpose complex, campers are able to exercise through volleyball games on an indoor court; regular

basketball games or a very active game of “horse” or “donkey”; dodge ball; and racquetball games in the regulation-size racquetball court. On the waterfront, campers are able to get upper-body workouts by canoeing, lower body workouts by paddle boating, and total body workouts through water-skiing. Other activities include walking, playing soccer, softball, badminton, horseshoe pitching, coin tossing, horseback riding, or just old jump-roping.

Friend, Lone Star Camp can help reduce obesity in our children and teens through the lifestyle it promotes for campers and staff. Why not join us today in this fight against childhood and teen obesity? Your involvement is key to ensuring a healthy future for our children. Why not sponsor a child to Summer Camp 2011! This is your chance to help children grow spiritually and healthfully at the same time. Please call 214.943.4491, ext. 209, and ask for Roger Wade or Lulleither Massiah, for more information on Summer Camp 2011 at Lone Star Camp.

**Bill Wright**, president

## The Forgotten Ones

**NEW ORLEANS** » In many large cities in the United States, homelessness is a fact of life that many people are confronted with. In New Orleans, many are affected by this problem. Gwendolyn Garrison is the coordinator of Disabilities Awareness at the Westbank United church. Since January 2010, Gwendolyn and her committee have been feeding the homeless in the city of New Orleans once a month. On the third Sunday of each month, regardless of weather conditions, the less fortunate know that they will receive a hot meal from Gwen and her team, who prepare approximately 200 meals to feed the homeless. In addition to serving a meal, the group sings inspirational songs and a local elder presents a message of comfort to those who live on the street.

Gwen appreciates the donations that she receives from her church family to help with this ministry. In a recent interview she commented, “I am very thankful for the support and efforts of our church members. God’s will is for me to give thanks in all things. When I am reaching out to those who are less fortunate, I don’t have time to whine, grumble, or complain. I am trying, by the grace of God, to learn to be content in whatever state I find myself.”

“There is much work to be done,” said



Westbank United church members prepare food for the homeless once a month.

one of the members of the team. “We are feeding the people once a month. Perhaps we will be able to feed them twice a month in the future.”

**Mathieu Cherenfant**



# Fitness is My Witness

**DALLAS, TEX. »** My journey started three years ago when my weight soared to 220 pounds. Even though I could barely run one lap around the track without stopping, I set a goal for myself to finish a 10k. I walked until I was fit enough to run, and then slowly began to pick up my speed, increased my distance, and victoriously achieved my goal of running my first 10k. Soon, I started running longer races, until I was ready to take on marathons. Since my move to Dallas, I was one of three people chosen to represent the United States for the Susan G. Komen foundation, and their first African-American woman to represent them at the 2010 London Mara-

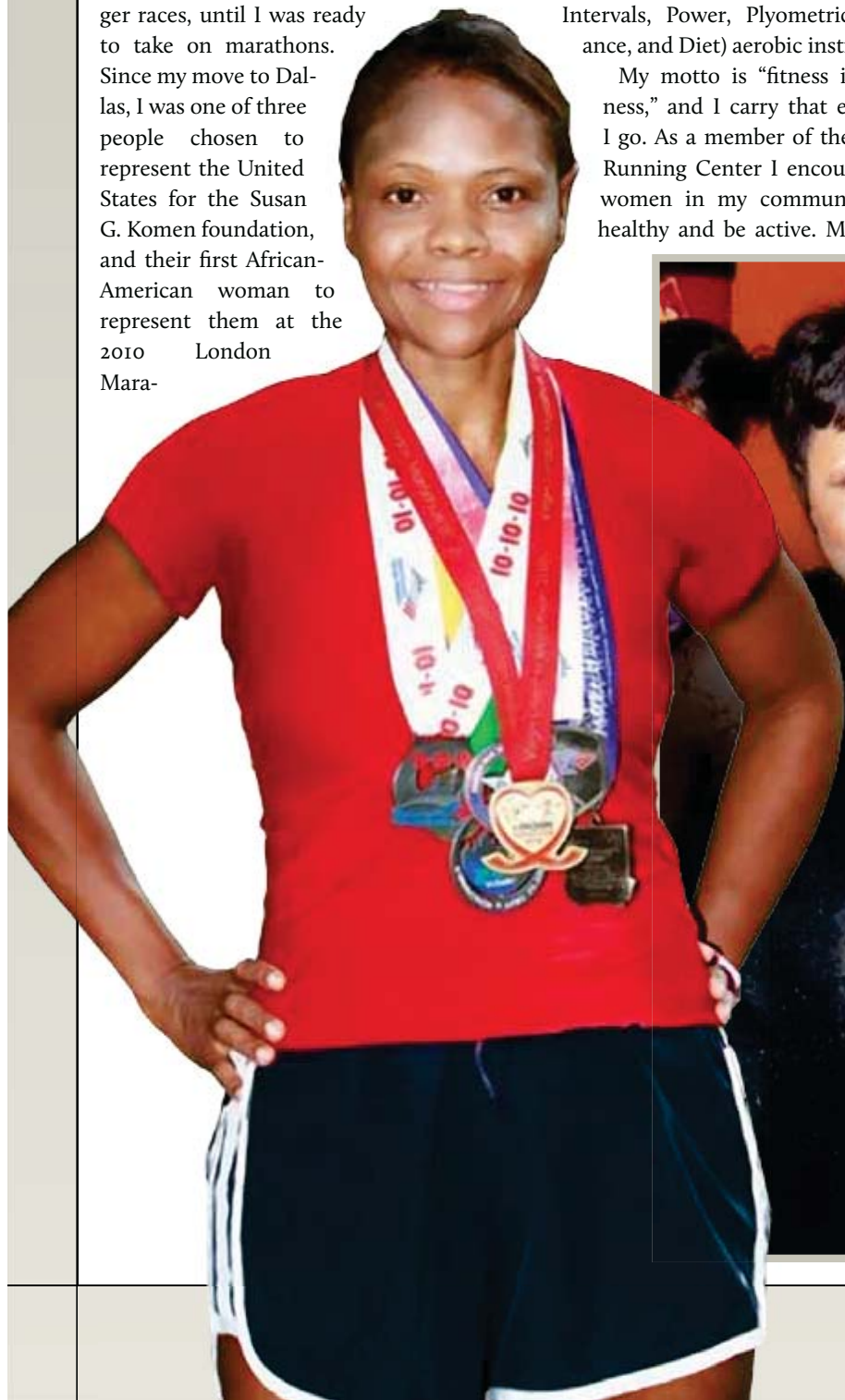
thon on April 25. I've also run the Chicago Marathon several times, several marathons in the Dallas area, the Houston Marathon, and the New York Marathon. I'm so honored to be recently featured in the March/April 2011 issue of *Women's Running Magazine*, as one of America's women on the move. I was also recently accepted into the New York Marathon for 2011, and have been certified as a R.I.P.P.E.D (Resistance, Intervals, Power, Plyometrics, Endurance, and Diet) aerobic instructor.

My motto is "fitness is my witness," and I carry that everywhere I go. As a member of the Rockwall Running Center I encourage other women in my community to get healthy and be active. My ministry

is to spread my testimony of a healthy diet and fitness, even if you just start out with walking. I'm so much more productive now, and fitness has opened my eyes to endless opportunities to witness. As a part of the health ministries department at City Temple church in Dallas, I coached our church walking team through their very first marathon relay on December 5, 2010. One of the goals of health ministries is to get our members to incorporate exercise into their lifestyle. God has impressed upon my heart to rejuvenate our health message with His people, by improving our diet and exercise habits. My goal is to get our churches fit, involve our communities, families, and friends; and to testify of how God has changed our lives. As we show

others a better lifestyle through our witness, we are building relationships and sharing what God has done in our lives. This is the meaning behind my motto, "Fitness is my witness."

I walk/run an average of 45 miles a week. When I run, I can release my thoughts, and I talk to God. He is my running buddy. I encourage everyone to walk, run, but most important, to incorporate exercise three times a week into their routine. It can lead to you being healthier, looking better, feeling better, and it can also lead to you fulfilling all your goals. With great faith, determination, and remaining committed, I have reached goals beyond my highest dreams.



Before

Hazelina Johnson

## A Celebration of Love



SOUTHWEST REGION CONFERENCE

**NEW ORLEANS, LA. »** Westbank United church held a special celebration of love on Sabbath evening, February 11, when six couples renewed their vows. Two pastors, who are also family life experts, Alfred Booker, Sr., and Emerson Miller, facilitated the renewal of marriage vows. Right after Miller's presentation on relationships, Alfred Booker, Sr., invited the couples to line up at the back of the sanctuary for

the wedding march. After each couple said what they love most about their spouse, they marched down the aisle as a love song played. Both pastors gave a prayer of dedication on behalf of the couples. The guests, Westbank members, witnessed the entire ceremony and gave a resounding round of applause after the benediction. One guest remarked that the ceremony was beautiful. At the end of the ceremony, all couples and

guests went to the fellowship hall to watch as each couple cut the cake.

The couples who participated in the renewal of vows are Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kennedy, Pastor and Mrs. Allen Brewer, Mr. and Mrs. Mathieu Cherenfant, Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Justin, Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Joseph, and Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Davis.

**Mathieu Cherenfant**



▲ Six couples renewed their marriage vows at a special ceremony held recently at the Westbank United church in New Orleans.

## LEGAL NOTICE

### SOUTHWEST REGION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Notice is hereby given that the Second Quadrennial Session of the Southwest Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene May 21-22, 2011, at the Keene Seventh-day Adventist Church in Keene, Texas.

Registration for the session is scheduled to begin at 8:30 p.m. Saturday night, May 21, 2011. The purpose of the session is to elect officers and departmental personnel for the ensuing quadrennial term, and to transact such business as may properly come before the session.

Each church is entitled to one (1) delegate for the organization and one (1) additional delegate for each thirty-five (35) members or major fraction thereof and who hold membership in the local church or company which accredits them.

B. E. WRIGHT, *President* | T. R. McCOY, *Secretary* | N. M. JONES, *Treasurer*

### SOUTHWEST REGION CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Notice is hereby given that the Second Quadrennial Session of the Southwest Region Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists will convene May 21-22, 2011, at the Keene Seventh-day Adventist Church in Keene, Texas.

Registration for the session is scheduled to begin at 8:30 p.m. Saturday night, May 21, 2011. The purpose of the session is to elect officers and departmental personnel for the ensuing quadrennial term, to consider revisions to the constitution and bylaws, and to transact such business as may properly come before the session.

Delegates to the Southwest Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Second Quadrennial Session are also delegates to the Southwest Region Conference Association.

B. E. WRIGHT, *President* | T. R. McCOY, *Secretary*

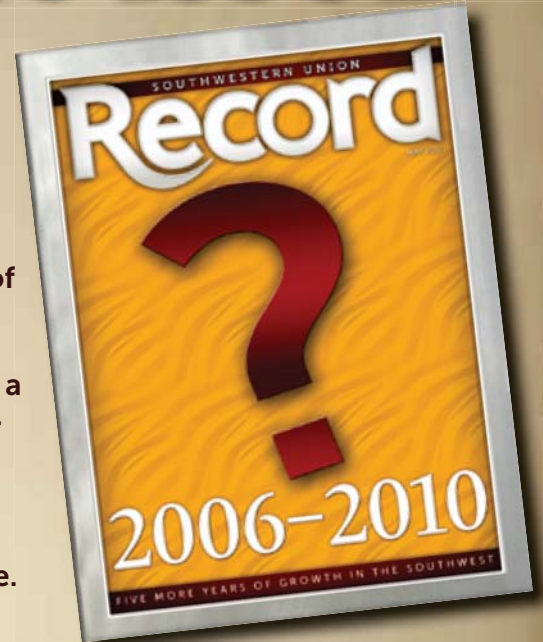


# NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE

It happens once every five years: our Southwestern Union Quinquennial Constituency Session. Next month's issue of the *Record* will be a special Constituency Report. We won't be covering the traditional conference news that normally appears in our pages each month. In its place will be reports from each union department, along with updates from each of our five conferences.

Since the session will commence on May 9, we are planning a later than normal delivery date. Your *Record* will deliver on or after the 10th of the month. This way we can share the report first with our delegates during the session.

Your regular *Record* content will resume with the June issue.



## LEGAL NOTICE

### SOUTHWESTERN UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Official notice is hereby given of the 29th regular session of the Southwestern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists to be held in Keene, Texas, May 9-10, 2011. The first meeting is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. Monday, May 9, in the Keene Seventh-day Adventist Church, 114 S. Fairview, Keene, Texas. Regular delegates to the session are appointed by the local conferences of the Southwestern Union Conference.

MAX A. TREVINO, *president* | SAMUEL L. GREEN, *secretary*

### SOUTHWESTERN UNION CONFERENCE CORPORATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Official notice is hereby given of the 29th regular session of the Southwestern Union Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists to be held in Keene, Texas, May 9-10, 2011. The first meeting is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. Monday, May 9, in the Keene Seventh-day Adventist Church, 114 S. Fairview, Keene, Texas. The Constituents for this corporation are the delegates to the 29th session of the Southwestern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

MAX A. TREVINO, *president* | SAMUEL L. GREEN, *secretary*

### SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

Official Notice is hereby given that Southwestern Adventist University will hold its constituency meeting on Tuesday, May 10, 2011, in the Keene Seventh-day Adventist Church, 114 S. Fairview, Keene, Texas. The first meeting is called for at 11:00 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is to elect a Board of Trustees for the ensuing term and to transact such other business as may properly come before the session.

MAX A. TREVINO, *president* | ERIC ANDERSON, *secretary*

## Summer Camp: "The Journey"



TEXAS CONFERENCE

We call our summer camp program "The Journey." We chose the name because each attendee is presented with the opportunity to make a decision to walk with Jesus every day. Having each young person in contact with nature for a week, away from TV, video games, cell phones, the Internet, and other distracting influences allows us to minister in the perfect setting.

Our staff is second to none. Their main prayer request every day is to reflect Jesus and be an example for every camper. Although every day brings plenty of fun-filled activities and unforgettable moments with friends, our main objective is to raise

each camper's spirituality.

We have an intense program that includes powerful messages, worship services, personal conversations, positive influences, and a beautiful story that depicts the journey of the remnant to the celestial Canaan in the form of a play written by members of our staff. Through all these avenues kids are reached and their lives are changed.

This year's play is a continuation of "The Journey" saga and is entitled *The Love of the Guardian*. We will show the reality of God's presence in our midst and His loving, protecting power that is guiding the lives of the faithful.

During the past three summers we have

celebrated a total of 102 baptisms, 57 of them in 2010, at Nameless Valley Ranch. Many more made decisions and returned home to their local churches for baptism. We realize there's not much time; our journey through this earth will soon be over and we must do anything in our power to bring as many people as possible to the foot of the cross.

We can only imagine the wonderful things God has in store this coming summer! Please join us in prayer for our young attendees and our camp staff.



**Josue Murillo**, Youth Ministries director

## Youth Worship Service at the Keene Spanish Church

**KEENE** ► Targeted toward youth ministry, and with over 300 attendees, Youth Worship debuted on Saturday, January 29 at the Keene Spanish church. It was an eventful day consisting of Sabbath School, divine worship, a hearty potluck, and outreach in downtown Fort Worth, all led by a mix of high school, college, and postgraduate students.

Conveying the absolute certainty that God's decisions for our lives are always in our best interest, Pastor Marland May delivered the message based on 2 Samuel 12:15-24. After a delicious potluck meal prepared by parent sponsors and deaconesses, an outreach event took place in downtown Fort Worth. "I enjoy the unity that group outreach lends and feel less nervous about approaching strangers," expressed Soraida Valencia, as she handed out tracts. Others shared testimonies in which they were able to pray with people seeking truth.

The Youth Worship leadership team recognized that though Keene is small in population, it is comprised of a diverse youth demographic that includes a significant portion of college students who come

from a variety other places they call home. The Keene Spanish church is delighted to have the opportunity to embrace and nurture high-school teens as well as transient college students.

"We are blessed to have parent involvement and adult mentorship," says youth pastor David



▲ Young people involved in the Youth Worship program at the Keene Spanish church have an opportunity to develop their leadership skills, be involved in service and witnessing, and enjoy praise and worship activities together.

◀ More than 300 youth and young adults joined the first Youth Worship program held at the Keene Spanish church in January.

Craig. He also spoke enthusiastically about young people receiving the opportunity to exercise and be groomed into leadership roles. The English speaking nature of Youth Worship has allowed a gateway to much youth participation.

The spirit of Youth Worship is to be carried outside of its once-a-month meetings. It is a lifestyle of commitment to Christ, ser-

vice to others, and praise in day-to-day living. Youth Worship awaits Christ's soon return with great enthusiasm! Won't you join in praying for this ministry? If you are in the area, come join us during one of our upcoming programs on March 26 and April 30.

**Rosibel Ordoñez**





# The Journey

## The Love of the Guardian

Summer Camp 2011 at NVR

**Come and learn His Love endures forever!  
Experience the best summer of your life!**

Cub Camp Week (7-9 years)-----June 5-12

Junior Camp Week (10-12 years)---- June 12-19

Tween Camp Week (12-14 years )---- June 19-26

Teen Camp Week (14-17 years)----- June 26-July 3

*Before May 12, 2011: \$245.00*

*After May 12, 2011: \$275.00*

*Walk-Ins: \$300.00*

*"NVR is where  
the Holy Spirit  
takes vacation!"*

*"I wish we could  
stay at NVR all year!"*

*"I saw Jesus  
in my counselor!"*

*"Mom, guess what?  
Jesus lives here!"*

*For more info go to:  
[www.texasadventist.org](http://www.texasadventist.org)  
Call: (817) 790-2255 Ext 201  
Fax: (866) 242-2349*

**tx youth**



# Biker Church **Unlikely preacher uses broken road to lead others to Christ**

TEXAS CONFERENCE

**ALVARADO** » Sporting tattoos, denim, and biceps that look like they come straight out of Wrestlemania, Danny Hance seems an unlikely candidate for a preacher. But since starting the Lone Star Advent Messengers motorcycle ministry a year ago, that's just what he's become.

Once a month in a run-down warehouse in Cleburne, Hance, who is a member of the Alvarado church, preaches to a crowd of about 50 people. Most of these are bikers, many of whom have never set foot in a church, yet keep coming back month after month to hear God's Word. This is exactly the type of crowd Hance was hoping for. "Some people don't feel accepted into a regular worship service. I want people like that to realize God loves them and wants them to be saved as much as anyone else," Hance says.

For the Lone Star Advent Mes-  
sen-

gers, the above description comprises some of Hance's own family members, a few who were once part of the Adventist Church and "others who had not previously been religious at all." The group also includes those whom Hance describes as his "high school drug friends." Having traveled his own nontraditional road to salvation, Hance is the perfect messenger to talk about God's equal-opportunity love.

Although he was raised Seventh-day Adventist and eager for baptism by age 8, Hance got turned off by "legalism" he saw in the church. By 16, he was headed in the exact opposite direction, down a path he calls "wild into sin." In 1985 Hance says he "found [his] way back to God." But now his focus was different: this time he was centered on salvation, not on being lost. Twenty-six years later, Hance can understand the purpose for his life's broken journey: "[The Lone Star Messengers] is a unique ministry that I feel more qualified than a lot of people to perform."

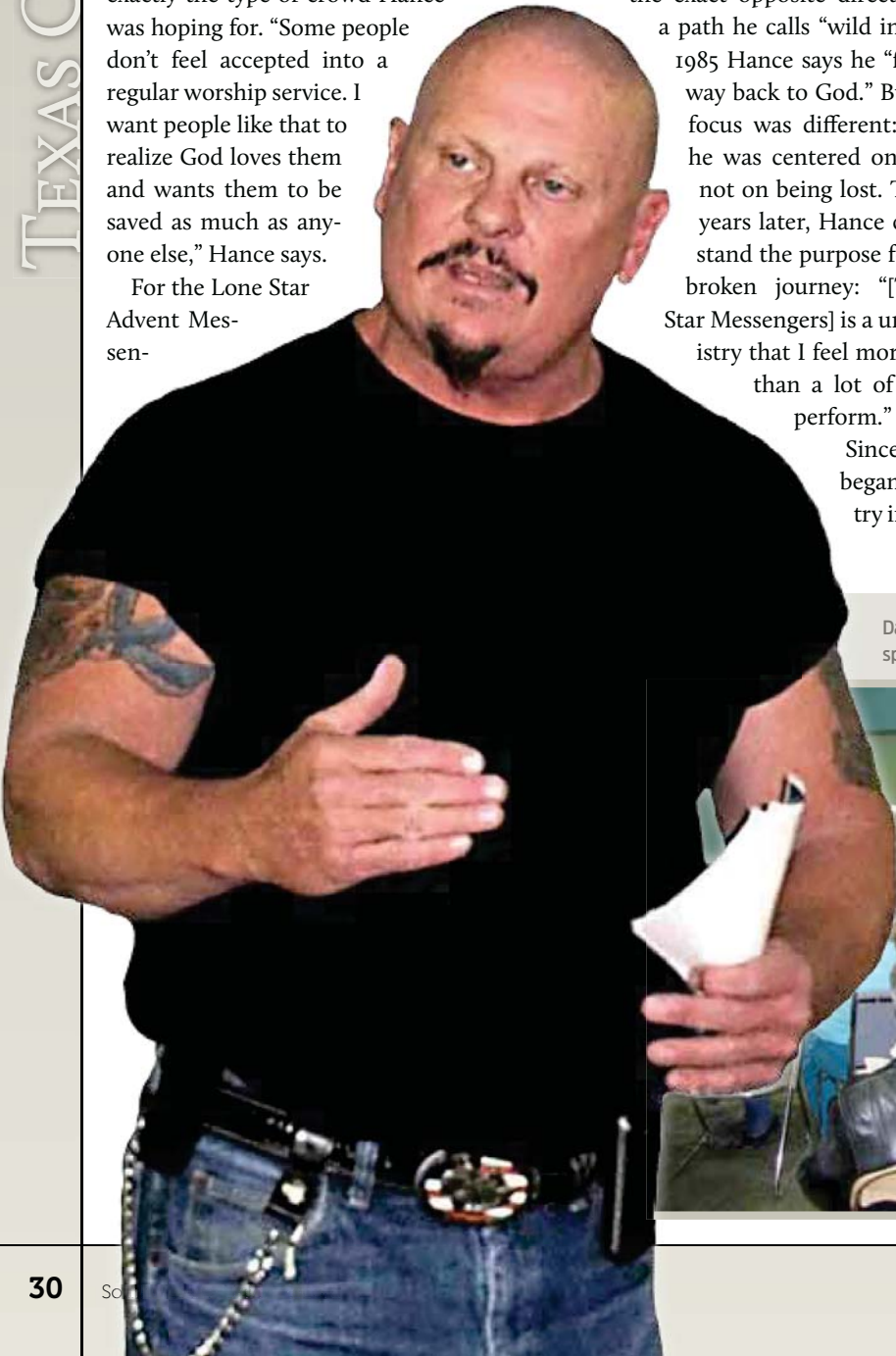
Since Hance began his ministry in March of

2010, he's experienced a positive response, including two commitments for baptism. Although he hopes for many more, Hance says that his first goal for members of his ministry is simply for them to get familiar with their Bibles.

The requirement for admission into the club is a cursory training of how to give a Bible study. Although becoming Seventh-day Adventist is Hance's ultimate goal for all Lone Star Messengers, he says what comes first is members serving in the ministry. At the Lone Star Advent Messengers' meetings, what you see is what you get, and that starts with the club's leader.

With a voice as powerful as his biceps, but always with a kind smile—often drawing laughter but just as often drawing tears—Danny Hance preaches a no-nonsense message of salvation to a congregation decked out in denim and leather. Whatever the topic for the day, Hance strives to let the "brotherhood of bikers" know that, no matter to what depths they've fallen—be it in drugs, alcohol, or immorality—God's grace runs deeper, and that here at "Biker Church," just as with God, they are always welcome.

**Lindsey Gendke**



Danny Hance shares the message of salvation at the "Biker Church" he sponsors with the Alvarado church.





# Northwest Houston Church holds Total Health Fair

**NORTHWEST HOUSTON** » As the day broke on March 6, 2011, Northwest Houston church was buzzing with activity as “The Free Total Health Fair” was launched under the leadership of the health ministries director, Nida Dizon, R.N., B.S.N., M.S.N., and Lillie Hetze, personal ministries coordinator.

The church, with our new pastor, Armando Miranda, and over 70 volunteers, mainly from Northwest Houston, along with the Greater Houston Bay Area Master Guides, and the Pathfinders from Northwest and Central, embraced the community of Spring in an all-day health awareness event.

There were over 40 booths, and in addition, several hospitals participated, such as M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, which put on puppet shows throughout the day to

teach the children of the harmful effects of smoking. Also among the booths were displays on cancer prevention and awareness, as well as demonstrations of CPR.

Conroe Regional Hospital featured the CHIP program, and under the leadership of Dr. Innis, Tomball Hospital provided blood sugar and cholesterol screening, and Northwest Houston Hospital conducted blood pressure and blood sugar screenings and a Teddy Bear clinic.

Several associations, such as the American Cancer Society, American Diabetes Association, Alzheimer’s Association, and American Heart Association, provided the community with valuable educational material and health awareness sessions throughout the day. The Philippine Nurses Association of Metro Houston provided breast screening, breast exam classes, in addition to flu shots and blood sugar and blood pressure screening.

Several of our church members, such as James Zucconi, M.D., and his staff, provided hands-on treatment with diabetic screening for the children along with information on preventing juvenile obesity. Balmore Williams, M.D., and visiting surgeon Lorenzo

Sampson, M.D., gave timeless counseling on health topics in a feature called “Ask a Doctor.” Shaun Lehmann, M.D., a sports medicine and rehabilitation specialist, conducted ultrasound imaging. Pharmacists Fitz Millington and Comfort Hoffman gave drug counseling and handed out several brochures on understanding drug interactions. Robin Harrison’s booth, featuring nutrition for healthy skin, captured the women’s attention.

The primary purpose of the health fair was to create community awareness on health. Our personal ministries director, Haldene Henry, along with staff from the Adventist Community Services department, under the leadership of Muriel Turner, gave out free Bibles, books, and information on Adventist beliefs and disaster response through ADRA.

The highlight of the health fair was a scrumptious vegetarian meal for all our volunteers and sponsors, provided by Emie DeOcampo and her wonderful team of volunteers. This prompted several of our sponsors to request more information on the Adventist lifestyle and several also requested Bible studies. The sponsors were very eager, and encouraged us to host another health fair in six months to continue promoting health awareness in Spring and the surrounding communities.

Shareen Williams



Sharing the health message with their community, volunteers from the Northwest Houston church and volunteers from many medical areas held an all-day Total Health Fair.

# Kerrville Holds Special Youth Program

**KERRVILLE** » A special program was held at the Kerrville church in early January, highlighting honors and awards for the youth at the Hill Country Seventh-day Adventist School. The students had participated in a learning experience that taught them about nature, and were given an opportunity to earn honors by meeting certain requirements. Students who learned about different types of trees and their leaves earned awards, and honors were also offered in hiking, carpentry, and Bible study. Eleven-year-old Jacob Kendrick quoted all the books of the Bible, in order, surpris-



ing the congregation. An outdoor nature study activity involved a trip to Los Maples State Park for parents and children. With joy, both parents and children learned more about the God of nature. It was a fun day for everyone.

Betty Blair

Jacob Kendrick, Hunter Kneese, Mia Ochoa, Gabriel Casillo, Michacla Kendrick and Zachery Kendrick proudly display the honors and awards they earned during a special youth program at the Kerrville church.

## Come To Find Jesus



TEXICO CONFERENCE

My wife and I became a part of the church in Del Rio, Tex., while I was in U.S. Air Force pilot training. The church was small—more like an extended family. I assumed all Adventist churches were small and that there were not many of them. When I told people I was a Seventh-day Adventist, they usually said “What?” They did not even know we existed as a Christian body of believers. I thought, *We have the truth, but there aren't many of us.*

After completing my time in the Air Force, I went back to my supervisory position at Delco Remy in Anderson, Ind., where we were members of a church with about 200 attending—still small. I noticed an announcement in the church bulletin about camp meeting in two weeks. Church would be canceled. I did not really know what it was, but was convinced by other members to attend. We thought, *We'll go*

*and see what it is like.* It was a 50-mile drive one way. Many of the spiritually-minded mature members said they never missed this important convocation.

That was nearly four decades ago, but I still remember this great convocation. Thousands of people, great singing, inspiring mission reports, and great preaching—what an experience! I have never missed this yearly convocation since. What a blessing it has been to me and my family! We are not a small scattered group of people, but a worldwide spiritual movement of destiny. Camp meeting helped me to see this. Ellen White encouraged us to attend.

“Let all who possibly can, attend these yearly gatherings. All should feel that God requires this of them. If they do not avail themselves of the privileges which He has provided that they may become strong in Him and in the power of His grace, they will grow weaker and weaker, and have less and less desire to con-

secrate all to God. Come, brethren and sisters, to these sacred convocation meetings, to find Jesus. He will come up to the feast. He will be present, and He will do for you that which you most need to have done. . . . All the treasures which you possess, be they ever so valuable, would not be rich enough to buy you peace and hope, which would be infinite gain, if it cost you all you have and the toils and sufferings of a lifetime. A strong, clear sense of eternal things, and a heart willing to yield all to Christ, are blessings of more value than all the riches, and pleasures, and glories of this world” (*Christian Service*, pp. 197, 198).

Camp meeting showed me that we are a spiritual worldwide movement of millions with a deep commitment to take the gospel to the world. Join me and thousands of others who come to find Jesus at this great convocation.

**Jim Stevens**, president

## A Joyful Sabbath Convocation

**CARLSBAD, N.MEX.** » The Carlsbad church recently celebrated their first Fifth Sabbath Convocation under the leadership of Carlos Arellano, the church's pastor. Celebrating with Carlsbad were members from the Saragosa, Tex.; Van Horn, Tex.; and Roswell, N.Mex., Spanish congregations.

Approximately 97 people gathered to fellowship and listen to a soul-stirring sermon, great music, play Bible games, and enjoy good food. We are hoping to repeat the experience each quarter.



**Melanie Fuston**

Top Far Right: Nearly 100 people worshipped together at the Carlsbad, N.Mex. church for their Fifth Sabbath Convocation.

► Fifth Sabbath Convocation at the Carlsbad church was special for adults and children alike.





# Dolores and Her Sinking Ship!

## School Counselor Overcomes Fear of Ships

The following article about Dolores Lopez, a member of the Rabbit Road church in Santa Fe, N.Mex., appeared in the Santa Fe Journal.

**SANTA FE, N.MEX. »** To the students at Sweeney Elementary School in Santa Fe she is the all-caring, lovable, and motherly person they can run to in time of distress. To her colleagues on the school staff, she is a sincere and sympathetic confidant. They would never guess, if they didn't already know, that such a cheerful person could have suffered the nightmares of a sinking ship and the two years of trauma that followed.

Dolores Lopez, Sabbath School leader at the Rabbit Road church in Santa Fe, shudders when she recalls how the cruise ship Sea Diamond sank off the Greek island of Santorini with her and a teacher colleague on it in April of 2007. "There was a grinding noise, then the ship starting tilting to one side," she says breathlessly. "There was no time to get our things, we were immediately ordered to abandon ship."

The evacuation took several hours. Life-

boats were filled with passengers, then lowered into the sea about four stories below. The lifeboats, nearby boats from the island, and helicopters safely took all but two of the 1600 passengers and 390 crew to shore. A Frenchman and his daughter were missing—his wife and another child were able to escape the boat before it sank. Many of those who survived suffered broken arms or legs as they were jolted across the ship and into the lifeboats and down the side of the ship.

"I never wanted to see another ship again," Dolores declares. "I said never again." Their dream trip started with a couple days in New York City, then on to three days in Athens before boarding the Louis Hellenic cruise ship for the trip around the Greek Islands. "When we finally arrived at our last stop—Santorini—we all gathered on the top deck to take pictures of the snow-capped mountains. I noticed the ship was tilting and I thought the weight of all the people topside was causing it to lean a little!"

The chaos that followed she can only describe as a nightmare. "Once we finally got to shore and out of the lifeboats, we waited and waited and finally we had to take a little cable car up to the mountain-top town. Everyone was stressed and hungry—we hadn't eaten all day. At around nine o'clock at night we were taken by bus to a restaurant for a meal. We had no place to stay so we just sat around until about 4

am the next morning when another ship arrived to take us back to Athens," she said. "By then we had all missed our homeward flights and I was a week late getting back to work."

As compensation to the Sea Diamond passengers, the cruise line awarded them all a free cruise anywhere the line goes! But that was the last thing Dolores wanted! She decided the sailing life was not for her.

Growing up as a child, she remembers her father with admiration. His ship also sank many years ago. As a U.S. Navy man, he was on an evacuation ship near the end of World War II, just setting out across the Atlantic when it was hit by a torpedo. He was rescued by another ship but his injuries were so severe that doctors told him he would never walk again nor father children. "He was tough and he soon was walking about and I'm one of his seven kids!" she laughs.

She inherited that toughness. In a recent testimonial to her church family, she said her growing faith in God has given her new confidence, and at the urging of a friend, she finally decided to take the cruise line up on its free offer of a seven-day Mediterranean cruise. It was December 2009—over two years since that fateful first cruise.

"On board I was treated royally, had my meals at the captain's table, and was constantly asked if there was anything I needed. It was a beautiful new ship and my memories made me uneasy some of the time but I made it through and enjoyed much of the cruise." And many times since she has told her Rabbit Road church family how the Lord saved her.

"Thank God, I have nearly lost my fear of ships."

Dolores Lopez, a member of the Rabbit Road church in Santa Fe, N.Mex., and a teacher at Sweeney Elementary School, learned to overcome her fear of ships after a harrowing experience on a sinking ship.

Allen Steele



Dolores Lopez was rescued, along with nearly 1,600 other passengers, from a sinking cruise ship near the Greek island of Santorini.





## Winter Camping

TEXICO CONFERENCE

**JEMEZ SPRINGS, N.MEX. »** The weekend of January 7-9 was an exciting one for the Pathfinder Ministries of the Texico Conference, when our first Master Guide winter camp was held. Open to all the Master Guides, Adventurer/Pathfinder leaders, and Sandia View Academy staff and students over 16 years old, multiple events and activities took place.

With 20 brave souls attending (three academy staff, two students, and 15 Master Guides) and with temperatures that dropped to 10 degrees at night with two feet of snow, we enjoyed the beautiful scenery of Jemez Springs in northern New Mexico.



We were blessed with great clear and cold weather without precipitation that allowed us to complete most of the planned events.

Activities included snow hiking, stars/cosmography, orienteering, igloo and shelter building, cold weather fire starting, cooking without utensils, animal tracking, and water purification. But above

all, we enjoyed the scripture reading, devotionals, prayer bands, and being in solitude with God and His creation. These activities made this camporee one that all the attendees will remember.

With the Lord's blessing, we look forward to hosting an annual event for Master Guides and a winter camporee for Pathfinders every other year.

**Ricardo Baratta**, Texico Conference  
Pathfinder/Adventurer director





# Child Dedication and Baptism

**BIG SPRING, TEX. »** The year 2011 began with a big blessing for the Martinez family. Church members Rey and Yvette Martinez give praise and thanksgiving

currently taking Bible studies from the pastor and would like to get baptized soon. With

▼ The Martinez family during Mia's (forefront) dedication.



▲ Pastor Razon and Aliscia during and after her baptism.



to the Lord for the decisions their children are making for God and His church. Their youngest daughter, Mia, was dedicated to the Lord on January 8 by Abner Razon, the church's pastor. Later, after several months of Bible study, another daughter, Aliscia, accepted Jesus as Lord in her life. Pastor Razon baptized her on February 12th. Their younger son, Gabriel, is cur-

the love for God and dedication shown by their parents, Rey and Yvette, the children are making their stand for God. The family is actively participating in church through their resources and abilities, influencing other members to serve the Lord. Let's pray for the Martinez family as they continue to dedicate

their talents to God's service.

**Nefritire Razon**

## Three New Additions



**DEMING, N.MEX. »** The Deming church has been blessed with three new additions to their church family in the past few months, two baptisms and one by profession of faith. Sergio Campa had a coworker who was a Seventh-day Adventist, but being unable to communicate because of a language barrier. They found a Spanish-speaking member, Mary Mackey, from the church and asked her if she would give Sergio Bible studies. He completed the "Fe de Jesus" Bible studies from *It Is Written* and studied the fundamental beliefs of the church. He said that the studies were clear and he knew that God was leading him to surrender his life to Him. It is Sergio's desire to be active in

church and win others for the kingdom.

Brooke Beckner had been attending the Deming church for several years and participated in many church activities. The

church's pastor, Chuck Workman, along with the head elder, Darrell Beckner, gave Brooke Bible studies after she requested baptism. Her husband and family had the privilege of being present to witness her declaration of a new life by baptism. Brooke's mother is also a member of the church.

Rose Betts, a retired nurse, has also been attending the church for several years. She took Bible studies and made her decision to join the church family by profession of faith.

The church welcomes these new members and thanks God for His increase to their family.

**Mary Mackey**



Pastor Chuck Workman presents a baptismal certificate and gift to Brooke Beckner at the Deming, N.Mex., church.

# Nursing Professor Brings Passion to the Classroom

Since Ben and Callie McArthur's arrival at Southwestern Adventist University in summer, 2009, the couple has been kept busy. One might think that Ben's responsibilities as the university's new vice president of academic administration would cause him to overshadow his spouse. But Callie has not been lost in the mix; not if her students have anything to say about it.

An experienced professor of nursing, Callie brings a passion to teaching that permeates the classroom with energy and inevitably rubs off on her students.

In her second year as a Southwestern professor, McArthur has received positive reviews from her students. Junior nursing major Alfonzo Roda sees McArthur as both "very knowledgeable and helpful."

Tu Nguyen, a student in McArthur's Child Health Nursing class, also likes the soft-spoken professor. "She really pushes you and wants you to learn," she says. "She asks questions so that you have to think further and then explains in detail. Also, she gives good clinical situations where you have to react quickly."

"I really enjoy assisting students to become successful and achieve the goals that they have for themselves," McArthur says. She is very interested in how the students in her class are progressing and where their education will take them in the future.

"Nursing is a hard major," she says. "To help students progress along in the program and have success and feel a sense of accomplishment is really positive for me." She says that watching students succeed is the greatest reward of being an instructor.

Born in Mississippi, McArthur was a nursing instructor at Southern Adventist University, in Tennessee, for 30 years before coming to Southwestern. McArthur comes to Keene with a master's degree in nursing and a specialized training in pediatrics, but as with many successful nursing professionals, she has had experience in many fields.

She credits her teaching success over the past 31 years to the encouragement of her own teachers who helped her along the way. "My former instructors, as well as nursing professionals that I have great

deal of respect for, all steered me in that direction. Thanks to their influence, it has turned into a long career."

The biggest challenge McArthur finds in her new job is one that many teachers struggle with, but is especially acute in nursing. "In both nursing and education, you have to rely a lot on new technology. That includes the high tech mannequins that I work with, the other nursing equipment that I need, as well as technology in the classroom." The medical industry has changed a great deal in the past 30 years. So year after year there have to be adjustments to the training for the next generation of nurses coming into the work force. She says, "Keeping up to date with that is

something I feel is really important for a department of nursing."

McArthur is very proud of the dedication of her students. One of the significant experiences that she remembers in the classroom is a cold Wednesday when there was a lot of ice on the road. "The students were having a difficult time getting to class because of the weather. I wasn't expecting anyone to be able to get to class, but many of my students on that afternoon were able to somehow get there," she says. "I was so impressed and I was so proud of them for making that effort. I was very pleased to see their eagerness and their commitment."

Amber Ellis





# North American Division Responds to Disaster in Japan

On Friday, March 11, a massive 8.9 magnitude earthquake occurred 80 miles east of Sendai, Honshu Island, Japan, causing a 30-foot tsunami. With damage assessments and the death toll still unfolding, it has already become clear that the devastation will be of catastrophic proportions.

“As the church in Japan copes with the impact of the recent earthquake and tsunami, the support of church members around the world through prayer and financial donations is greatly appreciated,” said Pastor Dan Jackson, president of the North American Division. “Assessments are still taking place of where major assistance will be needed,” he said.

There are approximately 15,000 Seventh-day Adventists in Japan worshipping in 115 churches. “Adventists are few and far between in Japan so we didn’t have a heavy concentration of churches or schools,” said Ken Osborn, treasurer of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division. “The greatest challenge will be the overall economic impact for Japan more than rebuilding institutions or churches. With less than one percent of the population being Christian, opportunities will develop to express the hope Adventist Christians share,” said Osborn.

The North American Division is accepting donations on behalf of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division. “As a part of our worldwide church family, we feel compelled to help out our brothers and sisters as they attempt to rebuild their lives and communities,” stated Jackson.

To donate electronically, visit <https://appeal.nadadventist.org>.

Or make checks payable to:  
North American Division  
**Attn: Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster Relief**

12501 Old Columbia Pike  
Silver Spring, MD 20904

ADRA International committed an initial response of \$25,000 and an assessment team is currently in Sendai, Miyagi Prefecture, one of the hardest-hit regions. ADRA Japan has been providing hot meals in an evacuation center. ADRA Japan continues coordinating with the Japanese Department of Social Services (DSS) and anticipates involvement in managing and coordinating evacuation centers in the affected area. To send your contribution to ADRA’s Emergency Response Fund, contact ADRA at **1.800.424.ADRA** (2372) or visit [www.adra.org](http://www.adra.org).

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## Remembering a Former Southwestern Union Publishing Director

SOUTHWESTERN UNION

It is with sadness that we share that F. Denton James, Sr., 78, died Sunday, February 6, 2011 in his home in Cleburne, Tex., from a sudden heart attack. He leaves to mourn, his wife of nearly 60 years, Betty Jo (Hopkins) James; his daughters, Gail (James) Tubbs and Patsy (James) Reinke; his son, Denton J. James; 10 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and many close friends.

He was born in Henderson County, Tenn., the son of Jessie and Lila James, but he spent the bulk of his adult life living and working throughout the Southwestern Union territory.

Denton worked for the Adventist Church in the publishing department as a literature evangelist beginning in 1958. Through the 60s and 70s, he worked both in the Arkansas-Louisiana and Oklahoma Conferences, eventually becoming the publishing secretary.

In 1980, the James family moved to Tex-

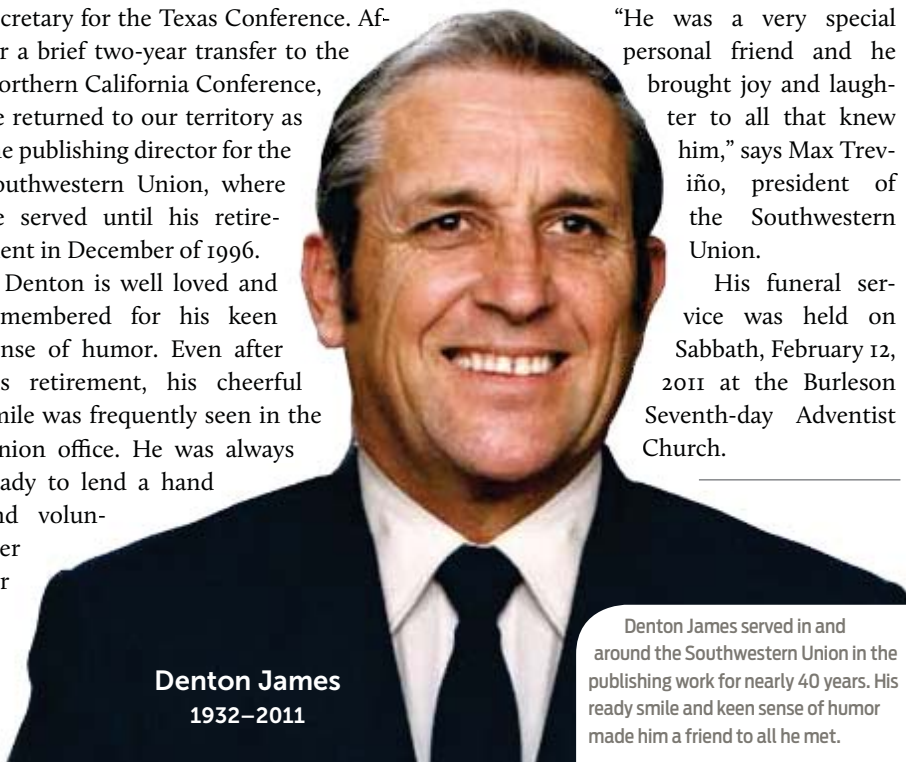
as, where Denton served as the publishing secretary for the Texas Conference. After a brief two-year transfer to the Northern California Conference, he returned to our territory as the publishing director for the Southwestern Union, where he served until his retirement in December of 1996.

Denton is well loved and remembered for his keen sense of humor. Even after his retirement, his cheerful smile was frequently seen in the Union office. He was always ready to lend a hand and volunteer for

service when needed.

“He was a very special personal friend and he brought joy and laughter to all that knew him,” says Max Treviño, president of the Southwestern Union.

His funeral service was held on Sabbath, February 12, 2011 at the Burleson Seventh-day Adventist Church.



**Denton James**  
1932–2011

Denton James served in and around the Southwestern Union in the publishing work for nearly 40 years. His ready smile and keen sense of humor made him a friend to all he met.



## Elizabeth Aldava Retires

After 26 years of service at the Southwestern Union, Elizabeth Aldava has chosen to retire. During her years providing secretarial support, she served as an administrative assistant to many notable leaders including, W. C. Jones, Bob Wood, Jim Gilley, and Walter Wright. Most recently, she has worked in family ministries providing administrative assistance to Elder Buford (Buddy) Griffith and his wife, Carmen, in women’s ministries.

Elizabeth Ramirez was born and raised in Monterey, Mexico, and attended two years at the University of Morelos. In 1959, her parents moved to San Antonio. She decided to attend Southwestern Junior College (now Southwestern Adventist University). It was there that Elizabeth became a baptized member of the Adventist church, and it was there that she met and married her husband, Manuel (Manny) Aldava.

She spent the early years of her marriage devoted to her three children, Albert, Danny and Nancy, and began working full-time for the Southwestern Union in 1985.

“Elizabeth has been such a blessing to our office,” says Max Treviño, president of the Southwestern Union. “Her commitment to service here has been a constant example of the highest of Christian ideals. We will miss seeing her pleasant smiles on a daily basis, and wish her and Manny all the best as she transitions to this new milestone in life.”

Elizabeth and Manny are members at the Keene Seventh-day Adventist Church.



# ASI Southwestern Chapter Meets in Houston

Houston Central Church hosted the Southwestern Chapter of Adventist-laymen's Service and Industries annual convention on February 24-27. Guest speaker Pavel Goia, pastor of the Lexington, Kentucky Seventh-day Adventist Church, spoke on the power of prayer and brought home lessons on how to conduct our prayer lives in a productive way. Pastor Goia shared amazing stories of how God intervened in his life while in Romania and after moving the United States. Each story was full of life-changing examples of how we can be closer to God and live within inside His will.

Valley Grande Academy delivered a message in music under the direction of Joseph Choi. The young people gave a powerful presentation of the power of God through music. Oklahoma Academy Choir and Bell Choir came and provided a program Sabbath afternoon and gave testimonies of outreach projects throughout the area.

"Members in Action" time was filled with stories from laymen throughout the

region who have been sharing Christ in their marketplace. Jaime Espinal spoke about his work in Mexico and how they have been bringing Christ to the people in his area and increasing their health education programs, he also showed how part of the Southwest Chapter ASI offering was used to ad insulation in the attics of the building on the Centro Misionero De Salud campus. Dr. Chester Clark gave a testimony of the work of AMEN (Adventist Medical Evangelism Network) and how Adventist physicians are uniting to spread the gospel in their work.

Julia Hernandez shared her moving testimony of how God delivered her from a life of partying and drinking to a lifestyle of evangelism. After only one year of being an Adventist, she recently finished preaching her third series of "Share Him" evangelistic meetings.

Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries (ASI) is a membership-based organization of Seventh-day Adventist laypeople who are enthusiastic about actively participat-

ing in the church's worldwide mission.

The ASI Southwest Chapter is part of the ASI national organization and is unique and diverse group of approximately 1,000 members ranging from business owners to individual professionals to supporting ministries.

ASI's philosophy promotes a Christ-centered lifestyle, manifested by a commitment to be in daily partnership with God. ASI members seek to experience God's love in their own lives and share that love with the people they encounter in their everyday work and activities—hence ASI's motto, "Sharing Christ in the Marketplace."

Furthermore, ASI is committed to supporting the Seventh-day Adventist Church and its various outreach programs which include: health, education, evangelism, community services, family concerns and special projects. To learn more about ASI, visit [www.asiministries.org](http://www.asiministries.org).



Chip Doss

The Valley Grande Academy choir, under the direction of Joseph Choi, presented beautiful music during the ASI Southwestern Chapter meetings in Houston, Tex.



## Classified Ads

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### [EMPLOYMENT]

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**Southwestern Adventist University** seeks a full-time nurse educator. Master's degree required; doctoral degree preferred. Must have some teaching experience and an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Contact Dr. Ron Mitchell at 817.202.6230 or [rmitchell@swau.edu](mailto:rmitchell@swau.edu).

**Andrews University** Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry is seeking candidates for an organic chemistry class/lab professor. Opportunity includes: Teaching organic

chemistry classes, teaching high-ability public high school students, establishing and continuing an undergraduate research program, participation in extramural funding activities. A competitive candidate for this position will have an earned Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry, teaching experience at the college/university level, significant recent publications, and previous work in industry is a positive characteristic. We encourage ethnically diverse applicants for this position. For more details about this position and to apply, please visit: [http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp\\_jobs\\_faculty.cgi](http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp_jobs_faculty.cgi).

**Andrews University** has a unique opportunity available for an International Transcript Evaluation Associate. The ideal individual for this position will have a BA/BS degree, commitment to customer service, and preferred previous experience

with transcript evaluation. For more information and to apply, visit: [http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp\\_jobs\\_hourly.cgi](http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp_jobs_hourly.cgi).

**Andrews University** is seeking a part-time Maternal Child/OB nursing professor. This would include classroom teaching as well as teaching in the clinical setting. MS in Nursing is required as well as an RN license and certification as a specialist in Maternal Child/OB nursing. For more information and to apply, please visit: [http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp\\_jobs\\_faculty.cgi](http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp_jobs_faculty.cgi).

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**Help locate sermon** - Franklin S Hill, III, preached at South-west Region Campmeeting between 1980-1992. The official title was "We Have Not Believed Cunningly Devised Fables" but most called it "The Keys". Anyone with that cassette, contact Byron K Hill, Sr., 8724 Redwood Grove Way, Elk Grove CA 94624, 916.667.2724.

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**April 29-30, 2011** - Fort Smith AR SDA Church will celebrate its 100th Anniversary. The weekend will include a candlelight vesper service, guest speakers, inspiring music and other special events. All members/former members, friends and pastors are invited to attend this inspiring weekend. Please mail "old" Fort Smith Church related photos to Fort Smith SDA Church, Communications Director, PO Box 180430, Fort Smith, AR 72918. Photos will be returned. For information, contact Joyce

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## Announcements

**"Adaptation: Core Values in a Changing World."** Association of Seventh-day Adventist Librarians 2011 Conference, June 19-23, 2011, Pacific Union College, Angwin California. Librarians and Information Professionals are invited to visit <http://spinery.southern.edu/asdalhere/> for conference information or contact Lauren Matacio at [matacio@andrews.edu](mailto:matacio@andrews.edu) or 269.471.6062.

**Benedict/Turtle Lake Seventh-day Adventist Church** is celebrating its 100th Anniversary in Turtle Lake, N.Dak. on July 23, 2011. We invite all past and present constituents—pastors, church school teachers, members, and their families to join us for this celebration. For more information, please contact Roger Boyko at 701.448.2884 or e-mail [rkboyko@westriv.com](mailto:rkboyko@westriv.com).

**Broadview Academy Alumni Weekend** will be held April 29 and 30, 2011. All alumni are encouraged to attend, so mark your calendars, call your classmates, and start planning for this weekend now. Honor classes: 1951, 1961, 1971, 1981, 1986, 1991, and 2001. Activities include Friday night vespers, Sabbath School, and church. All ideas and information are welcome. **We need your e-mail address so we can keep in touch. Postage is too expensive.** E-mail Ed Gutierrez at [edjulie1@att.net](mailto:edjulie1@att.net) or call 630.232.9034. More information to come. Don't miss it!

**Detroit Southfield Jr. Academy and Metropolitan Jr. Academy Centennial Celebration.** "Celebrating 100 Years of Christian Education" April 30, 2011 at 9:30 a.m., Metropolitan S.D.A. Church, 15585 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI

48170. Potluck lunch, bring food to share. Guest speaker, Nathan Greene, afternoon concert: Scott Michael Bennett and Camille Aragones, special offering, Worthy Student Fund. Bring your memorabilia. For information: 734.420.4044 or [metroschooloffice@yahoo.com](mailto:metroschooloffice@yahoo.com) or Web site: [www.southfield-metro100years.com](http://www.southfield-metro100years.com).

**Empowered Living Weekend Seminar (Free)** presented by Jim and Sally Hohnberger at the Joshua SDA Church, April 15-17. This seminar will revitalize your relationship with the Lord and empower your Christian experience! First program starts April 15, 7 p.m. Topics include "Family First," "From Religion to Walking with God," "Parenting by the Spirit," "How to Live With a Difficult Man," "Wounding Their Spirit," and "Slow Down, Christian." Free meals will be provided for lunch and dinner, April 16. For more info, please visit [www.JAMM4Christ.org](http://www.JAMM4Christ.org) or contact Pastor Jeff Coleman at 817.645.0653, Rodney Stowell at 817.773.3528, or the Joshua SDA Church at 817.645.3086. This is a weekend seminar you and your friends won't want to miss!

**The Fort Smith, Ark.**, church will celebrate its **100th Anniversary** on April 29 and 30, 2011. The weekend will include a candlelight vesper service, guest speakers, inspiring music, and other special events. All members, friends, former members, and pastors are cordially invited to attend this very special weekend. Please mail any "old" photos to Fort Smith SDA Church, c/o Communications Director, P.O. Box 180430, Fort Smith, AR 72918. All photos will be returned. For informa-

tion, contact Joyce Hilton at 479.996.2974.

**La Sierra Academy Alumni Weekend** will be held April 29, 30, May 1. Honor Classes 1's and 6's and 50-plus. Friday morning golf tournament, CrossCreek, Temecula; Friday evening meet-and-greet, LSA campus library; Saturday/Sabbath morning Alumni Homecoming, LSA gym, 9 a.m. check-in; Delta Mu reunion (contact alumni office); Alumni/varsity basketball LSA gym; Sunday morning Ladies Charity Tea. For more info, contact LSA Alumni Office, 951.351.1445 x 244 or [Isaa-lumni@lsak12.com](mailto:Isaa-lumni@lsak12.com).

**Memphis Junior Academy** in Memphis, Tenn., will be celebrating its **100th Anniversary** April 8-10. Details: search Facebook for MJA 100th Anniversary, or call the school at 901.683.1061.

**Sustainable Preparedness, a country living seminar** focusing on the spiritual and physical aspects of relocating to the country, conducted by Mountain Media Ministries, will be held April 30 and May 1 at the Joshua Seventh-day Adventist Church. For more information, visit [mountainmediaministries.org](http://mountainmediaministries.org) and click on Spring 2011 Seminar Trip.

**Washington Adventist University Alumni Weekend 2011** (Columbia Union College, Washington Missionary College) April 7-10. Alumni, friends and former faculty and staff are invited. Honor Classes are '31, '41, '51, '61, '71, '81, '86, '91 and '01. For more information, visit the Web site at [wau.edu/alumni](http://wau.edu/alumni), e-mail [alumni@wau.edu](mailto:alumni@wau.edu) or call the alumni office at 301.891.4133.

## Milestones

**Jerry McDaniel and Carolyn Wyatt** were united in marriage on Sabbath evening, January 29, 2011 at the Bentonville, Ark., church, with Pastor Mike Martinez officiating. This day was very special for them, as they were also baptized that morning at the Bentonville church. Carolyn and Jerry are both blind. Their wedding service, held in almost complete darkness, reminded guests that true love is found in the heart, not physical appearances. Carolyn and Jerry were escorted from the service and to the reception by Bridey, Carolyn's service dog. The wedding party included Tiffany Wyatt, maid of honor and daughter of the bride; Linda Smith, bridesmaid and sister of the groom; Timothy Wyatt, best man and son of the bride; and Dustin McDaniel, groomsman and son of the groom. Also present were Carolyn's parents, Carol and Lonnie Wyatt of Bentonville, and Jerry's mother, Barbara McDaniel of Ringgold, Ga., as well as many other friends and family members.





## Obituaries

**HIGHTOWER, Charles Cottrell**, born May 26, 1945 in Baton Rouge, La., and died February 23, 2011 in Baton Rouge. He was a member of the Baton Rouge Berean church, where he served as an elder as well as chairman of the school board, the church finance committee, and the church and school building committees. He was owner of High's and Tower's Medical Transportation Services. Survivors: wife, Cheryl; son, Cedric L. Smith of Baton Rouge; brothers, James R. Hightower of Detroit, Mich., and Isadore E. Tansil of Baton Rouge; sisters, Marianne E. Tansil and Linda R. Banks of Baton Rouge; and Elnita H. Denver of Dallas, Tex.; and two grandchildren.

**OLIVER, KENNETH E.**, born April 1, 1925 Iron Mountain, Mich., and died Janu-

ary 28, 2011 in Albuquerque, N.Mex. He started working for the church in 1954 as a literature evangelist in Illinois, and later, Indiana, Canada, and Texas. In 1968 he was asked to be a pastor in Texas, where he was later ordained. He also answered calls to Oklahoma and Michigan. Then he returned to Granite Shoals, Tex., and was a pastor there until he retired. Always wanting to be of help to others, he later started an online inspirational ministry called "The Thought for the Day." Survivors: sons, John Oliver and wife, Lorraine, of Los Lunas, N.Mex., Bruce Oliver and wife, Gayle, of Conroe, Tex.; brother, Harold Oliver and wife, Betty, of Denver, Colo.; sister, Christy Blue and husband, Don, of Lincoln, Neb.; four grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandson. His wife, Janet Nordbye Oliver, preceded him in death.

**SAMPLE, MARIAN Nadine**, born January 16, 1920 in Oatville, Kans., and died January 28, 2011 in Oklahoma City, Okla. A member of the Summit Ridge church, she was laid to rest in Harrah, Okla. Nadine was a beautiful Christian, sharing Christ with all by example. Survivors: two grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Harold, and their two sons, Delmer and David.

**SCHNELL, EVELYN Ortner Scheffler White**, born June 3, 1918 in Hitchcock, Okla., and died February 6, 2011 in Okeene, Okla. Evelyn was a member of the Okeene church. Her hobbies included crocheting and tending to her flowers, trees, and yard. She spent most of her life on a farm near the Hitchcock community. Survivors: two children, Donnie Scheffler and wife, Janice, of Hitchcock and Karen Hopmann and husband, Jon, of Oklahoma City; one sister, Delphine Martin of Wichita; five grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren,

and one great-great grandchild. She was preceded in death by her three husbands, Wes Scheffler, Dr. Joe White, and Ora Schnell; three brothers, Harvey, Gene, and Vernon; and two sisters, Goldie and Lillian.

**SCOTT, MITILDA (Tillie) Brubaker**, born June 2, 1930 in Spencer, Iowa and died February 10, 2011 in Harrah, Okla. She was a member of the Summit Ridge church. Tillie dreamed of being a nurse, but found her calling in teaching instead. She was a gentle, caring force that ministered constantly to others. She and her husband, Neal, spent many years serving in the mission field, including La Vida Mission, as well as Jamaica, Mexico, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Tanzania. Her love of Jesus was matched only by her passion for nature. She used her green thumb to nurture flowers and gardens at every post. Survivors: husband Neal; three siblings, Victor Brubaker, Don Reed, and Ann Sedivy; four children, Steve Scott, Tom Scott, Marci Scott, and Nick Scott; and four grandchildren.

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### SABBATH SUNSET CALENDAR

	Apr 8	Apr 15	Apr 22	Apr 29	May 6	May 13
Abilene, TX	8:04	8:08	8:13	8:19	8:24	8:29
Albuquerque, NM	7:34	7:39	7:44	7:50	7:56	8:02
Amarillo, TX	8:14	8:20	8:26	8:31	8:37	8:43
Brownsville, TX	7:50	7:53	7:56	8:00	8:04	8:08
Dallas, TX	7:52	7:57	8:02	8:07	8:13	8:18
El Paso, TX	7:30	7:35	7:40	7:44	7:50	7:55
Fort Worth/Keene, TX	7:54	7:59	8:04	8:10	8:15	8:20
Gallup, NM	7:42	7:48	7:53	7:59	8:05	8:11
Galveston/Houston, TX	7:44	7:49	7:53	7:57	8:02	8:06
Gentry, AR	7:46	7:52	7:58	8:04	8:10	8:16
Little Rock, AR	7:35	7:41	7:47	7:52	7:58	8:04
Muskogee, OK	7:49	7:55	8:01	8:06	8:13	8:18
New Orleans, LA	7:23	7:28	7:32	7:36	7:41	7:46
Oklahoma City, OK	7:57	8:03	8:08	8:14	8:20	8:26
Roswell, NM	7:23	7:29	7:34	7:39	7:45	7:50
San Antonio, TX	7:56	8:01	8:05	8:09	8:14	8:18
Shreveport, LA	7:40	7:44	7:50	7:55	8:00	8:05
Tulsa, OK	7:52	7:58	8:04	8:10	8:16	8:22

## I Ran Away... To Camp!

**I GREW UP IN AN ADVENTIST HOME AND ALWAYS ATTENDED ADVENTIST SCHOOLS**, but it was not until I was given the opportunity to attend Camp Yorktown Bay in Arkansas in 2010 that I realized how far away from God I had truly been. I had always heard that God had to become my God and not the God of my parents, but what did that really mean? When I applied to work at camp, I was looking for an excuse to leave home for the summer. For reasons that only I knew about, I wanted to get far away from it all and avoid another predictable summer of watching TV and “hanging” with friends.

I did not expect much when I sent in my application, but as the school year came to a close, I received a call from Pastor Westgate and he informed me that I had been hired to work in Camp Yorktown Bay’s kitchen. I was really excited! I had finally found a way out of my ordinary life and out of facing the problems that at that time seemed so big.

The first two weeks of camp seemed to fly by, yet I was still carrying around a heavy weight in my heart. I soon learned that the problem was not in my home, my friends, or my so-called ordinary life. The true problem lay within me—I needed to allow Jesus in my heart and feel true conversion for the first time.

Thanks to Pastor Westgate’s counsel to stay connected in God’s Word and fall in love with God every day, I was able to hear God talk to me. Meeting new, fun, godly friends and being in God’s beautiful nature only heightened the experience.

On July 17, 2010, after a moving baptismal call from Pastor Westgate, I heard the Holy Spirit’s voice and it led me into the direction of Lake Ouachita’s water. That evening, as the sun set, I was baptized along with many of my camp peers.

A week later when I got home I knew I was a changed person.

I was happier, and was enjoying and appreciating every detail of my life. My problems did not magically disappear, but they definitely did not seem as significant as they once did, especially when I compared them to God’s power.

It is still amazing to me how a simple decision to “run away” to Camp Yorktown Bay changed my entire life. It is a decision that I thank

God for every day, and it’s a decision that I urge for any young person who needs to hear God’s calling.



Anissa Monge (left) with two of her co-workers at Camp York Town Bay.

Anissa Monge is a senior at Sandia View Academy.





# For the Record »

BY MARK BOND » COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR, SOUTHWESTERN UNION

## BETHESDA



Brandon Humphrey

**I SEE IT EACH MORNING ON MY WAY TO THE OFFICE.** It catches my eye again when I return home in the evenings. In huge capital letters on the water tower alongside I-35 West is the name of a tiny Texas town: BETHESDA.

Bethesda is the name of the pool where the lame man lay, hoping the water would stir and someone would help him in so he could be healed. He couldn't reach the water on his own.

One day, Jesus approached him and asked, "Do you want to be healed?"

Of course he wanted to be healed! That's why he was lying there.

He politely replied, "Sir, I have no one to help me into the pool."

Jesus responded, "Take up your bed and walk."

A healing wave pulsed through his lifeless limbs. Nerve endings, long dead, sprang to life with a tingle. Muscles, atrophied since his youth, swelled to stretch the skin that moments earlier had hung from his toothpick legs.

Bethesda—a place of healing graced by the Healer Himself. That's what I'm reminded of every time I drive by the old water tower.

But I'm also reminded of something else. Perhaps it's the way the thick, bold Helvetica letters jump out at me. Maybe it's the way they're spaced. I haven't been able to ignore it since I first saw it. BETHESDA... BE THE SDA.

I chuckled the first time I saw it during my first week of service here at the Southwestern Union. BE THE SDA. It seemed kind of an ironic reminder each day as I headed to work to serve Christ as part of the church in which I've been called.

I'm a Seventh-day Adventist, both by faith and tradition. I was raised in this church and have done my own personal soul searching from within its protective confines. I know why I'm still here after all these years.

Personally, I want to BE THE SDA Christian I've been called to be. It's not just a name or a label. It means something. It means that what God says I believe, and what He commands I will do. I will think

as He thinks, love as He loves, and hope as He hopes. I'm a Christian who uniquely believes that He made all things in six days and rested on the seventh. Because I've read the story from beginning to end, I understand the purpose for the pain and suffering in this world—and I'm looking forward to the ending when the final healing actually begins.

BETHESDA. I want to be healed from the atrophy of apathy. I want to feel my spiritual nerve endings spring to life again. I want to experience supernatural strength of character flowing through me. I want to BE THE SDA I've been called to be.

BETHESDA.

## Record

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