

SOUTHWESTERN UNION

Record

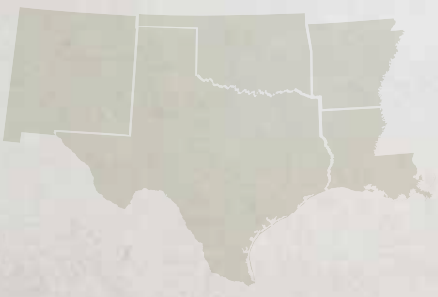
APRIL 2016

Horsing Around at Summer Camp

*Find all the horses and you could
win a FREE week at camp!
See details inside.*



SUMMER CAMP AND CAMP MEETING ISSUE



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On the Cover

One of the most memorable activities at Summer Camp is interacting with God's creatures—especially horses! Don't miss out on your chance to attend summer camp this year—take part in the summer camp contest! See the rules on p. 15. [Photo by James Bokovoy]





Point of View»



BY HELVIS MOODY » SOUTHWESTERN UNION YOUNG ADULT/YOUTH MINISTRIES DIRECTOR

The Rewards of Summer Camp

The year was 1995 and I was given the opportunity to work as a camp counselor. I was excited but I had no clue of what I was going to do. Children from different walks of life would come to River Oaks Campground in Orangeburg, South Carolina, and I would have the responsibility of watching them day and night. It was not just watching over them 24/7 that resonated with me. What connected with me the most was sharing the love of Jesus Christ with these kids. Eighteen years later, I was called to be the youth director of the Southwest Region Conference. Part of those responsibilities was to hire people to be camp counselors to do the same thing that I had done 18 years before. My first summer camp as a youth director, of course, was a learning curve. But at the end of summer camp I had an experience with three sisters from Louisiana who were crying. I asked them what was wrong and they said they didn't want to go home. I was amazed that these girls who were away from home for the first time didn't want to go home to play video games or be on their smart phones; they didn't want to leave summer camp.

My point of view is that God is still performing miracles in nature. He is still drawing His children close to Him in the sunshine, the rain, waterfront activities, horseback riding, and archery. There is something to be said about being at summer camp in nature. Maybe it's just a glimpse of the Garden of Eden. In 2014, I interviewed a young man and he said to me, "Pastor Moody, the reason that I want to work at summer camp is that

when I was a kid, I enjoyed how my camp counselor prayed with us and had daily devotion with us. I want to give that back to other kids as it was given to me."

When I heard that, I had to sit down and pray that I'd had the same impact on precious lives as this young man who had a burning desire to work at Lone Star Camp for the sole reason of being a blessing to kids. He was not concerned about how much money he was going to make. He was concerned about passing on a positive spiritual impact. My point of view is that working at summer camp does not pay a lot of money but, it pays heavenly rewards. You can't pay me for the joy or the peace that I receive in seeing precious lives changed during summer camp. God rewards

you in ways in which you cannot you dream. This past summer, as the young adult director for the Southwestern Union, I was invited to go to Camp Yorktown Bay. While there, I saw a counselor get baptized. The rewards that God gives cannot be put into words because the Bible says in Ephesians 3:20 that God can do exceedingly, abundantly, more than you can think or imagine. We value our young adults here in the Southwestern Union who work at summer camp. This past summer we decided to host a young adult retreat to pour into the lives of those who worked all summer long. Statistics show that 60 percent of young adults who work at summer camp stay actively involved in their church. It is our desire that 100 percent stay actively involved and that the campers will stay connected to Christ, for indeed Jesus is coming soon.





To Your Health

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MEDICAL MISSION SERVICE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FREE MEGA HEALTH CLINIC

**MEDICAL AND NON-MEDICAL
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

MEDICAL VOLUNTEERS

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Dental Hygienists | Physicians |
| Nurses | Podiatrists |
| Ophthalmologists | Psychiatrists |
| Opticians | Radiologists |
| Optometrists | Surgeons |
| Pediatricians | Therapists (PT & OT) |
| Pharmacists | Women's Health |

NON-MEDICAL AREAS

- Audiovisual
- Beauty/Barber Services
- Chaplaincy
- Child Care
- Food Demonstration
- Food Services (Meal Preparation and Service)
- Hospitality Interpretation (Sign Language)
- Music
- Paralegal
- Registration
- Security
- Translation



JULY 14-15 2016

@
**KILLEEN CIVIC AND
CONFERENCE CENTER**

3601 South W. S. Young Dr.
Killeen, TX 76542

TO VOLUNTEER VISIT: www.jumpstartkilleen.com

Summer Day Camp Was Awesome and Amazing!

AS A PASTOR'S KID, going to the General Conference last year was a pretty fun experience. While my parents would attend the meetings my siblings and I would find ourselves wandering around the exhibit center, looking for something to do. When I heard about the Summer Day Camp that the Texas Conference was organizing, I got pretty excited.

I was working at Lake Whitney Ranch Summer Camp and was asked to be part of the counseling team for the Summer Day Camp at San Antonio. I was already planning on going to the General Conference with Southwestern Adventist University as a volunteer. It was going to be my third year attending the General Conference and I thought, "what better way to spend my time, than to work as a counselor for the children at the Summer Day Camp?" As an Elementary Education major, I jump at any opportunity to work with children, so I said yes.

At first, I was just excited to work with children at the General Conference, but then I realized that it was *the General Conference*, meaning that there was going to be children from all over the world coming to the day camp. I got even more excited! I thought about the language barrier being a problem, but the majority of the kids already knew English, with the exception of a few Spanish-speaking children. Fortunately, a lot of the counselors, including myself, were bilingual and were able to help each other understand the children.

Working as a counselor gets pretty rough. Not only are you trying to remember names you can barely pronounce, you're actually responsible for another human being. It is emotionally, mentally, and physically exhausting. But when your campers come and hug you, or when you see them smiling, you know for a fact it was worth it. This ministry is rewarding for both the staff and the campers. I was recently talking to one of my campers, and this was what he said:

"It was my first time going to GC and I wasn't too excited

about going. My grandparents told me about the day camp and signed me up. Next thing I knew, I was having a lot of fun! I met a lot of people and made a lot of friends from many different places! I can't wait for the next GC!"—Brandon Cammilleri, 7th grade, Keene Adventist Elementary School

Working for the Summer Day Camp was an amazing experience and a blessing. I will never forget our worships in the mornings with all of the children. Hearing them sing in different accents was just beautiful. I thought to myself, that that's how it is going to be in heaven. People from different backgrounds, who speak a different language, who have a different story, and who love God as much as I do, will all sing praises, worshiping the Lord in unison. Experiences like these are the reasons why I choose to work at a summer camp, and you should too.

Perla A. Castillo



Perla Castillo had the opportunity to work with kids during Summer Day Camp at the 2015 GC Session. She describes her experience as amazing and unforgettable.





Pass it On...

A Monthly Focus on Evangelism in the Southwest



BY GERALDO ALONSO, SR.

Summer Camp: 168 Hours of Full-time Ministry

I remember being nervous as I drove to Wewoka Woods Adventist Center in late May 2007. It was my first time headed to camp as I never attended summer camp as a child or teen. I am so glad for the opportunity to do ministry because summer camp changed me forever! Summer camp shaped me into the person that I am, but also had a huge impact in my understanding of ministry now that I am a pastor.

Personally, I am of the belief that summer camp is one of the best ministries that the Seventh-day Adventist Church has in operation. Yet, not all of our church members take advantage of this great ministry by sending their kids to one of our great camps. Others believe that all you do at camp is have fun and



One of the highlights of each week is when an appeal is made for campers to accept Jesus. There isn't anything greater in the world than seeing this amazing sight! There is an energy that is electric and its ramifications are eternal. I imagine guardian angels doing backflips in the air as their child or youth makes a decision for Jesus.

This makes summer camp ministry worth every single dollar and resource that is spent each summer.

Now, if you need more evidence to chart the significance of summer camp ministry, let me share a couple of findings that were made by the John Hancock Center for Youth and Family Ministry at La Sierra University. Through

extensive research and surveys, they found that 81 percent of young people who have attended Adventist camps have made a decision for Christ.

Lastly, another finding from the research showed that former summer camp staff often choose to serve the church in various capacities: 31 percent as teachers, 27 percent as conference administrators, 12 percent as pastors, 9 percent as youth pastors, 8 percent as conference workers, 5 percent as church workers, 4 percent as young adult pastors, and 4 percent in other capacities.

You might be a little nervous about sending your child or youth to camp for the first time. As nervous as you might be, please know that allowing your child to enjoy summer camp will change their lives forever. Not only will they have an incredible week of fun in the sun; not only will they make friendships and memories that will last a lifetime; you will be affording them an opportunity to make a decision that will last for all of eternity—the decision of accepting Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

receive a great tan, but the reality is that the best thing you receive at camp is better understanding of Jesus!

This understanding of Jesus has the power to transform, to mold, and to educate our children and youth in a way that no other ministry is able to do. Now, I'm not advocating that summer camp is the only ministry we should emphasize in our church, but this ministry is a great resource and benefit to our church. The majority of believers in Jesus make decisions for Christ between the ages of 8-10. Summer camp is a ministry that has the sole purpose of utilizing the full 168 hours of the week to help our children and youth understand Jesus better.

Geraldo Alonso, Sr.

Visión Hispana

UN BREVE NOTICIERO MENSUAL DEL SUROESTE



Calendario de Verano 2016

CAMPAMENTOS DE VERANO

Arkansas-Louisiana

Camp Yorktown Bay, Mountain Pine, AR

Camp	Edades	Fecha
Cub Camp	7-9	Junio 12-19
Junior Camp	10-12	Junio 19-26
Family Camp	(todas Edades)	Junio 26-Julio 3*
Tween Camp	12-15	Julio 3-10
Teen Camp	13-17	Julio 10-17
Blind Camp	(todas Edades)	Julio 17-23**

Para más información, visite www.arklac.org/summer-camp, mande un correo electrónico a campyorktownbay@gmail.com, o llame al 318.631.6240.

*Llame al 318.631.6240 por media semana.

**Llame a Christian Record al 870.647.2982 con el representante, Noreen Westerbeck.

Oklahoma

Wewoka Woods, Wewoka, OK

Camp	Edades	Fecha
Native American Camp	7-17	May 29–Junio 3
Adventure Camp	7-10	Junio 5–Junio 11
Junior Camp	10-12	Junio 11–Junio 19
Tween Camp	12-14	Junio 19–Junio 26
Teen Camp	14-16	Junio 26–Julio 3
Blind Camp	7+	Julio 5–Julio 12

Para más información, visite www.oklahomaadventist.org o llame al 405.721.6110.

Southwest Region Conference

Lone Star Camp, Athens, TX

Camp	Edades	Fecha
Semana 1	7-17	Junio 12-18
Semana 2	7-17	Junio 19-26

Para más información, visite mysouthwestregion.org o mande un correo electrónico a tdouglas@swrgc.org y lmassiah@swrgc.org.

Texas

Shady Lakes Ranch, Cleburne, TX

Camp	Edades	Fecha
Cub Camp	7-9	Julio 3-10
Junior Camp	10-12	Julio 10-17
Tween Camp	12-14	Julio 17-24
Teen Camp	14-17	Julio 24-31
Family Camp	(todas Edades)	Julio 31-Agosto 7

Para más información e inscripciones, visite YoungTexasAdventist.org o llame al 817.790.2255, ext. 2201.

CAMPAMENTOS 2016

Asociación Arkansas-Louisiana

Abril 22-23

Campamento Hispano del Sur Louisiana—Hammond, LA

Donde: South Louisiana Convention Center, 44364 S Coburn Rd. Hammond, LA 70403

Orador: Robert Costa, Orador de Escrito Esta
Llame a: Dalia Castellanos 318.631.6240 Ext 109;
dcastellanos@arklac.org

Junio 10-11

Campamento Hispano del NW Arkansas—Gentry, AR

Donde: Ozark Adventist Academy, 20997 Dawn Hill East Rd, Gentry, AR 72734

Orador: Omar Grieve, Orador de La Voz
Llame a: Dalia Castellanos 318.631.6240 Ext 109;
dcastellanos@arklac.org

Asociación de Oklahoma

Julio 29-31

Oklahoma Campamento Hispano—Wewoka, OK

Lugar: Wewoka Woods Adventist Center, Wewoka, OK

Orador: Jorge Reid, Evangelista Internacional

Llame a: Ciro Castillo 405.301.5855.

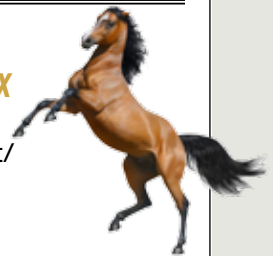
Asociación Regional

Abril 29-Mayo 1

Campestre Hispano 2016—Athens, TX

Lugar: Lone Star Camp, Athens, TX

Visite: <http://mysouthwestregion.org/event/campestrehispano2016>



Asociación de Texico

Junio 2-4

Centennial Celebration— Localización está todavía por decidir.

Más información estará disponible. Para más detalles, llame al 505.244.1611 o visite www.texico.org.

Summer Camp Schedule



—2016—

Arkansas-Louisiana Conference

Camp Yorktown Bay

Mountain Pine, AR

Camp	Ages	Date
Cub Camp	7-9	June 12-19
Junior Camp	10-12	June 19-26
Family/Young Adult Camp	all ages	June 26-July 3*
Tween Camp	12-14	July 3-10
Teen Camp	14-17	July 10-17
Blind Camp	all ages	July 17-23**

For more information, visit www.arklacyouth.org/summer-camp, e-mail campyorktownbay@gmail.com, or call 318.631.6240.

*Call 318-631-6240 for partial week

**Call Christian Record representative, Noreen Westerbeck, 870.647.2982



Oklahoma Conference Wewoka Woods Adventist Center

Wewoka, OK

Camp	Ages	Dates
Native American	7-17	May 29-June 3
Adventure Camp	7-10	June 5-June 12
Junior Camp	10-12	June 12-June 19
Tween Camp	12-14	June 19-June 26
Teen Camp	14-16	June 26-July 3
Blind Camp	7+	July 17-July 24

For more information, visit www.oklahomaadventist.org or call 405.721.6110

Southwest Region Conference

Lone Star Camp

Athens, TX

Camp	Ages	Dates
Week 1	7-17	June 12-18
Week 2	7-17	June 19-26

For more information, visit mysouthwestregion.org or e-mail tdouglas@swrgc.org and lmassiah@swrgc.org



Texas Conference

Shady Lakes Ranch

Cleburne, TX

Camp	Ages	Dates
Staff Week	n/a	June 26-July 23
Cub Camp	7-9	July 3-10
Junior Camp	10-12	July 10-17
Tween Camp	12-14	July 17-24
Teen Camp	14-17	July 24-31
Family Camp	all ages	July 31-August 7

For more information and registration, visit YoungTexasAdventist.org or call 817.790.2255, ext. 2201



Camp Meeting Schedule

Arkansas-Louisiana Conference

—2016—

April 15-16

South Louisiana Camp Meeting— Hammond, LA

Location: South Louisiana Convention Center
44364 S Coburn Rd. Hammond, LA 70403
Speaker: Dr. Carlton Byrd, Speaker/Director for Breath of Life
Contact Person: Chris Simpson 318.631.6240 Ext 207;
csimpson@arklac.org

April 22-23

South Louisiana Spanish Camp Meeting— Hammond, LA

Location: South Louisiana Convention Center, 44364 S
Coburn Rd. Hammond, LA 70403
Speaker: Robert Costa, Speaker for Escrito Esta
Contact Person: Dalia Castellanos 318.631.6240 Ext 109;
dlcastellanos@arklac.org

May 31-June 4

Ozark Family Camp Meeting— Gentry AR

Location: Ozark Adventist Academy, 20997 Dawn Hill East
Rd, Gentry, AR 72734
Weekend Speaker: Dr. Ingo Sorke, Southwestern
Adventist University Religion Professor
Weekday Speaker: Mark Finley, Assistant to the General
Conference President
Contact Person: Gentry Church
Secretary 479.736.8808

June 10-11

NW Arkansas Spanish Camp Meeting— Gentry, AR

Location: Ozark Adventist Academy, 20997 Dawn Hill East
Rd, Gentry, AR 72734
Speaker: Omar Grieve, Speaker for La Voz
Contact Person: Dalia Castellanos 318.631.6240 Ext 109;
dlcastellanos@arklac.org

Sept 30-Oct 2

Bonnerdale Cowboy Camp Meeting— Bonnerdale, AR

Location: Bonnerdale Adventist Church, 709 Adventist
Church Rd, Bonnerdale, AR 71933
Speaker: To be determined
Contact Person: Sylvia Weatherford 870.356.3093

Oct 6-8

Springtown Fall Round-up—Gentry, AR

Location: Springtown Adventist Church, 12444 Fairmont
Rd, Gentry, AR 72734
Speaker: Elizabeth Talbot, Speaker/Director for Jesus 101
Biblical Institute
Contact: www.springtownchurch.org

Oklahoma Conference

July 8-16

Oklahoma English Camp Meeting—Wewoka, OK

Location: Wewoka Woods Adventist Center
Contact: For Oklahoma English Camp Meeting
reservations, please contact Susan Castillo,
405.721.6110





Texas Conference

July 20-24

Ark-La-Tex Camp Meeting—Jefferson, TX

Location: Jefferson Academy Adventist Church, 3060 FM 728, Jefferson, TX 75357

Speaker: Daniel Mesa, Ellsworth Baxen, David Gates

Contact Person: Robin Tullock, 903.655.3973

September 16-17

Cowboy Camp Meeting—Burlleson, TX

Location: Rustic Creek Ranch, Burlleson, TX

Featured Music: Reggie & Ladye Love Smith

Featured Speaker: To be determined

Contact: JoshuaCowboyChurch.org, <https://www.facebook.com/Joshua-SDA-Cowboy-Church-1073994249280842>

July 29-31

Oklahoma Spanish Camp Meeting—Wewoka, OK

Location: Wewoka Woods Adventist Center, Wewoka, OK

Contact: For Oklahoma Spanish Camp Meeting reservations, please contact **Ciro Castillo**, 405.301.5855

Southwest Region Conference

April 29-May 1

Campestre Hispano 2016—Athens, TX

Location: Lone Star Camp, Athens, TX

Contact: <http://mysouthwestregion.org/event/campestrehispano2016>

June 3-11

Southwest Region Conference Camp Meeting—Athens, TX

Location: Lone Star Camp, Athens, TX

Also Featuring: Pathfinder Spring Camporee, June 2-5

Contact: <http://mysouthwestregion.org/event/swrgc-camp-meeting-2016>

Texico Conference

June 2-4

Centennial Celebration—Location to be announced

More information will be forthcoming. For more details, call 505.244.1611 or visit www.texico.org.



Nature Nugget:

WHAT WE CAN LEARN FROM HORSES

Sonnett Peterson, associate IT director, Southwestern Union

When you consider the variation in the animal kingdom, you can see the hand of the Creator. Even though we are far from God's original plan for us, we can still see His plan for human interaction with animals. When God created man, He placed him in a garden and filled it with everything the man would need. He gave him food and water, but more than that, He gave him companionship and responsibility. Before God created Eve to be with Adam, He created the animals. There are lessons to be learned in the timing of God's creation. The fact that God intended mankind to interact with animals explains why some of them are so well suited to be our companions.

Many people love their pets—dogs, cats, fish, and birds. These all bring a different style of companionship and can teach us different lessons in life. Children can learn empathy and responsibility

by caring for pets. God knew that it was a good thing for man to have something to do. Even in Eden He intended a work for us.

Horses are majestic, powerful, and beautiful. For some, horses represent freedom, and the feeling you get when riding is unlike any other. Horses can gallop at about 25 to 30 miles per hour and can sprint for short distances at up to 55 miles per hour.

A typical horse weighs about 1,000 pounds and eats between 15-20 pounds of hay per day. In the wild they roam anywhere from 10 to 30 miles per day. They need to cover that much ground to access water and food. Because they live in herds in the wild they need a lot of open ground.

Some of the most interesting characteristics of horses are found in their social structure. Horses are prey in the wild. Living in a herd offers protection as well as a social connection with other

members of the herd. They have best friends and are fiercely loyal to their families. A horse will tend to flee from danger, but if they can't run away, or if running away would leave another in danger, they will stand their ground and fight. Domesticated horses who live in isolation can become very depressed. Often people will put a goat, dog, or cat to keep the horse company. Because they long for companionship they often form strong bonds with humans.

Men have harnessed the skills of horses over the years. In battle horses were trained to do more than just carry someone from one place to another. Some breeds have become very well known for their skills and abilities. Arabian horses are smaller horses with high endurance.



Arabian mare and foal

ance and speed. Draft horses like the Belgian are very large and have been bred to be more docile and sturdy. Some breeds are unique in their coloring or patterns. The Lipizzaner breed is almost always grey. They are born dark bay (brown) or black and then as they age their hair turns white. The white hair over their black skin gives them a grey appearance.

The Lipizzaner breed is also recognized as highly-trained breed, exclusively used at the world-famous Spanish Riding School. The horses train for years to learn control and precision for wartime skills which involve balance and even kicking while leaping into the air.

While horses are adept at learning skills that humans teach them, other skills come naturally. Many people have discovered great relief through equine therapy. Interaction with horses through equine therapy has been shown to improve the symptoms of depression, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, autism, and more. Studies have shown that horses can understand human facial expressions and can reflect our moods. This type of cross species interaction is rare and while scientists have studied the reasons that horses can do this, the answer is not yet clear. Is it because they draw on their instincts as natural prey and understand that safety comes in understanding the human mood? Is it because they want to deepen their companionship with humans? Perhaps it's because that's the way that God made them.

God intended for man to interact with animals. He did not create us to be idle or selfish. Considering His intention, what can we learn from horses? One lesson may be in the relationship and trusting bond formed between man and horse. The Lipizzaner breed is famed for skills achieved over years of dedication and perseverance. The horses work to learn and understand what is desired of them. They then work to perfect the execution of a given task.

We, too, should preserve and strive to learn, taking into consideration the counsel of others and being willing to pursue the "good and perfect will of God." What could we achieve if we to set our minds to study and grow?

Horses obey their trainers. They work to understand and perfect their tasks. We should love our God and endeavor to honor Him as best we are able.

Another lesson comes to mind. Horses have a keen eye and alert senses. They use these to protect themselves in the wild.



Lipizzaner



Belgian draft

They must travel and sustain themselves. They work together but they are also self-reliant. When domesticated horses wear blinders, they do not have focused vision. The blinders go on the sides of their eyes, but the shape of a horse's head is such that they cannot see directly in front of them. They are, in fact, blind when they wear blinders. Everything they do while wearing the blinders is in complete faith in their handler. They can't see, but they trust that the handler will guide them safely.

Sometimes God does not explain His plans to us. He has our best interest at heart, however, and will guide us safely forward. We can know which way to go by reading and studying His Word and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us in its application in our lives. Like a horse with blinders, we must move forward in faith and trust.

A Week at Camp:

A GLIMPSE OF DAILY LIFE AT SUMMER CAMP

Jessica Lozano, Southwestern Union Record associate editor

Day 1: Arrival (Sunday)

Today was the big day! Mom and dad dropped me off at camp. I was a little scared to see them go, but was so excited to see all of the activities that I will be doing this week. There's a big lake with a dock and canoes, and I saw some horses and an archery range! I signed up for all of the activities and I hope I get to do them and have fun! I'm staying in a cabin with five other girls and we have a counselor named Amy. She's nice and we had prayer tonight together as a cabin. Uh-oh! Lights out! Gotta go!

Day 2: Exhaustion! (Monday)

Wow, I am so tired! We did so much today! The girls in my cabin and I ate breakfast together and then we went to the archery range. We all got to shoot arrows at a target. I did all right, but one girl did really well. She hit the target every time! Her name is Ella and she told us she was so excited to be at camp this year because she won a free week at camp by doing a contest in a magazine! She'd never been to camp before. I told her I hadn't either and I think we'll be good friends. After archery we went to the craft cabin and made pinecone crafts. I think I'll save mine for my mom. After lunch we all went down to the lake to take the canoes out. Our instructors taught us how to paddle and sit in the canoe. We all had to wear lifejackets, so I felt pretty safe. It was awesome to see all the turtles and fish in the lake. It's almost time for dinner, so I'm going to go see if I can sit with Ella. After dinner we're going to have worship by the fire and then I'm going to bed!



Day 3: Horses! (Tuesday)



I think I'm in love! I met a beautiful grey horse named Sam today. He was very gentle and let me get on and ride him. We went on a trail ride and brought a picnic lunch. It was so much fun! A boy named Brycen started galloping on his horse and took off! He knew what he was doing but the instructor said he shouldn't take off on his own like that. Brycen was very sorry he did that.



Day 4: Fireside Worship (Wednesday)

We heard a cool story at worship tonight around the fire. It was from the Bible. It was about twin brothers named Jacob and Esau who didn't get along very well. It made me think of my little brother, Ben, and me. I can't wait to hear the rest of the story tomorrow.

Day 5: Photography Class (Thursday)

I think I really like photography. I went on a nature hike today with the photography class. We took all kinds of pictures. Brycen

was part of the class and he took pictures of all of the birds he saw. I took pictures of all the kids taking pictures and of all the insects, too. We got to look at all of the pictures when we were done. I'm saving the pictures of the beetles for my dad. I think he'll love them. Maybe he'll put them on the refrigerator!

Day 6: Friendships (Friday)

This morning after breakfast I went with Ella to the rock-climbing wall. We took turns with the instructor. It turns out Ella is really scared of heights! We all yelled up to her that she could make it and she made it to the top. When she got down she told me she'd asked God to help her make it and He did! After lunch we all had some quiet time in our cabins. Our counselor, Amy, asked us all what we thought of camp and then she had prayer with us. It was really nice.



Day 7: Rest (Saturday)

Today we had a worship service during the day and went on a nature walk through the woods. We learned a lot about the trees and flowers that we saw. Tonight we are going to have a banquet to celebrate the end of camp. I'm excited about the banquet but sad that camp is ending. I'll miss my friends.

Day 8: Going Home! (Sunday)

My mom and dad picked me up today. I was really happy to see them but I was sad to leave my friends and the camp. My friends Ella and Brycen live pretty far away from me but we promised to talk to each other every day and see each other next year at summer camp!

Win a FREE week at camp!



Annual Southwestern Union Record Summer Camp Contest

Horses are beautiful and majestic animals. Every year summer camps in the Southwestern Union give kids a chance to come face-to-face with some of these elegant creations and enjoy learning about them and the amazing things they do.

But, before you head off to camp, the *Record* is bringing the horses to you! How many horses do you think are hidden in this issue of the *Record*? Can you find them all? Did you remember to count the horses pictured at camp on pages 8-9? And what about the horse on the cover? Be sure not to miss the hidden horses you'll find throughout the magazine. The fun starts now! Count the horses until you find them all, then submit your answer to the question "How many horses are in the April 2016 *Record*?" along with your name, age, gender, phone number, and/or e-mail address (please indicate how you wish to be contacted in case you are a winner!), and the name and location 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, 2016. Submit your entry online at www.swurecord.org/summercamp or e-mail your entry to summercampcontest@swuc.org. You may also mail your entry to Summer Camp Contest, Southwestern Union Record, P.O. Box 4000, Burleson, TX 76097. Winners will be notified individually before camp starts and will be announced in the July issue of the *Record*.

Valuable Lessons from Camp Yorktown Bay



ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA CONFERENCE

“And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ” (Colossians 3:23-24).

These words, I must confess, are sometimes difficult to live by, especially during summer camp. Ponder for a moment some of the situations that go on behind the scenes: There is a clogged toilet in boys’ cabin #2; an unexpected guest is wreaking havoc on the kitchen crew because there is no vegan option; a parent has left multiple messages—only to find out she dropped off her child 30 minutes ago and is missing her already; and the list of attention-demand-

ing occurrences could go on and on.

Ah, the sweet joys of camp ministry. While some of these experiences make us chuckle, they are all true.

In spite of these challenges, it is so worth it when you see the fun and excitement on each camper’s face. I recall a conversation I had with a young girl as she was standing by the cafeteria door.

“Why do you have such a big smile on your face?” I inquired.

“Well, I just love being here at camp,” she said.

I asked her what she loved about camp and she responded, “I love swimming, riding horses, but most of all I love learning about God.”

Moments like these make you realize why summer camp is a vital part of church ministry in the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference.

Camp has taught me many valuable lessons, and especially through conversations I’ve had with the campers. One of those lessons is that our camp ministry should never be about us, but rather it’s about how willing we are to sacrifice our lives and express our faith in order to make a difference in this world. We have tried to live by these words at Camp Yorktown Bay, and as a result we have seen many lives changed and inspired. We praise God for blessing our Conference with this powerful camp ministry.

Jeff Villegas, youth ministry director

Texarkana Church Hosts Garden Club Council

TEXARKANA, ARK. » The Texarkana church welcomed the opportunity for community involvement and extended their fellowship hall to the Texarkana Garden Club Council to host the State of Texas District III 3rd Annual Fall Meeting in 2015.

Helen Perea, local church member and immediate past president of the Texarkana Garden Club Council, introduced pastor



▲ Pastor Daniel Supler speaking at the Texarkana event.

◀ Texarkana Mayor Bob Bruggeman.



Daniel Supler, who welcomed the large group and then gave a very appropriate devotional on God’s love expressed through His creations. He then welcomed Texarkana mayor, Bob Bruggeman.

Bruggeman also thanked the Texarkana church and gave a brief explanation of the twin cities and

extended regards from Arkansas Mayor, Penny Bell. Nita Beale, district III director, expressed her gratitude to the Texarkana church for its hospitality and introduced the officers for the State of Texas and also the district officers and zone directors.

The Texarkana church looks forward to being involved with more community activities.

Loretta Johnson



Slidell Church Missionary Project

SLIDELL, LA. » Mrs. Frankie Davis, personal ministries leader at the Slidell church, has been crocheting bookmarks for family and friends for a number of years. Last year, Davis decided to expand her reach to include people she meets in the doctor's office, grocery stores, and, recently, for the staff at the Lacombe Nursing Home in Lacombe, La. Along with the bookmark, she includes a copy of *The Great Controversy* with a note from her, letting them know of her love for God. She has given out more than 200 bookmarks and copies of *The Great Controversy*, and feels that it is "her Divine appointment" to carry out this project.

Members from the Slidell church visited the residents at the Lacombe Nursing Home after Sabbath service on December 12, 2015, to sing Christmas carols and to pass out bookmarks crocheted by Davis. Slidell church pastor Cecil Harlin offered

a few inspirational words to the residents before closing with prayer. The residents enjoyed the songs and said they enjoyed hearing the Christmas Carols. Davis is planning to get on a monthly schedule with the nursing home for monthly visits by the church.

Vernella Rogers

▼ Frankie Davis crochets bookmarks as gifts and gives copies of *The Great Controversy* as a part of her personal mission.

Center left: Pastor Cecil Harlin led out in a short inspirational message for the nursing home residents.

Bottom: Slidell church members sang Christmas carols for nursing home residents.



First Female Pastor Recognized in Arkansas-Louisiana Conference



Meet Toshia Cartman, volunteer associate-lay pastor for the New Orleans First and Houma churches

NEW ORLEANS, LA. » In 2010 Toshia Cartman walked into a prophecy seminar at the New Orleans First Seventh-day Adventist Church. Searching for a God that would love and guide her, she'd been led to the church by a handbill in her mailbox.

Originally from Chicago, Cartman moved to New Orleans at age 17 to attend Xavier University. After graduating she worked as an associate scientist in a molecular biology laboratory. But the Lord had other plans for her, and she was baptized on November 20, 2010.

Cartman brought friends with her to church every week, as well as to the midweek Bible study. Glenn Farinola, pastor at the New Orleans First church, wondered how he would be able to give individual Bible studies to everyone she brought to the church. Three months after Cartman's baptism, Farinola invited her to hold a series of evangelistic meetings in the fellowship hall of the church and to invite all of her friends.

She asked for God's guidance and then accepted the invitation. Although she had no experience speaking publicly, she put her full dependence on God. With the help of a Share Him Power-Point presentation, the Lord blessed the series and several individuals were led to Christ and were baptized.

A few months later Cartman had the opportunity to travel to Zimbabwe on a mission trip, and again the Lord blessed her efforts. The following year she was asked to preach at her home church once or twice each quarter in the pastor's absence, and after prayerful consideration, she agreed.

Cartman's sermons are always Christ-centered, well-received, and appreciated by the congregation. She is often invited to speak in other area churches and was recently interviewed by Danny Shelton on 3ABN TV. She was asked to serve as an elder in the New Orleans First church, and, after much prayer, she accepted.

From the beginning, Farinola and others noted the wonderful gifts that God had given Cartman. They believed that the Lord had gifted her and equipped her to serve Him in a fulltime capacity. After receiving affirmation from her church family, friends, and even neighbors, she began to pray for guidance, and then for strength, to accept His calling. Cartman knew that

volunteer associate pastor at the New Orleans First church and the Houma church.

In November 2015 Cartman presented her request before both church's boards, and then before each church in business session. Each time the vote to accept her as associate pastor was unanimous. The request of her churches to have her serve as a volunteer associate lay-pastor was also ratified by the conference's executive committee, and now she is serving as the first female pastor in the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference.

Cartman says she is grateful to those who have loved and supported her, and says that she is absolutely delighted to begin her ministry as associate pastor at her home church. She doesn't know what her future holds, but she does know one very important thing; she will always walk with God, never lagging behind or running ahead.

Donna Sans



Toshia Cartman is the volunteer associate-lay pastor for the New Orleans First and Houma churches and is being sponsored by Andrews University.

God was calling her to be something other than a scientist and a chemist. After a considerable amount of prayer, Cartman said "Yes" to God. She did not know what the next step would be, but knew that she would walk through the doors that God would open to her.

Soon after she "purposed in her heart" to serve God, any way and all the way, everything fell right into place. She was offered a partial sponsorship to Andrews University, with the stipulation that she complete a one-year internship as a full-time,



“Share the Power” at Wewoka Woods Summer Camp 2016



Witnessing the foot washing of the disciples by Jesus, the temptation and spiritual warfare in the Garden of Gethsemane, Pilate washing his hands of Jesus's fate, the heart-wrenching crucifixion, and finally the resurrection has led many campers to acknowledge the gift Jesus gave them in a powerful reenactment.

Summer camp is an unforgettable experience in every way. So much so, that when these campers grow up, they apply to be summer camp staff!

This summer at Wewoka Woods Adventist Center, my staff and I with the Lord are wanting to give your children spiritual, social, emotional, and physical experiences so that there is nothing

else for them to do but share—share what Jesus did and does for them, share all the great activities and people

laughing, singing, and playing.

We invite you to send your child to Wewoka Woods Adventist Center this summer where he or she will gain a positive experience that will be a big part in their character development.

Please visit <https://www.ultracamp.com/clientlogin> and register online. We look forward to meeting you for the first time or seeing you again. God bless every camp in this nation as each one has been dedicated to evangelize and share Him to young people.

Apple Park, youth director



they enjoyed, share the peace found only in the recesses of nature where the only noises are those of the cicada and children

The Thieves Who Tried to Steal Christmas

BROKEN ARROW » There was more than the usual activity during the Sabbath-morning Christmas program at the Broken Arrow church and it centered around the church pastor's family. One by one, members of the Calvert family and elders were called out of the sanctuary, leaving Pastor Clayton Calvert with a worried look on his face. But, as they say, the program must go on. When Clayton's wife, Barbara, went up front to read a Christmas story, she announced that their house had been broken into and police had been called. After the program finished Clayton gave a short sermon on how thieves can take possessions, but not our spirit or our love, and he thanked God that no one was hurt.

The Calverts live on a ranch with no neighbors nearby, but obviously their friends knew that the family keeps the Sabbath and wouldn't be hauling things out of their house on Sabbath morn-



ing. Their quick reaction gave the thieves only enough time to take a few items before fleeing. It pays to have neighbors that know you are Sabbath keepers. All things

considered, it was a good Christmas program!

Ellis County Food Bank

SHATTUCK » Several members of the community, along with members of the Shattuck church and city employees, work together to prepare food baskets twice a month.

Every second and fourth Thursday of the month approximately 125 families are provided boxes of food from the Ellis County Food Bank located at the site of the former Shattuck Junior Academy. This number of fami-

lies equates to 150 boxes of food being prepared. The boxes vary in content, but generally contain juice, canned goods, cereal, frozen items, and bread. Often bulk items accompany the food truck delivery on the fourth Thursday of the month, and have to be bagged separately. There is a great attitude of cooperation



and helpfulness among all the volunteers. It takes from 45 minutes to one hour to fill and stage the boxes. When the people begin to arrive, the boxes are taken outside, ready to be placed in the vehicles.

Also, Ellis County Transportation separately delivers a number of boxes to people who are either home bound or without transportation.

This project has been a great blessing to the community and to all involved. It takes a lot of time and energy to provide this service, but we feel that we are the hands of God for these families in need.

Pat Gregg

OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE



Music Festival 2016

TULSA » Make a joyful noise unto the Lord! And that's just the beginning! What happens when you bring more than 250 students with teachers, parents, grandparents, and friends together? You get a very full church!

On February 21, 2016, students from Oklahoma Conference church schools came together at Tulsa's Adventist Fellowship for the Annual Music Festival.

Mark and Marilyn Griffin put together a three-day music workshop to fine tune the group. Time was also spent doing community service and splitting into teams on Sabbath to sing in several churches around Tulsa.

Students made new friends and updated their long-term friendships during this event.

Each school presented a musical number. An orchestra also delighted all with their accomplishment in such a short time period.

It all came to a climax with all students on stage to sing as a mass choir. The music was joy to the soul



and heart—a taste of heaven.

If you would like to enjoy and relive this event, contact the Oklahoma Conference Education Department to secure your DVD copy of Oklahoma Music Fest 2016.

Call 405.721.6110, ext. 108.

Jack Francisco,
education director





Eagerly Anticipating Summer Camp 2016



SOUTHWEST REGION CONFERENCE

With eager expectation, I look forward to summer camp 2016 at Lone Star Camp in Athens, Texas. This year our theme is "What's Your Name?" the question posed to Jacob in Genesis 32:27. As he wrestled with an angel in the early hours of the morning, Jacob anticipated the encounter with his estranged and hostile brother, Esau. Despite his fears and his view of himself in light of his past indiscretions, he learned that morning that God had plans for his troubled life, and viewed him favorably, even referring to him as a prince after their night of wrestling.

Our goal this summer is to embrace our youth as they attend our summer program. Not only have we prepared a myriad of fun-filled activities for them to enjoy, but we have created a learning environment in which they can have a spiritual encounter with God similar to Jacob's. Like him, they need to see themselves as God sees them—princes and princesses; part of His royal family.

Many of our youth have poor self-images and struggle to live up to the celebrity mirages portrayed in the popular culture. Many, at these tender ages, are

dealing with conflict in their personal and spiritual lives. Still others wrestle with low self-esteem and have difficulty fitting in with their peer groups at school and, sadly, sometimes even at church. Summer camp provides an opportunity to model the love of Jesus in a stress-free, non-threatening environment.

It is our prayer that the Angel of the Lord will be on our campground as we minister to our children, creating lasting memories and developing Christ-like characters.

Tyrone Douglas, youth director

Memorial Church: This is Our Season to Reap what God has Sown

MANSFIELD, LA. » The following is a report on the programs and activities of the Memorial church from pastor Norman Stiggers.

Evangelism: The Memorial church's members are extraordinarily involved within the church and the community. Many people are being blessed, lives are being changed, and prayers are being answered because of the commitment, dedication, hard work, sacrifice, support, investment, and ministries of the members.

Community Service: April Freeman, community services director, has proven she is the right person for the job. She, along with her team, recently spearheaded a community-wide school uniform drive. More than 200 uniforms, along with food items, were distributed. The Memorial church's community

services team works in partnership with the North Louisiana Food Bank in distributing food to senior residents each Sabbath.

Summer feeding program: Coordinated by Patricia Youngblood and her sister, Di-

anne Peoples, for the past three years, the summer feeding program provides breakfast and lunch for more than 130 school-age children.

Disabilities Ministries: Mercy Peoples, disabilities coordinator, distributed more than 50 food baskets for Thanksgiving and was also responsible for organizing an on-going revelation seminar with Tim Fuller and Clint Fuller, which has more than 30 people attending.

Prison Ministries: Richard Fuller, coordinator, Michael Satterwhite, and volunteers distributed 100 bags of fruit to prison inmates, 25 baskets of fruit to the jailers, and more than 300 pieces of literature to the jailers during the Christmas season. They also distributed more than 1,500 pieces of literature to people at a Black History Day Parade.

Seniors: Ruth Brown, the oldest member of the church, was recognized



on her birthday by the Memorial church family.

Sabbath School: Sabbath School superintendent Fannie Bell, along with Patricia Youngblood, spearheaded a “family and friends day” that featured jeep rides, food, fellowship, games, gifts, and much more. More than 100 friends, family, neighbors, and community residents participated in this special day.

Youth on the Move: The youth are an integral part of the church service each Sabbath but especially on the fourth Sabbath of every month, Youth Day. Our members value the youth. Member Sybil White provided transportation for two young sisters, Destiny and Adrienne Sanders, so that they could attend church and other youth activities. They were recently baptized and have been conducting Bible studies in their home with family and friends.

Prayer Warriors for God are the many children who participate in Sabbath School and children’s story time when most, if not all, of their little hands are raised to pray before and after the story each Sabbath morning. Memorial member Doris Counts organized a 24-hour prayer line where members have selected a block of time in which to pray. Prayers are being answered.

Pathfinders Club: Treeana Hadnott, Pathfinder leader, helps provide unforgettable spiritual and character-building experiences for the Pathfinders Club members. The Pathfinder’s drum corp participated in the various events during the General Conference Session in San Antonio, Texas. Pathfinder team members and supporters are actively involved and participate in numerous community and out-of-town outreach programs, parades, and camps.

Education: Mildred Rivers worked to conduct a career fair involving community leaders and career professionals such as doctors, attorneys, educators, policemen, city officials, funeral directors, business owners, and others. Students, parents, and adults benefitted from this well-orchestrated event.

Pastor Appreciation: A day of appreciation was held for our pastor, Norman Stiggers, in October 2015, and was coordinated by members of the Memorial, Coushatta First, and Natchitoches First churches. The guest speaker was evangelist Howard Small. On that same day, Liberty Charlotte Monet’ LaGrange was born, the daughter of Desmond and Alleta LaGrange and granddaughter of the Stiggers and the La-Grange families. A baby shower had been given for her a few weeks before by Fannie



Bell and Tiffany Bell.

Music: Sybil White began attending the Memorial church when she was 18 and discovered that they did not have a choir. She was impressed to start a choir. Today, the youth and adult choirs, along with other outstanding musicians, are a phenomenal asset to the services held at our church, as well as for other churches and programs. They participated in the Youth Federation Program in Little Rock, Ark. White has served as music ministries coordinator for nearly 30 years and currently serves as Vacation Bible School director. Her church family recently organized a special surprise appreciation gala, orchestrated by Debbie Fuller, for her years of commitment and dedication to the church and school family.

Elders: The elders work well together in making sure that the overall programs, events, and activities do not overlap and there is proper representation at special community events, funerals, and school

functions.

Children’s Ministries: Many children and youth in our congregation consistently remain on the honor roll and maintain a perfect attendance record during every grading period. Justice Brokenberry was nominated as Student of the Year.

Women’s Ministries: Shandrea Brokenberry has been elected to serve as the women’s ministries coordinator. The majority of women attended a women’s day brunch that, despite some rain, was well attended and worth the fellowship as we lifted each other and our concerns in prayer.

Puppet Ministry: On December 12, 2012, Richard Fuller launched a puppet ministry through prayer, faith, and a bit of uncertainty about how the audience would respond to the puppet performance. He then left a 22-year career to pursue the puppet ministry full time. Uncle Richard’s House ministers to people in nursing homes and prisons. Fuller has been involved in puppet ministry for more than 20 years. His brother and nephews assist him. Uncle Richard’s House

now performs at nursing homes and senior living facilities and seven prisons throughout Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, and North Carolina. Fuller is determined to introduce people to Jesus through this ministry. Thousands of people have been blessed and accepted Jesus in response to this ministry. Uncle Richard’s House also partners with Forgiven Ministry (which helps children connect with their moms and dads who are incarcerated) and conducts services for about 250 people.

This is just a glimpse of the greater things Jesus has in store for His people through evangelism in these last days. The year 2016 is the year of new beginnings, it is the year of jubilee, and one year closer to our Christ’s soon return to take His children home, those who have been tried in the fire and come out as pure gold. We are indeed, by God’s grace and mercy, homeward bound!

Lorraine James-Stiggers

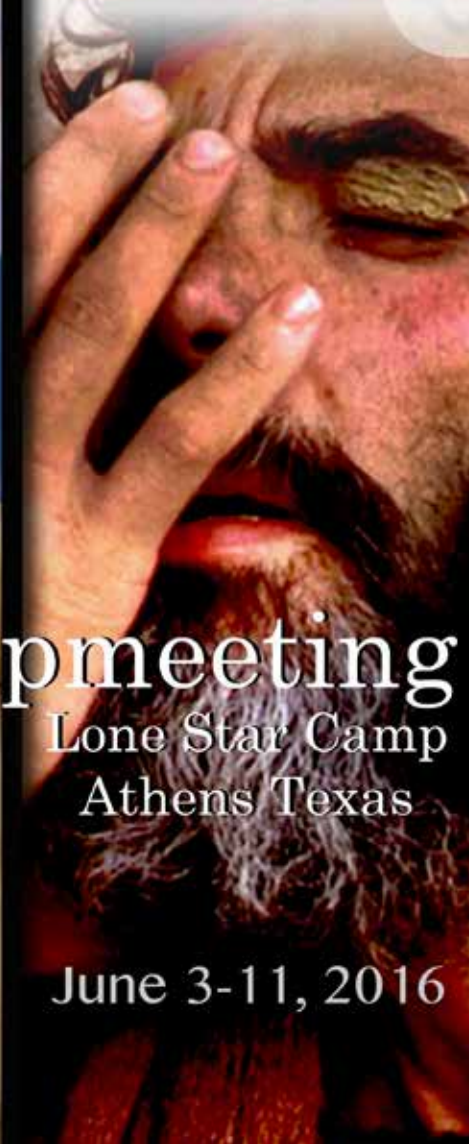
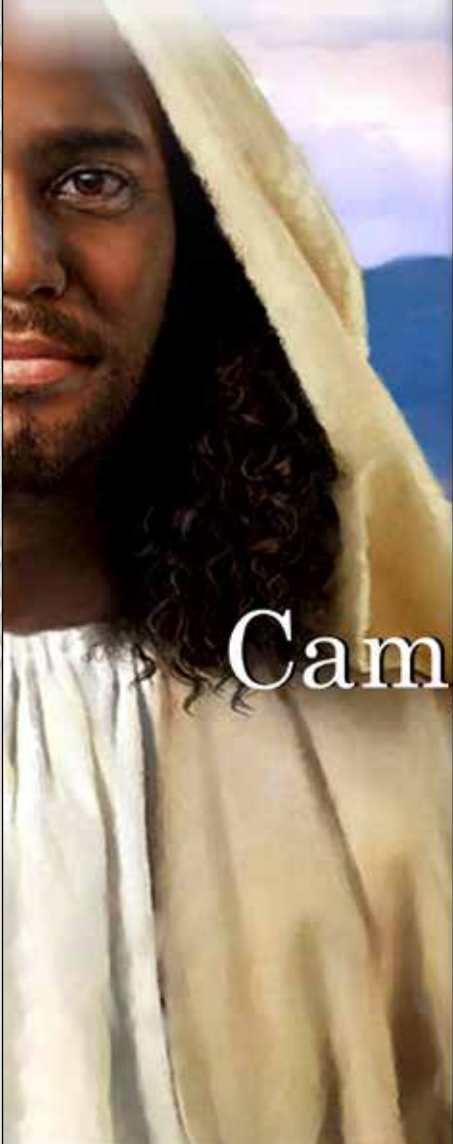
Experiencing Jesus!

SOUTHWEST REGION CONFERENCE

THE MAN

THE MISSION

THE PASSION



Campmeeting 2016

Lone Star Camp
Athens Texas

June 3-11, 2016



REGION CONFERENCE
of Seventh-day Adventists

Texas-sized Summer



Imagine a world where everything you wished for became a reality! As the Texas Conference Youth director I'd love to live in a world like that.

There is so much I wish for Lake Whitney Ranch for our youth and members. From facilities for summer campers, Adventurers, Pathfinders, and Master Guides to areas for local churches to come together in the great outdoors and for retreats and corporate events to take place, I have big dreams for our camp. We serve a humongous God who, in Ephesians 3:20, says He is able to do "above and beyond" what we can imagine! As the development of the property at Lake Whitney Ranch continues, we lay our dreams at the feet of this great God and we put our trust in Him.

The lodges at Lake Whitney Ranch have been undergoing continued improvements this year. This includes sidewalks, acces-

sible parking spaces and modifications to the interior of the lodges, along with other items, to ensure structural integrity and satisfy state and county regulations for public use. Additionally, improvements are being made to the wastewater treatment and sanitary sewer lines. In order for this process to take place, we've decided to relocate our summer camp program so our construction crews can get the job done efficiently and safely. Summer camp will be at Shady Lake Camp this summer, a beautiful Adventist-owned retreat center in Cleburne, Texas.

Summer camp activities such as horseback riding, canoeing, swimming, archery, crafts, baking and sports, and more will also be available this summer. In addition to regular camp weeks, a new week has been added for July 21-August 7 for Family Camp! While the summer camp venue may be different this year, the Texas Con-

ference Youth Department will offer the same great programming it has before. This year's summer camp dates are listed below along with information about our host camp property.

We will be sending posters and flyers to all of our churches as well as to all of our camper's homes with these dates and information. We ask our church leaders to please help us spread the word and get the information to all of your members. Registration for camp is available at www.YoungTexasAdventist.org.

Please join us in praying for another spiritual and safe summer and please don't stop imagining! I'm excited to see what our humongous God has in store for the youth and young adults in Texas. Until then I'm going to keep dreaming!

Gary Blanchard, youth director



SUMMER CAMP 2016



- Cub Week July 3-10
- Junior Week July 10-17
- Tween Week July 17-24
- Teen Week July 24-31
- Family Camp July 31-Aug 7

Different place
SAME GREAT EXPERIENCE!

Shady Lakes Ranch in Cleburne | 3701 County Road 316 C. Cleburne, TX 76031



For more information and registration: YoungTexasAdventist.org or call 817.790.2255 ext. 2201

Thanksgiving Outreach at Dallas First

DALLAS » Every year, in the midst of the chaotic holidays, the Dallas First church chooses to celebrate the Thanksgiving season in a unique way. The tables are set, the lights are hung, and Holley Hall is transformed from a multi-purpose gymnasium into a glistening dining hall. Within minutes of the close of the Sabbath worship service, the hall is filled with laughter and eager conversation as more than 380 members and guests sit down together to share a meal of thanksgiving.

Part of what makes this annual meal so meaningful is the fact that each family of the Dallas First church contributes their own unique touch to the stunning trans-

formation of the gym. The families themselves each volunteer to host a table, often setting the table with the family's best china and decorating it with festive fall accents. Families invite friends and relatives, while leaving plenty of spots reserved for the many guests who attend to share in the special luncheon. Dedicated volunteers work to prepare a holiday meal large enough to feed the large crowd, while students from the adjoining Dallas Christian Academy happily serve the tables.

The 2015 Thanksgiving dinner presented a unique opportunity for outreach since it corresponded with the conclusion of an evangelistic seminar hosted by the church.

The congregation was blessed to use the meal as an occasion to welcome 16 newly-baptized members into its family! Many guests attending the evangelistic series also stayed for the luncheon and expressed their delight at the beautiful settings and meaningful fellowship.

At the heart of the meal came an opportunity for thoughtful reflection as each participant's attention was directed to five small kernels of corn, carefully placed beside their plate. The five kernels were to bring to mind the difficult times of scarcity which the struggling pilgrims faced during the fall of 1621. The five kernels remind us that being thankful motivates us to look

for God's purpose in our circumstances, that a grateful heart reminds us of our constant dependence upon our Heavenly Father, that gratitude increases our trust in God, that a thankful spirit teaches us to rejoice in every situation, and finally that thankfulness transforms our anxiety into God-filled peace.

Cece Cobb



The Dallas First church celebrates Thanksgiving each year with a special luncheon to amid festive decorations and elegant table settings. On the 2015 guest list were 16 newly-baptized members who were welcomed into the church family.



Country Life Church

Country Life church is a new church plant located on Highway 174 between Cleburne and Rio Vista. The company began meeting together in December 2014 and on February 6 of this year, celebrated the first Sabbath services in its newly-acquired facility. Texas Conference president Carlos Craig was present for the occasion and delivered the Sabbath-morning message. In a surprise gesture, Craig honored Ingo Sorke, Country Life's head elder, for

his dedicated service, and placed a Texas-shaped pin on his lapel. One hundred seventy-four members and guests were in attendance for the opening ceremonies.

Even before moving into the new facility, Country Life church members began reaching out to the surrounding community. In January, the Youth class and other members personally invited neighbors in the community to a health screening as well as a showing of *Forks Over Knives*, a film that promotes healthful living. The following day,

Scott Ritsema, of Belt of Truth Ministries, presented a dynamic mini-seminar entitled *Media on the Brain*.

An active congregation, Country Life is making plans to continue reaching out to the community and is already getting to know the neighbors around the church. An AFCE (Amazing Facts College of Evangelism) weekend of training is planned for later this year.

Betty Rogers



◀ Carlos Craig, Texas Conference president, honored Ingo Sorke, head elder of the Country Life Church, during the church's inaugural service on February 6.

▼ Members and visitors pose following the first Sabbath service held at Country Life's new church facility on 174, south of Cleburne.



Texico Celebrates 100 years!



TEXICO CONFERENCE

This year the Texico Conference has reached a great milestone, 100 years in existence! This is a great time to rejoice as we reflect over the birth and growth of Seventh-day Adventism in this vast territory of New Mexico and West Texas. Centennial celebrations will begin with a big gathering in the greater Albuquerque area on June 2-4, 2016. On August 12-13, the celebration will extend to Clovis, New Mexico, then to Amarillo, Texas, on November 18-19, and finally on December 2-3 in El Paso, Texas. (Look for upcoming an advertisement regarding these events.)

As we reflect back over this lengthy span of time, we realize how the Lord has led our conference, enabling His faithful servants to touch thousands of lives through the course of the century, bringing many souls into God's kingdom. For this we praise the Lord and are extremely grateful

that we can build on the sacrifices of our pioneers.

Our centennial celebrations will be a time of praise as we retrace the steps of how the Lord has led and abundantly blessed the Texico Conference. It will be a time to reflect on individuals, led by the Holy Spirit, who laid the foundation before us, bringing us to where we are now.

I love these wonderful words, "In reviewing our past history, having traveled over every step of advance to our present standing, I can say, Praise God! As I see what the Lord has wrought, I am filled with astonishment, and with confidence in Christ as leader. We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history," (*Life Sketches of Ellen G. White*, p. 196).

Retired pastor H. Joseph Reynolds has done an extensive study on the history of

the Seventh-day Adventist Church, specifically on how the Adventist work started in New Mexico. I am working on the history of the Adventist Church in West Texas. We look forward to sharing this rich, and many times almost forgotten, information of days gone by during our centennial celebrations. We would like a historical account of how each of our Texico churches began, so if you have any information you could share with us, we would be happy to receive it (send to texico@texico.org).

The future of the Texico Conference was and still is, bright. With God's help we can see greater things happening in New Mexico and West Texas as we unite together with the Holy Spirit to complete the task which was started long ago, finishing the work of spreading the gospel in our territory.

Lee-Roy Chacon, president



Texico Welcomes New Health Ministries Director

ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX. » The Texico conference is happy to introduce our new health ministries director, Beatriz Brunken, from Lubbock, Texas. We believe that her leadership will greatly enhance the ministry of this department throughout our territory and we are excited to have her as a part of our Texico team. We'll let Beatriz tell you about herself and her goals for the future:

I was born in a Seventh-day Adventist family in São Paulo, Brazil. After graduating from nursing school and working for several hospitals in the city, I constantly wondered if this was what God had in mind for me. Could this be the best way to serve Him and help others? This doubt lingered in my mind throughout my nursing career in Brazil, England, and the U.S.

When not working, I enjoyed helping in my local church with youth, Pathfinders, and Sabbath School. I did not see the connection between church mission and health. When I started working with health ministry in Lubbock, Texas, things changed. I could see that health ministry is the entering wedge needed to introduce the gospel to people. Like Ellen White wrote, "I can see in the Lord's providence that the medical missionary work is to be a great entering wedge, whereby the diseased soul may be reached," (*Counsels on Health*, p. 535).

Looking for a way to put this into practice, I participated in "Your best Pathway to Health" in San Antonio, Texas, last year where I saw Christ's method being implemented. What a powerful method of evangelism when health and the gospel are used hand in hand! I then understood what had been missing all these years. Using Christ's method is the way to carry out our mission and spread the gospel. "Christ's method alone will give true suc-

cess in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them,

their full potential for wholeness and a productive, abundant life. Health ministries is the gospel of Christ illustrated; the message of God practiced.

The church can mingle with the community and minister to their needs by conducting health fairs, promoting activities in parks (5K runs, Let's Move Day, play days for kids), teaching health principles in various seminars (CREATION Health, Diabetes Undone, NEWSTART Lifestyle), and help the community learn healthy eating habits through cooking classes.

The health ministries department is planning to set up three training centers in our conference (Albuquerque, El Paso, and Lubbock). These centers will offer training for health ministries leaders and their associates. Along with these excellent training opportunities, materials will be provided to take back to your home church.

Each center will be equipped with everything needed for your church to conduct an effective and efficient program. Materials will be made available on a lending system at each center to help conduct health fairs, seminars, or training in your local church.

We have God's promise that there will be a transformation in our churches when we put the gospel and health together. "The work in the cities is the essential work for this time, and is now to be taken hold of in faith. When the cities are worked as God would have them, the result will be the setting in operation of a mighty movement such as we have not yet witnessed," (*Medical Ministry*, p. 331).

I invite you to come and be a part of the Texico health ministries team. We will work together to finish the commission that Jesus gave in Matthew 28. You may contact me at healthministry@texico.org.

Beatriz Brunken and Sue Hinkle



Beatriz Brunken is the new health ministries director for the Texico Conference.

'Follow Me' (*The Ministry of Healing*, p.143).

I saw people who would not normally open their hearts to strangers, but when we ministered to their needs, we won their trust and they wanted to know why we follow Jesus' example. This is the work that God has for us.

As the new Texico health ministries director, it is my goal to assist your local church health ministries department in growing into a very active and powerful witness for Jesus in your area using Christ's method.

The Texico Conference Health Ministries Department will strive to demonstrate God's love by promoting whole person health principles to Adventist church leaders, members, and the community at large. This department will assist people of all ages, genders, and ethnicities to reach

My Journey to God

RIO RANCHO, N. MEX. » In 2008, I was really sick. I was going to a lot of different doctors, but they weren't finding anything wrong with me. In my desperation, even though I didn't know how to pray, I just cried out to God while on my way to another doctor's appointment. I started going to church every Sunday and after a while began attending during the week, too.

One day I was driving from my home in Algodones, NM to Albuquerque when I felt a deep conviction that I needed to confess my sins. I started crying and saying, "No, please, no! I can't! Help me, please!" I even said, "Leave me alone!" I was crying so much that I don't even know how I made it to my destination. When I stopped I asked myself, "Did I just say no to God?" I apologized to Him, saying, "I'm sorry! Please forgive me!"

While I was sleeping one night, I heard the words "Martha Mary, Martha Mary." When I woke up, I got my Bible out, but thought, "I can't read this. I don't know how." As I lay in my bed, I decided to open the Bible, remembering that many books have an index. I checked to see if I could find the words "Martha and Mary" listed, and this led me to some Scripture passages. After reading Luke 10:38-42, I thought to myself, "I am Martha." I say this because all I ever did was clean my house, and I realized God was calling me to spend time with Him.

During this time, I was attending a Catholic church, but I didn't go to confession or take communion. Actually, I wasn't participating in anything that Catholics do. I was going to church every day and trying to talk to people about God, but some of the people were discouraging, and they didn't want to hear about God. I even prayed that God would send someone to teach me how to do the things that the Catholic church taught, but it just didn't seem right. One day, while I was in church, I asked God to "Help me, I need more than this." Then I began my search to find another church.

Later, I turned on the TV and started watching a program by Joel Olsteen. I en-

joyed it, so I watched him again the next day, but it didn't seem to make sense to me. I decided to search for something else to watch and I came upon the Hope Channel and watched a program called *Daily Hope*.

I enjoyed watching the program, because it sounded like they were teaching truth and it made sense to me, but I wasn't fast enough to look up the Scriptures as they referred to them. In 2012, after God blessed me with a new home, I got DirecTV and a DVR and began recording the programs. This allowed me to go back and watch the programs and pause it so I could look up the scriptures at my own pace.

One day, as I was cleaning my house, *Let's Pray* was showing on the Hope Channel, but I wasn't paying much attention to it. I had the impression that I should sit and watch it. As I was watching, the speaker on the program gave a phone number and said to call if we wanted prayer or a free book they were offering. When I called, the voice on the other end asked if I needed prayer. I said, "No, but I would like the book you are giving away." Then I asked if they could give me the address of a church near me, and they gave me the address of the Rio Rancho Seventh-day Adventist Church.

On April 6, 2013, I drove up to the church and parked in their lot. Right away I thought to myself, "This is going to be my church." After I went in and sat down, a lady came and sat beside me, introducing herself as Monica Dawson. She offered to study the Bible with me, so I happily agreed. Monica has been a great blessing in my life! She has been there, not only to study the Word of God with me, but also to help pray me through some difficult times.

During this time of Bible study, my friend Sidney, who is a Jehovah's Witness, unexpectedly came back into my life after 25 years. I was so happy to see her and started studying the Bible with her, too. When she would say something about



Lita Romero found Bible truth and the Seventh-day Adventist Church by watching the Hope Channel. She is now happily "at home" at the Rio Rancho church, where she was baptized on April 19, 2014.

her church or her beliefs, I would call Lori Fisher, another lady who was giving me Bible studies from the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and ask her what "our" church believes on these different topics. After a while of studying with Sidney, I became confused about my beliefs and which church I should be in. I knew I needed to pray about it, so I began praying a lot.

One day Sidney said, "You know there is a narrow road we have to follow." I said, "Yes." In my mind I was thinking the Sabbath is my narrow road, but I was hesitant to say it. A firm impression came to my mind that I should tell Sidney what I was thinking. Sidney asked if I was okay, so I told her that "the Sabbath is my narrow road."

As we finished our study, I went back to my car and thanked God that now I knew I was in the right church—the Seventh-day Adventist Church. On April 19, 2014, I gave my life to Christ in baptism. I praise God for the Hope Channel and for the different ways He has led me to the truth!

Lita Romero

Why Choose Southwestern?

Students and alumni share their Southwestern Adventist University experience.

At the end of every school year high school students and parents are asking some tough questions. What comes after graduation? Which college should I attend? Students who chose to attend Southwestern Adventist University faced the same questions.

Casey Lao graduated from Valley Grande Academy in Weslaco, Texas. She wanted to attend a university that would impact her life and education, but she thought she needed to travel far from home to find it. “I wanted to get out of Texas and experience something different,” says Lao.



Lao had the opportunity to intern at Johns Hopkins University as a nursing intern. She describes the experiences as “amazing,” but felt like something was missing. She could not quite put her finger on it until she visited Southwestern. She realized that the missing factor was God.

“As soon as I stepped onto Southwestern’s campus I could see the difference in atmosphere,” says Lao. “I loved how God was the center of everything. I could see the reflection of Jesus in every person that I met on my first day here.”

Lao’s visit to Southwestern made an immediate impact on her decision on which college to attend. She says she chose Southwestern because of its beautiful people, campus, and focus.

“The fact that God was the center of Southwestern’s education made it a super easy decision to choose Southwestern,” says Lao.

Currently a junior nursing major, Lao is forever grateful for the opportunity to attend Southwestern. “It was one of the best decisions of my life. If I had the chance to make the same decision again, I would,” says Lao.

Laura Groessel was not only the first in her family to attend college, she was also the first to graduate from high school. She attended Southwestern as a freshman, but struggled while trying to maintain a heavy class load, an off-campus job, and supporting her family. She decided to take a break from school. She also took on caring for her one-year-old nephew full-time. Her professors from Southwestern never lost contact with her and offered constant encouragement, offering to babysit or help in anyway.



“Even though I wasn’t at school, the staff and students continued to minister to me,” Groessel says. “Their prayers and support gave me the courage and motivation I needed.”

When the opportunity came to go back to school, she felt torn between her job and going back to school. As she was praying for direction one evening, Groessel felt a clear conviction that God was calling her back to Southwestern.

“I returned to Southwestern nervous about finances,” she says. “But I knew it was where God wanted me to be. I was welcomed and encouraged by the staff and other students, and quickly made many God-fearing friends that I will cherish for life. I was given an incredible on-campus job and scholarships as well.”

Groessel, now an English teacher at North Dallas Adventist Academy, says that getting to where she is now wasn’t easy but it was worth it.

“My professors challenged me to do my best. Because of the active staff and student body, there was always room for another person to get involved. While I was there I was able to attend, participate, and lead out in activities and worship events consistently. The spiritual atmosphere was so rich and the environment so friendly that I was eager to remain a part of the cul-

ture at Southwestern Adventist University. Because of that, I became a part of a family that I will always treasure.”

Every semester the computer science department takes on projects to serve the community and give students an opportunity for practical experience. Last year, one student wrote a new app for Southwestern students and several others wrote auditing software for the Texas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

This last semester, students went to nearby Burton Adventist Academy to help work on their computers. Southwestern Adventist University computer science alum, **Jacelin Cadet** (2005), is currently the Information Technology director at Burton. Shortly after the visit, Jacelin wrote to Southwestern’s president, Ken Shaw. He said:

“A few weeks ago, a dozen Southwestern Adventist University computer science majors came to Burton Adventist Academy to assist me with some of the technology tasks that I needed to complete. I really can’t let this opportunity pass without informing you directly how grateful we are as a school for their help.”

“These students showed up sometime after 8:00 a.m., and left close to 5:00 p.m. During that time, they helped reset passwords on the entire computer lab, installed A/V equipment in four classrooms, and tested equipment that had been in storage for over a year. They discarded non-working components, and sorted out the working components.

“It has been ten years since I walked across the podium in the Leiske-Pultar Gymnasium. I had wondered if Southwestern was still delivering the type of education that not only prepares us to serve our employer, but also encourages us to serve our communities. I don’t need to wonder anymore. As I interacted with the students, it was easy to see Jesus in them. I am reminded of why I love SWAU so much; I would not trade my time there for any other school in the world.”

Herman Aguilar, sophomore
journalism major

LEGAL NOTICES

Southwestern Adventist University

Notice is hereby given that Southwestern Adventist University will hold its constituency meeting on Monday, May 2, 2016, in the Keene Seventh-day Adventist Church, 114 S. Fairview, Keene, Texas. The meeting is called for 10:00 a.m. or at the conclusion of the Southwestern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Session.

Larry Moore, President | Ken Shaw, Secretary

LEGAL NOTICES

Southwestern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Official notice is hereby given of the 30th regular session of the Southwestern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists to be held in Keene, Texas, May 1-2, 2016. The first meeting is scheduled for 3:00 p.m., Sunday, May 1, in the Keene Seventh-day Adventist Church, 114 S. Fairview, Keene, Texas. Regular delegates to this session are appointed by the local conferences of the Southwestern Union Conference.

Larry Moore, President | Buford Griffith, Jr., Secretary

Southwestern Union Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists

Official notice is hereby given of the 30th regular constituency meeting of the Southwestern Union Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists to be held in Keene, Texas, May 1-2, 2016. The first meeting is scheduled for 3:00 p.m., Sunday, May 1, in the Keene Seventh-day Adventist Church, 114 S. Fairview, Keene, Texas. The constituents for this corporation are the delegates to the 30th session of the Southwestern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Larry Moore, President | Buford Griffith, Jr., Secretary



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EMPLOYMENT

Southwestern Adventist University seeks Development Officer/Grant Writer. Responsibilities include grant writing, donor relations, event coordination, and data entry. Exceptional written and verbal communication skills are essential. Candidates must have a bachelor's degree with strong consideration given to those with experience in grant writing and donor relations. Submit cover letter and

CV/resume to: sgrady@swau.edu.

Union College seeks Vice President for Student Services beginning in July 2016. The VPSS leads out in the vision, strategy, and execution of the college's student services goals. Qualified SDA candidate will be student-centered and an experienced leader in higher education. See <https://www.ucollege.edu/staff-openings>. Send resume to Dr. Vinita Sauder, visauder@ucollege.edu.

It Is Written is seeking applications for a full-time Planned Giving Field Representative. The candidate must be a highly-motivated individual, able to work from a home office, travel routinely to communicate with supporters, and represent the ministry at assigned events. NAD trust services certification is preferred but not required to

apply. If interested, please visit www.adventistmediacenter.com to download an application and email application and resume to mmendoza@adventistmediacenter.com.

Griggs International Academy seeks Director of Student Services. This position provides a variety of student services that will include supporting student's needs, communications, academic support, and student retention. The candidate should have a related degree and experience in an educational environment. Education: master's degree is preferred. <https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/949>.

Griggs International Academy seeks Director of K-8 Program. This position serves as the Director for the Griggs International Academy (GIA) K-8 program. The person in this position will supervise

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teachers, coach parents, support NAD elementary schools. Addressing K-8 curriculum will be a key element in this position. The qualifications needed for this position include elementary teacher certification (denominational certification required/ state certification preferred). The candidate should have a master's degree related to education. For more information and to apply visit <https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/948>.

Southwestern Adventist University seeks qualified and visionary professional to serve the Department of Music as Director of Keyboard and Theory Studies. Responsibilities include teaching keyboard, theory and church music classes. Ideal candidate will possess a doctoral degree, be an accomplished performer, and have professional experience as a church musician. Send CV and cover letter to Mr. Jonathan Wall at jwall@swau.edu.

Better Life Broadcasting Network is accepting applications for Director of Operations. This full-time position will assist with day-to-day management responsibilities. For a full description, visit betterlifetv.tv. Send questions and resumes to: resume2216@betterlifetv.tv.

Andrews University seeks Doctor of Nursing Practice Director. This full-time faculty position will serve as Director of the DNP program. This individual will provide the administrative/management and direction for the DNP program with a focus in FNP and DNP preparation. In addition to administration/management oversight, would also teach in the DNP program and in the undergraduate program if needed.

Qualifications include: DNP degree, FNP certification and experience, formal academic teaching experience preferred, experience with accreditation a plus, evidence of scholarship, experience with online teaching a plus; and Seventh-day Adventist affiliation preferred. For more information and to apply visit: <https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/661>.

Southwestern Adventist University seeks a Seventh-day Adventist Librarian for a faculty position. The ideal candidate will have experience with college library/archives instruction and technology. ALA-approved MLS or equivalent required, additional subject master's degree preferred. Position begins July 1, 2016. Send CV and cover letter to thomsenc@swau.edu.

Union College seeks committed Adventist Social Work Program Director effective January 2017. Essential qualifications include an MSW (relevant doctorate preferred), and two years' professional social work experience. Successful teaching also valued. Email letter of interest and C.V. to Dr. Denise White, Chair of Human Development, dewhite@ucollege.edu.

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Fort Worth

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	Monday, April 11	Arrive	Depart
Fort Worth First	7051 McCart Ave, Fort Worth, TX 76133	8:40 AM	9:10 AM
Fort Worth North Spanish	2101 Roosevelt Ave, Fort Worth, TX 76164	9:45 AM	10:15 AM
Halton City Spanish	4200 Denton Hwy, Halton City, TX 76117	10:45 AM	11:15 AM
Hurst	100 W Hurst Blvd, Hurst, TX 76053	11:35 AM	12:05 PM
Arlington North Spanish	421 Truman St., Arlington, TX 76011	1:05 PM	1:35 PM
Grand Prairie	3829 S Carrier Pkwy, Grand Prairie, TX 75052	2:00 PM	2:30 PM
Arlington	4409 Pleasantview Dr, Arlington, TX 76017	2:55 PM	3:25 PM
Mansfield	1951 N Main, Mansfield, TX 76063	3:50 PM	4:20 PM

Order Deadline for the Fort Worth Route is Thursday, April 7. Call 800-333-1844 to Order.

Arkansas / East Texas Route

We will remain at each stop for 30 minutes

	Monday, April 18	Arrive	Depart
Greenville	1211 Commerce Dr, Greenville TX 75401	10:00 AM	10:30 AM
Mount Pleasant	302 Lakewood Dr, Mt Pleasant TX 75455	11:45 AM	12:15 PM
Paris	1564 US Highway 271 S, Paris TX 75462	1:45 PM	2:15 PM
De Queen (Beacon Hill)	1452 Red Bridge Rd, De Queen AR 71892	4:15 PM	4:45 PM
Glenwood Spanish	210 S 3rd St, Glenwood AR 71943	6:20 PM	6:50 PM
	Tuesday, April 19	Arrive	Depart
Hot Springs	401 Weston Rd, Hot Springs AR 71913	8:15 AM	8:45 AM
Benton	2615 Lincoln Rd, Benton AR 72019	9:35 AM	10:05 AM
Little Rock	8700 N Rodney Parham Rd, Little Rock, AR 72205	10:50 AM	11:20 AM
Searcy	2708 W Beebe Capps Expy, Searcy AR 72143	12:45 PM	1:15 PM
Batesville	30 Gap Rd, Batesville AR 72501	3:00 PM	3:30 PM
Jonesboro	2317 W Washington Ave, Jonesboro AR 72401	5:00 PM	5:30 PM
New Life	109B Highway 77, Marion AR 72364	6:45 PM	7:15 PM
	Wednesday, April 20	Arrive	Depart
Shiloh Adventist School	2400 Maple St, Little Rock AR 72204	10:15 AM	10:45 AM
Northside (Pine Bluff)	5603 Holsey St, Pine Bluff AR 71602	11:45 AM	12:15 PM
Magnolia	2015 Ellis St, Magnolia AR 71753	3:00 PM	3:30 PM
Texarkana	3100 Pleasant Grove Rd, Texarkana TX 75503	4:45 PM	5:15 PM
Shreveport Conf. Office	7025 Greenwood Rd, Shreveport LA 71119	6:40 PM	7:10 PM
	Thursday, April 21	Arrive	Depart
Jefferson Academy	3000 FM 728, Jefferson TX 75657	9:00 AM	9:30 AM
Longview	2800 Airline Rd, Longview TX 75605	10:25 AM	10:55 AM
Mineola	1904 Old Tyler Hwy, Mineola TX 75773	12:10 PM	12:40 PM
Terrell	315 Wall St, Terrell TX 75160	1:55 PM	2:25 PM

Order Deadline for the Arkansas / East Texas Route is Thursday, April 14. Call 800-333-1844 to Order.

Western Oklahoma / Northern New Mexico Route

We will remain at each stop for 30 minutes

	Monday, May 2	Arrive	Depart
Bowle	617 W Wise St, Bowle TX 76230	10:15 AM	10:45 AM
Wichita Falls First	1305 14th St, Wichita Falls TX 76301	11:45 AM	12:15 PM
Vernon Spanish	4701 College Dr, Vernon TX 76384	1:45 PM	2:15 PM
Amarillo	405 S Western St, Amarillo TX 79106	5:15 PM	5:45 PM
Hereford	711 W Park Ave, Hereford TX 79045	6:55 PM	7:25 PM
	Tuesday, May 3	Arrive	Depart
Clovis	1501 E Llano Estacado Blvd, Clovis NM 88101	8:10 AM	8:40 AM
Belen	115 E Ross Ave, Belen NM 87002	12:50 PM	1:20 PM
Los Lunas	12 Thomas Rd, Los Lunas NM 87031	2:15 PM	2:45 PM
Albuquerque Central	2201 Estancia Dr NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120	3:35 PM	4:05 PM
Texico Conference Office	777 Sandia View Lane, Corrales, NM, 87048	4:50 PM	5:20 PM
Santa Fe English	130 Rabbit Rd, Santa Fe NM 87508	6:30 PM	7:00 PM
	Wednesday, May 4	Arrive	Depart
Las Vegas (Dr Kanode's Office)	1301 8th St, Las Vegas, NM 87701	9:15 AM	9:45 AM
Tucumcari Spanish	1901 S 1st St, Tucumcari NM 88401	11:45 AM	12:15 PM
Dalhart	2 Pheasant Run Rd, Dalhart TX 79022	3:15 PM	3:45 PM
Pioneer Adventist School	1710 N East St, Guymon, OK 73942	5:40 PM	6:10 PM
	Thursday, May 5	Arrive	Depart
Shattuck (Old School)	5th St & Summer St, Shattuck OK 73858	10:00 AM	10:30 AM
Woodward	1321 Enterprise Ave, Woodward OK 73801	11:15 AM	11:45 AM
Weatherford	600 W Davis Ave, Weatherford OK 73096	1:30 PM	2:00 PM
Lawton	1610 NW 19th St, Lawton OK 73507	4:00 PM	4:30 PM

Order Deadline for the Western Oklahoma / N New Mexico Route is Thursday, April 28. Call 800-333-1844 to Order.

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Desire More Impact from Your Short-Term Mission Efforts? Southern Adventist University's Global Community Development Program is hosting a *Transforming & Educating Ambassadors for Mission and Service Forum*, July 14-16, 2016. Congregations across North America will discuss improvements on short-term mission impacts for sustainable difference making. For registration and information, contact: mgcd@southern.edu, or 423.236.2070.

Black Hills School of Massage will begin our next 600-hour state recognized program on May 16. Experience the beautiful Black Hills while preparing for the MBLEx national certification exam. Visit our Web site (www.bhhec.org/school-of-massage) and our Facebook page to get more info, or call 605.255.4101.

Announcements

La Sierra Academy Alumni Weekend 2016 is April 22-23 on the LSA campus. Please update your mailing address and contact info: JNelson@lsak12.com, 951.351.1445, ext. 244. Honor Classes '56, '66, '76, '86, '91, '96, '06 and pre-50 year classes. Info: www.lsak12.com.

Broadview Academy Alumni Association: BVA Alumni Weekend is April 30 – May 1, 2016. All alumni are encouraged to attend. Mark your calendars. Call your classmates and start planning for this weekend now. Honor classes: 1946, 1956, 1966, 1976, 1986, 1991, 1996, and 2006. N. Aurora SDA Church, N. Aurora, Ill. Friday night vespers, SS, church, lunch and afternoon music program. All ideas and information welcome. For communication purposes, we need your e-mail addresses as postage is too expensive. Send it to: EdGutierrez@edjulie1@aatt.net; or call: 630.232.9034. More information to come. Don't miss it!

Southwestern Adventist University's Homecoming weekend is April 8-10, 2016. More info at swau.edu/alumni.

Choral Reunion: If you sang in a Walla Walla College/University select (touring) choir, you are warmly invited to attend the 50-year Choral Reunion, featuring the Lickey years through the present, during homecoming, Apr 21-24, Walla Walla University. For details and registration, access wallawalla.edu/touringchoir, [Facebook.com/WallaWallaUniversityMusic](https://www.facebook.com/WallaWallaUniversityMusic), music@WallaWalla.edu, or 509.527.2561. Homecoming schedule at wallawalla.edu/homecoming.

The Denton First SDA Church will be relocating its premises after approximately 38 years. We are in the process of selling the property because we have outgrown the facility. We will be temporarily worshipping at another location. The Lifeline Church in Denton is leasing their property to us. The new address effective March 1st, 2016 is 2800 Pennsylvania Drive, Denton, TX, 76205. Telephone: 903.445.2793

Tappahannock Junior Academy 50th Anniversary and Alumni Weekend is April 29 to May 1 at the Tappahannock church and school in Tappahannock, VA. Church service, banquet, talent show scheduled. See Web site for details: www.tjasda.org. Email: tjadmin@gmail.com, or call 804.443.5076.

Oklahoma Academy: If you are serious about your walk with the Lord and want to be trained to work in His service, come visit Oklahoma Academy during Academy Days, April 15-17. Come join us for a fun-packed weekend and see if God is leading you to this school. The spring music concert will be presented Sabbath evening. Call 405.454.6211 for more information and to make arrangements for accommodations.

Jefferson Academy Alumni Weekend is April 15-17, 2016. 102 years and going strong! Come visit with us and see your old friends. Contact Robin Harrell Tullock, 903.665.3973.



Obituaries

CHAVEZ, Raul, born in Guayaquil, Ecuador, on March 19, 1927 and died in Plano, Texas, on June 13, 2015. He was a member of the Hico church. Survivors: wife, Marty; son, Marco; and daughters, Maria, Wanda, Bertha, and Susan.

HAMEL, Warren Gene, born in Maplehurst, Wisc., on July 16, 1929, and died February 18, 2016, in Blanchard, Okla. He was a member of the Summit Ridge church.

JOHNSON, Edith M., was born August 27, 1922, in Poplar Bluff, Mo., and died December 16, 2015, in Corpus Christi, Texas. Survivors: daughters: Shirley, Patsy, Elizabeth, Betty, Delores, and Dallas.

KRUEGER, Norman "Carl," born June 15, 1929, in Stoneham, Mass., and died November 17, 2015, in Springdale, Ark. He was a member of the Gentry church. Carl was a math teacher for 62 years and taught at Ozark Adventist School, Gentry High School, and Northwest Arkansas Community College. Survivors: wife, Connie Krueger, of Gentry; a daughter and son-

in law, Susan Mae and Kurt Hayes of Rogers, Ark.; a son and daughter-in law, Ronald Lee and Sharon Krueger of Albuquerque, N. Mex.; two sisters, Marjorie Marston of Livingston, N.Y., and Marion Hart of Siloam Springs, Ark.; and one brother, Myron Krueger of Brunswick, Maine.

MCMULLEN, Lillian C., born March 22, 1932, in Mendon, Va., and died December 29, 2015 in Springdale, Ark. She was a member of the Springdale Adventist Fellowship church. Survivors: son, Kenny DeHart; daughter, Pam DeHart; two sisters, Ramona Bradbury and Betty Lou Boatright; brother, Bill Burns; two grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

POWELL, Jean Mathews, born June 13, 1935 in Jefferson, Tex., and died January 28, 2016 in Marshall, Tex. She was a member of the Jefferson church. Survivors: husband, Fred "Scooter" Mathews; son, David Mathews; daughter-in-law, Nancy Mathews; brothers, Bob Powell and Carl Powell; sisters, Christy Barnes and JerryAnn Powell; seven grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren.

RAUNIO, Elfriede Carla, born in Hamburg, Germany, on November 18, 1920 and died July 1, 2015 in Keene, Texas. She was a member of the Hico church. Survivors: son, Robert McChesney; and stepchildren, Marja, Andrew, and Anita.

ROBERTS, Eula Jean, born October 30, 1928, in Rye Hill, Ark., and died August 10, 2015 in Fayetteville, Ark. Eula Jean was a faithful member of the Fort Smith church since her baptism in May 1951. She served in countless offices in the church during those years. Her sweet and gentle nature made her loved by all who met her. She was preceded in death by her husband, Laudell. Survivors: two sons and their wives, Gary and Carol Roberts, and Randy and Pam Roberts, all of Siloam Springs; four grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

SCHNELL, Alfred, born September 18, 1922 in Hominy, Okla., and died November 26, 2015, in Jones, Okla. After attending high school in Olean, N.Y., he attended Atlantic Union College in Massachusetts and the Uni-

versity of Buffalo before being drafted for WWII. While in the Army Air Corp, he was sent to Stanford University and University of San Francisco. After the war ended, Alfred spent two years on Guam as a surveyor. He then enrolled at the University of Texas and graduated with a bachelor's in chemical engineering and chemistry. He married his wife, Shirley, on June 14, 1953 in Coudersport, Penn. He then worked as a project engineer in Olean, N.Y., designing and overseeing the installation of turbine engines for the oil industry. After being involved with a number of Bible studies, Alfred felt called to ministry. The family left Olean for Andrews University where he received his Master's of Divinity. He then pastored for many years in Indiana and Rhode Island before he was called to pastor the Oklahoma City Central church. He then became the Trust Services director and executive secretary for the Oklahoma Conference before retiring in 1997. He continued working with the Trust Services department until 2004. Survivors: wife, Shirley, and children, Kathy, Mark, Karen, and Charlie.



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SABBATH SUNSET CALENDAR						
	Apr 1	Apr 8	Apr 15	Apr 22	Apr 29	May 6
Abilene, TX	7:59	8:03	8:08	8:13	8:18	8:23
Albuquerque, NM	7:28	7:33	7:39	7:44	7:50	7:56
Amarillo, TX	8:08	8:14	8:20	8:25	8:31	8:37
Brownsville, TX	7:47	7:50	7:53	7:57	8:00	8:04
Dallas, TX	7:47	7:52	7:57	8:02	8:07	8:12
El Paso, TX	7:25	7:30	7:35	7:39	7:44	7:49
Fort Worth/Keene, TX	7:49	7:54	7:59	8:04	8:09	8:14
Gallup, NM	7:36	7:42	7:48	7:53	7:59	8:05
Galveston/Houston, TX	7:40	7:44	7:48	7:53	7:57	8:02
Gentry, AR	7:40	7:46	7:51	7:57	8:03	8:10
Little Rock, AR	7:30	7:36	7:41	7:47	7:52	7:58
Muskogee, OK	7:43	7:49	7:54	8:00	8:06	8:12
New Orleans, LA	7:19	7:23	7:27	7:32	7:36	7:41
Oklahoma City, OK	7:51	7:57	8:03	8:08	8:14	8:20
Roswell, NM	7:18	7:23	7:28	7:34	7:39	7:44
San Antonio, TX	7:52	7:56	8:00	8:05	8:09	8:13
Shreveport, LA	7:35	7:40	7:45	7:49	7:55	8:00
Tulsa, OK	7:45	7:51	7:57	8:03	8:09	8:15



On the Record »

BY PAT HUMPHREY » COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR, SOUTHWESTERN UNION



Come Aside, Get Refreshed, and Be Blessed!

THE VERY FIRST MILLERITE CAMP MEETING held in the U.S. took place in June of 1842 in Kingston, New Hampshire. After the Seventh-day Adventist Church was established in 1863, these open-air meetings began to grow in popularity, even though early church pioneers had once shunned them because some who attended the meetings were a little too expressive. Some early Adventists distanced themselves from these meetings, which were sometimes characterized by people who expressed themselves through shouts of “Hallelujah,” “Glory,” and by falling prostrate.

Nevertheless, by 1868 the camp meeting concept had caught on in the church, leading the General Conference to sponsor the first official Seventh-day Adventist Camp Meeting in Wright, Michigan, in September of that year. Meetings were held in many places around the country and James and Ellen White attended as many of them as possible. Ellen would speak on a variety of topics, including colporteur ministry, education, temperance, prohibition, and others, often drawing large crowds, including people from nearby communities. Those who attended these meetings were blessed spiritually by the uplifting messages they heard, by prayer, and through fellowship, just as people of today are blessed when they attend camp meeting.

As I was pondering these thoughts, it occurred to me that camp meeting blessings

aren't just limited to the spiritual realm. Did you know that spending time outdoors in nature has evidence-based health benefits—physical, social, and emotional? Think about it. What are some of the natural surroundings you find at most camp grounds? Here's what I think of: fresh air, flowers, trees, sunshine, blue skies, horses, lakes, butterflies—to name just a few. (OK, so we won't talk about the flies, snakes, ants, mosquitos, and sweltering heat!)

Look at some of the ways that nature benefits us. A study from the University of Michigan found that nature walks are linked to enhanced mental health, including lower levels of depression and stress. Another study published in the *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health* looked at the medical records of 345,143 Dutch people. Those who lived closer to

“green spaces” such as parks and wooded areas, experienced less anxiety and depression than those who lived further away from “green spaces.”

I like what one researcher, Ming Kuo, of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, said about the benefits of enjoying nature: “Nature doesn't just have one or two active ingredients. It's more like a multivitamin that provides us with all sorts of the nutrients we need. That's how nature can protect us from all these different kinds of diseases—cardiovascular, respiratory, mental health, musculoskeletal, etc.—simultaneously,” Kuo says.

Why not make plans this summer to attend camp meeting, not only to listen to some dynamic preaching and be blessed by enlightening seminars and good music, but also to get out into nature, enjoy the lovely scents, breathe in the fresh air, take a hike, and soak up the sunshine. You'll be refreshed and blessed, not only spiritually, but mentally and physically too! Check out the schedule on page 10 for the camp meeting nearest you!

Pat Humphrey

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Articles for the Record will be edited for length and content. Because space is limited, stories and articles are selected on the basis of interest and relevance to those around the Southwestern Union.



I came so that they may **have** and **enjoy** life, and have it in **abundance**.

— John 10:10

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