

SOUTHWESTERN UNION

# Record

MARCH 2017



*Spirit-filled Summers in the Southwest*

SUMMER CAMPS & CAMP MEETINGS



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**SPECIAL EDITION: Summer Camp Issue**

**Annual Southwestern Union Record Summer Camp Contest**

**T**ext messages and social media have given us the opportunity to express ideas or emotions in electronic communication through the use of small digital images or icons called emojis. They originated in Japan in the late 1990s and have become so popular worldwide that they now are included in the keyboards of Apple and Android devices. At the Southwestern Union we know that both young and older members are using emojis to communicate on a regular basis. In this special edition of the Record we are featuring summer camp throughout the Union territory. Knowing that campers, staff and parents will be discussing their summer camp options with their friends, we placed some emojis throughout the issue that are representative of summer camp! These could be nature, activity, object or smiley emojis!

Find all the emojis for a chance to win a FREE week at summer camp this year! Once you've counted them all up, submit your answer along with your name, age, gender, phone number, email address, and the name and location of the church you attend and you could win a free week at summer camp!

From the correct submissions, we will randomly select one boy and one girl from each conference to receive a free week at summer camp. All entries must be received by April 15, 2017. Submit your entry online at [www.swurecord.org/summercamp](http://www.swurecord.org/summercamp) or e-mail your entry to [summercampcontest@swuc.org](mailto:summercampcontest@swuc.org). 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.



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**On the Cover**

Summer camp is a life-changing experience. Ever-growing and expanding, summer camp programs across the Southwestern Union provide a safe and fun environment to make friends and have fun, but more importantly, to know Jesus better.

# Point of View»

BY HELVIS MOODY » YOUNG ADULT AND YOUTH MINISTRIES DIRECTOR



## Award-Winning Summers in the Southwestern Union

I am extremely excited about summer camp! The youth departments each of the conferences in the Southwestern Union have been working tirelessly to ensure that Summer 2017 will be a time to remember. Along with their camp staff, we have planned and prayed together. I know that they are working hard to make our summer camps special places where our youth meet Jesus and are prepared for His soon return.

The North American Division's camp professionals, better known as Adventist Association of Camp Professionals (AACP), have also been working to improve our Seventh-day Adventist camps across North America. To accomplish this goal, they established an award to encourage growth and safety. I'm thrilled to announce that all four of our camps in the Southwestern Union—Camp Yorktown Bay, Lake Whitney Ranch, Lone Star Camp, and Wewoka Woods Adventist Center, received that award! The camp award addresses a variety of things such as camp themes, camp baptisms, camp social activities, camp safety, and camp improvements—just to name a few.

This year, Camp Yorktown Bay in the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference was awarded the NAD Camp of the Year Award. They have been recognized for the improvements to their roads and motel, as well as to a new worship and meeting space. Another recognition is that many precious souls were baptized during summer camp. The award included \$2,500 for the camp.

Lake Whitney Ranch, Lone Star Camp and Wewoka Woods Adventist Center also received another award, the Certificate of Excellence Award. Lake Whitney Ranch (Texas Conference) received the Camp of Excellence Award for improving their lodges and for engaging in a variety of upgrades on their campground in 2016. Lone Star Camp (Southwest Region Conference) received the Camp of

Excellence Award for the improvements of enclosing its cafeteria and building a new stage for worship in the main pavilion. Wewoka Woods Adventist Center (Oklahoma Conference) received the Camp of Excellence Award for building a new house on their property. They have also upgraded their horse arena in the last few years.

Thank you for your support to camp ministries. We are grateful for the hard work that everyone is doing on these campgrounds and we solicit prayers for their leaders as they work.

We also want to encourage our members to send their children and grandchildren to one of these fantastic venues for summer camp. A week spent away from busy schedules and consuming technology in a healthy social environment where young people can learn about God's love is invaluable. Learn more about what each camp offers, its schedule and additional information at [www.SouthwesternAdventist.org/Youth](http://www.SouthwesternAdventist.org/Youth) where you will find links to all of the Summer Camp programs in the Southwestern Union.



## The Power of Summer Camp

**THE WORDS “SUMMER CAMP” RESONATE WITH MANY OF US.** They make us travel back to a special time, one filled with memories, experiences, and stories. These moments are recreated at summer camp every year. Those experiences touch the lives of camp staff, campers, and parents. Their memories stay with us through this life and prayerfully for eternity.

Fourteen-year-old **ANNA QUESADA** has spent seven summers at Wewoka Woods Adventist Center, the camp property of the Oklahoma Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. She loves connecting with her counselors, making new friends, and all of the activities that she gets to experience. However, what keeps her coming back every year is more profound than friends and fun. “Summer camp is great because the staff work so hard to make it great. God also makes it great by allowing you to grow closer to Him. During camp is when I feel closest to Jesus,” she says. Anna hopes to stay connected to summer camp after she is too old to attend as a camper. “Hopefully, one year, I can work there! That’s what I really want to do!”

The real purpose and power of summer camp, and youth ministry for that matter, is helping young people to know and accept the grace of God in their lives. Having fun at summer camp, whether as camp staff or camper, allows each person the opportunity to experience and accept God’s grace. Summer camp is an important life experience for campers and staff, and while fun with friends is great, the experience is far more reaching.

We desire for children to learn and grow while they enjoy all things that summer camp has to offer. During their time at camp, they have the opportunity to experience life in new and exciting ways. They get to unplug from technology for a few days, develop lifelong friendships, connect with nature, and learn about a loving God who desires a daily relationship with them.

Campers experience this focus on

several levels. Basic skills and activities help campers learn new things through daily activities. Skills like horseback riding, canoeing, waterskiing, wakeboarding, archery, and pottery are taught by experienced staff. Emotional and social skills are developed when campers learn to work as part of a team. Together they discover how to cope with adversity, assess risks, face challenges, create solutions, analyze possible outcomes, and put those ideas into action. Through these activities confidence grows, personalities blossom, and an appreciation for the outdoors is nurtured.

The Adventist summer camp experience is focused first on learning about God’s love and grace, and then nurturing that developing relationship. The connection to God’s creation and the relationships developed between camper and staff, lead them to the most important things they will take away from their camp experience—things of a spiritual nature.

**MATTHEW MEDLEY** is 11 years old and was baptized at summer camp. “The daily worships and song services place my attention on Jesus. Because of camp I got involved with a church ministry that feeds and clothes the homeless. I am also involved with a prison ministry. I do both of these ministries with my grandfather. I love serving the Lord,” he says.

The power of camp ultimately comes from the power and grace of God. Anna and Matthew experienced, accepted, and are now sharing the grace of God with others. That is the success that we pray for throughout our summer camps in the Southwestern Union.



# Summer Camp Changes Lives



**SUMMER CAMP NOT ONLY HAS A LASTING EFFECT ON CAMPERS, BUT CHANGES THE LIVES OF CAMP STAFF AS WELL.**

Spending the summer working with children brings can be challenging, yet filled with blessings. Often the staff is made up of young adults on college summer break. From crafts to water sports, worship leaders to barn staff, numerous responsibilities require these young adults to think creatively, work as a team, and rely on God to use them to bless their campers.

**JENAE M. PHIPPS:** Everything that you have ever learned spiritually, you will use for ministry at summer camp. For me, discipleship was more fully developed as I worked with kids this last



summer. I did learn leadership skills and practical skills, but God nurtured my calling as a pastor in an experience I will never forget.

Teaching spiritual formation, as I was tasked to do, helped me to look at Christ's ministry from so many different angles working with campers from age 6 to teenagers. I saw how God approaches each individual in a different way just where they are, and I understood the magnitude of God's love in a new way.

**Jenae M. Phipps**, counselor, is a senior religion major at Oakwood University.

**DANIEL BENNETT:** This past summer was filled with fun and growth. I witnessed God move in mighty ways within my life and those of the leaders and campers. Being a part of the summer camp staff at Lone Star Camp in the Southwest Region Conference for the first time was exciting. Unbeknownst to me, God had prepared me to work with the program director for camp meeting and summer camp. I had been a Worship Coordinator on Oak-

wood's campus previously and that training was essential with my new responsibilities.

God also showed me how to better build relationships with kids of all ages and help them grow spiritually. Building relationships with the youth is key in reaching this generation. I saw God's patience and love in an experience with one of my campers this summer. A young man wasn't getting along with his bunkmates and had nearly gotten in a fight. I intervened, and spoke to him about how much God-given potential I saw in him. It reminded me of God's love and patience. I had stepped in, stopped the fight, and convinced him to stay at camp. God often steps into our situations, intervening and saving us from hurt. He has patience with us and takes the time to teach us and helps us to learn more about His love for us.

Summer camp is an important ministry because kids learn about God in a different setting than they do at home or school. It helps kids see God's love in a variety of ways through the leaders, activities and programming.

**Daniel Bennett, Jr.**, counselor, is a junior theology major at Oakwood University.





# Camp Meeting

BY LARRY MOORE » SOUTHWESTERN UNION PRESIDENT

## More Meeting, Less Camping

I was 12 in 1960 when my family attended camp meeting in Keene, Texas. The conference-wide camp meeting was held on the campus of what was then Southwestern Junior College (now Southwestern Adventist University). We were brand-new Adventists and for us, that camp meeting was a little taste of heaven on earth. I still remember several things about that camp meeting. I remember the tent city that lined Old Betsy, the main road through Keene. I also remember Grandma George's famous veggie burgers, and I remember my great Adventist heroes of the time who came to preach and sing: H.M.S. Richards, Sr., Dick Barron, Del Delker, Ray Turner, and many more. To this day I have wonderful memories of meeting and worshipping with fellow Adventists.

As I have continued to attend camp meetings as a pastor and church worker, I have found it interesting to observe the different types of camp meetings that exist and how they meet the needs of the people in each territory. Over time, conference-wide, week-long camp meetings have shortened to weekend affairs in targeted areas. But coming together for fellowship and instruction is still as significant today as it ever was.

The practice of meeting together for "camp meeting" as we know it today has roots in the Second Great Awakening of the late 1790s and early- to mid-1800s. Adventists in particular have C.S. Glover, an early Adventist convert and deacon, to thank for our tradition of tent meetings, as it was he who donated the first \$35 toward the purchase of a tent in 1854. The need for more space and flexibility was discussed by early Adventist pioneers, including James and Ellen White and J.N. Loughborough, as they were traveling together following an evangelistic meeting held in a schoolhouse in 1854. Only half of the attendees couldn't even enter in the schoolhouse, so the speaker spoke to the audience through the

open windows of the building. Glover boldly handed over \$35 when asked what he thought of the idea of purchasing a tent—and the rest was quickly collected and a large tent was purchased. Adventism was greatly advanced through the work of tent meetings.

This type of meeting lost traction as a tool of public evangelism in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century as a more urban style of evangelism took its place. However, smaller and more rural tent camp meetings have continued and still play a vital role in the revival of our members, as well as continue to be an evangelism opportunity.

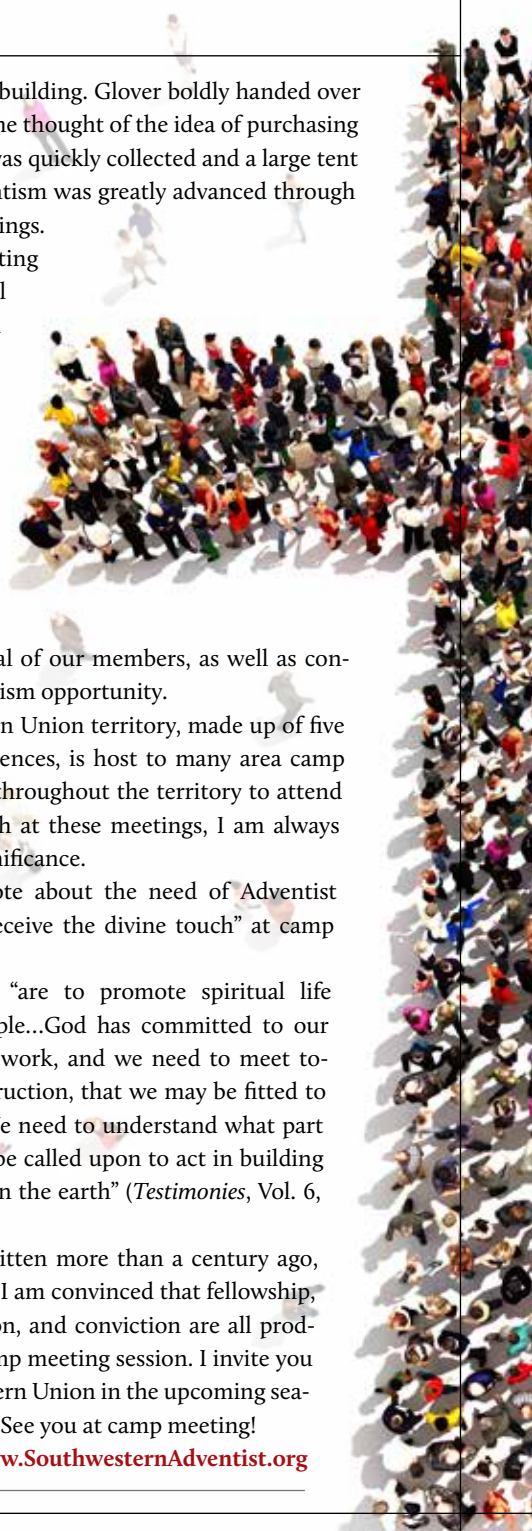
The Southwestern Union territory, made up of five states and five conferences, is host to many area camp meetings. As I travel throughout the territory to attend and sometimes preach at these meetings, I am always convicted of their significance.

Ellen White wrote about the need of Adventist people to meet to "receive the divine touch" at camp meetings.

Camp meetings "are to promote spiritual life among our own people...God has committed to our hands a most sacred work, and we need to meet together to receive instruction, that we may be fitted to perform this work. We need to understand what part we shall individually be called upon to act in building up the cause of God in the earth" (*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, p. 32).

Those words, written more than a century ago, are timeless and true. I am convinced that fellowship, instruction, inspiration, and conviction are all products of a prayerful camp meeting session. I invite you to join the Southwestern Union in the upcoming season of camp meeting. See you at camp meeting!

[www.SouthwesternAdventist.org](http://www.SouthwesternAdventist.org)



# Campestre Adventista

POR LARRY MOORE » PRESIDENTE DE LA UNIÓN DEL SUROESTE

## Más Que Un Campestre

Tenía 12 años cuando mi familia asistió a un campestre en Keene, Texas por primera vez. Era 1960 y el campestre, a nivel de conferencia, se llevó a cabo en el campus de Southwestern Adventist University, o en aquel entonces Southwestern Junior College. Éramos nuevos Adventistas y para nosotros, ir al campestre fue como vivir un

poco del cielo en la tierra. Todavía recuerdo el pequeño pueblo de carpas que se formaba a lo largo de la ruta principal de Keene, llamada Old Betsy. Recuerdo las famosas hamburguesas vegetarianas de

“Grandma George”, y recuerdo haber oído predicar a mis grandes héroes Adventistas en ese momento. Ellos incluían a H.M.S. Richards, Sr., Dick Barron, Del Delker, Ray Turner y muchos más. Hasta el día de hoy tengo bellos recuerdos de reunirnos y adorar con nuestros amigos Adventistas.

Como pastor y obrero en la Iglesia Adventista, he seguido visitando los campestres y me ha sido interesante observar los diferentes estilos de campestres que existen y cómo ellos responden a las necesidades de las personas en cada territorio. Con el tiempo, estos campestres que duraban una semana y reunían a toda una conferencia, se han condensado en fines de semanas concentradas en diferentes áreas. Sin embargo, el unirse para confraternizar y aprender sigue siendo tan significativo hoy como lo fue antes.

La práctica de reunirse para un “campestre” tiene sus orígenes en el movimiento del Segundo Gran Despertar de los años 1790s a los 1800s en Estados Unidos. Los Adventistas acreditan a C.S. Glover, un pionero Adventista, con establecer la tradición de reunirse bajo carpas. Fue él quien donó los primeros \$35 para que se comparara una gran carpa en 1854. Los pioneros Adventistas, James y Ellen White y J.N. Loughborough, entre otros, habían conversado sobre la necesidad de ocupar un espacio grande que les permitiera flexibilidad después de una reunión que se había llevado a cabo en una escuela en 1854. Sólo la

mitad de las personas que llegaron pudieron entrar al edificio antes de que se llenara. Por lo tanto, el orador tuvo que predicar desde una ventana para que los de afuera pudieran escuchar. Cuando le preguntaron a Glover que le parecía la idea de hacer una reunión bajo carpa, valientemente donó el dinero. El resto se recaudó rápidamente y se compró la carpa. La obra Adventista avanzó tremendamente a través de estas reuniones bajo carpas, o campestres.

A los principios del siglo XX, este método de hacer evangelismo público perdió tracción y entró un estilo más urbano de hacer evangelismo. Sin embargo, hay campestres que continúan llevándose a cabo. Estos aún tienen un rol en el reavivamiento de nuestros miembros, además de ser una herramienta de evangelismo.

El territorio de la Unión del Suroeste, el cual abarca cinco estados y cinco conferencias, es anfitrión de varios campestres de área. Al viajar en este territorio, asistiendo o predicando en estos campestres, siempre siento convicción de su importancia.

Ellen White escribió sobre la necesidad que tiene el pueblo Adventista de reunirse a “recibir el toque divino” en los campestres.

Los campestres “son para promover la vida espiritual de nuestra propia gente...Dios nos ha dado la obra más sagrada y debemos reunirnos para recibir instrucción y estar preparados para realizar el trabajo. Debemos entender el papel que cada uno se le pedirá realizar en establecer la cause de Dios en la tierra”. (Testimonios, Vol. 6. p. 32). Esas palabras, escritas hace más de cien años, son verdaderas e intemporales. Estoy convencido de que la confraternidad, instrucción, inspiración, y convicción son todos productos de una campestre realizado en oración. Los invito a unirse a la Unión del Suroeste en esta temporada de campestre. ¡Espero verlos en allí!

[www.SouthwesternAdventist.org](http://www.SouthwesternAdventist.org)



# Arkansas-Louisiana Conference Summer Camp

Camp Yorktown Bay | Mountain Pine, Arkansas



*What does Arkansas-Louisiana Conference Youth Director, Jeff Villegas, have to say about summer camp?*

**The Record:** How has summer camp impacted your life?

**Villegas:** Although I did not have the privilege of attending summer camp when I was young, I have experienced the impact it has as an adult. As a youth director, I have seen how kids and teenagers are changed by this powerful ministry. Some learn about Christ for the first time, while others grow in their faith.

**The Record:** What do you like best about summer camp?

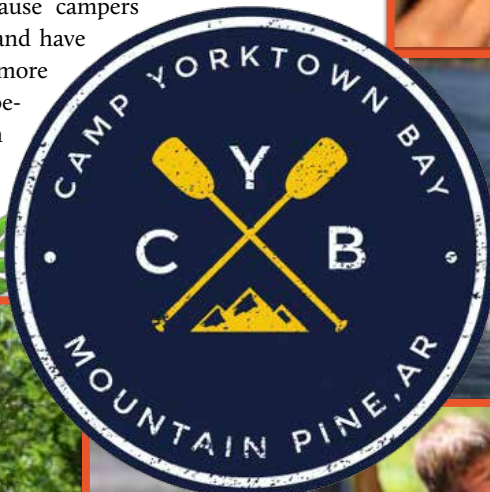
**Villegas:** It's amazing to see campers who choose to be baptized after spending a week at summer camp. Seeing young people give their lives to Christ through baptism is one of my favorite things about summer camp.

**The Record:** Why is summer camp at Camp Yorktown Bay so awesome?

**Villegas:** Camp is great because campers make new friends, have fun and have the opportunity to learn more about God. It is awesome because campers unplug from technology and social media and have life-changing encounters with God.



Jeff Villegas







# 2017 ARK-LA Camp Meeting Schedule

## April 14-15

**South Louisiana Camp Meeting in Hammond, LA**  
South Louisiana Convention Center  
44364 S. Coburn Rd., Hammond, LA 70403  
Speaker: Dr. Philip Samaan  
-Professor of Religion at Southern Adventist University  
Contact: Chris Simpson, 318-631-6240 Ext 207

## April 21-22

**South Louisiana Spanish Camp Meeting in Hammond, LA**  
South Louisiana Convention Center  
44364 S. Coburn Rd., Hammond, LA 70403  
Speaker: Dr. Angel Rodriguez  
-Retired Director of Biblical Research Institute  
Contact: Dalia Castellanos, 318-631-6240 Ext 201

## May 30-June 3

**Ozark Family Camp Meeting in Gentry, AR**  
Ozark Adventist Academy  
20997 Dawn Hill East Rd., Gentry, AR 72734  
Weekend Speaker: Dr. Ron Smith  
-President of the Southern Union Conference  
Weekday Speaker: Gary Krause  
-Director of the Office of Adventist Mission  
Contact: Gentry Adventist Church, 479-736-8808

## June 9-10

**NW Arkansas Spanish Camp Meeting in Gentry, AR**  
Ozark Adventist Academy  
20997 Dawn Hill East Rd., Gentry, AR 72734  
Contact: Dalia Castellanos, 318-631-6240 Ext 109

## July 19-23

**Ark-La-Tex Camp Meeting in Jefferson, TX**  
Jefferson Christian Academy  
3090 FM 728 Jefferson, TX 75657  
Speakers: Del Johnson  
-Former Administrator of Adventist Retirement  
Dr. Errol Bryce  
-Texas Conference Health Ministries Director  
Contact: Robin Tullock, 903-665-3973

## Sept 29-Oct 1

**Cowboy Camp Meeting in Bonnerdale, AR**  
Bonnerdale Seventh-day Adventist Church  
709 Adventist Church Rd, Bonnerdale, AR 71933  
Speaker: Dr. Bill Kilgore  
-Theology Professor at Southwestern Adventist University  
Musicians: Forever His  
Contact: Sylvia Weatherford, 870-356-3093

## CYB – Camp of the Year!



ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA CONFERENCE

It's people that make a difference. That's what makes a difference at Camp Yorktown Bay (CYB). People with a vision. People with commitment. People who always want to make things better. That's why CYB was distinguished as the "Camp of the Year - 2016" for the North American Division with a commemorative plaque and a check for \$2,500!

There really are some very fine, very well-equipped conference and youth camps around the North American Division (NAD). Many of these camps are spread over many acres, have many very nice buildings on their campuses, and are nicely situated in the beauty of nature. So when CYB was selected as the "Camp of the Year" among all the other camps in the NAD, that's really saying something. It's saying something about the people that helped make it happen.

The Arkansas-Louisiana Conference salutes Eric and Linda Bray, Camp Ranger and Food Service/Hospitality Services Director, respectively, as well as Jeff Villegas, Conference Youth Director. We applaud them for their outstanding service and commitment to excellence that has been demonstrated in at least three significant ways: Safety concerns, hospitality and care of campers, and facility upgrade.

Major upgrades and improvements have been made on practically every building at CYB. Besides all brand-new cabins that were built six years ago, the interiors of the Lodge, the Motel, and Town Hall have all been completely renovated. Another significant improvement is the wonderful drive down to the camp with a new asphalt surface on the camp road.

CYB is a wonderful place, but we must never lose sight of why we operate the camp.

CYB is all about ministry—church ministry training; family life, women's ministry, and marriage retreats; outdoor school; and youth prayer conferences, besides the two months of summer camp ministry. These events bring spiritual renewal and transformation to everyone who comes onto the consecrated grounds of CYB. Every year there are scores of decisions made to serve and follow Jesus, in addition to those who commit their lives to Jesus by baptism in the waters of Lake Ouachita.

We praise the Lord for the recognition given to our camp by the NAD and for all that this represents, for gifted and committed leaders, and for transformational ministry that touches everyone who comes to spend time at Camp Yorktown Bay. We have much for which we can be thankful!

**Stephen J. Orian**, president

## Working at Camp

**CAMP YORKTOWN BAY** » Certain things in life cannot be adequately expressed through words, pictures, or videos. Sometimes an actual experience is needed to comprehend the full enjoyment and beauty of a particular thing. For me, one of those things was going to camp. Growing up, I didn't have the opportunity to go to a summer camp where I could spend a week away from parents and friends. I didn't know there was such a place for children my age, a place where children from various places meet and get to know one another through activities and other fun things. When my friend told me that such places hire young adults and gave them the opportunity to work, I was ecstatic. I applied to work at Camp Yorktown Bay for the first time when I was 16. I still remember the nervous feeling that engulfed me as I stepped out of my car onto the rocky, gravel campground and faced the main building. A sophomore in high school at the time, I worried about the usual things like fitting in and connecting with people. I questioned if this was the right choice. It would be my first real job and camp ex-

perience. However, after just a few weeks there, my fears disappeared. I not only got the chance to have a wonderful work relationship with my coworkers and bosses, I also developed friendships and a newfound self-respect that would last a lifetime. I came to understand the excitement of camp that other children had the opportunity to enjoy. For the next five years, Camp Yorktown Bay would be my "summer home."

I am now a sophomore in college and have seen many changes in my life that wouldn't have happened if I hadn't taken the opportunity to work at camp. CYB has enriched my life in a way that wouldn't otherwise be possible. There I can interact with children and teenagers that come from different backgrounds and watch as they give their hearts to Jesus. I developed a deeper understanding of what it truly meant to be a role model and a leader, and I also saw the weakness and strengths of my character. Not only did it help me discover more of myself, it also made me



more aware of my own helplessness. God used camp to show me where I stood with Him and bring me closer to Him because of it. I gained a deeper understanding of what it means to be a Christian, not only in words but also in action. I now have a more realistic view of the Christian walk and have hope of attaining my goals in life because of a summer's experience. Camp has taught me many things. I will always be grateful for the opportunity to experience it.

**Julena Allen**



# Cultivating Community in Huntsville Church

## HUNTSVILLE, ARK. »

A church is simply four walls, a roof, and a floor. It is the people who bring it to life. And how people give it life is through selfless acts of giving, sharing of one's time, and supporting Jesus' ministry.

The Huntsville Seventh-day Adventist Church is thriving! We thrive because of the many hands who dedicate their time, their money, and their resources to ensure that when the Huntsville community arrives at our doors on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, it is met with smiling faces, with boxes of food, and with respect.

Charlie Burks observed the line forming even before the doors opened at 10:00 a.m. one morning, and saw an opening to share God's redeeming love. With Joe Hutchinson, sound engineer, they began offering Bible studies at 9:00 a.m. in the church. When they started last October 2016, they had eight participants; now, 20 show up.

To make man whole isn't just about physical healing; it's also about spiritual healing. The Huntsville Adventist Community Service is on the right path, providing a place where Jesus's healing touch is ministered and felt. We are grateful for a church family who supports this outreach in myriad ways of giving, and we look for-

ward to 2017 to see what other gifts God will pour upon His people, His community, and His church.

### Who we served:

Average number of people served every month: 651

Volunteers: 15 to 25 people



**Photos above:** Many gather outside the Huntsville Seventh-day Adventist Church to attend Bible study before the church provides the community with food boxes for those in need.

**Right column:** Volunteers proved tens of thousands of pounds of produce, dairy and other goods to hundreds of people.



### How much food we distributed in 2016:

- Fresh produce: 99,923 pounds
- Salvaged goods: 20,644 pounds
- Dairy: 18,951 pounds
- Bakery goods: 15,900 pounds
- Meat: 1,401 pounds

Jennifer Penaflorida

ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA CONFERENCE

# Clarksville Adventists Join Christmas Parade

**CLARKSVILLE, ARK. »** Last December, for the first time ever, the Clarksville Spanish Seventh-day Adventist Church youth directors decided to join the annual Christmas parade in downtown Clarksville. The idea was to represent the Adventist con-

gregation in a place where a good percent of the city's citizens would be present. The Clarksville Adventist Karen Group was also invited to participate in this event. Together, a plan was introduced to not only represent when Jesus was born, but to also represent Jesus' second coming.

The plan came together beautifully and the people in the city gave us a

lot of interest and feedback. We thank God for a wonderful and marvelous chance to minister to our city in this way. Clarksville personal ministries director Noel Galan says, "We can see that people around our city have the need to hear about Jesus' second coming. We still have work to do. During the parade we were giving away candy, but we were also handing out magazines so people could go home and feast on some spiritual food, too."

Adrian Galan



- ▲ Smiles from the Clarksville Karen Adventist group.
- ▶ A host of heavenly angels depicts the first and second coming.



# Heber Springs Kindergarteners Learn About Giving

**HEBER SPRINGS, ARK. »** The Heber Springs Seventh-day Adventist Church is so proud of their Kindergarten Sabbath School class. All year, the children, Shelbie Owens, Madlyn Owens, Keeton Brent, and Kimber Brent brought food in each Sabbath to put in the Community Services' box in their classroom. The children were excited to be involved in providing food for a needy family.

Each Sabbath the children learned how the Lord was guiding them to a family that really needed help, and the children would pray for that family. At Christmas time, the perfect opportunity came up.

We found a retired couple living on

a small income that was trying to raise a foster nephew that the court put in their care. The precious four-year-old boy came from a horrible environment: he had been abused, neglected, and nearly starved to death. His aunt and uncle stepped in to rescue the child, but they were struggling to provide for the little one.

When the situation was made clear to our class, the children knew that they wanted to help this boy! Such joy and

gratitude was on the couple's face as the food was provided. The children came away blessed and so very thankful. What a beautiful lesson of "giving" our children were involved in. It's life lessons like this that stay with the young the rest of their lives! We as a church are very proud of our little "witnesses."

Judith Newton



The Heber Springs Seventh-day Adventist Church's Kindergarten Sabbath School class practices giving and receiving!

# Oklahoma Conference Summer Camp



Wewoka Woods Adventist Center | Wewoka, Oklahoma

**What does Oklahoma Conference Youth Director, Apple Park, have to say about summer camp?**

**The Record:** Were you ever a camper at summer camp?

**Park:** Unfortunately, no. There was not a summer camp in South Korea where I grew up. Young people in Oklahoma and the Southwestern Union are very fortunate to have a variety of summer camp options!

**The Record:** What are your favorite things about summer camp at Wewoka Woods Adventist Center?

**Park:** I love the campgrounds, the campers and the staff! The camp property is 460 acres of trees, trails, cabins and even a lake! The awesome camp staff help make the summer memorable for all the kids who attend. It's fun to watch summer camp change the lives of campers and the staff. It's exciting to see spiritual birth and growth every day, in one individual or another, resulting in baptisms for the Kingdom!

**The Record:** What's new this year at Wewoka Woods?

**Park:** We are really excited about our new pool and we are offering gymnastics as one of the activities campers can choose.

**The Record:** Why is summer camp great?

**Park:** Summer camp changes lives! Campers get to spend a week in a safe environment mentally, physically and spiritually. Campers also get to make friends that last a lifetime. WWAC has the best counselors and staff in the state! They love to sing, play games, watch the stars at night, plan exciting activities, and teach every camper about Jesus.



Apple Park



*Wewoka Woods*  
ADVENTIST CENTER



## 2017 Summer Camp Dates | Wewoka Woods Adventist Center



Native American Camp	June 4 - 9
Adventurer Camp	June 11 - 18
Junior Camp	June 18 - 25
Tween Camp	June 25 - July 2
Teen Camp	July 2 - July 9
Blind Camp	July 23 - July 28

Wewoka Woods Adventist Center is located at 36242 State Hwy 59, Wewoka, OK 74884. Register and find out more information about summer camp at Wewoka Woods Adventist Center at [www.OklahomaAdventist.org](http://www.OklahomaAdventist.org).



## 2017 Camp Meeting Dates | Oklahoma Conference

### June 2-4, 2017

#### Oklahoma Spanish Campmeeting

Wewoka Woods Adventist Center  
36242 State Hwy 59, Wewoka, OK 74884

### June 9-11, 2017

#### Zomi Campmeeting

Wewoka Woods Adventist Center  
36242 State Hwy 59, Wewoka, OK 74884

### July 14-July 22, 2017

#### Oklahoma English Campmeeting

Wewoka Woods Adventist Center  
36242 State Hwy 59, Wewoka, OK 74884

For registration, cabin reservation and more information, call the Oklahoma Conference at 405.721.6110 or visit [www.OklahomaAdventist.org](http://www.OklahomaAdventist.org).



## Summer Fun is Summer Camp!



The definition of summer is “the warmest season of the year that is after spring and before autumn.” The definition of fun is “someone or something that is amusing or enjoyable.” “Summer fun” must be the season of the year that children and young adults enjoy together after spring and before autumn.

That “summer fun” is actually happening at Wewoka Woods Adventist Center (WWAC) from June 4 through July 30. Swimming, horseback riding, canoeing, water skiing and tubing, crafts, archery and sports are all a part of that fun for children throughout the summer. WWAC has the

best nature center in the area with a wonderful campground for children to experience and earn Pathfinder honors and Adventurer awards. Of course, each week of camp is topped off with wonderful pastors that spend time with the campers, worship with them and lead them to Christ.

“Summer fun” is one of the events I enjoy most as a youth director in the Oklahoma Conference. I enjoy hearing the laughter and fun coming from the swimming pool, or the barn area where children are riding horses for the first time. I enjoy the “oohs” and “ahs” that come from children shooting a bow and arrow and hitting the mark on the target. Volleyball, basketball,

and other sports are other ways the young people show their joy and strengths. I really enjoy the personally made presents I receive from the children, as well as the high fives and hugs!

I also cherish the privilege of watching baptisms! My staff and I praise the Lord with tears at times when a camper is taken underwater in the lake to start a new life with their Savior.

“Summer fun” is “summer camp”! Don’t hesitate to send your child to camp at WWAC this summer. Your camper will never be the same.

**Apple Park**, youth and young adult director

## Our Powerful Weapon

**OKLAHOMA CITY** » I recently had an experience with family members as we united to support my son-in-law. He had been in a car accident in October, and he was not recovering properly. He had been on all of our minds for months, and he had an appointment with another specialist. His wife was asking us to remember him again.

A coworker’s brother had fallen, striking the back of his head, and she asked us to remember him and his family. The treating physician was sure he would die during the night, but he did not. They were amazed that our intervention had contributed to his being alive the next morning, and they could not stop telling the staff about this apparent miracle.

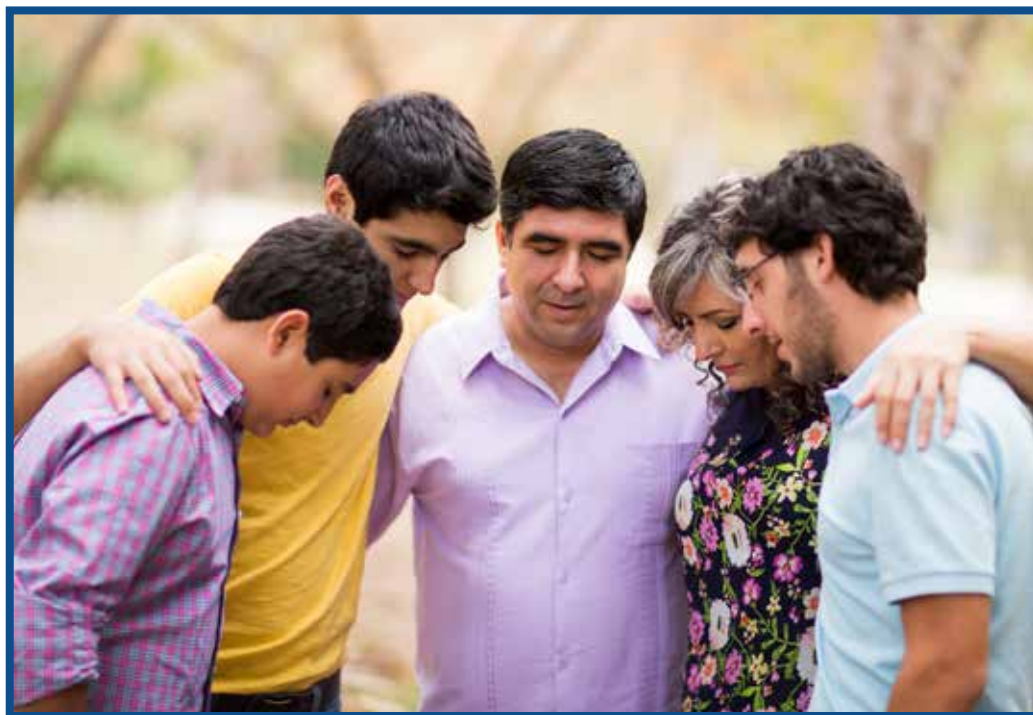
Another colleague shared that a newborn has been diagnosed with a rare genetic defect. She appealed to all of us in the Oklahoma Conference office to please remem-

ber the little baby and her family.

How many sad accounts can we remember where we have gathered to support someone who is hurting? How many news events get our attention from the radio or television, and we wonder how those af-

fectured individuals will cope with that disaster? How many of us stopped and utilized our special weapon against evil to change the course of events?

This special powerful weapon is prayer. I believe most of us understand that prayer



is powerful, but how often do we fret and fume over things that we have no control over? We too often forget that we serve a powerful and compassionate God who wants to hear our prayers and desires to answer them. How many of us would rather take care of the situation first, and when our efforts have failed, then possibly in desperation consider consulting God about our problem? How many of us forget to humbly acknowledge that God is in control of everything, and sees everything?

How many of us keep a running conversation with God during the day? Paul admonish us to, "Pray without ceasing" in 1 Thessalonians 5:17. James 5:16 states, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." And the most familiar verses are found in Matthew 7:7-8, "Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you: For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."



A constant attitude of prayer and humbleness is what God desires in our relationship with Him as we serve others.

Let's strive to be open and willing to change bad habits. Let's stop listening to that nagging voice of doubt and discouragement that tells us to give up. Instead, each morning let us begin by thanking God for another day. Ask God to clear our minds of all the distractions and to clear our ears,

so that we can hear His voice. Let us invite Him into our everyday events—to lead us and guide us. Let us ask Him to send us on heavenly missions to brighten someone else's day or assist in a special need. Let us better utilize our special powerful weapon of prayer to change lives for the kingdom and to increase our faith in God.

Susan Castillo

## Bristow Welcomes 2017



**BRISTOW, OKLA. »** The Bristow Seventh-day Adventist Church welcomed 2017 with a candle-lit service of personal testimonies, spoken word and worship in song, both congregational and individual. Primary Sabbath School teacher Jennifer Medlock organized the New Year's Eve service and the sanctuary was nearly full. The theme was "A Hope and A Future" and Kim Bokoovoy, Chan Hammond, Adrienne Hammond, Becky Johns, Patricia Perez and Laura Weber shared personal words of hope. Macy Fisher, Sherry Fisher, and Allyson Lambert shared songs of hope, and Alexa Fisher closed the program with "The Revelation Song," the perfect reminder that regardless of what happens on this earth, God remains supreme. After the sacred service, everyone filled the Fellowship



Hall with laughter, good food and games.

The following Sabbath, the first Sabbath of 2017, church member and Southwestern Adventist University senior Jae-Min Park shared the message “Disconnect, and Reconnect.” His father, Apple Park, traditionally gives the first message of the year, but he was unable to attend this time. Jae-Min

and as an individual (his family moved to Bristow when he was seven). He then took a “selfie” to commemorate the occasion as he will be attending Loma Linda University in August where he will join a new church family. His thoughts are shared here as they were an inspiration to our congregation.

Jae-Min’s message was based on Romans

thing that happens over and over again, but also something that can happen once,” he emphasized.

He added that renewing demands change. “Why must it be so drastic?”

We read Matthew 13:22 and Jae-Min broke down the parable: “They heard the word, they had it in their grasp, but the cares of this world and riches choke it, like weeds. Weeds take all the nutrients out of the ground and don’t let the plants have enough to survive. We are the ground; we don’t give priority to the word of God because we put other things in front of it. In those circumstances, God’s will for our lives will not be able to grow, because it requires our complete allegiance.”

We read Ephesians 4:17-24, the text reminding us to put off the former man, and be renewed in the spirit of our mind, to put on the new man created according to Christ. Since Jae-Min is graduating from SWAU in May, his future was part of the message. “College, life, always tells us to plan ahead, but what if Jesus came tomorrow ~ would we be ready? Would we know God enough to recognize Him if He came?” he asked himself as much as the congregation.

We also read 1 Peter 4:12-16, 19, words about gold, how it is pure and undefiled, but we are not pure. “We think we are all right with God, we think we are ok, but we’re not. We have forgotten what God looks like, who He is, and His character, because we have forgotten to search the Scriptures and study it like we’re about to have our finals in college, because school’s almost over folks! We must continue to search for truth because truth is progressive. We must fall in love over and

over again with Christ, and we must renew our minds each day in Christ and be imitators of Him. By beholding we become changed.” We are so thankful for a new year and for our youth who are willing to read and share God’s word with us!

Caroline A. Fisher



shared his piano talent during the church service and accompanied long-time friend Alexa Fisher as she sang one of their favorite songs, “Your Grace still Amazes Me.” The song set the tone for Jae-Min’s message.

Jae-Min first thanked the church members for their impact in his growth as a Christian

12:1-2, and he explained the dictionary meanings of “conform.” He admonished us to not conform to the schematic of this world, but undergo metamorphosis (be transformed). “As we become transformed by renewing our mind in Christ, we will better understand His will for our lives. Notice that the word renewing is some-

# Southwest Region Conference Summer Camp

Lone Star Camp | Athens, Texas



Tyrone Douglas

**What does Southwest Region Youth Director, Tyrone Douglas, have to say about summer camp?**

**The Record:** What do you love most about summer camp in the Southwest Region?

**Douglas:** First, our campground and facilities allow us to have a variety of fun-filled activities such as horseback riding, canoeing, archery, swimming and hiking. Another great element is vibrant worship services every morning and evening. And finally, I love the opportunity our youth and young Adults have to work and develop their leadership skills.



**The Record:** Is there anything new this summer at Lone Star Camp?

**Douglas:** Yes, a couple of new things we are very excited about are the new swimming pool and additional housing for 146 new campers! The camp has other upgrades, too! See pictures and read about them on page 20.

**The Record:** Why is the Southwest Region summer camp at Lone Star Camp so wonderful?

**Douglas:** Summer camp is great because it allows kids to make new friends, try some new things they may not have had an opportunity to do before, and have lots of fun-filled activities outdoors in a safe environment. Many kids return from summer camp with a closer walk with Jesus as this is the primary focus of all our activities. This year our theme is Living Faithful.

**The Record:** What impacts you the most about summer camp ministry?

**Douglas:** I love summer camp ministry as it allows me to walk alongside our youth and young adults in their journey with Jesus outside the four walls of the church. Additionally, it allows me to mentor summer camp staff and model Christ centered leadership.





# LONE STAR

**LONE STAR CAMP**  
Athens, Texas

Dear Campers!

Please come and be a part of a great fun filled, spiritual adventure at Summer Camp. At our beautiful Lone Star campground you will make new friends, enjoy many recreational activities and develop a closer relationship with Jesus while spending time outdoors in nature.

## Activities

- archery
- backpacking
- basketball
- campfire
- canoeing
- christian drama
- drawing/painting
- fishing
- horsemanship
- jet skiing
- leather crafts
- nature
- outdoor school
- pedal boats
- skating
- track & field
- volleyball
- water skiing
- wilderness living

**What To Bring**  
A FRIEND TO SHARE THE FUN!!!

**What Not To Bring**  
Valuables, radios, iPad/iPod, TV's, jewelry, weapons, fireworks, alcohol & drugs.  
Lone Star Camp will NOT take responsibility for lost or stolen items.

**Living Faithful**  
What does it mean to have Faith in Christ? How do we live faithfully? Blessings of Living Faithful

Online Registration:  
FREE!!! Gift to Campers that Register On-line @ [www.mysouthwestregion.org/summercamp](http://www.mysouthwestregion.org/summercamp)

For more information contact us at 214.943.4491 Ext. 209/210 Tyrone Douglas, Youth Director, SWRC, [tdouglas@swrgc.org](mailto:tdouglas@swrgc.org)  
Lulleither Massiah, Administrative Assistant, [lmassiah@swrgc.org](mailto:lmassiah@swrgc.org), [lscamp@swrgc.org](mailto:lscamp@swrgc.org)



# 2017 Camp Meeting Southwest Region Conference

June 8-17: "Try the Old Paths"

**SWRC Bilingual Camp Meeting**

Lone Star Camp

6829 FM 317 Athens, TX 75752

For registration and more information, contact the Southwest Region Conference at [www.MySouthwestRegion.org](http://www.MySouthwestRegion.org)



## The Great Temptation to Settle



SOUTHWEST REGION CONFERENCE

We have all become comfortable where we are with our lives—the job, the marriage, the lifestyle, the home, and the church. We settle down and place a *do not disturb* sign on our pet peeves. We do this to circumvent going into the dark place of the unknown; we usually settle for what we are comfortable and familiar with. Most people do everything and make every excuse to not leave that which they are comfortable with. They usually settle in the comfortable rocking chair of their comfort zone and declare, “I like everything the way it is and there is nothing in my life that needs to change—nothing about me, nothing about my job, nothing about my diet, and especially nothing about my church. We are all doing just fine.”

The great temptation of settling is an illusion that you are fine and that changing is for others and not you. You are at a dead-end job waiting for your big promotion that everybody else knows will never come, but in your eyes you are doing just fine. You are 40 pounds overweight and

have hypertension, but you feel you are doing just fine. Your church has not baptized 10 people in the last 20 years but in your eyes, it is doing just fine because you are comfortable. Could all of these things be fine because you have succumbed to the great temptation of settling for what is comfortable for you? To quote some familiar phrases: “That’s how I am; that’s how we are.” Or, “That’s the way we do it here.” Or, “It’s our tradition.” Or, “It’s our culture.”

What if Abraham Lincoln had succumbed to the temptation to settle? There would have been no Emancipation Proclamation. What if Martin Luther had settled? There would have been no theses nailed to the door of Wittenberg. What if Martin Luther King, Jr. had settled? There would have been no civil rights for minorities in this country. What if Rosa Parks had settled and got up and moved to the back of the bus? What if Ellen G. White had settled and taken the traditional road for women in her day? There would have been no lesser light to guide us through these last days.

Our God is progressive. He continually challenges us to not settle and be content where we are. If we are to grow as an individual and as a church, we must force ourselves to not take the road of settling that promotes stagnation. The consequence for individuals and small and large churches that settle and continue to do things because “that is the way it has always been done,” are churches that never grow and will never reach their full potential. The challenge for all of us, individually and corporately, is for us to move out of our comfort zone and to resist the temptation to settle for the known and instead allow God to move us toward the unknown. The unknown just might be where God has our greater blessing waiting. The unknown for us can be where God can be found. If you don’t believe me, ask Moses, ask Joshua, ask Abraham, ask Ellen White, ask Jesus, and please ask me. I have a testimony and I can tell you that God can be found in unfamiliar territory. Resist the temptation of settling.

Calvin L. Watkins, Sr., president

## Updates and Upgrades at Lone Star Camp

In 2016, Lone Star Camp began operating year-round to provide a better service to the constituents, conference, and various groups. More than 20,000 guests came to visit or stayed at the grounds during the year. As demand for the use of the Camp increased, so did the need for additional housing. We praise the Lord for leading us to the Living Youth Group, an organization that offered to help the camp with several projects that are now under construction. These include three new dorms that are designed to house 48 campers each, increasing the total camp bed capacity to 315; a semi-olympic swimming pool with a maximum capacity of 180 swimmers at one time and a water cooler to allow for its



use during hot summer days; and a warehouse building to be used as storage space for all youth equipment.

In addition to these projects, the Conference leadership and many other volunteers helped us upgrade the cafeteria and we

want to give thanks for the financial support and donations of our Conference constituents and various others donors. The cafeteria was enclosed and is now air-conditioned. It serves as both a dining hall and meeting/seminar room with a lake view, accommodating around 350 guests. Additional upgrades include a new stage which was built in the adult pavilion that includes a covered back-stage, and the outdoor amphitheater which is located on the south shores of the camp's Lake Jones. The new outdoor amphitheater provides an ideal place for worship and meditation and for welcoming the Sabbath. Additionally, guests will be able to relax as they enjoy the beautiful lake view at the Lounge Cafe. Equipped with WIFI, it will also house a camp store where guests can buy snacks and camp souvenirs. The lounge cafe

is currently under construction and scheduled to open in April 2017.

We invite you to visit us this year that we may share with you the blessings that God has given us. Come join us for camp meeting from June 8-17, 2017 at Lone

Star Camp. The theme is, *Considering the Old Path*. Camp meeting details are at [www.MySouthwestRegion.org](http://www.MySouthwestRegion.org) and see more about Lone Star at [www.LoneStarCamp.org](http://www.LoneStarCamp.org).



SOUTHWEST REGION CONFERENCE

# Special Recognition

**TEXARKANA, TEX. »** During the Worship Service on February 4, 2017, the Bethel Seventh-day Adventist Church School recognized Councilman Dr. Brian Matthews for his many years of service to the Texarkana community.

Dr. Matthews is actively involved in a plethora of community organizations with positions including board member, mentor, vice-president, and president. Beyond this impressive dossier, Dr. Matthews is also an Assistant Professor of Management at Texas A&M University.

Bethel School principal Glasmine Ellis presented Dr. Matthews with a plaque. He also received copies of two books written by the students. Special guest speaker for the worship service was Calvin Watkins, Sr., president of Southwest Region Conference.

Students from grades kindergarten through fourth grade made up the Bethel

School bell choir which performed *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*, while students in fifth through sixth grades recited Hebrews chapter 11. The congregation watched in awe and the body of believers praised God's name.

**Glasmine Ellis**

► Councilman Dr. Brian Matthews

▼ Pictured left to right is Bethel Adventist Church pastor, Kenneth Edwards; Councilman Dr. Brian Matthews; Karina Ridgeway, school assistant; Glasmine Ellis, Principal; Southwest Region President, Calvin Watkins, Sr., and Billy Gardner, School Board Chairman.



# Texas Conference Summer Camp

Lake Whitney Ranch | Clifton, Texas

*What do Texas Conference Youth and Young Adult Director Gary Blanchard and Associate Director, Paulo Tenorio, have to say about summer camp?*

**The Record:** Tell us about your summer camp experience growing up.

**Blanchard:** I went to Nameless Valley Ranch in Texas from ages 14-16. My fondest memory is getting to know an old guy who called himself "old man river." He used to bring his red, white and blue kayak to camp and he taught me and others how to canoe and kayak when I was 16. It was also at summer camp that I developed a passion for ministry, especially to young people.

**The Record:** What activities did you like then and what do you love about camp now?

**Blanchard:** I loved horseback riding and bonding with the horse I was assigned during cowboy camp. I also enjoyed canoeing since the camp had some connecting streams that made you feel like you were on the Amazon River in South America. Today, I love that summer camp gets you outside in God's great outdoors. It gives you a reprieve from social media and is an opportunity to connect with young people and see them become ministers for the Master.

**The Record:** Why is summer camp great?

**Blanchard:** Because it works! Young people are truly led to Christ at camp and inspired to serve Him! It is a place where you can have fun and learn about God in a safe and exciting environment.



Gary Blanchard

Paulo Tenorio

**The Record:** Did you go to summer camp growing up?

**Tenorio:** I did! I was in Argentina because my dad was pursuing his masters degree at the Adventist university. When I was nine years old I went to camp and I loved it!

**The Record:** What do you love most about summer camp at Lake Whitney Ranch?

**Tenorio:** First of all, spirituality comes first. The goal is for the kids to meet Jesus and be transformed. The staff is carefully picked. Since the kids will spend a whole week at camp, we need the best role models. Finally, you make tons of friends, and

there is fun everywhere!



**The Record:** How do you see summer camp as a ministry?

**Tenorio:** I have seen firsthand the impact that summer camp has on the kids. They are away from technology— no television, phones, or video games! When we talk to them about Jesus without these distractions, it's so much easier for them to experience a relationship with God. At the end of the week, you can see how much the worship services have impacted them.



  
 LAKE WHITNEY  
 RANCH  
 — A LIGHT IN THE HEART OF TEXAS —



LAKE WHITNEY RANCH



# SUMMER CAMP 2017



**Staff Camp** → June 4-11  
**Cub Week** → June 11-18  
**Junior Week** → June 18-25  
**Tween Week** → June 25-July 2  
**Teen Week** → July 2-9  
**\*Family Week** → July 9-16



(\*minimum of 50 participants in order to hold event)

Lake Whitney Ranch Day Camp in the Valley  
 July 16-30 • Mon-Fri • 8:30am - 5:30pm.  
 Please visit us at [YoungTexasAdventist.org](http://YoungTexasAdventist.org) for more information

## CAMPAMENTO LAKE WHITNEY RANCH EN EL VALLE

EN VGA | JULIO 16-30, 2017 | 8:30AM-5:30PM  
 EDADES 7-17. [Registrate ahora@YoungTexasAdventist.com](mailto:Registrate.ahora@YoungTexasAdventist.com)

# 2017 Camp Meeting Dates Texas Conference

### April 27-28, 2017

#### San Antonio Area Camp Meetings

April 27: Scenic Hills Seventh-day Adventist Church  
 11223 Bandera Rd, San Antonio, TX 78250  
 April 28: New Creation Christian Fellowship  
 8700 Fourwinds Dr, Windcrest, TX 78239

### May 31-June 3, 2017

#### Keene Camp Meeting

Keene Seventh-day Adventist Church  
 114 S Fairview St, Keene, TX 76059  
 Information at [www.KeeneCampMeeting.com](http://www.KeeneCampMeeting.com)

### September 8-9, 2017

#### Valley Area Campmeeting

South Padre Convention Centre  
 7355 Padre Blvd, South Padre Island, TX 78597

For more information, visit [www.TexasAdventist.org](http://www.TexasAdventist.org).





## Camp Meeting: Memories for a Lifetime



As I was growing up in an Adventist family in Denver, without a doubt one of my fondest memories is attending what was known at that time as the Colorado Conference Camp Meeting, held every summer in picturesque Loveland, Colorado on the campus of Champion Academy. There were numerous things that make it memorable to me. To begin with, early summer in northern Colorado is simply beautiful. Much different from the campus where I went to school, Mile High Academy on the south side of Denver, the campus at Champion was sprawling, green, removed from the city and situated at the base of the scenic Rocky Mountains.

What truly made that time special was when the families began to gather for the week-long spiritual smorgasbord. My family always arrived early, so we would watch them come, the young and the old, converging upon that hallowed spot. It was hallowed not because of the people, but because of the God Who would come to meet with them there! Most of the families would bring their own food provisions, yet we children would always find a way to beg away a couple of dollars from our parents in order to savor a veggie burger, veggie

hotdog, or a cold beverage on a warm day.

There was always the excitement of a softball or flag football game during the afternoon hours. But when the evening set in, the main auditorium would begin to fill and the stage was set for a spiritual feast. The music would be amazing! The Heritage Singers, the Wedgwood Trio, the King's Heralds and the likes, followed by powerful, soul-stirring messages from the word of God. The messages invoked awe and admiration in my soul as to the manner in which the Spirit of God could use human flesh to proclaim such heavenly discourses. Hearts were set afire, lives were changed, young people were inspired and catapulted toward the kingdom of heaven. From time to time there would be a baptism, evidence of the working of the Spirit.

As the week drew to a close, people started packing up their vehicles and bidding farewell to one another with those memorable words: "...by God's grace, we'll see you next year..." Tender embraces were exchanged, and tears were often shed because of the associations and friendships that had been forged in one week's time! There was something about Camp Meeting that was a foretaste of heaven!

I read somewhere that the long heritage

of Camp Meetings can be traced back to the Protestant roots found in England, but I can tell you that the memories that I possess from the years that I was privileged to attend Camp Meeting back in Colorado are etched in my mind never to be removed! Years have come and gone and somehow I can still see the faces of preachers who planted seeds of righteousness in this dark heart, which years later have borne fruit: singers who inspired us to sing songs of praise in moments of trial; faithful saints, who were there, but no longer are with us whose legacy testifies to the resilience of a life lived in the Spirit.

One day not so far in the future, there will be a great Camp Meeting that takes place on the grassy knolls that surround the river of life. You and I must make plans to be there to hear the angelic choir and the voice of the keynote speaker, our wonderful Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! What a time that will be! "And the Spirit and the bride say Come! And let he/she that hears say Come! And let he/she that thirsts say Come! Whosoever desires, let them come and take of the water of life freely... Amen! Even so, come Lord Jesus!" (Revelation 22:17,20).

**Carlos J. Craig**, president

## Cakes for Christian Education

**ARLINGTON, TEX.** » Each year Burton Adventist Academy has a number of students who need financial assistance to afford private Christian education. Fortunately, Burton Adventist Academy and their constituent, Arlington SDA Church, are dedicated to meeting the needs of the families and students that might need additional support in order to attend. Burton's mission statement is "Leading students to Christ, preparing them for life." This evangelistic mindset makes it even more important that all interested students are afforded the opportunity to attend



Levi Ventura, Burton Class of 2017

Burton Adventist Academy.

To meet that goal, Adrian Mizher, dedicated board member and father of two Burton students and one Burton alumnus, has coordinated an annual Cake Auction to benefit the Worthy Student Scholarship Fund for the past three years. Students are encouraged to make elaborately designed and decorated cakes that are then auctioned to those in attendance. This year over 300

Kevin Wells, senior pastor of Arlington Seventh-day Adventist Church, offers a cake.

guests enjoyed a wonderful dinner served by the senior class. Mr. Mizher served as co-auctioneer with the always comical Mr. Tim Whitley, class of 1987, who dressed in a green kilt to match the Irish green theme of the evening. All of the school board members provided valuable support, especially Arlington SDA Church Senior Pastor,

Kevin Wells, who showered the highest bidder of each cake with confetti in celebration of the donation.

Thanks to the generosity of our community, Burton Adventist Academy raised over \$15,000 for the Worthy Student Scholarship Fund and over \$2,000 for the Senior class. These funds will bless many

individuals with the opportunity to attend Burton Adventist Academy that otherwise would not be able to. There is always a need for funding of the Burton Worthy Student Scholarship. You can participate by giving online at <http://burtonacademy.org>.

Damon Gilliam



Levi Ventura, Burton Class of 2017



Levi Ventura, Burton Class of 2017

Far left: BAA senior Marcos Ontiveras serves guests.

◀ A soccer cake donated for the Burton Adventist Academy auction.

## Empowering Prayer Conference in Hurst

**HURST, TEX.** » In November, the Hurst Seventh-day Adventist Church hosted a three-day prayer conference led by Eunice Davis of the Arlington Southern Worship Center Church. Mrs. Davis titled her presentation, “Empower Your Prayer Life,” with each session having its own theme and lesson. Through her first lesson, “The Sanctuary: God’s War Room,” Mrs. Davis took attendees step-by-step through the Sanctuary focusing on each piece and its role in prayer. She emphasized the reality that the Sanctuary is a place of relationship—a loving Father with His children. The study continued with “Prayer Journaling: A Biblical Perspective,” which gave evidence of how God is a God of order and record. His own words, given in scripture, provide a powerful script for our prayers. To conclude the conference, attendees assembled their own prayer journals which included sections for self, family, church family and others, as well as a section for praise.

This conference cast prayer in a new light for many. It was powerful, uplifting, inspiring and very informative. It emphasized the importance of recording/writing down requests along with a corresponding scripture. One attendee stated, “The conference emphasized the importance of reading our Bibles and using God’s words to pray for His vision for others, their salvation. It reminded us that God is in control, and that it is our responsibility to plead for the spiritual healing and growth of those we are praying for.” When asked

by mothers of young children about finding time in their daily lives to utilize a prayer journal, Mrs. Davis offered words of encouragement, reassuring them that God knows their lives and schedules, and encouraged them to continue moving forward with their prayer lives. Mrs. Davis also emphasized the importance of praise, suggesting many ways to praise God, such as singing, speaking our thanks, as well as quoting praises from scripture. As part of the praise session she also recommended that answered prayer be recorded.



The weekend was a blessing to all who attended. It directed and armed us all for the battle of the very real spiritual war that takes place in all of our lives each day. “For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and His ears are open unto their prayers....” 1 Peter 3:12.

Carol Turille

Eunice Davis shared prayer topics with a captivated audience at the Hurst Seventh-day Adventist Church.

# Crowley Church Helps the Homeless

**CROWLEY, TEX.** » The Women's Ministries Department of the Crowley Seventh-day Adventist church has been busy providing warm caps and sleeping mats for the homeless in Fort Worth. Due to the cold weather Texas is experiencing, Women's Ministries took on the project to provide some warmth to those who are sleeping in the streets. Thirty knotted caps in various colors and sizes were presented to a local homeless shelter, together with four crocheted sleeping mats made from plastic shopping bags. More are to come as several are still underway. The mats are both water resistant and help insulate from the coldness of the ground. Plastic bags are cut in strips



and joined together so they can be crocheted. Anyone interested in how this is done can contact the Crowley Seventh-day Adventist Church at 817.297.7737.

**Judy Jamison**

**Above left:** Large, insulated blankets like these help protect the homeless from the cold ground.

**▲** Dozens of knitted caps were made by the Women's Ministries Department at the Crowley Seventh-day Adventist Church.

## LEGAL NOTICE

### Texas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

**Notice is hereby given** that the Biennial Session of the Texas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at the Keene Seventh-day Adventist Church, located at 114 S Fairview St, Keene, TX 76059, on Sunday, April 30, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is to review the business of the Conference for the past two years, to consider changes in the constitution and by-laws, and to transact such business as may properly come before the Constituency.

Each church is entitled to two (2) regular delegates for the organization and one delegate for each 60 members who hold membership in the local church which accredits them.

**Carlos Craig, President**

**Elton DeMoraes, Secretary**

**Edwin Romero, Treasurer**

### Texas Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists

**Notice is hereby given** that the Biennial Session of the Texas Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at the Keene Seventh-day Adventist Church, located at 114 S Fairview St, Keene, TX 76059, on Sunday, April 30, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is to review the business of the Association for the past two years, to consider changes in the constitution and bylaws, and to transact such business as may properly come before the Constituency.

Delegates to the Biennial Session of the Texas Conference of Seventh-day Adventist are also delegates to the Texas Conference Association Session.

**Carlos Craig, President**

**Roger Mekelburg, Secretary**

### Valley Educational Foundation

**Notice is hereby given** that the Biennial Session of the Texas Conference Valley Educational Foundation will convene at the Keene Seventh-day Adventist Church, located at 114 S Fairview St, Keene, TX 76059, on Sunday, April 30, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is to review the business of the Foundation for the past two years, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the Foundation.

Delegates to the Biennial Session of the Texas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are also delegates to the Valley Educational Foundation.





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## Old-Fashioned Camp Meeting



During the Second Great Awakening of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, camp meeting was held for worship, preaching, and communion. Since most churches did not have a pastor, camp meetings on the frontier land of the United States was a very special time when people would travel miles on horses, oxen, and wagons to get together to camp and listen to itinerant preachers. It was a time for spiritual devel-

opment, fellowship with other believers, singing, and a diversion from their hard life of toil. Camp meeting became a major component of the Second Great Awakening promoted by our forefathers.

This year the Texico Conference will hold its annual camp meeting at Bonita Park Camp and Conference Center, near Ruidoso, N. Mex., beginning Thursday, June 29 and ending Sunday, July 2. It will provide a special opportunity to spend time with our Lord in nature and enjoy fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Our theme this year is "Following God's Call: Making Disciples." The main speaker for the English meetings will be Mike Tucker, speaker/director of *Faith for Today*. Omar Grieve, speaker/director of *La Voz de la Esperanza* will be the main speaker for the Spanish meetings. Preparations are being made for the young adult, youth, and children's programs.

There will be limited pro-

vision for lodging to accommodate individuals, families, and small groups. Other options include RV and tent sites located within walking distance of the meeting places. Reservations for these facilities should be made through the Texico Conference office at [texico@texico.org](mailto:texico@texico.org) or call 505.244.1611, and ask for Margaret Whetsell.

Hotel accommodations will also be available in the Ruidoso area, about 6-8 miles from Bonita Park. We are negotiating special rates and block reservations for this important event and there are numerous vacation cabin rentals nearby.

Unfortunately, Bonita Park will not be able to provide food service for the number of campers we anticipate. Therefore, all meals will be on your own. This will be a great time for fellowship while sharing meals with your family, friends, and church groups.

We hope you will make plans to be a part of this spiritual retreat as we return to our roots and experience an old-fashioned camp meeting.

Lee-Roy Chacon, president



## International Sabbath at Odessa Church

ODESSA, N. MEX. » The Odessa Seventh-day Adventist Church hosted its annual International Sabbath on December 17, 2016. Church members and friends from neighboring churches came to support this special Sabbath event. The Midland, Odessa, and Big Spring (TX) churches, under the care of Abner Razon, collaborate to make this event a yearly reality. The Grace Notes singing group from Lubbock also came to support the occasion.

This year's celebration was as successful as last year's event. Nineteen countries from around the globe were represented with their most colorful and diverse national costumes, flags, languages and appetizing exotic native dishes.

Churches from Asia, Africa, Europe,



Texico Conference Executive Secretary and Treasurer, Phil Robertson (fourth from the left) was the guest speaker for the weekend.

Central and South America were represented. Each country was introduced by its native representative focusing on how and when the country started embracing the

Adventist faith. The emphasis was on the current denominational population and its progress in advancing the cause of Christ. Savannah Morales, Stephanie Burciaga,

▼ Serkalem from Ethiopia and Violeta Villamizar representing El Salvador.

**Below right:** Nineteen countries from around the world were represented at the Odessa Seventh-day Adventist Church during the International Sabbath event.



and other members hosted a special fellowship lunch introducing the different dishes from various countries. Phil Robertson, executive secretary/treasurer of the Texico Conference, was the speaker for all the services which began on Friday evening. He challenged every member to be faithful in spreading the Adventist

message. He reminded us that we can have unity in the midst of diversity. The event was such a blessing as it foreshadowed a small glimpse of what heaven will be like when all nations will be represented. Maranatha!

**Dodie Pelopero**



TEXICO CONFERENCE

# Seven Make Decisions for Baptism at Española

**ESPAÑOLA, N. MEX. »** The Española Valley Seventh-day Adventist Church began the New Year with an outpouring of the Holy Spirit as seven beautiful souls made the decision for baptism. On January 7, Pastor Ricardo Castro, with much joy in his heart, baptized these seven individuals who ranged in age from 11 to 87! They had prepared for this special day through Bible studies and personal spiritual nurturing by Pastor Castro.



**Left:** Jose Dominguez rejoices at his baptism at the Española Valley Seventh-day Adventist Church.

**Right:** Rochelle Lineberry shares this special day with her daughter, Tru Leigh, who was also baptized.

Over 100 people gathered to witness this beautiful event, which was followed by a potluck meal where our church enjoyed fellowship with many friends and family visitors of the newly-baptized members.

Baptized into Christ were Jose Dominguez (87); Loretta Gonzales (84); Desirae Lujan (18); mother and son, Prescilla Salazar (36) and Justin Sena (11); and mother

and daughter Rochelle Lineberry (49) and Tru Leigh Zamora (11).

Mr. Dominguez, the eldest to be baptized, had made a tearful plea to Pastor Ricardo that he was ready to be baptized as he was "anxious to once again be reunited with his wife," who is resting in the grave until Jesus comes.

We all look forward to Christ's second

Miriam Castro, along with their children Ruth and Jaasiel, as they continue their powerful ministry touching souls with the love of Christ in the challenging community of Española, N. Mex.!

**Diahann Cordova**



coming where we await the blessed hope of being together with our Lord and loved ones face to face.

Rochelle Lineberry said about her baptism, "I lived the first 25 years of my life in fear of living and the last 25 years in fear of dying. But now, I don't have to be afraid anymore."

May the Lord continue to pour out His Spirit upon our pastoral family, Pastor Ricardo and

# Texico Conference Welcomes New Team Member

**CORRALES, N. MEX. »** It is a pleasure to introduce our newest Texico team member, America Alvarez. Originally from Mexicala, Mexico, she has been a resident of Albuquerque for the past 13 years and is a member of the Albuquerque North Valley Spanish Church. America recently graduated from Central New Mexico Community College with a degree in accounting and business.

America is the junior accountant for the Texico Conference and believes that God has led her here for this special work. With a thankful heart, she is en-

joying the opportunity to serve in this capacity.

America is married to Roberto Ramirez, her husband of three and a half years, and they have a two-year-old son, Caleb. Her hobbies include soccer and sharpening her baking skills.

**Sue Hinkle**, Texico Communication Director and Assistant to the President

America Alvarez is the new junior accountant for the Texico Conference.

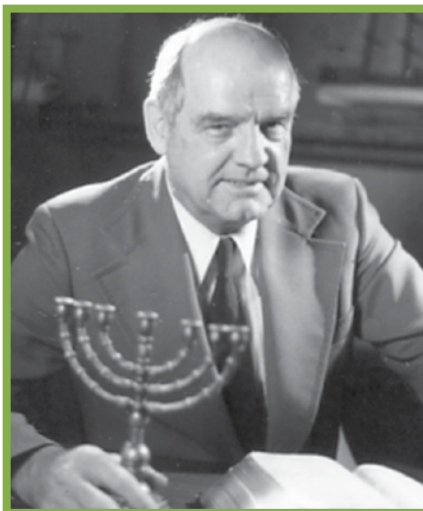


# One Man's Vision

**WEST TEXAS »** In the late 1950s and 60s, a church elder named Morris D. Lewis had a passion for teaching about the Old Testament tabernacle. He wanted people to understand that this amazing structure was not an outdated concept. He wanted them to know that the tabernacle was a structure that helped the Israelites see forward to the time of the coming Messiah. He also wanted to help people understand the plan of salvation.

For this purpose, Lewis built two sets of tabernacle furniture. The first set was large and needed a trailer to move it from place to place. The second set was much smaller and could be packed and carried in the trunk of a car.

Over the past year, I have been preaching about the Old Testament tabernacle in many of the Texico Conference churches. Thanks to the Hopps Museum and the Welcome Center of Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Tex., I have been able to use both sets of furniture. Now, over 50 years later, hundreds of people have had the opportunity to experience the Old Testament tabernacle firsthand. I believe Elder Lewis understood that the tabernacle was best taught visually. I cannot explain the look on people's faces when they have a chance to see these amazing displays up close.



Elder Lewis had a vision for spreading the message of God's love through the Old Testament tabernacle. His work continues helping people realize that without a good understanding of the tabernacle we cannot truly understand the plan of salvation or God's love for us. We need to know this message now more than ever.

Exodus 25:8 says, "And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them." God is still saying the same words to each of us today. He still wants to dwell among His people. When we understand how this Old Testament structure is still connected



◀ Morris D. Lewis built two sets of tabernacle furniture to help teach others the meaning of the Old Testament tabernacle service.

▲ Lewis teaching in his High Priest attire.

with a New Testament church, we realize that it serves as a symbol pointing to Christ. It is here that Christ is revealed. As we start to understand the earthly sanctuary, then we can begin to comprehend the heavenly sanctuary and Christ's role as our High Priest.

Because of one man's vision to bring the Old Testament tabernacle to one generation, countless others will also be blessed.

**Bobby Harris**

## Southwestern Has a Spring in Its Step

### Southwestern Breaks Ground on Larry R. Moore Building

**KEENE, TEX. »** Southwestern Adventist University's Spring semester is off to a wonderful start, with an increase in enrollment, higher freshman class retention rates, and breaking ground on the new Larry R. Moore Nursing and Administration Building. Southwestern hosted the groundbreaking ceremony on February 21 at the building site located in the meadow west of the Findley Administration Building, with Southwestern's Board of Trustees and administration in attendance. Students and many in the community also attended. Learn more about the new building at [swau.edu/givecampaign](http://swau.edu/givecampaign).

### Southwestern Hosts 750 for Hoops Classic

This past January marked the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Hoops Classic, the basketball tournament hosted by Southwestern Adventist University. The university hosted 48 teams from 10 different states, more than 750 players! Hoops Classic allows high schoolers nationwide to get together and play in a friendly-yet-competitive game of basketball. It is the largest basketball tournament in the North American Division. Photos, games stats, and archived videos can be viewed at [swau.edu/hoops](http://swau.edu/hoops).

### A Night at the Meyerson

This February marked the 24th A Night at the Meyerson, the grand finale concert of the annual Music Festival. This concert was particularly special as it featured the world premiere of *I Believe*, the newest composition by renowned Latvian composer Ēriks Ešņvalds. You can see photos and archived videos of the whole weekend at [swau.edu/musicfestival](http://swau.edu/musicfestival).

### Impact 100 Benefits University Programs

Southwestern Adventist University has a new circle of giving which consists of 100 individuals or businesses who commit to an annual gift of \$1,000 in 2017. The beneficiaries of these gifts are various departments on campus who submitted propos-





als for funding through IMPACT100. A gift to this initiative can be made one time, or by 10 recurring payments of \$100 each. Some of the approved projects include a photosynthesis machine for the biology department, a mission trip for the Enactus team to teach entrepreneurial skills, and a fire truck and equipment for the fire science program. See the rest of the projects at [swau.edu/impact100](http://swau.edu/impact100).

Don't miss out on details for Homecoming 2017 at [swau.edu/homecoming!](http://swau.edu/homecoming!)



The Enactus team teaches Navajo Nation children how to plant and maintain a garden during one of their annual mission trips.

*We have a SPRING in our step!*

**-Spring Semester 2017-**

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## Classified Ads

### REAL ESTATE/HOUSING

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### EMPLOYMENT

**Adventist Health System is seeking a Summer Associate** to work in their Corporate Legal department for at least six weeks in 2017. Candidate must be in top 25% of class. Interest/experience in health-

care industry preferred, but not required. Duties include legal research and other projects, totaling 40 hours per week. Pay is \$20 - \$25 per hour; reasonable relocation expenses will be reimbursed. Please send transcript and resume to [Manuela.asaftei@ahss.org](mailto:Manuela.asaftei@ahss.org).

**Professor (Assistant/Associate/Full):** Loma Linda University School of Religion is seeking a tenure-track professor to begin in 2017. The candidates should possess Ethics training and a completed PhD (ABD accepted). Please e-mail a cover letter, curriculum vitae, writing sample, and three professional references to Ethics Area Chair: Dr. Zack Plantak ([zplantak@llu.edu](mailto:zplantak@llu.edu)).

**Southern Adventist University seeks full-time faculty-School of Journalism and**

**Communication.** Master's degree required, doctorate preferred. Five years professional in-field experience, with three years of teaching. Send curriculum vitae to: Linda Crumley, School of Journalism and Communication, Southern Adventist University, P O Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315 or via email: [lindacrumley@southern.edu](mailto:lindacrumley@southern.edu).

**Southwestern Adventist University** seeks a director of academic support and advising. Master's degree in higher education, developmental learning or related field required; doctoral degree preferred. Must have higher education experience. Send CV and cover letter to Dr. Amy Rosenthal ([arosenal@swau.edu](mailto:arosenal@swau.edu)).

**Southwestern Adventist University's Nursing De-**

**partment** seeks a full-time nurse educator. Doctorate desired; MSN considered. Experience in mental health, medical/surgical or pediatrics preferred. Must enjoy working with young people who are excited about service. Must have, or be able to obtain, an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Send CV and cover letter to Dr. Amy Rosenthal ([arosenal@swau.edu](mailto:arosenal@swau.edu)).

**Walla Walla University** is hiring! To see the list of available positions, go to [jobs.wallawalla.edu](http://jobs.wallawalla.edu).

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**National Family Retreat 2017** March 29 - April 2, Wewoka Woods, OK. Practical messages, breakouts, family recreation, and exhibits. Topics: Daily walk, parenting, family, marriage, youth, and young adult. Speakers: Tom and Alane Waters, Rayne family, Ritsema family, and Chris and Debbie Holland. Info: [restoration-international.org/nfr](http://restoration-international.org/nfr). Email: [NationalFamilyRetreat@gmail.com](mailto:NationalFamilyRetreat@gmail.com). Call: 918.827.7012.

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**Enterprise/Great Plains Academy Alumni Weekend**, Apr. 14-15 at Enterprise SDA Church, Enterprise, KS. Come renew your friendships. Honor Classes: Graduating Years ending with 2's and 7's. For more information email: [ea.gpa.alumni@hotmail.com](mailto:ea.gpa.alumni@hotmail.com) or call 620.640.5740.

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**SHINE – Ignite the Fire of Evangelism in Your Child!** SHINE is a family camp meeting and youth-presented evangelistic series combined in one life-changing week. Activities include parenting seminars, workshops on creative family worship, recreation, and evangelism training. June 25 - July 1 at Fletcher Academy near Hendersonville, NC. Learn more, register at [www.ShineKids.net](http://www.ShineKids.net).

**6-day Natural Remedies and Hydrotherapy Workshop:** August 6-11 at Andrews University. Details: [Andrews.edu/go/nrhw](http://Andrews.edu/go/nrhw), [janinec@andrews.edu](mailto:janinec@andrews.edu) or 269.471.3541.

## Announcements

### Announcing Academy Days at Oklahoma Academy!

If you are a student who is serious about your walk with the Lord and His mission for your life, Oklahoma Academy may be just the place for you. Come March 31 through April 2, 2017 for our Academy Days weekend and find out. Call 405.454.6211 to make your reservations today! Visit [www.oklahomaacademy.org](http://www.oklahomaacademy.org).

### "Ye Olde" Cedar Lake Academy Reunion will take place

June 9-11, 2017 for alumni and classmates at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Cedar Lake, Mich. Honor classes: 1937, 1947, 1957, 1967. Details will be forthcoming by postal service. For further information, you may contact GLAA Alumni Office at 989.427.5181 or visit [www.glaa.net](http://www.glaa.net).

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## Obituaries

### FINLEY, Winona Estella,

born September 13, 1940, in Phoenix, Ariz., and died December 24, 2016, in Little Rock, Ark. She was a member of the Little Rock Seventh-day Adventist Church. Winona loved gardening and raising her plants and flowers. She was gifted in music and art, was a florist, and made the most beautiful arrangements. Each year her beautiful Thanksgiving and Christmas wreaths decorated the church doors. She served on the Little Rock Adventist Academy board and will be missed by her family, friends and church family. Survivors: husband, Larry Finley of Little Rock; son and daughter-in law, Kevin and Kezia Finley of Greenville, Tenn.; daughter, Kimberly Finley of Little Rock; brother and sister-in law, Vernon and Pat Sparks, Tellico Plains, Tenn.; and two granddaughters.

**JONES, Loyd Jasper,** born August 9, 1933, and died on September 24, 2016, in Rogers, Ark. He was the loving husband of Katie (Ives) Jones for 43 years. Loyd worked for RTW/Kennametal for many years. He served in the Army in the Korean War and enjoyed listening to the radio and watching baseball games. He was preceded in death by four siblings. Survivors: wife, Katie, of Rogers; son, Rick Jones of Greenforest, Ark.; daughter, Kathy White of Greenforest.; two stepsons, Ed Thompson and George Thompson both of

Rogers; two stepdaughters, Betsy Schooler of Michigan and Carrie Rivers of Rogers; three brothers: Vernon Jones of Washington, D.C.; Lyle Jones of Wash.; Carl Jones of Yellville, Ark.; two sisters: May Clark of Okla. and Guyla Hudson of Colo.; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

**LOECKLE, John F.,** born September 27, 1938, in Little Rock, Ark., and died November 10, 2016. After high school, John began working in his father's construction company until he was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1958, and continued his service as a medic at Ellison Air Force Base, Alaska. John's lifetime profession began in 1965, working for Continental Trailways Company, the Greyhound Bus Company and the Regional Transit Authority for a total of 40 years. After retirement, John spent his time caring for elderly family members, grandchildren and neighbors. He was a constant volunteer at his church and the senior center. John was preceded in death by his parents and daughter, Robin Loeckle. Survivors: wife, Judy Loeckle; daughters, Julie (Justin) Dahl, Jennifer (Tony) Ehlers, Glorian (Sean) Lynch, Rayna Ridgway and Shawn (Glenn) Bainbridge; 12 grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

**NOSSAMAN, Wilma Edna McAllister,** born August 5, 1927, in Griffithsville, Ark., and died January 11, 2017. She was a long-time mem-

ber of the Choctaw Seventh-day Adventist Church, serving in Community Services and Mobile Meals for many years. She was loved by all who met her for her love for God and kindness to her fellow man, and her sense of humor and contagious laugh. Wilma was preceded in death by her parents; husband, S. L. Nossaman; daughter, Connie Fuchs; brothers Joe and Bob; and sister, Ava. She is survived by her twin brother, William "Bill" and wife Loretta McAllister of Conway, Ark.; brothers Stein McAllister of Sherwood, Ark., and Russell T. McAllister of Oklahoma City, Okla.; sister Katie Morgan of Mayfield, Ky.; sons Larry and Mark Nossaman and Robbie Blagg, all of Oklahoma City, Okla.; seven grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

**SEIDEN, Esther Jane,** born September 16, 1927, in St. Johns, Mich., and died January 3, 2017, in Minden, La. She was a member of the Minden Seventh-day Adventist Church. She loved life and proudly served her country in the United States Navy. She worked as a nurse's aide and continued to serve others throughout her life. Survivors: husband of 63 years, Richard O. Seiden of Houghton, La.; sons, Dwight Seiden and Anna of Tyler, Tex.; Dwayne Seiden and Lydia of Gentry, Ark.; Darrel Seiden and Karen of Morganton, N.C.; daughter, Helen Rodrigue and Hayes of Minden; brothers, Floyd Hall of North Las Vegas, Nev.; Wayne Hall and Virginia of Las Vegas, Nev.; 11 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.



## SABBATH SUNSET CALENDAR

	Mar 3	Mar 10	Mar 17	Mar 24	Mar 31	Apr 7
Abilene, TX	6:37	6:43	7:48	7:53	7:58	8:03
Albuquerque, NM	6:03	6:09	7:15	7:21	7:27	7:32
Amarillo, TX	6:44	6:50	7:56	8:02	8:07	8:13
Brownsville, TX	6:32	6:36	7:39	7:43	7:46	7:49
Dallas, TX	6:25	6:31	7:36	7:41	7:46	7:51
El Paso, TX	6:05	6:10	7:15	7:20	7:24	7:29
Fort Worth/Keene, TX	6:28	6:33	7:38	7:43	7:48	7:53
Gallup, NM	6:11	6:18	7:24	7:29	7:35	7:41
Galveston/Houston, TX	6:22	6:26	7:31	7:35	7:39	7:43
Gentry, AR	6:14	6:20	7:27	7:33	7:39	7:44
Little Rock, AR	6:06	6:12	7:18	7:24	7:29	7:35
Muskogee, OK	6:18	6:24	7:30	7:36	7:42	7:48
New Orleans, LA	6:00	6:05	7:09	7:14	7:18	7:22
Oklahoma City, OK	6:27	6:33	7:39	7:45	7:50	7:56
Roswell, NM	5:56	6:02	7:07	7:12	7:17	7:22
San Antonio, TX	6:34	6:39	7:43	7:47	7:51	7:56
Shreveport, LA	6:13	6:19	7:24	7:29	7:34	7:39
Tulsa, OK	6:20	6:26	6:32	7:38	7:44	7:50

**Note:** Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 a.m. on March 12.





# On the Record »

BY JESSICA LOZANO » COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR, SOUTHWESTERN UNION

## 10,008 Minutes at Summer Camp

**HOW MANY MINUTES DOES IT TAKE TO CHANGE A LIFE? 10,008 IS A GOOD NUMBER TO START WITH AS IT REPRESENTS** a week away from the pressures of daily life in a Christ-centered community. Summer camp was specifically created to give youth the opportunity to engage in resilience- and character-building activities, and

it truly provides countless moments in which lives might be changed.

This holds true for campers who, many times, are away from home for the first time. As they learn new skills and create new relationships away from the distraction of life, they build confidence in themselves and their abilities. Most children don't have the opportunity to ride horses, paddle canoes, go on nature walks, or swim on a daily basis. Performing these activities in the safe and nurturing environment provided by summer camp allows children to chal-

lenge themselves, as well as build social skills as they take on these challenges with new friends. Through these activities they build confidence and physical stamina. The beautiful setting of camp also allows children the opportunity to observe and learn to respect God's marvelous creations in nature.

Sleeping in bunk beds in cabins with new friends under the watchful eye of a camp counselor, attending morning devotions and evening worships around a campfire, talking with friends about the daily lessons they've learned about God—

these are all experiences that are unique to summer camp.

Summer camp can also be a life-changing experience for camp staff. Usually former campers, staff members are often given the humbling responsibility of being camp counselors and skills teachers. This gives them the opportunity to share in the experiences of the campers, as well as learn what it means to lead and serve.

Lives are changed at summer camp. Consider sending your child or sponsoring a child to attend summer camp this year.

Visit [www.SouthwesternAdventist.org/Youth](http://www.SouthwesternAdventist.org/Youth) for information about an Adventist camp near you.



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### Submissions

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.

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

SWAU HOMECOMING

April 6-9, 2017

# THROUGH THE MIZPAH GATE



## HOMECOMING HIGHLIGHTS

- Banquet ft. fiddler Ridge Roberts!
- Sabbath Potluck
- Worship Services
- Heritage Singers Concert
- Knights Unite - Alumni VS Students
- 20th Annual Golf Classic
- 5K - Run for ADRA
- Knight Ride - Motorcycle Ride

ONLINE REGISTRATION  
[swau.edu/homecoming](http://swau.edu/homecoming)

ALUMNI FACEBOOK  
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## UNIVERSITY EVENTS

University Experience  
March 23-26

Alumni Homecoming  
April 6-9

University Experience  
April 20-23

Dates subject to change; check  
our website to stay up to date.

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