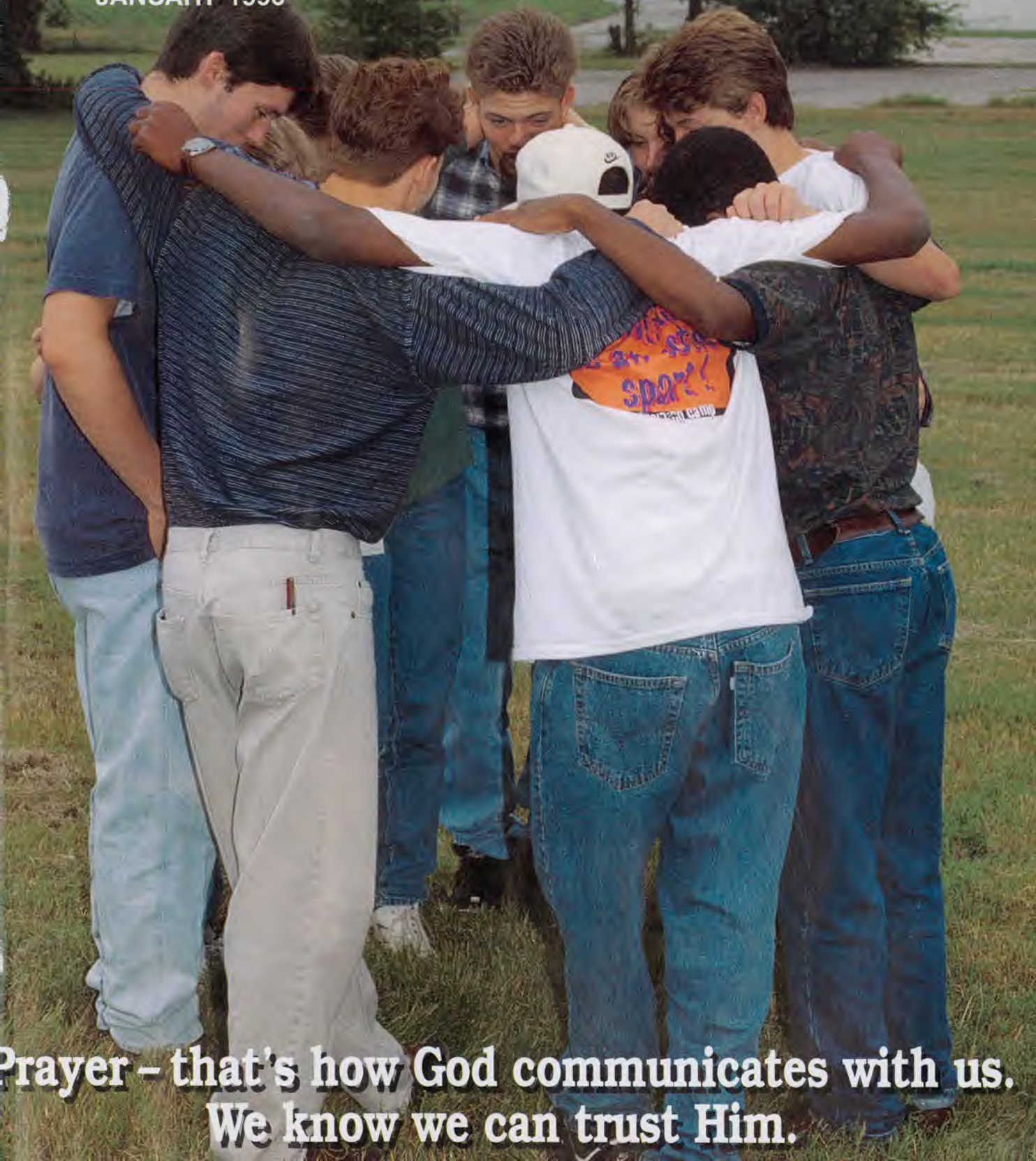


# SOUTHWESTERN UNION RECORD

JANUARY 1996



**Prayer – that's how God communicates with us.  
We know we can trust Him.**



# The Year 2000 —

## Does it matter?

## Does it hold any significance?

Will the folk who stay up until after midnight on December 31 to "ring in the new year" take time to recognize we are now one year nearer to the year 2000, or will they just go to bed without giving it a thought?

What's so significant about the year 2000? In *Megatrends 2000, Ten New Directions for the 1990s*, John Naisbitt and Patricia Aburdene make this comment on page 271: "Religious

belief is intensifying worldwide under the gravitational pull of the year 2000, the millennium. Described first in the Old Testament book of Daniel and then in the New Testament book of Revelation 20:1-7, the millennium is the 1,000-year period when Christ and his saints will reign supreme on earth in peace and joy. It marks the beginning of a golden age in human history."

Several religious bodies are thinking along this same vein, and they're making definite plans for this new millennium. They envisage a new world—a golden age. How it will become "golden" is yet to be spelled out, but some have been articulating their thoughts in news magazines and other publications.

One church body has publicly stated, "Our mission is to activate \_\_\_\_\_ citizens, increase the \_\_\_\_\_ electorate's influence in formulating public policy and focus the public's attention on the richness and beauty of \_\_\_\_\_ teaching. We are building the greatest coalition of \_\_\_\_\_ leaders in American

history and recruiting these leaders from every part of the

country and from every walk of life." Taken from an annual national convention brochure.

A significant event took place on March 29, 1994 when

### PRAYER

#### How do we begin?

"Those who would advance in spiritual knowledge must stand by the very fount of God, and drink again and again from the wells of salvation so graciously opened unto them. They must never leave the source of refreshment; but with hearts swelling with gratitude and love at the display of the goodness and compassion of God, they must be continually partakers of the living water." (E.G. White, *Selected Messages*, page 135)

leading American evangelicals and Catholics signed a joint declaration titled "Evangelicals and Catholics Together: The Christian Mission in the 3rd Millennium."

In their book, Naisbitt and Aburdene comment on how time was when the world looked to technology to solve its problems. However, just the opposite has happened—problems have mushroomed. "Then the turning away from

**FRONT COVER:** Ozark Academy students who are serious about having a right relationship with God spent the week of September 27 in a prayer conference on campus.





the religion of technology, and the reemergence of spirituality as manifested in the religious revival, are signs of great hope. Having vowed to make war and weapons of mass destruction obsolete, a renewed humanity begins the task of healing the environment." (*Megatrends 2000*, page 296)

The concluding paragraph in their chapter on Religious Revival of the Third Millennium states: "As the symbolic year 2000 approaches, humanity is not abandoning science, but through this religious revival, we are reaffirming the spiritual in what is now a more balanced quest to better our lives and those of our neighbors." (*Megatrends 2000*, page 297)

#### IT'S COUNTDOWN TIME.

It's time to read again what was written 100 years ago by an inspired writer: "Let the principle once be established in the United States that the church may employ or control the power of the state; that religious observances may be enforced by secular laws; in short, that the authority of church and state is to dominate the conscience, and the



**The 400 ninth and tenth grade students who gathered for a prayer conference at Ozark Academy found new meaning in how to commune with their heavenly Father. Evening prayer sessions could have lasted until after midnight if the adults had not intervened! Photo: Editor**

triumph of Rome in this country is assured.

"God's word has given warning of the impending danger; let this be unheeded, and the Protestant world will learn . . . only when it is too late to escape the snare . . . Stealthily and unsuspectingly forces are being strengthened and soon the purpose will be revealed." (*Great Controversy*, page 581)

We're all familiar with the story in Matthew 25 of the bridegroom who was a long time coming, and the ten virgins all became drowsy and fell asleep. "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'"

"Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.'"

"No," they replied, "there might not be enough for both us and you' . . . The virgins that were ready went with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut."

World events—the crime, the deceit, the corruption, earthquakes and other

disasters, the merging of political and religious ideals—all tell us one thing: Keep watch! Be prepared!

It's countdown time. That's what these events tell those of us who are serious about the future. As we begin this new year will we take advantage of the little time left to fill our lamps with oil? We've been told that "None but those who have fortified the mind with the truths of the Bible will stand through the last great conflict . . . The decisive hour is even now at hand . . . Are we prepared to stand firm in defense of the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus?" (*Great Controversy*, page 594)

It's time to get serious. It's time to put our priorities in the right order. It's time to be earnest about Bible study and prayer. We want that extra oil in our lamps when the bridegroom comes!

#### LET'S BEGIN THE NEW YEAR RIGHT.

On the yellowed pages of an old book entitled *Make My Life Count* by Raymond C. Ortlund, he asks this question:

"How long is the great mass of God's people going to be so preoccupied with the fringes, the externals, the side issues? . . . How long have you and I been vaguely aware—theoretically aware—of God's presence with us? I think all heaven's waiting and perhaps saying, 'I think they might get it. Look, look, maybe at last they're getting it!'"

January 6, 1996 has been designated by the North American Division as a special day of prayer for all churches across the division. Some churches have made definite plans. A 24-hour prayer vigil will be held beginning Friday evening and ending Sabbath evening. Other churches may have chosen some other way of observing this day. However it is observed, it's time to become serious.



#### PRAYER

***It's the way to keep in contact with our Heavenly Command Center***

"MISSION CONTROL, Mission Control, this is Columbia . . ." In the missions to the moon and ensuing space journeys made by NASA space shuttles, we have seen the need for continuous communication and a close working relationship between the shuttle crew and mission control in

Houston. The astronauts did not go it alone. That would have courted certain disaster!

This same principle applies to us as Christian astronauts on our way to our heavenly



**"Our lives have changed since coming to this prayer conference—we'll never be half-hearted Christians again. Prayer has taken on an altogether new dimension." (Apologies for not knowing these students' names!—Editor.)**



space station. For us to maintain safe passage there needs to be constant communication with our "mission control." To try to keep on



John McFarlane

track and dodge the many foreign objects along the way with little guidance from our Master Controller will end in disaster.

It's only with competent direction from Mission Control that we can be guaranteed safe passage.

Each morning as I awaken I feel like an astronaut being aroused from his rest period in space with a "Good morning, this is Mission Control." The Holy Spirit reminds me with clear words of my need to connect with Mission Control. "... Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness ..." (Matthew 6:33)

Notice the two things we are to seek: God's rule, or will, and His character, both of which really amount to the same thing. To ensure safe passage each morning, we are to seek the faith that will keep us from rearing off course. "And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart." (Jeremiah 29:13)

Our commander invites us to come to Him: "Come to me, all you that labor and are heavy laden ..." (Matthew 11:28) He knows that every morning we awaken to carnality and that we're in need of spiritual regeneration and direction. It is only by getting in touch with our Command Station that we are empowered to keep control of our movements. It's by His spirit we are made obedient through faith, knowing that our Commander will keep us on course.

It has been my experience that answered prayer comes only when there is a close relationship with Christ and



Annie Beatrice Musgrove Attaway from San Marcos celebrated her 100th birthday on September 27. She is happy and outgoing

and remembers everyone's name. She loves to read her Bible and pray to the God who has kept her all these years.

when these three scriptural principles are practiced:

- 1) Ask according to His will,
- 2) Ask believing, 3) Ask persistently.

1. **Ask according to His will:** "Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him." (1 John 5:14,15 NKJV)

All of God's commands in scripture are His will. Yes, and coming with His commands is a promise of fulfillment when we act by faith. So, in every command-promise that is acted upon obedience through faith, I see God answering according to His will. Take, for example,

## PRAYER

### *How should we pray?*

"Heaven is too busy to listen to half-hearted prayers," E.M. Bounds writes, "The vision of the need for which you pray must become a burning passion to see God's answer ... It must be a compelling drive. It must add fervency to your praying and put the iron of determination within your soul ... Prayers must be red hot. It is the fervent prayer that is effective ... It takes fire to make prayers go." (Wesley L. Duewel, *Mighty Prevailing Prayer*, pages 75, 79)

the 10 Commandments. They are 10 specific command-promises which are, in effect, saying to us, "Because your relationship with Me is one of obedience by faith, you will not have idols in your life, you will honor my name, and you will hallow my Sabbath day. In relationship to others, you will honor father and mother, hold life sacred, be faithful to your partner in marriage, respect the property of others, be honest in all your dealings with others with no hunger for what is theirs. So it is with all of His commands. All of God's promises are claimed in the same way, by faith, guaranteed by His righteousness, residing as they do within the compass of His will.

2. **Ask believing:** "... let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways." (James 1:6-8)

The swiftest way I know of overcoming doubt is to look at the life and words of Christ, what He was to persons, what He did while on earth and what He said about the kingdom of God. I cannot look at His life and His love for men, women and children, but doubt His love and total care for you and me. When a dark doubt enshrouds someone and they tend to veer off course, I can "be faith" to that other soul by bearing them up in prayer and with encouragement while they go through this dark passage. I long to help others in this way, for in so doing I, myself, am helped. With Christ at the Command Center, doubt is defeated and belief is strengthened.

3. **Ask persistently:** "The unrighteous judge in the parable of Luke 18 avenged and vindicated the widow in her quest by saying, 'Even though I do not fear God or

## PRAYER

### *It's the only way we'll make it to the kingdom.*

"A revival of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our needs. To seek this should be our first work. There must be earnest effort to obtain the blessing of the Lord, not because God is not willing to bestow His blessing upon us, but because we are unprepared to receive it. Our heavenly Father is more willing to give His Holy Spirit to them that ask Him, than are earthly parents to give good gifts to their children. But it is our work, by confession, humiliation, repentance, and earnest prayer, to fulfill the conditions upon which God has promised to grant us His blessing. A revival need be expected only in answer to prayer." (E.G. White, *Selected Messages*, page 121)

care about men, yet because this widow keeps bothering me I see that she gets justice ... " (Luke 18:4, 5 NIV) Jesus used this parable to illustrate God's responsive heart to someone who is persistent in their request. "And shall not God bring about justice for His chosen ones who cry out to Him day and night? Will He keep putting them off? I tell you, He will see that they get justice, and quickly." (Luke 18:7, 8 NIV)

For the first seven years of my ministry in another denomination, I did not have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. This is not strange, for even a pastor can have an intellectual faith, knowing the content but not the Person. It took illness and the subsequent death of our second son, Billy, to get my attention, reveal my need, and to lead me to seek and find a personal relationship with Christ.



On a cold morning in March, I got up at 5:30 and went downstairs to "meet with God," hoping He would reveal Himself to me. That first morning, wrapped in a blanket, since it was not yet time for the heat to come on, I propped myself up in a stuffed chair to pray, read scripture and journal my thoughts. Nothing happened. But I did not give up. I believed God could be found.

The next morning I went down again, and did the same things, but nothing happened. This went on for seven days, 30 days, 100 days, 200 days . . . but then on the 210th day, while at a convocation on evangelism in Cincinnati, Ohio, I was led providentially to a loving Christian who shared how I could open the door of my heart to let Jesus come in. It took all that time to really humble me and get me to where Christ could speak to me.

My life and ministry, that of my precious wife and sons, and many in the congregation I served in underwent a joyous change because of this new birth experienced through faith in Him.

To this day I remain persistent and consistent in my

communication with my heavenly Command Station, for it is only as there is a constant flow of communication that I can be guided through life's maze and be assured of reaching my heavenly space station.

*John H. McFarlane  
Returned missionary from  
Scotland*



## PRAYER *It's how miracles take place.*

A PHONE CALL at work informed me that my brother was unable to find my father when he went for a visit. He couldn't find him at home or at any of the places where he usually went. But on his way home he drove by the hospital in Marshall. There he saw Father's car.

Upon inquiring inside, he discovered that Daddy had been hospitalized, although it was not yet known what the problem was. He'd been hemorrhaging and had lost so much blood he'd been given transfusions.

When I called the hospital, the charge nurse told me that Daddy was in stable condition. I talked with Daddy and found him in good spirits. By the time I arrived at the hospital, the medical staff had established that Daddy had cancer. The doctors recommended chemotherapy and radiation but were undecided as to whether it would work.

Daddy was transferred to Baylor Hospital where treatments were begun. After his fifth treatment, his condition worsened. We



**Merlene Harris with her father, who was miraculously healed of cancer.**

prayed and read scripture together.

The doctors told us that it appeared he'd had this cancer for over 10 years and couldn't understand how he had endured the pain for that long. He told them, "King Jesus, the Creator, the One who owns this body, helped me endure the pain."

Daddy always prayed three times a day. He also got up at night and prayed three times during the night. He taught me to pray too. "There's power in prayer," he'd say.

The doctors tried to build up his strength for surgery, but their medicine didn't work. He just became weaker. "The cancer is too bad," they said.

X-rays of his throat showed the extensiveness of his cancer. "The only thing we can do is to make him comfortable," they told us. It seemed that he would choke to death.

Walter Wright from the Southwestern Union Conference went with me to pray for Daddy. As Elder Wright prayed, I prayed silently: "Lord it's not for me, but for the non-believers. I know you're the same God who raised Lazarus from the dead. We have faith you can work a miracle.

Lazarus was dead. My Daddy is not dead, he needs healing."

The next day my Daddy sat up and wanted some food. The doctors were amazed. "We

weren't looking for Mr. Jefferson to be alive this morning," they said. "A miracle has taken place."

Yes, God healed my Daddy that night! I showed everyone the x-rays. Many couldn't believe it, but I did. He had surgery, and he's home now and doing fine.

He was hospitalized March 12, 1995, and released April 25. He has now moved back to our

home town, Jefferson. He's back on his job and telling everyone what God has done for him. *Merlene Harris*



## PRAYER *It protects us from danger.*

ROBERT MONSOUR, an independent truck driver from Keene, Texas, carried a load of 12,000 pounds of medical equipment from Salt Lake City, Utah, to Atlanta, Georgia. Not far from Cheyenne, Wyoming, he passed a large truck while going down a steep incline. As he returned to the right lane, he hit an air pocket which pushed him onto the shoulder of the road.

He fought to maintain control, but it seemed the harder he fought, the more ground he lost. The truck rolled over several times and slid hundreds of feet before coming to a stop.

"The truck is a total loss," explained Robert, "but I am still alive, and I thank God for that. Even though the tractor I bought, a 1995 Peterbilt, is a

## PRAYER

### *When it's fervent, it can accomplish the impossible.*

"Prayer is not limited to the humanly possible. Prayer is a work of faith. The purpose of prevailing prayer is to bring to pass things that are divinely possible and that are in God's will . . . In prevailing prayer you are asking God to do things you can accomplish in no other way. To prevail you need to desire and hunger deeply, to pray with fervor and passion. (Wesley L. Duewel, *Mighty Prevailing Prayer*, page 91)





Robert and Cindy Monsour. Photo: Bill Wright

total loss, I thank God that I'm still here, alive, and able to testify to God's love and grace. I'd like to thank all my brothers and sisters for the prayers they have offered for God to look after me and protect me as I travel."

"When I saw the truck," comments Cindy, Robert's wife, "tears streamed down my face, and I said, 'Thank you, Jesus,' and 'Praise God.' By all rights Robert should be dead. But if you look at the pictures, you'll see that the only portion of the truck not crushed was right around the driver. I know his guardian angel was there."

"Today there should have been a eulogy," Robert and Cindy testified to members of the Forrest Hills church, "but instead, we are here to testify to the goodness of the God we serve."



The 1995 Peterbilt truck Robert Monsour was driving when he had the accident. Photo: Bill Wright



## PRAYER

***It kept the dogs away when I was doing God's work.***

I WAS IN MONROE, Louisiana this summer as a team member of the Ebony Evangelistic campaign. There were almost 20 young people about my age helping Evangelist S. D. Lewis with his meetings.

One day as I went from house to house to give out invitations to the meetings, I stopped in front of a house where there were three big barking dogs. I decided it was best to pass this house.

The time came, however, when I went that way again on my missionary path. I saw the dogs, but I could also see there were people inside who needed to know Jesus. They should have an invitation to the meetings. But the dogs kept barking ferociously. What should I do? I felt urged to make this contact.

I decided to pray and ask

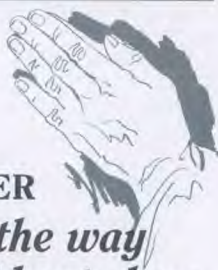


Zephon Lister, whose prayers were answered when he opened the gate leading to a house where the dogs were barking fiercely.

God to help. I asked Him to send strong angels to protect me. He gave me faith and courage. When I opened the gate, the dogs fled! One dog ran to one side of the yard and another ran to the other side of the yard. The third dog gave me no problem, so I walked up to the door and rang the bell.

The people were very nice and accepted the invitation to attend the gospel meetings. And they did accept Jesus and were baptized into the church. When we're doing God's work, we can claim the words of the song that says, "Ask the Savior to help you, comfort, strengthen and keep you. He is willing to aid you. He will carry you through."

Zephon Darnell Lister  
Son of Southwest Region  
Conference president,  
Robert Lister



## PRAYER

***It's the way God kept close to me in my travels.***

NO ONE CAN TELL ME that God isn't alive and active. I've just returned from a two-year term of service teaching nursing at our University of Eastern Africa at Baraton, Kenya. During this time, and even since, I've seen God's hand in my life.

One day I was on a ferry boat on Lake Victoria going from Kendu Bay to Homa Bay,

Kenya, when the boat suddenly ground to a stop. After a few minutes it backed up and eventually began going forward again. I didn't think much of the incident until a few weeks later when I heard that ferry had sunk. Why wasn't I on it when it went down?

Once, upon returning to my home from a teaching assignment off campus, I was greeted by two snakes staring at me on my doorstep. There "happened" to be several student nurses waiting on the grass nearby to talk to me. We all saw the snakes at the same time. "Go for the head," shouted one, and a small female took up her umbrella and killed one. Then a male student used a stick he found to kill the other. Why were the students there when I returned home? They weren't usually there. And why did we get the snakes killed without any problems? Puff adder poison can kill you in 15 minutes.

Driving on the lonely road from Nairobi through Mombasa and on to Watamu, Kenya, we became extremely tired and prayed that we would find somewhere reasonable to spend the night. (There are no motels or hotels along that road.) Not long after that we discovered a small guest house

## PRAYER

***It enables everyone one to talk to God.***

"The prayer of the humble suppliant He presents as His own desire in that soul's behalf. Every sincere prayer is heard in heaven. It may not be fluently expressed; but if the heart is in it, it will ascend to the sanctuary where Jesus ministers, and He will present it to the Father without one awkward, stammering word, beautiful and fragrant with the incense of His own perfection." (E.G. White, *Desire of Ages*, page 667)



## PRAYER

***It's a way everyone can be involved.***

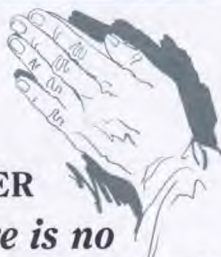
"Not everyone is called to be a missionary. But every Christian is called to be an intercessor. From your living room, you can bring the Living Water of Christ to the desert places in your family, church, community, nation, and world. Go ahead. Intercede for your children, your pastor, your mayor, members of Congress, ADRA workers, AIDS victims, gang bangers in this nation's inner cities, the perishing . . . neighbors you see and associate with every day on your block.

"Your Savior and King waits to cooperate with you in extending the triumphs of His cross and establishing His kingdom." (Randy Maxwell, *If My People Pray*, page 127)

built by another church society, where missionaries could spend a reasonable night. We stopped there, only to find that all four rooms were already taken! So we decided to bed down in the common room area. Just then two single male guests came and offered to share their space and let us have one of the rooms for the night. We

bowed in thanks to God for His gracious help in our need. Why did these men do this favor for us? All because we'd asked God to be with us in our travels.

*Phyllis Lemon  
VGA Faculty Member*



## PRAYER

***There is no request our God cannot meet. His miracles keep happening!***

LAST FALL VICKY WILSON came to the prayer group that meets every Sabbath morning at 9:00 in the Arlington church with a request that they pray for her mother, Darlene Smith. "She has serious heart problems and her condition is getting worse," Vicky said.

As reports came in regarding her declining condition, the future became less and less promising.

"She's in such a bad condition," one of Vicky's friends said, "that Vicky has flown to Portland to be with her mother."

And in Darlene's own words she said, "I was admitted to the Oregon Health Sciences University Hospital on November 21, 1994, to have the fluid drained from my heart. When I voiced my surprise at being put in CCU, the doctor said, 'Your heart is not good. We feel you have only a few weeks to live.'"

"I'd never dreamed of having a heart transplant," Darlene continued as she



**Christmas in the hospital:** From left, Vicky Wilson, with her father and mother and two sisters, waiting for a donor heart.

recounted this experience, "but that seemed the only way to recover from my deteriorating condition. My name was added to the National Registry on Wednesday, November 23.

"Prayer became very real to me. I asked the Lord to work out His will in my life and that I would accept this decision, whatever it might be. Prayer chains were activated in many parts of the country."

Vicky flew to Portland to be at her mother's bedside. As Christmas day approached, the swelling and medication became a problem. The kidneys showed signs of possible failure, and for a time Darlene's name was removed from the transplant list. Then as the kidneys began to function better, her name was again put on the list.

"My family took turns staying in my room to watch the monitors and keep me comfortable. It was easier for me to sleep knowing someone was watching over me.

When one of the physicians, Dr. Gary Ott, came to see me and heard Christian music being played in the room, he shared the fact that he belonged to a prayer group and that they had prayed for me on Tuesday night.

"On Saturday, January 7, 1995, at 1:05 in the morning, the nurse came into the room and shook Vicky's arm saying, 'They have a heart!' I was so

drowsy that I don't remember the doctor trying to explain this to me, and I went right back to sleep. At 2:00 Dr. Ott came into my room and prayed with my family. He also prayed for the heart and the surgeons."

Surgery went well, but other complications set in during recovery. Vicky remained by her mother's bedside for three months. During that time friends and prayer groups kept asking God for healing. Finally on March 8 Darlene went home.

"The doctors told my family to make me comfortable, for I probably did not have long to live."

After arrangements had been made for round-the-clock nursing, Vicky flew back to her home in Arlington, knowing that her mother was left in



**Phyllis Lemon with two of her LVN students at Valley Grande Academy School of Health and Technology. Merlyn Zaceta shares her faith and prays with the patients she works with in the hospital, and William Corona knows that God answers prayers because he has been able to help pay his school bill by working at the local hospital.**

## PRAYER

***It doesn't always have to be verbalized.***

"Prayer is something deeper than words," says prayer warrior E.M. Bounds. "It is present in the soul before it has been formulated in words, and it abides in the soul after the last words of prayer have passed over our lips. Prayer is an attitude of our hearts, an attitude of mind."



good hands. Nursing care continued until insurance would no longer pay for the assistance.

It is just over a year since prayers first began ascending to the throne of Grace on Darlene's behalf. Recovery has been slow but sure. Darlene continues to gain strength. Recently she took advantage of the cheap air fares and flew down to visit Vicky in Arlington. In church on Sabbath she was interviewed by the pastor, Mike Tucker. "I feel great," she said, "and I'm even driving my car again. Until recently my legs were too weak to drive, but that is all in the past now. How wonderful it is to know that I've had prayer support all through this experience. God has worked a miracle on my behalf, and I look forward to fitting into whatever His plan is for me."

## PRAYER

*It affords protection in times of danger.*

AS I WAS WALKING with a friend on Tuesday evening, October 10, a white car pulled up beside us. In the car were six people, a man and woman in the front, with four people in the back.

I heard the man in the front tell a young woman in the back seat

to shoot "that woman." (She was being initiated into the Crips gang, and one of the neophyte rites is to kill someone.) She didn't shoot, so the man shouted at her again to shoot.

I looked around and wondered, "Is he telling her to shoot me?" The people around us just looked on. They seemed paralyzed. No one would even call the police. My friend was afraid. He began shouting my name, urging me to run. And he kept asking, "Why are they trying to shoot you? What's wrong?"

I looked straight into the eyes of the young lady who was pointing the gun at me. I started calling, "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus." And as I called "Jesus," the man cursed the young woman and again shouted, "Shoot her! Shoot her! I said shoot her now!"

All the time I kept calling, "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!" And for some reason she wouldn't pull the trigger. I saw the gun. It was a 9-mm rifle. The car was very close, and I probably would have died instantly if she'd shot me. But she just wouldn't shoot.

The car sped off up the street and turned around, but I could still hear the man shouting, "I told you to shoot her! to shoot her!" But she wouldn't do it, and they finally drove away.

I went home and sat down. I couldn't believe this had happened to me. I've seen this stuff on TV and I've read about it, but I never thought it would happen to me.

Five minutes after I got home, my



*"If it weren't for God's love, I would not be here today," comments Vernice Tyron, who is so grateful to be alive. Photo: Bill Wright*

friend pounded on the door, calling to me, "Vernice, come outside. There are police everywhere."

"What's wrong?" I asked, as I opened the door.

"Somebody just got shot!"

"What?" I asked in surprise. It had happened only minutes after I came into the house! I cried out, "Lord Jesus, that could have been me!"

But Jesus saw to it that it was not me, and I want to thank God for His mercy and grace. If it had not been for His love, I would not be here today.

Now I want to tell people that just because they're a Seventh-day Adventist doesn't make them immune to the violence of this world. The devil doesn't care. In fact, he's angry with Seventh-day Adventists because we have the truth—something special that the world doesn't have.

I thank God for being with me and shielding me. I want to encourage everyone keep in touch with God constantly. He will protect us. He will never leave us or forsake us.

Vernice Tyron  
Faith Temple Seventh-day  
Adventist Church

Dear Friends,  
I have a strong family history of cancer. My father died at age 65 and a sister at age 34. Today I am cancer free because of the graces of an Almighty God. I've just celebrated my 45th birthday and I've been praising God all day.  
I know somebody needs to know that God is able, and there is no failure in Him. Because of His mercies extended to me, my faith in Him has grown tremendously.  
On August 4, 1993, I underwent surgery to have a mass removed from behind my ear. The doctors discovered it was malignant. In the midst of my fear and anxiety I went to God for His guidance.  
After convalescing for a month, I began attending a tent effort in Hammond, Louisiana. That particular night after the sermon, evangelist J. D. Lee asked everyone with special needs to come to the front for an anointing and prayer service. I claimed God's promises for my healing.  
When I went back to the doctors for a check up the x-rays showed no masses, lesions or abnormalities. I was told to go home and come back in four months. Now, two years later, I am still free of cancer. God is good!

Yours in Christ,  
Guy D. Jones, Baton Rouge



## PRAYER

*It gives peace to a troubled heart.*

IN THE PAST six months my world of prayer has changed. It seemed before that my prayers were answered mostly



with "waits," but since the death of my daughter, Mary Clements, on April 5, 1995, my prayers have been answered immediately.

It has been remarkable how quickly the Holy Spirit is sent to comfort me. It's amazing. What a privilege, what a pleasure, and how much personal power there is in prayer.

If you have never thought much about prayer, or you've lacked faith to believe God will answer, take the advice from my experience and begin to tell God your sorrows and perplexities. Why not write them down with the date. Then as you get answers, check off your blessings. You will be surprised!

*Helen Kocsis  
Mesquite Church*

## PRAYER

***Youth at the teen prayer conference discover that "Christianity is an action sport" when God is the central figure.***

SOME KIDS CAME for the adventure, others came because their girlfriends were coming and still others came because they'd been selected and had no excuse not to. A few were there to experience a new relationship with their Lord. Some came from California, others from Washington, Michigan, New Mexico, and Oklahoma. They all arrived on the Ozark Academy campus Wednesday night, September 27, to attend



*Teens listen intently to the evening message about communicating with their heavenly Father.*

the first Teen Prayer Conference to be held in the North American Division.

When the group of students who had just completed small group leadership training arrived from Oklahoma's Wewoka Woods Adventist Center, the program went into full swing. The adults who had come to lead this prayer conference recognized that they would have to sit back and allow the group-in-training from Wewoka Woods, now so energized by the Holy Spirit, to lead.

These teens had no reservations about sharing what God had done for them, and they led out for the weekend. They showed their peers how to study the Bible in a way that meant something to them personally. They prayed with them and for them. They labored with youth who were

hesitant about giving their lives to God. From early in the morning until late at night, Bible study and prayer groups were in session. As teens surrendered to the working of the Holy Spirit, they were encouraged to share with others. Their fervency and ardor for God's cause took some of the other teens by surprise, and some resisted, but by the end of the weekend, almost every one of the 400 students in attendance had renewed their commitment to Christ and had a new appreciation for prayer and Bible study.

Take Mike. He was working at the cafeteria at Wewoka Woods when the teens-in-training arrived. He joined one group but soon left. He couldn't stand what was taking place. Coming from a dysfunctional home and having been

belittled once by a pastor, Mike had no time for religion or God. Being surrounded by teens who were on fire for Christ was more than he could take. But that weekend the teens worked on him. They included him in their activities and invited him back to their small groups.

Finally Mike could resist no longer. He gave his life to the Lord, and what a change took place! He went with this group-in-training to Ozark Academy. As one of the 400 attending the prayer conference, he participated in everything. He was not reticent to share what God had done for him. On Thursday when everyone went to witness and pray with residents in the towns and villages around the academy, Mike was with them. He enjoyed this experience so



*Mike, sitting on the floor, shares a meaningful text with the counselor group.*





Teens surround Leo and Ann Garbutt as they intercede with their heavenly Father on their behalf. Photo: Editor

much he felt he might even do it once he got home again.

Anyone who expressed a problem or burden was soon surrounded by other teens who would send up their petitions for God's intervention. When Dr. Leo Garbutt, an orthopedic surgeon, and his wife, Ann, came asking for prayer, these teen group leaders listened to his tragic story.

"I grew up self-sufficient and very strong," he told them. "I could beat anyone twice my weight. I ran in races and almost always finished first. No one in high school could beat me in wrestling. I won national championships. I became very happy with myself.

"While attending school in Cuba I was taken into the army. I was assigned as a driver to take wounded from the field. Later I went into the ministry and then into medicine.

"Although I always asked the Lord to guide me and knew He could be trusted, there was still a void deep inside. Then my wife and I attended a prayer conference at Cohutta Springs, Georgia. I had always thought I knew how to pray, but at this conference I learned differently. Great changes took place in my life; however, these



Teens stood for about half an hour with their hands on T. J. while they prayed for his victory over drugs. Photo: Editor

changes did not bring an absence of problems."

Dr. Leo then explained how, because of jealousy from other orthopedic surgeons, pressure had been brought on him to sell and move his practice. Insurance companies had been encouraged to cancel his policies, and malpractice suites were being brought against him falsely. "I used to think I was able to handle all my problems, but now I recognize I need God's intervention more than ever before."

Those teens set Dr. Leo and his wife on two chairs in the middle of the room and surrounded them, some kneeling and others standing, all stretching out to touch this couple. They shared Bible promises, they prayed, they

sang choruses of courage, and prayed again and again. There were no pauses. Everyone kept pressing their petitions to the throne above. The room seemed charged with the presence of angels. This prayer meeting would have lasted until late in the night had not one of the adults brought it to a close.

Then there was T.J. from New Orleans. Friday morning he shared with the group leaders that he had a drug problem. They surrounded him and again pressed their petitions Above. "Dear God," they prayed, "You know all about T.J. Please protect him and keep him from further temptation. Give him strength to stand for the right once he gets home again." Petitions continued without a break for about 20 minutes until the next meeting began. T.J. has a new outlook on life—he knows there is a God who cares, and there are teens who care. He's a changed teen.

What's happened since the teens went home? Several parents have expressed their surprise and joy at listening to their kids tell of their spiritual journeys and the victories they have gained. One pastor tells how when some kids got home they talked for three hours with their parents about their experiences at the prayer conference.

"I've noticed," the pastor continued, "that some teens have taken down the posters they had in their rooms and their language has been cleaned up. And on Friday nights they are having Bible study and prayer groups."

"I'm so thrilled," commented a mother, "that my daughter, a freshman, was one



The spiritual atmosphere was there. Everybody bonded together. I liked how we could pray to God openly and not be embarrassed. It was amazing because all the kids were into serving God.— Gabrielle Ruff, grade 9



I understand God's Word a lot better now. I know I'm not alone. If I'm ever in trouble I can turn to Him for help.— Ifonso Melendez, grade 10



I loved the small groups. There were about nine of us in my group. I liked that because it was more comfortable and family-like. We prayed together often in conversational prayers which really touched me.—Stephanie Carlile, grade 9



I felt like everybody was there to learn more about God. Everyone had a real spiritual attitude. We prayed a whole lot—I really enjoyed that.—Wes Fjeldsted, grade 9

of those who received the leadership training. Now she is equipped to help lead out in the spiritual aspects of the school."

What will the lasting effects of this prayer conference be? Only time will tell, but right now these kids describe this experience as being "awesome!" By participating in the prayer conference they have learned that the slogan on their T-shirts, posters and notebooks, *Christianity Is an Action Sport*, is an exciting adventure with God.



**This is the time to get serious about prayer.  
It's our avenue to heaven's resources.  
It's our way to eternal life.**





## DAY OF PRAYER

### January 6, 1996

## A Sabbath for Prayer January 6

Division president A. C. McClure is asking us—wherever we may be on January 6—to intercede in prayer for these special needs:

1. That God will bring us to a time of repentance and recommitment before Him so that we are willing to listen to His voice and be useful for His purposes.
2. That God will be able to lead us corporately so that we may accomplish His will on the earth and bring unity to our ranks.
3. That God will show us how we can love back to His kingdom those who at one time walked with us but no longer do. That includes many of our children.
4. For our leaders, that they may be protected from the attacks of the enemy and provide the strong spiritual guidance so much needed by an end-time church.
5. For our soul winning in the new year, and especially NET '96.

## Southwestern Union

**EVERY LEADER** brings to his position his own unique perspective based on his skills and experiences. In a recent interview, newly-elected Southwestern Union president, Max A. Trevino, shared some of his thoughts on his new role.

*With the news that Cyril Miller had accepted the appointment as evangelism coordinator of the North American Division, people began wondering who the Union Executive Committee would choose to replace him. I understand that you had not seriously considered being elected president. Is that true?*

Yes, it's true. I never aspired to the office, but during the process of the election I began to feel that it was more of a possibility than I had imagined. At first, I felt overwhelmed, especially since I do not have the preaching skills that Elder Miller has. I see myself more as an administrator. However, when the final vote was taken, it became clear to me that God was calling

me and my particular administrative skills to the presidency.

*How did your family react to this new appointment?*

Well, my wife, Betty, was very surprised and pleased. She is a third grade teacher at Burton Adventist Academy, and when I called to give her the news, naturally, she said that she would support me. My son, Jason, who is a Dallas architect, was also surprised. My daughter, Andrea, said she was very proud of her dad. She is in the graduate nursing program at Loma Linda and is married to Mark Cheneweth, a physical therapist.

*You are stepping into the union leadership at a time of change, when*



*Newly-elected Southwestern Union Conference president, Max A. Trevino, with his wife Betty.*

*several departments from the local conferences are being consolidated at the union level. What is your goal for this new venture?*

My goal is to make the union office as service-oriented as possible to the local



conferences and churches. We want to coordinate this new union departmental structure to make it easier for the five conferences to serve their members.

***In light of today's climate in the USA where political and religious groups are seeking to join forces to reinforce family values and religious worship, what do you view as being an urgent need in the Southwestern Union?***

There is little that politics can safely do other than to promote better enforcement of proper laws. To attempt to legislate morality is intolerable and will result in the erosion of our human and religious rights. But what we as a church can do is to emphasize the responsibility of parenting. All too often, we abdicate this highest of callings and expect others—the church, the state, our schools—to do it for us. The family is the foundation of the church.

***How do you envision communicating this need to the constituency?***

We have specialists at the union office who have proven to be extremely effective at doing just that! Walter Wright and his wife, Jackie, have held marriage workshops and family life seminars in many locations across the Southwestern Union. Wherever I go, people tell me how much Walter and Jackie's ministry has meant to their marriage or family. They have a busy schedule of seminars planned for 1996.

Likewise, Margaret Taglavore has long been acknowledged as an expert in children's ministries. In fact, Margaret was a children's ministries specialist long before there was a children's ministries department. She has worked with the Texas Conference for many years, and now that she is working with us on the union level, her services will be available to every church in the Southwestern Union. She also has scheduled many workshops throughout the union territory in 1996.

***Are there specific aspects of the work in the Southwestern Union that we, as lay people, could be praying for in our personal devotional time?***

I would especially appreciate your prayers on my behalf. I have been given a huge, sacred task. I must trust completely in God for wisdom and guidance. No man has the wisdom for such a role. By uphold-

ing me daily in your prayers, the members of the Southwestern Union Conference can unite with God and me to do a work that will glorify Him in our union.

***What role do you see lay people playing in helping to formulate plans for this union? Do you feel they can provide a perspective, though different from that of church employees, that might be of benefit?***

I welcome suggestions. I feel that administrators need input from their constituents. We have a "suggestion box" in our office, and over the years I have observed how our staff members have come up with excellent suggestions for making our office more efficient than the administrators never thought of. I think the same principle applies to our lay members, so I would be happy for them to submit their ideas in writing for our administrators and executive committee to consider.

***What are some of the pressing needs of the church, especially here in the Southwest?***

There are many needs! Some specific areas that have been part of my thinking are:

1. The need for strengthening confidence and accountability in leadership on every level. This includes local conferences, as well as the union, the North American Division, and the General Conference.
2. The need for the union and local conferences to do a better job of communicating our plans and programs to the members, including what is succeeding and even what is failing. In particular, we need to keep our members apprised of the departmental restructuring that we are piloting for two years and enlist their help in evaluating it at the end of the trial period.
3. The need to keep a strong emphasis on our educational system. My children attended our schools from first grade through graduate school, and Jason's training as an architect and Andrea's training as a nurse-practitioner have been tops. My wife has dedicated her life to the teaching ministry, so you can see that Christian education is important to me. I hope every member will share my vision of making Seventh-day

Adventist education accessible to all of our young people.

***Do you envision Net '96 playing a major evangelist role in awakening the constituency to the urgent need to spread the Good News, and do you have plans for encouraging as many churches as possible to participate?***

Absolutely! Net '95 was highly successful, and I'm excited to see how pastors are still finding people whose interest was sparked by that series. So we feel assured that with God's blessing and with so many more churches being involved in Net '96, the soul-winning potential is that much greater. The Revolving Fund is available to help churches finance the equipment, so there is no reason why all of our churches in the Southwest can't be involved in Net '96 and reap the blessings that those churches did that were involved in Net '95.

***If you could make one wish for 1996 that would come true, what would it be?***

My wish would be that in light of the serious times in which we live, every member of the Southwestern Union Conference would spend more time in prayer and Bible study, not only to make sure they are right with God and that He is guiding them, but also that God will be with their pastors, local conference administrators, and those of us at the union level. This should be a top priority with every member.

## STOP PRESS

At the Southwestern Union Executive Committee held on December 7, 1995, Deryl Knutson, treasurer of the Chesapeake Conference, was elected union treasurer to replace Max A. Trevino. Knutson is well known in the Southwestern Union, since he served as Oklahoma Conference secretary-treasurer from 1980-92 and assistant union treasurer from 1972-80.

Other union treasury changes voted by the committee are for Joel Wallace, trust services treasurer, to become undertreasurer and Jerry Davidson, accountant, to be assistant treasurer.



# A Summary of Church Ministries Services for the Southwestern Union



The December issue of the Southwestern Union *Record* carried an article describing the union's restructured church ministries services which comes into operation this January. In anticipation of inquiries that may arise regarding some of the details, the questions and answers below may be helpful.

## Has the Southwestern Union not always had departmental personnel? Why, then, has it been necessary to make this change?

Yes, the union has had some departmental personnel, but with the change in the overall structure of the Division, where services are no longer passed down from one level to the next, it has become necessary to develop new methods to provide training and the giving of information. In addition, budget cuts at all levels have necessitated the streamlining of services.

## What departments will be covered in this new model?

The departments in this new model will cover the following areas:

**Children's Ministries** will deal with children's Sabbath school training and curriculum materials. Margaret Taglavore, who has worked with children's ministries for the past 17 years in the Texas Conference, will expand her services to cover the whole union. In the past she has helped both the North American Division and the General Conference Sabbath school departments develop curriculum materials.

**Family Ministries and Sabbath School** will provide training in these two fields. Walter Wright has, with his wife Jackie, held excellent family life workshops in several locations of the union. He has also had successful union-wide Sabbath school workshops and will continue to offer these services.

**Personal Ministries** will provide church officers training, personal witnessing, Adventist Community Services coordination and lay involvement in NET '96. Dem Robles, most recently from the Texico Conference, has provided strong leadership in the past. Now he will expand his workshops to cover the entire union.

**Stewardship, Evangelism and NET '96 Training** will be done Ray Hubbard, who has been working at the Southwestern Union for the past three years. He will continue to provide workshops in these areas.

## How will it be possible for these four individuals to provide services to the whole union?

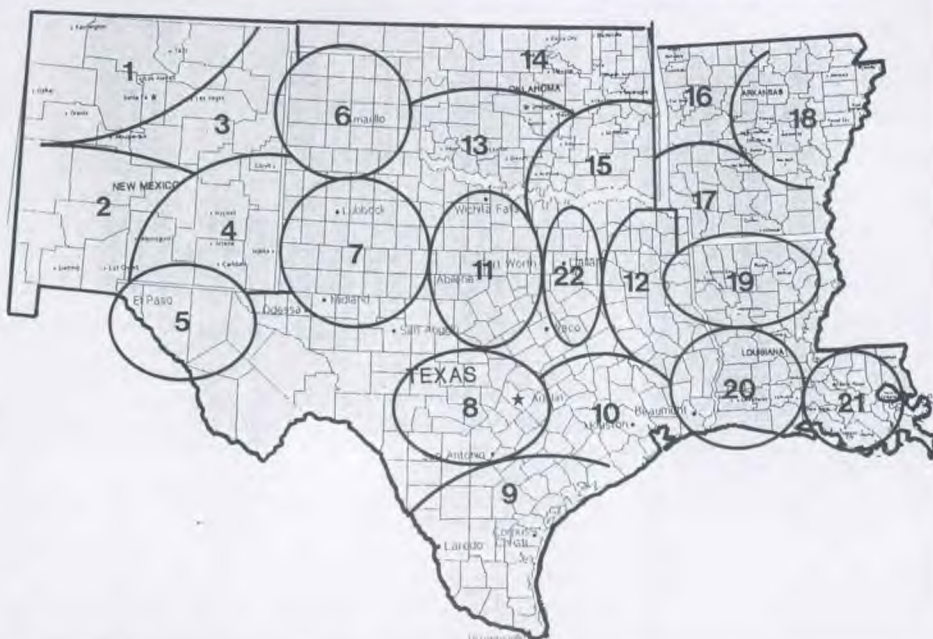
The union has been divided into 22 training areas. Church personnel in each of these given areas will meet for workshops and seminars at a centralized location in each area. The carefully planned schedule allocating approximately 8 weeks per year to each conference will ensure that each training area will receive an equivalent amount of attention.

## Will it be possible for a church to request departmental expertise in any given area? And how will this be handled?

1. Talk to your pastor and ask him to allow you to share your ideas with your church board for input and approval.
2. Communicate the request specifically in writing to the conference president once the local church board has given its approval.
3. The conference administration will forward the request to the appropriate department at the union office for consideration.
4. The departmental director will contact the pastor involved to work out details to cover the specific request.

## What is the ultimate goal of this two-year program?

It is hoped that with careful monitoring and evaluation during the next 24 months, it will be found that this new method is providing the expertise needed in each of the 22 training areas. If this is found to be the case, Stage II will be brought into effect where other departments such as youth ministries, trust services and communication will also be incorporated into this model.





# Oklahoma

JACK FRANCISCO, CORRESPONDENT

## Youth Focus on Christ's Example

A rebel force invaded Wewoka Woods Adventist Center the opening night of the annual Junior Academy Bible Conference when a group of rebels staged a sit-in during the opening session. Academy students who had come for the weekend soon learned that the rebels were actually their staff who were wanting to make a point. The point was that to follow Christ means being a rebel to the world.

The Bible study and discussion groups, lead by eleventh grade Parkview Academy students, centered around the rebel theme. They demonstrated ways in which Christ would take a stand in today's society. The Sabbath sermon by Willie Johnson, pastor of the Midwest City Christian Fellowship Church and Parkview Academy Bible teacher, dealt with being a "righteous rebel" for Christ.

Late Saturday afternoon students were taken to the kitchen in groups to make up their own hoagie sandwich sack supper. They were given the option to include other goodies such as chips, juice and dessert. When that was done, they were asked to make a decision.

They were given the choice of putting their sack supper into a box to be saved for eating later, or to put them into a box to be taken to the Oak Ridge Center where they would be given to the mentally handicapped residents.



Dana Williams shares a hug with an Oak Ridge resident.

Some students were ravishingly hungry after the hike around the lake, but they still made the decision to go without supper in order that an Oak Ridge resident could have a special meal.

The entire group went to Oak Ridge. Each student picked up the sack supper they had made, went into the dining hall and sat beside one of the assembled residents. The students helped the residents get the supper out of the bag and unwrap it. While the residents ate the supper, the students stayed and talked with them.

It wasn't long before spontaneous singing broke out. Then the students put on an impromptu concert. The residents dearly loved it and many tried to sing along. When time came for the students to leave, hugs and handshakes were shared all around. The residents begged the students to stay longer.

This "righteous rebel" experience is spreading throughout the Oklahoma Conference. Youth are taking charge of meetings and leading out in prayer sessions which often last more than an hour. They're willing to get involved and make a difference. With this army of youth rightly trained, the work will be finished.

Jack Francisco

## KJA Students Share Seeds with West Africa

Ketchum Junior Academy students started off the school year with a special mission project. Missionaries Herb and Linda Prandl had requested seeds to share with people in the villages of Burkina Faso, West Africa.

Students bought 18 packets of vegetable seeds to send to Burkina Faso.

After the seeds had been collected, the students prayed, asking for God's special blessings upon the seeds and the Prandl family's ministry.

A number of weeks later the students were very excited when they received a letter from West Africa. The Prandls wrote to say they had received the vegetable seeds and had been able to share them with gardeners in the villages.

## CNP Foundation Honors Wolfes

Ernest and Vera Wolfe, known throughout eastern Oklahoma County for their philanthropic endeavors and dedication to their community, were chosen as the 1995 "Light on Learning" honorees by the Choctaw/Nicomma Park Foundation.

Vera Wolfe, who has served as a volunteer in times of crisis, followed disasters across central Oklahoma. Most recently, even though she is now 85, she worked as Red Cross volunteer during the aftermath of the April bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City.

In 1974 she received a Byliners award certificate for community service and was honored for her volunteer work with the Red Cross in 1983.

In 1946, Ernest helped form the Central Oklahoma Milk Producers Association (COMA). Later he became its president and served the organization in that capacity for 14 years. Wolfe was also instrumental in establishing the Oklahoma Dairyman's Federal Credit Union and at age 86 still serves as a member of that organization's board of directors. He is also a former secretary and president of the Oklahoma Farm Bureau.

In the early 1980s when Eastern Oklahoma County Vo-Tech was formed, Wolfe was elected



Students at Ketchum Junior Academy who shared vegetable seeds with villagers of Burkina Faso in West Africa are, from the left, back row: Jackie Knight and Meagon Martin; front row: Lacy Simmons, Kristen Miller, Daryl Helms and Monica Martin.

to the school's board of education. Later he became the president of the board.

It was during his tenure on the Vo-Tech board that Wolfe, who along with his wife, had for many years taken an interest in the care of senior citizens, suggested that the school create an adult day care center.

Today the Ernest Wolfe Adult Day Care center serves as a training ground for students at the Vo-Tech and as a home-away-from-home for many senior citizens from across Eastern Oklahoma.

The Wolfes also helped found the Summit Ridge Retirement Center north of Harrah in the late 1970s.

## Claremore Experiences Spiritual Growth

Members of the Claremore church met each morning at 6:30 for the entire month of September to read the book, *If My People Humble Themselves and Pray*, and to pray.

On Sabbath, September 15, all the members joined in a spiritual feast at the home of Debbie and Floyd Summers at the time of their baptism. Others baptized on that day were Debbie's mother and nephew, Helen and Josh Marshall. Jay McGehee and Clarence Southard, a retired pastor, officiated.

On October 7, another baptism was held for Laurelei Beldin, Edwin and Kathilee Davidson, Savannah McDonald and April McGehee. At least another seven



An Oak Ridge resident is delighted with the supper Mike Clarke gave her.





The baptism held at the home of Floyd and Debbie Summers.

persons will also join the church through baptism soon.

Dianna McDonald  
Communication Secretary

## OKC Central Church Enjoys Action

Oklahoma City Central church is involved in both outreach to the community and with their immediate church family.

On Sabbath afternoons during October and November the church family "revisited" the beginnings of the denomination as they reviewed its history. Starting with the Great Disappointment of 1844, the church family and friends reviewed the way God has led and the important role Ellen G. White had in guiding its growth.

Wednesday evenings find the Central church family studying *The Crisis Ahead* by Robert W. Olson during the Prayer Power Hour. This book is a chronological compilation from the writings of Ellen G. White dealing with probation and the time of the end.

The bimonthly women's prayer breakfast on October 15 was coor-

each morning and evening. During the prayer group time, the women discussed their fruits of the spirit and how they have influenced them in their personal and professional lives.

A natural lifestyle cooking school was held from October 16 through November 13 with Birgitta Neff coordinating. Forty participants learned new, healthy recipes by watching demonstrations and videos.

Pastor Neff and his wife, Birgitta, were given an autumn basket filled with money during pastor's appreciation week.

Induction services were held on Sabbath, November 11, for the Pathfinders and Adventurers. John Flores, Pathfinder leader, and Doug Wilson, Adventurer leader, led in the induction ceremonies. The Pathfinder club has 28 members and six staff and Adventurers 20 members with four staff. Following lunch, the clubs went out to collect canned goods for Thanksgiving baskets from the community.

The "Financial Freedom Fund" that began on September 2, 1995 has exceeded the goal of \$26,250. November 18 was des-

ignated as Financial Freedom Fund Victory Day; however, Central had already exceeded the goal, with a total of \$29,474.58 as of November 11. With God's help, Central plans to always keep the financial statement in the black.

Sabbath School Investment secretary, Karen Gilman, has the cradle roll children collecting pennies, kindergarten collecting nickels and primary health food labels. Earliteens are involved in collecting aluminum cans, while the juniors are involved in a number of items. Family members will help to ensure that these monies add up to many dollars by September 30, 1996.

Leta Mae Jones  
Public Relations

## TAA Students Share Their Faith

During one Bible class period each week, students in grades nine and ten at Tulsa Adventist Academy have been distributing *Steps to Christ* to families living in the school neighborhood.

Young people go door-to-door in pairs, asking survey questions on spiritual topics, the last of which is "What do you feel is the source of true happiness?" This leads to giving the book, *Happiness Digest*, which is another name for *Steps to Christ*.

According to ninth grader John Huff, the students have been well received.

Seventh and eighth graders are conducting weekly morning worship programs for students in the fifth and sixth grades. The older ones have been sharing many of the things they learned either at the Ozark Adventist Academy prayer conference or

the recently-held Bible conference at Wewoka Woods.

## Tulsa State Fair Update

Even before we set up the booth at the fair, exhibitors were saying, "We really need your program again this year." And soon we learned why they needed us!

The very first night of the fair we noticed a man who was standing and just watching us. Finally he came and said, "Could I hug you?" And even before I could reply, I received the hug!

"You don't know who I am," he continued, "but last year I had no job and no place to live, but someone here offered a prayer for me and gave me a Bible. Now I have a job and an apartment. I also go to church and read that Bible." He left with the promise to ask God's Spirit to lead him as he reads His word. We know God will guide him!

Two young pastors came to the booth. Each of them explained how the youth from their churches were asking for Bible studies with substance in them, but their church had nothing to offer them. After visiting our booth, they each left with a pamphlet on how to study the Bible and a copy of *The Great Controversy*.

Then there was the 57 year-old man who came just to say thank you. He felt we'd saved his life. The year before when he came to the booth he had not been taking care of his body very well. We gave him some printed material on how to take care of his body. He told us how his sister had died a month ago from lung cancer, and he wanted material to share with his family about grief recovery and how to stop smoking.

More people than ever wanted Bible study material, and they signed up to receive the *Amazing Facts* studies. Each day brought new testimonies of how we had helped people. Anyone who thinks having a booth isn't important should try it once, and they'd change their minds. People of the world are longing for a better way of life and a hope in the future.

Two thousand five hundred people came to our booth this year. Only eternity will tell the results of the prayers we offered each morning before we began the day and the material we shared with the passers by.

Naomi Peugh  
Health Ministries Assistant



Oklahoma City Central Pathfinder group



## VGA Provides New Work Opportunities

Valley Grande Academy administration decided recently to venture into a new area to provide work for 14 and 15-year-old students. Approximately nine acres of ground went under the plow to provide garden space, some of the land right on campus and some across the street behind the laundry.

Plans call for growth of vegetables for the school's own kitchen (and selling if there is extra) and erection of greenhouses to germinate tropical plants to market. The plan provides work for students who cannot work at off-campus jobs because of their age. Older students work in area stores and restaurants and at Valley Grande Manor and Laundry. But finding enough jobs for younger students has been difficult.

"The new 'farm' will not only give work to the younger students," says Dr. Andrew Leonie, principal, "but it will also provide outdoor exercise and fresh air which we all need. I am encouraging the faculty to go out and work alongside our students. We are excited about the project."

In another area, the school is in the process of installing handicap-access to all the classrooms. Concrete ramps are being built to enable students in wheelchairs to enter buildings.

In addition, the nursing lab is being expanded. Enrollment increased in nursing from 13 last year to 40 this year, severely overcrowding the lab space. The expansion will help meet the influx of students who wish to take LVN training.

*Corrie Whitney*  
Vice Principal, Marketing

## Lois Pounds Chosen Volunteer of the Month

Lois Pounds and her husband arrived in Irving, Texas, in February, 1980. Shortly afterward, Lois's husband passed away. She has faithfully played the organ and piano for Sabbath services ever since and rarely misses a Sabbath.



**Lois Pounds**

Besides being a faithful church member, Lois has worked over 9,500 hours volunteering her services to the Irving Health Care Center and the Irving Justice Center. She is the facilitator for the Widow/Widower Support Group.

She has received several community service awards for her volunteer work over the years. Her witness is felt by many.

Irving Seventh-day Adventist Church is proud to count Lois as an active, punctual, and faithful member at age 84—an example to all.

*Virginia Redmon*  
Communication Secretary

## Southern College Honors Dr. K. M. Kennedy

During the past year Southern College polled their alumni for their "all-time favorite teacher" at Southern. The most-named teacher was Dr. Kenneth M. Kennedy.

At the recent Southern College homecoming banquet, Dr. George Babcock, chairman of Southern's education department, presented this honor to Dr. Kennedy.

*Jim Ashlock*  
Director, Alumni/College Relations

## Underhill Reports on Rumanian Trip

Upon their return from a short mission trip to Bucharest and Brashov, Romania, Dr. Mel Underhill gave a report to the Denton church on their activities.

"The Rumanian Adventists love the Lord," he said. "Ever since the communists tore down their church, they have been struggling under very difficult

economic conditions to rebuild. The contrast between their economic level and ours is unbelievable. Therefore, any assistance we give does great wonders. It is easy, then, to understand why they think we are so rich."

Underhill told of the great needs of students in the academy, and especially of one eleventh grade young man.

His father beat him and disowned him because he wanted to come to the academy and study to become an Adventist minister.

Five different groups of students and adults visited Romania during the fall, including one from Tacoma Adventist Academy in the Northwest, Shenandoah Valley Academy in the Potomac Conference, and a group from Southwestern Adventist College which included some members from North Texas.

A new group is already forming for a return visit in early 1996.

*Allen Kirtley*  
Communication Director

## Burton Tenth Grader Preaches at Dallas Church

Lorraine Henry, a Burton Academy tenth grade student, chose "Heaven" as her topic for the 11:00 o'clock message she



**Lorraine Henry, a 10th grade student at Burton Adventist Academy, meditates before delivering her sermon.**



**Kris and Mel Underhill and Carl Sadau who recently returned from Romania.**

delivered at Dallas Fellowship S.D.A. Church. Henry says she gets her material from Ellen G. White and from the Bible.

Beaman Senecal, Burton treasurer, who came to hear her preach, said, "This was not a child mouthing the words of adults, but a young woman who had a message from the Word of the Lord. You knew that there was a heaven to win when Lorraine finished her altar call."

Lorraine came to Burton last year and has been active in witnessing whenever and wherever she can. "I like to witness," she says, with a big smile on her face. "I will do anything that will bring me closer to God."

Henry is a member of the Burton Chorale and is often chosen to sing at chapels and outreach programs in the community. She bubbles with enthusiasm when she says, "I have been singing since I was born. My dad has always pastored churches, and he's always had me sing for special music."

In Dallas, Lorraine is active in the youth Sabbath programs every three weeks. She states that she likes these types of programs "because they help young people stay in the church."

When asked what she aspires to be, she said that she wants to attend Oakwood College to become an obstetrician so that she can bring life into the world. But for now, that dream will have to wait as she continues to sing and to witness. "I love doing it!" she says. And it shows.

*Sandra Cole*  
Burton Communication Secretary





Keene Adventist Elementary School students carrying the drug-free banner at the annual Red Ribbon Week parade.

## KAES Students Participate in "Red Ribbon Week"

It was not a "trick or treat" hoax when hundreds of youth from the Keene Elementary Public School and the Keene Adventist Elementary School marched in parade to the Southwestern Adventist College Mizpah Gate as the city fire truck and patrol cars rumbled and shrieked their sirens.

This parade of 500 plus students, led by the Keene Pathfinder Club honor guard in full dress uniform, was part of the "Red Ribbon Week's" activities to highlight a drug-free healthy lifestyle. A representative from the local Boy Scouts and even McGruff, the crime dog, went marching with the students who carried banners saying "No to Drugs!" Cheers, the pledge of alle-

giance, and speeches from the Keene mayor, Gary Heinrich, the KISD superintendent, and respective school principles, Francine Swayze and Ron Scott, brought this annual event to a close. Each school signed a pledge banner to be "drug free" and exchanged it with their sister school to be hung in a visible place.

"Now we hope this will bear fruit in the lives of the students," Smith stated.

"And," added Van Hurst, Texas Conference youth director, "drugs are all trick and no treat."

## Joshua School Holds Week of Prayer

The unique devotionals given by Ron Scott, principal of Keene Adventist Elementary School, held the attention of the students at Joshua Adventist Multigrade School throughout the week of November 13-17.

Thursday morning all the students joined in a softball game with principal Scott and the Joshua pastor, Terry St. Clair.

On Friday the students observed a day of colonial-style food, games and fun. They played marbles, toss the boot, roll the hoop, and penny toss. There were play-offs for winners in each game. For lunch they ate an old-fashioned Pilgrim Thanksgiving dinner with Johnny cake, real succotash, apple and corn fritters and vegetarian drumsticks. In the true spirit of the holiday,

children dressed either as Pilgrims or Indians. The upper grades had fun dipping candles.

**An annual project as a fund-raiser for the eighth grade is the calendar featuring free-hand nature drawings by seventh and eighth grade students. These are now available and may be obtained from Joshua Adventist Multigrade School by calling 817-645-3086.**



Christopher Bellamy, a member of New Hope church, was baptized this past summer at Nameless Valley Ranch. His great-great grandparents, Ed and Dollie Hancock and W. B. and Julie Capps, were the first members of the New Hope Church when it was organized on October 15, 1896.



Christy Suckla and Kim Gibson demonstrate how to make a sugar-free pie at one of the health and wellness seminars organized by Steve Jenkins for the members and community surrounding the Mansfield church.



Terry St. Clair, Joshua church pastor, joined in the Thursday morning softball game at the school.



KAES principal, Ron Scott, illustrating one of his Week of Prayer talks with shoes.



# Texico

## Midland Members Share Their Faith

Members of the Midland Spanish church know what it means to be active for the cause of Christ. Seventeen of them have been instrumental in sharing their faith with at least one other person which has resulted in a baptism.

Their youth and young adults also like to keep busy for God. Under the direction of Hernan Jimenez and Liz Perez, they have participated in religious dramas, camping, ingathering, Revelation Seminars, and church leadership. Their social activities have included volleyball, basketball, soccer and other games.

*Peter Weber, Pastor*



*Midland Spanish church members who led others to Christ are, from left, back row: Pastor Peter Weber, Hernan Perez, Arturo Ramirez, Hector Carbajal, Miguel Del Toro, Hernan Jimenez and Rodrigo Cortez. Front row: Maria Weber, Armida Ramirez, Susana Perez, Melania Horta, Edelmira Perez, Zulma Jimenez, Idia Carrasco, Rosa Keener, Gilma Beltran and Rosalba Cortez.*

## A New Church Is Established in Rio Rancho

Rio Rancho, New Mexico, is one of the fastest growing communities in the United States, and until recently the Seventh-day Adventist Church had no presence there. But on Sabbath, October 7, this all changed.

On this "high Sabbath" a group of members began meeting in the Rio Rancho Presbyterian Church, an attractive building with a spectacular view of the Sandia mountain range. Seventy-seven persons were in attendance. Since then the attendance has maintained an average of 80, with a high of 94 on November 11.

On that Sabbath, November 11, officers were elected, and on Sunday, November 12, the conference executive committee voted to grant the Rio Rancho group company status.

The Rio Rancho church is a dream come true for the Albuquerque churches. Several months prior to this date, a Rio Rancho Commission was established to lay plans for the project with representatives from all the churches under the leadership of Elder Moises Ponce and Jep Choate. The churches worked together in admirable unity to establish this new church, even though it meant that each congregation would lose a certain number of their members to its formation.

In addition, Steve Bohr, Texico Conference evangelism coordinator, began an evangelistic crusade in Rio Rancho on October 23. The meetings maintained an average attendance of 70, with about 30 being non-members. Several persons have made their decision to keep the Sabbath and be baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

"I believe," says Bohr, "that with the power of the Holy Spirit, the Rio Rancho church has the potential to become the fastest growing church in the greater Albuquerque area. Hundreds of people are moving into Rio Rancho each week, making this city fertile ground for the preaching of the Third Angel's Message."

## Amarillo Church Puts Love into Action

Members of the Olsen Park church really care about their students in academy and college and about their members who are no longer able to attend church services.

During vespers, October 28, members brought items to include in "care packages" for seven students who are away at school. They wrote letters to the students and prayed for them. Doug and Willyta Wamack, vespers coordinators, spearheaded the idea to let the students know that they have the love and support of their church.



*The members of the newly-formed Rio Rancho church in Albuquerque.*



On Sabbath, November 4, Women's Ministries distributed 21 "care baskets" to members who are no longer able to attend church services. This initiative by the Women's Ministries was to help absent members feel a connection with the church, even though they are no longer in attendance each Sabbath.

*Donna Songy-Wilson  
Communication Secretary*

## El Paso Churches Add New Members

This past year has shown improvements and growth for the churches in the El Paso Meraz/Clint district.

As a result of a Revelation Seminar held in the Meraz church by Dr. Victor Villalobos, 12 persons were added to the church. He studied personally with seven of them. Tony Gonzalez and other leaders also gave Bible studies and prepared people for baptism.

In the Clint church, Domingo Portillo and Armando Flores gave Bible studies and prepared persons for baptism.

In both churches it was laypersons who were used by God



*Tony Gonzalez (right) leads out in a Bible class at the El Paso Meraz church.*



*Emergency volunteers (left) place contaminated clothes and personal items belonging to Morgan Chacon and Jaminelli Liwanog in a plastic bag during an emergency disaster drill.*

## AAA Students Participate in Disaster Drill

Students and teachers of Amarillo Adventist Academy participated in the annual Potter/Randall County emergency disaster drill on October 4, 1995.

In this particular exercise, an imaginary accident had occurred at Pantex, a government facility in the area which disarms nuclear weapons. Citizens were to drive to the Tri-State Fairgrounds to see if they had been "contaminated."

It was imagined that four of the five cars were not contaminated. Occupants of those cars went on to register with the Red Cross and return to school, while the car that was supposedly contaminated went to a special area at the fairgrounds.

Here the passengers went through testing and were determined to be contaminated. To be "decontaminated" they had to pretend to undress, have their clothes and personal items put into a plastic bag for destruction, shower, put on a paper gown, and be retested.

After retesting, if the persons were determined to be free of contamination, the Red Cross was to supply clothing so they could register and return to school. However, if they were still contaminated, they would have to repeat the process.

In the mock exercise, one student was imagined to have been sent to the hospital for severe exposure, which was thought to have caused internal injury.

The drill gave the teachers and children, as well as the emergency volunteers, valuable experience about what to expect should an actual emergency take place.

*Donna Songy-Wilson  
Communication Secretary*



*Dr. Victor Villalobos prepared seven individuals for baptism, one of them being his mother-in-law, Anita Lopez.*

to bring people into His church. Two prophecy seminars and two vacation Bible schools were held, as well as two weeks of evangelism under the direction of Stephen P. Bohr, Texico Conference evangelism coordinator, and Neftali Quintero, district pastor. In October 38 individuals were won because of God's blessings.

*Neftali Quintero, Pastor*

## Amarillo Activities Raise Funds

During the month of October, Juanita Utt, community services director for the Olsen Park church, along with Sandy Kambour, Leveda and Bob Weidner, Byron Weis, Gary Weis,

and Ruth Weis, coordinated three yard sales which raised \$1,269.

Half of the money was given to the church school, and the other half will be used for community services. The yard sales were made possible through the

generous donations of church members.

Amarillo Adventist Academy's home and school organization hosted a veggieburger and chili-dog supper in coordination with the Oklahoma ABC book and food display on Thursday evening, October 12, 1995.

The event, which took place in the school gym, brought in more than \$250 for the school. The Oklahoma ABC donated the veggie foods needed for the supper, and church members donated the condiments, chips, etc.

*Donna  
Songy-Wilson  
Communication  
Secretary*



*Juanita Utt and Ruth Weis await the arrival of customers at one of the yard sales that ultimately raised \$1,269 which was divided between community services and the church school.*



# Arkansas-Louisiana

PETER A. KOSTENKO, CORRESPONDENT

## Gentry Begins an Adventurer Club

The Gentry Seventh-day Adventist Church has started a new Adventurer Club. The hour-and-a-half meetings are held weekly on Tuesday nights starting at 7:00 in the Pathfinder building.

An enthusiastic song service begins the meeting, followed by recitation of the Adventurer pledge and law. After prayer, a guest speaker shares a story or inspirational thought. Then the children divide into small groups, where they take record, recite memory verses, color Bible pictures, do crafts, or work on honors.

The Adventurers are working on two honors. The first is geology. This involves learning about rocks and minerals, collecting and identifying specimens, and making a small rock display board. At one meeting Dean Shafer, from the Northwest Ar-



Stan Detweiler operates a woodworking lathe while Pathfinders watch his skilled hands at work.

a "shaker peg" from a square block of wood.

Co-leaders Tamera Tiner and Coya Long are excited, but overwhelmed, with the success of the club. They were expecting 21 children on opening night but had an additional 23 show up, making a total of 44.

"It's an awesome responsibility and privilege," commented Tiner. "We really appreciate the help of the

Pathfinder Club leaders and the parents for getting involved in organizing and staffing the club."

"And we are creating memories for a lifetime," added Long. Stephen Burton  
Club Reporter

## Gentry Prison Ministry Brings Blessings

The Gentry church has had great success in their prison ministry, headed by Ella Fisher. Under her direction, and with the help of some 50 volunteers,

620 students are receiving correspondence lessons.

Every day letters come in that touch the heart. They show evidence that the Holy Spirit is working and that God is leading in these inmates' lives. There are many who have completed the courses and have asked to be visited by a minister or church member.

Two samples of letters illustrate the impact the lessons are making:

*"Thank you, thank you for the Bible lessons. I had never read the Bible before except when a child, and then I did not understand it. I wish I could have found Jesus before. Maybe then I would be in church instead of jail. I have three young daughters, seven, three, and two years. And I pray every night that the Lord will protect them, and they will learn of the good ways of life before Satan shows them the way to pain, sorrow, and jail. Today we had church. I prayed, and cried, and prayed—and have never felt better. I had been holding in too much pain. I have turned my life over to Jesus and have never felt better. I am so blessed that He sent you to be my friend. Thank you."*

*"Thank you so much for your words of encouragement. You cannot know what it means to read your thoughts and praises. I am so blessed to have your Bible studies. I love to do them and learn more of God's word and all He accomplished while here in His short life on earth."*

The support of the local church members in helping buy stamps,

envelopes, Bibles and lessons is greatly appreciated. Should anyone desire to give for this ministry, it would be appreciated. All donations are handled through the Gentry church treasurer.

Charlotte Robinson  
Communication Assistant

## Clinton Youth Adopt-a-Mile Near Branson

Youth of the Clinton and Mountain View churches came together Sunday, August 13, for their first Adopt-a-Mile program. The one mile stretch is in an area where there is no Adventist church at this time, and it is on one of the busiest highways in the state connecting Branson, Missouri, and Little Rock.

The youth trudged along in the intense heat, picking up litter, trying to keep in mind that the project is a good witness to the community, especially since people would see them on their way to church. As people drove by, many honked and waved and gave a "thumbs up" signal.

Then a truck pulled up and a couple got out. They were Adventists from Tulsa. They said how much they appreciated the efforts to clean up the trashed highway and then wrote out a check for \$500 for the school.

During a break the clean-up crew discussed the meeting that had recently been held to determine whether the church school should remain open since enrollment was so low, but now this clean-up crew decided that maybe this donation was God's way of casting His vote.

Just then a truck pulled up, and the lady jumped out with two plastic bags full of sodas—plenty to keep everyone working! This was another blessing, since they had drunk the last drop of water they had brought with them.

When the clean-up was complete, everyone headed for the cool waters of the Buffalo River and a two-and-a-half mile canoe trip.

How exciting! Here, on the first day of cleaning the highway God provided two surprises. Everyone is waiting to see what He has in store for their next clean-up day.



Pathfinders examine the rock and mineral display brought by Dean Shafer of the Northwest Arkansas Gem and Mineral Society.

kansas Gem and Mineral Society, dazzled the children with a special rock and mineral presentation. The children especially enjoyed the "black light" demonstration, which revealed the fluorescent colors of otherwise drab-looking rocks.

The club recently began working toward the carpenter honor. The children are learning the names of basic tools, telling stories of Bible carpenters, and building bird feeders. On a club field trip, academy shop teacher Stan Detweiler fascinated the group with a hands-on demonstration of a wood lathe, making



# Southwestern Adventist College

JENELL RUSK, CORRESPONDENT

## SAC Breaks Ground for New Men's Residence Hall

In one of his last duties as outgoing Southwestern Adventist College board chairperson, Cyril Miller participated in the ground breaking for the new men's residence hall named in his honor. Ground breaking ceremonies for Cyril Miller Hall took place Saturday evening, December 2, at the corner of Hillcrest and College Drives.

Participants in the ceremony also included Marvin Anderson, SAC president; Sidney Bean, SAC student representative; Mardian Blair, Adventist Health Systems Sunbelt president; Dale Hainey, SAC building and maintenance department director; Gary Heinrich, Keene mayor; Sharon Leach, SAC advancement vice president; Steve Stafford, SAC men's dean; and Max Trevino, newly-elected Southwestern Union Conference president.

Construction on the new residence hall will begin as soon as working plans are completed, possibly within the next six to eight weeks. The facility has a projected cost of \$1.8 million and will be ready for occupancy in the fall of 1997. Funding was provided through a special gift from the Southwestern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

The architectural style of Cyril Miller Hall will be similar to the Chan Shun Centennial Library,



Ground breaking ceremonies for SAC's new men's residence, Cyril Miller Hall, took place Saturday evening Dec. 2. Pictured from left are Gary Heinrich, Cyril Miller, Max Trevino, Sidney Bean, Steve Stafford, Marvin Anderson, Sharon Leach, and Mardian Blair. Photo Credit: Tobe Watts

with a brick exterior and a copper roof. The building will contain a large lobby with a stone fireplace, a dean's apartment, and 80-85 single and double rooms with a bath shared between two rooms. The new residence hall will replace Hamilton Hall, which currently houses 107 men.

"As the chairperson of our board, Cyril Miller has consistently led with a vision for and a dedication to the students," said SAC president Marvin Anderson. "As a student, he lived in the SAC men's dorm. Now, as a direct result of his leadership, the men of SAC will have a beautiful and comfortable place to live."

## Computer Network Links SAC to the World

Imagine you're looking at an enormous spider web. Small joining threads connect larger and

larger concentric circles. At each place where two or more threads join, there is a small dot, called a "site."

Now imagine you can see small electric currents racing across the threads. The currents race from one site to another, carrying information.

Although not in the form of silken thread, this web exists. It is an international computer network, begun over 20 years ago to link government and academic institutions. Now it has grown so large and so efficient, that it has become a preferred method of information transfer.

The web has a name—the World Wide Web (www), a part of the vast computer network, Internet.

If you look closely, you may recognize one of the sites. It's in Keene, and it belongs to South-

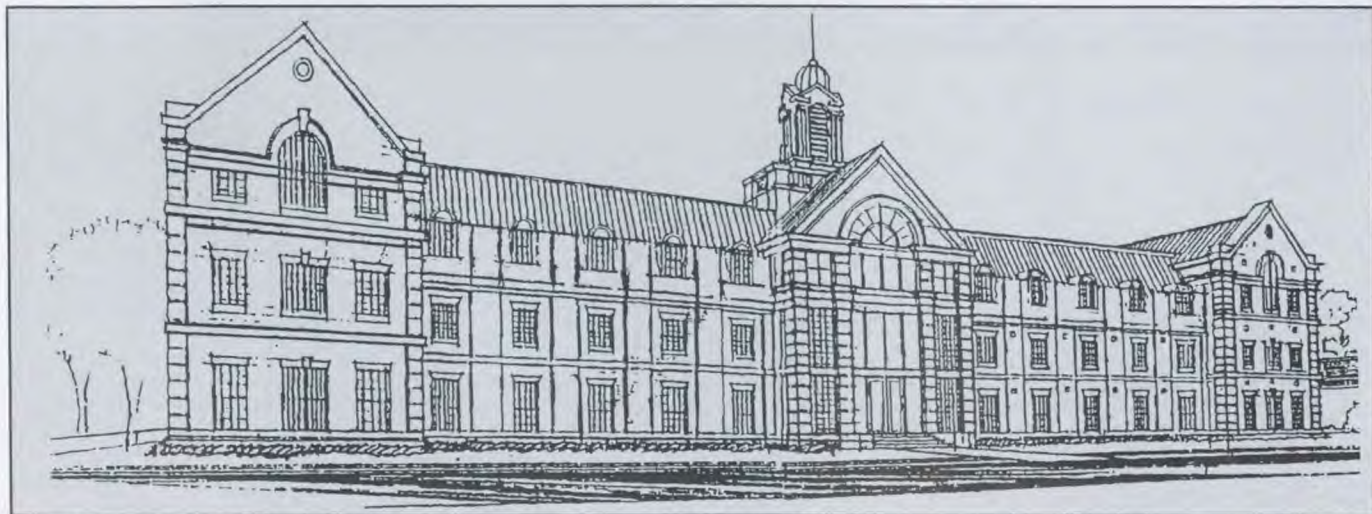
western Adventist College.

Through SAC's World Wide Web site, on any given day, a prospective student can read about last summer's biology trip to Costa Rica and find out who her advisor will be next year; a faculty member can learn about research done by colleagues in institutions around the world; and a current SAC student can gather information from the Smithsonian for a class project.

Just as a spider web allows you to travel to any location within the web by following the threads of silk, the www allows you to visit any site by typing in an address and waiting, usually for less than a minute, for a site link-up.

The best part about www is, you don't have to be a computer wizard to use it. Web addresses are simple, and computer programs called web browsers do all the thinking and navigating for you. Any personal computer can access the www through an on-line service such as America On-Line, CompuServe, Prodigy, and other newer services.

When the office of information at SAC linked into Internet and www in 1993, the web was mainly used by individuals with a high level of computer skill. Things have changed. This year in the United States alone, it is estimated that 30 million people have access to the www, and thousands more join every month. A large number of those users are teens headed to college, parents



An architectural drawing of the proposed men's residence at Southwestern Adventist College.



of potential and current college students, and adults interested in furthering their education. By providing college information through a www home page, SAC allows these individuals to visit the campus and gather information without ever leaving their homes or offices.

A home page on www is the visual image which appears on your computer screen when you visit a site. The first "page" introduces you to the site and allows you to jump to other "pages." It's a lot like visiting Disneyland in person. You have to go through the main gate in order to enter, but once inside, you may go any direction you choose. You can go on all the rides in Fantasyland before you go to Tomorrowland, or you can zig-zag across the park sampling rides in all the sections. You can spend a few minutes in any part of the Magic Kingdom, or you can spend three days. You make all the decisions for yourself once you pass through the main gate.

SAC's home page is the college's www main gate. If you type in the SAC access, <http://www/swac.edu/>, your computer screen will show a picture from the campus and a menu listing other pages to view with the click of your cursor. You may choose to send an e-mail message to the nursing department faculty asking about continuing education, or you may want to see the requirements for a master's of education degree. Once you enter the main gate—the college home page—you may go directly to the information you need or you may browse through areas of interest.

"Our homepage provides an easy and inexpensive way for alumni and friends of the college to keep in touch," says Steve Sowder, director of information services and institutional research at SAC. "It is a completely new way of interacting with people off campus. This has the potential to become our best interactive tool."

Within the last few years, the www has expanded far beyond government and academic usage. It has become the public relations tool of the nineties, allowing companies and institutions to reach their target audience at the user's convenience. This type of interaction is comfortable and convenient for both the company and the potential customer, because the site, filled with information, is available for an individual to visit any time and as often as he or she chooses.

Last June, the office of information services and the news and public relations department began working together to expand the SAC home page and provide updated information and services to www users. Currently, the home page contains information about departments, administration and faculty, enrollment, and academics. Within a few months, the home page will be expanded to include current campus news, student association information, a calendar of events, and alumni information.

"It is intriguing to imagine the possibilities now that SAC is part of the World Wide Web," says SAC president, Marvin Anderson. "I am certain that as we explore the options, we will find innova-

tive ways to use our home page for the benefit of our current and future students, our alumni, and our friends off campus."

Jenell Eli Rusk

## College Subsidiary Sells Old Betsy Center

Southwestern Diversified Industries, Inc. (SDI), a wholly-owned, tax-paying subsidiary of Southwestern Adventist College, has sold Old Betsy Center and Old Betsy Foods to Hooten Realty and Management, Inc., of Dallas.

Over the years, there have been several attempts to sell the shopping center, which includes the Keene post office building, and the grocery store. A sale fell through two years ago on the day of closing.

Brooks Findley of Keene built the shopping center in the mid-1960s, and SDI bought it in the early 1970s. SDI retains ownership of Southwestern Color-Graphics and the SDI building, both in Keene.

"SDI has enjoyed doing business with the community," says Dr. Marvin Anderson, SAC president and president and CEO of SDI, "but our educational mission mandates that our relationship with our neighbors be more philanthropic and service-oriented than commercial."

## Notice of Non-Discrimination

Southwestern Adventist College does not discriminate on the basis of sex, handicap, race or religion. Dr. Marvin Anderson, president of the college, is responsible for compliance.

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# Southwest Region

B. E. WRIGHT, CORRESPONDENT

## Ephesus Nurtures New Members

During the summer of 1995, 35 new members were baptized into the church family at Ephesus church in New Orleans. For most of them, everything about Adventism is a new experience. Many attended the "Christ Is the Answer" Bible revival, where the nightly messages were given in a clear, concise and powerful way by the pastor, Melvin V. Singleton.

Most new believers agreed they had found it interesting to be able to read verse by verse from the Bible. But what really

solidified their decisions was the patient, yet detailed way Singleton answered the questions from the audience after each presentation. The decisions they made were intelligent and informed.

While Ephesus welcomes each new member with open arms, it doesn't stop there. Each new individual who joins is accepted as a member of the body of Christ, and everything possible is done to nurture their relationships with God.

All new believers are members of the pastor's Sabbath school class, which also serves as a support group. This class is heavily

involved in the study of *Bible Readings for the Home* and the *27 Fundamental Doctrines of the Seventh-day Adventist Church*.

The pastor takes time to counsel each member of his Sabbath school class. Each has to face the usual pressures involved with joining the remnant family, as well as the everyday problems faced by the whole congregation. In addition, special efforts are made to ensure that each new believer feels at home.

All are encouraged to participate in any organization of the church in which they feel comfortable. In order to assist mem-

bers in the recognition of each new face and name, those in charge of the bulletin board fill it with photographs of the new members. Dinners are prepared weekly so that all members can fellowship together.

Ephesus values each member because, above every other reason, each person is a child of God and a jewel in His sight. At Ephesus, we believe that Christ lives in us, controlling our personalities. We will leave glorious marks on the lives we touch, not because of our lovely characters, but because of His.

Sharen M. Pierre  
Communication Secretary



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Emes Kosher Jel Unflavored	1 lb	6.06		
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TVP Unflavored Minced or Chunk	10 lb	17.49		
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# Healthcare

## Local Chambers Elect Chairmen From Metroplex Hospital

Metroplex Hospital president, Ernie Sadau, and Rollins Brook Community Hospital administrator, Carlyle Walton, have both been elected as chairmen of two Central Texas Chambers of Commerce.

Sadau has served as Metroplex president since 1991. He is the first Metroplex CEO and Adventist to be elected as the chairman for the Greater Killeen Chamber of Commerce. Since his arrival in Killeen he has been active in the local chamber. He was installed as the new chairman at the 62nd annual chamber banquet held recently.

The Killeen Chamber serves a community of 150,000 people and has a membership of 925 businesses.



(Left) Ernie Sadau, president of Metroplex Hospital (Right) Carlyle Walton, vice president of Metroplex Hospital and administrator of Rollins Brook Community Hospital

Early this year Carlyle Walton, vice president at Metroplex and administrator of Metroplex's sister hospital, Rollins Brook Community Hospital in Lampasas, was also elected chairman for the Lampasas Chamber of Commerce. Walton is also the first Adventist to ever hold this position.

Walton has been at Metroplex for the past eight years and has served as the administrator at Rollins Brook since the hospital came under Metroplex management in early 1992.

Lampasas is located 30 miles west of Killeen and has a population of 7,000. *Ricky Seiler*  
Director of Community Relations

## Huguley Adds ICU Volunteer Program

Mildred Gray has been a volunteer for Huguley since August. Mildred began working at the admissions lobby front desk and then volunteered for the Years

Without Age Program. She has recently accepted the invitation to be the first member of a newly developed Intensive Care Unit (ICU) Volunteer Program which started in November. After Mildred completed her orientations with the hospital chaplain and the directors of nursing and ICU, she took her post in the ICU waiting room as a liaison between the hospital staff and patients' families.

"My main objectives as a liaison is to support and encourage the patients' families and to be an extension of the hospital staff," states Gray. "In a crisis situation, families may feel anxious or neglected because the doctors' and nurses' focus is on taking care of the patients," continues Gray. "I try to help calm family members by keeping them as informed as possible, because as we all know, when you have a loved one who is going through a crisis, you're going through a crisis, too."

Gray knows what it's like spending time in hospitals. As a patient, Gray has had two heart attacks, three heart cath, and a quadruple bypass. When her daughter was recovering from a ruptured aneurysm in the brain, Gray spent 16 days in the ICU waiting room.

Gray has been involved in some form of volunteer work for many years: benevolent work at church, serving with her husband Don in their southwest Fort Worth neighborhood Citizens on Patrol watch, and answering phones at a crisis line. Gray became familiar with Huguley and the volunteer program while completing her own rehabilitation in Huguley's Cardiac Rehabilitation Program. When the therapists, nurses, and staff noticed the sincere interest Mildred took in others, they knew she would be a valuable asset as a volunteer and encouraged her to fill out an application.

Vicki Collins, ICU director, states: "I have been wanting to start this program for two years. The nurses can already tell what a difference the ICU Volunteer Program is making in allowing staff to have fewer interruptions and direct more time toward patient care. Mildred has really been a big help to the staff, and it's obvious what a difference



Vicki Collins and Mildred Gray (seated)

she's making with the families. Some of the families have really gotten attached to her."

Gray works from 7:30 a.m. to

4:30 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Two more volunteers, Bea Moody and Sharon Stroud, have each committed to cover Tuesdays. "Our goal is to have a volunteer working every day and evening of the week, because we have families who need people here for them," states Collins. "We're looking for additional volunteers to help in the program, but it takes a special kind of person to work in the ICU area. It takes someone who is compassionate, yet firm," continues Collins. "They have to be prepared to handle people who, in their anxiety, may not always be pleasant."

If you are interested in learning more about becoming involved with the ICU Volunteer Program, call 551-2707.

## General News

### Miracles Happen for Those Who Dare to Let Them

Could you use a miracle? God may be waiting for you to simply stop and listen. On January 18, 1996, thousands of Advent believers will begin a 10-day fast. Not a fast from food, but a fast from noise! God has challenged. "Be STILL and know that I AM God." You are invited to take up this challenge by taking a 10-day "vacation from distraction."

On the brink of the second millennium life is noisy. Television, radio, and magazines keep flashing red and yellow logos flashing across the mind's eye. Jingles sing in our ears and laugh tracks chortle endlessly. Modern life is filled with distraction. The North American Division youth ministries department is asking for Adventists everywhere to turn off the tube, put down the paper, log off the system, and for 10 days just listen to God.

Pentecost came at the end of 10 days of prayer. Would you live 10 days without the "noise of the world" for such a miracle? If so, then join this national holi-

day from distraction and discover peace and focus in your life. Listen to Scripture, nature, your family and the whisper of God, and let Him work a miracle in your life.

The reason for the occasion? NAD Youth Ministries is praying for a sequel to the first century Pentecost to happen among the churches of North America. Pentecost was much more than just speaking in many languages; it was the launch of the greatest mission endeavor of all time.

Once again it will be PRAYER that ushers in the same Spirit of sacrifice and service. This January, the "Adventist Youth Service Network (a.k.a. YouthNet\*) will come to life. It is an organized response to the youth mission movement already sweeping our church.

Through the local church, ADRA, Maranatha, Student Missions and others, youth have proved they are eager to get their hands dirty for God. YouthNet has been designed to magnify the youth service movement by: 1) Engineering thousands of new on-ramps to mission service, including mission work in North America. 2) Equipping youth with servant





training that is spiritual and practical, and 3) Providing an overarching identity for all Adventist youth in service.

Could you use a miracle? YouthNet and the youth of North America invite you to commit January 18-27 to make room for the Holy Spirit to go to work.

*Byard Parks, Special Assistant to the Director of NAD Youth Ministries*

\*YouthNet is an expression of Global Mission, structured and led by the North American Division youth ministries department. It will be the facilitator of all North American student missions, both domestic and international, with the cooperation of GC secretariat. On the local level, youth can register with YouthNet as "servants" and will be equipped with resources to become active in starting their own service ministries. YouthNet is also set on turning North America into "the mission field," as next summer will see the beginning of the Youth Pioneer plan, an aggressive strategy for evangelism and community service with youth working in teams for a year-long mission assignment here in NAD.

## How to make the most of your personal holiday from noise, January 18-27, 1996

1. **Mark your calendar.** Cut this box out and put it on your fridge as a reminder.
2. **Seek God's guidance.** Turn off and tune out all entertainment and listen instead to God's voice. Ask the Holy Spirit for power to maintain the boundaries you set together.
3. **Share your new insights.** Recruit family, friends, and work associates who will join and encourage you as you share the joy of new insights and answered prayer.
4. **Do something significant.** Set some goals. Memorize scripture. Cheer a friend. Tell someone about Jesus. Read the Psalms. Read Pilgrim's Progress. Sing in your car. Enjoy God!
5. **Share the blessings.** Let God work a miracle in someone else's life through your prayers. Here are some specific youth needs to put on your miracle list:
  - ◆ Pray for the youth who will be the first student missionaries in North America in the Youth Pioneer plan.
  - ◆ Pray for youth teams who will be working in cities across the continent doing evangelism for Net '96.
  - ◆ Pray for youth leadership across the division to have unlimited vision for helping reach out to their communities.
  - ◆ Pray for the YouthNet movement, for teens and young adults to be fired with a mission zeal that ushers in the second coming of Christ!

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**For more information call (303) 733-3771 or fax (303) 733-1843. Or write Rocky Mountain Conference, 2520 S. Downing St., Denver, CO 80210 P.S. All SDA colleges will be at this event!**

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We invite you to share in our growth of Women's Services and expanding vision if you are a leader with excellent people skills, business-minded with a strong clinical perspective.

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To learn more, call or send resume to: Huguley Memorial Medical Center, Human Resource Dept., Attn: Amanda Dobbs, P.O. Box 6337, Fort Worth, TX 76115. Phone 817-551-2703; fax 817-568-3356.

Other professional opportunities available: Labor and delivery, neonatal nurse clinicians, medical-surgical case managers, skilled nursing case managers, intensive care unit, and emergency services. 1-1t

**ZOOLOGIST.** Opening at Southern College, fall, 1996 for Adventist scientist-educator with PhD committed to teaching and research. Send CV, 3 references to: Stephen A. Nyirady, PhD, Chair, Biology Search Committee, Southern College, Collegedale, TN 37315 (fax: 423-238-2197; E-mail: nyirady@southern.edu). Women and minorities encouraged to apply. 1-1t

Andrews University seeks **TEACHER OF UNDERGRADUATE RELIGION** in practices, Old Testament or systematic theology. Requires doctorate or ABD. Pastoral experience desirable. Adventists with commitment to teaching send resume to: Dr. William Richardson, Chair, Religion Dept., Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0170. 1-1t

Andrews University seeks **SPANISH TEACHER.** Master's degree required. Doctorate and teaching experience desirable. Will teach literature, culture and language acquisition. Adventists send resume to: Wolfgang Kunze, Chair, Search Committee, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0180. Fax 616-471-9751; phone 616-471-6285. 1-1t

**SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST** wanted. Must be certified with minimum of 3 years experience including adult neurogenic communication disorders. Interested Adventists contact: Pamela Dutcher, Chair, Dept. of Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0120 or call 616-471-3468. 1-1t

Andrews University seeks **SOCIAL WORK TEACHER** for graduate classes. Minimum: MSW with practical experi-

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Andrews University announces a position in **ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT.** Responsibilities include recruitment, financial aid, admissions and retention. Preference given to experience and appropriate higher educational degrees. Adventists may obtain further information by calling the president at 616-471-3100 or vice president for advancement at 616-471-3122 or fax 616-471-6543. 1-1t

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Andrews University seeks **DIRECTOR OF COMPUTING SERVICES.** Responsible for academic/administrative computing, telecommunications and video services for internal/external clients. Minimum: Bachelor's degree and managerial experience. Master's preferred. Adventists contact Dr. David Penner, Chair, Search Committee, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0800. Phone 616-471-3399; e-mail: penner@andrews.edu. 1-1t

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**TEXICO** — See the Oklahoma listing above.

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## Announcement for Events

on Weekend of  
March 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 .....  
April 6, 13, 20 and 27 .....  
May 4, 11, 18 and 25 .....

## COPY DEADLINES

## Should Be in Local

Conference Office by  
January 19 .....  
February 16 .....  
March 15 .....

Volume 95, Number 1

January 1996

## Sunset Calendar

	Jan. 12	Jan. 19	Jan. 26	Feb. 2	Feb. 9	Feb. 16
Abilene, Texas .....	5:54	6:00	6:06	6:13	6:20	6:26
Amarillo, Texas .....	5:55	6:01	6:10	6:17	6:24	6:30
Brownsville, Texas .....	5:58	6:03	6:09	6:14	6:19	6:24
Dallas, Texas .....	5:41	5:47	5:53	6:00	6:07	6:13
El Paso, Texas .....	5:22	5:28	5:34	5:41	5:47	5:53
Fort Worth/Keene, Texas .....	5:43	5:49	5:55	6:02	6:09	6:15
Galveston/Houston, Texas .....	5:41	5:47	5:52	5:58	6:04	6:10
Gentry, Arkansas .....	5:24	5:31	5:39	5:46	5:53	6:00
Little Rock, Arkansas .....	5:19	5:26	5:33	5:39	5:46	5:53
Muskogee, Oklahoma .....	5:28	5:35	5:43	5:50	5:57	6:04
New Orleans, Louisiana .....	5:20	5:26	5:32	5:38	5:44	5:49
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma .....	5:37	5:44	5:52	5:59	6:06	6:13
San Antonio, Texas .....	5:55	6:01	6:07	6:13	6:19	6:24
Santa Fe, New Mexico .....	5:11	5:17	5:24	5:32	5:39	5:46
Shreveport, Louisiana .....	5:29	5:34	5:42	5:49	5:55	6:01
Tulsa, Oklahoma .....	5:30	5:37	5:45	5:52	5:59	6:06



# Southwestern Union Church Ministries Services Calendar of Events for January - March, 1996



- ◆ During the next 24 months the seven departments will be holding training seminars and workshops in the 22 programming and training regions of the Southwestern Union Conference.
- ◆ Since the Southwest Region churches are found throughout the union territory, they will participate in the training sessions held within their areas.
- ◆ Amendments to the first quarter's schedule of this new program may be necessary. Watch your church bulletin or notices in the Southwestern Union RECORD for any announced changes.



**Ray Hubbart**  
Stewardship  
Evangelism  
NET '96 Coordinator



**Dem Robles**  
Personal Ministries  
ACS Coordinator  
NET '96 Evangelism



**Margaret Taglavore**  
Children's Ministries



**Walter Wright**  
Family Ministries  
Sabbath School

Date	Event	Location	Director	A/L	OK	TX	TXC
January	5-6, '96	Lay Preaching Seminar	Tyler		X		
	12-17	Academy of Preaching	Keene		X		
	13	Officers Training	Amarillo	Robles		X	
	13-14	SWR Church Ministries Training	SWR Dallas				
	20	Children's S.S. Training	Ok. City	Taglavore	X		
	20	Personal Ministries Net '96	Amarillo	Robles			X
	20	Net '96 Downlink (All Satellite Ch's)					
	23	ACS Training	Keene	Robles		X	
	26-27	Spanish Family Ministries Training	Keene	Wright		X	
	26-27	Lay Preaching Seminar	Arlington			X	
	27	Children's Sabbath School Training	Tulsa	Taglavore	X		
February	27	Personal Ministries Net '96	Austin	Robles		X	
	3, '96	Personal Ministries Net '96	Gentry	Robles	X		
	3	Children's Sabbath School Training	Little Rock	Taglavore	X		
	3-10	Stewardship Training	El Paso	Hubbart			X
	9-10	Lay Preaching Seminar	Houston			X	
	10	Children's Sabbath School Training	Shreveport	Taglavore	X		
	10	Personal Ministries Net '96	Ok City	Robles		X	
	16-18	Family Ministries Retreat	San Antonio	Wright		X	
	17	Personal Ministries Net '96	Houston	Robles		X	
	18	Net '96 Pastors Training	BatonRouge	Hubbart	X		
	24	Children's Sabbath School Training	BatonRouge	Taglavore	X		
March	24	Personal Ministries Net '96	Little Rock	Robles	X		
	25	Net '96 Pastors Training	Dallas	Hubbart		X	
	1-2	Lay Preaching Seminar	Weslaco			X	
	1-3	Children's Ministries Convention	NVR	Taglavore		X	
	2	Personal Ministries Net '96	BatonRouge	Robles	X		
	2-9	Stewardship Training	Little Rock	Hubbart	X		
	9	Personal Ministries Net '96	Shreveport	Robles	X		
	9	Sabbath School Workshop	Ok City	Wright		X	
	16	Personal Ministries Net '96	Tulsa	Robles		X	
	22-24	Family Ministries Training	El Paso	Wright			X
	29-30	Lay Preaching Seminar	San Antonio		X		
	29-31	Net '96 Pastors Training	Little Rock	Hubbart	X		
	30	Personal Ministries Net '96	Albuquerque	Robles			X
	30	Children's Sabbath School Training	Gentry	Taglavore	X		