

Manna

January 2006 Vol. 19, No. 1

Newsletter of the McDonald Road Seventh-day Adventist Church

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Personal Ministries Prepares for Busy Year of Witnessing, Service

By John Davis, personal ministries director

We all have 24 hours of time available to us every day. How do we use it? During our waking hours we work, go to school, play, eat, relax, visit with friends and so on. While we experience these events, we present a picture of Christ to those around us in everything we say and do. Being Christ's witnesses is not so much something we try to fit into our already hectic schedules, but something we are while we go through our daily lives.



contributed photo

We see prophecy unfolding. We feel significant world events swirling around us. We hear the voice of God through those events and through His Word shouting to us. We must preach the gospel in all the world because we love Christ and because we are running

Pictured are a few of the McDonald Road Church members involved in Bible studies, literature distribution, intercessory prayer and other outreach efforts. Back Rows (l-r): Walter & Cindy Cannon, David & Mary Anne Turner; Shawn & Melanie Engle; Nick Van Zuyl; Mike Doucoumes; Fred & Kathie Christiansen; Donna Erhlich; Pastor & Mrs. Becky Carlson; Middle: Irene Mehling; Bonnie Christiansen; Front Row (l-r): Eric Kerr; John Davis; Andrew Christiansen.

out of time! Let us ask God to help us determine our priorities, more effectively use our time and become more like Christ.

We invite you to join in the following personal ministries classes or inspirational events this coming year. Sign up at the personal ministries table in the lobby or contact Pastor Carlson, John Davis or the following team leaders:

- Doreen & Arvid Jacobson (Bible Instructor Coordinators)
- Fred Christiansen (Intercessory Prayer Group)
- Mike & Cindy Hollie and Paula & Paul

- Burns (Literature Distribution)
- Mike & Gwin Doucoumes (Small Group Studies—Daniel Home Seminars)
- Bernie & Jean Baerg (Visitation Team Coordinators)
- Martha Dutterer (Health Ministries Leader).

**See Page 7 for
Personal Ministries
Events in 2006**

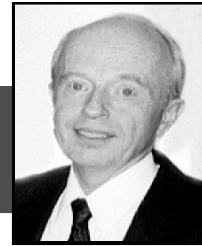
Water Wonders



Hey Kids!

Check out the new column just for you on page 6. It's called "Water Wonders." You'll learn lots of neat facts about underwater creatures as you read this new series of stories in each month's Manna.

Pastor's Challenge



Pastor Don Gettys

Dollars and Sense

As a boy growing up back in Indiana we kids were always looking for a little money to take down to the corner store and purchase a treat. I remember taking my little red Radio Flyer wagon down Wabash Avenue looking for tossed out pop bottles. They were worth a fortune! 2 cents each! Often I would find four or five bottles and turn them for cash at the corner grocery. I felt rich with that silver dime in my pocket. Candy was two for a penny. I could get a whole pocket full of candy for 10 cents. Life was wonderful.

Today a penny is next to worthless. Do you bother to bend down and pick up a

penny any more? Benjamin Franklin said: "A penny saved is a penny earned." Today he could substitute a dollar for penny. Does it actually make much difference if you save a dollar or spend it?

According to Ron Blue, author of "Master Your Money," A dollar spent today does not take a dollar out of the future. It takes *Multiple* dollars. Only \$2.74 per day spent on nonproductive purchases like a bottle or two of pop and a newspaper will result in an overspending of \$1,000 per year. If that same \$1,000 were invested to earn 12.5% compound interest it will eventually amount to over One Million dollars in a persons lifetime!



If we saved that amount of money, we would have the financial freedom and be empowered to generously share of our wealth to finish the work of Jesus so we could all go home. Our church has many needs. If we all gave liberally to the Church Budget, God's work in our church would carry on with great strength. If each family gave free-heartedly to our Building Fund, maybe we could pay off our debt of approximately \$600,000 this year. The year 2006 could be the year that Jesus comes. Let's invest of our means and muscle to finish the work in our community and in our church and in our world. Matthew 10:8 says, "freely ye have received, freely give."

Manna

The Manna is the official newsletter of the McDonald Road Seventh-day Adventist Church. It is published monthly and distributed to members and friends of the church. Items of interest to the McDonald Road Church family should be submitted in typewritten form at the church office (see address, fax number, and office hours below) or by email to Manna@mcdonald.southern.edu.

Materials for this newsletter should be submitted no later than the third Friday of each month prior to publication. To ensure accuracy, submissions by telephone are not preferred.

Head of the Church	Jesus Christ
Pastor	Don Gettys
Associate/Youth Pastor	Kent Crutcher
Associate Pastor	Paul Carlson
Church Secretary	Kim Rollins
Newsletter Editor	Melissa Turner

The church office is open Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., unless otherwise announced. Visit our church Web site at <http://mcdonald.southern.edu>

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Sermon Schedule

- "Prayer: A Waste of Time?" Sabbath, January 7
• by Pastor Don Gettys
- "Making Jesus Real" Sabbath, January 14
• by Pastor Paul Carlson
- "Religious Liberty: Eternal Vigilance" Sabbath, January 21
• by Elder Dwight Hilderbrandt
- "Ditching the Devil" Sabbath, January 28
• by Pastor Don Gettys

Church Business News

A Glimpse at What's Ahead:

2006 McDonald Road SDA Church Sermon Schedule

January

- 7: *Prayer - A Waste of Time?*
- 14: *Making Jesus Real*
- 21: *Eternal Vigilance - Religious Liberty Weekend*
Guest Speaker - Dwight Hilderbrandt
- 28: *Ditching the Devil*

February

- 4: *We Are Never Alone*
- 11: *Hymn Fest*
- 18: TBA
Guest Speaker- Stephen Bohr
- 25: *Moses Shining Face*

March

- 4: *Heading For Heaven*
- 11: TBA
- 18: TBA - Communion Sabbath
- 25: *Root of Wisdom*

April

- 1: *Why Not Shepherds?*
- 8: *Trinkets or Treasures*
- 15: TBA - Easter Weekend
- 22: *Those Blessed Philistines*
- 29: *Species of Idolatry*
Guest Speaker - Mike Doucoumes

May

- 6: *Time is Short*
- 13: TBA
Mothers Day Sermon
- 20: *The Day Jezebel Eclipsed God*
- 27: Campmeeting

June

- 3: *Dr. God's Advice*
- 10: *Tender Warriors*
Fathers Day Sermon
- 17: *Holy Bread*
Communion Sabbath
- 24: *When the Lamb Roars*

**Subject To Change

July

- 12-Part Series on Daniel**
- 1: *Where's The Beef?*
Guest Speaker- Bernie Baerg
- 8: *The Giant & The Mountain*
- 15: *Footsteps in the Furnace*
- 22: *The Royal Woodcutter*
- 29: *God's Final Answer*

August

- 5: *Daniel in the Critics' Den*
- 12: *The Beastmaster*
- 19: *2,300 Days & Counting*
- 26: *Our Punctual Time Keeper*

September

- 2: *Eyes of Fire*
- 9: *The Soap Opera of the Nations*
- 16: *Thump the Watermelon*
- 23: TBA
Communion Sabbath
- 30: *It's High Time to Wake Up*

October

- 7: Binding the Wounds Weekend
Guest Speaker
- 4-Part Series on Acts**
- 14: *Sailing to Cyprus*
- 21: *In Pisidians Pulpit*
- 28: *Dodging Stones*

November

- 4: *On Furlough*
- 11: Veterans Sabbath
Guest Speaker
- 18: TBA
- 25: *Thanksgiving*

December

- 2: *You Can Take it With You*
- 9: *Survive the Rat Race Without Becoming a Rat*
- 16: TBA
Communion / Friday 15th
- 23: *One Star Hotel Christmas*
- 30: *Joseph's Stairway to Heaven*

No December Church Board, Membership Transfer or Financial Reports



Because the Church Board did not meet during the month of December there is not a report. Please check next month's Manna for the latest on church business news.

Samaritan Center Needs:

Pasta, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Canned Fruit, Flour, Cornmeal, Shampoo & Conditioner, Laundry Detergent, Kitchen & Bath Cleaners, New Clothes (with tags), Matching Dish & Pot Sets, Wheel Chairs, Canes, Ensure, Shower Benches, Underpads, Support Stockings, and Adult Protective Underwear

Urgent: New Needs, Just in from the Samaritan Center

Cleaning Supplies (especially dishwashing and laundry detergent), Canned fruit, Canned meat, Paper Products, Pre-packaged meals (such as spaghetti, ravioli, stews)

Offering Schedule

January 7 - Local Church Budget
January 14 - Conference Advance
January 21 - Local Church Budget
January 28 - NAD (Religious Liberty)

Christian Life

Birthday Reflections

By Adrian Boyer

Now some Folks view their Birthdays
with...such apprehensive Fears,
They don't want anyone to know...they're
adding on the Years.

Especially when Decades steal...their
Blush of Youth away,
And Locks that one were Gold or
Brown...have turned to Silver-gray.

But me—I only laugh and say...to Father
Time with glee,
“I hope you've got a Bushel full...of
Birthdays just for me!

It makes no never-mind to me...I'm none
the less the warier—
Bring on your Birthdays by the Scores—
to me, the more the merrier!

I value every one because...when they run
out of Stock,
It's lock the Door and pull the Shades...for
Time has stopped the Clock

That's why I hoard each Birthday like...a
Miser hoards his Gold—
Because they only make me Wise...they
never make me Old.

So greet each Birthday with a Smile...fear
not how oft or when,
For Life would not be Life without...a
Birthday now and then!

Support Our Troops!

Get Involved with McDonald Road Church's Service Personnel Ministry
Contact Ann Davis, Service Personnel Ministry Director, at 396-2966 or e-mail her at scottsmom1983@yahoo.com for more information on how you can help.

Words to Ponder...

"A Call to Christian Greatness"

"Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than going to the garage makes you a car."

~Laurence J. Peter

"If a commission by an earthly king is considered an honor, how can a commission by a Heavenly King be considered a sacrifice?"

~David Livingstone

"No one has the right to hear the gospel twice, while there remains someone who has not heard it once."

~Oswald J. Smith

"If you found a cure for cancer, wouldn't it be inconceivable to hide it from the rest of mankind? How much more inconceivable to keep silent the cure from the eternal wages of death."

~Dave Davidson

"No reserves. No retreats. No regrets."

~Bill Borden

"The mark of a great church is not its seating capacity, but its sending capacity."

~Mike Stachura

Feature

New Year's Resolution: Gain Weight

While Everyone Around Us Is Resolving to Lose Weight this Year, We Christians Need to Resolve to Feast on the Bread of Life

By Melissa Turner, editor

As the new year begins, many people will make the resolution to lose weight. They will go out and sign up for health club memberships. They will go to the sports store and purchase expensive exercise equipment. They will vow to never touch another soda can or bag of potato chips.

This year, we Seventh-day Adventist Christians have a completely different resolution we need to make. Spiritually speaking, we need to resolve to "gain weight." The phrase "spiritual anorexia" is a familiar metaphor. We've all heard it before. But I'd like to expand on this metaphor as I think about how I want to live my life in the coming year and as you think about how you want to live yours.

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty," (John 6:35). Jesus also declared those words we as Seventh-day Adventists know so well: "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God,'" (Matthew 4:4).

Why do we take these words so lightly? The Son of God spoke these words for our benefit. Nothing in this world, no matter how hard advertisers try to make us believe otherwise, will ever bring us true happiness like knowing and loving Jesus.

We search for happiness and fulfillment everywhere and anywhere but in God Himself. Charles Fillmore says, "The search of all people is for God. They may think they are looking for other things, but they must eventually admit that it is God they seek."

Let's not be naive and claim that we're okay because we go to church on Sabbath and pay our tithe and help out with a few things around the church. Do we have a daily

heart relationship with Jesus? Is Jesus our very best friend? If so, our lives will reflect that love in a way that we can never accomplish simply by gritting our teeth and trying hard.

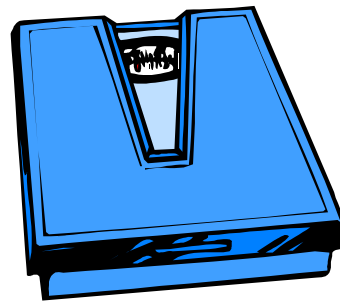
We are the Laodicean church. And God Himself says in Revelation that He wants to vomit us out of His mouth because "You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked," (Revelation 3:17).

We last-day church members suffer from spiritual anorexia. The very sustenance we need, we are refusing. Sadly, we are too much a part of the world and we are not eating enough of the

Bread of Life. We live in a wealthy nation where we seemingly have need of nothing, yet we are starving for a real, life-changing spiritual experience.

Do we want to know Jesus? Do we want to be alive, for real? We need to take our eyes off this world and what we think brings happiness and fulfillment and delve into a completely new life with Jesus. We need to be rehabilitated from our spiritual "skin and bones" states and be transformed into spiritual marathon runners, running toward the goal as Paul so aptly put it.

When the world around us is starving itself of the Bread of Life and is instead feasting on fashion, money, and material things, we Christians need to turn our eyes away from the world and its intrigue and place them onto Jesus Christ who wants to give us new, abundant life. Let's stop starving ourselves spiritually, admit our need, and start beefing up our spiritual lives on the Bread of Life and His Word.



Critter Corner

"The Regal Kingfisher"

Uncle Burney's



The Kingfisher lives along most of the waterways of the United States. They build their nest in big old woodpecker holes and I have seen many nesting in holes dug out in the clay banks along rivers. Sometimes you can see them hovering over the water making short dips trying to confuse a school of minnows below. As soon as one minnow gets lost from the others, the kingfisher dives and catches it in his beak. He then flies back to the perch and after a few pinches, to soften it up, he swallows it whole.

The female kingfisher has a large rusty, brown belt across her belly and that's how they got the name of Belted Kingfisher. There are three different kinds of kingfishers here in the United States. The Ringed Kingfisher and the little Green Kingfisher live only in the lower part of Texas but do visit Arizona occasionally. The kingfishers have family all around the world and are some of the world's most beautiful birds. Have you ever heard of the Kookaburra? Well he's also a kingfisher. You can hear his laughing voice in many jungle movies.

Belted Kingfishers live as far north as Canada and Alaska. They eat mostly fish but will eat frogs if available. Their beak is very big and very powerful. Once we were banding birds along a creek bank and caught a Kingfisher in our net. When we tried to undo him from the net my finger got caught in his

beak. It was one of the most painful experiences I have ever had with birds. We decided to tape his beak shut until we could get him out of the net. Again the bird got my finger before we could do the tape thing. My same, very sore finger got lodged in his beak again. And again, the beak was pried open. It was in the middle of the winter and ice was on the ground and my fingers were already so cold they hurt. You can't wear gloves to take birds out of the net; you have to be very delicate. I'm just very glad that kingfishers don't have teeth or things would have been much worse. That bird tore our net up so bad that we couldn't use it anymore so that ended the bird banding that day. Anyway, at that point I was ready to go home and lick my wounds.

The funny looking kingfisher is just another of God's creations that keeps me in awe and respectful of our Great Creator that made all living things. God has done many wonderful things for us in 2005 and I'm looking forward to see what is in store for us in 2006. May God bless you this New Year and please get out into nature when ever possible. Take a good bird book with you on your walks and a pair of binoculars to help study God's second book, the book of nature. There is always a new adventure around the next bend.

Water Wonders

"Stingrays"

By Mrs. Janice Parker

Stanley Stingray lays quietly, half-buried in the sand on the ocean floor. He keeps a close watch of what is going on in the water around him. Stanley blends in well with the sand, so he is hard to see. Soon a school of fish swims over Stanley. Using his pectoral fins, Stanley flies through the water after the fish. Sailing over the top of the fish, Stanley grabs one in his sharp teeth, which are on the underside of his body. On top of his body are holes through which he breathes.

Stanley's short, flat body is formed by cartilage instead of bone, so he is quite flexible. With his long tail, he is nearly six-feet long. The end of Stanley's tail has a poisonous spine which he uses to protect himself from his enemies. When he stings a human or another animal, Stanley makes a deep wound and can stun the victim.



file photo

Before Stanley was hatched, he lived in an oblong capsule that was attached by some filaments to a seaweed plant. Inside the capsule was a large yolk sac that fed Stanley. As soon as he hatched, Stanley was fully developed and could swim and find food. After Stanley left the capsule, it floated to the shore. These capsules are called "fairy purses." God has made Stanley Stingray special and God has made each of us special too.

Upcoming Personal Ministries Events for 2006

Meeting for all Personal Ministries Group Leaders - On January 14 at 2:00 p.m. (following fellowship dinner) at McDonald Road SDA Church a meeting will be held for all group leaders: Bible instructors, prayer team members and the personal ministries committee.

Lay Bible Instructor Training - At the Chattanooga First Church from 6:00-9:00 p.m. The revised dates for the sessions are as follows: January 23, 24, 30 and February 6, 13, 20, 27.

Prayer Summit - On January 20 and 21. The location and time are to be announced.

Revelation of Hope Rally - Mark Finley shares a vision of what God can do through us on January 28 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Chattanooga Convention and Trade Center.

Friendship Evangelism Seminar - On February 4, 11, 18, 25 for vespers at 5:00 p.m. in the McDonald Road SDA Church.

Daniel Home Seminars - Starting in Mid-February. The training location and times are to be announced.

Regional Health Expo - Led by Mark and Teenie Finley. To take place in mid-April.

Archaeology Seminar - To take place in early May.

Revelation of Hope Series - Starts May 19 at 7:15 p.m. at the Chattanooga Convention and Trade Center.

Parenting Books Are Available at Church Library

306.81 STEP FAMILY SURVIVAL GUIDE
GIL Gillespie, Natalie

One out of three Americans is a member of a step family. This innovative handbook shows how to alleviate step family stress, apply a united front in discipline styles, approach co-parenting with grace, appreciate the gift of a step family and much more.



The section on parenting (306.81) has a wealth of materials. Following is a list of only a few of the books (and audio-visuals) available at the church library:

How to Really Love Your Child
Seven Worst Things Parents Do
Rod Vs. M&M's
My Unforgettable Parents
Understanding Children
Why Children Misbehave
Grounded for Life
10 Greatest Gifts I Give My Children

Dare to Discipline
What My Parents Did Right
The Wounded Parent
Prime-Time Parenting
Parent Wise
Relaxed Parent
Complete Parent