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## Upcoming Greater Chattanooga Evangelism Outreach Events

**Health Expo**  
March 19-22  
Chattanooga First SDA Church  
Country Life Vegetarian Restaurant  
Orchard Park SDA Church

**Eight Weeks to Wellness  
Seminars**  
March 23-May 19  
Chattanooga First SDA Church  
Country Life Vegetarian Restaurant  
Orchard Park Carver Recreational  
Center

For more information, see church  
bulletin insert.

## 3ABN's "Kid's Time" Hostess Returns to McDonald Road for Family Ministries Weekend

By Melissa Turner, editor

Brenda Walsh, hostess of Three Angels Broadcasting Network's "Kid's Time" show and author of the book entitled "Battered to Blessed," will be visiting McDonald Road Church on Sabbath, March 11 for a special weekend sponsored by family ministries.

Walsh will preach both sermons that Sabbath morning, and she will also share her testimony that evening for vespers. Parents are asked to be aware that Walsh's testimony contains come adult material and to bring their children to the vespers program at their own risk. Childcare will be provided for those 12 and under. For more information about the family ministries weekend or about the childcare for Sabbath evening vespers, please contact Cindy Cannon, McDonald Road family ministries director.



contributed photo

*Brenda Walsh*

## Upcoming Personal Ministries, Health Ministries Events Lead Up to Revelation of Hope Seminar

By Melissa Turner, editor

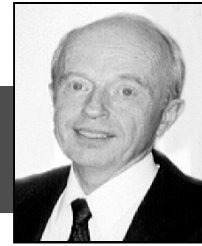
Area personal ministries and health ministries directors are working together to lay the groundwork for Mark Finley's Revelation of Hope Seminar, coming to Chattanooga May 18, 2006.

Over the course of the next few months, directors will work with local churches to organize health expos, wellness seminars, small group studies on the Book of Daniel and one-on-one Bible studies. These are just some of the upcoming efforts to connect with the public prior to the May Revelation meetings.

Currently, seven McDonald Road members' homes are being opened each week for a 12-week series called "Unsealing Daniel's Mysteries." Members have invited co-workers, neighbors and others to attend the meetings and learn more about last day events and prophecy.

Personal ministries is continuing to look for members interested in giving Bible studies to those who have responded to the recent literature evangelism and door-to-door efforts. *"Events" continued on page 5*

# Pastor's Challenge



Pastor Don Gettys

## Unused Seeds

One fairly warm day this winter I looked over my gardening supplies. The gardening fever was trying to come upon me. There was a roll of string for laying out the rows, bug spray, gloves, a small plastic bucket, some lime, and several packets of old seeds in my planting basket. The date on some of them was long since past. They were each marked: Blue Lake Beans, yellow crook neck summer squash, etc, etc. They were left overs. When I plant a long row sometimes there are several seeds left. They accumulate and not wanting to risk planting these old seeds the next year they are passed by. That warm day I threw them into the trash where I suppose they eventually ended up in the land fill. Forever unfruitful. They will

never be used for the purpose for which they were made.

As I threw them into the trash I thought about my life. You may want to think about yours. Each of us has a certain potential for success in this old world. We are not like my seeds which have no power of choice. Before the hand of time casts you aside take action. Be fruitful. Colossians 1:10 says "walk worthy of the Lord...being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God." We were created to be fruitful. Don't bury your talent like the unwise steward. Use it for Jesus. God made you for a great purpose.

Like a seed we were meant to grow up into a beautiful healthy plant and to reproduce ourselves many times over. The day we are born is the day of our planting. The small seed placed in the furrow to grow. The sun warms the moist upturned earth. Slowly the seed swells and softens inside as the outside becomes wrinkled. The earth is dark and damp

and cold. But we can never be lush growing plants in the garden until we have spent time as seeds in the dark, totally ignored. The swelling seed hurts until finally the sun draws forth from the pain a tiny leaf. The seed keeps at its growth because glory doesn't come instantly. Finally a beautiful plant begins to bear fruit, achieving God's plan for its existence.

God says: Jeremiah 29:11- "I know the plans I have for you. Plans to prosper you..." Your talents are provided so you can make a difference in this old

world.

Across the fields of yesterday he some times comes to me,

A little lad just back from play, the boy I used to be.

He smiles at me so wistfully when once he's crept within,

It is as though he'd hoped to see the man I might have been.

Let's strive to reach our God-given potential. Bear fruit. Go on a mission trip. Share Jesus wherever you are. Become more Christ-like with each passing day.



## 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.

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

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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Fax: 423-396-3433

## Sermon Schedule

“Heading for Heaven” Sabbath, March 4

by Pastor Don Gettys

Family Weekend Sabbath, March 11

by Pastor Brenda Walsh

Communion Sabbath Sabbath, March 18

by Pastor Paul Carlson

“Roots of Wisdom” Sabbath, March 25

by Pastor Don Gettys

## Twilight Reveries

By Adrian Boyer

### I

In the Twilight of our Sojourn,--  
In the Evening of our Days,  
When the somber Shadows gather,  
In the Gloaming's length'ning Haze:  
Comes a Time of rapt Reflection  
On sweet Memories of Yore,--  
Of old Friends and happy Moments  
That are gone forevermore.

### II

There's a bittersweet Nostalgia,  
Like a mellow Afterglow,  
That transports us in an Instant  
To some treasured LONG AGO.  
Old Acquaintances may vanish,--  
Cherished Plans may go awry,  
But our Mem'ries are Immortal,  
They will never ever die.

### III

There is Something almost Sacred  
In some ONCE UPON A TIME,  
When our Lives were Young and Carefree,  
And just living was Sublime:  
In the Twilight of our Sojourn,--  
In the Sunset of our Years,  
What a Pleasure to remember  
Scenes that still the Heart endears.

### **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](mailto:scottsmom1983@yahoo.com) for more information on how you can help.

## Adventurer Club Holds Lock-In

By Tony and Eva Burchard, Adventurer Club leaders

On January 21, 2006 the Adventurer Club had their annual Lock-In in the Family Center. This is something that all the kids look forward to all year long.



contributed photo

The Adventurers played games in the Family Center during their lock-in.

Everyone had fun playing games, eating pizza and snacks, watching movies, working on My Picture Book award and just enjoying spending time together.

Afterward, everyone had some sleep. We had a pancake breakfast and enjoyed spending the morning together. We would like to give special thanks to Pam Lewis for her parachute game and for Dean Saunders in setting up the movie March Of The Penguins. And to Teresa Breedlove for flipping pancakes for everyone!

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.”

~Proverbs 3:5, 6

## McDonald Road Members Gear Up for Mission Trip to Nicaragua

By Daryl Ford, guest contributor

McDonald Road Church members Daryl Ford, certified nurse midwife, and Dale Walters, Southern Adventist University professor, are joining students and faculty from Southern's School of Nursing who are spending their spring break going to help with a medical clinic in Nicaragua. They will fly to within about an hour and a half trip to the main village and travel by truck the rest of the way. Dale has been to Nicaragua many times and helps with planning details needed to help the trip come together well. He will be helping with maintenance on the truck and other needs. They will also walk or drive the truck to surrounding villages. They have limited electricity (generators). They will utilize translators to give medical care. They will need to purchase many medical supplies to take on the trip. They will sleep under mosquito nets, drink filter water and have fruits washed in clorox and have limited cold showers. It should be a life-changing experience. Your prayers are appreciated.

### Supplies you could help with include:

- gift packs for children: clothing (shirt/skirt or shirt/pants, underwear)
- gift packs for babies: baby blanket, two pairs of socks, a hat, two shirts, some cloth diapers and a sleeper or outfit (no onesies, as cloth diapers are used)
- a small toy (such as balloons, crayons, coloring books, bubbles, balls, pencils, etc.)

**These items must be packed in a ziplock bag, labeled “male” or “female” and approximate age or size. Please have them in by Sabbath, February 25.**

**Your help and prayers are appreciated!**

### “Events” continued from page 1

A full schedule of health ministries outreach projects are being held during March, April and May. A Health Expo will be held Sunday March 19; Monday, March 20 and Tuesday March 21. The Health Expo will take place at four different locations across Chattanooga: 1. Chattanooga First SDA Church, 2. Country Life Vegetarian Restaurant, 3. Orchard Park SDA Church and 4. St. Elmo, South Chattanooga Recreation Center. Health Expo visitors can have the following health tests, free of charge: vision screening, dental screening, dermatology/skin cancer screening, blood pressure, body fat percentage and more.

A second health ministries event coming up is a seminar entitled “Eight Weeks to Wellness.” The seminar will cover topics such as physical activity, best foods, safe skin,

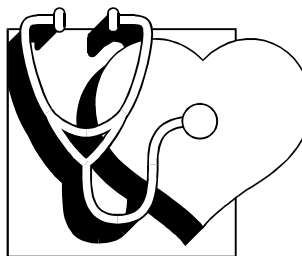
heart disease, surviving stress and successful living. The seminars will feature local physicians, dieticians and health educators as guest speakers. The seminar will take

place at three locations including: 1. Chattanooga First SDA Church, 2. Country Life Vegetarian Restaurant and 3. Orchard Park Carver Recreational Center.

For more information about how you can get involved by helping with Bible studies or assisting

with the health ministries events, contact McDonald Road's Personal Ministries Director John Davis at 396-2966 or Health Ministries Director Martha Dutterer at 396-3003.

Help spread the word and invite your friends and family, co-workers and neighbors to these Bible study groups and health events!



## Critter Corner

Uncle Burney's

### "Gooster and My Gang"



It was the day the goose eggs were supposed to hatch. Our children peered through the glass front of the incubator at the three big goose eggs that they had cared for so faithfully for the last month. They knew it was almost time for the eggs to hatch because the peeping of the little geese inside the eggs could be heard outside the incubator.

Just before bedtime came a little scream, "Dad! Mom! Come quick." My youngest daughter pointed to a little peck in one shell, and part of the shell was moving. Sure enough, the chick was on time even without a calendar or a clock. I explained that sometimes it takes a day or so for the babies to get all the way out of the eggshell, so our little ones were tucked in for the night and you can imagine what their prayers were about.

The next morning, I walked past the incubator. There was the fuzziest, fattest, brightest yellow little gosling you could ever imagine. The other eggs were just getting good cracks in them but would still need some time before they would hatch. Gently I took the little fuzzy out of the incubator, nuzzled him a little, and then headed for the children's bedroom. By that evening all three kids had a baby gosling to hold and name.

The geese grew big and were good playmates for the kids and served as excellent watchdogs at night. If a stray cat or dog came

in the yard at night the whole neighborhood knew about it. One night I almost called the police because I thought someone was breaking into my tool shed. I'm certainly glad I didn't make that call and have to explain to a police officer that it was a Gooster and not a gangster. Who actually named Gooster? I don't remember, but the name stuck. Wherever the kids were, there was Gooster.

A year or so later, we got a call to move to Tennessee and the search began for a suitable home for the geese. We found some friends who lived in the country and were willing to take the geese. They had a big pond with other geese and ducks to share their new home. It was a sad day for all of us when we drove off and left our old friend, but it was a good day for Gooster. He had been there just a few minutes and had already found a beautiful Goostress eager to share the pond with him, and he didn't even notice when we left.

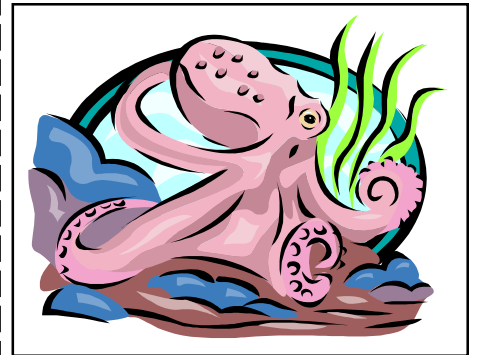
"Will Gooster be in heaven when we get there Daddy?" With hope in my answer, I told our children that Jesus said the little child, the lion and the lamb would play together in heaven. So if God gave us these little animal friends here on earth, why not in Heaven where we could be friends forever. Surely there will be geese in Heaven and one of them will be named Gooster.

## Water Wonders

### "Octopi"

By Mrs. Janice Parker

Olivia Octopus came slowly out of her rocky crevice in the ocean. Using her eight arms, with their many suction cups, she pulls herself along. At the opening of her cave, she looks around to see if danger is lurking near. On her soft, spongy, bulb-like head, are two highly-developed eyes which take in the area around her. She blends well with her surroundings and is hard to detect. She changes her skin color from pinkish to brown to blue or green, depending on her mood or environment. She also changes colors to attract a mate.



Soon, Olivia spies a crab crawling on a rock nearby. Using one of her arms, she grabs the crab and quickly puts it in her mouth, which is on the underside of her body. While enjoying the crab, Olivia is approached by an enemy. She squirts out her special "ink" and the water around her becomes cloudy so her enemy can't see her.

When fully grown, Olivia can become up to ten feet in length. She mates only once in her lifetime. After mating, she lays long strips of eggs encased in capsules and glues them to the roof of her cave. She tends the eggs for up to six weeks and never leaves them to find food. The young hatch directly as small octopi, just like Olivia.

## Five Women's Spiritual Retreats Coming Up in March

Georgia-Cumberland Conference women have five women's spiritual retreats to choose from, all at Cohutta Springs this March. Make your reservations for "Destination Heaven." New this year: two Young Women's Retreats for ages 13-19 and Hispanic, March 10-12 and English March 24-26. Brochures have been mailed to homes and churches, and more information can be found at [www.gccsda.org](http://www.gccsda.org). Early bird deadline: March 1.



## Georgia-Cumberland, South Atlantic Prayer Conference Convenes March 31

Seventh-day Adventists throughout the Southeast are setting aside the weekend of March 31-April 2, 2006 as a special time of prayer. During that weekend, church appointed representatives from Atlanta will come together for a Prayer Conference at Cohutta Springs Conference Center. You are invited to take part by participating in the special events planned at your local church. As part of this prayer initiative, the GCC and SAC are strengthening the spiritual and relational bonds already formed from working together to reach Atlanta in preparation for the General Conference Session scheduled for 2010.



## Story Tips Needed

Your help is needed in strengthening the communication process of McDonald Road SDA Church. If you are involved in a Sabbath School or personal ministry that you believe has feature story material for the Manna, please contact the Manna Editor, Melissa Turner and pass along your story tip to her. Thank you for your help!

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