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Literature Rack Provides Valuable Tools for Winning Souls to Jesus

By Melissa Turner, editor

In a tucked-away space across from the side door leading in and out of the church foyer, a literature rack awaits those looking for useful tools to win souls to Jesus.

A full set of Discover Bible Study guides is available for sharing with friends, family, co-workers and neighbors. Other resources include sharing books and videos as well.

The literature rack is tended by John Davis, personal ministries director for the McDonald Road Church. The supplies are available to all church members. Those having questions or needing assistance can contact John Davis.

At right: a literature rack with cabinetry to match the rest of the church foyer, holds valuable witnessing and sharing resources, including Bible studies, videos, sharing books and pamphlets.



photo by Dean Saunders

Coming This December...



Vacation Bible School
in Bethlehem

Keep Up With the Global Adventist Church Via Web Podcasts



Adventist News Network now offers weekly podcasts for those who enjoy keeping up with things via the latest technology. In-depth stories and conversations are available on subjects varying from prisoners in Papua, New Guinea accepting Jesus to the Adventist Church and the Middle East crisis. Check out these fascinating podcasts from around the globe at: <http://www.ground7news.org>.

Pastor's Challenge



Pastor David Cook

Police Chase

Since my Dad has ADD he can't stay in one place longer than a few hours. This means that my childhood was spent driving all over the green earth. As a kid we criss-crossed America as many times as I have fingers. All in all I have driven through forty-nine states and even some Canadian provinces. It was in one of these that I witnessed the police chase.

We were driving through a part of Ontario that is densely uninhabited. As you can imagine, my Dad was bored. That is, until he noticed the patrol car. Slowing down, we could see the cop talking to someone in an old Camero. Just as we pulled up the Camero burned rubber and took off. Seconds later the cop was in hot pursuit.

My Dad sped up to follow the action. Life is never dull when your Dad has ADD. Coming over a hill we could see the Camero spinning out to make a U-turn. The cop skidded around to follow. We did the same.

As we sped along we caught glimpses of the chase as it topped a series of hills. We were thinking they had gotten away when we stumbled upon a dramatic scene. We could see the Camero sitting maimed in a ditch. The police car was on its side with wheels spinning. In an adjacent field we could see the criminal running full-tilt. Behind him limped the cop, gun in hand and yelling.

Then the most amazing thing happened. A huge mountain-man ran out of the woods and headed straight for the crook. He must have been a hunter who just happened to be nearby. He sped across the field and tackled the bad guy! Minutes later the fugitive was handcuffed and being put in a patrol car.

We couldn't believe the bad luck of that criminal! He had successfully evaded the cop, was running to freedom and then: whamo! Grizzly Adams shows up.

You know, some days I feel like that crook. I'm not feeling exactly spiritual so I try to avoid God at all costs. I practically run when I see Him coming. And then: whamo! The Holy Spirit is there to tackle me with a huge hug. Once again, I find myself powerless to resist God's love. As

Paul says: "For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."



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@mcdonalddroad.org.

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
Pastor
Associate Pastor
Associate/Youth Pastor
Church Secretary
Newsletter Editor

Jesus Christ
Don Gettys
Paul Carlson
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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://mcdonalddroad.org>

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Sermon Schedule

- “Eyes of Fire” Sabbath, September 2
by Pastor Don Gettys
- “The Soap Opera of the Nations” Sabbath, September 9
by Pastor Paul Carlson
- “Thump the Watermelon” Sabbath, September 16
by Pastor Don Gettys
- Communion - “Jesus’ Sacrifice Today” Sabbath, September 23
by Pastor Paul Carlson
- “Ugly Toes” Sabbath, September 30
by Pastor David Cook

The Lost Hour

By Adrian Boyer

*"...work...while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work."
John 9:4*

I

Regard each Day as though it were
The only one you'll get,
And make the best of every Hour
Before Life's Sun has set.

II

For when the Shades of Night are drawn,
And darkness shrouds the Soul,
No Time is left to then fulfill
That once most cherished Goal.

III

The Sands of Time too swiftly run,
This Axiom is true, --
Nor can Life's Hourglass be refilled,
Or yet one Grain accrue.

IV

Let every Moment thus be prized
More precious than fine Gold,
For every passing Hour repeats
A Tale that has been told.

V

Perform that Task so oft delayed
While yet it is Today,
Tomorrow is a Myth of Time
That will not brook delay.

VI

Since Time is not refundable,
Consider then the cost:
A Debt that never can be paid
For an Hour forever lost.

The Paradox of Our Age

-anonymous-

We have taller buildings, but shorter tempers; wider freeways, but narrower viewpoints; we spend more, but have less; we buy more, but enjoy it less.

we have higher incomes, but lower morals; more food but less appeasement; more acquaintances, but fewer friends; more effort but less success.

We have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences, but less time; we have more degrees, but less sense; more knowledge, but less judgment; more experts, but more problems; more medicine, but less wellness.

We build more computers to hold more information, to produce more copies than ever, but have less communication; we've become long on quantity, but short on quality.



We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get too angry too quickly, stay up too late, get up too tired, read too seldom, watch TV too much, and pray too seldom.

These are the times of fast foods and slow digestion; tall men, and shorter character; steep profits, and shallow relationships.

We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values. We talk too much, love too seldom and lie too often. We've learned how to make a living, but not a life; we've added years to life, but not life to years.

These are the times of world peace, but domestic warfare; more leisure and less fun; more kinds of food, but less nutrition.

We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet the new neighbor.

These are the days of two incomes, but more divorce; of fancier houses but broken homes.

We've conquered outer space, but not inner space; we've done larger things, but not better things; we've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul; we've split the atom, but not our prejudice; we write more, but learn less; plan more, but accomplish less.

These are the days of quick trips, disposable diapers, throw-away morality, one-night stands, overweight bodies, and pills that do everything from cheer, to quiet, to kill.

We've learned to rush, but not to wait;

It is a time when there is much in the show window and nothing in the stock room. Indeed it's all true.

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.

Take Time to Smile, to Laugh...

“Laughter is the sun that drives winter from the human face.”

~Barbara Johnson

“Whence comes this idea that if what we are doing is fun, it can’t be God’s will? The God who made giraffes, a baby’s fingernails, a puppy’s tail, a crooknecked squash, the bobwhite’s call, and a young girls giggle, has a sense of humor. Make no mistake about that.”

~Catherine Marshall

“To miss the joy is to miss all.”

~Robert Louis Stevenson

“Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves.”

~James M. Barrie

“Joy is not gush; joy is not jolliness. Joy is perfect acquiescence in God’s will because the soul delights itself in God himself.”

~H. W. Webb-Peploe

“The greatest saints are the merriest-hearted people.”

~Mary Webb

“When I think of God, my heart is so full of joy that the notes leap and dance as they leave my pen; and since God has given me a cheerful heart, I serve Him with a cheerful spirit.”

~Franz Joseph Hayden

“A merry heart does good, like medicine, but a broken spirit dries the bones.”

~Proverbs 17:22

Mere Existence is Unacceptable, Part I

As Seventh-day Adventist Christians Living in the Last Days, We Are Called to Serve Jesus in the World and in the Church

By Melissa Turner

We live in challenging times, do doubt. As a magazine writer, I keep up with the news and with current events a lot more than most people care to and a lot more than I probably should. But, in my work, I want to be as informed as possible so I can have the knowledge necessary to inform others—that’s my job. I have e-mail news feeds coming in everyday, several times a day from news sources and non-profit organizations from the Chattanooga area and across the globe.

In keeping up with current events this past year, I’ve sensed a growing tension in our world. It’s as though we were on the edge of eternity and everyone knows it, but no one knows what to do about it. Recently the evening news anchors have even been presenting stories and calling in experts on last day events—asking questions like “Are these really the last days?” “Is the world really coming to an end?” Financial analysts in the media are predicting inevitable economic strife—it will come, it’s only a matter of time, they say. How much longer can the United States stand, spending billions a day in Iraq and Afghanistan and struggling to care for its own on the Gulf Coast? What might happen next to pull the last straw?

And yet, with all this tension in the air...I think we have an opportunity. Not only is this a time for Seventh-day Adventist Christians to stop and catch our breath from our busy, stressful lives and wake up to the reality that yes, Jesus is coming soon! But it is also a time for us to wake up to the joy and privilege we can have in helping bring in the last souls to the Lord’s fold. Think about it: every single person in this world has just as

much right and just as much opportunity to be saved as you and I do. Imagine seeing people for who they really are, children of God, in need of love. Why wouldn’t we want to jump in and allow the Lord to work through us, winning souls to Him? What an amazing adventure!

And the adventure doesn’t have to take us to the jungles of the Amazon or to Southeast Asia. The adventure can begin right in our own neighborhoods. How many of your neighbors do you know? I’m sad to say it has taken me awhile to get to know my neighbors, but I have enjoyed getting to know them better and share my faith and helping hand with them.

The adventure can also begin right in our own community. I think of the homeless situation in Chattanooga. Why are these people living on the streets? Are they mentally challenged? Do they have addictions? They need to know there is hope and that Someone loves and cares about them. I think of the teenagers who have been stabbed in gang-related encounters in East Lake Courts and downtown Chattanooga near the Christian venue, Club Fathom. Why is there such negative energy running in the veins of these young people downtown? They need to know that Someone does care about them and thinks they are so special that He died for them so they could really live.

We as individuals and as a church family need to do something. We need to step forward and make a difference first in our own community and then in communities across the globe. What will you do? What will I do? Mere existence is not acceptable.



Critter Corner

Uncle Burney's

"Big Blue and the Baby"



It was late afternoon and the shadows were getting long at the swamps edge. I had been out most of the afternoon in my canoe photographing water birds and any other thing that showed up. As I backed my canoe up under an over-hang of wax myrtle branches I began sensing that some one or some thing was watching me. I searched the undergrowth in vain. The feeling grew stronger as I kept slowly creeping backward till I was hidden from sight. With the camera resting on the rim of the boat, in shooting position, I waited. I didn't have to wait long. That feeling that made the hair on the back of my neck stand up just wouldn't go away. Slowly I turned my head around to look behind me. There not more than 15 inches from my face was a very sharp instrument of destruction aimed directly between my eyes.

You might ask, what would any one be doing out here in the middle of a swamp with a weapon such as this? Well they could be spearing frogs or keeping alligators away or maybe they were spearing fish. Yes, they probably were spearing fish and frogs but now they were trying to damage a photographer. I had been minding my own business, and doing it quietly I might add, when this hunter pointed his spear at me. He didn't say a word to me; he didn't have to. He screamed in my face and I ducked down in the canoe. My

heart was pounding so loud I could hear it. I kept waiting for the blow to my head or back but it didn't come. After a while I raised my head and peered over the edge of the boat and stared right into the face of that pointy nose, cross-eyed swamp creature. I still couldn't talk. My heart was still in my throat. This was one of the worst cases of being startled I can remember. Finally I peeled myself up off the bottom of the boat and worked up enough courage to poke a paddle in this guy's face. I backed out of there as fast as I could. If this hunter had really wanted to he could have plucked one of my eyes out as easy as you please. He didn't and I was extremely pleased.

Well I'll tell you a little secret; I had to make this really sound bad because I was so scared and embarrassed. What really happened was this; I had backed into the same hiding place where a Great Blue Heron was protecting its baby. Normally they fly away when people get too close but when they are watching a baby that's fallen out of a nest, well, all I can say is, look out. Remember their nest is usually built up in the top of the tallest trees around. This could be 30 to 70 feet above ground so when babies fall out they don't usually climb or fly back in. It's hard to describe the sound these

"Big Blue" continued on page 7

Water Wonders

"Cuttlefish"

A Story By Mrs. Janice Parker

Cuty Cuttlefish looks like a small hovercraft hovering over the sand on the bottom of the ocean floor. Her cuttlebone, a calcium based shell, inside of her, has tiny gas chambers which she uses to keep herself afloat. She does this by how much air she puts in the little chambers.

She changes colors and patterns quickly from brown to yellow, red-orange or blue-green to hide from her enemies or for attracting a mate. When something scares her she will shoot out ink that colors the water so she can get away.

Cuty is hungry. With her well-developed eyes, in a "W" shape, she can see in almost any direction. These help her find food and see enemies that are near. When she sees some shrimp, crabs, mollusk or fish, she will hover over them. Using her two longest arms, she quickly grabs them and draws them towards her. With all ten of her arms she crushes the prey and pulls the food into her hardened beak. Even when there is plenty of food her growth, which can be up to 18 inches in some species, will depend on the temperature of the water. She grows faster in warm water.

Towards the end of her life, Cuty will return to the place where she was born to find a mate. Mating season takes place in the spring or fall. After mating she will lay up to 4,000 eggs which she will dye black to keep other creatures from eating them. She fastens the eggs to rocks to keep them safe until they hatch. This can take from one to three months depending on the warmth of the water. Cuty and her mate will guard the eggs for a short while and then they die. When the eggs hatch the tiny cuttlefish can hunt for food and care for themselves.

The cuttlefish is a seafood delicacy and cuttlebones are used as a calcium source for canaries and other birds. The same God who cares for Cuty and her family cares for us too.

“Big Blue” continued from page 6

large gray birds make, but up close it sounds like a semi truck coming down on top of me. I have been startled many times by these Great Blue Herons when out fishing but nothing compared to this instance. If you have ever seen one of these big birds you surely noticed that spear they call beak. They can put that thing right through a fish or frog. I have even seen them eat small gators after spearing them. While surf fishing years ago, one got himself entangled in my fishing line and it took two of us to get him out. It took one person to hold that spear-like beak and the other to hold the legs and wings and untangle the line.

These are big, graceful, birds in flight but rather slow and awkward on the ground. When standing at waters edge though, waiting for a fish or frog to swim by, they are as still as a post. They rarely miss their target and that was what concerned me most. It would have been hard to explain to people how I lost an eye to a heron. And by the way, why do they call it the Great Blue Heron? I don't see any blue on him, just a lot of shades of gray.

Again it's easy to see how nature can provide some very interesting experiences, some good and some not so good. However, unless you get out into the woods, the lakes or the mountains, you will never know what awaits you. Enjoy what your Creator has provided for your entertainment. I'll see you on the trails.

Internet Ministry News

By Dean Saunders, Internet Ministries Director

During this past week people from more than 90 countries have found our new website location. They were looking for things like churches, sermons, Bible studies, and a closer walk with Jesus. During this past week a number of our Bible students graduated from one of our email Bible Study courses. A lot of things have been happening with our Internet Ministry in just one week! The truth is, that things are happening every day! Actually, I just looked at the log of what is happening right now, and I see that over 10 hits have happened in the last minute. Every minute counts, and we do not know how many minutes will pass by before Jesus comes to take us home.

I am thrilled with what has been done through our outreach by way of the Internet here at the McDonald Road Church. People have been writing in from all over the world thanking us for the sermons and studies. However, there are many challenges ahead. One challenge that keeps coming back to me is that we only have two sets of email Bible studies. Our Bible Instructors keep asking me if we can get another set of lessons to follow those two. You see, our students like

taking studies from our instructors, and many of the students are far away from any church. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could continue the contact with more studies? Of course that's just one of our challenges.

We just changed web addresses last month; and as a result, people are finding us by way of our old website address. We need someone to contact all the churches and conferences, etc that link to us in order that they will put our new link in place to our new location at <http://mcdonaldroad.org/> without



having to go through our old site. This will help us get a better listing on search engines such as Google and Yahoo and others. Are you available to help us?

Someone just wrote to us today with this message: “Very impressed with your site - you've been doing a great job for a long time now!” If you are someone who would like to insure that the good we have been able to do on our old site can continue, please contact us at the church. God will definitely bless as we do our best for Him!

Come Join the “CHIP” Adventure

The Coronary Health Improvement Project was developed by Dr. Hans Diehl. This four week, 16 day lifestyle education program has helped thousands worldwide to experience the blessing of renewed health, reduction or elimination of prescription drugs, reversal of diabetes and heart disease, weight loss, lowered cholesterol and many other benefits.

Included in the package will be a shopping tour, applied nutrition workshop, nutritious food sampling, workbook, small group support as well as pre and post blood tests so you can see dramatic results of adopting the lifestyle changes taught each evening.

CHIP is coming to McDonald Road and will be presented by Ron and Cynthia Shaffer from September 10 through October 6, 2006 Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m.

For more information about the CHIP program call Martha Dutterer, Health Ministries director, at 396-3003.

Also, take an opportunity to visit the CHIP website to learn more about the program and its benefits at www.adventistchip.org.

Register now to save your seat!!!