

# MANNA

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Newsletter of the  
McDonald Road Seventh-day Adventist Church

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## Online Giving Now Available

AdventistGiving is a new feature now available from the McDonald Road Seventh-day Adventist Church website at: <http://mcdonaldroad.org> for those who prefer to manage their finances online.

AdventistGiving allows you to return your tithe and give freewill offerings to our church online using either credit or debit cards.

It was developed and is operated by the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. The North American Division is paying the transaction fees; which means that every penny that you donate goes to the offering for which you specify. All donations are routed to the local church bank account, and receipts will be issued at the end of the year by our local church treasurer, combining normal and online donations.



Since AdventistGiving allows you to return your tithe and give your offerings online, this means you can still give to your church when you are on a long business trip, on vacation, or even if you are unable to attend church due to an illness.

Contributions are made through a secure connection using your MasterCard, Visa, or Discover account. You will receive an immediate detailed confirmation via email and all online contributions will be included with your regular donation receipt.

For security reasons, credit/debit card information is not retained. As good stewards, we as Seventh-day Adventists do not encourage debt, but AdventistGiving is an option provided for the convenience of those who prefer to do their banking and financial transactions online.

Your password, login, and state-of-the-art security measures protect your privacy online. Only your church treasurer will have knowledge of your giving, as is the case with regular cash and check contributions.

“The King will reply,  
‘I tell you the truth,  
whatever you did for  
one of the least of  
these brothers of  
mine, you did for me.’

- Matthew 25:40

- continued on page 7 -

# 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.

**Head of the Church Pastor** Jesus Christ Don Gettys  
**Associate Pastor** Paul Carlson  
**Associate/Youth Pastor** David Cook  
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The church office is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., unless otherwise announced.

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**Submissions Deadline:** The third Thursday of each month, unless otherwise specified. Submit items in writing at the church office; by fax (396-3433); by e-mail [manna@mcdonaldroad.org](mailto:manna@mcdonaldroad.org); or by mail at 5440 McDonald Road, McDonald, TN 37353. Submissions by phone are not accepted.

**Electronic Submissions:** Submissions may be made via e-mail with the following attachment formatting: Word or WordPerfect documents, text files, and graphics or photos saved as jpeg, bmp, or gif files. Please submit electronic files by e-mailing them to: [manna@mcdonaldroad.org](mailto:manna@mcdonaldroad.org).

**"Uplifting Jesus"**  
McDonald Road  
Seventh-day Adventist Church



# Pastor's Challenge

## Spiritual Shortages



Pastor Don Gettys

My reading unearthed a shocking fact: This year, California will spend \$3.3 billion on its state university system. That is a lot of money! But, as I continued to read, it said that California this year will also spend \$9.9 billion on its prison system (*LA Times*, October 2007). Three times more is spent on jails than on schools.

Might this be a sign of the end? Our priorities seem mixed up. Maybe if we could introduce our young people to Jesus, the jails would eventually be largely vacated. Yet, we are not doing a very good job at that either. Consider today's youth age 18-22. One out of every four does not believe in God... they are Atheists (*The Week*, October, 2007).

Matthew 24:12 - "Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold." With all the recent events, it seems valid to conclude that we are living in momentous times. The earth is waxing old. We are so dependant on fossil fuels. The modern world seems to live to consume it all. Terrorists are cunning and overly active. There are shortages of crucial life-sustaining things. Might there also be a critical shortage of spirituality among our own congregation?

Let me ask you a question. Have you personally ever read your entire Bible all the way through? If you have, praise God. If not, why not start now?

Here's another question. Ten years ago were you attending church and Sabbath school? If so, praise God. Compare that with today. Are you attending both church and Sabbath school regularly? If not, why not? If you skip your daily devotions and attend irregularly or skip more often than not, you could be drifting away from Jesus.

We do these things to feed our spiritual life. They are all important. Are you growing closer or are you in the process of fading away from Jesus?

December is the month we chose to celebrate the birth of Jesus. But even more important than Jesus' birth is Jesus' life. Does Jesus live in your heart? Is your saving relationship strong? Time is short. I urge you to recommit your life to God and be faithful to Him.

- Pastor Don Gettys

## Sermon Schedule

- "Giving What is Right, Not What is Left" Sabbath, December 1  
by Don Gettys
- "Holy Treasures" Sabbath, December 8  
by Mitch Hazekamp
- "Son of a Savior" Sabbath, December 15  
by David Cook
- "The Persian PHDs Present" Sabbath, December 22  
by Don Gettys
- "Holy Honey Jar" Sabbath, December 29  
by Don Gettys

# Reaching In

## Remission

By Adrian Boyer

Our Father keeps no Record  
Of the Sins we have confessed,  
He removes them by His Mercy  
Far as East is from the West.

He has cast our vile Transgressions  
To the Bottom of the Sea,  
And remembers them no longer -  
From their Guilt He set us free.

Tho our Sins may be like Scarlet.  
God will make them White as Snow;  
Tho they be as Red as Crimson,  
They shall be as Wool we know.

What a comfort and Assurance  
Just to know our Saviour cares,  
And his ear is e'er attentive  
To our Heart's repentant Prayers.

By the Blood of His Atonement  
On Golgotha's dreary Mount,  
Jesus pair for every Trespass  
That is laid to our account.

By His Love and Grace He saved us,  
Ransomed every contrite Soul:  
Made us Heirs of God's great Kingdom -  
Cleansed and made us fully Whole.

## New Baptistry Installed

Twenty nine years ago when our church installed our new baptistry, who would have ever thought that the day would come when another baptistry would be needed? Our Lord has not yet returned, and so as the years went by, the original baptistry

began showing its age with spider web cracks one after another, until there was no choice but to get a new one.

Installing a baptistry is no small task, but with Dave Turner in charge of the construction, and with plenty of volunteers from our church members, the exchange of the old for the new became a reality. The old baptistry was taken out in pieces, but the biggest challenge was how to get the new baptistry into the spot! We measured carefully, and discovered that we could carefully fit the



Photo by Eva Burchard

*Volunteers lift the new baptistry through the doors of the stained glass window as Pastor Gettys guides it into place.*

new baptistry through the door in the stained glass window. However the back wall behind the baptistry had to be partially removed in order to maneuver the new baptistry in place. Thankfully a large volunteer crew was on hand to complete the placement.

Putting everything back together required the various construction workers that you would need if you were to build a house. From Jack Parker's plumbing skills to Dave Turner's expertise in reinstalling the walls with studs and sheetrock, along with the many other helpers, it finally looks more like a baptistry again. The Vallieres then shined things up, and we are now closer to using it in early December.

Let us all work and pray that we can soon concentrate on our home in the earth made new. Our job here is not yet finished. We need to help others to accept the message so they can use our new baptistry; and when Jesus comes we can all rejoice together in a job well done.

- Dean Saunders

# Reaching Out

## Volunteer Opportunities Available Through United Way's Volunteer Center

**Tennessee Aquarium** is seeking enthusiastic Docent Volunteers. Docents are our "sharers of knowledge." Docent volunteers take "southern hospitality" seriously. Docents welcome guests from all over the world and fascinate people with our beautiful plants, animals and fascinating facts about the Tennessee Aquarium. Volunteers commit to 4.5 hours one day a week. If you have the time we will provide the information to make volunteering fun and rewarding. Training is on Tuesday evenings beginning Tuesday, Feb. 5, from 6:15-8:30 p.m. If you are interested, please contact Julie Piper, Coordinator of Volunteer Services at 423-785-3057 or by email at jmp@tnaqua.org.

The **Creative Discovery Museum** is seeking volunteers to join us for an exciting opportunity to volunteer as a family. As a family volunteer, you can come with your pre-school child and volunteer together. You will be located in the Little Yellow House area in the museum which is designed for children aged 0-4 years. You will work with your child to present a range of pre-school activities to museum guests as well as maintain the general appearance of the area. This is great bonding time with your child, and an excellent opportunity to meet new friends. Training for this volunteer position will be held on Nov. 28 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. If you are interested, please contact Kate Skonberg, Volunteer Manager, at 423-648-6046 or stop by the museum for a volunteer application.

**Alzheimer's Association** is moving to a new location and is in need of volunteers to help assist with this transition. Volunteers are needed to help pack light office supplies and boxing other miscellaneous items. A volunteer is also needed to help answer the phones between 10-2. Scheduling is flexible. Contact Sally Brewer at 423-265-3600 or by email at sally.brewer@alz.org.

**United Way's 2-1-1** is seeking volunteers to assist with Christmas Clearance. Volunteers are needed beginning approximately Oct. 29 to help with answering telephones and processing information for agencies that are helping clients for Christmas. Job duties include answering client calls, referring clients to proper agency(s) for assistance for Holiday toys, entering data into Service Point database in order to process clients for Christmas help and occasional office assistance for organizing, faxing, mailing. All volunteers must have some experience answering phones and taking orders or experience with the public; previous work in social services is helpful. Business hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30-5:00. Scheduling is flexible within those hours. Any changes in volunteer status or schedule can be reported to a 2-1-1 staff person. All volunteers will be supervised by the 2-1-1 Resource Specialists. Interested individuals can contact Renee Eldridge at 423-752-0360.

**Habitat for Humanity of Cleveland** is seeking eager volunteers for home building. While Saturdays are typically build days, we have a small number of volunteers on our job site during the week. If you or someone you know is free during the week and would like to volunteer, please call 423-476-6947 or email chahabitat4@bellsouth.net to get a copy of the schedule.

**Chattanooga Area Urban League** has the following opportunities available. Contact James McKissic for more information at 423-756-1762 or jmckissic@ulchatt.org.

- **After School Program:** The Urban League offers an after school program and is in need of volunteers to assist teachers, tutor students or teach a hobby or special skill. Volunteers are needed three days a week from 2-5 p.m. at various locations including East Lake Elementary, Orchard Knob Elementary and the Urban League Complex.
- **Tax Preparer:** The Urban League is in need of volunteer tax preparers for the upcoming tax season. Learn to prepare taxes for the elderly and low income residents of Hamilton County. Free training in the Taxwise software will be provided. Scheduling is flexible during the day, evening and weekends throughout tax season. All volunteers must complete five hours of work a week.

**United Way's Volunteer Center** promotes volunteerism by recruiting volunteers, connecting volunteers with opportunities, publicly recognizing volunteer efforts, and directing programs that mobilize volunteers to address community problems.

Contact United Way's Volunteer Center at (423) 752-0300 or at [www.uwchatt.org](http://www.uwchatt.org) to learn more or to sign up for volunteer opportunities.



- Submitted by Melissa Turner

# Kids' Corner

## Jungle Jaunts with Jack and Jerry

Jack and Jerry have just seen an elephant family. "What is next?" asks Jerry.

"Keep your eyes open so you don't miss anything," laughs Oscar. They drive for a while and soon they see fields of burned grass.

"Why are these fields all burned?" asks Jack.

"Sometimes the grassland catches on fire for different reasons," answers Oscar. "But it helps new plants to grow and the tender blades of grass help feed the animals that have a hard time eating the tough long grass."

Jack looks out the window and points. "Look, look over there in that field," he says. Immediately, a herd of gazelles come racing across the field toward them. "What beautiful, graceful animals," exclaims Jack as he gets out the African Wild Animals book and looks up gazelles.



By Amanda Wears

Thomson Gazelles are the most common gazelles in East Africa. They are called Tommies. They have a dark stripe that runs from their shoulder to their flank and a white patch on their rump. The Tommie's face has a black strip that runs down from its eye, a dark marking on its nose, and a light patch on its forehead. This distinguishes it from other gazelles. The males are larger and have strongly ridged horns that curve backwards. The female's horns are pencil-thin or non-existent.

They live on the open plains and grasslands on Kenya and Northern Tanzania. Tommies like the short new grass shoots that grow after an area has burned. They also eat seeds and browse on shrubs.

The Tommie males set up home ranges and mark boundaries with their scent gland secretions. Male Tommies are very vigorous about defending their territory. If they are challenged, they clash horns until one of them wins. The females form groups that wander through the male territory. There is no obvious pattern of leadership.

Tommies use visual awareness to keep in contact with each other using the distinctive black strip on their side. They also stamp their front feet to give a signal if they are disturbed. Tommies are exceptionally alert to sounds and movement. Their fine senses of hearing, sight, and smell help them on open plains.

Tommies breed once a year with the peak birthing time coming after the rainy season. The mother hides her new born calf in the tall grass. Since they are a tawny color and can remain motionless for hours, they are almost invisible. The mothers come back every few hours to nurse them. Yet, many of the young calves are lost to predators. Some of these predators eat only newborn calves during this season. Cheetahs, leopards, lions, and hunting dogs are their main predators. Tommie gazelles weigh around 35 to 50 lbs when they are full grown and live about 10 years.

Jerry takes out his notepad and writes Thompson Gazelles.

"We will be coming to a water hole soon," says Oscar. "Bet you can't guess what we will see there."

### Animal Word Find:

Look up, across, and down to find animals in the word list. Circle each animal you find.

|         |          |
|---------|----------|
| GORILLA | MONKEY   |
| HYENA   | GAZELLE  |
| LION    | TERMITE  |
| RHINO   | APE      |
| GIRAFFE | LEOPARD  |
| ZEBRA   | ELEPHANT |

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A B R H I N O Z A D E F
M C H I M P A N Z E E T
Z L Y A T G I R A F F E
E L E P H A N T B A T R
N I N E G O R I L L A M
P O A G A Z E L L E S I
X N U P E N Z E B R A T
M O N K E Y T R H D O E
L E O P A R D S V E P A
    
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- Janice Parker

# Connecting

## New Member Spotlight: James & Janette Turner

James and Janette Turner, along with children Abigail, Olivia, and Elijah recently joined the McDonald Road Church. They transferred from the Collegedale Community Church.

James works in the film/video/animation field and enjoys camping and spending time outdoors. Janette works as an R.N at Earlanger East Maternity Care and enjoys crafts and baking. Abigail is three and a half years old; Olivia is two; and Elijah is just under eight months old.



Photo by Bob Rempher



## Attention Veterans:

On Veterans Day, Nov. 10, the McDonald Road Church always tries to honor all our veterans. I attend first church and usually see a number of men stand, and I know there are also several ladies.

Many of you have served in combat zones. I would like to extend an invitation to our VFW meeting on January 10 at 6:30 p.m. We are not your ordinary VFW. We are a group of Christians who put Christ first. Also, to those who have not served in a combat zone, but are eligible, can join our sister group American Legion. This also is a Christian-based group. To all of you, we need your support. We need to help those who are coming home in every way possible.

Please feel free to contact Clarence Merritt at 472-1709 or David Turner at 236-4093. For VFW contact Paul Bobenhausen at 396-9087. To contact the American Legion call Dennis Smith 485-8500.

- Clarence Merritt

## Online Giving - continued from page 1 -

All funds donated through AdventistGiving are electronically deposited into the McDonald Road Church checking account each month, and our local church treasurer disburses these funds together with the local offering plate contributions each month in harmony with the givers' intentions. If for some reason you make a mistake in either your online giving, or in your offering plate giving, simply contact our local church treasurer to resolve the problem. Please note that AdventistGiving accepts only tax-deductible contributions; school tuition is not tax-deductible.

Be sure to check out our AdventistGiving link on our church website at: <http://mcdonaldroad.org>.

- Dean Saunders

## Here's how to get started with AdventistGiving:

- 1) Go to <http://mcdonaldroad.org> and click on the Adventist Giving link.
- 2) To begin you will need to register with AdventistGiving to properly identify you for receipting. You will receive an email confirming your registration.
- 3) When you log in, you will see an offering "envelope" with the most common fund categories listed. "McDonald Road Seventh-day Adventist Church" will show at the top of the page.
- 4) If a fund is not listed that you wish to donate to, click on "Click here to add another offering." From the list, select a fund to add to your "envelope."
- 5) For Conference and World offering categories, use the search function at the bottom of the page.
- 6) After your credit card is processed, you will receive a Confirmation of Giving via email that you can print for your records. If you wish to enhance your worship experience by contributing to the offering plate on Sabbath, cut off the bottom portion of this confirmation page to take with you to church.

# What's Happening

**"Gifts for Jesus"** - Bring your "Gifts for Jesus" donations on Dec. 8. These gifts generally include toys for children and personal and home care products for people of all ages. The Samaritan Center will share these gifts with the families that come to them for assistance throughout the holidays and as needs arise all year round. In years past, the Samaritan Center has helped in excess of 100 families (with multiple children) by providing Christmas toys and hundreds more people with personal and home care items. While children often most appreciate the toys, adults more frequently treasure the personal care products that help them have clean and functional homes, look presentable while working or looking for jobs, or recover from fires and natural disasters. If you or someone you know that lives in Eastern Hamilton County needs help with Christmas toys for their children or with personal or home care products for their families, they can make an appointment with the Samaritan Center by calling (423) 238-7777.

**Everyone deserves a good meal:** You can help ensure that the women and children at the Chattanooga Room in the Inn will receive a hot meal. McDonald Road Women's Ministries volunteers will be preparing food on the third Thursday of each month for those in need. Please sign up to help with this worthy project. You too can have a part in "changing the lives of homeless women and children." Contact Sheryl Baker at 396-4220 or 987-6882.

**Stuffed Animal Drive:** Help children that are in traumatic situations. Please donate stuffed animals that are clean and in good condition. Collection ends on Sabbath December 15, 2007. For questions, please call McDonald Road Honor Pathfinder, Catriona McCallum at 650-1028. Thank you for all of your help!

**Campaign For Community:** Our Campaign For Community has already begun and will last until the end of December. This is what we do in place of Ingathering. All the funds stay here in the U.S. to help in times of disaster or other needs. Let's each do our part to help out this worthy campaign.

## Regular Programs

Weekly Worship Services  
First Service  
Saturdays at 8:50 a.m.

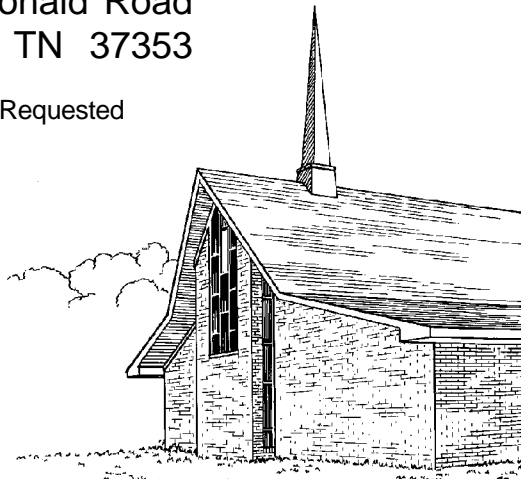
Second Service  
Saturdays at 11:25 a.m.

Sabbath School  
Saturdays at  
10:00-11:20 a.m.

Prayer Meeting  
Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

McDonald Road  
Seventh-day Adventist Church  
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Return Service Requested



"Uplifting Jesus"