

MANNA

January 2007 Vol. 20, No. 1

Newsletter of the
McDonald Road Seventh-day Adventist Church

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“Jesus answered, ‘It is written: ‘Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God’,” Matthew 4:4.

McDonald Road Newsletter Turns Twenty!

Having celebrated McDonald Road Seventh-day Adventist Church's 25th Anniversary in 2004, the church's newsletter, Manna, now celebrates its own twenty years of service.

Twenty years! The mission of the McDonald Road Manna is to feed the flock of Christ, as the Manna of God fed the Israelites in the wilderness. But just as Jesus acknowledged in Matthew 4:4, “It is written: ‘Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God’,” so the McDonald Road Manna must not simply meet the earthly need of keeping people informed, but it must also feed God's people for their own spiritual growth and for fueling their mission in growing other followers of Christ.

Just as the Israelites wandered in the wilderness for years and years, we, too, are living in the wilderness of the end days...we are living in times when just as the

Israelites and Jesus hungered in the forsaken wilderness, we and our fellow human beings are hungering after the word of God and for God's redemptive presence in our lives.

It is prayerfully hoped that the revival and reformation you will find in the pages of the newly designed Manna will reflect the kind of spiritual re-design God can work in the lives of each of us members of the body of Christ. The midnight hour clutches at our hearts...if only we will see our need and the needs of others around us...the need for Jesus...and the need for revival and reformation in our lives, in preparation for that great day a-coming!

Twenty years? They are nothing in the light of God's great plan. But let us not take our time here on earth lightly. Move forward in the peace and grace of Christ Jesus!

-Melissa Turner, editor



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
Church Secretary	Kim Rollins
Newsletter Editor	Melissa Turner

The church office is open Mondays through Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Fridays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., unless otherwise announced.

Postmaster: Send address changes to: McDonald Road Seventh-day Adventist Church
5440 McDonald Road
McDonald, TN 37353
Voice: (423) 396-3462
Fax: (423) 396-3433
Web: <http://mcdonaldroad.org>

Submissions Deadline: Noon on the third Friday of each month, unless otherwise specified. Submit items in writing at the church office; by fax (396-3433); by e-mail 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, Adobe PDF 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.

McDonald Road
Seventh-day Adventist Church

"Uplifting Jesus"

Pastor's Challenge

Happy New Year - 2007!

2007 is a large block of time made up of 12 months, 52 weeks, 365 days, 8,760 hours, 525,600 minutes, 31,536,000 seconds. Each segment is given to us by God. Time cannot be earned or purchased but is a part of life. It is given equally to each person. Rich and poor, educated and ignorant, strong and weak. Every man, woman and child has the same twenty-four hours every day.

Another important thing about time is that you cannot stop it. There is no way to slow it down, turn it off, or adjust it. Time marches on.

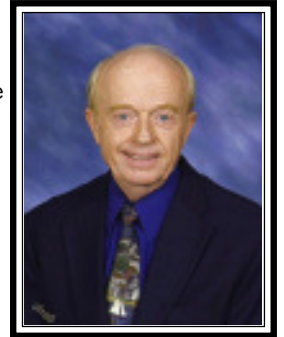
And you cannot bring back time. Once it is gone, it is gone. Yesterday is lost forever. If yesterday is lost, tomorrow is uncertain. We may look ahead at a full year's block of time, but we really have no guarantee that we will experience any of it. Adapted from Steven Cloud.

We dare not squander such a valuable thing as time. You can spend most of it on yourself. Or you can utilize it to advance God's Kingdom. As 2007 begins its countdown, invest wisely in every minute. "Walk carefully, not as unwise but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil," Ephesians 5:15-16.

May God make your year a happy one!
Not by shielding you from all sorrow and pain,
But by strengthening you to bear them as they come.
Not by making your path easy,
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;
Not by taking hardships from you,
But by taking fear from your heart;
Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,
But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;
Not by making your life always pleasant,
But by showing you when people and their causes need you most,
and by making you anxious to be there to help.

God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for 2007. May this be the year Jesus comes to take us all home. "This is the day that God hath made. We will rejoice and be glad in it," Psalm 118:24.

~Pastor Don Gettys



Sermon Schedule

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| • "Door of Life"
• by Pastor Don Gettys | Sabbath, January 6 |
| • "Holy Honey Jar"
• by Pastor Don Gettys | Sabbath, January 13 |
| • Religious Liberty Sabbath - "In Times Like These"
• by Guest Speaker Nathaniel Higgs | Sabbath, January 20 |
| •
• by Guest Speaker Conference President Ed Wright | Sabbath, January 27 |

Church Business

No Board Minutes or Financial Report for this Month

Because the Church Board did not meet during the month of December, there is not a report to be given at this time. Please refer to the February issue of the Manna for the latest church business.

Membership Transfers December 18, 2006

Total Membership: 963 (11/30/06)
Total Families: 558 (11/30/06)

A Note of Thanks!

A special thank you to McDonald Road member and professional graphic design artist, Jonathan Row, for his time and work designing and giving the Manna its new look! Thank you so much for sharing your talents with your church family.

A special thank you to Dean Saunders and Kim Rollins for the hours they put into helping put out the Manna each month. Their technical help and encouragement keep things rolling smoothly. Thank you so much for your time and help!

A special thank you to each of the contributors who lend their writings or information to the Manna's content line-up each month or on a regular basis: Pastor Don Gettys, Pastor Paul Carlson, Pastor David Cook, Mary Zeigler, Mary Young, Sheryl Baker, Adrian Boyer, Ann Davis, Janice Parker and Burney Tompkins. Without your contributions, there wouldn't be a Manna. Thank you for your faithfulness!

A special thank you to David and Mary Anne Turner for faithfully copy editing each issue of the Manna!

A special thank you to the folding committee who makes the mailing of the Manna possible! Thank you for giving of your time to make this possible!

Thank you to each McDonald Road Church member who reads and participates in giving feedback about the Manna.



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

Offering Schedule

January 6 - Local Church Budget
January 13 - North American Division
January 20 - Local Church Budget
January 27 - Conference Advance

Reaching In

Ultima

By Adrian Boyer

The Tasks that once we deemed
so light--
The Joys that thrilled us then
Are now nostalgic Fantasies,
And will not come again.

And tho the Years may take
their Toll
Of energy and Strength,
There is a Peace and sweet
Content
That comes to all at length.

For as we view the Days gone
by,
Their Hopes and Fears com-
press
Into a spate of Memories,
Our dreaming Hearts obsess.

So, in our late senescent Lives--
Now past three-score-and ten--
Idyllic Moments blessed of Yore
Will not return again.

Baby and Bridal Showers to Be Left to Families, Friends

In order that you will have the opportunity to become more involved with the baby and bridal showers for the McDonald Road Church family, some changes are being made for the new year.

The church deaconesses will no longer be hosting baby and bridal showers, however they will be continuing to give a "deaconess" gift for the first baby and marriage.

Friends and family members of expectant parents or soon-to-be newly weds are encouraged to put on showers at the church's facilities.

If you plan on arranging a shower for a friend or loved one, please follow these procedures: **1.** Arrange a time and place with the church secretary, **2.** Be prepared to place a deposit, **3.** If you would like the deaconesses to assist with purchasing a gift from our church family for first babies and weddings, please contact Margaret Halverson

or Carole McDonald, **4.** If you plan on using materials from the supply room (such as tablecloths, candles-in-lamps, flower arrangements, etc.), please contact Sheryl Baker or Margaret Halverson first.

We surely encourage you to take this opportunity to share loving hospitality and concern for others.

And thank you to all of the deaconesses who have helped in supporting the deaconess showers all these years! You have been so faithful--coming and giving of your time and means. Your loving acts and caring concern will continue to be an encouragement. The deaconess shower fund will continue, and I will encourage you to contribute each time you can in order to continue giving gifts for the showers designated. May we continue to work together in order to be a blessing for each person who needs our help.

-Margaret Halverson, head deaconess

Dark Cherry Tart

- : Crust
- : 1/3 C. Sucanat
- : 1 C. Ground Fine Pecans
- : 1 C. Quick Oats
- : 3/4 C. Whole Wheat Pastry Flour
- : 1/2 C. Nut Butter (Almond or Peanut)
- : Mix together all ingredients to form a crumble. Set aside 1/2 for topping. Pat the rest into bottom of a 10-inch pie pan
- : Filling
- : 1-12 ounce can white grape raspberry 100% juice concentrate
- : 3 T. Minute tapioca or corn starch
- : 1-12 ounce bag frozen dark cherries
- : Combine concentrate with tapioca in a sauce pan for two to three minutes. Keep cherries frozen until ready to use. Arrange a single layer of cherries over crust. Fill in all gaps.
- : Pour juice mixture over cherries. Sprinkle remaining crumble on top and bake at 350 degrees for 35 to 40 minutes.

~Submitted by Jacqueline Stone

Tasty Recipes
that Are Healthy
Too!

Reaching Out

Youth Mission Trip to Belize is Shaping Up, Funds Still Needed Though

The mission trip to Belize is shaping up. We now have twenty-seven members of McDonald Road planning to go. We have filled all staff positions and have already had a good start to our fundraising. *We have raised nearly \$5,000 of the \$34,640 needed for the trip.* As you can see, we still have a ways to go. Very soon, every member of McDonald Road SDA church will be given an opportunity to help. We plan to call each home and ask how much they would be willing to give. Don't worry, we will not lay on the pressure. We will simply ask if you have a desire to give and, if so, how much.

Would you like to meet some of the people of Belize? Over the next couple of months, we will introduce you to some of the people we will be helping in Belize. Here are some of the more colorful characters we will work with there.



photo by David Cook

Here's Wilhem (right). Wilhem is always smiling (except in this picture!). He is a hard-working man who loves his Lord and his family. Wilhem works in the maintenance department of La Loma Luz Hospital. He will be assigned to help with our projects. He will also make sure we see some the incredible sights of Belize. The group of teens shown here (left) are the youth group in Santa Elena. We will be supporting their outreach to a small town called San Antonio. San Antonio is a beautiful mountain town that is empty of Adventists. The man pictured to the left is the owner of the local "Wal-Mart" in San Antonio. Actually it is a little street shop where you can get anything you need. It is across from where we will be doing a VBS program. The owner is quite an amazing man. He says that he has twenty children, ten of whom were born after age fifty-three!



photo by David Cook

I'm glad I have been able to introduce you to some of my Belizean friends. I hope you will be praying for us as we seek to follow God's plans for this trip. And next month, we'll introduce you to some more people we will be working with and helping in Belize. -Pastor David Cook, youth pastor

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Chattanooga Looking for Helping Hands to End Poverty

McDonald Road Church member John Lamb recently joined Habitat for Humanity of Greater Chattanooga as their development director and he is excited about what his organization does to help combat poverty right here in Chattanooga.

Having recently celebrated its twentieth anniversary, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Chattanooga is nearing its 200th house. Empowering low-income families with the privilege of home ownership, Habitat is a Christian organization that has helped hundreds of families back onto their feet locally and abroad. One thing many people don't know about Habitat is

that it tithes for each house built, Lamb says, as 10 percent of the cost of each U.S. project is sent to a third world country to build an equivalent house there.

McDonald Road members wanting to volunteer can help in a number of ways, Lamb says, from volunteering on projects to helping at the Habitat home store to donating materials. "I'd like to see the Adventist community more involved in Habitat projects, making a difference in their community and working alongside others they may not ever work with otherwise," Lamb says.

-Melissa Turner, editor



photo by Melissa Turner

Development Director John Lamb stands in front of a Habitat House near the Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport. For more information on getting involved visit www.habichatt.org.

Kids' Corner

Uncle Burney's Critter Corner

Out of the early morning mist a flutter of wings announces the first bird to our feeder. Long before the sun rises the male cardinal arrives at the feeding station followed by his mate. For about 30 minutes or so they feed in the quietness of the dim morning light. However, as the sun casts its first rays on the treetops on the hillsides, the flutter of many other wings announce the arrival of the mourning



doves. There are usually about 17 to 20 in all. Most all other birds fly off to the nearby trees and wait for the doves to leave. The doves feed heavily in the morning and again in the afternoon. When the sun finally shines on the dove's feathers there is a beautiful, shininess that is hard to describe. It's a lavenderish, brownish color. I really don't think there are such words but I'll use them anyway. During mating season they squabble a little at the feeder but by the end of the day they all go away full and happy.

They get their name from the mournful call they make as they talk to one another during the day. We have raised some of these little doves that have fallen out of or should I say off of their nest. I made a syringe to look like a mother doves head. There I glued two glass eyes one on either side. They wouldn't open their mouths to feed so I put an extra black spot on either side of that syringe head and I guess that fooled them. Because once I put the spots on either side of the head the babies open their mouths. They gobbled down almost a whole syringe full each. Ground up seeds and some soymilk worked just fine. They grew up and soon joined the flock.

A dove's nest is a very simple stack of sticks just placed on top of one another. These are usually placed in or near a fork in a tree limb. I've never understood how these nests keep from falling off the limb. The mother dove lays about 3 eggs and sometimes starts setting on them soon after she lays the first egg. There can be 3 different size babies in the nest at one time. When storms and strong winds sway the trees the mother dove guards the nest with her body and wings. She keeps the little ones safe and dry.

Doves are so sleek and peaceful sounding with all their cooing that they have often been used as a sign of peace and goodwill. When Jesus was baptized His Father in Heaven sent down a beautiful dove that lighted upon Jesus, this represented the Holy Spirit that came to anoint His Son. He said "BEHOLD YOU ARE MY BELOVED SON; IN WHOM I AM WELL PLEASED." What a beautiful picture this was, and what other bird or animal could ever represent such a symbol peace.

Water Wonders

"Leatherback Sea Turtles"

A Story by Mrs. Janice Parker

Leatherback Sea Turtles live in all the tropical and subtropical oceans. They travel up and down the shores of these oceans, and the females nest on the shores. The largest numbers of Leatherback turtles live along the beaches of Mayumba, Central Africa. As many as 30,000 of these turtles can be seen from September to April each year.

The Leatherback Sea Turtles are the largest of all living turtles. They can grow up to eight-and-a-half feet long and they can weigh up to 2,000 pounds, making them the fourth largest reptile. They don't have a hard, bony shell like most turtles, but the Leatherback turtles' shells are made up of connective tissue, which is softer and more leather-like. These turtles prefer to eat jellyfish, but they also eat other sea animals and plants.

Loma, the Leatherback Sea Turtle, meets her mate in the water. He will use head movements or nuzzle her and flap his flippers to get her attention. This mating can become dangerous if they stay under the water too long without air. After mating, it takes up to 25 days for the eggs to develop. Loma must go to the beach where she was once hatched to lay her own eggs. She climbs out of the water and up the sandy beach until she is above high tide level. Using her flippers, she digs a hole in the sand and lays about 100 eggs. It takes about 60 days for the eggs to develop into baby turtles. With darkness, the baby turtles hatch and dig their way up out of the sand and head to the ocean. They have enemies and very few survive into adulthood. Just as Loma trusts God to take care of her eggs, we can trust God to take care of us too.



Check Out Uncle Burney's Critter Corner on the Church Web Page at:
<http://mcdonaldroad.org/kids/corner>

Connecting

A Few Words from the Editor. . .



contributed photo

Editor Melissa Turner is a bit of a "country girl," and loves being outside and enjoying God's creation.

Coming Soon to a Church Newsletter Near You. . .

New Member Intros

Profiles

Get to Know Your Fellow Church Members Right Here on the "Connecting" Page

Connect!

I've grown up at McDonald Road Church, but for those of you who I haven't gotten to know yet, my name is Melissa. For the past four years, I've been serving as editor of the McDonald Road Manna. Having put together little "magazines" for my family when I was growing up, working on school newspapers and graduating with a degree in English and journalism, it only seems natural to be continuing this journey through the world of words and publishing.

When I'm not working on the Manna (or rollerblading, hiking, riding horses, waterskiing, or doing pretty much anything else "outdoorsy"), you'll find me working at Chattanooga Magazine. I work as editorial assistant there, my first job this side of college. It's at this job that I have met some incredible people here in our larger community. I have met and interviewed city officials, neurosurgeons, former Department of Energy scientists and inventors, NASA contractors, leaders of local non-profits such as the Alzheimers Association, Orange Grove Center, Project Access, Victim Offender Reconciliation Program, as well as individuals who have risen above great physical disabilities such as spina bifida and cerebral palsy. A pretty exciting repertoire of people to have met and worked with, to be sure.

But more than that, thinking about the exciting connections I've made over the past year and a half, I am reminded of the power of connecting with other people. I don't particularly care for the "other side" of my job, sitting at a desk quite a bit more than I like, when I'm not out interviewing. But it's the people I work with and the people I get to meet and connect with that make my job so much fun.

Do you remember the good old days when people used to walk down the street and go up to a neighbor's house, knock on the door and enter in to spend the next couple of hours reveling in conversation and connecting with each other? What happened to those days? Today people tune into televisions, DVD players, the Internet, iPods, laptop

computers, Palm handhelds, Blackberrys and all other types of distracting technologies. Recent news articles have stated that people today are more lonely than ever before. No doubt technology is an awesome thing...it's what helps put this newsletter out each month. But in tuning into today's slew of technology we are tuning out from each other.

As you can probably tell already, I am very excited about the changes in the Manna we've been working on for the new year. But more than just changing the design or the look of the Manna...I'm hoping through the new content and this page in particular, we can tear down some of those distracting modern-day barriers and forge new connections between the members of our 950+ member congregation and the community around us.

You know, having grown up in this church, I've watched it grow from a small congregation of a few hundred meeting during one service each Sabbath morning to a booming church of nearly one thousand members with two services and bulging Sabbath School classes and activities taking place nearly every night of the week. No doubt this church has grown significantly over the past twenty years or more.

I hope as this new year launches, we will grow in other ways as represented by the new sections in the Manna...Reaching In...Reaching Out...Connecting. We need to grow in fellowship and unity as a large body of Christ. We need to grow and connect with our larger community...seeing and meeting the needs of those around us and sharing Jesus' love in whatever ways we can. And most of all, we need to reach out and connect with our Creator and Redeemer in a way like we never have before. We are starving and thirsting in a modern-day wilderness. But He has promised He will feed and water us with life abundant...if we will just come to Him, our gentle Shepherd.

Join me this year in "Connecting."

-Melissa Turner, editor

What's Happening

Health Summit Orlando 2007:

Learn how to make a difference in your church, community, and home. Attend the NAD Health Summit January 28 - February 3. Obtain certification in two workshops of your choice. Early bird deadline is: January 16. To register call 1-800-732-7587 or visit www.plusline.org/events.php. If you need a brochure, call the conference office at 1-800-567-1844, Ext. 338.

Southern Union Academy Prayer

Conference: Taking place at Camp Kulaqua. Contact your local academy chaplain for more information on attending.

2007 Offering Schedule:

Please stop by the welcome desk and pick up a bookmark with the 2007 Offering Schedule on it.

Help us promote our new website

address at: <http://mcdonaldroad.org> as well as our new e-mail address at mcdonaldroad.org. Be sure to bookmark it for yourself— and if you have a personal website, include our new web address in your links!



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

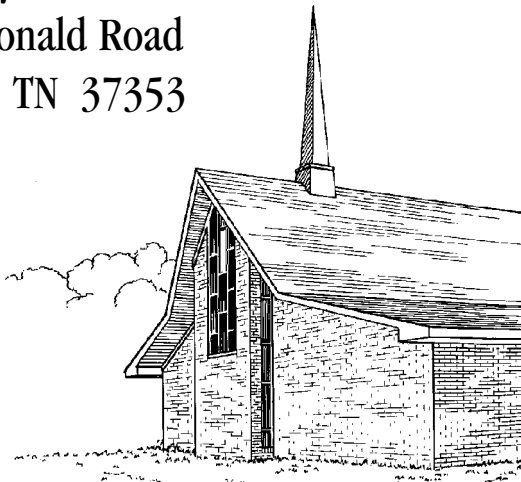
Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m.

McDonald Road

Seventh-day Adventist Church

5440 McDonald Road

McDonald, TN 37353



“Uplifting Jesus”

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