

MANNA

May 2007 Vol. 20, No. 5

Newsletter of the
McDonald Road Seventh-day Adventist Church

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"I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: 'The righteous will live by faith,'" Romans 1:16, 17.

Women's Ministries Launches Year Full of Activities

Bible studies. Flower arranging. Creative Stamping. Finding Quiet Time with God. McDonald Road women have been enjoying an active year so far with an exquisite Ladies' Luncheon in March and most recently Women's Ministries has been presenting a special spring session with Bible studies and elective workshops. Woman to Woman opened each weekly session with a lesson from a woman of the Bible, portrayed by a woman of McDonald Road Church. Workshop sessions included Bible study, an exercise class, a creative stamping class and a hospitality class.

Women's Ministries Director, Sheryl Baker says the summer is full of plans as well. A Book Club will begin in June and meet once a month throughout the summer. Ladies Night Out will be starting up in the summer as well.

A fall session, similar to the recent spring session of Bible studies and workshops, is in the works.

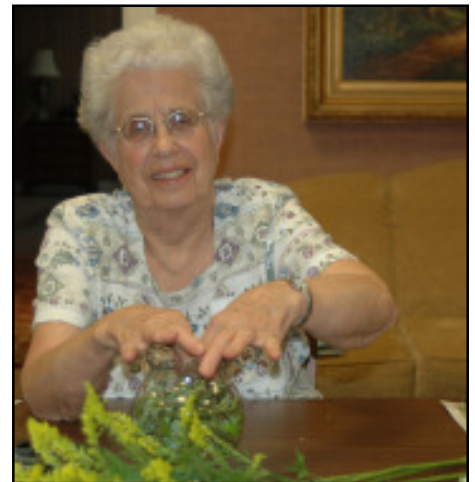


photo by Melissa Turner

Frieda Blanchard works on building her flower arrangement during the "Company is Coming" hospitality workshop session this spring.

Watch the church bulletin for further information soon to come.

~Melissa Turner, editor

Brenda Walsh Returns to McDonald Road

On Sabbath, May 12, Brenda Walsh, producer and host of 3ABN's "Kid's Time" show and noted author, speaker and singer will return to McDonald Road Church to present a day full of programs.

- First Church - Victory in Jesus
- Second Church - Passionate Prayer
- 3:00 p.m. - Divine Appointments
- 7:30 p.m. - Opening Prison Doors



contributed photo



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.

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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

Spring Makeover

Pedaling through a mass of honey-fragranced azaleas in Easter-basket colors, we had to stop to get a closer look and a picture. Beyond the azaleas, the fresh white dogwoods and vibrant redbuds lit up the woods. As we parked our bikes, I noticed delicate violets blooming by my feet. Looking up, new tender-green leaves announced Spring against a bright blue sky. We felt that we were getting a little taste of the New Earth. At another bicycle stop, Becky and I sat on a lakeside swing viewing the dappled reflections of flowering redbud and cherry trees.



It’s a yearly tradition for Becky and me to go to Callaway Gardens. The beauty of the hybrid and native azaleas, the dogwood, cherry and redbud trees have attracted us to return again and again. Over time we’ve seen thousands of flowers: daffodils, tulips, pansies, delphiniums, foxgloves, hyacinths, snapdragons, poppies, hydrangeas and more. We’ve bicycled through miles of trails that meander through pine forests and around lakes fringed with flowering trees and native azaleas perfuming the air.

Could it be true that these stunning gardens bursting with so much life and beauty had once been declared “unuseable” wasteland left over from cotton farming? In the late 1940s and early ‘50s, Cason and Virginia Callaway developed it into the beautiful gardens and resort we see today.

It makes me think of what God will do to the wasteland of this earth. He will say, “Behold, I make all things new” (Rev. 21:5). It also makes me think of what God can do with us. Have you ever felt “unuseable”? Like a bit of a human wasteland?

Perhaps you’ve felt the need to pray as David did in Psalm 51:10: “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me” (NKJV). That’s what He can do for you and me. Amazingly, God can take the wasteland of our hearts and make all things new.

This Spring let’s take time to praise God for these Spring makeovers.

Sermon Schedule

- “Those Blessed Philistines” Sabbath, May 5
- by Pastor Don Gettys
- Guest Speaker Sabbath, May 12
- Brenda Walsh from 3ABN
- “Praise Him, Praise Him” Sabbath, May 19
- Elder Archie Moore
- “7 Habits of Highly Effective Prayer” Sabbath, May 26
- by Pastor David Cook

Reaching In

The Welcome

By Adrian Boyer

"I went with them to the house of God, with voice of joy and praise,"
Psalm 42:4

I

The Church out on McDonald Road
Is happy to declare,
A hearty Welcome to you all,
Who join this House of Prayer.

II

So come in Christian Fellowship
Upon the Sabbath Day,
And contemplate the Love of God
As kneeling there we pray.

III

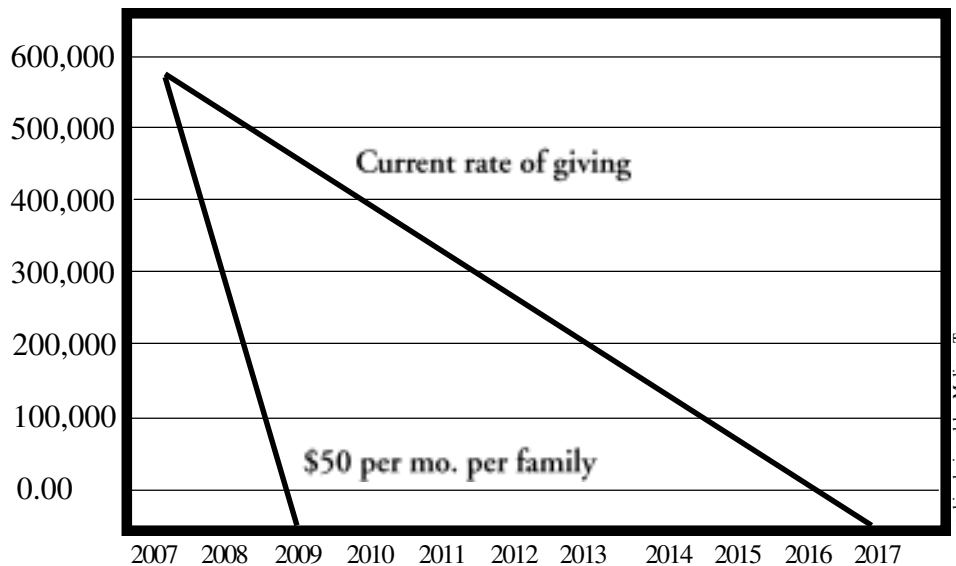
In Sabbath School God's Holy Word
Is studied and explained,
That all may thus be edified
By Truth therein contained.

IV

We know that also you'll be blessed
As you your Voices raise,
In joyful Anthems to our Lord
Exuberant with Praise.

V

For when with Rev'ence we unite
To worship God above,
We all will feel His Presence near,
And His redeeming Love.



Time to push forward on paying off the Children's Wing, Part II

The chart you see shows how long our debt of \$557,000 will be paid off at the current rate of giving. If we continue to pay our monthly payment in the future at the same pace we do now our Children's Wing will finally be debt free in 2017. That seems sooooo long.

But wait, what if each and every family could contribute just \$50 per month? We have 563 families. We owe about \$560 thousand dollars. Is that a coincidence or what? If each family would place into the Building Fund only \$50 each month we could pay off the entire amount in just 21 months, instead of 10 years! How wonderful! We could reach ZERO in one year and nine months. I am not naive enough to realize that there are some families that might not be able to give \$50. But I also know there are others who can give much more than \$50. If you are already giving more than \$50 per month, please keep it up. If not, we ask you to begin. This is only \$12.50 per week. Together, we can do this.

I remember going out on Sabbath afternoon back in the early 1950s to pass out literature. One day we were in my grandmother's little Crosley car. We came to the bottom of a big hill. The car simply did NOT have the power to go up the hill. We got out and stood there looking at the car and looking at the big hill. There were five of us--two ladies and three kids. What could such a small, weak group do? We decided for one to remain in the car to steer and the rest of us got behind it and pushed. When we all put our shoulder to the load it moved and we all reached our goal. We got to the top of the hill. As a church family we all face a big hill. Let's each put our shoulder behind the load and push. Together, we can do this.

~Pastor Don Gettys

Reaching Out

Samaritan Center: Your Donations Can Make a Dent in Need

Cathy looked on as her three-year-old daughter Nicki lumped crunchy globs of peanut butter onto a squishy slice of whole grain bread. After slathering the sticky mass with jelly, Nicki reached for a clean second slice to complete her masterpiece.

"Ta-da!" she exclaimed with a flourish. "Look, Mommy; I made lunch for you all by myself!"

Cathy accepted the sandwich gratefully with a lump in her throat and tears in her eyes. She couldn't believe that they had food today; until yesterday, their cupboards had been bare.

Cathy knew it had been her fault—she had waited too long to ask for help. Surely someone will call soon, she had told herself silently again and again, picturing the daunting heap of job applications she had turned in all across town. But no one had called, and slice by slice, spread by peanut-buttery spread, their resources had run dry.

Early on, a concerned neighbor had mentioned that Cathy might consider calling the Samaritan Center, but she had put off calling for as long as possible, afraid that the process would be confusing, that she would be treated rudely, and that she would feel more awful after going than she had before. When she finally did dial, however, the compassion on the other end of the line swept her off her feet. An appointment was scheduled for that same day, and Cathy was told exactly what she needed to bring. The caseworker Cathy met with couldn't have been more helpful. Not only did she help Cathy find a more affordable apartment much nearer to Nicki's school, but she also arranged for the Samaritan Center to pay that month's electric bill so that Cathy could use that cash to buy Nicki's school supplies instead. She instructed Cathy on how to apply for Food Stamps and personally escorted both mother and daughter into the Community Food Pantry where they could pick out enough food to get them through the end of the month.

The Samaritan Center strives to touch lives like Cathy's every day. Every month the Center eases the hunger pains of over 100 families; in a year, the Center silences our region's rumbling tummies by distributing more than 50,000 miscellaneous food products regionwide. Easter is a time when Christians rejoice in the deliverance provided by Jesus Christ; your donations can also offer a different kind of deliverance to your fellow community members in need.

We cannot fill our area's empty stomachs alone. Your donations make it possible for us to reach out to those in need and give them a leg up out of poverty. If your family, your church family, your business, or your school would like to help, please contact the Samaritan Center at 238-7777, ext. 22.

~Angela Baerg, director of marketing and communications, The Samaritan Center



Congratulations to our 2007 Graduates!

A.W. Spalding

Erik Caviness
Breanna Johnson
Girean Miller
Evan Moses
Eunice St. Martin
Emily Scott
Mikey Trevino

Ooltewah High

Zenaida Granada



Collegedale Academy

Heather Bauer
Melissa Lechler
Bethany Norton

Home School

Zackary Barrow
Christopher Burns
Danaly Coomes
Gwendolyn Cordero
Wesley Cordero
Wesley Donesky
Ashlie Engle
Robert Folkenberg III
David Hensel
David Hollie
Christian McClung
Mindy Vanderoef
Briana Wever
Senior - Ashley Manzella

Kids' Corner

Uncle Burney's Critter Corner

Late one afternoon as my son and I were drifting down the Hiwassee River, here in East Tennessee, we were startled by a flock of turkeys. They flew low, just inches above the water and only a few feet in front of our boat. We counted twenty-five and we heard more up in the woods. They all landed and in a single file ran up the vine-covered face of the steep river gorge.



Arriving at the top at twilight they glided one by one to the tops of the large oaks growing along the steep cliffs. This is where they spent the night protected from their predators. As night fell, they clucked to each other in low soothing tones until total darkness.

Wild turkeys are large game birds but not as large as their domestic relatives, the white turkeys. The wild turkey flies with a short burst of wing beats and glides a short distance and then repeats this movement until it reach its destination. These big birds do not migrate. It seems that in the past few years these big birds are on the increase. I have seen many of them in people's yards on the outskirts of our town. They always remain cautious with at least one bird on guard at all times.

Turkeys lay up to 18-20 light brown eggs in one nest which might be laid by more than one hen. Another bird that shares nests among hens is the ostrich. One explanation could be that too many nesting birds in one area would attract predators. The big tom turkeys just strut and gobble but don't share in the egg incubation business. Once hatched, the little chicks are guarded fiercely by both parents. Sharp beaks, claws and beating wings are enough to frighten away all but the most persistent predators.

Now, can you imagine having this big bird as the symbol of our nation? Well if Benjamin Franklin had gotten his way the turkey would have been on the official seal of the United States. I can just see Ben's big bird with outstretched wings and a stubby claw clinching arrows. Not exactly a sight to instill confidence in a nation's people is it? When the U.S. congress gathered to vote on the official seal in the 1770's, congress didn't see it his way and voted for the eagle instead. The Great American Bald Eagle with the skillful use of its powerful wings and talons gives a clear message of strength and power.

Our Heavenly Father sitting on His throne, surrounded by tens of thousands of angels, ready to do battle with our seen and unseen enemies, has always been a symbol of comfort for me.

~Burney Tompkins (Uncle Burney)

Water Wonders

"Walrus"

A Story by Mrs. Janice Parker

Willy Walrus floats on an ice floe in the Bristol Bay off the shore of Southern Alaska. He spends about half of his time in the water and half of his time on the ice or a rocky island with his male friends. Willy is a Pacific Walrus. There are about 200,000 of these animals.

When Willy is full grown at about 10 years of age, he will weigh around 4,000 pounds. The average life span for Willy and his friends is 50 years. Willy's skin is covered with short reddish-brown fur and can be up to two inches thick around his neck and shoulders. His two long tusks are used for fighting, displaying and sparing with other males. He also uses them to make and keep holes open in the ice and to anchor himself.

Willy's mother, Wilma, and his father, Wilbur, mated in February in the water and it took about 16 months for Willy to be born. This took place on an ice pack. He was about three-and-a-half feet long and weighed about 130 pounds at birth. He nursed on his mother's rich milk, which was his main diet for almost two years. Wilma and Willy lived with a herd of walrus cows and calves on an ice pack separate from the bull walrus.

Walrus communicate with vocal sounds. They grunt, bark, growl and use soft whistles, clicks and rasps to make known their wishes. Wilbur may roar, cough or snort to show his dominance or he may use bell-like sounds or clicks to attract Wilma. These sounds are not from vocal cords, but from air sacs in his pharynx. Walrus have often been depicted as lovable, happy and somewhat comical animals. Polar bears are one of the Walrus' worst enemies. The bears will rush at a herd, scaring them and attacking.



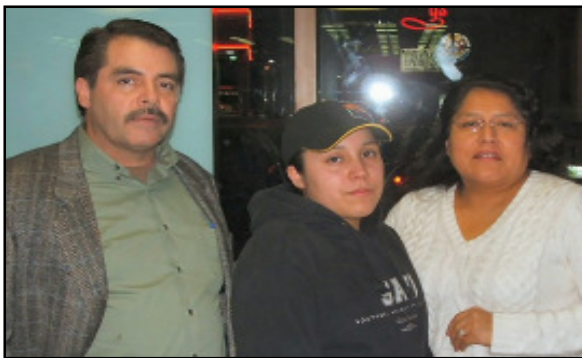
Check Out Uncle Burney's Critter Corner on the Church Web Page at:
<http://mcdonaldroad.org/kids/corner>

Connecting

New Member Spotlight

Amy and Ciera Armstrong

Amy is a stay at home mother who enjoys piano, pictures and children. She and her husband, Robert, have moved to this area from Maine. He is a truck driver for J.B. Hunt Transportation. Their daughter, Ciera, is not in school yet, but enjoys riding her bike, playing piano, coloring and using the computer.



Felipe, Barbara and Zenaida Granada

The Granadas have come to us from the Collegedale Community church. Felipe enjoys gardening, cooking, landscaping and puzzles. Barbara also enjoys solving puzzles as well as window shopping, yard work and watching the spring growth from what she has planted. She runs a day-care business in her home. Zenaida (Zenny) will be graduating in May from the Ooltewah High School. She enjoys building things, writing, sleeping and working.



Joe & Dottie, Ashley and Savannah Herrod

The Herrod family come to us from Portland, Tenn. Joe is a truck driver for McKee. He loves trains, traveling and car racing. Dottie has a background of teaching and enjoys reading, cooking, baking, traveling and her family. Ashley is going to school at Cleveland State and her interests include music, drama and history. Savannah is a home-schooler in the 7th grade who enjoys gymnastics, animals, baking and friends.



Jerry, Taresa, Mindy and Levi Vanderoef

The Vanderoef family is joining the McDonald Road Church. Jerry is a firefighter who likes motorcycles and bikes. His wife, Taresa, enjoys cooking, outdoor flower gardening, and crafts. She is a cashier and home-schools their two children, Mindy and Levi. Mindy is in 8th grade and enjoys horses and singing. Levi is in 5th grade and shares his dad's love for motorcycles, along with Frisbee and baseball. The Vanderoefs are coming to the McDonald Road Church from the Standifer Gap Seventh-day Adventist Church.

~compiled and photographed by Pastor Paul Carlson and Becky Brooks, communication director

What's Happening

Lay Evangelism Festival:

May 17-19, 2007 on the Campus of Southern Adventist University. Highlighting the important role of lay men and women in proclaiming the Gospel to the world. Sponsored by ShareHim and the Evangelistic Resource Center at Southern Adventist University. Inspiring testimonies from lay-evangelists across the country and around the world.

Seminars include:

- Sharing your Faith with a Friend
 - Evangelistic Visitation
 - Using Technology in Evangelism
 - How to Find Bible Studies
 - 7 Steps to Local Church Evangelism
 - Outreach Leadership Teams
 - Evangelistic Preaching
- and more!!!

For More Information visit
www.sharehim.org.

Recruiting Reporters: Do you like taking pictures or writing about events? If so, you are a prime candidate for helping cover news at our church. To learn more, e-mail Church Communications Director Becky Brooks at bebecky@gmail.com. No experience necessary. Digital camera required.

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

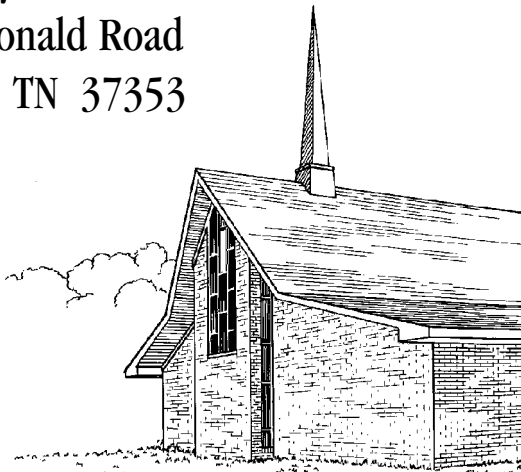
Saturdays at

10:00-11:20 a.m.

Prayer Meeting

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

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