

MANNA

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Newsletter of the
McDonald Road Seventh-day Adventist Church

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“Then Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes...’”

- Luke 12:22,23

GCC Offers Student Evangelist Scholarship

The Georgia-Cumberland Conference announces a new scholarship opportunity—the Student Evangelist Scholarship for up to 10 students during 2008. This new venture, patterned after a model in use in the Arizona Conference, was developed by Ed Wright, President, and Cynthia Gettys, Vice President for Education, and funded by the GCC Evangelism Budget. It was developed to provide matching dollars for returning academy or college students interested in being involved in evangelism.

Wright stated, “This is one of the most valuable opportunities available to our GCC members. If they become involved in evangelism as a student it is our hope they will remain involved in evangelism through their adult years.” To qualify for up to \$1,000 from the Georgia-Cumberland Conference and the academy or college they will be attending, the student must preach a full 16 to 18-night evangelistic series at an overseas destination. To qualify for up to \$1,500 from the Georgia-Cumberland Conference and the academy or college they will be attending they must preach a full 16 to 18-night evangelistic series connected with a Georgia-Cumberland Conference Church. Atlanta Adventist Academy, Collegedale Academy, Georgia-Cumberland Academy and Southern Adventist University have all agreed to participate in this matching program.

How does the Student Evangelist Scholarship work? Students need to contact a local church pastor to partner with, complete an application, and work with a participating school. If they apply to go overseas, each qualifying student would receive a total of \$1,000. If they are participating in a local conference evangelistic effort, the student would qualify to receive a total of \$1,500.

Gettys added, “We feel this is a wonderful opportunity that allows students who would really like to be involved in evangelism to earn funds to return to Adventist Christian Education while sharing the good news of salvation.”



- Tamara Wolcott Fisher, Georgia-Cumberland Conference

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.

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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; 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.

"Uplifting Jesus"
McDonald Road
Seventh-day Adventist Church



Pastor's Challenge

Hungry World, Ripe Harvest



Pastor David Cook

I'm sitting on my bunk bed in the "help house." My suitcase and other bags are on the next bunk. A flickering bulb reveals other empty bunk beds, stained linoleum floor and a painted Styrofoam ceiling.

The air is still but is definitely not silent. A cricket chirps; a dog barks; a gecko "gecks." Cars rumble and bounce on a road nearby. Periodically someone lights a single firecracker.

I'm in Belize again. I'm here scouting for our next mission trip. I'll be narrowing down project options and checking out excursion opportunities. I've been here so many times that I feel right at home. Not unlike when I visit family in California.

Today I had an opportunity to witness current events. Traveling back from the airport, my host noticed a long line of people. They were standing in line outside the flour mill. "Oh boy," Grant said, "we need to be in that line. They just got a shipment." He says that each time he comes here the line is a little longer.

I decided to go with him for the experience. And an experience it was. We waited for two hours! Part of what made it so long were all the people who shouldn't have been there. The mill was only supposed to sell to merchants. Yet half of those in line were just desperate people trying to provide for their families.

As we waited, two guys in front of us started complaining. They vented about the rising cost of grain and fuel. Then they started throwing blame around. One guy said it was the white man's fault. The other said that Americans were to blame. I began to feel a bit conspicuous.

Then they turned to religion. One said that he knew that God would fix everything. The other cursed and said he didn't believe in God. Then he began quoting Revelation to show that the Catholic church had apostatized. He said that Rome was also to blame for the economy. The other guy agreed with him.

- Continued on page 7 -

Sermon Schedule

- "Healing at the House of Mercy" Sabbath, July 5
- by Paul Carlson
- "Barefoot King" Sabbath, July 12
- by David Cook
- "The Perfect Storm Tamer" Sabbath, July 19
- by Don Gettys
- "This Disrobed Démoniac and Crazy Hogs" Sabbath, July 26
- by Don Gettys

Church Business

The Church Board Notes, Financial Updates, and Membership Transfers are not available in the online Manna Highlights. If you would like to know this information, please contact the McDonald Road Church office.

Samaritan Center Needs:

Have you been shopping at Bi-Lo lately? If you have collected milk or gas tokens at the check out, share them with the Samaritan Center by July 29 (when the promotion ends) so that we can turn them in and use those resources to help clients!

The Samaritan Center needs computer donations! We currently have someone who can fix them up to either sell or pass along to a client in need, so give us your old model. Functional computer part donations are also welcome. We appreciate you!

If you can help with these items, bring them to drop-box in the church lobby, take them to the Samaritan Center front desk during office hours, or call 238-7777, ext 23, to make other arrangements.

Offering Schedule

July 5	Local Church Budget
July 12	Women's Ministries
July 19	Local Church Budget
June 26	Georgia-Cumberland Ministries

Reaching In

Our Burden Bearer

By Adrian Boyer

*"Cast thy burden upon the Lord,
and He shall sustain thee..."
Psalms 55:22*

How comforting it is to know
That when you're Sad or Blue,
You have a Friend Who's always there
To aid and solace you.

He's sympathetic to our Needs,
And mindful of our Cares;
His Ear is ever tuned to hear
Our earnest, pleading Prayers.

Why wait until you're sore beset
By Trouble, Pain or Doubt;
Just lift your Voice in Prayer to Him,
And He will help you out.

Too often we forget to breathe
A heartfelt Word of Praise
For all the Blessings He bestows
In a thousand different Ways.

Though this World is fraught with
Sorrow,
Of Sickness, Sin and Stress,
Our loving Saviour's always willing
To comfort us and bless.

When Life's Burden gets too heavy
For our Sin-weak Souls to bear,
Cast your Burden on the Master
And Life's crushing Load He'll share.

Southern Deaf Fellowship Meets in Family Center

Since the beginning of June, the Southern Deaf Fellowship has been meeting for Sabbath School and church in a room on the second floor of the Family Center.

"We would really like to thank everyone for being willing to move around and make us feel at home," said Melissa Jordan, wife of Southern Deaf Fellowship Pastor Jeff Jordan.

Jeff and Melissa Jordan, along with their four young boys, have been driving one and a half hours each way from Atlanta to McDonald Road Church each Sabbath since their home in Atlanta hasn't sold yet (as of June 17). However, they are currently finalizing the details on purchasing a home in Collegedale.

"While our current house is not sold yet, we are moving in faith that everything will work out according to God's plan," wrote Pastor Jordan in the June 2008 Southern Deaf Fellowship newsletter. "The Bible in Hebrews 11:1 says that 'faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being certain of what we do not see.' I know that the economy and housing market isn't good this year. We are moving in faith, and your prayers that our house be sold would be much appreciated."

While the Jordan's and Southern Deaf Fellowship are still transitioning, many of the pieces are in place for their ministry and they hope to begin streaming their sermons by the end of the summer. The wiring for streaming live is all in place and they will soon begin working on creating an atmosphere in the room so internet viewers will feel like part of warm, friendly, environment.

- Becky Brooks



*Jeff Jordan (left),
Southern Deaf Fellowship
pastor, meets with some
of the church members
in the Family Center.*

PHOTOS BY BECKY BROOKS



Stewardship

Avoiding the Nonsense

"Teacher," the man suddenly blurted out. "Tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me."

Jesus instantly knew what motivated the man's question. "Take heed," He replied, "and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses" (See Luke 12).

And with that response, Jesus nailed the issue. Pure selfishness, also known as narrow thinking-only-of-me-and-my-needs nonsense—that's what it was. It was one man's selfishness complaining about someone else's selfishness.

We usually apply this story to individuals, but what about our church? How does our church fare?

Several years ago, many in this church shared a no-nonsense vision of increased space for Sabbath School children's divisions. It was a decision to invest hard-earned dollars for an unselfish purpose—building the lives of the young people of our church. And today, we, the members of the church, need to reaffirm that unselfish purpose by helping to pay off that building loan. And the sooner we pay it off the sooner we can help with other unselfish ventures fit for the kingdom. So why should we delay?

When Jesus concluded his lesson for the man worried about his inheritance, He warned against laying up treasure for ourselves without being rich toward God. So wouldn't being rich toward God mean the opposite of laying up treasure for ourselves? Isn't it all about being unselfish in the use of our resources?

That's what the McDonald Road Church has chosen with its building program. Remember that it's not just a building that we're talking about. It's helping people. It's about ministry and people learning to know Jesus.

When I came to be a pastor here in 2003, the building project wasn't completed and I remember noticing the energy and excitement as people worked together to make it happen. It was refreshing to see. And the church grew and more children could be a part of the church's excellent Sabbath School program. I became convinced that this church and its many members wanted to be rich toward God.

However, that's not a one-time thing. It's ongoing. Are we still rich toward God? Our spending shows us if we really are. Of course, whenever the economy is shaky, people still give to the church, but their giving changes. They pay tithe, but the other needs of the church suffer. And so here's my question to all of us: Are we so worried about our security that we would allow our giving to the other needs of the church to fall off?

Referring to anxiety, Jesus said, "If God so clothes the grass, which today is in the field and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, O you of little faith?" Selfish anxiety was exactly the issue Jesus was talking about. The rich farmer in the parable produced a rich crop, but all he could think of was hoarding his richness for himself. He wasn't rich toward God. And he had little faith.

How big is our faith? Our charitable giving is one indicator. It's a faith index that describes our response to Jesus' message. He said, "Don't be anxious. Seek God's unselfish goals first. And He will provide for your needs."

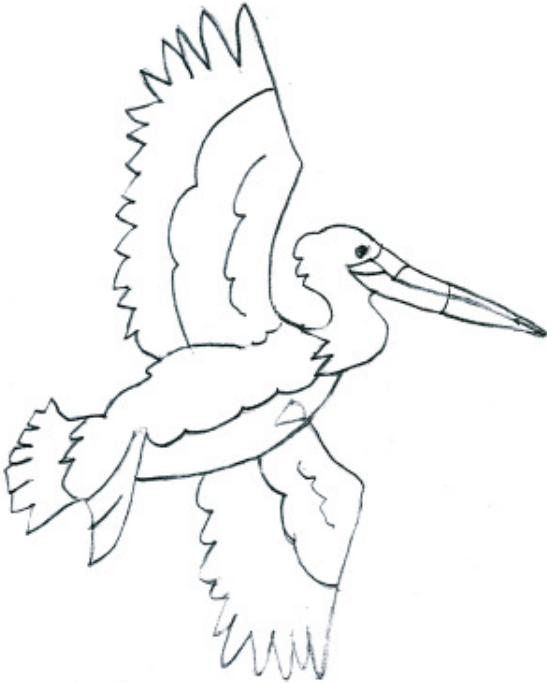
Let's all do our part to reaffirm and share in that unselfish commitment of the McDonald Road Church to build good things for our children and then go on to do other great things for God. Let's make it happen. And let's all do our part.

- Paul Carlson



PHOTO BY BECKY BROOKS

Kids' Corner



Jungle Jaunts with Jack and Jerry

Oscar starts the van and off they go, the gorillas are still on both sides of the road. Soon Oscar turns right down a side road.

"Where are we going?" asks Jerry.

"I have some very special things to show you that are down this way," explains Oscar.

"Are they animals, birds or reptiles?" inquires Jack.

"You will just have to keep your eyes open and see if you can figure it out," laughs Oscar.

The scenery is changing from woods and grassland to a marshy area. Each of the family members are watching the road carefully to see if they can be first to see the new object. Up ahead, Mother sees some very tall and colorful birds. "Are these birds what we are looking for?" asks mother.

"They sure are," replies Oscar.

"Wow! Look how tall they are, they are taller than I am," says Jerry.

"Look at their long beaks, they are bright red on the end." exclaims Jack.

"What are they called?" asks Jerry.

"They are a member of the stork family and are called Saddle-billed storks," explains Oscar.

Jerry gets out the Wild African Animals book and looks up Saddle-billed Stork. He reads. "The Saddle-billed Stork is a large wading bird. It lives in a wide area of Africa, Sudan, Ethiopia, and Kenya to South and West Africa. They breed in marshes and wet lowlands. Their nest is in a tree and is very large and made of sticks. The female lays one or two white eggs. The eggs take 30-35 days to hatch and another 70-100 days before the chick can fly. The storks don't live in colonies, but are found alone or in pairs. An adult Saddle-billed Stork is about 5 feet tall and has a wingspan of 9 feet. The male is slightly heavier than the female. It is probably the tallest and heaviest of the stork family. The Saddle-bill's feathers are spectacular. Their tail, back, wings, neck and head are iridescent black, while the rest of their body and flight feathers are white. Their huge bill is red with a black band and a yellow frontal shield called the saddle. Their legs and feet are black and they have pink knees. Both male and female look alike except the female has a golden yellow iris while the males are brown. The young storks are a brown-grey color. Saddle-billed storks are silent. They use their bills to "bill chatter" at their nests. They fly with their necks outstretched, keeping their heavy bills drooping down to stomach level. This gives a very unusual appearance to those who are seeing them for the first time, but make them easy to recognize even from a distance. They feed mainly on fish, frogs, crabs and young birds. They walk in a very stately and deliberate manner.

Jack takes out his note pad and writes "Saddle-billed Stork."

"What will we see next?" he wonders.

- Janice Parker

Fill in the blanks using the code of numbers and letters below:

Where the _____ make their _____ : as for the _____, the _____
 trees are her _____. Psalm 104:17

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Connecting

New Member Spotlights are not available in the online Manna Highlights. If you would like to know this information, please contact the McDonald Road Church office.

Hungry World, Ripe Harvest - *continued from page 2* -

After that they argued about what happens when you die. The “atheist” gave a great Bible study to prove his view. He believed that the dead just sleep ‘til the resurrection. His God-fearing friend wasn’t convinced. Finally, they both agreed that the end of the world is soon.

As I listened, I thought about the harvest. Not the wheat harvest. No, the one that Jesus talks about in John’s gospel. It seems to me that a hungry world is riper than ever. More than that, it’s a bumper crop. We’re going to need a lot of reapers, don’t you think?

- Pastor David Cook

What's Happening

Share Him is looking for speakers for our India trip starting October 24, 2008. Please prayerfully consider joining our team in preaching the Three Angels Message to the people of India. For more information contact Bob Folkenberg, Jr. at 423-716-0167.

Cohutta Springs Camp: With the newly expanded dining hall and 85 terrific staff, summer camp ministry is off to a great start! Though we are experiencing record enrollment, space is still available for most camps. Register online at www.cs-yc.com or call 800-567-1844, ext. 346 to learn more.

Sabbath School Room Changes: Please Make A Note there are some changes in the location of a few Sabbath School Classes. The A.G.A.P.E. class will meet in the Family Center, upstairs on the right and the Deaf Church will meet on the left. The God and Family class will meet in classroom #3. And the Young Adult class will meet in the Conference Room.

Survival Seminar: It won't be long and July will be here. Back to Basics will be having a Survival Seminar by John McCallum. John has been interested in wilderness survival for many years and he has agreed to come to Apison SDA Church for a Wilderness Survival Seminar on July 13, from 10 AM to 2PM. This seminar will be free and everyone is invited.

Coming up in July for Prayer Meeting, don't miss Dr. Steve Bauer's presentations on the Ten Commandments, starting July 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

Covenant of Praise men's chorus will begin its eighth year of music ministry in September. We have openings in all parts for men who have a desire to share Jesus with others through music. Previous chorus experience is desirable, but not necessary. Rehearsals are on Friday evening in the SAU music building. For information, please contact Herb Poulson (396-4998), Jerry Wasmer (991-7505) "As long as He gives us breath, we will give Him praise!"

Regular Programs

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

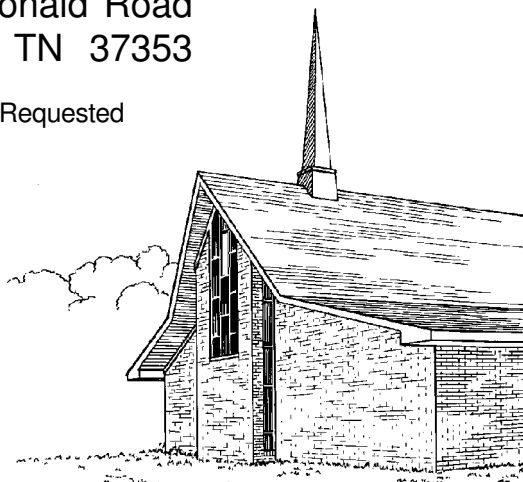
Second Service
Saturdays at 11:25 a.m.

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

Prayer Meeting
Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

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