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United News™

News of the United Church of God, an International Association

Vol. 16, No. 8

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September-October 2010

News At a Glance

Council Approves New Operation Managers

At the August Council meetings held in Cincinnati, Ohio, Victor Kubik was confirmed as operation manager for Ministerial Services and Peter Eddington as operation manager for Media and Communications Services.

Dennis Luker

Initial WGN America Responses Reported

Media and Communications Services reported a positive viewer response and Internet traffic generated from broadcasting efforts on WGN America.

Response for the first six weeks of programming of *Beyond Today* on WGN America, Vision TV in Canada and on U.S. cable-access stations has reached 3,789. Of those responses 2,829 (75 percent) are directly attributed to WGN; and as a result, we are seeing a very good initial cost per response for WGN America.

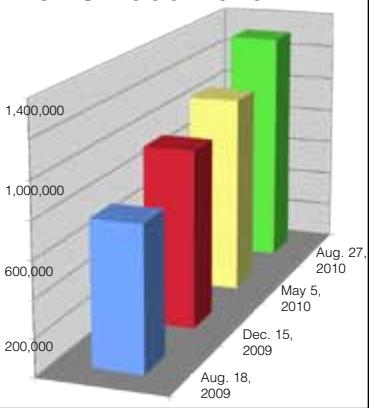
The most popular programs to date have had prophetic themes. These include "The Rapture: Fact or Fiction" and "Europe: A New Superpower on the Rise." These two programs alone have generated 1,450 responses at an excellent cost per response for the WGN portion—and all during the summer months, traditionally considered less favorable for TV viewing.

Once again, thank you greatly for your vital support and prayers

See "News at a Glance," page 2

United Statistics

YouTube Cumulative Views 2009-2010



ABC Welcomes Class of 2011



ABC students and alumni practice trust falls and other mixer activities during the welcoming picnic on Sunday, Aug. 22 (photos by Michelle de Campos)

■ Ambassador Bible Center faculty and staff welcomed the class of 2011 with a Hawaiian luau and orientation.

by Gary Antion

The word "aloha" can have two meanings—"hello" and "good-bye." On Sunday afternoon, Aug.

22, "aloha" meant hello and welcome to ABC to the class of 2011. Thanks to the imagination and creativity of food service manager Ina McLemore and her staff, our welcoming picnic for the new students became an aloha picnic with a Hawaiian luau.

The event began at 1 p.m. with the ABC alumni hosting the new students with games intended to help everyone get to know one another. The events were well-

planned and fun. Then it was time for an early dinner with a Hawaiian flare.

The meal consisted of smoked turkey Hawaiian hoagies, cubes of various tropical fruit and cheese on skewers, side salads, Hawaiian Punch drinks and tropical smoothies. The dining hall was transformed with the addition of a Polynesian hut (by covering a

See "ABC," page 6

Administration Reports Progress to Council of Elders

■ The Council of Elders met for its quarterly meeting Aug. 9 to 11.

by Elizabeth Cannon

During the quarterly meeting of the Council of Elders, held Aug. 9 to 11, the Council heard reports from the administration. Committee members were also chosen.

President's Report

Dennis Luker, president of United Church of God, gave the first administrative report. Mr. Luker addressed concerns he had for the Church and for the work of God, encouraging the Council that "if we are visionary, if we have the vision of the Kingdom of God and keep that vision..., we can look back and learn from the mistakes

of the past and the lessons of the past."

Mr. Luker offered three spiritual principles as motivation for doing the work of God: having an attitude of true humility that recognizes our own weaknesses and mistakes; having a motivation of genuine love and concern for each other as brothers in Christ, instead of anger, resentment and bitterness; and working to be peacemakers, striving to resolve conflict with a sincere heart.

He closed by saying, "Like you, I want us all to move beyond all of this and by the grace of God come out of it stronger and better, so we can charge on with the vision of God's Kingdom, with the commission that Christ has given us, to preach the gospel and prepare a people."

Ministerial Services Report

After Mr. Luker's report, Victor Kubik, operation manager for

Ministerial Services, reported that speaking schedules for the Feast had been sent out and that every pastor and many Church elders will have an opportunity to speak at the Feast. According to Mr. Kubik, it was a complex process, ensuring that no one on the U.S. schedule will give more than two sermons.

There were three changes in personnel with Mr. Luker becoming president. He was replaced as pastor of the Seattle and Sedro-Woolley, Washington, congregation by Steve Shafer, and Mr. Shafer was replaced by Malcolm Murray, an elder in Flint, Michigan, who was hired full-time on Aug. 2.

Mr. Kubik also reported on plans for ministerial development and education. This year 15 couples will come to the home office over Labor

See "Council," page 7

Web Site Redesign to Be Completed by May 2011

by Tom Disher

The Media and Communications Services department announced in early June that it was planning to update and revamp the main UCG.org Web site. So far the project has a slated completion date of May 1, 2011.

Defining Topics

The Web team, with the help of the managing editors of various publications, has identified more than 120 topics for all of our content. When you go to a topic page, you will be able to see all of our material on a certain subject—videos, commentaries, sermons, articles, FAQs and booklets.

Diligently Adding Archives

We have five part-time contract workers helping to categorize and optimize the estimated 15,000 items of content the Church has produced in the past 15 years. This is a tedious process that cannot be automated in any way and requires converted people at the helm to determine the proper categorization for each article. The efforts of the team are extremely helpful in making the topic pages correct and useful for people trying to learn more about God's way.

Finalizing Technology

Decisions on server technology are being finalized soon. When this project is completed, we will be able to contract a server from a reliable hosting company that should fit our needs for the short and long term.

The entire team would like to thank you for your current prayers and ask for your continued prayers for the success of this project. UN

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News At a Glance

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as we move ahead in our efforts to preach the gospel.

Peter Eddington

Print Advertising Campaign Launched

The 2010-2011 fiscal year began in July 2010 with a print advertising campaign designed to reach 5.4 million households in the United States. This effort will run through January 2011 using "card-pack" co-op mailers. For the past several years we have employed the services of Marketshare Publications, Inc., a 25-year-old commercial publishing company, and we will do so again this year.

Potential subscribers will be offered both a subscription to *The Good News* and at least one of the following booklets: *The Book of Revelation Unveiled, Heaven and Hell: What Does the Bible Really Teach? Is There Really a Devil? Jesus Christ: The Real Story, Are We Living in the Time of the End? and Why Does God Allow Suffering?*

If a subscriber prefers using the Internet to place an order rather than mailing in a subscription card, he can simply go to www.GNmagazine.org/freebooklet and enter an access code from the bottom, right side of the card. At that point he is directed to another Web page where he is given the opportunity to order at least two additional booklets of his choosing. Afterwards, he simply fills in his name and address to complete the process.

Through this campaign, we expect to add an estimated 24,000 new *Good News* subscribers at a cost of less than \$3 each. As always, we would greatly appreciate your prayers for God's blessings on this important *Good News* advertising effort.

John LaBissoniere

How You Can Help Beyond Today TV

A great door to help accomplish our mission opened recently on WGN America television. By the end of the year the number of households reached by this cable and satellite giant will rise to 80 million.

We expect response to rise in the autumn and winter months when people tend to spend more time indoors. Of course, we don't want to simply consider response

See "News at a Glance," page 16

Profile: Council Member Mario Seiglie

Mario Seiglie was selected as a new Council of Elders member at the 2010 GCE annual meeting in May.

Mr. Seiglie was born in Havana, Cuba, and came to the United States when he was 7 years old. After living in Miami, Florida, for seven years, his family moved to Murphy, North Carolina. He is a staff writer for *Vertical Thought* and also contributes regularly to *The Good News, World News and Prophecy* and *The Ministerial Newsletter and Journal*. He and his wife, Caty, have four grown daughters, a grandson and another on the way.

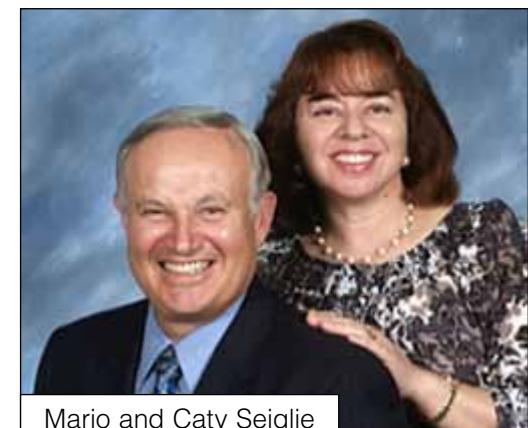
Mr. Seiglie found out about the Church when he was 17 from a Church member in high school. He attended the Chattanooga, Tennessee, congregation and was baptized at the age of 18. Shortly afterwards, he went to Ambassador College in Big Sandy, Texas, and in Pasadena, California, graduating with degrees in theology and Spanish.

He has pastored the Garden Grove, California, and Hawaiian congregations for the past eight years. Mr. Seiglie is also the Hawaii Feast

coordinator. He also has served in Latin America for 23 years as a pastor and for the last few years as subregional administrator for Chile, Bolivia, Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil.

Mr. Seiglie lists Herbert Armstrong as his greatest influence because of his Bible teachings and example. Another great influence for Mr. Seiglie was his own father, who was a freedom fighter against Fidel Castro. He was captured in Havana for being one of the coordinators of the Bay of Pigs invasion. Miraculously, he managed to escape to the United States after many harrowing experiences. "He was a dedicated physician whose priority was not becoming rich but truly caring for the sick... He was a great example of honesty and courage," reflected Mr. Seiglie.

Mr. Seiglie assumed his responsibilities on the Council on July 1. "The challenges I envision in my new position are, first of all, to be a servant leader to the entire Church, for Christ gave us the ultimate example. I need to look to God for strength and wisdom and not depend on my own limited abilities. If I truly



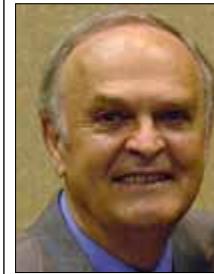
Mario and Caty Seiglie

yield to God, He can then fully use me," said Mr. Seiglie.

"We are in the best of hands, although those He chooses are only imperfect servants. Pray for us every day that God will guide us to clearly see His will and to give us the strength and the courage to carry it out so we can truly have unity of mind and heart." UN

FORWARD! Servants Now and in God's Kingdom

by Dennis Luker



Jesus Christ was the greatest servant who ever lived, and He set the example that we are to follow. Remember what He said to His disciples when they were concerned about "position" in His Kingdom: "But Jesus called them to Himself and said,

'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many'" (Matthew 20:25-28).

He came "to serve, and to give His life," first as a living sacrifice and then as the ultimate sacrifice for all mankind. Are we willing to follow

His example, in the sense of being humble in attitude with a serving heart? I believe the answer is yes, for those of you in God's Church who are motivated by His Spirit of love for others. Many of you are longtime, faithful, humble servants of Jesus Christ. Thank you for following Christ's example!

Here is how Paul expressed it: "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross." (Philippians 2:5-8).

When Christ returns to establish His Kingdom on earth, we know that we shall be serving under Him as "priests of God" (Revelation 20:6). We will have the opportunity to teach and model God's law and way of life, which will bring peace and happiness to all nations. We will have the power and authority to discipline in love when that is necessary (Revelation 2:26-27).

But first, we must learn how to yield our hearts and minds to God and become more like Jesus Christ, His Son, every day of our lives. Paul was inspired to express it this way: "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).

And Paul added, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13).

Jesus Christ put it this way: "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing" (John 15:4-5).

Brethren, let us yield our lives to God and let Jesus Christ live in us so that we can be His servants, now and in His soon-coming Kingdom! UN

Dennis Luker is president of United Church of God, an International Association.

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News From Around the World

Australia Moves Publications Online

by Ruth Root

After considering the matter for several months, the Australian National Council finally made the decision to discontinue distributing printed copies of *World News and Prophecy* throughout Australia and Papua New Guinea.

This decision was primarily made for budgetary reasons. Depending on the circulation of *World News and Prophecy*, it can cost from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per year to mail. For this reason, we have maintained a limited circulation of *World News and Prophecy* in Australia and Papua New Guinea.

When making the decision, National Council members agreed that canceling the hard copy distribution of the magazine would have little or no effect on the effectiveness of preaching the gospel in this area of the world.

While it is acknowledged that a magazine devoted to relating world events and developments to the prophetic announcements in the Bible is important, it was agreed that all important current events are highlighted in *The Good News* and that it is more important to expand the circulation of this magazine and ensure new subscribers come into contact with all aspects of God's truth regularly expounded in this magazine.

An additional consideration was that some articles appearing



Australian National Office mailing coordinator John Vaughan reviews the *United News-Australia*

in *World News and Prophecy* are also published in *The Good News*.

The media coordinator also commented that a high percentage of new subscribers to *The Good News* magazine in the last two years have access to the Internet and could download *World News and Prophecy* when it becomes available. They would also have access to a reminder update when each new issue was published, if they wish to subscribe.

Members who do not have access to *World News and Prophecy* via the Internet will be able to pick up a copy from their local church library.

It was also decided that the international *United News* would also

only be offered online, as would the *Festival Brochure*, which is published once a year; and copies would be made available in church libraries.

During the June Board meeting, the National Council unanimously agreed to offer *United News-Australia* exclusively online. By choosing to distribute it online, the National Office will be able to produce an issue once every month to six weeks rather than quarterly. This will enable members to receive National Council and financial reports in a more timely manner.

Members will be notified via the new online newsletter when new issues of these publications become available. **UN**

Six Members Baptized in the Barbados

by Osmonde Douglas

On Feb. 21, 2010, Neisha Ashby became a member of the Church of God in Bridgetown, Barbados. Several family members were present to witness this occasion.

On July 18, 2010, UCG-Barbados experienced further

growth in its membership with the baptisms of three new members—Gwendolyn Gibbs-Hurley, Synthia Bishop and Julian Bellamy. The baptismal ceremony was observed by Pamela Bellamy, Julian's wife, who was the official photographer, and their two children. Sheila Burnett was most kind to allow us to use her home

to change and gain access to the beach where the baptisms were held.

The sky was well lit, and the water was inviting as the candidates were most eager to be immersed in the water. They no doubt had been reflecting on the several counseling sessions as the eventful day had arrived when their baptisms would finally take place.

More excitement was in the air on July 19 and Aug. 23 as Ryan Raymond and Faithe Simmons, respectively, were added to the Barbados church. Their baptisms brought the number of newly baptized members for the year to six additional members.

The baptisms were performed by pastor Arnold Hampton and church elder Osmonde Douglas, who congratulated and welcomed the six new members into God's family. The entire Barbados congregation welcomed them as well.

We now look forward to continuing to encourage and build up these members in God's faith. **UN**



Osmonde Douglas, Synthia Bishop, Julian Bellamy, Gwendolyn Gibbs-Hurley and Arnold Hampton

International News At a Glance

Caloundra Young Adults' Feast Activity Offered

This year the Feast site in Caloundra, Queensland, Australia, will be hosting a young adults' night on Thursday, Sept. 23, at the River Bar, Wharf Tavern in Mooloolaba. The Wharf Tavern is located on Parkyn Parade, only meters from the Mooloolah River and a short walk from the Mooloolaba esplanade. The River Bar, situated in the center of the tavern, offers spectacular views of the surrounding wharf.

We invite you to join us for delicious canapés from 6:30 p.m. Drinks can also be purchased separately from the bar to augment the delicious finger food. It is a wonderful opportunity to relax, meet and enjoy the company of your fellow Feast friends!

Registration

Please note that for booking and catering purposes, you need to register for this activity before Wednesday, Sept. 22. To register, please e-mail qldfeastactivity@hotmail.com with your details.

The canapés cost \$20 (Australian), which you can pay upon arrival at the venue.

If you have any inquiries, please e-mail us at qldfeastactivity@hotmail.com. We look forward to seeing you there!

Hymn Accompaniment CD Recorded for German Brethren

An accompaniment music CD in mp3 format with all 208 hymns in the new German hymnal has been completed. The production of the CD was delayed until the 17 extra hymns in the German hymnal could be recorded. The new hymnal CD will be distributed to all members in the German-language area.

Jesmina Allaoua

Australia GN Subscriber List Cut to 20,000

For a number of years UCG-Australia's policy has been to keep *The Good News* subscriber list at around 30,000 subscribers, which has proven to be the level at which visit requests and coworker response become really active.

At the June 2010 Board meeting, the Board decided to reduce

the *GN* list to 20,000 to save on postage costs. It is very probable that this reduction will have little effect on the number who come in contact with God's truth because access to the Internet is increasing.

Print advertising has been paused for over a year now, and pastors are still receiving the same number of visit requests via our Web site. We will still continue to provide for those who need to receive literature by mail; but with the savings made by reducing our mailing list, we can focus more on the ever-increasing numbers who are contacting us via the Web.

Canadian Council Has Annual Meeting

At the annual Canadian National Council meeting, a new Amendment Committee member, Joseph Sheperd, was selected along with a new alternate for the Amendment Committee (Charles Desgrosseilliers). Also, the annual review of the director of operations was conducted during an informal session.

On behalf of the Strategic Planning/Finance Committee, Larry DeLong reported on ways being sought to cut expenses. One suggestion was to have a Web site where members might be able to download sermons to save on the expense of mailing out CDs and DVDs. The committee also suggested looking at communicating with members by e-mail in order to save on postage costs.

To read the full report, go to the United Church of God—Canada Web site <http://ucg.ca/gn/lit/UNC>.

Linda Wasilkoff

Russian Work Expands

After starting her employment at the home office, Natasha Weatherhead has been working hard managing various aspects of the work in the Russian-speaking areas. We are continuing to build a solid collection of booklets and articles in Russian. In addition, for each issue of the *Good News*, Ms. Weatherhead translates two or three of the English articles from that *GN* to be inserted into the magazine mailed to subscribers. We have a stock of several years' worth of articles that can be offered to new readers.

Ms. Weatherhead is also helping design a new Web site, which will contain all the materials we have ever sent to the Eastern European, Baltic and Nordic areas. Currently, our translated literature is located at www.ucg.org/easteuropean in Russian, Estonian, Romanian, Serbian, Polish and Lithuanian.

Victor Kubik

United Youth Corps: Connecting With Our Zambian Brethren

by Elizabeth Cannon

On Aug. 5, 2010, United Youth Corps volunteers Suzanne Lavaty, Lena VanAusdle and I traveled to Zambia with project coordinator Doug Horchak for what became an emotionally rich and educational 12-day journey to a land and culture quite different from our own.

Meeting us at the Lusaka airport was Kambani Banda, the pastor in Zambia. He and his wife, Shirley, would quickly become our Zambian parents.

We spent the Sabbath with the Lusaka congregation and many of our future students at the church property in Verino, Chongwe, which is just outside of Lusaka. Joining us for the week were Eliphazi Salawila and Gracious Milangwe, an elder and a deacon from Malawi, who traveled 12 hours to take the computer and leadership classes. Around 70 people, including the four of us Americans, camped at the property for the week.

From Power Button to PowerPoint

Squeezed inside a thatch-roofed hut, Suzanne taught computer basics to around 15 students of various ages and skill levels using 9 laptops donated by members in the United States. We were able to bring four additional laptops in our luggage to add to the ones donated last year. Negotiating the varying levels of computer skills, she taught some how to create PowerPoint presentations and others where to locate the power button. She focused mainly on teaching her students how to use Microsoft Word and Outlook, which they would be more likely to use in everyday life.

She was also able to load the PowerBible program onto all of the laptops so that brethren using the laptops would be able to access an easy-to-use Bible referencing program. The students were quite thrilled with the idea of using the computers to aid in their Bible study and, for some, their sermon or sermonette writing.

In the afternoon, Suzanne spent extra time with a group of students who had more advanced computer skills, teaching them how to use Excel and PowerPoint. At the same time, Mr. Horchak taught leadership classes to



Suzanne Lavaty teaches computer class

the elders, deacons and other Church leaders present at the camp.

Teaching English With Hymns

For last year's project, Kristine McNeely developed a lesson plan that taught various vocabulary words from six hymns. Since the brethren are familiar with the melodies and even the sound of the words—since they sing them in English—it was decided that helping them understand the meaning of the words they sang would be beneficial to them. Lena and I developed a similar lesson plan following the coursework that Kristine used, teaching new vocabulary from different hymns.

It became clear on day one that many of our 35 students were more advanced than others. Our students ranged in age from 17 to 63 years old, and most of them had previously learned some English while in school but had forgotten it over the years. They were eager to have the opportunity to recall what words they knew and to put them into practice during class.

We decided to split the class into two groups in the afternoon to give more challenging lessons to those with a better handle on the

language and give focused attention to those who were learning the basics. Obviously, one week is not enough time to teach an entire language, but what we attempted to do was help them master a few useful concepts that they would use every day. The two classes included conversation practice, writing practice with vocabulary words learned in the morning, and reading practice with a number of books donated by several U.S. congregations.

The camp was definitely not all

work; we also had a chance to connect with our brethren. In the evenings, we would gather in the main hall to watch various episodes from the BBC nature documentary series *Life*, eating popcorn made over a campfire. We would then sit around charcoal fires for hours of conversation or listen to various groups singing traditional songs in harmony. We marveled at the innumerable stars and the brilliant Milky Way in the clear sky above us.

One of the project goals for United Youth Corps is to understand the vision of and the need for the Kingdom of God. Spending time in Africa created a longing inside of us for the total overhaul of this world's system and a desperate desire to change the mismanagement of resources and the effects it has on humanity. What a difference it will make to live in a system that acknowledges that each and every human being is a potential member of God's spiritual family!

On the final day of camp, with tears streaming from our eyes, we said good-bye to our beloved brothers and sisters. Lena reflected, "How can people hate when it's so easy to love?"

Three Kilometers From the Congo

After the Youth Corps project ended, we loaded our bags in Mr. Banda's pickup truck and drove six hours north to Kitwe, which is in the Copperbelt region of Zambia. We spent the next four days enjoying the generous hospitality of Derrick and Cherry Pringle, who live on a homestead outside of the city. Their sons Mack and Rod and their families also live on the family property.

We spent the Sabbath with 49 brethren in the Kitwe congregation and later were able to spend Monday afternoon with most of them at the home of a member, Reuben Chansa, for a Bible study and potluck. Mufulira, where Mr. Chansa and his family live, is just 3 kilometers away from the border of the Congo. Somehow, we convinced Mr. Banda and Mrs. Pringle to drive us to the Zambia-Congo border for a little adventure. Much to our surprise, a jovial border crossing guard arranged for us to be escorted to within 10 feet of the Congo border and later agreed to take a photo with us.

While we were in the Copperbelt, Mr. Banda also took the liberty of driving another 2½ hours to the town of Sowese in order to visit with two of three prospective members there. For the past 13 years, these three men have been keeping the Sabbath and Holy Days, paying their tithes (yet not giving them to any organization) and studying their Bibles. They had been receiving UCG literature, but this visit was the first time a UCG minister was able to contact them. Remarkably, the meeting came about by a chance meeting at a bus stop with a member of the Kitwe congregation, who was able to connect them with Mr. Banda. The eight-hour visit was very encouraging, according to Mr. Banda.

After quickly shopping in the Kitwe markets, we piled back into the pickup and drove back to the Bandas' home in Lusaka for our final evening in Zambia, wishing our stay could last just a little longer. **UN**

For more photos from the United Youth Corps project in Zambia, go to the United News Facebook fanpage at www.facebook.com/UCGUnitedNews. For more information about the United Youth Corps, visit [www.ucgyouthcorps.org](http://ucgyouthcorps.org).

16th Year at Camp Pinecrest Results in Lifelong Friendships

by Dan Dowd

A total of 155 were present at Camp Pinecrest this year, which ran Aug. 10 to 17. This number represented 58 staff members from 21 different states and 97 campers from 17 states.

Built on the United Youth Camps theme for 2010, "Camp Supports Parents," morning Compass Checks, daily leadership classes, evening Christian Living classes and the messages on the Sabbath focused on strengthening and supporting the family.

The counseling and activity staff reinforced these concepts every day by creating an encouraging, safe environment, referred to as the *Zone*. This environment gave the campers the opportunity to try new activities without the fear of negative criticism or ridicule.

Each individual camper was encouraged to challenge himself or herself by stepping outside his or her comfort zone with the support and encouragement of counsel-

ors and with the help of dorm brothers and sisters. Of course, the "blob" was also a big hit with the campers and staffers alike.

By the end of camp, we had all grown close. With tearful good-byes and newly formed, lifelong friendships, we departed with this year's official camp hymn engraved in our hearts: "Our Thanks O God for Parents."

Our ministers, their wives and UYC staff thank all of you for your prayers and support that makes our camps so successful.



Kiehn Foraker carefully considers his next hold



Keep up the good work in training your children in God's way. **UN**

Dan Dowd served as journalism department head at Pinecrest and pastors the Milwaukee and Oshkosh, Wisconsin, congregations.

The blob sends Brent Martin hurtling toward outer space

British Isles and European Teens Enjoy “a Fantastic Camp”

by David and Barbara Fenney

This year's British Isles summer camp returned to the beautiful area of Edale in Hope Valley, Derbyshire. A total of 23 campers, 14 staff members (seven of whom were young adults) and a pet rabbit made their home at the Peak Centre, a well-equipped adventure center, for the camp that ran July 30 to Aug. 8. Senior pastor Paul Suckling joined the group on Tuesday evening, and visitors on the final Sabbath brought the total number associated with the activity to 45. Of the campers, there were seven from Germany, one from Switzerland, two from Ireland and the rest from the United Kingdom.

With mixed but generally mild weather, campers made the most of outdoor activities such as football (soccer), volleyball and hiking. One evening everyone braved the cool air for a campfire and sing-along, which was followed by hot chocolate. Indoor activities included crafts, Scottish dancing, floor hockey and music. Four activities—circus skills, fencing, archery and the climbing wall—were arranged with the Peak Centre and were enjoyed by all who took part.

After seeing some of the staff joining in with activities, one young camper from overseas commented, “The old people in England are very sporty.” Another camper, who was somewhat nervous of heights, made it up the climbing wall to the cheers and applause of the other campers.

There was a visit to the nearby Blue John mine, which still produces semiprecious stones for jewelry and other items, and the obligatory shopping trip to the spa town of Buxton. Forums, discussions and seminars added to the mix, with topics such as dating, Internet safety, the Third Commandment, giving a public prayer and working as a team.

On the final Sabbath, a choir sang “The Lord’s My Shepherd,” which was no mean feat, as several of the singers were German speakers. Some had had to learn to pronounce the words phonetically.

Following the service, campers decorated the dining area for their final dinner and then retired to the sports hall for entertainment, beginning with a band that had been practicing most of the week. The evening was rounded off with a *ceilidh*, a party with music and dancing.

The staff much appreciated the contribution from the young adult contingent. Their help meant that so much more could be included in the short time we all had together. Everyone agreed it was a fantastic camp and anticipates a return to the Peak Centre next year. **UN**



Campers and staff take a hike in the Peak District



Campers encourage this climber to the top



Campers practice their fencing skills

Northwest Camp Was “Spiritual and Tons of Fun!”



Campers sit by beach campfires (photos by Michelle Pate)

by Steve Nutzman

“Awesome—the best camp yet. It was spiritual and tons of fun.” This was one camper’s summary of Northwest Camp on the beautiful Oregon coast, where a near record 124 campers and 54 dedicated staff members grew spiritually, enjoyed plenty of activities and learned how “Camp Supports Parents.” Northwest Camp was held from July 25 to Aug. 1.

The core of the Christian Living classes centered around steps needed to build a spiritual family. The instructors, counselors and other staff emphasized to the campers how these principles applied to

their physical families at home, to their spiritual family in God’s Church and to their camp family. Daily themes included “Live God’s Standards,” “Teamwork,” “Encouragement,” “Learn Godly Love” and “Defending the Faith.”

This year Northwest Camp enjoyed a new venue on the beautiful Oregon coast, two hours west of Portland. The camp resides along one

of the most pristine stretches of ocean and beach in the Pacific Northwest. Activities included ocean boogie boarding and skim boarding, wave jumping, beach speedaway, beach volleyball, kayaking in the freshwater lake on campus, waterskiing, swimming, arts and crafts, open activity night, dance class, archery, basketball and softball.

Life Skills class taught manners and challenged campers to grow in social graces. A *Vertical Thought* Q&A session was held one evening. In Principles of Living class campers were instructed in God’s moral standards and letting our light shine.

Two of the popular campfires were enjoyed on the beach of the Pacific Ocean as campers and staff sat on large pieces of driftwood around blazing fires. One night the entire camp enjoyed a hot, charcoaled steak dinner on the beach, complete with corn on the cob and freshly made dessert. This was followed by various beach activities and a campfire.

Campers served one another at the dining hall and participated in a camp

improvement activity. They also enjoyed two camp dances. Gary Antion, Ambassador Bible Center coordinator, visited camp on Friday and Sabbath to update the camp about the ABC program.

Staff member Michelle Pate organized a PowerPoint presentation, highlighting 40 years of youth camps in the Pacific Northwest, which began in 1970. There were several current Northwest Camp staff who were either a camper or staff in 1970 at the very first camp in the region. So the tradition of youth camp is a rich one, and it has borne much fruit over the last four decades.

Our Northwest staff was impressed with the maturity of the campers in terms of their desire to connect with God and His way of life. One surprising and enjoyable outcome of the daily “clean dorm award” was that the youngest boys’ dorm (aged 12 to 14) won it each day—five days in a row! On two days their score was a perfect 30. Congratulations gents of B1!

We wish to thank our staff who donated 10 days out of their summer and who drove many miles to serve the youth. Without their dedication camp would not be possible.

We are pleased to announce that next year’s Northwest Camp will be held at the same facility on the Oregon coast from July 24 to 31, 2011.

We certainly see evidence that the United Youth Camps are assisting parents in helping to train, mentor and inspire the youth in God’s Church. This is truly exciting. **UN**



Two boogie-boarding campers catch a wave

Go to <http://uyc.ucg.org> to find more information about United Youth Camps.

Congratulations Graduates: Class of 2010

Michelle Duchene

Michelle Duchene, the daughter of Don and Nina Duchene of the Bentonville, Arkansas, congregation, is pleased to



Michelle Duchene

announce her graduation from high school. During high school, Michelle participated in Advanced Women's Choir for three years. She enjoys kids and was able to help out at an elementary school in Chiang Mai, Thailand, this summer.

Michelle loves to paint and draw using mixed media. She is a cheerful person who likes to be with friends. Michelle's plans after graduation include starting out at Northwest Arkansas Community College with an undecided major. She has worked at Wal-Mart for two years and hopes to return to Thailand to teach next summer. Michelle's motto is to make the most of everything!

Peter Ekama

Peter Ekama, the son of Jerrit and Kathleen Ekama of the Canton, Ohio, congre-

ation, is pleased to announce his graduation from college. Peter was the 2008 Cincinnati Design Award honorable mention recipient in the category of architectural advancement for a joint paper entitled "Greening Over the Rhine." For his graduate internship, he worked in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, for six months. In June he completed his thesis titled "A House That



Peter Ekama

Connects" and received his master of architecture degree from the University of Cincinnati College of Design, Architecture, Art and Planning.

Peter has attended the Challenger II climbing program in Tucson, Arizona, three times. Its goals parallel his interests in climbing, teaching and serving others. He has participated in church choir and the UC Men's Chorus. Traveling and adventuring has and will remain one of his keen interests. He plans to complete the remainder of the intern development program in a sustainable design service-oriented architecture firm and become a registered architect. Peter's favorite scripture is Romans 8:37-39.

Melissa Sue McCready

Melissa Sue McCready, the daughter of Robert and Candace McCready of the Youngstown, Ohio, congregation, is pleased to announce her graduation from high school. Melissa graduated with high honors and was a member of National Honor Soci-



Melissa Sue McCready

ety and National Spanish Honor Society.

She helps her congregation's snack team by making snacks, setting up and cleaning up. Her interests and hobbies include gardening, tractor pulling with her Farmall H tractor, 4-H club, volunteering for Special Olympics and helping her family on their dairy farm. Her future plans include attending BC3 Community College for two years, studying elementary education and then transferring to Slippery Rock University.

Kathleen Hall Taylor

Kathleen Hall Taylor of the Raleigh, North Carolina, congregation graduated summa cum laude from Meredith College with a bachelor of science degree in chem-

istry. She is an honors scholar as well as a member of Alpha Lambda Delta, Kappa Nu Sigma and Phi Lambda Upsilon. Kathleen tutored English, chemistry and physics. Her undergraduate research and thesis were on dye-sensitized solar cells and artificial photosynthesis.

Kathleen plays the piano and is a hymn accompanist. She also enjoys photography, swimming, writing, drawing, badminton



Kathleen Hall Taylor

and tennis. Her favorite scripture is: "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil" (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14).

Kathleen intends to enter Virginia Tech's doctoral program in chemistry in the fall of 2011.

Kathleen is the daughter of Ronald and Veronica Taylor.

More college and high school graduation announcements appear in the July and August 2010 United News.

"ABC," continued from page 1

center table and umbrella with long strands of dried grass) and murals on the walls. All the students were invited to wear Hawaiian shirts to the event.

David Johnson selected Taylor and Erin Tootle to organize the alumni and the events. All told, about 80 students, alumni and faculty enjoyed the welcoming picnic.

The luau concluded at 6 p.m. Our gratitude goes to all who helped to make this aloha picnic a great success.

ABC Orientation

Monday morning, the students arrived for the orientation activities. These included talks from Ralph Levy, Ina McLemore, David Johnson, Chris Stewart, Gary Antion and Dennis Luker. The students were given a packet of information to keep, as well as an ABC calendar to help them stay informed of the year's activities. The presenters each explained their roles at ABC and how ABC may run smoothly and effectively.

Dennis Luker capped off the morning with a speech motivating the students to have a right attitude. He used the acronym ABC to mean Attitude Before Character. He read scriptures about attitude and concluded with a story about a man who was a quadriplegic and yet maintained a wonderful attitude about life. He urged the students to have an attitude of humility and yieldedness so that they might make the most of their ABC experience.

The home office staff joined the students and faculty after lunch for finger desserts and fellowship.

Tours of the building were conducted by home office staff employee Janet Treadway and ABC coordinator Gary Antion. Ken Shoemaker, the ABC chorale director, conducted a brief meeting with those interested in the chorale.



Students and faculty get to know one another at the welcome luau

The orientation ended at 4:20 p.m. with the students having a better understanding of Ambassador Bible Center. Special thanks go to Ina McLemore and to Kathy de Campos, ABC administrative assistant, for their efforts to make the entire weekend a success. Tuesday morning, classes began with Richard Thompson teaching Gospels. The class of 2011 is now on the road for a successful nine months of studying the most important textbook in the world—the Holy Bible.

Please join us in praying for the success of our 12th year of ABC. **UN**



ABC coordinator Gary Antion gives orientation address

"Council," continued from page 1

Day weekend in early September for the annual Leadership Workshop.

In the history of this workshop over the last five years, 130 couples have participated, 50 men have been ordained, and 25 were hired full-time (20 from the United States and five from international areas).

Media and Communications Services Report

Peter Eddington reported on the progress of the Media and Communications Services department. As operation manager, he oversees a full-time team of 25 to 30 employees, some who work at the home office and some who telecommute.

Next, Mr. Eddington reported on the progress of revamping the main UCG Web site (see "Web Site Redesign to Be Completed by May 2011" on page 1) and a print advertising campaign currently underway (see "Print Advertising Campaign Launched" on page 2).

Regarding the new online Bible Study Guides at www.freebiblestudyguides.org, Mr. Eddington reported, "We have dozens and dozens of lessons now; the goal is to have about 120 different topics covered. They will be available online as they are finished. The next step is to create an online learning system, where people log in, they have an account, and they go systematically through these lessons and at the end get a certificate."

For the duration of his report, Mr. Eddington focused on the progress of *Beyond Today* on WGN (see "Initial WGN America Responses Reported" on page 1), mentioning a potential opportunity for the program to air with a dual feed—meaning the program can air at 8:30 a.m. Central Time and also at 8:30 a.m. Pacific Time. Currently, due to time differences, the program runs at 5:30 a.m. on the West Coast. Mr. Eddington told the Council that if this option becomes available, "There is no additional cost involved, as far as we understand."

Financial Report

Jason Lovelady reported that income for the 2009-2010 fiscal year

was below budget by \$759,000, and health-care costs were overbudget by \$866,000. Nevertheless, Mr. Lovelady said, "We are very fortunate to end this year in the black, with a net income of \$48,000." He went on to thank "the Council of Elders, administration and all employees for their diligence in cutting costs in their areas, which enabled us to do that."

Mr. Lovelady later gave a preliminary forecast for the next year. "We budgeted a 1 percent decrease in income, based on trends last February," he said, "and assuming that the best analyses of where the income is at is negative 6.8 percent, the net current trend is between 5 and 6 percent below budget. This puts us at approximately \$1.2 million below budget. For planning purposes Aaron Dean and I need to determine before the Feast, to be prepared for at least \$1 million of budget cuts going forward. Again, this is early on in the year and things can change dramatically, so income will need to be monitored carefully in the months ahead."

Plans continue for the remodeling of the home office kitchen, which, in addition to providing breakfast and lunch for ABC students, will allow us to "utilize the kitchen in a greater way when we have events here, like camp directors' meetings, Council meals, regional pastors' meetings, rather than reimbursing everyone for meals in restaurants. That will help to offset costs," Mr. Lovelady explained.

Update on Latin American Situation

On Aug. 9 Council member Mario Seiglie gave an update on the situation in Latin America. Mr. Seiglie reported that he visited Chile, Mexico, Colombia, Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador, meeting with various ministers and brethren. "We will not give up on the brethren or the ministry," he said. "We will continue to extend a brotherly hand to those who want to hear both sides, and then decide." He also reported that United has established five Feast sites with over 400 brethren expected to attend.

tee can comprise a majority of the Council members, a few had to change one of their preferences. Systematically, Bill Eddington asked the volunteers for each committee to leave the room and from among themselves to choose a chairman for that committee for the coming year. The results of the committee selection process are as follows:

Media & Communications Committee:

- Darris McNeely (chairman)
- Bill Eddington
- Scott Ashley
- David Treybig
- Mario Seiglie

Roles & Rules Committee:

- Bill Eddington (chairman)

- Bob Berendt
- Mike Blackwell
- Jim Franks
- Aaron Dean

Strategic Planning & Finance Committee:

- Robin Webber (chairman)
- Scott Ashley
- David Baker
- David Treybig
- Aaron Dean
- Bob Berendt

Ethics Committee:

- Mario Seiglie (chairman)
- Scott Ashley
- Darris McNeely
- Mike Blackwell
- David Treybig
- Robin Webber

Doctrine Committee:

- Jim Franks (chairman)

- Mike Blackwell
- David Baker
- Bob Berendt

Mr. Eddington then asked for volunteers to serve on the Executive Committee for the coming year. This committee is automatically chaired by the Council of Elders chairman, and its primary function is to expedite a few legal duties on behalf of the Council. Typically, it has been a geographical- or time-zone-based committee to facilitate rapid teleconferences.

Executive Committee:

- Melvin Rhodes (chairman)
- Aaron Dean
- David Treybig
- Darris McNeely

The Council ratified the committees and received unanimous approval. **UN**

Council Hosts Picnic for the Home Office Staff

by Janet Treadway

On Aug. 10 the Council of Elders hosted a picnic for the home office staff at the home of Doris and Floyd Phelps. Mrs. Phelps works in the Mail Processing department.

It was a scorcher, with temperatures in the 90s, but that did not deter more than 70 people from coming out to the picnic. The heat did not bother Council member Aaron Dean, as he said he felt right at home. "It was great to get together with the staff for a barbecue. They even made us feel at home by providing Texas heat and humidity for us," he said. The shade from the trees helped cool things down.

Chairman Melvin Rhodes opened with prayer for the food and the evening's activities. Then it was time to enjoy the burgers and hot dogs, grilled by Glenn Creech, Floyd Phelps and Gary Antion. The fixings, side dishes and desserts were provided by the staff. Barb and Gary Antion brought silver queen corn on the cob.

"It was enjoyable spending time with the Council members and their wives in the beautiful atmosphere that the Phelps provide each year," said Richard Kennebeck, manager of the IT department. "Getting



Council members and home office staff chat at the picnic

to know the Council members and their wives in that informal setting helps to build stronger relationships between the staff and the Council."

Council member Darris McNeely said, "We hope this event can become an annual activity for the Council of Elders and home office staff. It gives the COE a chance to spend time with staff in a relaxed setting. The Phelps were very generous to open their home for the event. It is always a pleasure to visit their home." **UN**

Janet Treadway works in the Mail Processing department at the home office.

Council Committee Members Selected

by Randy Stiver

During the August Council meetings, new committee members were selected.

Bill Eddington, with the aid of Council secretary Gerald Seelig, explained the committee selection process. He first reviewed all the standing committees, explaining the parameters and functions of each. Second, membership in all the committees was officially vacated to facilitate the populating of each with the newly selected Council members.

Secretary Seelig distributed selection ballots for members to write the three committees they would like to serve on in order of preference. Since no commit-

Treasure Digest

When Bad Things Happen to God's People

"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28).

It's difficult to read those words and then think of the trials plaguing our friends, family and us. Households bereaved of loved ones, young and old alike struck down by cancer, car accidents and a host of other tragedies.

How can the words of Romans 8:28 possibly be true when things like these happen almost without pause?

How could we believe that the same God who knows when a sparrow falls to the ground, who knows the number of hairs on our heads, who holds us in His hand and hears our cries, would ever allow anything to happen to His people without a reason? God has a plan for us—for each one of us.

In Isaiah 55:9 God tells us bluntly, "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts."

Elihu's message to Job is about the same: "God is greater than man. Why do you contend with Him? For He does not give an accounting of any of His words" (Job 33:12-13).

The truth is, God doesn't owe you or me an explanation. Just because He promises us a bright future doesn't mean we're entitled to an immediate understanding of the significance of every step on the way there. Sometimes His answer is a simple, "I know this makes no sense from where

you're standing right now, but just trust Me. You'll know the reasons soon enough."

Job sat for a week on a pile of ashes. His livestock, servants and children had all perished in extreme tragedies on the same day. His body was covered in painful sores. His wife mocked his misfortune. His three "friends" hurled baseless accusations at him. He felt persecuted by God without a cause. But his attitude? "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him" (Job 13:15).

Faith, we are told, is "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). Like Job, we can trust God—because we hope for and believe in something that goes far beyond this life.

That is the key to understanding God's promise in Romans 8:28—the knowledge that this life isn't the end. God is preparing a Kingdom for those who remain faithful to Him, especially as they face dark times without knowing the cause.

This present life is a training ground. The difficulties we face prepare us to perform our duties as God's kings, priests and teachers in the world tomorrow. Being purged by fire (Zechariah 13:9) is hardly comfortable and never easy, but we endure, knowing that these trials are "not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18).

This is the promise we have in God. Although we or others may face seemingly insurmountable trials in this life—and even death—God's people will have a place in His Kingdom, where "He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away" (Revelation 21:3-4).

All things will work together for good. That is God's promise.

Jeremy Lallier
Cincinnati, Ohio, East congregation

Turning the Hearts . . . It's Back to School



Summer break has rapidly drawn to a close and "back to school" sales abound. Notebooks, backpacks, lunch containers and school clothes top the list in the effort to prepare school children for their return to classes this fall.

As parents we have much to do with our children's successful approach to school and learning. Here are some tips to help your child prepare for another year of school:

- Be excited with them about the new school year.
- Help them look forward to their classes.
- Help them look forward to meeting their new teachers.
- Help them anticipate friendships with their classmates, who are now three months older than when they last saw them at school.
- Encourage your child's involvement in as many extra-curricular activities as he or she can do.
- Encourage them to exercise leadership appropriately.
- Show interest in their classes.
- Ask them about the experiences and lessons they learn each day.
- Encourage them to choose good friends.
- Invite their friends to your home so you can meet and enjoy their company as well.
- Give them appreciation for their efforts and commend them for exceptional work.
- Encourage them to remember that they are Christians who ought to live God's way of life.
- Help them be proud of their physical and spiritual families.
- Pray for your child that he or she will not absorb the worldliness that is in the school system as he or she strives to retain godly values in life.

I'm sure you will be able to add to this list. May your child have a great school year and may it will provide a foundation for his or her future educational experiences and ultimately for life!

Gary Antion

Meeting New Friends at the Feast

When you attend your assigned Feast site, you probably already know a lot of people from your local congregation or from other areas that are assigned to the same site. It is easy to make plans with people you already know. But what about the people you don't know? What if you transfer to a site and hardly know anyone? How do you meet new friends and find someone to spend time with other than at services?

Years ago when our children were young, we transferred to a Feast site where we hardly knew anyone. We soon found out that if we didn't make plans at church services to meet with someone later, we would end up spending time alone.

In Proverbs 18:24 we are told, "A man who has friends must himself be friendly, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." In time, I found that making new friends was a must in order to have a better Feast. Not everyone can make new friends easily, however. It was easy for my husband to go up to strangers and talk to them. But not me.

I made a conscious decision that each Holy Day I would have to meet four new families. On a day where there was only one service, I would meet two new people or families. We would arrive at the hall at least an hour before services and stay afterwards too. Looking around the auditorium I would look for a person or couple usually sitting or standing alone. It was a bit difficult for me to go over to introduce myself and start a conversation, but I did.

After talking to them, I would return to my seat and write down their

names and a little something that I learned about them. During the Feast I would seek out the people I met and talk to them again. New friendships developed over the years, and we would often see the people we met at another Feast site.

While meeting new friends at the Feast, plan to go out to lunch or supper together or take in a local activity. It is especially important for your children to meet and make new friends, so find families that have children with similar ages.

Years later after our children were grown, we found that meeting people and spending time with them also gave us an opportunity to serve. When attending a Feast overseas with a couple from our area, we decided to each invite someone we did not know over to our condo for dinner. We would plan a simple meal by picking up a roasted chicken or two, a salad, potatoes to bake and a dessert for an evening meal. Because we shared this meal with our good friends, we also met their new friends. It gives someone who may be alone at the Feast an opportunity to make new friends as well.

If our budget can afford it, we always try to have accommodations where we can entertain. When attending a site where we really do not know anyone, we meet people at services and then make plans as soon as we can



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Caption Contest



by Merle Slagle

Slingshot guy: "And that's how I took down the giant!"
Blonde: "A bit of an ego, wouldn't you say?"

Other boy: "Yes, quite."
 (Roger Nettles, age 15, Phoenix East, Arizona, congregation)

to have them over. After the meal, we visit or sometimes play games, including ones that children can also play.

Be sure to search out someone who is alone at the Feast. It is a great way to make new friends, share the Feast with others and help make their Feast special too!

*Jean Cline
Minneapolis, Minnesota, congregation*

Cuddle Up With Your Child and Read a Great Book!

Read, read, read! As parents, we want our children to develop the skill of reading, which includes decoding skills, comprehension skills and fluency. Simply put, we want our children to be able to sound out words, understand what they read and read smoothly. More than simply gaining the skill, however, we are trying to help our children gain a love of reading through practice.

Reading to our children 30 minutes every night is one excellent way to jump-start a love of reading. The love of reading is an internal motivation to read that comes from the mind, heart and passion to learn through books. Loving to read comes from an intellectual curiosity and an imagination that are aroused. Truly, books can take you anywhere you want to go and even help you learn about things you never knew you wanted to learn.

The Most Important Book!

The Bible is the most important book for Christians. While we focus on motivating our children to read, let us not forget to motivate our children to read the most important of all books: the Bible.

There is great value in reading to our children! This is in addition to having our children learn to read independently. Research shows that those who were read to often as children are more likely to grow up loving to read. Reading to our children has enormous short-



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term and long-term payoffs. Reading the Bible to our children regularly has even more benefits. It can help them develop a positive relationship with God and a better understanding of His way of life. Plus it can provide a lifelong love of Bible reading.

Wonderful Childhood Memories

The sound of the parent's voice is recognizable to a baby even while still in the womb. It is the most pleasant of sounds to a child. Sitting on the parent's lap and hearing an exciting story from a children's Bible can be a wonderful childhood memory. The child can associate the warmth and love with the reading of God's Word. This human touch is very different from passively watching the same story on DVD.

When a child gets too big for a lap, try sitting on the floor, on the couch or under a tree for a Bible story. Don't forget the bedtime ritual of a Bible story.

Just because the child can read the Bible himself or herself does not mean that he or she should no longer be read to. As the child gets

older, reading a chapter or two from the Bible together each evening can be a springboard for meaningful discussion.

Most Beloved of All Books

As parents, let's not forget to do this important thing for our children! Reading the Bible together with your children is one of the most important of all experiences. Together, parents and children experience new adventures and understandings through the pages of the most beloved of all books.

Cuddle up with your child and read the Bible!

*Bev Galli
Columbus, Ohio, congregation*

God's Comfort Zone

On the first weekend in June, my husband and I embarked on our first camping trip together. I was both scared and excited about what to expect, since this was so outside of my comfort zone. I eagerly prepared for this excursion but longed for the comfort of my easy chair. We put up our tent with ease, the two of us working together, as he guided me in what I needed to do. On the first night in the tent I prayed before sleeping that God would keep me warm, as I get cold very easily. God indeed heard my prayer and kept me warm all night—it also doesn't hurt that my husband is a human heater.

The next day we both awoke early. Joe made a nice fire, and I prepared breakfast. We went for a drive to find Shark Reef Sanctuary. We hiked down to the water's edge and were able to see sea lions, deer, eagles, chipmunks and squirrels. As I sat atop a huge outcropping of rocks overlooking the Strait of Juan de Fuca, I realized I had put off enjoying the beauty of God's creation because I was fearful. I had wanted the comforts of home instead of the comfort of all that God offers in nature.

After lunch, I read the account of Joseph. Many times in Joseph's life he was out of his comfort zone, but through his trials he learned much about having comfort in God. In reading the passage about Joseph's life, I recognized something in my own life. Being fearful about coming out of my comfort zone meant that I was only fearful of the unknown. Everything that went along with camping was unknown to me. I had nothing to compare it to, because I was tied to my routine. But being smack in the center of the unknown is where we trust God more to lead us through and to help us grow from the unknown.

We do not know everything about our lives, and that is a good thing. It is not our time to know everything, nor is it our responsibility. God gives us little bits of understanding through the adventures and trials He lets us go through.

God wants us to leave our comfort zone so we can find comfort in Him. By doing the same thing day in and day out, we find comfort in our routine of life when we should find comfort in God.

On the trip home, I finally understood that my easy chair will forever be calling my name, ready to engulf me in fake comfort. I need to choose daily to be willing to come out of my comfort zone and walk into God's true comfort—wherever He chooses to take me.

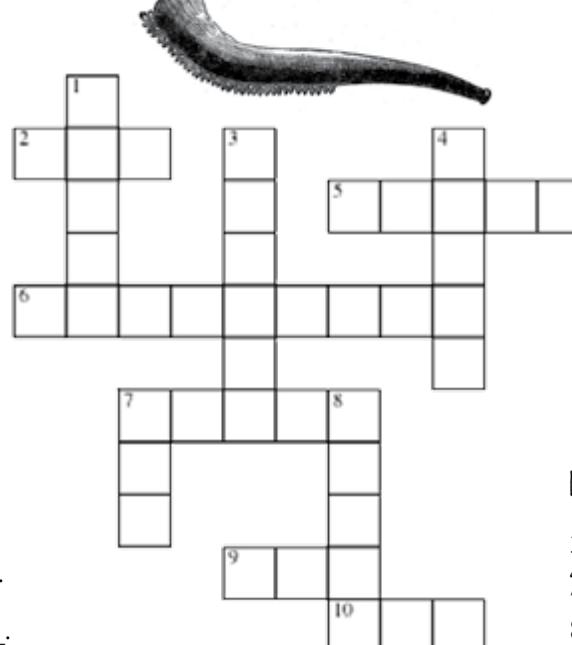
*Laura Jacoby
Tacoma, Washington, congregation*

Share Your Treasures!

Do you have any short items of biblical wisdom, humor or practical information that you would like to share? Please send them to your local pastor and ask him to forward them to *United News* at the home office. Guidelines are available on request (UN@ucg.org).

The Fall Holy Days

Complete the crossword puzzle and then discuss the meaning of each picture to God's festivals.
Puzzle by Whitney Creech



Across

2. Jesus will ____ on His throne.
5. The Last ____ Day.
6. Book of the Bible where the Holy Days are listed.
7. Our Lord and Savior.
9. Atonement is needed for the forgiveness of _____.
10. _____ of Atonement.

Down

1. 10 percent.
3. We are commanded to stay in _____ at the Feast.
4. The _____ of Tabernacles.
7. We will have a _____ to do in God's Kingdom.
8. Jesus will return at the _____ of a great trumpet.



Children's Corner



Feast Example and Festival Etiquette

■ While we celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles at locations around the world, the communities around us will be observing the way we act. What kind of impression will we leave with them?

by Anthony Wasilkoff

How many of us have had the experience of waiting patiently in line for quite some time only to have someone cut in front of us without bothering to wait his or her turn? We shake our heads in dismay and say to ourselves, "How rude!"

The average person finds rude behavior to be unpleasant and, at times, even downright offensive; however, we live in a "me first" society where the so-called rights of the individual are seen as being of paramount importance. This self-centered mentality results in the manufacture of adults who have not learned how their unilateral behavior negatively affects others. Egocentric conduct in our Western civilization has been highly extolled and become so acceptable that it even has a tendency to spill over into the Church itself.

It is vital that good manners and good etiquette be modeled by practicing Christians both in the home and in each of our congregations. The most significant place to model wholesome Christian conduct to those outside of our fellowship, however, is at the Feast of Tabernacles.

When we convene for eight days to observe the Feast in locations all over the world, we can know with certainty that each and every one of us as attendees will be watched very closely by the surrounding community. Some will be observing with no prior preconceptions; some will be observing to see if this year's conduct will be the same as last year's. Still others will be observing with reserved skepticism.

With this in mind, we remind ourselves how people—including all Feastgoers—never get a second chance to make a first impression. First impressions make an impact, and they are lasting.

We Are Being Watched

What is our driving like on the way to the Feast site and especially at the Feast site itself? There was



Sabaudia, Italy

The Feast of Tabernacles is a wonderful time during which we learn more about God's way of life, spend time with friends in a relaxing setting and sample a foretaste of the world to come. It is also a time, however, to preach the gospel by our example.

a time when the Church issued automobile bumper stickers to all members, and consequently the community (and fellow attendees) knew who was in town to attend the Feast. It was extra exciting to spot a car with such a sticker.

In those days there was no way to be an anonymous driver. It was like having to wear a Feast ID badge everywhere you went throughout the entire week—morning, afternoon and evening. It seems we humans behave better when we know that we are not protected by anonymity.

However, we should realize that our Heavenly Father is watching us at all times and that there is no such thing as anonymity before the One to whom we must ultimately answer for all things. With this in mind we recall that Matthew 12:36 states: "But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment."

Practicing Christians are those who typically follow the rules and do so with a keen awareness of the intent and not merely the letter. Peter declares: "Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake" (1 Peter 2:13).

How Will They Remember Us?

For instance, there are rules of the road, both for drivers and pedestrians. Similarly, there are also rules for behavior in a hotel lobby, hotel hallways, game rooms and swimming pools. Do motel operators look forward to our return to their establishments year by year? Hopefully, they remember us as the special people who are typically neat, clean, orderly and obey the house rules ardently.

Hopefully, they remember us as practicing Christians who don't allow their children to run up and down the hallways yelling, screaming and stomping their feet. Hopefully, they remember us as being courteous and considerate so that we allow the elderly to get on and off the elevators first. Hopefully, they remember us as being part of the most polite and well-organized group they have coming to their facility.

No Hint of Alcohol Abuse

After a time, it becomes known that our church denomination does not forbid the consumption of alcohol. At the Feast we have

a golden opportunity to display the proper way to consume alcoholic beverages in such a way that there is no hint of any misuse or abuse.

Regrettably, there have been instances in years past when alcohol has not been consumed with the kind of moderation that the Bible strictly requires. Some have even had to be sent home from the Feast because of profligate partying. The Feast of Tabernacles is not a time for partying but a time to come before God to humbly worship and eagerly learn and be spiritually renewed.

Peter also states, "Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you" (1 Peter 4:4, King James Version). Any kind of excess is certainly not appropriate in a believer's life. However, there are temptations that can come back to haunt even God's people because of the stimuli that can be found, especially in an urban Feast setting.

Not Rude in Restaurants

The conduct of Church members in restaurants is also very important. This applies whether we are singles, couples or a large

family. Often the number of Feast attendees overwhelm some eating establishments, and they are not initially prepared to handle so many people coming at the same time and/or needing to leave at the same time.

Even if we aren't served as well as we should have been or as efficiently as we should have been—or even if the food was not as warm as it should have been—we must never, ever be rude. No matter what happens in whatever setting you find yourself in, always behave with class, that is, with Christian decorum and dignity. It is possible to complain without causing a scene.

Being Considerate at Services

When it comes to daily church services, it is most important to arrive on time. Some people are habitually late. One discerning man once remarked, "Why should I make God wait for me?" Because of this, he and his wife always arrived early for church services.

Be as quiet as is reasonably possible during each and every service, seminar and Bible study. Take noisy and fussing children out of the hall as soon as possible so that others are not disturbed and distracted.

Don't bring ailing children, or even yourself if you are sick, to church services or other church functions. This will prevent others from being infected and will shorten recovery time for those who are ill.

Wait patiently until the speaker has started walking away from the pulpit before starting to put your Bible, notebook and pen away. There have been times when a speaker's concluding comments have not been heard because of the noise of slamming Bibles, rustling notebook pages and snapping briefcases and laptop computers.

The Feast of Tabernacles is a wonderful time during which we learn more about God's way of life, spend time with friends in a relaxing setting and sample a foretaste of the world to come. It is also a time, however, to preach the gospel by our example. Those who happen to be around us are watching us. That includes those who are keeping the Feast for the very first time in their lives.

May we all observe the Christian way of life and may others wish to live as we do in honor of our Savior. **UN**

Anthony Wasilkoff is the pastor of the Hamilton and Toronto, Ontario, Canada, congregations.

Salt in the Oats

■ The chairman of the Youth Education Task Force discusses the *Fall Festival Youth Discussion Guides* and the parents' role in teaching their children at the Feast

by Keith Tomes

At last year's Feast of Tabernacles, my family had a wonderful opportunity to put into practice the suggestions found in the *Fall Festival Youth Discussion Guides* provided to families in the Church. From our collective families, we had 12 children, ranging in age from 2½ to 16, gathered for the Feast.

Throughout the Feast, we found several opportunities to sit down and have group discussions about its wonderful, rich meaning and to discuss the thought-provoking sermons from the ministry. As we would go around the large group of children (five of which were mine), I was impressed and inspired at the depth of answers the younger children gave. I was equally uplifted at the enthusiasm they displayed as they talked about God and His plan. It was a little awkward to get started, but once the conversations began to roll, it became much more natural.

My family and I will be attending the Feast again this year with family. We will have grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins staying together during the Feast. I am looking forward to following

God's mandate found in Deuteronomy 6:6-9 to talk with my children on a daily basis about His law, statutes and His goodness. My wife and I are humbled and excited to be teaching the third generation of believers of God's way.

In ancient Israel there was no public education system that parents could send their children to so they could learn the laws of God. From what we gather from Scripture, God intended His laws and statutes to be taught in the home, and He wanted it to be the focus of discussions on a daily basis. He entrusted His laws and statutes to be passed on from generation to generation from within the home.

God knew that for His laws and statutes to be passed from generation to generation, it had to carry a sense of excitement, urgency and

awe. The children of Israel's rise and fall into and out of prominence is a sad story of how some generations had zeal for God's law and how some generations forgot and devalued it.

At this year's United Youth Camps, it was inspiring to see children of friends of mine attending camp. In some instances, there were campers from three, four and, in one young man's case, five generations of believers. It must bring great joy to God to see so many generations of believers be moved by His Word and to see it spread from generation to generation.

Is there a secret to how God's law is passed from one generation to another? Of course we know it is God who ultimately calls us into His Body, but we also know that our children are already sanctified. There's an old adage

that states you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink. Well here's a new spin on that old adage: You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink. But you can put salt in the oats and make him want to drink.

That's what we have to do. We have to put salt in the oats and compel our children to drink what we know is good and righteous. As they see us drinking the same water, they will be more compelled to drink it as well. At this year's Feast of Tabernacles, let's have zeal for God's plan and His laws, and let's pass them on effectively to our children. We hope you find the *Fall Festival Youth Discussion Guides* helpful and fun this year at the Feast. **UN**

Keith Tomes, Ed.D., is chairman of the Youth Education Task Force.

Taming Our Tongues

■ Who hasn't regretted something he or she has said? How many times have we wished we could take back a harsh word of criticism? Let's consider how we can use our words in a godly manner.

by Dan Dowd

"Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me." Most of us have probably heard this saying, especially when we were kids. But it isn't really true, is it? Words can hurt and hurtful words can have a lasting impact.

Taming our tongue is probably the hardest thing to do in life. With our words we can edify, encourage and strengthen; or we can wound, tear down and weaken. As Proverbs 18:21 reminds us, we hold the power of life or death in our words.

What is your reputation concerning your speech? How do you think your words will be remembered?

Taming Our Thoughts

When we consider taming our tongue, what we are really talking about is taming our thoughts so that our speech reflects thoughts in control. Proverbs 23:7 states, "As [a man] thinks in his heart, so is he." Therein is the real crux of the matter: It is even harder to control our mind than our tongue, but as a Christian we can and we must. God's Word gives us the instruction we need to tame our thoughts.

In Colossians 3:8 the apostle Paul describes the characteristics Christians should strive to put off: "Anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language." Most of these attitudes

or actions expressed in our speech actually begin in our thoughts. Paul summarizes what our thoughts and speech should be when he says, "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called" (Colossians 3:15).

Paul finishes the chapter mentioning specific applications of God ruling in our hearts to wives, husbands, children, fathers, servants and masters. No one is exempt from framing their thoughts in a godly way first before expressing them in spoken words to others.

Lessons From James

The apostle James spoke of our struggle with our speech in chapter 3 of his epistle: "If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body," (James 3:2). The King James Version translates the word "stumble" as "offend." Who hasn't regretted something he or she has said, wishing he or she could take it back?

Is the speech we use harsh, condemning, condescending? Or is it comforting, patient and encouraging? God expects us to remember that our communication with each other should edify rather than cause someone to stumble in living God's way of life. In fact, we are specifically instructed not to make others stumble (Mark 9:42).

One positive way we can use our speech is to recognize in others the good things we see them do. Catch someone doing the right thing and let them know. A simple compliment can reinforce the behavior God wants to see in all of us.

In verses 3 and 4 James talks of the power in our tongue by using the analogies of a ship's rudder and a bridle in a horse's mouth. These are great analogies because Rudders and bridles are small devices used to direct much larger objects. In what

direction are we letting our tongues take us? Does our speech lead us to build up and improve or to tear down and ruin?

As Christians, we must always remember that our thoughts direct our words, and our words direct our actions. The small things we say, which we may think will not have much impact, can change the course of someone's outlook, mood or even (if said often enough) the course of someone's life—for good or bad.

James continues in verses 5 and 6 discussing the damage our words can do if we are not careful. He likens that damage to the damage a fire causes. We are cautioned that if we allow our speech to "burn" others, we can be in danger of the judgment fire (eternal death). Searing sarcasm or put-downs are two examples of types of speech that can damage others. Instead, James instructs us that we must apply a wisdom to our words that is not worldly. In fact, taming the tongue is a matter of applying God's wisdom every day (James 3:17).

Speaking With Godly Wisdom

How do we apply God's wisdom in our speech? A major part of using God's wisdom in our speech is to not forget God's law and to put His commandments in our heart (Proverbs 3:1). If our mouths are to speak from the abundance of our hearts,



When we consider taming our tongue, we are really talking about taming our thoughts so that our speech reflects thoughts in control.

then our hearts must have the right thoughts from which to speak. God's commandments provide this proper foundation. From this perspective, the book of Proverbs has much wisdom to offer in how to live and interact with others.

Here are some verses in Proverbs that can help us to understand the power of our words:

- The wrong words can aggravate a problem, but the right words will remove contention (Proverbs 15:1).
- Our words can be health to ourselves and others, or they can take health away (Proverbs 15:4).
- There is a connection between character and speech (Proverbs 17:7).
- Talebearing separates friends (Proverbs 17:9).

• An argument that leads to strife is like breaching a dam (Proverbs 17:14).

• Telling lies will only lead to trouble (Proverbs 17:20).

• Speech that brings wisdom is like pure water (Proverbs 18:4).

• Foolish speech brings contention—and possibly violence (Proverbs 18:6).

Taming our tongue is possible with God's help, but it takes effort and discipline. Let's fulfill James 3:2 and strive not to stumble in word. Instead, let's move forward to become perfect Christians, able to bridle our tongues. **UN**

Dan Dowd is a husband, father of twins and pastor of the Milwaukee and Oshkosh, Wisconsin, congregations.

In Service to God

■ UCG's new treasurer recounts spiritual and physical miracles from his own life experiences that taught him a strong faith in Jesus Christ as the living Head of the Church.

by Aaron Dean

Many of us likely remember the trying times in 1979, when a receivership was imposed on the Worldwide Church of God by the attorney general of the state of California. What most do not know was that an important transaction was taking place 6,000 miles away on the very days the legal battle started. The Ambassador College Bricket Wood campus had sold, and the proceeds from the sale of the former campus were being transferred to the Church's bank in the United States.

About \$3 million were in danger of falling into the hands of the receiver, who would then control the funds and spend them as he wished. Attorneys retained by the Church tried to stop the transfer and keep the funds out of the receiver's hands through every legal means possible. To do so, however, would have locked the funds and started a chain of events that would have led to bankruptcy and reorganization. To everyone's surprise, neither option came to pass. The fund transfer went through.

An Unexpected Blessing

The Church's bank, instead of holding it for the receiver, deployed a special, seldom-used legal allowance. To both the receiver's and the Church attorneys' surprise, the bank used the funds from the sale to pay off and close the Church's total outstanding lines of credit and current bills of—guess what—about \$3 million. Meanwhile, tithes from members and coworkers went to Herbert Armstrong's office in Tucson, Arizona, where the Church's work was carried on by paying bills as they were due day by day.

Newspaper headlines did create fear, however. Some Ambassador Auditorium performers, not understanding the different types of receivership, refused to perform unless paid up front in cash. For weeks we carried a briefcase full of cash to pay performers right before they went on stage. Except for these odd situations, the Church managed to function fairly normally.

Looking back, it's obvious to me that Christ decided that the receiver would not be given that choice.

The outcome? The Church never went bankrupt, which kept the integrity and honor of the Church and God's name throughout that crisis. The lawyers thought we had lost the battle when the money trans-

ferred. But actually God won and protected the Church in His way for His purpose, putting the Church in a stronger financial position than before. This unanticipated act of God prepared the Church for the remarkable growth it had beginning with Mr. Armstrong's return to Pasadena in 1980 until his death in 1986.

God's plan is always done, often in a manner that tests all of us. It creates a positive opportunity for us to see ourselves and understand oth-

With Mr. Armstrong's death in 1986, new leadership took the Church in a different direction doctrinally and organizationally. Disregarding promises he made to Mr. Armstrong, within months his successor systematically removed me from certain positions and duties for what are now obvious reasons. I was reassigned to be over Ambassador food services and also asked to teach in the business major.

The God I wish to serve as treasurer knows the future and guides things to His glory and purpose often beyond human reason.

ers, to grow in grace and knowledge and become more like God. Likewise, it gives God a chance to sift through those who wish or claim to "decide" God's will for Him. God directs things in our personal lives as well, using little events to prepare us for future things.

The God I wish to serve as treasurer knows the future and guides things to His glory and purpose often beyond human reason. I've never felt qualified for any job in God's service. In 1974 I was asked to work on the Church's corporate aircraft. That job required chef skills, but Mr. Armstrong wanted an Ambassador graduate. While a student, I had asked the food service director, a culinary arts graduate, if I could help prepare the many special formal dinners at Ambassador—for food—not in preparation for any job. When the need arose on the G-II jet on the day of my graduation, I was drafted to serve, although cooking ended up being the least of my duties.

Training Following Near Tragedy

As many will remember, Mr. Armstrong suffered a heart attack in 1977. While he recovered over the next few years, I was asked to take accounting and law classes to expand my skills so that I might ultimately be of better service to the Church. I took a few law classes and began pursuing an accounting degree at California State University-Los Angeles (CSULA) with the goal of sitting for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) exam after graduation.

When Mr. Armstrong returned to Pasadena in 1980, I had taken most of the accounting classes in the program at CSULA. Mr. Armstrong had me withdraw from school to once again help him with his far more important mission—carrying the gospel to world leaders. My work with him as his aide never allowed me to finish the program or take the CPA exam, but the added education did help when he was presented with budgets and wanted to discuss other financial decisions during those years.

Where Will God Now Lead?

Only God truly knows the direction He is taking us. We have to have the faith to know that He is leading. Our plans, though often with noble intent, only truly work when they conform with His plans. As I have personally witnessed, when we are not in alignment with God's will—however well-intentioned—God creates events that override the decisions made and influenced by human reason, some-

Fulfilling Our Dual Commission

We can maximize the funds that God inspires the members and coworkers to tithe and donate. We still must train ministers and help members; we must preach the gospel. Can we do it in a more cost-effective manner?

We will look at insurance, travel and other overhead costs to free up funds for our dual commission of preaching the gospel and preparing a people. We will use advances in technology to help lower meeting costs.

Most of all, we must do our part in yielding to Christ and having the faith that He will guide us. Having this attitude is far more important than any credentials or human ability. But make no mistake; our Church must operate within history-making, challenging times. Our current budgets are much lower than what was available during Mr. Armstrong's latter years. But we still serve the same God the Father and Jesus Christ, and we still have the same commission and the same highs and lows in spiritual and physical trials. If we yield our minds and hearts to God, we will complete what God has laid out for us to do.

In these trying times, just as during the receivership, some may see the Church trapped in front of a 21st-century Red Sea. But as He has done in the past and as He will do in the future, God will part the waters and take us through as we follow His Son. We will stand in awe of Him as the impossible becomes reality.

As we approach the Fall Festival season, let us all seek to be aligned with God's will, for then we as His Church will receive power to achieve that will. UN

To fulfill accreditation requirements for the college, a number of faculty members needed to upgrade their academic credentials. The accounting discipline already had the necessary advanced degrees for accreditation, so I returned to CSULA, this time to acquire a Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Management and Finance. That degree was completed just prior to the consolidation of the college in Big Sandy, Texas, where I taught various business classes until Ambassador's close.

I didn't ask for or expect the current assignment as treasurer. It uprooted me from a pleasant life in Texas, an enjoyable job, a wonderful congregation with friends I cherish and away from our comfortable home and first grandchild to be born in January.

I didn't want to move. But from personal experience I know that God prepares us throughout life for His service, and it sometimes takes us in directions we cannot see.

times to our frustration, but always for our benefit and according to His will. I have seen that happen time and again.

The president has asked that I review all of our financial operations to see whether improvements can produce additional efficiency and effectiveness in helping him oversee the use of God's tithes and offerings. I provided a similar service when I was working for Mr. Armstrong.

In fact, all of the funding for the highly successful overseas Ambassador student projects and some support of international youth camps worldwide came by creating new efficiencies from existing funds and programs associated with Mr. Armstrong.

Despite what many thought were limited funds at the time, God provided amazing global growth for *The Plain Truth* magazine between 1980 and 1986; and by 1986 the Church was spending \$27 million annually on television media buys. Having this example and knowing what we now know and have experienced, how much can we do now?

Ready to Answer

by Jeremy Lallier

Though it's been several years since you graduated from high school, you and a few good friends make a point of getting together once a year to catch up on each other's lives. You all went your separate ways after graduation but remain in touch and enjoy your annual tradition, which inevitably involves nostalgic expeditions through your common past.

Today, you all lounge around a coffee shop while one of your friends finishes up his account of a senior prank that became the stuff of legend to future classes.

"It took them the longest time to realize what we'd done," he laughs, slapping his knee. "How long did they spend looking for that chicken?"

"Hours," answers another friend. "They weren't too happy about that!"

"It's too bad Jenny didn't get to see it," someone adds. The atmosphere makes a sudden shift from playful to somber, while some look down at their coffee cups, nodding silently. Jenny was a big part of your high school group until the last half of your

senior year, when a drunk driver blindsided her car and ended her life.

"I like to think she did see it," says one of your friends, "watching from heaven. I bet she's here with us right now, too, you know?" She glances at you, waiting for your input.

You shift uncomfortably in your seat, thinking of a response.

"You...do think she went to heaven, right?" she asks, confused. "I mean, you're the most religious here out of all of us."

This is going to be interesting, you think to yourself as you prepare to answer. "No, Jenny didn't go to heaven."

The stunned faces of your friends don't surprise you. Even though some of them never claim any religion, none of them expected an answer like that from you. "Well, where is she then?" one of them asks after a pause.

They're interested, but you'll still have to avoid deluging them in doctrinal subpoints and keep your response succinct. How do you answer?

Send in Your Response

Send your 100- to 300-word answer, along with your name and congregation, to your local pastor and ask him to forward it to *United News*. You can also e-mail them to UN@ucg.org. We may use your response in an upcoming *United News*!



Local Church Updates

Sacramento Congregation Honors Nine Graduates

On Sabbath, June 12, the Sacramento, California, congregation celebrated the area's graduates with a special gift and PowerPoint presentation followed by a reception with delicious finger foods and cakes decorated with the graduates' school logos. There were a total of nine high school



Graduates from Sacramento display celebration cakes

and college graduates in the Sacramento and Reno, Nevada, congregations.

The two high school graduates were Joseph Horchak, a Golden State scholar who will study physics in college, and his 16-year-old sister, Jessica Horchak, who is now a college student in interior design.

Our college graduates included master's degree recipients Matthew and Mary Ann Bates. Mary Ann received her master's in public policy with an emphasis on education and international development. Since graduating, she has taken a position at MIT in international development, seeking the best strategies to reduce worldwide poverty. Matthew graduated with a degree in civil and environmental engineering, with an emphasis in water resources.

Another graduate student, Sydney Clark, finished all her course work and after her clinicals will soon receive a master's in physical therapy. Natalie Neff graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree in child development. She gave the commencement speech and received the Dean's Award. She will begin a teacher-credentialing program in the fall. Brothers Jacob and Joseph Trone received their bachelor's degrees in accounting with honors. They will soon begin studying for their CPA exams. Justin Fike from the Reno congregation received a bachelor's degree in hydrogeology and will soon look for a job on the West Coast.

We are so proud of all of our graduates and the sacrifices they have made. God has truly blessed them, and may He continue to lead these fine graduates.

Lydia Trone

Three Congregations Show Appreciation for Pastor

Immediately following a very inspiring and timely sermon on the First Day of

Unleavened Bread, the three congregations served by Don Waterhouse honored him with a brief presentation in recognition of their heartfelt appreciation for his service.

In addition to other gifts to demonstrate the congregations' sentiment to the Waterhouses, a plaque was presented with an inscription:

"I lift up my prayer of thanksgiving for the gift the Lord has provided through you. You preach God's word with dedication and love. You teach and instruct us in the ways of the Lord, You share your life with us, graciously giving of your time. God bless you, Pastor."

As applicable as these words are to Mr. Waterhouse, they merely scratch the surface in describing the dedication with which he has ministered to our three congregations. His

devotion, genuine concern and unwavering commitment are not only recognized but also deeply valued by his flock. We have been motivated and inspired by his sermons, comforted by his words and friendship when we are in personal despair and revived in our hope and anticipation of God's Kingdom. We have indeed been blessed by our shepherd's leadership over the past eight years and look forward to his continued service.

Mr. and Mrs. Waterhouse are currently serving the Florence and Columbia, South Carolina, and Augusta, Georgia, congregations. Ordained in 1965, Mr. Waterhouse has pastored several congregations throughout the United States during his years of tenure. He has also served as the Festival coordinator for the Pensacola, Florida, and Jekyll Island, Georgia, Feast sites.

Ann Hewston

Seattle Congregation Welcomes New Pastor

On July 24 the Seattle, Washington, congregation said farewell to Dennis and Lee-Ann Luker, who have since moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, after Mr. Luker took office as president of the United Church of God.

Mr. Luker returned to Seattle not only to say farewell but also to introduce Mr. and Mrs. Steve Shafer (the former pastor of the Flint and Saginaw, Michigan, congregations) as the new pastor for the Seattle and Sedro-Woolley congregations. The attendance in Seattle grew to 193 for the day's events. Mr. Luker recounted how they found an excellent home in the Cincinnati area with the words of Joshua 24:15 painted on the entry wall.

After a pleasant special music presentation on harp by Rebecca Krueger, Mr. Shafer began his message by rehearsing how his acquaintance with Mr. Luker had turned

his life upside down—twice. This time, resulting in his return to his hometown area of Seattle after many years serving elsewhere. His message focused on the five core Christian virtues found in Ephesians 4:1-3, especially that of humility. Simply put, there is no room for pride in a true Christian's life.

After the service, the congregation presented a gift to Mr. and Mrs. Luker to encourage their return to Seattle. Both the Lukers and Shafers enjoyed fellowship and special cakes with the congregation.

Larry Hardison

Graduates Recognized in Minnesota

The Austin and Mankato, Minnesota, congregations honored their high school and college graduates, Liz Myers, Prisca Myers, Jacqueline Evans and Alex Riess, with a special presentation after Sabbath



Minnesota graduates Liz Myers, Prisca Myers, Jacqueline Evans and Alex Riess

services on June 5. The graduates displayed their awards and pictures. Cake and punch were served as well.

Jolinda Schreiber

Tampa Ladies Host Annual Seniors' Brunch

On Sabbath, July 17, 2010, the very talented ladies of the Tampa, Florida, congregation hosted the annual Seniors' Appreciation Brunch.

The theme for the occasion was "Running the Race." In keeping with this theme each table was decorated with centerpieces consisting of a flag with a dove, representing God's Holy Spirit, which we receive at baptism; a wreath, which was given as a prize for the winners in the Greek Olympics; and a crown, which represents the glorious incorruptible crown we will receive in God's Kingdom.

There were six different placemats at each table representing the Olympics. Each placemat had a different meaning, representing the spiritual and physical facets of "running the race" for God's Kingdom vs. the Olympics. Also at each place was a keepsake napkin holder/bookmark representing the beginning of our race at baptism and a small keepsake frame, framing

the theme scripture for this occasion, "I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14).

The seniors were served a delicious meal prepared by the hosts of this special occasion. While the meal was being served, Randy McQuien gave an explanation of the meaning of the decorations used for the theme.

Jo Hattaway

Los Angeles Seniors Go on a Sentimental Journey

The Los Angeles, California, congregation hosted a delightful seniors' luncheon on Aug. 1, 2010, at a quaint restaurant, Beckham Grill, in Pasadena. Knute and Patti Josifek, who made all the arrangements, greeted the ladies with a lovely corsage. After a delicious meal and lively conversation, a small group from the congregation entertained the gathering with a selection of sentimental songs from the '50s, '60s and '70s in the style of Dick Clark's *American Bandstand*.

John Girms performed the Tennessee Ernie Ford song "Sixteen Tons" and one by Frank Sinatra, "Young at Heart." Marion Snyder sang "Mr. Sandman," accompanied by

the Chordettes. Jonathan Reimann gave a lively Elvis Presley interpretation with the song "Nothing But a Hound Dog" and "Love Me Tender." Dean Martin's song "Volare" was performed by Lourdes Bricio. John Hopkinson sang "Scarborough Fair" by Simon and Garfunkel, followed by Paul Shemet with "Let's Twist Again" by Chubby Checker. And Ingrid Helge delighted the guests with Rodgers' and Hammerstein's "Climb Every Mountain."

Los Angeles pastor Larry Greider summed up the afternoon with a few quips and positive words directed mainly at the seniors. It was truly a delightful sentimental journey that will be remembered for many years to come.

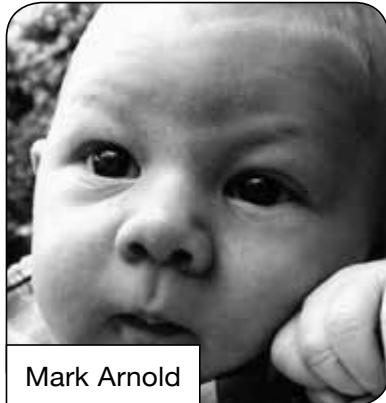
Marion Snyder

Local Church Updates: If your congregation's news and events are rarely covered in *United News*, why not check with your pastor and write something for him to send in? We're looking for 100- to 300-word articles and photographs with captions. Please include a self-addressed envelope if you would like photos returned. Include the author's and photographer's names and your phone number. Please double-check the spelling of names. Please e-mail (**preferred**) or give the material to your local pastor to forward to *United News*.

Announcements

Births

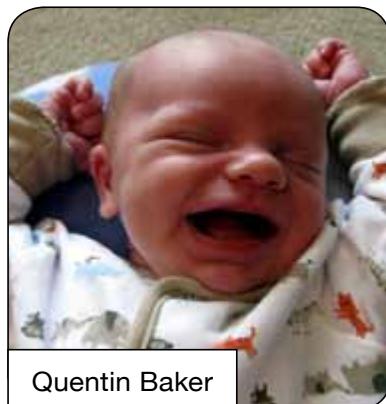
Johnathan and Chancy Arnold are pleased to announce the birth of their second child, Michael Mark-Nelson Arnold.



Mark Arnold

He was born May 5, 2010, at 2:38 p.m., weighing 8 pounds 15 ounces and was 20½ inches long. Big sister Olivia, who is 2 years old, is thrilled with her new baby brother. Proud grandparents include Mike and Brenda Arnold of Mansfield, Illinois, and Jesse and Sarah Earles of Axtion, Virginia. Johnathan, Chancy, Olivia and Mark attend the Roanoke, Virginia, congregation.

Greg and Debbie Baker of the Fort Worth, Texas, congregation are excited to announce the birth of their first child,



Quentin Baker

Quentin Andrew Baker. He was welcomed into the world July 18, 2010, weighing 9 pounds 10 ounces and measuring 20½ inches long. The proud grandparents are Howard and Sarah Baker of Hawkins, Texas, and Fred and Sue Whitlark of Fort Worth, Texas.

Grandparents Peter and Schellese Holmes of the Indianapolis, Indiana, congregation along with great-grandparents Shannon and Naomi Lucas of Big Sandy, Texas, would like to announce the birth of Shaylah Ralynn Bond. Shaylah was born Monday, Aug. 16, 2010, to parents Schellese and Ryan Bond also of Indianapolis. She weighed 6 pounds 7 ounces. Big



Shaylah Bond

brother Rylin is super excited about his new sister.

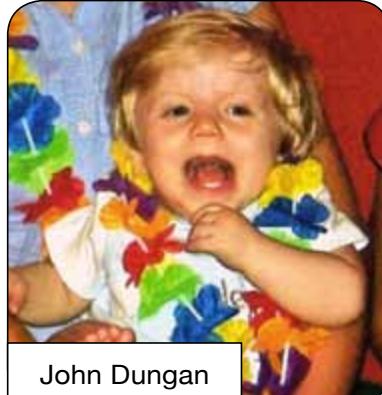
Caleb and Valerie Creech of the Cincinnati, Ohio, East congregation are overjoyed to announce the birth of their



Calvin Creech

first child, Calvin Alan Creech. Calvin was born Jan. 14, 2010, weighing 7 pounds 4 ounces and measuring 20 inches long. Calvin is the eighth grandchild of Mike and Holly Beyer of the Kansas City, Missouri, congregation and the first for Glenn and Ronda Creech of the Cincinnati East congregation.

Eddie and Janet (Hubbell) Dungan of the San Antonio, Texas, congregation are thrilled to introduce—albeit belatedly—their fourth child. John Stephen Caleb Dungan arrived May 24, 2009, weighing 7 pounds 15 ounces and measuring 18½ inches long. Proud grandparents are George and Sheila Hubbell of



John Dungan

the Houston, Texas, North congregation and Marcia Dungan of

the Laurel, Mississippi, congregation. Excited siblings are Bonnie, Jennifer and George.

The name John means "God is gracious," and it has been very fitting as it is only God's grace and mercy that saw John through his difficult first year. We offer our praises for His loving-kindness and our thanks to all our brethren for their many prayers and unwavering support in our time of crisis.

Malcolm and Cassidi Murray of the Flint, Michigan, congregation are pleased to announce the birth of their seventh little blessing from God, Madison Grace. She was born at 4:05 a.m. on April 8, 2010, after only two hours of labor. Madison weighed



Madison Murray

9 pounds 6 ounces and measured 21 inches long. She is adored by her siblings: Michael, 11; Samantha, 9; Wyatt, 8; Malcolm, 5; Griffin, 4; and Gabrielle, 21 months. Grandparents Malcolm and Francie Murray and Chris and Andi Chapman all attend the Flint congregation as well. The entire family is extremely grateful to God, the giver of life, for this beautiful new addition.

Joe and Jenean Rivers of the Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia, congregation are happy to announce the arrival of their

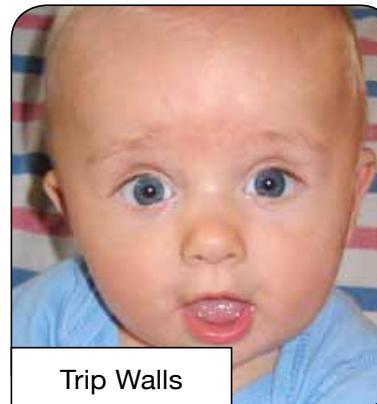


Cambria and Jacob Rivers

second child, Jacob Daniel Rivers, born July 8, 2009, weighing 8 pounds 4 ounces. Big sister Cambria loves her new brother, who is trying to keep up with her. Jacob is the second grandchild of Bruce and Melissa Rivers of

the Elkart, Indiana, congregation and the eighth grandchild of Jenny and Bill Bradford of Brisbane, Australia.

Tad and Sarah Walls of the Williamsburg, Virginia, congregation are happy to announce



Trip Walls

the birth of their first child, Thomas "Trip" Lambeth Walls, III. Trip was born at 8:45 p.m. on Friday, March 5, 2010. Not only is he a Sabbath baby, but he also arrived on his due date. He measured in at 7 pounds 2.6 ounces and was 20 inches long. Tad and Sarah are thrilled with his arrival and look forward to him growing in God's Church.

Weddings

John and Kathleen Cochrane of the Portsmouth, New Hampshire, congregation are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter, Kerri Anne Descoteaux, to Tracy Lynn Bradford of the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, congregation. He is the son of Aretta



Tracy and Kerri Bradford

Gall of Clarksville, Tennessee.

Kerri and Tracy's wedding took place July 3 after Sabbath services in Portsmouth, with all the brethren in attendance. Paul Suckling performed the ceremony. Attendants were Kathy Cochrane, who was matron of honor, and Eric Dean, of the Pittsburgh congregation, who was best man. Kerri's two sons Justin, 12, and Mathew, 8, escorted her down the aisle. Family and friends shared in the joyous occasion.

The happy family has made their home in Conway, New Hampshire, and will continue to attend church in Portsmouth.

Karen Hazelip of the Phoenix, Arizona, East congregation is delighted to announce the marriage of her daughter Micah



Micah and Mark Mirigian

Lynn Campbell to Mark David Mirigian, son of David and Hiromi Mirigian of Oakland, California. On July 11, 2010, in Mormon Lake, Arizona, a group of 40 friends and family shared in the weekend-long festivities. Micah's sister, Daryn, served as the maid of honor, and Mark's dad was his best man. The wedding ceremony was performed by the Oakland, Santa Rosa and San Jose, California, pastor, Jim Tuck. The newlyweds are planning a two-week long honeymoon exploring Barcelona, Paris and Venice in December. Mark and Micah will begin their lives together in San Jose, California, and split their time between the San Jose and Oakland congregations.

Anniversaries

Michael and Samantha (Blake) Moore, of the West Palm Beach, Florida, congregation celebrated



Samantha and Mike Moore

their 25th wedding anniversary on Wednesday, July 28, 2010, with a day and evening in beautiful South Beach Miami, Florida.

Coming from different areas of the country, Mike from Rhode Island and Samantha from Ohio,

the two had some cultural differences to overcome as they dated. Mike learned blue grass music and how to eat venison, and Sam learned how loud Italians could be and what a "bubbla" (water fountain) was.

They were married on July 28, 1985, in Litchfield, Ohio, in a ceremony conducted by Bill Jahns and attended by over 200 family members and friends from all over the country. They currently reside in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, with Mike's mom, Febby, and their dog, Puccia. They are the owners of RCI Recruitment Solutions. They have enjoyed the blessings of a wonderfully loving and supportive family, close and loyal friends and the joy of two wonderful children, Erinn, 18, who was baptized this past Passover, and Brenden, 15.

Both Mike and Sam agree that their life together was definitely orchestrated by God and share in the knowledge that the many trials they have shared and weathered, personally, professionally, emotionally, financially and spiritually, have been blessings that allowed them a broader and deeper perspective of life, man and God.

Obituaries

Rosalie A. Amendolare, 70, died at her home with her family by her side on June 13, 2010. Rosalie was born in Brooklyn, New York. She was devoted to her family and friends and



Rosalie Amendolare

served God for 37 years. She is survived by her husband of 50 years, Michael Amendolare, and their children, Deborah, Frank and Michael, as well as five grandchildren. Her memorial service was officiated by Todd Carey on Sunday, June 20. She was an inspiration to the Williamsburg, Virginia, congregation and dearly loved by all.

Marion Janetta Morgan Carter, a resident of St. Rose, Louisiana, died at her home on July 1, 2010, at the age of 82. She worked in the catering business for years and also at a cabinet company. Marion married her husband, Joseph Carter, in 1967.

She began attending the Church in the late 1960s and was baptized in 1974.

A member of the New Orleans congregation, Marion was known for her ability to see the humor in life and for her hospitality. She loved hosting



Marion Carter

Bible studies and dinners for the brethren, including Night to Be Much Observed gatherings. She diligently cared for her invalid brother, James Morgan (also a member of the Church), for 20 years prior to his death in May of 2009.

Marion is survived by a sister, Dorothy (Lloyd) Vinnett; one sister-in-law, Ruby Morgan; two loving nephews, Reginald and Joseph Arceneaux; two nieces, Janetta and Janice Morgan; and a host of cousins and friends. Dorothy, Lloyd and Reggie lovingly cared for Marion over the years as her health deteriorated. The funeral service was conducted by Richard Avent, an elder in New Orleans.

David Evans, 74, died on March 20, 2010, in Hobart, Tasmania.

Born on Jan. 12, 1936, in Queenstown, Tasmania, David was the third son of Jack and Doris Evans and the brother of Bill, Claire, John, Meg, Jude, Jackie and Cynthia.

Throughout his youth, David had numerous sporting achievements. He was involved in rowing at Friends' Private School in Hobart, where he attended; and he played football for Lyell Football Club on the famous gravel football field. However, his most prominent achievements were in running. David ran in many of the annual carnivals in Tasmania, achieving numerous place finishes.

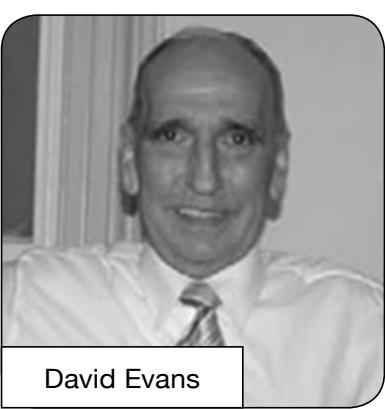
In 1962 David married Lea Ackerley. David's family and his devotion to them became the hallmark and lasting legacy of the man. David and Lea were a team, dedicated and devoted to each other and to that covenant they made at marriage. Anyone who knew David also knew him as a devout man of God. For David, however, there was no distinction, as devotion to one meant devotion to the other.

David was baptized in September of 1965 by Bill Winner

and was ordained a deacon in 1972. David was persistent, persevering, diligent, hardworking, humble, loving, devoted, of the highest integrity and character, and in all things a servant—a servant to God, to family and to all.

David made a special request to God after he was diagnosed with bowel cancer in 1992. He was told by various doctors to go home and get his affairs in order, having been given no more than two years to live.

That's when he made a simple request to God. He didn't try to negotiate or bargain with God. David knew much better than



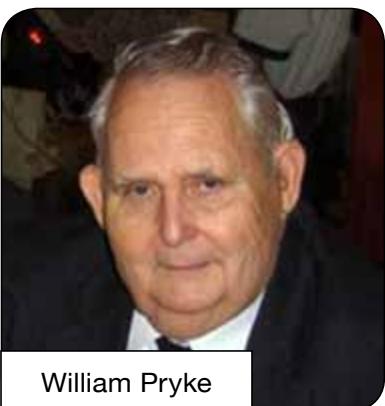
David Evans

that. He simply said, "I want to see my grandchildren." The remarkable thing about that request is that he didn't have any. Eighteen years and five beautiful grandchildren later, it seems clear that God honored that request.

Although we may say goodbye today to the husband, the father, the father-in-law, the pop, the brother, the friend and the man, his legacy will endure.

David is survived by his wife of 47 years, Lea; his son David Jr.; daughters, Cathie (Stephen) Clark, Judie (Warwick) Birkett; and his five grandchildren, Shannon, Jordan and Maddison Clark and Lache and Geordie Birkett.

William Charles Pryke, 83, died June 11, 2010. He was a WWII United States Navy vet-



William Pryke

eran and Purple Heart recipient, a deacon in the Church for many years and a loving father. He was preceded in death by his wife of 50 years, Pat. He is survived by his three children, Cindy, Sheri-

lynne and Scott, and a granddaughter, Jennifer.

He served the Church for more than 40 years and looked to God for all things. He was a faithful and caring member of the Williamsburg, Virginia, congregation and is missed by his family and brethren. Bill's graveside service was performed on June 15 by Todd Carey.

Roger C. Schultz died Sabbath, June 26, 2010, in his home from complications of a massive stroke. He was 71 years old. Roger became part of God's Church in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in the early 1970s. Roger was a dedicated member, being instrumental in teaching many current members about God's way of life. He was always willing to share his understanding of God's truth with anyone who would listen and was very dedicated serving in the Church.

Roger retired from Caterpillar Tractor and supplemented his retirement income by helping in his son's roofing business and "junking"—collecting and selling scrap metal. Roger was a huge baseball fan and was always willing to put together



Roger Schultz

a team for Church and Feast activities. He even put together a Church team (the Milwaukee Saints) that played in a public league. He loved spending time with his family, going to car rallies and watching movies with his wife, Karen.

Roger was preceded in death by a son and his first wife, Barbara, and is survived by his children, numerous grandchildren and his second wife, Karen. Roger was loved and will be greatly missed by his family, friends and church family.

Ardelle (Indahl) Wiltsie died peacefully after 80 years of life on Friday, June 11, 2010. She was preceded in death by her parents; father- and mother-in-law; her beloved husband, Del; and six brothers- and sisters-in-law.

On June 20, 1949, Ardelle was united in marriage to Delbert Harold Wiltsie in West Salem, Wisconsin. The Indahls' farm happened to be on Del's milk-hauling route, so indeed the

farmer's daughter met and married the milkman.

Ardelle and Del were blessed with two sons and two daughters: Michael (Dona) Wiltsie, Pat Wiltsie, Holly (Roger) Swenson and Peggy (Don) Wales.

A lifelong homemaker, Ardelle occupied herself with flower and vegetable gardening and photography. She was a tal-



Ardelle Wiltsie

ented artist with an affinity for sketching and drawing—especially portraits of people and animals.

Ardelle was a member of the Church for 45 years and had a strong and abiding faith in God. She and Del were very dedicated to the Church, spending much of their time involved in the choir, fund-raisers, special events and the numerous tasks needed to nurture God's people. We would like to thank all the many friends for their immeasurable service to Ardelle and Del in their final years.

Ardelle will be sadly missed and fondly remembered by surviving family members, including all four children; her sister, Joyce Hemker; brother, Robert (Karen) Indahl; four grandchildren, Michelle Meronek, Shawn (Michelle) Wiltsie, Wayne Wiltsie and Angela Wiltsie; two step-grandsons, Jonathan and Alex Swenson; five great-grandchildren, Jacob and Joseph Meronek, Tiberius Larson, Aidan Wiltsie and Baby Larson on the way; four sisters-in-law, Andrea "Dolly" Wiltsie, Leatrice "Lea" Wiltsie, Mary Wiltsie, and Phyllis Raleigh; three generations of nieces and nephews; other relatives and countless friends.

A private burial and interment was done at Wood National Cemetery in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Announcements: Members are welcome to submit announcements of the births, engagements, weddings, significant anniversaries (25, 40, 50, 60, etc.) and obituaries in their families. Please include a self-addressed envelope if you would like photos returned. Most items are 50 to 100 words and should not exceed 250 words. Please e-mail (**preferred**) or give them to your local pastor to forward to *United News*.

News At a Glance

Continued from page 2

or Web traffic in our analysis, but also the number of "eyes and ears" that now have access to our program. Many people won't call or write, but they will watch!

This is all part of our reach with the gospel, and there is a way that we can all get involved in helping people become aware of our program on WGN. You can explain and promote *Beyond Today* to family members, neighbors, friends, fellow employees, acquaintances and others. Each of us can play a part in this effort by offering an advertisement to those who might be interested. Additionally, these ads could be placed on public bulletin boards and in other locations where permissible.

Go to www.ucg.org/logo to find the *Beyond Today* postcards. We hope you will take the time to print a supply of ads on 8½-by-11-inch card-stock or paper from your PC. You can cut the ads into four equal sizes, using a paper cutter for better accuracy. (Cut lines are included on the sheet).

We hope these small "personal advertisements" can be a valuable

means by which everyone in the Church, both young and old, can participate in helping preach the gospel to a society too often filled with hopelessness. It's something practical and positive we can all do.

Thank you in advance for your help and especially for your diligent prayers for all of the Church's media efforts. We appreciate it deeply.

Peter Eddington

Receptionist and Food Service Manager Hired

Whitney Creech was recently hired to work as receptionist at the home office. Mrs. Creech is a graduate of the 2010 ABC class where she also was *ABC Times* editor and worked as an intern for Media and Communications Services.

Ina McLemore, who was the previous receptionist, has assumed the role of food service manager at the home office and is responsible for Ambassador Bible Center breakfasts and lunches.

Ms. McLemore will also oversee lunches and dinners for other meetings held at the home office.

Peter Eddington

United News™

News of the United Church of God, an International Association



What's New on the Web?

Featured Link

■ Kinetic Typography: Ten Commandments

<http://tinyurl.com/kinetic10>

Watch this new video created by UCG Media and Communications Services video editor Jamie Schreiber that teaches the Ten Commandments using the motion graphics technique of kinetic typography.



If you have questions or comments, please contact: webmaster@ucg.org

Attention Daytona Beach Feast Attendees

If you will be in Florida after the Feast of Tabernacles and plan to attend Sabbath services in Orlando on Oct. 2, please e-mail Perry Harold at pharold@cfl.rr.com with the total number of persons attending. We expect a large number of members will be staying after the Feast in order to visit the attractions in the Orlando area, and it will be very helpful for us to have a count.

Roy Demarest

Periodicals Postage Paid

at Milford, Ohio, and at additional mailing offices

New Minister Ordained

On Pentecost, May 23, 2010, Miguel Gutierrez was ordained into the ministry. He and his wife, Nohemy, serve in the Los Angeles, California, congregation.

Personal Correspondence Update

The Personal Correspondence area sent out 178 letters and/or e-mails in July: 53 were surface mail letters, 103 were e-mails and 22 were e-mails from *Vertical Thought* staff. The Church received a total of 625 e-mails in July.

God continues to call men and women who are presently in jail. This month, we had three baptism counseling requests from different inmates.

A subscriber sought our advice on how to live with a spouse who has a severe anger problem. She wrote to us about this, because she received an e-mail notice of one of our *Free Bible Study Guides* about dealing with difficult people.

A person reached out to us for words that he could use to encourage

age a friend whose son recently died. The grieving father apparently had pleaded with God to take his life instead of the life of his son. The father wanted to know why God did not grant the request.

A teenager who wants to obey God's command to honor her parents asked how to do this if the parents make it impossible to honor them. A 13-year-old, who is about to enter high school, expressed concern about the bad influences of peer pressure. He asked for advice on how to stay close to God.

In the ubiquitous unusual category, someone had what he thought was a personal vision from God. He wanted our opinion of whether the vision indicates that he has been chosen by God to do a mighty work in the end time.

Cecil Maranville

Calendar of Events

- Sept. 9: Feast of Trumpets.
- Sept. 18: Day of Atonement.
- Sept. 23-29: Feast of Tabernacles.
- Sept. 30: Last Great Day.
- Jan. 14-16, 2011: Women's Enrichment Weekend, Garden Grove, California, area, <http://garden-grove.ucg.org>.

International Mail Clerk Position Posted

Peter Eddington, Media and Communications Services operation manager, has announced an opening for a clerk in our international mail processing area.

The international mail clerk is responsible for tracking and maintaining the database of the day-to-day literature requests and other related requests from areas outside of the United States. This includes Web page imports and editing, maintaining the database of international addresses, assisting with personal correspondence from international locations, and researching and writing address formatting guidelines for each country.

In addition, the candidate must demonstrate a good knowledge of world geography and a familiarity with international language styles, preferably in French, German, Portuguese and Spanish (names, streets, various terms). Must have excellent computer and typing skills.

A college degree or equivalent and one to two years' related experience and/or training in above average to advanced computer skills and office duties are required. Experience working with databases, Web-based applications, e-mail and general office duties are essential.

Potential employees must be baptized members of the United Church of God. Applicants must be biblically literate and possess a thorough working knowledge of the doctrines, beliefs and practices of the United Church of God. The deadline for submission of an application is Sept. 17, 2010. For more information about the position, please contact human_resources@ucg.org.

Opening Posted for Spanish-Language Editor Independent Contractor Position

Peter Eddington, Media and Communications Services operation manager, has announced an opening for a position in our Spanish-language magazine and booklet production.

This position entails work probably exceeding 100 hours per month on average away from the home office as an independent contractor. Duties will include editing and layout of the bimonthly Spanish *Las Buenas Noticias* magazine; coordinating professional proofreading of *Las Buenas Noticias*; coordinating translation of materials from English-language Church publications; coordinating booklet translations, booklet reprinting and booklet revisions; plus other duties as agreed.

A bachelor's degree in communications and/or graphic design is preferred or an equivalent combination of education and experience in desktop publishing, editing and graphic design. Expert knowledge of Adobe CS5 design standard is required. Strong logic and fluency in both English and Spanish languages, with demonstrated oral and written skill as bilingual communicator and translator, are required. Those applying for consideration should supply samples of their work.

Applicants must be baptized members of the United Church of God. Applicants must be biblically literate and possess a thorough working knowledge of the doctrines, beliefs and practices of the Church. Members of the Church who are very familiar with Latin American customs and culture are preferred. The deadline for submission of an application is Sept. 17, 2010. For more information about the position, please contact human_resources@ucg.org.











