

UNITED NEWS



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NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2014

Feast of Tabernacles 2014

The United Church of God held another inspiring Feast of Tabernacles to worship God and keep His festival at sites around the world Oct. 9-16.

Read the photos from each site, arranged by region, beginning on page 2, and see reports from each site on pages 6-17.

Adding to the sense of unity and community, the Church ran a hashtag campaign across social media sites, encouraging feastgoers to post their photos using #ucgfot on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. On the festival website, photos with the hashtag were gathered in a cascade of photos as the Feast progressed. See the archive of the photos at <http://feast.ucg.org/ucgfot-2014>.

Once again, the millennial spirit of the Feast blessed the Church as the Body rejoiced in the foretaste of the return of Jesus Christ and His rule on earth.

May God's Kingdom come. **UN**



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Feast to Famine



From THE WORD

by David Palmer

Another Feast of Tabernacles has come and gone. For eight days we rehearsed the Kingdom of God and looked ahead to a totally different world than the one we live in today. Yet here we are, still in this world, a world under the influences of the devil.

A famous song called "My Way," made popular by Frank Sinatra and written by Canadian songwriter Paul Anka, included the line, "And now the end is near." Is it? No one knows for certain, but it may be closer than we imagine. So are we better prepared for the battles we will face in this world after observing another God-ordained festival?

How many nuggets of wisdom presented by each of the speakers can we reflect on to draw spiritual strength in the days and weeks ahead? Remember what Paul reminded us? "Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies and tricks of the Devil. For we are not fighting against people made

of flesh and blood, but against the evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against those mighty powers of darkness who rule this world, and against wicked spirits in the heavenly realms" (Ephesians 6:11-12, New Living Translation throughout this article).

There used to be a popular slogan in sports that could also be applied to society: "It's not whether you win or lose, it's how you play the game." The world we live in today has a distorted version: "Winning isn't everything, it's the only thing." The truth is, we live in a very competitive world. Life in this world can be a battle. But on the other hand, we can read Solomon's statement in Ecclesiastes that says, "I returned and saw under the sun that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to men of understanding, nor favor to men of skill; but time and chance happen to them all. People can never predict when hard times might come. Like fish in a net or birds in a snare, people are often

caught by sudden tragedy" (Ecclesiastes 9:11-12).

Life is very fragile. Not only are we subjected to our own human nature—the pulls and desires of the flesh—but we are also subjected to the wiles of the devil. "Be careful! Watch out for attacks from the Devil, your great enemy. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for some victim to devour" (1 Peter 5:8).

It's easy to forget that the battle for our salvation is not with other people. We are in a battle with spiritual wickedness, the demonic angels of Satan—they are the adversaries. Just as Satan tempted Christ, his henchmen will tempt us. And so we are warned to be vigilant, to be prepared for whatever the devil can throw at us: "Use every piece of God's armor to resist the enemy in the time of evil, so that after the battle you will still be standing firm. Stand your ground, putting on the sturdy belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. For shoes, put on the peace

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news

AT A GLANCE

HR and Media and Communications Services Announce Two Openings in International Mail Processing

International Mail Processing Manager

The International Mail Processing Manager supervises incoming mail processing and mail reading for international areas and coordinates domestic mail reading. It requires performing the following duties:

- Supervise daily reading of international and domestic mail, including prisoner correspondence.
- Process e-mail and website responses

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BY THE NUMBERS

13,118

Attendance around the globe at all United Feast of Tabernacles sites.

The UYC in Zambia took place this year at a beautiful place called *Ciyanjano*—meaning reunion—on the outskirts of Lusaka with 37 campers and 18 staff.

Most youths and staff arrived on Sunday and assembled in the hall for the official opening ceremony. Some were yet traveling from Nalubanda North, Kasumpa and Isoka. Present were the two ministers, Wilson Nkhoma and his wife, Dorothy; Major Talama and his wife, Felicia; and Deacon Jonathan Litaba from the Copper belt (Mufulira).

The youth officers of Zambia welcomed the campers and a special speech was given by Mukumbuta Talama. The emcee of the opening evening, Isaac Chipempele, called upon Mr. Talama, who welcomed the American guests and introduced senior pastor, Jim Tuck. Mr. Tuck said he and his wife, Joan, were thankful for the opportunity to help with camp. He mentioned that Jayson McDaniel would arrive soon from the U.S., and he declared camp officially opened.

Geared to learn, the campers came with a lot of excitement and first-timers could not wait for the fun, to begin. What started as a group of strangers a few hours earlier ended up as one group reciting verses and helping each other. They came from all over Zambia, but had a close bond

from the first evening.

The campers woke up at 5:30 a.m. for a road run with sports master, Jonathan Litaba. After the morning exercise before breakfast, the campers were given duties, some were cleaning the hall, bathrooms, surroundings and, of course, their dorms.

Following breakfast campers had the daily morning compass check, and a memory verse for the day. The campers were asked why Christ came into the world, and many participated in giving answers of what they knew. Mr. Tuck challenged them to recite the verses given at the end of the day during the Christian living class.

The first activity of the day for the boys was speed-away, and they were so excited that they went to the sports field early to find out about this new game being introduced at camp. The girls had a class for arts and crafts with Joan Tuck. She taught the girls how to use a decoupage technique to make picture frames. They had a lot of fun. Later during the week, each camper was given a group photo of the campers and staff to put in their frames. The boys proved to be very adept at doing the craft project as well, and the girls showed themselves to be very adept at speed-away.

After lunch, the activities continued,

this time the girls had needlework with Felicia Talama, who taught them sewing and types of stitches they could use, later they made handkerchiefs. Everybody cooperated extremely well throughout the activities.

The rest of the events continued until after dinner when Mr. and Mrs. Tuck served the camp ice cream on behalf of donations of the San Francisco Bay Area churches of California. It was indeed exciting because everyone got a share.

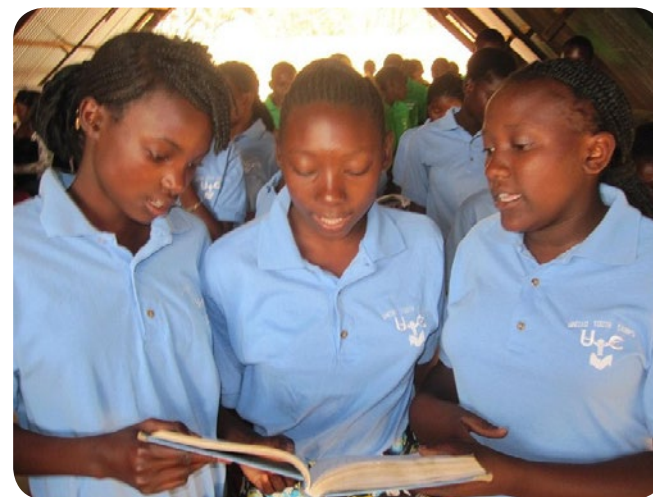
On the Sabbath the attendance at the pavilion meeting hall increased to 85. Following services, we had the question-and-answer session, which ended in the evening. The session was exciting as campers asked a lot of questions, especially concerning dating and questions on the previous scriptures in their lessons. After dinner, campers were awarded certificates for their participation in the camp activities followed by ice cream and a dance in the evening.

The camp was incident-free except for one boy who came with malaria from Mumbwa, but he was rushed to a nearby clinic by Mr. Talama where the young man was treated. He recovered well and was seen playing speedway with other campers.

The camp for this year was most

improved and exciting. It was a great success, a character building event for the young people of Zambia.

Tabo Nawa Talama



Remember the “Caregiver”

by Susan Cecala

In the March-April issue of *United News*, Heather Disher wrote about a young man named “Sean” who was severely mentally handicapped, unable to care for himself, and born with some type of birth defect. In that article (“Birth Defects: No Justification for Abortion”), it appeared from the article that Sean was unaware of his situation, and that the caregivers just took care of him. God speed the day He will heal Sean and all others with infirmities!

The story inspired me to write on the subject of those born with birth defects. Unlike Sean, who is in an assisted living home with caregivers to help him, there

are many whose parents must take care of them through their adult life. The most devastating event that could happen to parents is having their child born with a major birth defect. Whether it’s physical, mental or both, one cannot explain how difficult this is. It can mean a lifetime of doctors, surgeries, therapies, etc. The parents who are caregivers themselves can understand all these difficulties. Having children is a wonderful blessing, but when a child is born disabled or mentally impaired, it automatically changes the parents’ lives and the entire family. Of course parents love their child no matter what, but now they must dedicate them-

selves to a different life—a life of continual medical necessities for their child on an ongoing basis.

My intent is not to only dwell on the outcome of birth defects but to broaden the understanding for those who do have healthy children. It is important to pray for disabled individuals, but we also must remember the parents and caregivers. These parents are caregivers dedicate their entire lives to caring for their offspring from childhood through adulthood, making many sacrifices along the way, and not truly experiencing a normal life as others do.

We all need encouragement in our lives

for many different reasons, but for those dealing with special needs, whether it’s the disabled person or the parent/caregiver, faith and endurance must continually co-exist, which can only come from God through His strength and the prayers of family and friends.

So please remember the “caregiver” in addition to the challenged person in your prayers. They surely do need additional strength to be able to “walk the walk.”

We certainly all look forward to God’s Kingdom when everyone will be whole. God speed that day! **UN**

Susan Cecala is a member in the Chicago/Hinsdale congregation.

Feast of Tabernacles Reports 2014

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Lake Malawi 134

Copper Belt, Zambia..... 64

Isoka/Kalukanya, Zambia..... 120

Lusaka, Zambia..... 150

Meru, Kenya..... 110

Nyanza Province, Kenya..... 230

Nigeria 96

Ogembo, Kenya 117

South Africa 150

Togo..... 45

Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe..... 79

Asia/Pacific

Albuera, Philippines..... 148

Baguio City, Philippines 127

Davao City, Philippines 354

Jaipur, India..... 27

Merimbula, Australia..... 196

Penang, Malaysia 102

Rockingham, Australia 86

Kalutara, Sri Lanka..... 44

St. Helens, Tasmania 68

Sunshine Coast, Australia 322

Nelson, New Zealand..... 69

Tonga..... 8

Canada

Kelowna, British Columbia..... 184

Canmore, Alberta..... 162

Midland, Ontario 127

Prince Edward Island..... 84

Caribbean

Freeport, Bahamas 240

Ocho Rios, Jamaica 129

Tobago 40

Vieux Fort, St. Lucia..... 120

Europe/British Isles

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Sabaudia, Italy..... 149

Schluchsee, Germany..... 224

Torquay, England..... 250

Latin America

Bolivia 24

Cartagena, Colombia 88

Chile..... 140

Panajachel, Guatemala..... 204

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico..... 580

Roraima, Brazil..... 68

United States

Bend-Redmond, Oregon..... 647

Bigfork, Montana 129

Branson, Missouri 506

Cincinnati, Ohio..... 307

Jekyll Island, Georgia 392

Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii..... 500

New Braunfels, Texas..... 455

Ocean City, Maryland..... 318

Oceanside, California 620

Panama City Beach, Florida.. 1200

Phoenix, Arizona..... 175

Pigeon Forge, Tennessee 724

Steamboat Springs, Colorado . 350

Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin ... 757

Satellite, Big Sandy, Texas..... 73

Satellite, Tampa, Florida 67

Satellite, Tucson, Arizona..... 22

Home Sermon DVDs..... 410

OVERALL TOTAL..... 13,528



Africa

Benin

Ouidah

We are very grateful to God for the Feast of Tabernacles we held this year in Ouidah, a town about 41 kilometers from Cotonou, in a very comfortable hotel and a beautiful meeting hall.

Inspiring messages allowed us to get a glimpse of what our role will be in the future Kingdom of God. The tremendous joy that we all felt as well as the children's lessons, which added a lot to our enjoyment, all contributed to providing us with truly one of the most fantastic Feasts we have ever had—all by the grace of God.

Excursions had been organized, one of which allowed us to visit historical sites around the town, while others were on the beach where we visited a nature park, and enjoyed various games for the kids and the adults.

All the members in Benin are grateful to all those who have helped us to have a Feast of Tabernacles with many opportunities to enjoy a wonderful time of fellowship.

*Pierre Ogoudele
Oludare Akinbo*

Cameroon

Douala

A big hello from Cameroon!

There were 20 people from Douala observing the Feast in our beautiful site of Douala, Cameroon. Unfortunately, our scattered brethren were not able to participate. God blessed us with good weather, and without any interruption of water or electricity.

On the Eighth Day, we watched the archived sermon from Victor Kubik, given during the Feast in Panama City Beach.

It is very wonderful to be closer each other through new technology. We also had several activities, surprise gifts and various games throughout the Feast.

Thank you for your prayers and support.

Moise Elisee Mabout

Congo

Kinshasa

Hello from Kinshasa,

We spent the Feast in our usual Feast site, Verbis Center Mboudi, not too far from our church hall, and where we kept all our meetings during the Feast.

Because of the Ebola virus, borders were closed, and we did not have visitors.

We thank God for his grace and protection. We had 21 members who were able to come and celebrate the Feast this year. It was a joyous festival for us because it was only a few months ago that some of our brothers died from illnesses.

All of the sermons we received were printed and presented locally.

Thank you very much for your financial and spiritual assistance, and also for your prayers.

Moise Elisée Mabout & Philippe Nzinga

Ghana

Akosombo

For three years now, the Feast of Tabernacles has been held in Akosombo, a small town in south Ghana. The site was at the Zito Guest Inn, which is only a few miles from Volta Lake, the world's largest artificial lake. The environment was mostly quiet with beautiful mountainous scenery encircling the township. Thrown

in for good measure was pleasant weather with two fitting rainfalls to ease what otherwise would have been excessive heat.

From the opening night service, it was a Feast of refreshing and encouraging messages, interspersed with spirited fellowship among some 35 brethren, including four from the United States. Several group and solo special music performances enriched church services this year.

A good majority of attendees stayed for the entire eight-day, nine-night sojourn, with a few traveling through.

Family day featured a wide variety of both indoor and outdoor games, which tied up with several delightful communal meals to provide the perfect platform for building new relationships and strengthening old ones.

There was a palpable sense of gratitude to our United States brethren for their incredible generosity in providing the communal meals, barbecue and many gifts, including a couple of games which were hitherto unknown here, but which proved very popular.

The entire Feast was a blessing and a wonderful foretaste of God's government of love and mercy towards humanity.

We do look forward to the Feast of Tabernacles in 2015 and another opportunity to worship God while meeting with many more of His people from around the world.

*Adamu Billey
Mark Mickelson*

Ivory Coast

Blolé (Man) and Lamé

Akwaba Cote d'Ivoire (Welcome to Ivory Coast)!

Feast of Tabernacles Reports 2014

This year, due to the Ebola virus in countries bordering Ivory Coast and advice from public health to limit too much movement of people in the area, we had two Feast sites. One in our usual site, CNRA Lamé, and another in Blole (Man). We had 52 people in attendance, 31 in Lamé, and 21 in Blole.

We had the opportunity to follow services via webcast, and the rest of the sermons were printed before the Feast and presented locally. God blessed us with peace and joy during the Feast.

A very special thanks to those who helped us for this Feast.

Moise Elisée Mabout

Kenya

Got Kachola, Meru & Ogembo

Greetings from East Africa,

457 brethren from Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi gathered at three Feast sites in Kenya for an unforgettable foretaste of life under the reign of Jesus Christ and His new bride.

Above the warm and arid shoreline of Lake Victoria, 230 attendees from our Western Kenya and Northern Tanzania congregations shared eight days together as one tribe (Luo) enjoying the messages in their native tongue, Dholuo. The local church facility was transformed into a conference center and campground through the use of a large rented tent for services, and our Church-owned camping tents for lodging.

A few hours away in a lush, tropical hill region, 117 camped at the UCG Ogembo Feast site and met in its large church hall. The abundance of rainfall provided more than ample water supply and a real feast of ripe fruits and vegetables that are indigenous to the region.

Another 10-hour drive to the center of the country found 110 more brethren from nine tribes who came to Meru, Kenya, from four countries. This site involved camping, dining and meeting together at UCG-East Africa's third Feast site. Located below the slopes of Mount Kenya, the cool and arid climate was appreciated by attendees from the congregations of Central and Eastern Kenya, Northern Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi. Much appreciation was shown for those who recently donated to the initial phase of the site's construction, which included the land, toilets, washrooms and a temporary kitchen.

At each site, it was exciting to see members exuberantly bonding together in celebration of God's coming Kingdom on earth. A highlight was the sharing of our experiences and challenges that we all face back home in society. At each site brethren dined on local meats, fruits and

vegetables which members brought with them, along with those that the Church supplemented from local farms. It is hoped that international visitors will join us for the Feast in Kenya next year.

John Elliott

Malawi

Lake Malawi

We had 134 people who attended the Feast in Malawi at the Nkopolu lodge. The hotel, next to beautiful Lake Malawi, has accommodations from first-class rooms to the campground the Church uses for the Feast. The services were held on an open air patio of a building undergoing repair with a nice breeze and lake view.

Because of a conflict with the campground rental area the management gave us the air-conditioned hall for that day free of charge—a small miracle since the weather was unseasonably warm, and the normally fully-booked hall was not being used. Aaron and Michelle Dean were there for the final three days of the Feast adding additional spiritual food and bringing balloons and puzzles for the enjoyable family day on the lake. Mrs. Dean conducted a women's meeting to address needs in Malawi.

*Gracious Mpilongwe
Ken Mpilongwe*

Nigeria

Ondo State

The Feast in Nigeria this year took place at the beautiful tropical JABU Resort, about 315 kilometers from Lagos State, the commercial center of Nigeria. There was a peak attendance of 96 people coming from different regions in Nigeria and also three members from the United States.

The theme for this year's Feast was "Going on to Perfection," and it was reflected through the sermons, Bible studies and other activities. An abundance of activities kept everyone busy and excited to keep the Feast. There were daily services and free time or afternoon and evening activities.

One of the first activities was a game night where we played *Cranium*, Bible edition. This was a first for all of the local brethren who played, and many enjoyed acting out characters in the Bible, humming hymns and creating clay renditions of items in the Bible. The children enjoyed attending festival lessons every day and also had an incredible time on children's day, which featured musical chairs, a puppet show and dancing. Jelly made special appearances throughout the Feast as well. He danced with the brethren, performed

in a puppet show and even ran in a race with the children (but sadly lost). The sports day was partially rained out but cleared up in time for the races to take place. Although the rainy season is usually past by this time of year, we had several storms pass through the area.

The ladies had a special retreat with two presentations on staying the course. The ladies also performed a game that helped them get to know each other and learned the importance of how we communicate with each other. On singles night there was a nice dinner, a few skits based on parables, some dancing and getting to know one another. The men's and women's clubs combined together one evening during dinner to give a few presentations and have table topics. Almost everyone present enjoyed answering the table topic questions, and one of the most answered questions was "What have you learned from the Feast this year?"

We also had a talent show that featured all ages performing dances, singing, jokes and riddles, skits and a puppet show. During the talent show some of the Nigerian brethren served goat pepper soup, which is a special dish prepared by the local brethren. Lunches and dinners had everyone sitting together to enjoy the traditional spicy foods of Nigeria.

The choir performed several beautiful pieces throughout the Feast, and the choir members also wore beautiful Nigerian dress. On the Eighth Day crowns were handed out to everyone to picture our future roles in God's Kingdom. Everyone was excited to attend the Feast and left with a zeal to work on towards perfection!

Laura Kersey

South Africa

Margate

There were 150 Feastgoers who experienced what has been described as a Feast with a most incredible spirit. The warmth, the fellowship and the togetherness were all things to experience. The increase of 20 over the previous year was in part due to an increase in overseas visitors, who contributed in many ways to the success of the Feast.

The weather was cool, and although some rain was experienced, was generally very favorable. Activities were well supported and proved to be popular; overseas visitors remarked that they were well balanced with the meetings.

Highlights of the Feast were the ordination of two elders, Graham Cowley of East London and Vivien Botha from Cape Town; one deacon, Flip Roos from Johannesburg; and one baptism, Nathi Mazibuko from Durban. The blessing of the children was also carried out during

the Feast with six children being blessed.

Two new innovations were: 1—an attempt to have as many as possible staying in one venue and 2—one day set aside as an open day in the festival elder's apartment. These were both successful and contributed to the feeling of being together and a part of a family. The local theme for the Feast was "We Are Family."

Overseas visitors were especially impressed with the beauty of the countryside, the good standard of the road systems and the apparent lack of any threat to their security.

Roy Demont

Togo

Kpalimé

The Feast of Tabernacles 2014 was held in Kpalimé, a tourist town located about 120 kilometers from the capital city Lomé, at the foot of a mountain range. There were 45 people who kept the Feast together. The accommodations, the church hall, a field for games and much, much more, all contributed to an excellent Feast.

We were blessed by very edifying and enriching sermons focused on the fruits God required of all Christians.

This year was truly incredible as we had discussion groups where we discussed our life as a community within the Church and within our families. The results of the discussions led us to conclude that we all were in need of showing more love and humility toward each other. We have decided to work on these weaknesses and improve.

We all left the Feast feeling very content, and we are grateful for all those who have contributed to its success.

May we give glory to God who has made it all possible!

Kossi Fiaboe

Zambia

Copper Belt, Lusaka & Isoka

There were three sites this year that hosted 334 for the Feast of Tabernacles in Zambia, the latest of these being the Copperbelt site, which was opened by Aaron and Michelle Dean. It was hosted by our elder on the Copperbelt and national treasurer, Derrick Pringle, and his wife, Cherry. With 64 total attendance, all went very well. Mr. Dean was there for the opening night and first Holy Day. All went well with the new site located in a closed Methodist school having a gymnasium, a kitchen and dorms.

The second site was Isoka and Kalukanya, which was hosted by our elder, Alfred Siami, who was assisted by two

deacons (one sent from Lusaka), and all went very well at the Feast site with 120 in attendance. A wonderful report was sent to us from there.

The main site in Zambia is at Lusaka West, and it went extremely well, although only 150 out the expected 220 were in attendance, as some funerals and illnesses affected us. The Feast was still a joyful occasion, and three baptisms took place. The Deans were also in Lusaka West with us for three days. Our deacons from the Mumbwa area with their local church members joined us in Lusaka, as did the Situmbeko and Namukombo brethren. The furthest members came from Chipata in eastern province, next to

Malawi. The owner of Shambingo Lodge gave us a goat—a live, walking one—as a gift to us for holding the Feast of Tabernacles at his lodge again this year here in Lusaka, and we transported the goat to Mapoko as it was close to the Eighth Day.

*Wilson Nkoma
Aaron Dean*

Zimbabwe

Victoria Falls

This year, 79 brethren came to the tourist resort town of Victoria Falls to observe the Feast of Tabernacles. The town is about one kilometer from the awesome

Victoria Falls—the world’s largest waterfall and one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World.

As was the case last year, most of the members were accommodated at the Victoria Falls Rest Camp and Lodges. Meals were prepared in big pots over an open fire place and served by a hired team of caterers. Brethren met at the rest camp at meal times to eat and fellowship together. Church services were held at the Sprayview Hotel Conference Hall—a walking distance from the rest camp.

This year we were privileged to have two visiting ministers from Oklahoma, namely Bill Cagle and his wife Donna, and David Nunn and his wife Kimberly.

Sermon subjects included how we can get on and stay on the road to eternal life with God’s help, a contrast of the troubled world today and the wonderful world beyond today, what we learn from trials, the lake of fire, where, when and why, and more.

Two evening Bible studies were conducted. One was a detailed study of the Temple during the time of Christ and the other detailed facts disproving claims that the apostle Peter was the first Pope.

Activities included a family day social where brethren enjoyed food and fellowship on the beautiful camp grounds.

Mike Mukarati

Asia/Pacific

Australia

Merimbula

We had 196 brethren enjoying the Feast at the small seaside town of Merimbula. This is a very popular site with members because there is a fine mixing of churches from Victoria and New South Wales. We met at the Merimbula RSL, which has inexpensive meals at their bistro, where many members stayed for lunch after services.

After the first Holy Day service, we had a mixer activity to get acquainted where we served cheese platters, tea and coffee. This was a wonderful start to the Feast with old friends catching up and new friendships formed. This year we had every season of weather from beautiful warm sunny days to cold, windy and pouring rains.

The main messages were given by Bill Bradford, Bill Eddington and Bruce Dean, and local men Ross Smith, Peter King, Ian Bishop and Joe Rivers gave either split sermons or sermons. Mr. Bradford also gave a Bible study on the promised pan of God.

One of the highlights was a morning whale watching boat trip, where 63 members travelled for three hours out to sea. They saw many whales migrating south and were excited by dolphins swimming alongside the boat. Thankfully, only a couple of members were sea-sick.

More than 70 members attended a dinner dance at Pier One Restaurant overlooking the lake at Merimbula. Great finger food made it easy to move around and talk to different people.

At the service on the weekly Sabbath, Mr. Eddington and Mr. Dean ordained Haydn Turner, from the Albury/Wodonga congregation, as a deacon. Mr. Turner is well known in the southern areas of Australia, and his ordination was well received.

On a cold, windy and very rainy morning on Tuesday, Mr. Dean baptized Pat Pages from the Cooranbong congregation. Neither of them will forget that morning on the beach at Merimbula.

The Feast concluded with our traditional Eighth Day luncheon.

*Bruce Dean
Matthew Sieff*

Rockingham

The seaside community of Rockingham welcomed 86 members from around Australia. The weather was such a blessing, with fine and mild days—all except for one 100-degree scorcher.

While we all enjoyed the activities—Holy Day meet-and-greet; “seven games, seven minutes” games night; zoo trip; picnic and games in the park—it is the spiritual food and fellowship that makes the Feast all it can be. We experienced God’s Spirit working in us, enabling us to truly rejoice.

There was a strong focus on preparing for the Kingdom. It is always encouraging and inspiring to reflect in anticipation on all the returning Messiah is going to accomplish with the saints—looking into prophecies and word pictures that whet our appetite and motivate us to pray more fervently, “Thy Kingdom Come!”

But more than this, we need to earnestly and diligently prepare for our role in this soon coming paradise. On the opening night, we were exhorted to “truly know this God” who will fulfil all His promises. Sermons challenged us to a “Tabernacle Event or Tabernacle Existence;” other sermons were “Preparing for the Reward of the Faithful—Authority and Leadership;” “Learn to Judge Righteous Judgement;” “A Time of Healing;” “Would Someone Choose *Not* to Be in the Kingdom?” “The Millennial Family;” “The Father’s Day;” and “What Does John 8:2 to 10:21 Reveal

About the Eighth Day?”

Sermonettes supported and supplemented these themes: “God Desires Relationship;” “Light of the World;” “Learn to Fear God Always;” “The Millennial Economy;” “A Permanent Home;” “Warning Against Self-Deception;” and John 7:37.

The ladies rejoiced in an educational afternoon tea with the theme “40 Days to a Joy-Filled Life.”

There were many positive compliments regarding the video service from Panama City Beach, and particularly for Victor Kubik’s message. May we take *all* the insight and instruction of the Olivet Prophecy to heart!

*Stephen Clark
Matthew Sieff*

Sunshine Coast

Ken Thomson’s opening night sermon set the theme for the 322 brethren at the Kawana Waters, Sunshine Coast Feast of Tabernacles in Queensland, Australia. We were urged to use our Feast as preparation time to develop covenant love between God, fellow brethren and ourselves. All of the messages further elaborated on this while painting a picture of the world tomorrow where we will be a people prepared in *hasad* love, fulfilling our calling to serve in the Millennium alongside Jesus Christ.

The willingness to serve, as a foretaste for the coming Kingdom, was highly evident in the many successfully organized activities such as youth horse riding, young adults boat cruise, family dance and family fun day. To complement the inspiring messages and fellowship, the weather was nearly perfect, which enabled the Feastgoers to mingle in the tropically landscaped hall, with new banners reminding us to grow in our relationships and look forward to Christ’s return.

Mark Cant & Grant Chick

Tasmania

There were 68 brethren from around Australia, Canada and the U.S. who gathered together at the peaceful and picturesque town of St. Helens, on Tasmania’s pristine northeast coast.

The Feast was held at the Tidal Waters Resort, a large, modern facility with superb water views. Accommodation was available on-site, as well as in the surrounding region. Brethren enjoyed many meals together at the resort restaurant overlooking the beautiful Georges Bay, and there was hearty fellowship both before and after services.

The opening night message reminded us all that while the Feast is a time for both physical and spiritual rejoicing. Ultimately it is about a spiritual outcome. Messages that followed during the next eight days were timely and appropriate “meat in due season.” The topics covered included the requirement for service, the importance of God’s Spirit in achieving Millennial conditions, God’s sure promises of peace, the need to actively engage socially with others, and the need for God’s called-out ones to develop a “Millennial mind.” Sermons also addressed the importance of our training to be teachers, and our need to develop the compassion needed to deal with the billions who will rise in the second resurrection.

Feastgoers also enjoyed a variety of activities, including a meet-and-greet afternoon tea on the first Holy Day, a very lively “bugs” night, a “cheap and cheerful” dinner and games night, and a sumptuous Eighth Day lunch at the Tidal Waters Restaurant. Many also enjoyed a bus trip to Pyengana, a picturesque valley a short distance from St. Helens. Here, a family-owned dairy company offered a tour of their prizewinning cheese-making facility, along with mouth-watering tastings of both cheese and local wine. This was

followed by a trip to a nearby rainforest area to view a spectacular waterfall, thundering over a 90 meter (295 feet) drop—one of the highest of Tasmania's many waterfalls.

At close of services on the Eighth Day, brethren said their reluctant goodbyes, accompanied by many hugs and arrangements to keep in touch during the coming year. It truly was a Feast to remember, a time of learning, fellowship, and shared experiences while “dwelling together in unity” (Psalm 133).

Elizabeth Burchard & Paul Vaughan

India

Jaipur

We had a gold-plated Feast in Jaipur, India.

The gold plated knives, forks, spoons, goblets and plates, along with gold plated round napkin rings and tinkling crystal water and wine glasses in the world famous Suvana Mahal restaurant, in the Taj Rambagh Palace Hotel, made for a special treat for our India and overseas brethren during God's Feast of Tabernacles.

We prophetically stepped ahead in time and dined in a way that reminded us of how it is going to be of such similar amazing quality in God's Kingdom.

Even the poverty stricken people of India will be lovingly led by our converted Indian brethren in the Kingdom of God to live a way they've never lived before.

We had 27 brethren from India, the U.S.A., Canada and Australia who thoroughly enjoyed family fellowship, sharing breakfasts, lunches and dinners, as well as four magnificent afternoon bus tours together visiting unique historical wondrous sites in the famous “pink city” of Jaipur. Opportunities to speak and give excellent sermonettes, split sermons, special music, and opening and closing prayers, were given to our Feast attendees, which made it even more lovingly special as family, worshipping God.

Jim Martin from Florida gave his first sermonette ever, in all his decades of Church attendance. Ross Coffaro from New York led songs, did special music and gave a split sermon. George Samuel from Agra, India, gave a sermonette and translated all messages into the Hindi language. New York's Nigel Scott-Williams also gave two split sermons, as also did David Reeve from Melbourne. Mehernosh Damania from Toronto, Canada, presented two slide programs about the Temple in Jerusalem and the seven Churches of Revelation. Antony Xavier from Tamil Nadu helped with opening and closing prayers, organising our bus

tours, and generously helping his fellow Indian brethren. Our young ladies from India excelled in giving special music in our Feast choir. Thomson Massey (Edison) and Wilson Unas from Agra, India, led songs, did prayers and took care of all the technical projection and sound equipment. Ken Murray from Australia also gave some split sermons. His nephew Owen Charles Spring, from Clermont, Australia, also served in doing opening and closing prayers and helping out, serving in many ways, as did Nadine Franko from Canada and Catharine Martin from Florida, along with Ruth Murray.

It was truly a very God-centred, spiritual Feast, as we even had four impromptu, interactive Bible studies/discussions which lasted over three hours. Everyone agreed that these relaxed discussions were very stimulating and encouraging. These extra spontaneous Bible studies left no time for a talent show, but then, who cares? They were so indelibly memorable for all involved.

On four afternoons we hired a 35 seat, air-conditioned bus and toured the world famous historical sites of Jaipur, such as the “Pink City” City Palace, Janta Marta, A.D. 1727 observatory, Hawa Mahal, Jal Mahal lake palace, Amar Fortress and lake, Prince Albert City Museum with its rare Assyrian and Egyptian collections, Ram Niwis Gardens, Victory Tower, Nahargah Fort and Jahgarh Fort.

The staff and management at our Ramada Hotel couldn't get enough of us and looked forward to serving us at our three meal times during our nine days. They all expressed how very sad they were to see us leave, and begged us to come again next year, if possible. Many of them wanted to keep in touch with us by e-mail, and wished to read *The Good News* magazine.

At the end of our stay, all of our attendees generously gave extra funds, so that we were able to give a generous 200 rupees (U.S. \$4) tip to every staff member and manager in the whole Ramada Hotel. They said they had never ever received such appreciation, verbal thankfulness and warm loving smiles from any other group that had attended their hotel.

We look forward to 2015, which promises to be a wonderful Feast of Tabernacles in India. So a word to the wise—make plans and preparations now to attend.

Ken Murray

Malaysia

Penang

There were 102 happy people who attended the Penang Feast site in Malaysia and who were greatly encouraged by the

messages about the coming Kingdom of our great God.

A sermon given by Larry Delong from Canada summed up the messages: “When it is all said and done,” in which he highlighted what is of true value in our Christian walk.

The messages of the sermons and sermonettes both inspired and urged us to be aware of the challenges that lie ahead, and covering topics from our daily motivation to our godly gifts to why the Millennium will be necessary.

Penang is especially suited for enjoying each other's company and having the time to discuss this wonderful way of life. Everybody stays at the Bayview Beach Resort on Batu Ferringghi on the north side of the island. Services are held in one of the ballrooms.

Brethren are able to catch up at breakfast on the large, cool veranda by the lagoon pool, overlooking spacious lawns with palms and the beach and sea beyond. A large buffet breakfast is included in the room cost.

It is very easy to spend time just talking to others by the pool under large umbrellas, and especially fun for the children. But further afield there is a lot to see (and eat!) on Penang island. There is a night market with clothing, food and stalls of every kind, that runs for a kilometer or so starting near the hotel.

We had a cultural bus tour and a scenic tour of Penang, but many people also formed smaller groups that visited other areas such as Monkey Island, enjoying fishing, water sports, barbecue of the fish caught and of course monkeys.

Although a great main meal with fresh coconut to drink can be purchased for approximately \$4-5 Australian, there are also a number of very fine restaurants also offering fine food at a great price.

When it was all said and done, we had a most inspiring and relaxing Feast of Tabernacles 2014.

Don Goodger

New Zealand

Nelson

Feastgoers arrived in sunny Nelson by plane, car and ferry. South Island mountain passes closed by snow just two days earlier were open again, and all the parking meters were free, courtesy of the City Council, until Oct.19! Nelson, a pretty “Cathedral City” bordered by sea on the north and backed with snow-clad mountains and forested hills, is renowned as the sunniest place in New Zealand, and the weather remained glorious until the Eighth Day.

Daniel and Linda Porteous welcomed

69 people from New Zealand, Australia and the U.S.A.; their house became a hub for regular Feast fellowship at the clean, quiet and well-run Tahuna Beach Holiday Park, where those with on-site accommodation had just a short walk to the Conference Centre. Nearby were water-slides, a little zoo and a long, lovely golden beach. The usual get-togethers for touring, at restaurants and one another's places applied as well, of course.

Feastgoers were blessed with excellent speakers, singers and musicians from all three nations. The opening service was exuberant. Later that night, those who remained awake watched the lunar eclipse as a special moment. The first day service next afternoon was followed by a meet-and-greet over nibbles. On Friday many of the ladies went to high tea at historic Melrose House, set in lovely old gardens, and spoke about some of their answered prayers. Several of the men enjoyed visiting a local brewery (the region produces many fine wines, and hops are also grown).

On Sunday evening we enjoyed an excellent buffet dinner, followed noisily by chocolate bingo. A casual drop-in dance was held on Monday evening. Tuesday afternoon many drove to the little town of Kaiteriteri in Abel Tasman National Park and boarded the *Sea Shuttle* for a four-hour cruise through turquoise waters, past forested hills and secluded bays and sea-carved rocks, anchoring at a little golden beach to stretch our legs. We watched fur seals sunning themselves or swimming or fishing (one caught a fish and three small octopuses in the space of two minutes, shaking the ink from each octopus and rinsing it off before eating it).

There were two services on the Eighth Day. Daniel Porteous reviewed the excellent spiritual food we had already been given: Being taught to rejoice and fear God always (Daniel Porteous), to give honor and thanks to God (Geoff King), six character traits we need to develop now for our future work in the Kingdom of God (Tony Edge), overcoming fear (David Middleton), the roles of a mentor (Doug Gray), answered prayer in the Wahine disaster (Wayne Macdonald), our roles as shepherds (Daniel Porteous), the precious values of the Kingdom of God (Geoff King), fearing God and nothing else (Fred Whitlark), “It's not about you” (Len Martin, Panama City Beach sermon download), Christ's last Feast of Tabernacles in his human life (Selwyn Vivian), the government of God (Daniel Porteous), the mustard seed (Tom Caelli), the NWO with the King of Kings (Tony Edge), meditating and dreaming of the World Tomorrow (Roger Waite), “Who then can be saved?” (Fred Whitlark), and

learning to judge as God judges (Richard Chapman). In the final illuminating sermon, Daniel Porteous spoke on the significance of the Eighth Day, looking at scriptural references to the pattern of seven days of cleansing and preparation followed by a significant eighth day of presentation.

Wonderful food to feed us forever—truly, the best Feast ever!

Mavis Stucci
Daniel Porteous

Philippines

Albuera

This year's Feast in the scenic *Baybayon Ni Agalon* ("The Master's Shore") Beach Resort located in Albuera, Leyte, Philippines, was by God's help a resounding success.

There were 148 people who attended the Feast in this new site. Many of them came from the Visayas islands, some from Luzon and Mindanao, while others from the United States and Canada. Visiting ministers include David and Denise Dobson, Terry Franke, Earl Roemer, our senior pastor, and Mr. and Mrs. Rey Evasco, a Philippine pastor from Luzon.

Apart from the spiritually uplifting messages, we had various activities that contributed to the rejoicing and fellowship. Brethren enjoyed the games during the fellowship night, seniors night, family day and youth and singles day. We also witnessed a showcase of talents during the variety show. Visayan delicacies were served during the delicacy day. International guests were able to have a tour to the geothermal power plant, which supplies electric power to many parts of the country.

Instead of focusing on the imperfections and limitations in the many physical aspects of the Feast due to being first-time host, Jose Campos, the festival coordinator, pointed the brethren to the wonderful blessings God has given to all at the Feast. The beautiful Feast environment was a blessing in itself. Children were able to stay close to a big snake without being harmed. Monitor lizards and geese roam freely around the resort, giving the site a millennial setting. Weather interventions were noted as well. It rained on the first three days, but when it came time for our outdoor activities, it stopped. God also blessed us with generous brethren, as well as volunteers who helped clean, arrange flowers, usher, drive, encourage, set up the hall, teach the children and facilitate in the activities.

In his final message, Mr. Campos said: "God's blessings overtake our human

imperfections and limitations. Let us continue to rejoice even after the Feast, knowing that God chose us to be part of the training for the Kingdom. Let us continue to pray for the brethren, for the ministers, for the Church and the work that it is doing. And let us continue to thank God for *everything*, both the good and the bad that we may have experienced in this Feast, knowing that both are profitable for our spiritual growth and character development."

Jose Campos

Baguio City

Baguio City was once again one of the three Feast of Tabernacles sites here in the Philippines.

The Feast started out with the theme "The Millennium: An Amazing Environment for Growth." We were expecting an attendance of only about 110 this year, but were pleasantly surprised to have our highest attendance reach 127 on the Eighth Day, surpassing our expectations! A few of our overseas brethren from the United Kingdom and the United States kept the Feast and rejoiced with us.

We were blessed again this year with very wonderful weather conditions during the entire Feast with beautiful sunshine and some few scattered rain showers just to cool the day, in spite of a typhoon spotted just before the Feast in the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR).

We were privileged to have with us for the first third of the Feast our visiting minister from Alaska, Terry Franke. Mr. Franke spoke in the afternoon of the first day of the Feast as well as in the morning of the third day before leaving for the Leyte and Davao festival sites. For the last third of the Feast, our senior pastor Earl Roemer (who spent the first two-thirds of the Feast in Leyte and Davao) joined us.

The messages were all uplifting, inspiring and encouraging, especially the worldwide webcast from Panama City Beach that we were able to finally download and play on the sixth day.

The festival show this year was held as well on the sixth day of the Feast. It featured songs and dances from a number of countries around the world. A number of Filipino songs, music and classic folk dances like the famous "Tinikling" were featured. Various activities were prepared for the young and old, as well as for the whole family; everyone had the opportunity to enjoy fun, food, fellowship and games. Among the activities were the youth day activities for the pre-teens and teens, family day, and the seniors' dinner hosted by the teens and young adults at the Feast.

Everyone present felt they were blessed

with a greater level of unity, love, togetherness and spiritual growth at the Feast in Baguio City this year. It will again be remembered as the most positive and spiritually uplifting Feast yet.

Rey Evasco

Davao City

The Davao festival site hosted 354 brethren, including overseas guests from the U.S. and Australia. Earl Roemer, David and Denise Dobson, Terry Franke and Abigail Turner were some of our foreign guests this year. We also had visitors from Luzon and the Visayas.

Beginning with the opening night service, inspiring sermonettes, sermons and Bible studies edified the brethren with the vision of the soon-coming Kingdom of God. God blessed us with excellent weather—sunny with light breezes—from the opening night to the last day. Beautiful and creative flower arrangements on stage added a touch of nature, and it was real joy to have warm fellowship with the brethren in the peaceful atmosphere of the Girl Scouts camp.

Afternoon activities included tours, games for children, fun activities for youth and singles, a seniors social, and an enjoyable family day with a sampling of Davao City's fruits.

Evening activities included a fellowship night, an entertaining variety show, and a Church leaders appreciation dinner. We also had practical Christianity sessions on four evenings, with each evening devoted to issues relevant to teens, singles, married couples and parents.

As an added blessing, four individuals were baptized on the seventh day of the Feast: Emmalyn Morada, her sister Manielyn Morada-Luminarias, Ruben Borrega, and Danilo Balana. We also had 12 little children blessed during the Feast!

As usual, lunch was free for everyone; a few members sponsored ice cream for everyone; and some used clothing, gift items, and balloons for the children were given as well.

We are very thankful to God for His many wonderful blessings of peace and protection, as well as the help and prayers of the brethren in making this recent Feast another very memorable one!

Daniel Macaraeg

Sri Lanka

Kalutara

We had 44 brethren joyfully keep the Feast of Tabernacles on Sri Lanka's beautiful western coast.

The Feast was held at the Tangerine Beach Hotel in Kalutara where the brethren

stayed, worshiped and enjoyed all meals together. The oneness, love and camaraderie was inspiring, and the hotel staff noted they had never seen such unity in a group before.

The Feast began with a welcome message from David Schreiber, where he had each member list two or three goals for the Feast and how they were going to accomplish them. Spiritual messages were much appreciated by the brethren, and the special service webcast from Panama City Beach was viewed afterwards, due to the 10½ hour time difference. The download was successful, and it was encouraging to be connected with brethren worldwide keeping God's Feasts.

A special event was the baptism of one young lady who had patiently and eagerly waited for more than a year to be baptized. She desired to surrender her life to God and accept Jesus Christ as her personal savior. In a world of so many Buddhists and Hindus, this is a major commitment to know *one* God. The brethren are thankful to have come to know Him and His awesome plan for all mankind.

The Sri Lankan brethren are extremely talented and shared their gifts each day at services through special music as well as at the much-anticipated variety show. Other special activities included a family game night, family dance, evening sing-along, an afternoon cricket match, and a family day of outdoor games and beach soccer. The highlight at the Feast was the spiritual diet received as we rejoiced together and rehearsed the reality of the coming Kingdom of God.

If you want to travel internationally next year, the very warm and loving Sri Lankan brethren welcome you to worship with them at the Feast of Tabernacles 2015. It is sure to be a memorable experience you will not soon forget.

David Schreiber

Tonga

We had eight brethren meet on the Island of Tonga. They met in the Church's own tabernacle on the Ha'angana family property. The services and Feast were organized by our deacon, Frank 'Osika. Services were again DVDs sent from Cincinnati. The brethren appreciate the material sent from the United States. One of the highlights of the Feast was an *umu*. An *umu* is a traditional underground oven where the food is cooked slowly to retain its flavour and has a lovely smokiness. The members look forward to next year when they hope to have guests from Australia and elsewhere.

Bruce Dean

British Isles/Europe

England

Torquay

For the first time since the inception of UCG in the British Isles, brethren were able to be all together for accommodations, services and meals. We had exclusive use of the Victoria Hotel in Torquay, a resort town on the south coast in an area known as the English Riviera. Meal times were a joy, an opportunity to dine with and meet different people at every sitting. The copious choice and quality of food mirrored the spiritual food that was provided at services and Bible studies throughout the Feast.

We were blessed to have five ministers from the U.S.A. to supplement our local ministry and speakers. The messages focused on the Kingdom of God and how we must prepare now for the reality of our part in the Kingdom. The speaking was supplemented by moving special music, a children's choir in addition to the festival choir and others with magnificent piano accompaniment.

Available within the hotel complex were swimming, a health spa, English bowls, ten pin bowling, a games room and children's facilities, plenty to do between trips to local places of interest. One such trip being to Plymouth, the point of departure from which the *Mayflower* sailed for the New World in 1620.

There was live music and dancing on occasion with some instruction available and a very enthusiastic response from brethren of all ages. There was a warm, friendly spirit of cooperation from brethren from diverse parts of the world, happily living together as part of God's community. Baptisms during the week meant that we were able to welcome two more people to the family.

Torquay and the Victoria Hotel proved a wonderfully successful setting for God's Feast, where 250 of His people happily rejoiced together and left for home inspired and encouraged with feelings of pleasure.

Frank Jarvis

France

La Grande Motte

French brethren again welcomed visi-

tors to La Grande Motte in the south of France near Montpellier. With its copious buffets and spacious individual villas, this all-inclusive site, situated on a beautiful 62-acre, pine-tree studded island, created a wonderful backdrop to consider the coming Kingdom of God.

We began the Feast on that first night in a spirit of peace, and we grew closer together as we celebrated each day, each person contributing something special to the Feast experience. In addition, to our daily services alternating between French and English, we studied God's Word in small group, interactive, Bible studies conducted in the villas of the visiting elders on the Friday evening during the Feast. We were also happy to baptize a French prospective member who had been keeping the Feast with us for the last two years. Our talent show featured the great musical abilities of our teens, tweens, and their parents, and the outdoor, family dance showed that energy and enthusiasm was not just the purview of the young people present.

We marveled at the UNESCO World Heritage sites of the Roman Aqueduct Bridge "Le Pont du Gard" and the Pope's Palace of Avignon – seat of Roman Catholic power in the 14th century. We also visited the walled fortress city of Aigues-Mortes, staging point for the Seventh and Eighth Crusades and later used as a prison for the Huguenots. Massive flooding had stricken the area the week before the Feast, and more bad weather was forecast, but day after day, it passed over us, allowing us to enjoy the beautiful beach walks, lake front views and, most of all, time together to rejoice and reflect on the meaning of the Feast and the Eighth day. We were greatly blessed.

Tim Pebworth

Germany

Schluchsee

The beautiful Black Forest in southern Germany was the site of the Feast for 224 brethren from 14 different countries.

The beautiful scenery added to the focus of the Kingdom of God in this year's messages. The services were held in the village hall, which provided a scenic view of the lake. The services were translated

simultaneously into English or German as needed.

The opening service began with rousing music, beautiful flowers and glowing candles, setting the stage for a wonderful Feast.

At the opening evening service, German brethren thanked their visitors who came from as far as Australia and the U.S., allowing them to have a wonderful Feast of Tabernacles with lots of fellowship opportunities in a family atmosphere. A special treat this year was meeting with isolated brethren from Finland and Estonia who came with their pastor Johnnie Lambert and his wife Hazel.

Activities began with a Bible study for the seniors, a horse carriage ride through the sunny Black Forest for the children and their parents, and a youth activity that again challenged their go-kart driving skills.

A special highlight this year was also the video sermon by Victor Kubik. The message was well received.

This year's sightseeing trip took us to Hohenzollern Castle. The ancestral seat of the Hohenzollern family dynasty is situated at the periphery of the Swabian Alb. For almost a thousand years it has provided temporary housing for the Hohenzollern family. It's also an extraordinary location, which prompted Emperor William II to proclaim: "The panorama from the Hohenzollern Castle is truly worth a journey."

There was also nine-pin bowling for the seniors, volleyball, a women's breakfast, men's and women's discussions, a hymn sing-a-long and a dance evening.

The youth had several interactive Bible studies to discuss how to follow in Jesus Christ's footsteps and make him part of one's life. There were two baptism ceremonies at the end of the Feast, one member from the Munich congregation and one member from the Austrian congregation.

The farewell evening after the Eighth Day gave us the opportunity to say *Auf Wiedersehen* to each other. There were lots of handshakes and hugs as brethren departed after eight days of warm fellowship in a millennial setting.

Jesmina Allaoua
Paul Kieffer

Italy

Sabaudia

A small but enthusiastic group gathered this year for a memorable Feast in Sabaudia, Italy, at the beautiful ocean-front Hotel Oasi Di Kufra.

Our heartfelt thanks go to all the brethren who celebrated the Feast of Tabernacles with us in Sabaudia, Italy. Our highest attendance was 149 over 160 participants (including children) from the United States of America, United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, France, Australia and of course Italy. Special thanks go to all the brethren who gave their talent and service in order to make this Feast very memorable.

The first evening the brethren were given a chance to meet each other with their "first taste" of Italy. As everyone slowly filtered into the family-set dining room on the eve after the First Holy Day a massive stunning blue chandelier overlooked an equally stunning central table, full of the most wonderful antipasti you could ever imagine. As in typical Italian fashion, *Primi* and *Secondari* courses followed with generous amounts of *vino*-filled pitchers—and at times, live music! This was just the beginning of what brethren had to look forward to with a fun, food-filled week to come.

Though at times it seemed so, eating wasn't all that we did. More importantly, inspired sermons and sermonettes fed our hearts and minds, reminding us of how to prepare and grow for the Millennium to come. During this time, we were blessed with five new members joyously baptized into God's family!

Throughout the week brethren were entertained with tours scheduled almost daily, experiencing first-hand a country rich with history and beautiful landscape, all the while making new friendships.

And with a finale never to be forgotten, over 160 balloons—each representing those who attended, were released into the Italian sunset on the beach with Andrea Bocelli's "It's Time to Say Goodbye" playing in the background, leaving many teary-eyed as they hugged their farewells.

For many brethren, the Feast ended too soon!

Carmelo Anastasi

Latin America

Bolivia Cochabamba

The congregation of the United Church of God - Bolivia, along with our dear international brethren, joyfully celebrated the Feast of Tabernacles at the Hotel Regina Resort & Convention, located in Cochabamba, Bolivia. The hotel has an excellent infrastructure, providing exceptional service during our stay and an elegant and appropriate environment for the celebration of the Feast.

Although the weather was rather windy some evenings, the temperature was very pleasant around 27 degree Celsius (80 degrees Fahrenheit), allowing adults and young children to enjoy the amenities available of games, pools and the spa.

There were 24 brethren who celebrated the Feast and enjoyed a spiritual banquet under God's inspiration, amid an atmosphere of peace and joy. From the first Holy Day until the Eighth Day of the Feast, there was unity and harmony, further strengthening the Christian fellowship within our small congregation. In the evenings there were Bible studies to provide more spiritual nourishment. Mark Rorem, a bilingual elder from San Francisco, gave some wonderful messages during the Feast.

Services were held each day of the Feast, including special music led by our deacon Wanderson Esquerdo, with the help of our ladies and young children. As is customary in our country, the children participated in many activities, and their singing and joy delighted the audience.

Raul Machicao

Brazil

Roraima

What a wonderful experience it was to be able to attend the Feast of Tabernacles in Brazil! The Feast took place in Eco-Park, Boa Vista, which is situated in Northern Brazil in the State of Roraima. The festival location in Boa Vista, which means "beautiful view" is just north of the equator, so, hot days and pleasant warm evenings prevailed during the Feast.

We had 68 brethren who attended the Feast, which included brethren from Maloca de Moscow, the neighboring state of Guyana, and three international guests from America, Australia, and Switzerland who served and added so much to the Feast.

There were inspiring messages about the Kingdom of God given each day in Portuguese and English. The theme of the messages was preparing for the trying times ahead and staying close to God

and learning to fear God. The brethren especially enjoyed hearing Victor Kubik's message, which was translated simultaneously into Portuguese!

Special music was given each day. Songs were performed in Portuguese and also the local language of Wapishana.

There were many exciting activities that were organized besides the many water games and facilities. The teens enjoyed an evening of music and fun complete with decorative ties, glasses, and beautifully prepared food. A family dance and a children's party with a clown, a character butterfly, balloons, and a special theatrical production entertained the children for many hours. The ladies enjoyed an afternoon tea and used their creative talents to hand paint their own bags. A special afternoon was also set aside to go to the village of Moscow to see the borehole that was just drilled by LifeNets.

It was without a doubt a very inspiring Feast; *The best Feast ever! Adeus Brasil, até ao próximo ano!*

Kathy de Campos

Chile

Olmue

For the second consecutive year, the Feast in Chile was held in the beautiful and picturesque village of Olmue, located about 80 miles northwest of Santiago, the capital. Average attendance was 140, and brethren came from Chile, Mexico, Uruguay and Argentina.

The weather was very nice, which allowed the outdoor activities to be carried out successfully. We had a welcome night activity and a children's party where four received diplomas and graduated from that group to join the older youth group. There was also a lively family dance and a talent night preceded by a barbecue hosted by the Spokesman's Club. The seniors were treated to a "Silver Ambassadors" tea, which included several magic tricks. The youth of the Church once again showed their talents and skills in an enjoyable evening called "Happy Night" and delighted us with music, videos, songs and food they prepared and served. The ladies meanwhile had a tea party where they shared gifts, biblical knowledge, fellowship and good humor.

We had three baptisms, two from Argentina and one from Chile.

The Feast was filled with peace and joy, where deeper bonds were formed as many enthusiastically participated in many activities and serving in general.

Jaime Gallardo

Colombia Cartagena

Warm and sunny, but not too humid days greeted us in Cartagena de Indias, which was once again the place where God placed His name for rejoicing in Colombia. We had 88 people who stayed at the Hotel Regatta Cartagena, plus several daily visitors joined us in worship and fellowship on various days during the Feast. This excellent location provides a family environment where everyone eats, sleeps, plays and worships together. On opening night, we were encouraged to observe that "God was here!" As the week progressed, it was evident that this was true.

Because everyone was together, we were able to have an abundance of activities that made the Feast enjoyable for everyone. Spiritual lessons were learned during the daily sermons, and the three additional Bible studies—children's, teens, and family. In addition, a Focused Education seminar titled, "The Effects of Pornography on the Mind" was given by the Feast coordinator.

In addition to the spiritual food from the messages, another spiritual highlight during the Feast was the baptism of a Colombian member in the Caribbean Sea. We also had two children blessed during the week.

This year we had several new activities that added enjoyment to everyone's Feast. On two afternoons we had fellowship, snacks, and games in the meeting room. Another evening, a group of young adults hosted an evening reception in their hotel suite and invited everyone at the Feast. The buzz of fellowship made it apparent that all had a great time.

Another new activity was the excursion on the *Galeon Bucanero*, an authentic replica of a 17th century Spanish galleon. Everyone enjoyed a three-hour voyage around Cartagena Bay. A brief rain shower proved to be a blessing as it cooled the temperature, and we were able to relax, dance and fellowship in comfort.

Other unifying activities included the family dance, where everyone came dressed in their cowboy best, and the talent show, which featured tongue twisters from the youngest children to an operatic tenor solo by Rodolfo Sierra, a music professor. An afternoon activity of arts and crafts for the ladies was followed by an auction of various arts and crafts made by members during the year.

The atmosphere of this Feast was positive, uplifting and full of rejoicing! Foreigners and Colombian residents united as *una familia* during this week of fellowship, fun, and feasting in physical

and spiritual fashion. We anticipate even more visitors next year!

Gayle and Scott Hoefker

Guatemala

Panajachel

Once again, with God placing His name here, we celebrated a wonderful Feast of Tabernacles in Panajachel, Guatemala. For eight days, we enjoyed succulent sermonettes and sermons as spiritual meals for our godly development as members of His family.

All planned activities were carried out in an atmosphere of love, peace, and much companionship between brethren. We felt the guidance and presence of our great God in each of them.

The weather was excellent and we had a peak attendance of 204 people. Opening night services began with the message based on the question "Will we be worthy to enter the Kingdom of God?" The answer is found on what we called the *Constitution of the World of Tomorrow*—the Beatitudes of Matthew 5:3-11. Other messages gave the different perspectives about God's Kingdom where we explained the meaning of the Feast and God's plan for humanity.

The activities included a ladies get-together with edifying topics such as the importance of Bible study; how to dress for church; and how ladies can support the work of God. We also had a Bible study for the children, which included songs and topics on creation, the flood, and the Holy Days.

In addition, we enjoyed a family day with piñatas, cake and a delicious lunch for the whole Church. The talent show gave the opportunity for many members to demonstrate their skills in singing, dancing and comedy, creating an atmosphere of joy and entertainment for all. One of the blessings constituted the participation of children and youth in choirs, singing to the Lord with enthusiasm and respect.

We had two baptisms: Maria Herlinda Rodriguez Lopez of San Marcos and Berta Lisette Zeissig Solórzano, from Guatemala City.

After the last service in the afternoon, we said our goodbyes to all our local and international brethren who shared with us this wonderful Feast, and we ended by asking God for his divine protection, "that thine eyes may be open night and day on this house, on the place of which you have said, My name shall be there" (1 Kings 8:29).

Israel Robledo

Mexico

Puerto Vallarta

It was again a wonderful Feast in sunny and warm Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. God placed his protective bubble around the Feast site, and although the weather forecast was for heavy rains during most of Feast, we enjoyed totally sunny days.

There were 580 brethren in attendance, 110 from Mexico and the rest from six other countries, mainly the U.S. and Canada, but some others coming from Australia, Guatemala, Chile and Holland. The messages were very inspiring, focusing on aspects of the coming Kingdom of God. There were three seminars that were well attended—one by Jack Scruggs on overcoming abuse, another by Dr.

Dan Berendt on choosing happiness, and Gabriel Garcia presented “Going Beyond Our Comfort Zone.”

The Feast site gives the appearance of boarding a big cruise ship, because the hotel is all inclusive (all meals and drinks are included all day long) along with a gourmet restaurant onsite. The hotel was exclusive for us (except for a wedding) and the brethren were able to relax and fellowship while being served food and drinks during the entire day. Many acquaintances and friendships were formed in this way. The meeting hall was on the second floor, so no need to rent cars at all and the hotel has a nice spa with massages at half price. All the shows and sport activities were inside the hotel premises.

Although chief in importance was the spiritual content of the Feast, the activities served as a wonderful backdrop, with gorgeous settings of the sun on the Pacific Ocean. They included nearby trips to the zip-lines, visiting an aquatic park where you swim and play with trained dolphins, a cruise around the bay on the replica of a Spanish galleon and then snorkeling at a private beach, and a visit to a zoo where most animals were quite friendly and could be fed. At the hotel’s beach, on certain days they had a mechanical bull to ride, a rock climb, a small zip-line, a bungee trampoline, beach volleyball and free kayaks. Inside the hotel, there were shows with Mexican dances, acrobatics, Mariachi singers, and a family and youth dance. The kids enjoyed so many of the

amenities, including a children’s costume party, but most of all, they played in the large pool, while adults enjoyed the adult pool with endless water and drinks served, as well as the adult gourmet restaurant on site.

We are very thankful to God for having made available this wonderful Feast site, where all the Mexican brethren can stay in the same hotel as the international visitors and thus enjoy fine fellowship and it also gives all the ladies a break from cooking! There was a very friendly hotel staff that went out of their way to make things as pleasant as possible. We plan to go back next year at the same place—it’s hard to beat the prices, the place and all the fellowship this all inclusive hotel can offer.

Mario Seiglie

North America/Caribbean

Bahamas

Freeport

For the first time in several years, the excitement of the Feast of Tabernacles came to Freeport, Bahamas. About 240 joyous Feastgoers gathered at the beautiful Grand Lucayan Beach Resort to rejoice and celebrate God’s beautiful plan. The weather couldn’t have been more perfect: mid-80s, sunny, low humidity, and a comfortable breeze. The setting was beautiful, right on a white sandy beach set off by the turquoise waters of the Caribbean Sea.

The Feast got off to a great start when there was a need for assistance in several areas as setup was taking place and many people jumped in to fill the gap. Both the local Bahamian brethren and visitors pitched in, and the many hands made the work light.

We were warmly welcomed by the Bahamas Ministry of Tourism, and they even provided us with an evening of local food and entertainment on a beautiful private beach. Other activities included a boat cruise and a game night. The teens had ample opportunity to gather and fellowship, with several teen activities including a pizza party, services on the beach, and lots of pool/beach time. Pre-teens were not forgotten, as they also had class on the beach and their own activities.

We were blessed with amazing special music, and inspiring messages that pointed us toward the Kingdom of God. There was also a Bible study and a Bible seminar on the subject of prophecy. The general consensus was that we would all like to continue for another seven days,

but instead, we reluctantly parted to go back to our responsibilities in the world, with a renewed hope, zeal and vision for the Kingdom of God!

Mary Smith

Jamaica

Ocho Rios

The beautiful Riu Club Hotel in Ocho Rios was once again the location for the Feast of Tabernacles in Jamaica, where 129 of God’s people rejoiced in God’s plan for His coming Kingdom.

The messages given throughout the Feast were most inspiring, granting us greater vision of the Kingdom, and inspiring us to continue along the narrow path we have been called to walk.

Two lively, entertaining and very beneficial seminars were presented by Randy and Kay Schreiber. The first seminar, titled “Differences that Unite,” gave us a better understanding of how our differences can be an asset, if we learn to appreciate them. The second was titled “Who? Me? A Teacher?” It explored the fact that we will be teachers in the Kingdom of God. Randy and Kay also reviewed some of the guidelines God gave Israel’s leaders and parents about how to teach their children when they came into the Promised Land, as well as some teaching methods used by Christ himself.

There was also an interactive Bible study presented by Kingston deacon Anthony Coore. Other activities included a fun show, swimming/hiking at Secret Falls, plus an evening social and an afternoon ladies’ mix and mingle, both sponsored

by the Jamaican brethren.

The weather was picture-perfect with sunny days and tropical breezes, plus an occasional shower to cool things down. With such breathtaking surroundings and wonderful, happy brethren with which to fellowship, one couldn’t help but rejoice!

Mary Smith

St. Lucia

We had 120 brethren who thoroughly enjoyed the millennial Feast setting at the dazzling tropical island of St. Lucia this year. The inspiring sermons focused on envisioning the Kingdom and realizing how God is preparing His people, you and me, to build a new world tomorrow. A Kingdom of God seminar was presented during the Feast highlighting “Why were you born? What is your destiny?” to six new people attending along with the 45-plus brethren. The seminar enlightened the audience on the truth that God has a plan for their life. The all-inclusive Caribbean resort provided an exceptional variety of delicious meals that helped magnify the meaning of the Feast, along with their exceptional service. The brethren were involved in a diversity of unique events during the Feast, including an exhilarating zipline adventure, and an invigorating catamaran cruise providing a gorgeous view of the island and the awe-inspiring twin Piton Mountains. God provided a sunny day at Sandy Beach that was ideal for the family day activities involving the whole family. God blessed the Feast greatly with beautiful weather, safety and security. The St. Lucian brethren

ren exemplified hospitality

that enhanced the fellowshiping experience and how we are family. This family-friendly Feast site helped to optimize the Kingdom experience through its beauty and friendliness, giving us a glimpse of what we are all striving for—God’s Kingdom on this earth and our part in it.

Greg Johnson & Chuck Smith

Tobago

Crown Point

This year’s Feast of Tabernacles was held at the Crown Point Beach Hotel in Tobago with an average attendance of 40. Brethren from St. Vincent, Suriname, the U.S.A., Trinidad and Tobago celebrated the Feast together and were inspired by messages that focused on preparing for Jesus Christ’s return and our future role in God’s Kingdom. The festival choir, although small, provided powerful and inspiring items, as did the individual performers.

The Feast was blessed with warm, sunny weather, and this enhanced the social activities, which included the women’s tea afternoon, men’s fellowship, Trintago Night, family day, a bus tour, and a trip to the world famous Buccoo Reef.

The highlight of the Feast was Trintago Night, where the visiting brethren were treated to delicious local dishes prepared by the Trinidad and Tobago ladies and accompanied by live steel band music. The evening was topped off by a talent show and there was much fun and laughter as everyone displayed their talents and

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Feast of Tabernacles Photos 2014



Ouidah, Benin



Got Kachola, Kenya



Lamé, Ivory Coast



Akosombo, Ghana



Meru, Kenya



Blolé, Ivory Coast



Africa



Ogembo, Kenya



Kpalimé, Togo



Douala, Cameroon



Lusaka, Zambia



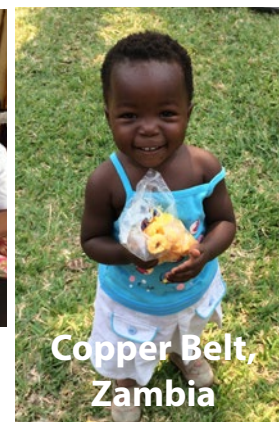
Margate, South Africa



Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe



Ondo State, Nigeria



Copper Belt, Zambia



Kinshasa, Congo



Lake Malawi



Jaipur, India



Albuera, Philippines



Asia



Penang, Malaysia



Baguio, Philippines



Kalutara, Sri Lanka



Davao, Philippines

Australia & New Zealand



Merimbula, Australia



Sunshine Coast, Australia



Nelson, New Zealand



St. Helens, Tasmania, Australia



Rockingham, Australia

Caribbean



Vieux Fort, St. Lucia



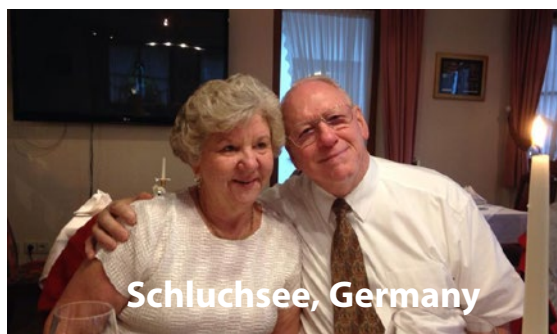
Freeport, Bahamas



Sabaudia, Italy



Crown Point, Tobago



Schluchsee, Germany



Torquay, England



Ocho Rios, Jamaica

Europe & British Isles



La Grande Motte, France

Latin America



Puerto Vallarta, Mexico



Cochabamba, Bolivia



Olmue, Chile



Roraima, Brazil



Cartagena, Colombia



Panajachel, Guatemala



Kelowna, British Columbia



Canmore, Alberta

Canada



Prince Edward Island



Midland, Ontario



Bend-Redmond, Oregon



Bigfork, Montana



Jekyll Island, Georgia



Cincinnati, Ohio



Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii



Branson, Missouri



Ocean City, Maryland

United States



Oceanside, California



Panama City Beach, Florida



Phoenix, Arizona



Pigeon Forge, Tennessee



New Braunfels, Texas



Steamboat Springs, Colorado



Wisconsin Dells

sense of humor.

Family day was held at Canoe Bay, which allowed brethren to bathe in the warm waters of the Caribbean Sea. Others participated in fun games such as water balloon toss, lime and spoon race and cricket. The bus tour went to the eastern side of the country with a stop at Fort King George and a hike to Argyle waterfall.

Brethren also went to beautiful Buccoo Reef on a glass bottom boat, which allowed the coral reefs to be viewed clearly. The boat ride also involved stopping at Nylon Pool, which is a sand bank in the middle of the ocean where one could enjoy snorkeling and swimming in clear, waist-high water.

On evenings, brethren were fascinated by breathtaking, splendid, red sunsets over the blue Caribbean Sea. Brethren left the Tobago Feast site spiritually rejuvenated and refreshed and with a renewed zeal to face the challenges of the coming year and to be ready for Jesus Christ's return and the establishment of God's Kingdom.

Dale Bissessar & Chuck Smith

Canada

Canmore, Alberta

This is the fourth year that we held the Feast in Canmore, but this year in a different facility that had great sound, lighting and staging. Canmore had a wonderful, friendly group of brethren from all around the world who volunteered for youth classes, special music, children's choir, sermons and sermonettes to make this a Feast of love, joy and giving. The high attendance was 162, which was 66 above the registration numbers. Four families came from as far away as Australia. They were delighted to see a skiff of snow one morning. The weather overall was terrific.

Special music this year included three videos—"The Holy City," "Rivers of Living Water," and "Hallelujah Chorus." Melinda Glombowski, one of our Australian visitors, sang two selections of special music and led the children's choir. Kevin Bates, also from Australia, accompanied the hymns and played a special music piece of his own composition.

The messages were solid meat in due season. Robert Dick gave a two-part series from the Sermon on the Mount titled "Eight Steps to the Kingdom." Walter Zamonsky wrote how God's ministers emphasized joy in their sermons. Peter Bacon commented on the lovely meeting hall, the top class messages, the tremendous loving fellowship, the magnificent location, saying "It doesn't get better!" The Turners from Texas wrote: "Each morning at sunrise and each evening at

sunset, the mountains seem to catch on fire as the sun passes over them. Canmore is truly one of the most beautiful places in North America and a tribute to our Creator God in all His glory and magnificence."

Rainer Salomaa

Kelowna, British Columbia

After a three-year absence the Feast was once again held in Kelowna, located in the beautiful Okanagan Valley of British Columbia. The overall festival experience was enhanced by the opportunity to stay, fellowship, and meet in one facility. Old friends brought each other up to date on life events since their last Feast together, and with visitors coming from across the United States and from as far away as Australia, many new friendships were made. Many volunteers created positive additions with the kid's choir, adult choir, special music and children's classes all having first-time coordinators and in many cases, new participants.

The opening night began with three videos set to the music of "The Holy City," "Rivers of Living Water," and "Hallelujah Chorus" and were followed by Vernon Hargrove's message welcoming all attendees to the Feast. While the activities planned didn't include children playing in the streets, there were many grandparents celebrating with their grandchildren in a wide variety of events. It was a delight to see the young people participating in various aspects of services, including singing in the choir, leading songs and reading select scriptures between the video sets on the opening night. With two families having four generations attending the feast, we held a special blessing of the children for their two infants that day. This genuinely added to the Feast as many of the messages had a theme of family built into them. As the Feast progressed and attendance rose to a high of 184, the fellowship became warmer, heartier and louder, and it was apparent all were genuinely experiencing a taste of the future millennium. As the Feast drew to a close, many expressed a desire to extend the Feast another seven days, an expression of the spirit and glory of our Creator.

Midland, Ontario

In spite of drizzling rain for several days, the Feast in Midland was a wonderful and memorable experience. Beautiful fall colors and the setting of the lovely Georgian Bay, made for a very scenic location to observe the Feast.

We began on opening night with almost as many people as were registered! The full moon was beautifully visible that evening, confirming that it was indeed the 15th day of the seventh month. Additional chairs were set up to accommodate

those who came on the first Holy Day and on the Sabbath. The high attendance was on the Sabbath with 127.

The activities began with a meet-and-greet occasion after the first day, allowing people to mingle and get to know each other. Other activities included a seniors brunch, a hymn sing, a family day picnic at a local park, a boat cruise on Georgian Bay, a variety show, and a noon buffet on the last day. Additional instruction came from a presentation by a member who had lost his sight, about the enormous value of guide dogs, a presentation at the seniors brunch, and the tribe trackers Bible study.

A spirit of cooperation was evidenced as many individuals volunteered at the last minute to serve in many ways including singing in the choir. All of the special music was most inspiring and appreciated as were all of the sermonettes, split sermons and sermons.

It should be noted that at first there were only three entries registered for the variety show, thus

putting the occasion in jeopardy. After a passionate appeal from one of the organizers, the number of entries jumped to 18 which produced a full program even necessitating an intermission.

It was especially encouraging to see a handful of people attending their very first Feast ever. It was also wonderful to have people transfer in from outside of Ontario, the United States and Barbados and so add to the rich diversity of the group.

Patrick Read

Prince Edward Island

A total of 84 brethren from Canada and the United States attended the Feast in beautiful Stanley Bridge, Prince Edward Island. Many of those attending mentioned the beautiful millennial setting overlooking London Bay and the Stanley River. The weather was absolutely perfect, which made the sunsets spectacular. The scenic drives along the coast with historic lighthouses, beautiful beaches and the rolling green pastures were breathtaking. The entire island was a perfect setting for the Feast, picturing the beauty that all can look forward to over the entire earth in the Millennium.

There were 81 registered, but 84 attended, with 70 percent from the U.S. and 30 percent from Canada. Most of those attending stayed at the beautiful Stanley Bridge Resort Feast site.

Once again we had a visit from our Anne of Green Gables, who attended several of the Feast activities including our meet-and-greet, where brethren became acquainted with each other in a social setting. Members had the opportunity to have their picture taken with the lady

of the Island. Family day was very well attended by all ages. There was something for everyone including a scavenger hunt, volleyball, crib and craft painting for the children, and of course lots of delicious food.

The two off site activities proved to be quite a success. Almost 50 percent of those attending took the Anne's Landing bus tour, which included a brief visit to Green Gables, then along the coast to the Cavendish Dunes, beaches and lighthouses with a stop at the spectacular dunes. A very nice 60 percent of those present attended our Feast dinner this year at a popular eating establishment with fantastic entertainment provided by a local singer. He also played his guitar for the bonfire sing-along under a beautifully clear, star-lit sky.

The variety show was a fun filled evening with over 75 percent of the members attending. Acts included musicals, skits and much more.

The spiritual food was also well received at the Feast, with messages about the coming reign of Christ and the importance of how we can rule with Christ now to reign with Him in the future. The many messages were well received over the eight days. The Bible study on Friday evening explored the topic "What is the 'all' that we will inherit?"

During the Feast an open house was held on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. Letters were sent to 90 subscribers, and two advertisements were placed in the local Charlottetown newspaper. The message by Daris McNeely was titled "Seven Prophetic Signs Before Christ's Return." Ten new people attended with three from the ad and seven from the subscriber letter. They were pleased to meet one of the presenters of the *Beyond Today* television program. It was an inspiring moment for all those who attended the Feast.

A well organized special music program was outstanding under the direction of John Seifert with a mix of the festival choir, children's choir, a quartet and instrumental performances, all of which were very well received and added much to the services.

Several members commented on the wonderful family atmosphere that was developed and was apparent at the Feast. The outstanding service of the front desk staff, Karen, Linda, Mary and Fred went above and beyond to accommodate our every need adding to the warm atmosphere.

Almost 70 percent of those who stayed over on the last day attended the farewell dinner at Sutherland's restaurant at the Stanley Bridge Resort. It was our opportunity to show our appreciation to the restaurant staff for their special menu created for our needs and the wonderful

food enjoyed throughout our stay.

Everyone seemed to leave PEI with a satisfied feeling they had had a wonderful Feast, with some saying that it was their best spiritual Feast ever.

Dennis Horlick

United States

Bend-Redmond, Oregon

More than 600 enjoyed another wonderful Feast in beautiful Central Oregon. Attendance was somewhat variable due in part to sickness, peaking at 647 on the first Holy Day.

Messages covered relevant topics, with thought-provoking information regarding millennial conditions, the need to endure pain and trials, and the urgency of doing the work in light of recent world events. Victor Kubik's live webcast sermon was very powerful and sobering. We were privileged to have him and his wife spend the last half of the Feast with us.

On the Eighth Day we were treated to three outstanding pieces of special music performed by a quartet of Ukrainian Sab-batarians who were part of a group of 11 adults and two children from the Portland area who attended services with us on that day.

Temperatures were above average the entire Feast, and nearly every day was sunny and pleasant despite forecasts of rain and cool temperatures that never materialized, except for a few evening showers. The highest temperature of 79 degrees was on our special outdoor family day that featured carnival-type game booths with prizes, arts and crafts displays, table games including bingo, a bounce house for young children and field day games and races. The day concluded with our annual Feast family fun show.

The senior social, hosted by LeeAnn Luker, consisted of a served meal with door prizes and musical entertainment and a special edition of "Name That Tune" hosted by UCG elder and former DJ, John Petrisor.

Members donated generously to offset costs of activities. We also collected \$3,300 in cash donations and 14 boxes of food and household items for the local food bank.

Larry J Walker

Bigfork, Montana

God is gracious and supplied the Indian Summer weather we were praying for in Bigfork, Montana. There were 129 brethren and friends who gathered to worship and rejoice in this richly picturesque area of Bigfork, Montana, where we enjoyed

our fifth continuous year for the Feast.

Brethren traveled from Montana's four church areas, as well as Ohio, Minnesota, Kansas, Missouri, Nevada, Utah, Idaho, Washington, Oregon and the province of Saskatchewan, Canada, to tabernacle together.

The message from president Victor Kubik was well received and became a topic of conversation for the remainder of the festival. The daily sermons were focused on the Millennium and enthusiastically delivered with repeated emphasis on our preparation now for the imminent return of our Savior and King Jesus Christ.

The choir blended together with the direction of Dennis Fischer. Music was performed from United's musical selections. Mrs. Dundon added offertories and special music piano selections. Once again soloists added to the musical feast and the children's choir was great.

The stage decoration was well planned for this autumn festival and with the usual labor of love the beautiful results speak for themselves.

The theme of "rejoicing" emphasized in the opening night message became a thread throughout the festival. The following messages added to the faithful conviction, embedded in rejoicing, that our Savior will soon make a short work here on this earth and usher in our Father's Kingdom.

Family day again was a highlight. Races, contests and games (including some archery as part of the teamwork) added excitement, which culminated in the annual piñata shower of delightful things for the children and adults if they were quick enough to forage among the excited children. To round out the day, those who dared enjoyed a short but thrilling zip-line ride across the water inlet to the other shore. This evening was rounded out by a hamburger dinner, supplemented with locally caught fish and much fellowship.

Willingness to serve and support was the outstanding attitude throughout the festival period. Many kudos to those who served in public address electronics, ushering and administration. It all worked together with the flow of God's Spirit from Himself to each of us and toward each other.

Glen White

Branson, Missouri

An average of 473 happy festival brethren attended the eight-day Feast in beautiful Branson, Missouri.

God's inspiration was evident in all of the sermonettes and sermons. Each message conveyed the promise of the coming

Kingdom as well as admonition to hold fast to the end. On the Eighth Day, we were reminded that Jesus Christ has the power over death, and that through the second resurrection we will all be reunited with our families and friends. Again and again, we were reminded of God's love for the whole human race.

Several volunteers served in the choir and ensemble. Brethren were also served with a general Bible study on Friday night. Bible studies for the teenagers and young adults were offered as well. A total of 18 young children attended at least one of the youth Bible instruction classes as well.

Brethren donated stuffed animals for the children on family day, and as usual, the children's choir stole everyone's hearts! About 160 attended the seniors luncheon, and the seniors were also treated to vocal music from a husband and wife duet from the St. Louis church area. Well over 200 brethren attended the family day picnic at the state park.

Vince Szymkowiak

Cincinnati, Ohio

In the opening message of the Feast, the brethren were asked to pray for the Father's blessing upon the people called by His name and on the place which He chooses. Their prayers were definitely answered as the Feast in Cincinnati was full of rejoicing, spiritual enrichment, fellowship and fun. This was the fourth year we have had the Feast at the Holiday Inn Eastgate and set the highest attendance so far of 307.

The spiritual food was rich and encouraging, with messages that focused on our worship of God, having the vision of His Kingdom, and uniting as His family. The physical food was rich as well. Brethren gathered together to share food with meals after the opening day, during the seniors luncheon and between services on the last day.

Cincinnati boasts many attractions and brethren took part in a night at the symphony and visits to the Newport Aquarium, the Creation Museum, and the Cincinnati Museum Complex. Fellowship, however, was the theme of the Feast. The hotel has a lovely mezzanine for visiting and games. On family day, everyone was invited to freely participate in carnival style games and enjoy an 18-foot tall bounce house with attached slide. Everyone enjoyed free cotton candy and popcorn with all the game prizes being donated by the brethren.

There were two new activities this year. We had an "old fashioned movie night" complete with a cartoon, a *Little Rascals* short, a newsreel, and the main feature,

Seven Brides for Seven Brothers. There was also an evening of bluegrass and country music. Several talented musicians and singers put on a wonderful show for the brethren that had everyone laughing and singing along.

As God commands us not to forget those in need, this year's service project was a food drive to benefit the Christian Help Center of Cincinnati. Brethren donated the majority of the food needed to provide Thanksgiving dinners for almost 100 local families.

Our loving heavenly Father truly blessed His children at this year's Feast of Tabernacles in Cincinnati, Ohio.

David Jones

Jekyll Island, Georgia

Beautiful weather and wonderful fellowship highlighted the Feast for nearly 400 people who assembled to keep the Feast at Jekyll Island this year.

This year marked the 51st anniversary of the first time the Feast of Tabernacles was observed on Jekyll Island. Numerous brethren commented on their Feast observance under the Jekyll tent before the construction of the first convention center on the island. Even though the buildings have changed, the spirit, the worship, the tranquil and millennial-type natural setting of the island, and the purpose of assembling before our God has remained constant.

The messages at this year's Feast pointed us to the coming of the Kingdom of God to the earth and the focus of God's plan for mankind. Sermons were given by Don Ward, Fred Kellers, Bill Cowan, Gary Smith, Frank Dunkle and Stan Martin. The high attendance was 392, and services were supplemented by youth education as well as adult, young adult, and teen Bible studies during the Feast. Spiritually speaking we were very well fed at Jekyll Island this year.

The physical aspect of the Feast was also well served on the island. On Friday, we had a teen activity with biking and miniature golf. Family day was on Monday, and the majority of those attending the Feast were treated to beef brisket and chicken barbecue under a covered pavilion. After lunch many of the teens and younger ones played various games while others fellowshiped with new and old friends. On game night, a number of the attendees gathered together in the convention center to play their favorite games they brought from home or picked up while at the Feast.

The senior citizen luncheon was a great success again this year. Group horseback rides, dolphin boat tours, kayaking, and

trolley rides were offered, and the variety show and dance was a big success.

The weather was outstanding this year with every single day sunny and warm, with only a couple of brief showers throughout the entire Feast.

We are so thankful for the peace and safety, as well as the other physical blessings God has given the Jekyll Island Feast site again this year. The most important part of the Feast was to be able to worship our great God in spirit and in truth. We hope many more will be able to enjoy the Jekyll Island Feast experience in the future as we look to God's Kingdom coming to this earth.

Stan Martin

Lihue, Hawaii

The Kauai Community College Performing Arts Center in Lihue was an ideal location for the 500 who rejoiced at the Feast on this garden paradise. All the greenery, mountains, water falls, and swaying palm trees with tropical breezes is what people have in mind when they travel to Hawaii.

The Feast began by giving us a vision of the events of the Millennium ahead, and our enthusiasm continued to build as God supplied a great spiritual feast of messages for His people through to the Eighth Day. We were privileged to have many visiting elders who worked harmoniously to help bring about a good Feast for everyone.

There were many learning activities including a Bible study for the teens given by Scott Delameter and a young adults and singles seminar presented by Jon Garnant. Both messages encouraged a focus on serving. A regular Bible study was given by Greg Thomas on the subject of Obadiah.

Randy Schmidt coordinated outstanding special music of the choir and other delightful vocal solo performances, which enhanced the festival atmosphere.

Seniors enjoyed a special luncheon in their honor at Duke's Canoe Club on the beach in Lihue. Dave Roenspies spoke to the group of 75. The young adults and singles had a nice get-acquainted reception at the home of Scott and Michelle Delameter. Stephen Tuck organized a Wailua River Cruise to the Fern Grotto and Rain Forest for teens, preteens, parents and many others of the 150 participants.

A Hawaiian luau was attended by 250 brethren at the Smith's Garden Luau. Hawaiian dancers and musicians demonstrated some of the music of old Hawaii and Polynesia. The show was highlighted by an exploding volcano and a Somoan fire knife dance.

More than 150 brethren attended the family dance at the Kauai Community College Performing Arts Center where brethren could fellowship and enjoy the music of the evening and refreshment

coordinated by Dan Deininger and family.

The family day was organized by Roland and Diane Clark and took place at the scenic Poipu Beach where brethren enjoyed a picnic. Over 225 enjoyed snorkeling, swimming, sunning on the beach, fellowship, watching the youth games, or simply enjoying the view of a beautiful beach.

God blessed us with unity, peace and the plan God has for His people. The brethren shared their blessings with the community by contributing nonperishable food and \$1,400 cash to the Kauai Independent Food Bank.

Jim Tuck

New Braunfels, Texas

The Feast of Tabernacles in New Braunfels, Texas, was marked by a spirit of cooperation and a shared desire to be prepared for the prophetic time when these days are fulfilled. The messages were both inspiring and practical. We were constantly reminded that our present lives are preparation for the future reign of Jesus Christ on earth and the majesty of God's plan to restore all things.

With a high day attendance of 455, we were well over the registration numbers.

This Feast was also a time of wonderful fellowship. Activities included a congregational picnic at beautiful Landa Park, complete with catered barbeque and rides on a miniature train, a family dance, tubing on the river and a seniors' luncheon. Next year the festival in Texas is planned for Galveston Island, but plan to be back in New Braunfels to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles and Eighth Day in a couple of years.

Gary Petty

Ocean City, Maryland

For the second consecutive year, God's people came together on the Delmarva Peninsula for the Feast of Tabernacles at the Carousel Oceanfront Hotel in Ocean City, Maryland. With most of the members staying at the Carousel, there were many opportunities for spontaneous fellowship throughout each afternoon and evening. Those who stayed in the condos were treated every day, not only to a beautiful sunrise over the ocean from their rear balcony, but also to a breathtaking view of sunset over the bay from their front patio.

Attendance at services reached a maximum of 318, as we came together to hear spiritual messages on topics including our future positions as kings and priests, letting our light shine before men, and the highway of holiness—the road to eternal life in the Millennium. A Friday night Bible study covered the topic of "The Armor of God."

Temperatures were relatively milder than average, making outdoor activities pleasant. One afternoon, a group of 26 ventured out on a fishing trip on Sinepux-

ent Bay, where quite a few flounder and sea bass were caught. Increasing winds and a threat of showers forced our family day barbecue lunch indoors, but this had no effect on the close family atmosphere that prevailed. The weather settled down nicely for the bonfire later that evening. Other activities included a family dance, a teen activity at a local go-cart park, and the seniors lunch, attended by 78. The Carousel's indoor ice rink provided hours of fun for many young (and some not-so-young) participants. Two seminars were presented, titled "Seven Steps to Growing a Godly Marriage" and "Addictions—Their Causes and Solutions."

For those who enjoy a Feast with natural beauty and plenteous fellowship, I would suggest you consider coming to Ocean City!

Don McCoy

Oceanside Feast Site

We had 620 brethren come to rejoice before God where He placed His name for one week at the Q.L.N. Center in Oceanside, California. The one-story facility's cheery interior created an intimate and wonderful festival home. The 45-member choir and instrumental ensemble certainly added to our sense of worship before God. Soloist Greg Hilgen opened up services on the two high days with a selection titled "Come Let us Worship Him." On the Eighth Day the congregation joined in the chorus. Several times during the festival, teenagers opened services with scripture readings from Psalm 100, Isaiah 11 and Psalm 103. The weather was delightful with temperatures hovering in the high 70s.

Those attending Oceanside were able to partake of our standard church services plus a special night time hymn-sing accompanied by a Bible study presented by Robin Webber titled "The Good and Godly King," an interactive Sabbath teen class, a couple of workshop sessions for younger children, a young adults study, and a full afternoon of two focused education classes presented by Gary Antion titled "Keys to Having a Good Marriage" and "Happiness Is..." One highlight of the festival experience was an on-site catered seniors banquet for 125 "seasoned citizens" plus ministerial couples that was graciously served by our young adults and teenagers.

Beyond services and Bible studies, Oceanside attendees were able to enjoy the nearby sites of the La Jolla and Del Mar coastlines, Oceanside Harbor, the San Diego Zoo and Balboa Park, Sea World on Mission Bay, Old Town San Diego and nearby Legoland. Many simply settled for down time with family and brethren resting on the warm sandy beaches of Oceanside and nearby Carlsbad.

Most importantly, the entire membership of all ages came prepared to fully be involved in a spiritual feast. They came

prepared to give of themselves, volunteer on a moment's notice, and share their smiles, warmth and helping hand to all they encountered. We concluded the Eighth Day services with Greg Hilgen and Ingrid Helge singing "The New Jerusalem" and the congregation joining in on the chorus. We plan to utilize the Q.L.N. Center in Oceanside again next year.

Robin Webber

Panama City Beach, Florida

The Emerald Coast, with its sugar-white sands, blazing orange sunsets, and peaceful blue-green waters lapping lazily at the picturesque shore, provided 1200 attendees a Garden of Eden setting at the 2014 Feast of Tabernacles in Panama City Beach, Florida. Our Feast weather was very good with comfortably warm days and cooler nights.

Registration was about 1,050, but our high attendance during the Feast was 1,200. We were very close to this number throughout the Feast. We averaged from 250 to 300 attendees more than last year. God blessed us with a full house.

The brethren savored a spiritual smorgasbord of faith-building messages, focusing on how we rejoice in and why we rejoice for the coming Kingdom of God. Many members commented about the uplifting messages.

On the weekly Sabbath during the Feast, we transmitted a webcast of our Panama City Beach service to all Feast sites in the U.S. and some countries nearby. Other attendees in foreign countries were able to watch a delayed broadcast of this special service. We commend our audio-video men for their good work.

All family-oriented activities were well attended, including family day at Rock-it! Lanes (590), the family dance (350), and the teen dance (117). The Myers Brothers concert raised \$12,000 for the Good Works program to help our Brazilian brethren. Jelly performed before the Myers concert, and was the delight of little children (and their parents). As usual, the children's choir was a highlight of the Feast. And finally, our seniors (162) were honored with a savory buffet at Captain Jack's Buffet.

The Feast of Tabernacles at Panama City Beach is a great family Feast site, and its tropical setting helps to portray, in part, a future Garden of Eden environment. We hope to see you next year!

Jerold Aust

Phoenix, Arizona

Greetings from the sunny Phoenix, Arizona, festival site, where 175 enthusiastic brethren kept the Feast of Tabernacles. Many brethren were stirred to cheerfully step forward helping to fulfill the various jobs that bring unity and togetherness—it was truly a team effort.

We had excellent messages that were the best yet—each one was a piece of the

puzzle, encouraging the brethren to fulfill God's purpose for all of us.

"A Convocation of Hope" welcomed everyone on opening night with beautiful videos expressing the joy of living waters. The Sabbath was a special treat receiving the webcast from Panama City Beach.

We had an uplifting Bible study that evening, presented by Randy Love, followed on Sunday by a message exhorting us to "Come Out of Her My People" and to "Become as Little Children."

The children's choir sang on youth day, followed by a family day activity that was truly amazing. Food and fellowship at an indoor amusement center featured fun for all ages, so young and old alike enjoyed the entire evening.

Arthur Suckling was a guest speaker, coming from the Oceanside, California, site to speak in Phoenix. The senior banquet was very enjoyable, including the food preparation and service by the younger generation.

The Eighth Day brought messages on how to "Be Joyful," and "We've Been Called to Teach Now" after a buffet luncheon offered to everyone. The closing message was on how to get to know God by understanding that "His Word Is the Light!" Some tears of joy, as the Feast of Tabernacles 2014 ended with the singing of the hymn "God Be With You Till We Meet Again." Truly this Feast of Tabernacles at the Phoenix site was a feast of rejoicing and fellowship!

*Helen Braman
Mike Miller*

Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

The United Church of God's Feast site in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, was outstanding. The leaves were beginning to turn red and gold. The weather for the majority of the Feast was a little rainy, but the atmosphere was warm and hospitable. Our largest attendance was 724 on

the first Holy Day, and it remained strong through the entire Feast. In fact, all the scheduled activities in Gatlinburg were extremely well attended.

The meeting facility was tight because more attended in Pigeon Forge than expected (a wonderful problem to have)—but adequate. For the first time we used four screens in the main hall during services and for the Feast video. It was a popular addition according to the members.

The messages were inspiring and uplifting. While they focused on the meaning of the Feast of Tabernacles and Eighth Day, the information was helpful for our present development as well as preparing us for the roles we will have in the Kingdom. There was a palpable positive energy in the congregation all eight days.

The special music was indeed enjoyable. The soloists performed well, and the Pigeon Forge festival choir did a fine job. We had a strong male section this year. The music was both energizing and inspiring.

All who served did a magnificent job, performing their tasks with smiles and joy. We are truly grateful to those who helped set up before the Feast began, those who served during the Feast, and those who helped "take down" after the Feast ended. The many willing hands made light work of what would otherwise be an overwhelming chore.

All in all, the Feast in Pigeon Forge this year seemed to capture the essence of what the festival represents: peace, harmony, generosity, good fellowship, good food, and good fun. It was great!

Frank McCrady

Steamboat Springs, Colorado

Nearly perfect autumn weather greeted 350 attendees at Steamboat Springs this year. One night of snow at higher elevations decorated the mountains, but never affected driving or activities. The fall

foliage was still brilliant for the first half of the Feast. This was the 12th consecutive year to meet at the Steamboat Grand Resort.

Solid spiritual messages inspired the conversations and attitudes of all. Special music, hymn accompaniment, the choir and piano players all contributed to praising God each service. The sound and stage crew improves every year with innovative designs and lighting enhancement. As with most sites the volunteers on so many levels contribute to the ease and success of Steamboat Springs, where 80 percent of the members all stay under one roof where services take place.

A food and snacks donation table was active every day before and after services. Members were encouraged to bring cookies, fruit, etc. to the table and anybody was welcome to walk by and take a snack. It was rare for there to be any leftovers once the kids discovered this daily opportunity.

A 13-year-old boy from Austin, Texas, was awarded \$50 since he read the "hidden" sentence amongst the announcements in the festival bulletin.

Scheduled activities included the family day at the bowling alley, which included pizza and a taco bar. A little crowded at first, but anybody who wanted to bowl and was willing to wait had plenty of time for bowling. The teens and preteens combined for ice skating, and also a pizza drop in another day.

The new donation program called "Family Helping Family" was successful in helping members in need to attend any activity due to the generosity of many members.

Charles Melear

Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin

Those attending the Feast in Wisconsin Dells enjoyed spiritually inspiring and instructive messages, as well as warm fellowship in the beautiful fall setting of

upper midwest Wisconsin.

Among the 757 people attending this year we had 22 of the 50 states, two Canadian provinces, and four foreign nations represented.

One of the characteristic and best-loved features of the Feast site here is the special music. The orchestra and choir, about 90 strong, presented a wide selection of music that greatly enhanced the worship of our great God and elder brother Jesus Christ.

Activities included a young adults and singles planning brunch, a singles luncheon, a wide array of family day activities, a dinner dance attended by 400, a teen movie and game night and two student study hall/homework sessions that were tutored by several of the members having advanced degrees.

Two seminars were conducted covering the topics of youth development and how to recover from the ravages of abuse. Three Bible studies were also given with the subjects of living godly lives in an ungodly world, the Bible and the interrelationship of its books and the restoration of all things.

While this year's Feast may be over we invite you to come and join us next year! The site has a long and rich history as a venue for God's people gathering for the Feast of Tabernacles. The Dells' scenic beauty enhances the worship of our Creator and serves as a setting to enjoy such outdoor activities as golf, hiking, touring the local waterways in the famous "ducks" and many other refreshing activities set in nature. For more than 150 years, Wisconsin Dells has been known as a great destination with tons of fun, family attractions that bring over three million visitors to the Dells each year. The Dells is home to themed lodging with many featuring huge indoor water parks, many popular restaurants and tons of shopping.

Randy D'Alessandro





VICTOR KUBIK
President

It's not my fault!

How often have we heard or even uttered those exact words when something goes wrong? It's often an initial reaction before we think of all the ramifications. We don't like to be wrong or liable and quickly grope for ways explain or justify failure or setback by placing blame on self last, if at all.

Christian conversion starts with admission of guilt, inadequacy and wrongdoing in thought and behavior. For a human that is courageous and bold.

When the apostle Peter preached on Pentecost after Christ ascended to heaven his words were indicting to the assembled crowd in Jerusalem. Many of these people no doubt were involved in the crowd tumult in Jerusalem at Christ's crucifixion. Notice what he said:

"Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which

God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, *you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death* (Acts 2:22-23, emphasis added throughout). He then added in verse 36: "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, *whom you crucified*, both Lord and Christ.

Those assembled hearing this sermon could have easily shifted blame on to the Jewish leaders who hated Christ, on to Herod who feared Christ, and on to the Roman government that actually executed Jesus. After all, they didn't actually run the spear into his side. But their reaction was not to shirk the indictment, but to take responsibility: "Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, 'Men and brethren, *what shall we do?*'" (verse 38).

This is the entry question for what it takes to be a Christian: "What shall we do?"

Peter obliged by answering: "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

What he said was that one must change his ways, make a commitment through baptism and then receive God's Spirit.

The process is straightforward, but it starts with taking responsibility for your life. This should continue through your life.

Paul writes in Galatians 6:4-5: "Each person should judge his own actions and not compare himself with others. Then he can be proud for what he himself has done. Each person must be responsible for himself" (New Century Version).

Ask yourself: Am I taking responsibility for my life and what happens in it, or am I tempted to become a victim of what someone else has done?

In my role as president of the United Church of God I must continually ask this. If things don't always go the way I like them to, I need to find solutions and remedies. I must admit that we must do things better.

This position is the most constructive and garners support and respect.

Fixing blame continually on others is delusional and doesn't help. Christianity is a life of accountability and consequent blessing from God. Let's all view our lives in the light of this principle! **UN**



From The COUNCIL

Bugs



by Aaron Dean

Recently Michelle and I returned from a 31-day trip to Africa where we visited four different countries. At first we were very wary of the various bugs and the diseases that they carry, be it Malaria, Dengue fever, Bilharzia, etc. We were vigilant against them, having mosquito nets over the beds, citronella soaps and sprays we put on our bodies. We even sprayed the door sills and windows, which often left enough access for critters to get in even when closed.

In one of our lodges I noticed a major ecosystem of bugs in the roof. I didn't tell Michelle exactly what I saw for fear of not

being able to sleep throughout the stay there. I hoped the bugs would eat each other and not bother us.

As we went along on the trip I noticed a decline in the diligence in which we kept the critters at bay. We still slept under the net, and did basic things, but the window sills and doors began to be untreated. Critter complacency seemed to creep in.

How often does this same thing happen in our lives in regard to the evils in the world around us? We all agree it is getting much worse. Indeed the sin is exponential in its growth and reach. We are bombarded with it daily via TV and Internet regardless of where in the world we live or visit.

In South Africa a big banner crossed the M1 motorway advertising the Sex Expo coming the following week. Ads to go visit the various lounges at the expo that suit your particular twisted sense of morality. In each country ads proving the "sex sells" slogan were all around, no matter how poor or rich the neighborhood.

I cannot help but think of 2 Peter 2:5-9 where God condemns immorality, and particularly Sodom and Gomorrah. Peter talks of Lot being vexed daily by what was seeing and hearing around him.

In our world we also are vexed daily. Are we succumbing to the onslaught by becom-

ing complacent? Do we begin to accept this as OK and begin to believe the political correctness promoted all around us? If so, we are in danger of our salvation.

Another month or more in Africa and perhaps we would have let down enough that we could have picked up one of the insect-borne diseases. Thankfully we did our part as much as possible, and let God help protect us. We must do the same when it comes to this world's acceptance of bad behavior in any form.

God the Father and His Son expect more of us when he gives us His Spirit. He expects that gap between the way of the world and the way of righteousness to get ever wider. If the gap merely stays the same, we are losing...because the world is advancing toward sin and death.

We finished God's Feast picturing the Millennium and final Day of Judgment when all sin will be put down. Now we have returned to a world of Satan and should be vigilant as we once again prepare for the new annual feast season. It is a reminder of God's plan for us to come out of this world and prepare to start a new one. Don't become complacent. Keep the spiritual nets up, and don't let the "bugs" of this world take a bite out of your spiritual hope of eternal life. **UN**

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Continued from page 1

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- Prepare addresses for daily and weekly international literature fulfillment using computer and mailing software.
- Read and answer or forward to appropriate international Church office correspondence in English, Spanish, Portuguese or French.
- Compose circulation letters in English or other required languages.
- Translate documents and company communications from/into English as requested.
- Supervise additions and changes to address and name records in the data system for international, domestic and foreign language subscribers.
- Supervise international mail processing staff.
- Perform other duties in the office environment as assigned by management.

This position requires very good knowledge of world geography and the languages associated with countries around the globe. It also requires the ability to compose, proofread and use correct grammar in English, Spanish and French, plus a working knowledge of Portuguese and other languages.

A bachelor's degree (B.A.) from a four-year college or university, or three to four years related experience is required. Experience working with databases, Web-based applications, e-mail, and general office duties is required. Experience working with the general public in a professional manner is 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 Dec. 31, 2014. The Church does not keep submissions or applications that do not result in the applicant being hired. For more information about the position and to submit a resume, please contact human_resources@ucg.org.

International Mail Processing Clerk

The International Mail Processing 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. It requires perform-

Maloca de Moscou Bore Hole Complete



Mr. and Mrs. deCampos on their visit to the well during the Feast, pictured with

■ On a trip during the Feast of Tabernacles, Portuguese senior pastor Jorge de Campos visited the site of the borehole (sponsored by LifeNets), which will provide clean water year-round for the entire village where Church brethren live.

by Jorge de Campos

On Oct. 14, Jorge de Campos and his wife Kathy visited Maloca de Moscou with David Hershberger from North Canton, Ohio, and Clyde Chinian from Georgetown, Guyana. They were accompanied by Benedito Gomes da Silva, dea-

con, and his wife Ana Helena, deaconess, from Maloca de Moscou.

They inspected the borehole dug by LifeNets. The Boa Vista-based drilling company Cataratas had drilled the borehole and installed the water pumping mechanism in the preceding weeks.

The first 56 feet (17 meters) of drilling were through dry sand. Below 56 feet depth they hit the water table, and the sand was now mixed with water. At about 70 feet (21 meters) depth, they hit rock. They continued digging through solid rock until 255 feet (78 meters) deep, where they found the first underwater vein of crystal clear water. They dug past two more veins and finally at 260 feet (80 meters), they hit a vein of water so strong that shot water up to about 70 feet (20 meters) high in the sky.



The brethren testing the well upon its completion in September.

That's when they stopped digging and installed an electrical water pump at a depth of 100 feet (30m). The pump has a flow rate of 9,000 liters (2,378 gallons) per hour. The underwater table begins at 56 feet (17m) deep.

The brethren said that the water came from a rock, like the water Jesus Christ gave to the Israelites from a rock (Exodus 17:6).

Now we are proceeding ahead with the next phase of the agricultural project, which is to prepare the land for the Youth Corps agricultural project in December 2014, and to build a water storage tower. We have already given the men funds to plow, fertilize, and fence the land in preparation for the Youth Corps project.

Please see next page

The 12 Steps: A Spiritual Journey

The 12 steps have long been an important process in helping those who are recovering from an addiction. Its success lies in the fact that it involves spiritual principles for healing and recovery from the slavery of addiction. Ask anyone who has completed this process, and they will affirm the life-changing results. While there are many of these programs in communities around the world and these are all viable options for Christians today, the United Church of God wants to offer an online 12-step group to its members.

For a long time, members have felt ashamed, fearful of losing opportunities, positions or respect if they disclosed that they suffered from one of these addictions. The Church is changing its culture

in this respect, and as a body we are trying to be more helpful and not condemning if someone in the Church is suffering from some form of addiction. It should be everyone's responsibility to encourage, pray for and support those who need our help. Those who have hidden this issue in the dark need to come out and address it for their good, for the good of their families, and for the Body of Christ as a whole.

We are planning a pilot 12-step group that members can access online either by video or audio hook-up. We will be able to include up to 12 participants including facilitators. We need to know what the level of interest is and whether there are members out there who could be sponsors or accountability partners. We

would, as with all 12-step groups, strongly encourage anonymity among all participants.

The group would be for all forms of addictions including alcohol, drugs, shopping, gambling, sexual addictions (such as pornography), food addictions, and Internet addictions. People in the group would not need to disclose what form of addiction from which they are suffering.

If you are interested in participating in some way as a participant, facilitator, or sponsor, please contact Dr. Roy Fouch at royfouch@gmail.com. If we have enough interest, we would be starting sometime in the fall or winter.

Roy Fouch

ing the following duties:

- Import Internet literature requests from areas outside the United States.
- Maintain database of international subscriber addresses.
- Assist with personal correspondence from international locations.
- Perform other duties in the office environment as assigned by management.

This position requires very good knowledge of world geography and the languages associated with coun-

tries around the globe. It also requires fair reading and writing skills in Spanish and French, and the ability to identify other languages.

A high-school diploma and one to two years' related experience and/or training in above average computer skills is 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 Dec. 31, 2014. The Church does not keep submissions or applications that do not result in the applicant being hired. For more information about the position and to submit a resume, please contact human_resources@ucg.org.

Peter Eddington

The brethren decided to plow an area of about 1,100 square feet (100 square meters) into two plots of land each of about 550 square feet (50 square meters) each. One will be fenced with chicken wire 6 feet (1.8 meters) high to protect

the area from dogs and chickens, and it will be used for planting various vegetables. The other area of equal size will be for a fruit orchard, also for various types of fruit.

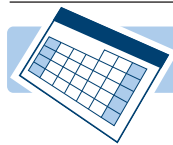
They will be getting cow manure from the community ranch to fertilize the

land. We already gave them funds donated from members to purchase seeds for planting during the Youth Corps project in the second half of December 2014. This Youth Corps project will be composed of eight members, God willing, and it will be led by Dr. Paul Syltie. Jorge de Campos

will travel with them as the translator.

All the brethren from Maloca de Moscou rejoice with the project and thank God and all the brethren who have helped financially to make this project a possibility.

Jorge de Campos



Up and Coming

Come to the Portland Women's Enrichment Weekend, Feb. 20-22, 2015

We hope you'll join us for the 2015 Portland Women's Enrichment Weekend, Feb. 20-22, when we'll explore the theme "Showers of Comfort." The purpose of the weekend is to encourage and strengthen women of all ages in God's Church in order to help one another to grow to greater spiritual maturity and to fulfill our unique roles as women of God. And of course during that process we plan to have lots of fun!

For those who want to start the weekend on Thursday, there is a bonus day registration option that allows an extra night's stay. The scheduled lineup starts on Friday evening with an activity, dinner and an opening presentation by LeeAnn Luker.

After a Sabbath morning breakfast, Hansel New and Ben Light will provide split-sermons in the lovely, bright room

overlooking the nearby river. Following lunch, Jan Segall will give a presentation and then a panel of speakers will relate personal stories based on the theme of the weekend. Dinner will round out a relaxing Sabbath before the Saturday night activities, which include a silent auction to raise money for the Good Works program, a sing-along and card-making lessons.

Sunday will kick off with an interactive workshop (there is usually a lot of laughter involved). Karen Walker will give a presentation before Dyanne Dick provides wrap-up comments. After a sumptuous brunch, you'll have the opportunity to visit more or head back home to share what you've learned with your family or get ready for the week ahead.

Prices for the weekend range from day-only attendance (\$29-\$52 depending



on the day) or full weekend attendance (\$160-\$210 depending on the room type and timing registration is received). If you register prior to Jan. 31, you will receive a discount, so please register soon. Brochures with additional details are available. For more information, contact Ruby Scruggs at scruggsjr@canby.com.

I think we can agree that in this troubled world we can always use more comfort in our lives. Please join us to learn how we can support each other better in the days ahead.

Debbie Werner

Maryland Congregation To Celebrate 50 Years

The Columbia, Maryland, congregation will be hosting a special anniversary Sabbath on March 7, 2015. The congregation, then known as the Baltimore church, began on March 6, 1965.

This event will commemorate 50 years of the Church of God in Maryland, and is open to all who wish to attend. Sabbath services will begin in early afternoon, with food and fellowship to follow. We would like to encourage past members from the Baltimore/Washington area, and especially any original members, as well as anyone who has information or pictures relating to the history of the congregation in Maryland to contact Steve and Rhonda Diggins at rddiggins@yahoo.com or (443) 653-1195. Additional details will soon be posted on our local website on <http://columbia-md.ucg.org>.

Rhonda Diggins

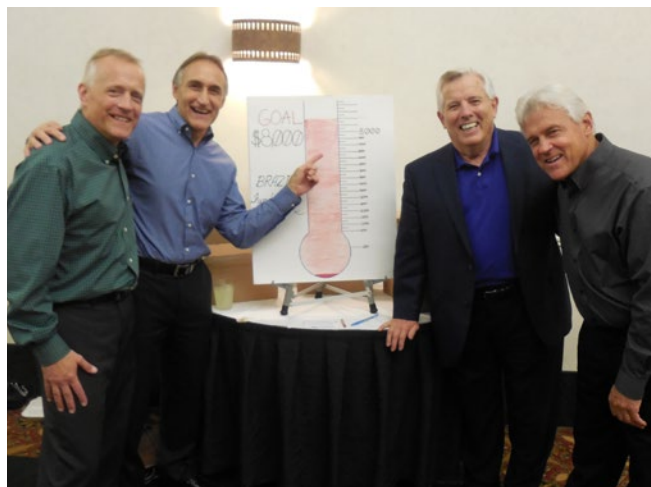
Myers Brothers, "Jelly Live" Fundraiser Tops Goal for Brazil Water, Agricultural Project

During the festival at Panama City Beach, an Oct. 11 concert and presentation by the Myers brothers and "Jelly

Live" brought in a record \$12,000 to fund a 240-foot-deep borehole well to serve brethren in Moloca de Moscou, Brazil.

The Brazilian community of about 650 includes about 45 members of the United Church of God and about 45 Living Church of God members. The funds will also help upgrade farming tools, provide professionals to improve agricultural practices, and help the United Youth Corp assist on site.

Mike Snyder



Brazil fund-raiser tops goal—(From left) John Myers, Steve Myers, Jerold Aust (festival coordinator for Panama City Beach, Florida) and Skip Myers note success in topping a Oct. 11 fund-raising goal for a special "borehole" well in Brazil. The Myers concert and the "Jelly Live" event (presented by Jamie Schreiber, Jonathan Magee and Rudy Rangel, not pictured) ultimately pulled in more than \$12,000.

Local Church UPDATES

Los Angeles Women's Club Make Feast of Tabernacles Gift Baskets

On Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014, eight attendees of the Los Angeles Women's Club, coordinated by Patti Josifek, gathered together at the home of Ralph and Ingrid Helge. The afternoon began with a light lunch prepared by the ladies and hosted by Mrs. Helge. With foods from devilled eggs to assorted cheeses, crackers, salads and delicious desserts, the ladies enjoyed the bonding.

The nine gift baskets were filled with assorted gift items, which were donated by the ladies in the Women's Club with

the hope of encouraging the brethren who are unable to attend the Feast. Warm fellowship and team effort created a fun atmosphere.

Marta Cedeno



Los Angeles Women's Club bonds while making gift baskets for brethren who will not be able to attend the Feast this year.

The Seven Elements of the Zone

Structure

“Let all things be done decently and in order” (1 Corinthians 14:40).

United Youth Camps are a constant beehive of activity. From the morning wake-up call until lights-out, the seven days at camp are scheduled and organized for the benefit of everyone. Even fellowship and relaxation time are built into a schedule that keeps everything going smoothly. Beginning with the first person to arrive at camp until the last one leaves and the gate is shut, the biblical admonition to have all things done decently and in order is put into practice.

The Zone element of structure provides many important lessons and principles for the camp environment. The first and foremost is safety. While at camp, our UYC program is designed to help campers “challenge their limits” instead of “limiting their challenges.”

Each camp provides a wide range of

challenging activities for the campers. Many of these activities, such as arts and crafts, volleyball, softball, or field games, are not inherently dangerous. What few injuries occur in those activities are often minor, perhaps mildly sprained ankles.

In other activities, such as rock climbing or any sport on or in the water, safety must be our primary concern. We make sure that each activity is fully staffed, plus the staff coordinator is certified to

teach the activity and prepared for any safety concerns that might arise. As an illustration, at Northwest Camp we have activities at an ocean beach, two lakes, and a river. Our staff for 2014 included 11 certified lifeguards. The safety training and activity organization are just two examples of the benefits of structure at UYC.

Structure also prevents chaos or confusion and provides the boundaries necessary for a successful summer camp. This is in keeping with 1 Corinthians 14:33: “For God is not the

author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.”

Psalm 19 tells us that we can learn about God by observing the perfect motion of the earth, moon, and stars. It’s easy to see that our Creator God is the author of perfect structure. At camp, operating according to standards everyone has agreed to provides a sense of security.

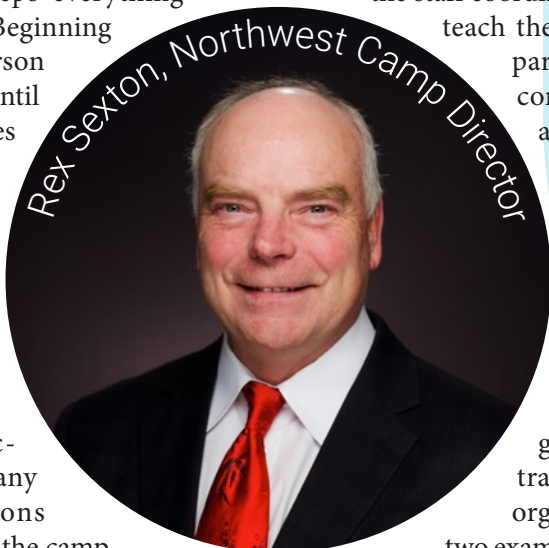
Some observers (such as this past year the director of summer camps for the United Methodist Churches of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho who visited and participated in our camp for two days) have noted that our camps run like a fine-tuned watch. Staff and campers know where they should be at each hour of the day. The daily Christian living themes and memory verses provide a spiritual emphasis and framework for the day. The daily lessons are reinforced in the various activities, campfire stories, and discussions with dorm parents.

One of the many lessons that campers learn by attending a

Structure...

- creates the boundaries everyone needs
- prevents chaos
- teaches the need to have reasons for rules
- instills a sense of security
- teaches how life operates smoothly

UYC is that life works best when it works smoothly, according to a structure built upon the Ten Commandments and other important principles in God’s Word.



Feast to Famine

Continued from page 1

that comes from the Good News, so that you will be fully prepared. In every battle you will need faith as your shield to stop the fiery arrows aimed at you by Satan. Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” (Ephesians 6:13-17).

Trials and Sorrows

Along the way we may have some battle scars. Jesus warned that in this world things can get tough: “I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world” (John 6:33).

When we made a covenant with God at baptism, we entered the marathon of the Christian life. Notice how the apostle Paul put it: “Remember that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize. You also must run in such a way that you will win. All athletes practice strict self-control. They do it to win a prize that

will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize” (1 Corinthians 9:24-25). As Paul said to Timothy, “I have fought a good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful. And now the prize awaits me—the crown of righteousness

some of those precious nuggets of wisdom from the many messages delivered over the eight days—messages that are like jewels in our crown of righteousness, the same crown the apostle Paul referred to in his letter to Timothy? Will we use those

sages we heard, we need to consider that while we are still in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: “For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ” (2 Corinthians 10:4-5, NKJV).

And when the battle is over, when we have finally completed the marathon of life, when we have run the race, and conquered the devil’s world, we will exchange our battle armor for a beautiful white robe. “Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready. And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints” (Revelation 19:7-8, NKJV).

As the seasons change, we can look back on the Feast of Tabernacles 2014 with inspired memories and focus on the warmth of the coming renewal of God’s symbolic plan of salvation as it begins again with the Passover. **UN**

The apostle Paul also reminds us that as we reflect on the Feast and all those messages we heard, we need to consider that while we are still in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh.

that the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on that great day of his return. And the prize is not just for me but for all who eagerly look forward to his glorious return” (2 Timothy 4:7-8).

And so as another Feast of Tabernacles passes into history, a question we might ask ourselves is this: Did we take home

God-inspired messages as battle armor back in a world that is under the devil’s control? “Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you” (James 4:7-8, New King James Version).

The apostle Paul also reminds us that as we reflect on the Feast and all those mes-

Announcements



Aiden Escobar Chen

Born Aug. 24, 2014



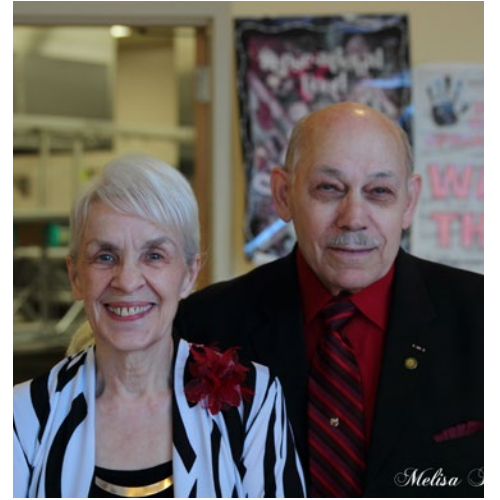
Emma Katherine Padgett

Born and died Nov. 10, 2013



Ray and Francine Fabry

50 years



David and Shirley Joe

60 years

Births

Kevin and Teresa (Escobar) Chen of the Garden Grove, California, congregation are happy to announce the birth of their son, **Aiden Escobar Chen**. He was born on Sunday, Aug. 24, 2014, at 7:03 p.m. He weighed 5 lbs., 5 oz. and was 18 in. long. Proud grandparents include Wilfred and Emily Escobar of the Macon, Georgia, congregation.

Emma Katherine Padgett was born on Nov. 10, 2013, at 7:28 a.m., weighing 4 lbs., 3 oz. and 19 in. long. She died a short time later due to breathing complications. Emma is the daughter of Jon and Marsha (Holub) Padgett of Greenwood, Indiana. Terry Swagerty, pastor of the Indianapolis Congregation, conducted a private family service at Flanner and Buchanan Funeral Home on Nov. 15, at 2 p.m. with a burial following at Flanner and Buchanan Cemetery.

Grandparents are Mike and Margaret Padgett of Indianapolis, and Lyle (Bud) and Jean Ann Holub of Monticello, Iowa. In addition to her parents and grandparents, Emma is survived by her aunts, Julie (Todd) Perrine, Teresa Holub, Zaneta (David) Evans, Chantel Padgett, Sherrie (Joe) Sullivan; her uncles, Brian (Rhonda) and Terry Matthews; and her seven cousins.

Anniversaries

Ray and Francine Fabry of the Milwaukee Congregation celebrated their 50th anniversary on Sept. 27, 2014. They hosted a party with family, friends and Church members. The guests enjoyed a catered meal and music to dance to. Dan

Dowd officiated a short service thanking God for His many blessings and asking God to continue blessing their lives. Ray and Francine were married on Sept. 26, 1964. They have two daughters, Rhonda Marie (husband Tim) and Laura Jean; three wonderful grandchildren, Michael (wife Nikki), Ashley and Zak; and one precious great-granddaughter, Callie Marie.

They were baptized into God's Church April 4, 1987. For many years Ray and Francine organized the spring Holy Day dinner dance hosted by the Milwaukee Church. They also opened their home for church picnics with lamb and chicken roasts and other events with different party themes.

During the Feast, God blessed them with the opportunity to travel to many tropical sites.

Ray and Francine enjoy fishing together. They fish for large and small-mouth bass for sport, as well as bluegill for fish fries. Because of this love for fishing, their 50th anniversary cake had two fish, a fishing pole and a keepsake plate that said "HOOKED ON LOVE FOR 50 YEARS."

The Tacoma congregation honored **David and Shirley Joe** in the celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary with a music slide show presentation of photos from throughout their marriage, along with a reception.

The Joes met at Shirley's neighbor's home when she went to watch their television (the only one in town). Her neighbor worked with David, and he set up a time for them to meet because David was so taken with Shirley when he saw her walking to school. Shirley, however, will tell you that she proposed to David! They

were married in Granger, Washington, on Aug. 24, 1954.

David joined the Army, and during the first 21 years of their marriage, the Joes were apart for a total of 16½ of them due to his military service and deployments. David retired from the army as Sergeant 1st Class and was awarded the Bronze Star.

The Joes are blessed with four children: Nina Rice, Paul, Elmer and Danny, and also seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Shirley, an avid reader, first learned about the Church from reading *The Plain Truth* magazine. She had sent for it because it was free, but continued to receive it because of her interest. Shirley was baptized in 1982, and David attended with her for years, often serving as the sound man. He was baptized in 2007. Both have served many years in the Church.

They gave this advice on marriage: Love each other, work hard, and give God the credit. Marriage is not 50/50, it's 100/100—otherwise you'll only be half as happy.

Obituaries

Sherry Layne Miller (63) died suddenly on June 24, 2014, in the hospital at Cadiz, Ohio. She was born in Akron, Ohio, was baptized in 1985, and attended the Cambridge, Ohio, congregation. Sherry was a giving and loving wife and mother, who was dedicated to God's truth and way. She struggled with various health problems for years, yet her love for the brethren and God was steadfast. Sherry's parents died at a young age, and much of her childhood



Sherry Miller

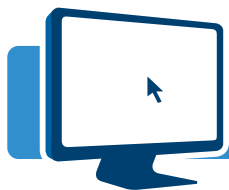
1951-2014

was in a children's home. From her early teen years on, she lived with her aunt and uncle, who provided more of a family life.

Sherry is survived by her husband of 28 years, Robert (Bob), who was baptized in 1967. She also had two daughters, Wendy and Malia, and three stepchildren, Dave, Ron and Denise, whom she loved as her own. Sherry is also survived by 11 grandchildren.

Announcements:

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



What's New In MEDIA?

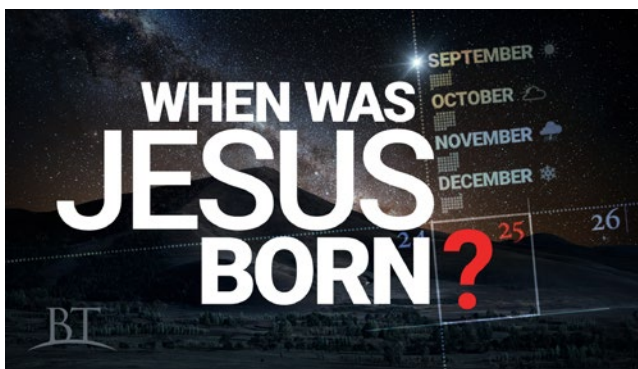
■ Beyond Today Airing Schedule

Title	Host	Airing Period
<i>Jesus: Creator of the Sabbath</i>	Steve Myers	Nov. 16-22
<i>The Rich Man and Lazarus</i>	Steve Myers	Nov. 23-29
<i>Is God a Trinity?</i>	Steve Myers	Nov. 30-Dec. 6
<i>The Bible's Prophetic Puzzle</i>	Gary Petty	Dec. 7-13
<i>Why Were You Born?</i>	Gary Petty	Dec. 14-20
<i>When Was Jesus Born?</i>	Darris McNeely	Dec. 21-27
<i>Heaven on Earth?</i>	Gary Petty	Dec. 28-Jan. 3, 2015

■ Beyond Today to Change Time Slot on ION Television Network

Because of their expanding audience, the ION Television Network has made a business decision to place their own network programming to begin at 9 a.m. every day of the week. Up until now, their programming has been starting at 11 a.m. each day. This change to 9 a.m. start time becomes effective Jan. 1, 2015.

Therefore, *Beyond Today* is going to lose its Sunday



morning position on ION after Dec. 31. The good news is that ION has been growing in overall viewership. This shrinkage of available paid programming time reduces their inventory by 25 percent. So we needed to make a decision on how best to move forward—so as to not lose the good times that are yet available.

After much deliberation the United Church of God purchased Friday mornings at 8:30 a.m. We've negotiated this after several rounds of talks to be the same as our current pricing. A major benefit of this change is that we now have full network broadcasting with all 61 O&O (owned and operated) stations in all 210 U.S. markets. We'll be reaching all 116.4 million households in the U.S.—in other words all 315 million people in the U.S., according to current census data.

We did contact representatives of other networks to see what they could offer to make sure that continuing with ION in this manner was our best choice, and no

other network was able to offer anything preferable to what we will have starting Jan. 1 on Friday mornings.

Here is a listing of the additional broadcast O&Os we will have. As you will see, some of them are the top markets in the country:

WPXN/New York	KPXM/Minneapolis
KPXN/Los Angeles	WPXM/Miami
WCPX/Chicago	WOPX/Orlando
WPPX/Philadelphia	WVPX/Cleveland
KPXD/Dallas	KSPX/Sacramento
WBPX/Boston	KPXG/Portland
WPXW/Washington DC	WRPX/Raleigh
WPXA/Atlanta	WHPX/Hartford
KPXB/Houston	KPXE/Kansas City
WPXD/Detroit	WPXP/West Palm Beach
KPPX/Phoenix	KOPX/Oklahoma City
KWPX/Seattle	WPXC/Jacksonville
WXPX/Tampa	

We would appreciate your prayers for success in preaching the gospel of the Kingdom of God at this new time.

Peter Eddington



Periodicals Postage Paid
at Milford, Ohio, and at
additional mailing offices

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov. 19: Live Mid-Week Bible Study—Prophecy 101 Series, "Will Jesus Return This Year?", Online

Dec. 3: Live Mid-Week Bible Study—Prophecy 101 Series, "Babylon the Great", Online

Dec. 8-11: Council of Elders Meeting, Cincinnati

Dec. 17: Live Mid-Week Bible Study—Prophecy 101 Series, "The Two Witnesses", Online

Dec. 23-27: Winter Family Weekend, Cincinnati

Dec. 24-31: Winter Camp, Wisconsin

TWO HOME OFFICE JOB OPENINGS ANNOUNCED

Human Resources and Media and Communications Services have announced two openings in International Mail Processing.

International Mail Processing Manager

The International Mail Processing Manager supervises incoming mail processing and mail reading for international areas and coordinates domestic mail reading.

International Mail Processing Clerk

The International Mail Processing 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.

For a full listing of job duties for each position, see *News at a Glance* starting on page 1.

APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR WINTER CAMP: DEC. 5

To apply for winter camp, apply online at <http://uyc.ucg.org/camp/winter-camp>; to apply for leadership camp, apply as staff and send an e-mail to Dan_Dowd@ucg.org to let him know of your interest!

UNITED STATISTICS

Bible Study Course

Total Requests, October 2013-October 2014

