Vacation Bible School in Cedartown, GA
Margie Seely, AU Education Leader, Cedartown, GA

Babylon was the theme of this year’s Vacation Bible School program at the Cedartown church. For most of the children from the community, this was their first time hearing about the life of Daniel and his friends as they lived for God in that great empire. The children had a little difficulty pronouncing ancient Babylonian names, such as Nebuchadnezzar, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. When asked where Babylon might have been located, some of the children were sure it was somewhere in Alabama!

Over the five-day program (from July 31 to August 4), the children learned about honoring God by choosing a healthful diet, staying faithful to God when facing persecution, and praying without ceasing—and how God speaks to us through prophecy. They enjoyed interactive stories, crafts, games, songs, and nutritious food. We were happy to see that many of our VBS students are repeat visitors from the two prior VBS programs held here. We are praying for more opportunities to share God’s love with the people of this community.
Healthbeat: Lose the Wheat Belly, Gain the Health

Information recommended by Barbara Watts, Denver, CO

Carbohydrates are the enemy to fight in today’s diet plans. The Atkins Diet, South Beach Diet, and others concentrate on cutting carbohydrate intake, while increasing protein consumption, as a way to lose weight and improve overall health. And to some extent, they are right. But why?

In Ezekial 4:9, a recipe is given for bread. God tells Ezekiel, “Take thou also unto thee wheat, and barley, and beans, and lentiles, and millet, and fitches, and put them in one vessel, and make thee bread thereof.” The sanctuary always had a supply of unleavened bread on hand. Christ refers to Himself as the “Bread of Life.” In the book Counsels on Diet and Foods, p. 368, Ellen G. White writes, “Let us remember that there is practical religion in a loaf of good bread.” Herein lies the answer. Carbohydrates are considered the enemy in weight loss plans because we have lost the “good” in the majority of commercially produced wheat products.

Over the years, in an effort to produce wind-resistant, insect-resistant, higher-yielding crops, the wheat industry has modified this grain. Therefore, the wheat sold today at your local grocery store is no longer the healthful food it was one hundred years ago. It is a dangerously altered form of the original and yields a nasty batch of health problems.

According to Dr. William Davis, cardiologist and author of Wheat Belly and the Wheat Belly Cookbook, this new wheat can be linked to health problems such as arthritis, asthma, dementia, thyroid abnormalities, hypertension, diabetes, irritable bowel syndrome, joint pain, high blood pressure, weight gain, mental fogginess, and more. Conversely, when people eliminate this wheat from their diets and replace it with another grain—such as spelt, quinoa, amaranth, sorghum, einkorn wheat, emmer wheat, or millet—they often, over time, find improvement in their conditions. In the process, they also discover that that belly they’ve been trying to lose for so long has greatly diminished.

Take a moment to browse through the websites listed below. There is a wealth of information there that cannot be included here.

Informative Websites:
http://www.wheatbellyblog.com/
http://www.heavenlymanna.net/christianArticle.php?article_id=139
http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=william+davis+wheat+belly&oq=william+davis+&gs_l=youtube.1.1.0j0i5191.2344.0j373.11j3.0..0.232.871.2j2j6.0..1lac.ayPzyszdh8
News from the World of Education:
Growth Precipitates Needs
Margie Seely, AU Education Leader, Cedartown, GA

“The church has a special work to do in educating and training its children that they may not, in attending school, or in any other association, be influenced by those of corrupt habits. The world is full of iniquity and disregard of the requirements of God. The cities have become as Sodom, and our children are daily being exposed to many evils. Those who attend the public schools often associate with others more neglected than they, those who, aside from the time spent in the schoolroom, are left to obtain a street education. The hearts of the young are easily impressed; and unless their surroundings are of the right character, Satan will use these neglected children to influence those who are more carefully trained. Thus before Sabbathkeeping parents know what evil is being done, the lessons of depravity are learned, and the souls of their little ones are corrupted.”
Testimonies for the Church, vol. 6, p. 193.

Currently, the American Union has two schools able to teach kindergarten through high school. Small Cloud Christian School, under the direction of Sandy Nelson, is entering its seventeenth year of operation. Cedar Christian School opened its doors just three years ago. Pastor Pablo Hunger, the General Conference Vice President and First Secretary, serves as the school’s principal. His wife Lisbeth teaches the younger children, while Linda Suárez and I instruct the older students.

There is also a growing number of families, both from within the church and without, interested in obtaining a quality Christian education for their children via the Internet. And our missionaries in foreign fields are beginning to ask if there is an Internet-based Christian education program they can enroll their children in. The American Union is now exploring the possibility of developing an accredited, distance-learning program in which students across the nation, and possibly around the world, can learn through an online program.

In summary, the Education Department is growing! And, as the title of this article explains, growth precipitates needs. We are praying for helpers! If you are interested in assisting the Education Department as a teacher, teacher’s aide, or tutor and would like more information on how to do so, we would like to hear from you. If you have talents in web design, please contact me at margieseely@yahoo.com.

God wants our children to be saved. We must do our part.

World Assembly DVDs
Now Available
General Conference Announcement

The World Assembly in South Africa was a memorable event. Hearts were touched, and lives were changed. Unfortunately, not everyone was able to attend that blessed event.

The General Conference is offering a sampling of sermons preached at the World Assembly. Full-length talks by Pastors Pablo Hunger, Idel Suárez, Jr., Henry Dering, Neptalí Acevedo, and Tzvetan Petkov are presented in this two-DVD set, complete with beautiful special music. Requested donation per set is $10.00 USD. Shipping is free. To obtain your World Assembly DVDs, specify the number of sets you wish to receive and send request with a check or money order to International Missionary Society–Media Department, PO Box S, Cedartown, GA 30125-0849. Be blessed!
Missionary Minute: Evangelistic Meetings in New York
Pastor Henry Dering, Cameron Park, CA

From Wednesday to Sunday, September 19-23, 2012, the American Union is planning to hold evangelistic meetings in a Russian community of New York City. Pastor Tzvetan Petkov, head of the General Conference Ministerial Department, and I will present the topics. All believers living in the nearby vicinity are cordially invited to attend. We ask all others to pray earnestly that this community outreach will be a means of giving faith, hope, and courage to those who hunger for truth.

Do YOU have an item of interest for the AUNL?

How is your church sharing the gospel message with others in your community?

What upcoming outreaches are planned in your area?

Let us know at: americanunionnewsletter@yahoo.com

2012 Calendar

September 19-23: Evangelistic Meetings in a Russian Community of New York City, NY