More than 4,000 campers moved into cabins, tents and RVs for the annual 10-day retreat. Dr. Calvin Rock, pastor of the Abundant Life Adventist Church in Las Vegas and John Bradshaw, speaker/director of It Is Written, preached on the first and second weekend, respectively.

Sunday through Friday there were 14 seminars for adults as well as three preaching services each day. Programs for kids ages 4-18 ran from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. They joined their parents for meals. The full day included meetings, crafts, Pathfinder honors, recreation, and community outreach.

Forty-six people were baptized during camp meeting: 28 in the Spanish Tent, 18 in the Main Auditorium including 3 teens, 5 earliteens, and 4 juniors. Thirty-six juniors made their decision to be baptized at home.

Many of those baptized told of finding Jesus as the result of an invitation, a piece of literature, a flyer advertising meetings, or a Bible worker or student literature evangelist knocking on their door.

At the anointing service a distraught lady with marriage problems came to pray and be anointed. That very Sabbath her husband showed up at Soquel to confess, ask forgiveness and to reconcile. “It is so humbling for God to use us as a conduit,” said Ramiro Cano.

Nelson Tabingo, conference treasurer, received an anonymous letter that read: “This is the first time I ever paid my tithe. I would have spent it otherwise.” Inside was $4.00.

106 pints of blood were donated at the annual blood drive and 50-plus campers exercised at the 7:30 a.m. class.

A growing audience from around the world, watching via satellite or live Web streaming, called or emailed their praises to God and thanks for camp meeting.
“However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me – the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace.” (Acts 20:24)

God continues to pour out blessings for His work in Central. Asking God how to be involved, stepping out in faith and giving as God leads, faithful followers gave $915,000 in gifts and pledges. (The final offering total will be reported in the November CCC Newsletter.)

For 13 years this offering has been a journey of faith through the united prayers of God’s people. A delight of camp meeting is hearing how God provided the resources for His work. Without these funds, many outreach ministries would not be possible.

Projects funded include the Youth Evangelism Team, GLOW (Giving Light to Our World) which has now gone international, education scholarships for children of new members (5% of the offering total), full-time conference evangelist, health outreaches, 18 church plants, and 94 public meetings and seminars. Seventy-six student literature evangelists arrived on the second weekend. They shared their summer miracle adventures Sabbath morning. During the Camp Meeting Evangelism Offering call, one young woman felt impressed to give. (Students earn money for the upcoming school year, which are matched by the school. She pledged 100% of her summer earnings – about $5,000.

For more than 30 years, the Mountain View Japanese Church members have operated a school for children of Japanese parents whose companies have assigned them to their Bay Area branches. Now 15 full-time Adventist teachers, plus part-time aides, teach nearly 400 students. Dennis Seaton, vice president for personnel and human resources, assists with immigration of the qualified teachers. Pastor Mark Duarte has developed English through the Bible for parents interested in learning the language. A year ago, Miho Wakabayashi, who worked as a teacher’s aide, wanted to learn about Christianity. She studied with Bible worker Atsushi Yamamuro and was baptized!

On Sabbath Principal Eiichi Yoshida presented a gift of $10,000 for the evangelism offering on behalf of the school board. “With thanks to God for the work He has been doing, we wanted to do something for evangelism,” he explains. “We believe in evangelism and are grateful,” says Nobuko Shiraishi, school board chair.

A Place of Prayer

There were scheduled times for united prayer when campers gathered to pray for the Holy Spirit, for God’s will and for individual requests at 6:00-6:30 a.m., 8:15-8:50 a.m., 1:15-1:50 p.m., and 9:15-9:50 p.m. The prayer room was open and manned all day for people to come and go, providing a quiet place to pray with someone and then leave the burden with God.

At the prayer booth, campers could find resources for personal and group prayer experiences, a box to leave requests, and a curtained area to pray with one of the full-time prayer team members.

Camp Meeting Age Statistics

Total Full-time Campers: 4,024

This total does not include those that drive in for the day or weekend attendance that swells to between 8,000 – 10,000.

Camp Meeting 2012

July 12-21

For an application please visit ccc.adventist.org

Application deadline for RV spaces is September 30, 2011. RV sites fill up quickly so don’t delay! Deadline for tents is March 31, 2012.
Jeff and Debbie Badger Move to Colorado

The Badgers arrived at the Soquel Conference Center in 1995 to help close the campground. Constituents had voted to sell the property and relocate camp meeting and other Soquel ministries. Two years later, at a special constituency meeting, the vote to sell the property was rescinded. And Jeff and Debbie’s job descriptions made a 180 degree turn-around.

For the past 16 years, Jeff has been a master of many trades. He has overseen major rebuilding and repairs: reroofing the Main Auditorium, cafeteria and bathhouses, gutting, rewiring and sheeting the interior of the Main Auditorium and painting the exterior. He has worked with the Soquel Master Plan Committee to host two Maranatha Volunteer projects including laying the infrastructure for the new North Park RV section, construction of a new bathhouse, and an electrical upgrade in Central City. He planned and led the annual volunteer project to help maintain the residential independent living facility and keep an aging facility up and running.

Jeffrey, at Soquel. Working with Jeff, they acquired valuable skills and, as young adults, they provided significant contributions to the upkeep of the facilities.

Jeff loves trains. He restores and sells engines and gifts part of the proceeds to the local Adventist church school. In Colorado, Jeff has his dream job – he’s restoring trains! Debbie is enrolling in nursing school, something she has dreamed of for quite sometime.

“Trust in Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart.” (Ps. 37:4)

Juniors continued their annual project at a nearby cemetery, pulling weeds and shining headstones. This year the kids expanded the project to include raising funds through sponsorship for a children’s hospital – $500!

Teens, ages 14-19, went into the community five afternoons handing out GLOW literature, feeding the homeless, praying with people, and gifting a free car wash. A lady, one of the first to go through, works at a local radio station and had the event announced which increased traffic.

The free car wash always draws a crowd. “As people are waiting in line. We talk with them, give GLOW tracts and pray with some of them as well,” explains Jon Tillay, Youth Evangelism Team director. “We are able to demonstrate the love of God in a tangible way.”

One seminar trained people to sell magabooks door-to-door just like the students’ summer program. One contact, a young adult, bought a cook book and children’s story books. She also purchased The Great Controversy for her two Mormon cousins that play in the NFL.

Proceeds from the sales were donated to the evangelism offering.

Welcome Todd and Jannell Gallemore to Central!

Todd and Jannell Gallemore arrived at Soquel from Hemet, Calif., in mid-June – just in time to help prepare the facility for camp meeting.

Todd brings 14 years of experience as assistant administrator and administrator of two care facilities for the elderly, followed by owner/administrator of Todd’s Place, a residential independent living facility for the mentally handicapped. Maintaining the physical plant has been one of his responsibilities. He has also worked as an independent sales representative for tropical foliage and pottery.

Jannell, a nurse, also worked with her husband at Todd’s Place. “We understand each other and make God the center of our daily lives and are grateful for all His blessings,” Jannell says. They have two children, Greg and Shellbi, both students at Pacific Union College.

Camp Meeting Sermons and seminars are available on CDs/DVDs through Pan de Vida Productions
P.O. Box 189, Berrien Springs, MI, 49103
(248) 275-1050 (English) info@ppvida.com
(269) 471-9085 (Espanol) pedidos@ppvida.com
Web site: www.ppvida.com
Cradle to Crown—Children First!

When it comes to sports, homework and other daily routines, most parents today don’t have a problem spending time with their kids. But when it comes to connecting spiritually, most parents have difficulty and are greatly challenged.

“The conference leadership has spent much time in prayer and discussion about our children and families. As a result, we have voted a 10-year conference-wide initiative entitled, “Cradle to Crown – Children First!” says President Ramiro Cano.

“We are in the middle of a spiritual war, a war being waged upon our families. We have a window of opportunity to make a difference in the tender lives of our children and our families,” Cano continues. “This initiative will focus the attention of resources, programs and training on the largest evangelistic resource in our church – our children.”

Funding for the new initiative will come from the Camp Meeting Evangelism Offering, Kids In Discipleship (K.I.D.), and other Central California Conference (CCC) funding sources.

The Collegedale, Tennessee based K.I.D. ministry is designed for families and focuses on discipling children. It calls adults in the home, school and church to unite in leading every child to trust, follow, share, and grow deeper in his/her own personal relationship with Jesus Christ. (See www.KidsInDiscipleship.org) CCC is partnering with K.I.D. to provide the training, mentoring and resources to launch this initiative.

Current research shows that there is a short window of opportunity to secure a child’s heart to Jesus. According to the Barna Group’s research (barnaresearch.org), people are most open to accepting Jesus between the ages of 5-13. After that time, it becomes more difficult to make this life-changing decision.

Barna also reports that fewer than 10 percent of parents who regularly attend church with their kids read the Bible together, pray together or participate in an act of service as a family unit.

And according to Author Roger Dudley, at least 50 percent of Adventist young adults leave the church by their mid-20s.

Ellen G. White shared the importance of early child guidance. “Those who love God should feel deeply interested in the children and youth. Through them God can reveal his truth and salvation. Jesus calls the little ones that believe on him the lambs of his flock. He has a special love for and interest in the children… How important it is that the older members of the church, by precept and example, lead them to Jesus, who taketh away the sin of the world, and who can keep them by His divine grace from the ruin it works…God has sanctified childhood in that He gave his only begotten Son to become a child on earth.” (RH, December 17, 1889 par.6)

K.I.D. equips church congregations, parents and key mentors to implement the Deuteronomy 6 model of discipleship that will help foster a family’s ability to use their gifts for worship, ministry and mission.

“I think it is an awesome opportunity for our families, churches and schools,” says Rosa Gillham, CCC children’s ministries director. “It [K.I.D.] brings tools to parents and teachers for teaching children how to accept Christ. It is a whole unit of care, more intentional.” To date, 20 conference churches have participated in the K.I.D. training.

On Nov 4-6, 2011 Kids in Discipleship University and Training the Trainer will be held at the Soquel Conference Center. Registration confirmation deadline is October 12.

For more information, go to ccc.adventist.org or contact Rosa Gillham at rgillham@cccsda.org or (559) 347-3183.