A small black-and-white duck is more powerful than Gordon Bietz.

That was the consensus of the church members young and old who attended Collegedale Church’s first Sabbath Plaza experience Friday evening, May 3, at the creek and hillside area on the north side of the church. The Sabbath Plaza is a new monthly outdoor fellowship modeled after the early Christian church, which is described in Acts 2:42 as being devoted to fellowship, breaking of bread, study, and prayer. Largely unprogrammed, the Sabbath Plaza is a time to rest in Christ and enjoy the company of others in a beautiful setting.

Midway through the evening, attendees were asked: Which of the following is the most powerful force in Collegedale: (a) Southern President Gordon Bietz’s well-known baritone voice, (b) the church organ, or (c) the small duck that waddles into the street and backs up traffic for miles? The vote was heavily in favor of the duck because, as one young girl explained, it has the courage to go out into the traffic. (Or, as an even younger girl put it, “That’s what it wants to do!”) Even when Gordon Bietz himself stopped by to appeal the vote, the duck’s victory went unruffled.

Just as a duck halts traffic, Collegedale Church members who choose to can halt the materialism, noise, and busyness of popular culture. About 150 to 200 people came out for the evening, which included:

- Church members eating and socializing; kids playing in the creek, blowing bubbles, and using sidewalk chalk; little girls Hebrew dancing; and Collegedale Academy principal Brent Baldwin strumming his ukulele.

- A special “water altar,” where church members wrote their payers on dissolvable paper and placed them onto the altar. Biblically, an altar

duck beats bietz at sabbath plaza opening night

by Andy Nash

sonrise 2013 dvd available

A SonRise 2013 DVD is available for $10 through the Church Office during office hours (add $2 if we mail it). All proceeds benefit SonRise.

The video footage begins in the Sanctuary and continues through the Resurrection. Due to copyright issues, the original songs used in the Sanctuary, Via Dolorosa, and the Resurrection have been changed, but the blessing you receive will still be the same.

continued on page 2, Plaza
July will be the twelfth year that Southern Singles’ Ministry (SSM) will sponsor a mission trip to Ecuador. Over the years the mission teams have served in various locations, but always with the same goal and objective: Share the gospel and make a difference in the lives of each one of the Ecuadorians with whom they come in contact.

The forms of outreach have included medical care, distribution of clothing and shoes, health seminars and cooking schools, evangelism meetings, and distribution of Bibles.

In 2011 SSM purchased and built a church in Vilcabamba, Ecuador. They also sponsored a Spanish-speaking missionary family from Chattanooga to be Bible workers in order that there might be post construction follow-up.

When the SSM team traveled to Vilcabamba in 2012, their concern was heightened as to the need for a renewal of Bible study interests, and an increased means of sharing of the gospel. During this time Nubia Gallegos, the wife of the Bible worker, was reminded of the account of Jesus’ interaction with children that were brought to him, found in Matthew 19:13-15, and the reaction of the disciples: Then were there brought unto Him little children, that He should put His hands on them, and pray: and the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto Me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven. And He laid His hands on them, and departed thence.

Nubia and her teenage son, Daniel, organized a weekly children’s Bible study and a Sabbath morning “children’s church”. The first week there were 3 children, but over time it has grown to 30 to 40 on a weekly basis.

If you would like to participate in the upcoming July 4-19 mission trip or donate Bibles, VBS supplies, reading glasses, or clothes, contact Wes Tucker at wat227@gmail.com or (828) 361-6155, or Donna Shelman at dmshelman@yahoo.com or (423) 236-5598.

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**Plaza**

*continued from page 1*

represents a releasing of what we most want to clutch onto.

- A special celebration of about 20 seventh graders who have biblically come of age, like the 12-year-old Jesus in the temple. Youth Pastor William Hurtado led a prayer of blessing, with the young members’ immediate families--and church family--gathered around them in concentric circles. Following an emotional season of prayer, the youth and their families placed aquatic plants in the creek bed. “This was a beautiful experience for our family and for many others,” wrote Angi and Rob Howell, parents of Ashlyn Howell, following the evening. “We hope to again get to experience the fellowship and camaraderie of the event.

- A sunset blessing and song, led by Pastors Tim Cross and Carole Verrill. In future months, church members will be invited to lead these elements.

The Sabbath Plaza is led by the Collegedale Church’s “Orange” ministry team--focused on blending church and family into unified ministry. For more information or to schedule your 12-year-old for a Sabbath Plaza celebration, contact andynash5@gmail.com

The next Sabbath Plaza will be held Friday, June 7, from 6:30 p.m. to sunset. Come enjoy the outdoor fellowship--and send a message of support to our young members.
CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

Collegedale Academy
Academy graduation weekend is May 17-19. Consecration is 8:00 p.m. on Friday. Baccalaureate is at the 11:35 a.m. Renewal Service o Sabbath, and Commencement is Sunday at 10:00 a.m. All programs will be held in the Sanctuary. Collegedale Church members names are italicized.

Fayza Abouelfatouh  
Brandon Babbitt  
Timberlyn Baum  
Christina Bovell  
Kristen Buhl  
Courtney Burtnett  
Steven Calderon  
Kelsey Campbell  
Zubin Chang  
Giuliana Chavez  
Susanne Clark  
Aaron Covrig  
Stephanie Cruz  
Jessica Davis  
Olivia DeWitt  
Alexis Dimmer  
Maria dos Santos  
Austin Elliott  
Halie Engle  
Matthew Fetingis  
Meagan Ford  
Kayla Foreman  
Kevin Fox  
Jessica Frescino

Yameli Gomez  
Alexus Gonzales  
Kyle Gustman  
Danielle Harr  
Lyn Harris  
Emily Hartman  
Bess Helton  
Austin Henderson  
Billy Hernandez  
Nicholas Herren  
Derek Hickam  
Faith Hunnicutt  
Andrew Hyde  
Benjamin Johnson  
Jessica Johnson  
Hunter Jones  
CeCe Jooma  
Zach Kennedy  
Chloe Khan  
Logan Kornblum  
Jessica Lassiter  
Ann Lee  
Austin Lee  
Victor Lee  
Vanessa Lemus  
Jayce Lopez  
Chelsea Marshall  
Karlen McClung  
Malcolm McKenzie  
Victor Mejias  
Devon Milholm  
Logan Milliron  
Joe Mixon  
Tatiana Montanez  
Mica Myers  
Gabi Olsen  
Cory Parker  
Albert Perchik  
Kenzie Pierre  
Diane Pleshka  
Mackie Puckett  
Trevor Pyke  
Melany Quintero  
Christina Ray  
Kaethe Reichert  
Adam Reiss  
Corey Rich  
JoAnne Roberts  
Caleb Rogers  
Bradley Romero  
Seth Ruhling  
Perla Ruiz  
Alicia Salazar  
K.D. Schreiner  
“Scotty” Scott  
Hoon Yong Seo  
Matthew Smith  
Shelby Snow  
Justin Snowden  
Lara Soares  
DavidSong  
Dylan Steiner  
Logan Swilling  
McKenzie Tenison  
Daniela Torres  
Sam Triplett  
“Turk” Turk  
Adam Vollberg  
Maranda Wilbanks

Collegedale Adventist Middle School
Eighth grade graduation will be held Thursday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Collegedale Church members names are italicized.

Diana Alvarez  
Paul Attle Jr  
Brandon Bell  
Alexa Birch  
Brooke Bound  
Sierra Brice  
Andrew Calderon  
McKenzie Covrig  
Sydney Davis  
Sam Dawson  
Claire Edens  
Gabby Garcia  
Kyle Garza  
Lillian Gensolin  
Candace Gettys  
Zoe Graham  
Hayley Greer  
Colby Hallock  
Abby Hansen  
Daniella Hasel  
William Hayes  
Hannah Heath  
Caitrin Henkel  
Hesler Emma  
Mallory Houghton  
Garrett Howe  
Caleb Huff  
Joseph Henrichka  
Heidi Kalua  
Caleb Kim  
Kurt Kuhlman  
Yeh Jee Lee  
Olivia Leeseberg  
Shelby Lewellen  
Vanessa Lippard  
Gavin Lippert  
Emily Lopes  
Nena Madrigal  
Josiah Madrigal  
Kristen Malin  
Darby Martin  
Preston McKnight  
Jennifer Mellert  
Crisbel Mendez  
Mica Mihaescu  
Carter Miller  
Elsa Moody  
Moore Jackson  
Michael Morales  
Chad Nash  
Ken Norton  
Justin Quintero  
Sydney Raitz  
Alex Sanchez  
Andrea Sanchez  
Ian Santore  
Aiyanna Sisneros  
Chloe Slocum Collins  
Camden Snyder  
Kristine Sosa  
Anthony St.Hilaire  
Isabella Stern  
Daniel Tanksley  
Tatyana Toro  
Braxton Tracy  
Erin van Zyl  
Kyle VanDenburg  
Josh Vollberg  
Noah Wilds  
Jessica Williams  
Derek Wolf  
Jake Woods
Thank you, Open Circle and other church members, for your warm, kind attention during my ordeal last year. I appreciated your visits, cards, flowers and goodies. Most of all, I valued your prayers. Happily, I have been able to return to assisted living at Morning Pointe of Collegedale. Mary Elam

Collegedale Camp Meeting will be held May 22-25. Visit www.gccsda.com for more information.

VBS is Coming June 24 - 28, for ages 4 to 13 years. The children are invited to Athens where they will follow Paul on his missionary journeys and discover the mercy and grace of God. Come and join us as a volunteer to support our children in their spiritual growth.

Looking for a great, Spiritual Based Kindergarten? If your child will be 5 by August 15, call to find out what AW Spalding has to offer. Call 396-2122 or come by for a visit.

Cohutta Springs Youth Camp will begin soon! For information or to register, go to cs-yc.com, or contact the office at 800-567-1844, ext. 346.

Health Testing at Collegedale Camp Meeting will be held Thursday, May 23, and Friday, May 24, from 7:00-9:00 a.m., in the Senior Center. Fasting (8 hours minimum/12 hours ideal) is recommended for lab work. See the poster on the bulletin board for more information, including cost. These tests are offered at a substantial discount, and anyone interested in saving money is welcome to participate. Questions? Call 1-800-567-1844, Ext. 348.

The Montessori Early Childhood Center is opening a second classroom. Their mission is to partner with parents to nurture children in ways that promote spiritual, physical, mental, emotional, and social development through the Montessori approach. Teachers are especially sensitive to the individual learning style of each child, and allow children to excel at their own pace. Space is limited. If you have a child ages 3 to 5 and are interested in visiting our classroom, contact AW Spalding at (423) 396-2122 or Jill Howe at (423) 240-8189.

Part Time Teacher Assistants are needed for the Montessori Early Childhood Center for the 2013-2014 school year. Contact AW Spalding at (423) 396-2122 or Jill Howe at (423) 240-8189.

McDonald Road Vacation Bible School: Mark your calendars for June 10-14, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for Tell it on the Mountain for ages 5-12. You’ll learn about our mighty God and Jesus our Savior through five mountaintop Bible stories. Register Online (Kids & Volunteers) at http://mcdonaldroad.org/vbs. Or come to Registration Day: June 9 in the Gym, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. For more info, contact Christy Ziesmer at (423) 316-8134 or christy@ziesmer.us.