GROUP TRAVELS TO MOORE, OKLAHOMA, TO DO TORNADO CLEANUP

by Isabelle Kaneza

Opportunities for mission trips come up frequently when you live in a town like Collegedale, and when this trip to Oklahoma was brought up I was thrilled. It seemed like a perfect way to really begin my summer without having to go to another country.

The group was small and consisted of five teens, Sydney Davis, Morgan Nash, Preston McKnight, Joëlle Kanyana, and me, along with four adults, Lorraine Rollins, Jojo Macatiag, and Pastor and Mrs. LeClare and Shelly Litchfield. Because of this small group, we grew closer through our experiences and hard work.

At first we knew very few details about the trip except that we were going to help clean up tornado damage in Moore, OK. We knew we would be sleeping on floors and almost thought we would need tents, but God provided us with an angel. Brandy was her name. She opened up her home to us, showers, air mattresses, and all. On top of all that, she even allowed us to do laundry every day and prepared us breakfast and dinner on her days off work. After a long day of hard labor, we were all overjoyed to come home to her comfortable home.

One of the many jobs assigned to us was helping Office Manager Debbie Hinton with the phones, greeting those who come in, and projects Debbie may have.

As receptionist, Corinne works in the mornings, Monday through Thursday, making sure help was given if needed. While going door to door, we came across Bill sitting on his front porch with a

HAVE YOU MET CORINNE?

by Sherrie Williams

Have you noticed that a new face and voice greets you in the Church Office? Corinne Fetingis took Brenda Ruth’s place as receptionist in March when Brenda accepted a full-time position elsewhere.

As receptionist, Corinne works in the mornings, Monday through Thursday, helping Office Manager Debbie Hinton with the phones, greeting those who come in, and projects Debbie may have. Corinne was a natural fit for the position since she has volunteered for us off

continued on page 2, Corinne

continued on page 3, Tornado
On Sunday, June 16, Google unveiled a project they have secretly been working on for the last 18 months. The Associated Press covered the story with the opening line, "Google is launching Internet-beaming antennas into the stratosphere aboard giant, jellyfish-shaped balloons with the lofty goal of getting the entire planet online." At first, thinking it was a joke I cautiously read on. The unfolding story quickly made me realize they are really serious about accomplishing this. With several dozen balloons already deployed 12 miles above the earth’s surface over New Zealand, Google is well on its way of narrowing the divide between the 2.2 billion people currently using the Internet and the 4.8 billion who aren’t. “Broadband Internet for everyone” is Google’s current mantra, and they are marching to it.

Part way through the article I stopped to reflect. Collegedale Church is just a few weeks away from launching a website ministry that will allow anyone with high-speed Internet (about 750 million worldwide) to be able to study the Bible together face-to-face in a video chat room over the Internet. Each chat room will be led by a Seventh-day Adventist who is committed to teaching the good news of Jesus Christ and sharing with others the unique truths of the Seventh-day Adventist church. Basically, it’s small group Bible studies taking place over the Internet in HD quality audio and video. All a person needs in order to join a video chat group is a computer and a webcam. Through this new ministry (www.Flocktoc.com), the potential for spreading the three angels’ messages across the planet is huge. And it looks as though Google just joined the missionary movement. Well, sort of. If Google is able to complete their task, which there is no reason to believe they won’t, every human being will soon have the opportunity to access the Internet. And with that access, they will have the possibility of talking face-to-face with you, the online missionary.

So although Google might not admit to the fact that they are involved in the evangelization of the world for Jesus Christ, in a certain sense they are. Their dream of balloons flying in the midst of heaven has a strange familiar ring to it. Who knows, I wouldn’t even be surprised if some of those balloons were shaped like angels. :)
look of exhaustion clouding his gaze. It turned out that he was packing up his belongings by himself before his house was to be bulldozed. We offered to help and that was when he told us he had heart problems and a heart transplant, making the task even more difficult. Throughout the week, we cleared out Bill’s house while getting to know his story. Each item we boxed seemed to hold a memory, and Bill enjoyed reminiscing about them. It was almost like therapy to him. Because of the amount of time spent with Bill, we were given the opportunity to pray for him. He wasn’t the type of person who openly expressed his gratitude, but one could feel it in his mannerisms and that was enough for all of us.

Another survivor we encountered while door to door hunting was Lois. Mrs. Litchfield and I were paired up and we honestly were about to skip her house because it looked like the house was intact and there were no cars in the driveway. For some reason, we decided to check anyway and sure enough Lois emerged from her front door. Her story was incredibly heartbreaking. She got news the morning of the tornado that her husband had passed away while in hospice. After listening to Lois's story, we prayed for her. Unlike Bill, her gratitude was poured out in hugs, kisses, thank yous, and tears. We parted from Lois with a hopeful spirit and a feeling of gratefulness towards God for guiding us to her.

As the week progressed, we moved bricks, hauled tree limbs, picked up trash, raked debris, and mowed lawns. We only affected a small neighborhood out of the 1200 homes destroyed in Moore, but it felt good to see “our neighborhood” recovering. We also did cleanup in the town’s Veterans Park and worked at the ACS (Adventist Community Services) Center at the Hope Adventist Fellowship (Moore Adventist Church) unloading a semi-trailer of supplies, and aided with organizing and cleaning.

On the very last day of labor, as part of our group went to seek out people who needed help, they encountered a 17-year-old girl stopped in her car. Joëlle approached her to offer the ACS business card, and the group discovered that the girl, Ashley, was driving by her house to see if the city had bulldozed it yet. Apparently she had been driving by daily, and on this day, she found her house in the form of a large stack of debris. Ashley told the group that the house was all she had known growing up, and discovering it as a pile of trash was an emotional sight.

Also, as an upcoming high school senior, Ashley especially felt the strain of planning for college. Because the family had nowhere to live, they had joined their relatives in one house. After the group prayed for Ashley, Mrs. Litchfield advised her to visit the ACS Center to receive basic supplies. Fortunately, Ashley heeded Mrs. Litchfield and experienced the benevolence of the church.

In the week that we spent listening, working, and loving on people, I learned above all to thank God for every little blessing. It amazed me how almost everyone who had damage done to their homes or lost their homes never said a word of anger and never blamed God. They always claimed to be blessed. If the survivors can still feel blessed even after going through such trauma, then surely we can forget about our problems and count our blessings before they are gone. ☺
CAR WASH FOR MISSIONS:
Service Camp kids, comprised of the older kids at VBS, will be holding car washes on Thursday and Friday, June 27 and 28, from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m., in front of AW Spalding. The donations given will be for this year's VBS project, purchasing food and medicines to be distributed in Haitian orphanages that the youth will be working in during a mission trip next Spring Break.

THIS WEEK’S WORSHIP SERVICES will highlight events from VBS and incorporate the VBS praise team. VBS kids will be encouraged to attend particularly the Renewal service at 11:35 a.m. Come enjoy seeing what our kids have done at VBS and hear the songs they’ve learned.

INTERNATIONAL NURSING STUDENT needs a temporary (no commitment) place to live for 2-6 months by July 1. It can be a room in someone’s house, shared apartment or basement. All options are considered. Presently lives in a house that is in foreclosure and has to move out by July 1. Looking for any options: can negotiate rent price or services for exchange for rent.

IN MEMORY

Helen Barto, mother of Mike Barto and Wayne Barto, passed away June 7. Services were held June 11. Memorial contributions can be made to the Orange Grove Center, 615 Derby Street, Chattanooga, TN 37404.

Paul Evert Gray, father of Susie Johnson and Janet Clark, passed away June 13 in Texas. Services will be held June 29 at the Joshua Church in Joshua, Texas. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Joshua Adventist Multigrade School, 1912 Conveyor Dr, Joshua TX 76058.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK our Church Family for the lovely flowers and visits. Your care, concern, and love were most comforting.
—The Helen Barto Family

CELEBRATE A CENTURY with Alice Tornow, who will be 100 years old on July 20. Her daughter, Joyce Dick, and family are honoring her with a time of joy and good wishes in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, July 20, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. All are invited. No gifts, please. Your presence would be the greatest blessing she could receive.

BOYS CAYA SUMMER BASKETBALL CAMP for grades 9-12, is July 21-23, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the CA Gym. Pay the $80 fee to the Church Office. For more information, email doctull@yahoo.com.

THE BOWMAN HILLS CHURCH SCHOOL & BAND RUMMAGE SALE (300 Westview Dr. Cleveland) is July 17-19. Donations are accepted in the gym through Sunday July 14, but the earlier the better. Larger, nice items can be picked up (only if necessary). Call Lee Uhelski at 715-5323 to schedule a pick-up.

**CALENDAR**

**Wednesday, June 26**
9:00 a.m.  VBS
10:00 a.m.  55+ Activities
7:00 p.m.   Intercessory Prayer Group

**Thursday, June 27**
9:00 a.m.  VBS
10:00 a.m.  55+ Bible Study

**Friday, June 28**
9:00 a.m.  VBS
7:00 p.m.   DivorceCare

**Sabbath, June 29**
9:00 a.m.  Adoration 1: Carole Verrill
          Adult Sabbath Schools
10:15 a.m. Adoration 2: Carole Verrill
          Sabbath Schools
11:35 a.m. Connect: Andy Nash
11:35 a.m. Renewal: VBS

**Wednesday, July 3**
10:00 a.m.  55+ Activities
7:00 p.m.   Intercessory Prayer Group

**Thursday, July 4**
Church Closed

**Friday, July 5**
Church Closed

**Sabbath, July 6**
9:00 a.m.  Adoration 1: Dave Smith
          Adult Sabbath Schools
10:15 a.m. Adoration 2: Dave Smith
          Sabbath Schools
11:35 a.m. Connect: Andy Nash
11:35 a.m. Renewal: Dave Smith

**Offering:** Vacation Bible School
8:59 p.m.   Sunset