SONRISE IS THIS WEEKEND

SonRise is Sabbath, April 4. Finishing touches are being put on costumes and props. Rehearsals are running smoother as actors put themselves into the scenes. Schedules are being set and sleepless nights have begun for many.

Over 7,000 tickets were distributed at the Mall. All tickets are gone. Tickets are required for ALL Pageants. Even if in costume, you must have a ticket. Costumed cast will be given a ticket by checking in with your scene director SonRise morning.

If you by chance picked up tickets and will not need them, turn them in to the Church office as soon as possible so they can be redistributed. We have many people who call in requesting tickets.

If you find out Sabbath morning you have an extra ticket, bring it with you and turn it in to the Information Desk. We have a group whose job is to collect the extra tickets and redistribute them to those who come without tickets.

If you do not have tickets, you may wait in line SonRise day to see if any extra tickets have been turned in. We cannot guarantee you'll be able to go through at that specific time, or at all.

If none of these options are for you, we encourage you to visit one of the many Adventist churches in the area that day.

ARISE & BUILD COMMUNITY

If our goal is to increase space for small groups, fellowship and special programming, why are we building an addition to the church which will house our own ministries such as children’s Sabbath School classes, Pathfinders, and Kiddie Kampus?

Building the addition to house these ministries will strengthen these ministries helping them be more effective. It will also free space in the existing facility to offer more small group experiences that can occur at the same time. Presently only eight small groups can meet in our facility at one time. We would like to double that. We also recognize that the new addition, in combination with renovation of our existing facility, can provide better spaces for fellowship and relevant programming for those who choose to visit our church family or those we invite.

ADOPT-A-STUDENT FAMILY PICNIC

by Katie Verrill

About two years ago, the Collegedale Church started a ministry entitled “Adopt-A-Student.” The premise behind it was to help college students find a home away from home in their church community and family. We were surprised to see how many students quickly signed up for this ministry—clearly desiring a deeper sense of support and love. Thankfully, our church family welcomed these students with open arms, giving a couple hundred students adopted homes.

As is expected, the project has not been without its kinks and trials, but overall it continues on page 3, Picnic...
MUY CONTENTO

by Wolf Jedamski

I was afraid the Caribbean Sea was too cold for our eight baptismal candidates, especially for our sweet grandma who had just taken her stand for Christ. But as she said over and over again while awaiting her turn, “muy contento” I realized that “very happy/satisfied” was also our Collegedale Church mission team’s heart cry that final Sabbath as we celebrated an eventful God led trip to Cuba during our Spring break.

From their very first invitation, God had stepped into the planning process and gave us numerous revelations of His leading. When the invitation came from the Trinidad church members for us to come and do a reaping series of meetings for their church and one for their church plant in the nearby town of Casilda, we already had another mission trip planned during the suggested dates.

The Collegedale Church agreed to pay the moving expenses, a year’s rent and a salary stipend for a Bible worker to move to Casilda but stressed that we would not be able to come ourselves. The question however, is what do we do when the word comes back that the church members are fasting and praying that God would “part the Red Sea” and make it possible? The week that news arrived, literally everyone who was signed up for the other trip, backed out and those plans had to be scraped! Cuba was a go! “Grandma”, BTW, was one of the first two members to be baptized into that new house church!

The answers to prayer simply continued throughout the trip. Several airline personnel told us we could not take the two electronic pianos we were donating, but then without discussion or argument, loaded them onto the baggage conveyors. The Cuban customs agents looked right past those two huge boxes and didn’t even see them. Bibles that we had shipped a year ago arrived Friday morning so we could give every meeting attendee their own personal Bible that evening after our last session. After numerous proactive friendship overtures from several of our team members, a Santería witch doctor came to the last meeting asking for a Bible for himself. Numerous decisions were made for Christ and for baptism—most of them involving huge personal issues that had to be overcome often possible only through prayer.

These answers to prayers, even more than making new friends within those two Cuban towns, strengthened our faith and humbled us to know God would use us to help provide those answers and to assist in fulfilling His Great Commission. We also were “muy contento!”

Huge thanks go out to our members who supported this mission with their prayers and donations. We couldn’t have done this without the overall church family’s support. 🍀

THE BLESSING FOR 7TH GRADERS

Seventh graders and parents, you are invited to join us here in the Youth Room for “The Blessing”. This is an opportunity to celebrate our young people following Jesus as they transition from childhood into the teen years. There will be an opportunity for parents to create and pray a blessing for their child and we will commemorate that moment with a specially designed challenge coin for each child. It will be held in the Activity Room on April 10 at 7:00 p.m. Contact Tim Cross, William Hurtado, or Carole Verrill at (423) 39-2134 for more information. 🍀

IN MEMORY

Allyce Miyagi, mother of Al Miyagi and Janie MacLean, passed away March 20. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

June Taylor, mother of David Taylor, passed away March 15. Services were held March 29.

Virginia Pitts, wife of Harley and mother of Cheri Roberts passed away March 1. A memorial service will be held April 18 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. 🍀
Nicaragua Mission Participants Tell Heart-Wrenching Stories

by William Hurtado

“I started crying, and this one girl came up to me and began wiping off my tears and gave me her toy and gave me a hug. It was so sweet; they care so much about you. They have so much joy when they have so much less than we do.” At one of our nightly worship times in Nicaragua, students debriefed their missionary work at Pajarito Azul, a refuge home for abandoned and orphaned disabled children and adults.

“I imagined Jesus being on this earth. Working at Pajarito Azul made me picture Him visiting places like that, and He would be wrapping his arms around them. I remember we were sitting stroking that boy’s hair—the one with the twisted spine—we started singing “Jesus loves the little children.” That song just really hit me that Jesus cares for all the little children of the world—no matter what you are going through—it really hit me and brought me to tears. It was really meaningful.” The mission group of 18 that our church supported visited Pajarito Azul and other orphanages throughout the week.

“Going there really taught me a sense of humility because we think our lives are so good—even I think some of my life is simple—but we look at them and even the simplest things make them happy. I went up and held this girl’s hand and the biggest smile came across her face. That made her so happy just to have someone pay her attention.”

The 18 participants who the church sent to Nicaragua are Allie Johnson, Ally Nash, Ashlyn Howell, Emily Miller, Felipe Granada, Garret Delgado, Henrichka Joseph, Jordan Madrigal, Karen Delgado, Maison Baldwin, Morgan Nash, Noelle Baldwin, Nina Madrigal, Selah Hurtado, Tyler Cordwell, Mariah Clark, Sydney Davis, William Hurtado. We thank you for sending us, and invite you to join us on the next trip. “Go unto all the world!”

For pictures and video of the Nicaragua mission trip, visit www.cayayouth.com.

Picnic continued from page 1

has helped to provide a deeper sense of connection and community for our church and school family. Our hearts have been warmed by the many adopted families who have grown to love and cherish each other in ways we could have never imagined. As we look back over these past two years, we are constantly overjoyed by the positive testimonies we have heard from such a simple ministry.

This spring, in celebration of all that has happened as a result of the Adopt-A-Student ministry, we would like to deepen our connection by further uniting our families together for a potluck picnic at the Student Park. We invite all of our adopted families to join us on April 18 at 1:00 pm. for food and fellowship. We ask each family to bring 2 dozen finger sandwiches and a large salad of some sort—vegetable, fruit, or pasta. The church will provide drinks, desserts, and plastic wear. I can only imagine the joy God feels when he sees His people lovingly communing together. This Adopt-A-Student Family Picnic is an opportunity for all of us to experience this joy together.
Church Services will not be held due to SonRise. Tickets required for all Pageants.

Offering: SonRise
8:03 p.m. Sunset

Tuesday, April 7
10:00 a.m. Women’s Bible Studies
6:30 p.m. Women’s Bible Studies

Wednesday, April 8
10:00 a.m. 55+ Activities
6:30 p.m. Pathfinders
7:00 p.m. Intercessory Prayer Group

Thursday, April 9
10:00 a.m. 55+ Bible Study

Friday, April 10
8:00 p.m. University Vespers

Sabbath, April 11
8:45 a.m. Adoration 1: Dave Smith
Adult Sabbath Schools
10:15 a.m. Adoration 2: Dave Smith
Sabbath Schools
11:35 a.m. Connect: Campout due to CA Alumni Weekend
11:35 a.m. Renewal: Dave Smith

Offering: Christian Record Services
8:09 p.m. Sunset