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GIVING UP THE TRADITIONAL HOLIDAYS

The end of a year marks a significant time for many. A time for reflection, for planning, for new goals and aspirations. For the more than 400 people who have gone on mission trips between Thanksgiving and the New Year, the end of 2010 represents a time to give.

“It’s wonderful to see how other people celebrate Christmas. Every year it’s been a very special experience because you’ve been somewhere else for Christmas,” says Judy Shull, who just returned from Chiapas, Mexico where she and her husband, David, led a project. This marked their fourth mission trip in a row over the Christmas holidays.

“We really enjoy learning about other cultures and celebrating Christmas with other Adventists,” she adds. “Wherever it’s been, they draw you into their church family. They have a sense of community we don’t necessarily have in the United States.”

Ten of the 18 people who went on the project had been on a trip with the Shulls over Christmas. “They’re the most memorable Christmases,” Judy says. “We’re helping to strengthen other Adventists in small communities—that’s been the neatest thing. We know what a worldwide church we have, but the communities we go to don’t always know that.”
Five groups went to Mexico between Thanksgiving and the end of the year, building One-Day Churches complete with walls. Two more groups went to India, and the popular Christmas Family Project in Honduras this year hosted a large group of nearly 135 volunteers.
FIRST-EVER HISPANIC MARANATHA CONVENTION TO BE HELD

Maranatha will hold its first-ever Hispanic convention at the Calvary Assembly Orlando Church in Winter Park, Fla. Feb 26. Alejandro Bullón, a Seventh-day Adventist evangelist, will be the main speaker for the event, and Christian recording artist Steve Green will provide the music.

"For more than 40 years, Maranatha's volunteers have ministered in Latin American countries, building churches and schools. We're excited to be able to reach out to the Spanish-speaking community in the United States and share the Maranatha story in Spanish," says Kyle Fiess, vice president of marketing and projects.

The convention will highlight Maranatha's work around the world, including the One-Day Church and One-Day School projects. Additional speakers will include Melchor Ferreyra, Gilberto Araujo and others.
The event will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. A free lunch will be provided.

YOU MUST BE LOGGED IN TO LEAVE A COMMENT

3 COMMENTS

Douglas Osorio said...

¡Bienvenidos a Florida! Damos gracias a Dios por el trabajo maravilloso que Uds. están haciendo en diferentes partes del mundo. Recientemente un miembro de mi iglesia en Orlando me dijo: "...Estoy feliz en poder ir a la Convención Hispana de Maranatha aquí en Orlando, ellos cuentan con todo mi respeto, este fin de semana están terminando la iglesia donde yo crecí en mi país. Yo le conteste que para allá voy con mucho gusto y llevaré a mis miembros, pues también soy testigo de las iglesias y el seminario que hicieron en mi país. Sin dudas que Dios está usando este ministerio para el avance de su obra. Nos vemos el 26 de febrero Dios mediante, para celebrar esas bendiciones con uds. - Pr Douglas de Jesús Osorio.- Distrito Hispano de Kissimmee. Orlando, FL.

1/27/2011 8:54:48 AM

E. David Lopez said...

Hi Chidi, Yes of course you can join us. Know that the meetings will be 100% in Spanish.

1/17/2011 10:53:09 AM

Chidi Nwaejigh said...

I am from Africa can i attend this program?

12/31/2010 4:31:17 AM

OTHER RECENT POSTS:

- **Experience Malawi**  Thursday, June 23, 2011
  If you are looking for an exciting yet rewarding summer adventure, consider joining Maranatha’s volunteer project in Malawi, August 10-24, 2011. Volunteers will construct the Manja ...

- **Maranatha Responds to Increasing Needs in India**  Thursday, June 23, 2011
  Maranatha Responds to Increasing Needs in IndiaSince 1998 Maranatha has worked with the Seventh-Day Adventist Church in India to build churches and schools. That work continues at a steady ...

- **Register Now for Maranatha’s Annual Convention**  Thursday, June 23, 2011
  Register Now for Maranatha’s Annual ConventionJoin us for Maranatha’s annual convention near Portland, Ore. Sept. 23 and 24. Volunteers and guests from around the world will share ...
Remember when we built 1,000 churches in 1,000 days? Though a big accomplishment for its time, it’s amazing what just a couple of years can do. With the One-Day Church program, Maranatha is reaching thousands upon thousands of additional people each year.

"It wasn’t very long ago that we were praising God for 1,000 churches in 1,000 days," Maranatha President Don Noble told the nearly 1,400 people attending the annual convention near Portland, Ore. in September. “Now, in just one year, more than 1,000 churches have been constructed. In the history of Maranatha, we have never been able to say that.”

However, there’s still so much more to be done. Maranatha currently has some 100,000 requests for church buildings and 45,000 for classrooms. Hard to fathom? You bet. But with your help, we will continue to meet some of those needs.

As you plan your giving for 2011, please consider Maranatha. Your funds will create a new church in Malawi, provide walls for a congregation in Mexico, or build a school for children without access to an education.
Stacey-Ann Linton said...

Continue to do the wonderful job you are doing volunteers. I want to particularly encourage young people-students-to give to this cause. Believe me, I never thought I could give anything, and though I am not always consistent (it is my desire that God will help me to do that), I try to give as often as possible. Finally, giving should not be done out of abundance— it should be a sacrifice. Therefore, when you give it should have cost you. Be blessed in 2011. God speed! Maranatha! Jesus is coming soon!

1/9/2011 10:04:20 AM
If you’re between 14 and 18 years of age, join us for a “Jump Start” to the New Year. Maranatha will host an event Jan. 14 to 15 for teenagers who have been on a mission project or are interested in going on one.

“This is one way to stay spiritually inspired between mission experiences,” says Steve Case, Jump Start coordinator. “If you have already been on Maranatha’s Ultimate Workout mission project for teens, or if you are considering going, this weekend is perfect for you.”

The weekend will feature workshops on mission and leadership. Teens will be inspired to make a difference for God on a mission trip as well as where they live and go to school. They’ll also interact with other teens that are passionate about connecting with God and serving others. Click here to learn more.
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The One-Day Church has sparked a new and exciting way of providing many more houses of worship around the world. Watch this week’s episode of Maranatha Mission Stories to see how this simple, solid structure is changing the lives of thousands.

Maranatha Mission Stories airs on Hope Channel Sunday at 9 p.m. PST and Thursday at 5 p.m. PST, and on Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN) Friday at 6:30 p.m. PST.

YOU MUST BE LOGGED IN TO LEAVE A COMMENT

1 COMMENTS

Vincent Mkandawire said..
Thank you Maranatha and ASI Team for a wonderful church building programme in Malawi. My village church in Mzuzu at Kandirinde at home is one of the many beneficiaries of this programme the people are now worshipping under a decent roof. I have one question about another congregation at Chitipi in Central Malawi in Lilongwe which was also earmarked for such a project, is the programme still on or not? Thank you May God bless you. Vincent A.L.Mkandawire

1/6/2011 8:07:32 AM