

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD



District Update

South Dakota Assemblies of God

Winter 06-07



Christ in Christmas: Essential Like Hot Cocoa on Cold Days

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THE SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT UPDATE
YOUR CONNECTION TO MINISTRIES, NEWS & EVENTS



UPDATE

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The Gift of Hospitality

It was 2 AM on Thanksgiving morning in 1995. Rachel, the girls, and I were just pulling into the driveway of our new home in Rapid City. That night we slept in sleeping bags, surrounded by stacks of moving boxes. We were awakened by the doorbell and a special delivery from Cliff and Rosaline Gross: a basket of freshly baked muffins, cold orange juice, and fresh fruit. Included was an invitation to join them that afternoon to celebrate Thanksgiving with our newly adopted family. Even though we were miles away from our families, we were the recipients of warm South Dakotan hospitality.



I can think of countless other times that we've been "adopted" by the church family. I remember the game nights at Rudebusch's and invitations for pie over at Ray and Fran Henrick's. I recall the summer picnics at the Griep's or crochet tournaments with the Skogstads. Whether it was being included in caroling at a nursing home on Christmas Eve with the Kadings and Morgans, spending Thanksgiving with the Gross and Stetler families, or hunting with the Langenfelds or the Coles, we've been blessed with friends who, time after time, have extended their arms to embrace our family as their own.

Let me encourage you to start a new tradition in your home by including someone who would otherwise have no family to celebrate with. Jesus was very clear about how we should treat widows and orphans. But we can go far beyond that to include the folks who just moved to town, the single mom and her kids, the college student who can't travel home, and anyone else who could use some "family." Once we get into the spirit of including the excluded, reaching out to the lonely, and extending ourselves beyond what is comfortable, I'm sure you'll find that people appreciate a special invitation all year round—not just at the Holidays.



Be blessed this holiday season and all through the year!

Rev. Stephen Schaible
SD Superintendent

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Good Reports From Native American Ministries

There have been so many good reports from our Native American Ministries. Precious souls have come into God's Kingdom and ministries have taken on new life! Now, as we enter autumn and early winter, there will be new opportunities on the reservations for ministry during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons. I ask you to remember our faithful pastors and teachers by sending a card, a word of encouragement and by earnest prayer as they labor in Indian country. Those serving our Native brothers and sisters are:

Randy and Rebecca Jensen PO Box 233 Lower Brule, SD 57548	Owen and Lynette Minks PO Box 251 Midland, SD 57552	Eugene King Sioux Assembly of God 618 7th Ave. W. Apt. 7 Mobridge, SD 57601	Eric & Amanda Sutton Gabe and Leon Schwartz Patricia Wilkinson Terry and Kathy Michels Cody Aldridge PO Box 108 Oglala, SD 57764
Rocky & Emily White Mountain Good News Assembly of God PO Box 824 McLaughlin, SD 57642	Gus and Terry Craven All Nations Family Worship Ctr. PO Box 304 Mission, SD 57555	Bob and Judy Koscak John and Gay Davis PO Box 2180 Rapid City, SD 57709	
Bob and Carol Beasley Dakota Gospel Assembly 206 3rd Ave. East Sisseton, SD 57262	Dennis and Martha Preston Wagner Assembly of God PO Box 28 Wagner, SD 57380		

"For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown for His name's sake..."
Heb. 6:10

Pictured here are Chief Oliver Red Cloud of Pine Ridge Reservation and Evangelist Cody Aldridge of the Oglala ReCreation Center. In August, during powerful two-week Evangelistic services, Chief Red Cloud gave his heart to Jesus. This is a major break-through. Please visit www.josephco.net for further information about these special services and Chief Red Cloud's story.



Rev. Tim Harris
Native American Ministries Director



A Call To Action

As we approach the end of the year and begin to plan for the new year, many will be thinking about their new year budgets. Many churches will be planning their missions budgets as well. With all that is happening in our world, it is certain the coming of our Lord is drawing near. We do not have much time left to complete our assignment of reaching our world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. May I suggest that we do more than ever this coming year. We cannot cut back, nor can we just maintain the status quo. We must gear up - Jesus is coming! This is true for both the individual as well as the local church.

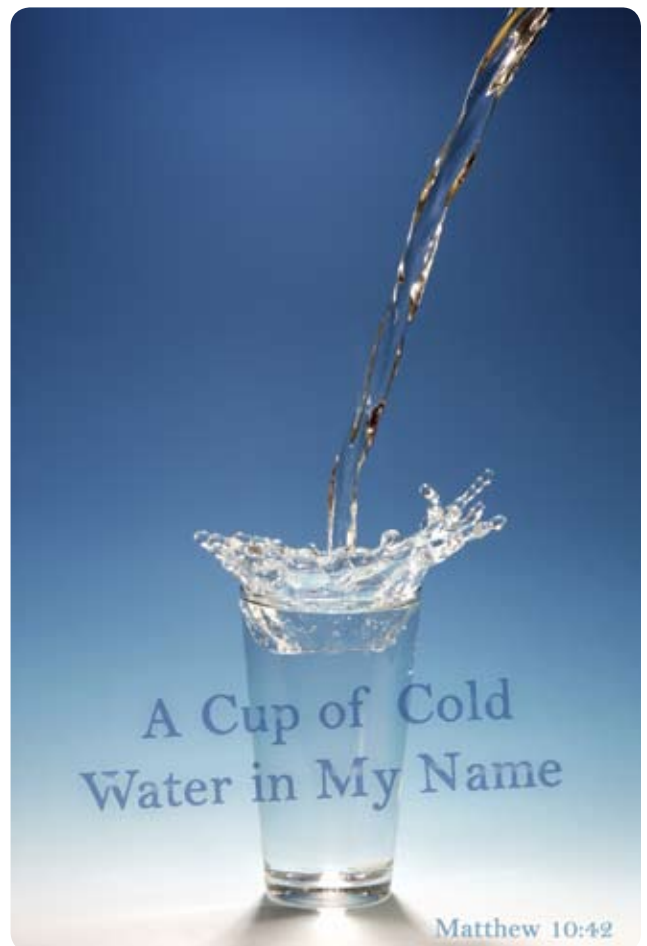
Howard McQuilkin lists five reasons Christians FAIL to get into missions:

1. We don't care that much;
2. We don't see very well;
3. We think there must be some other way;
4. Our prayer is peripheral; and/or
5. Someone isn't listening.

Pastor Howard Cummings suggests three Biblical reasons Christians SHOULD get into missions:

1. OPPORTUNITY - Never before has their been so many doors open to missions work. James 4:17 says, "anyone ... who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins."
2. NEED - A characteristic of every true believer is to be sensitive to human need. "If anyone has material possessions and see his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?" (1 John 3:17)
3. OBEDIENCE - The most paramount reason of all. The Great Commission is not a suggestion - it is a command. Jesus told us to take the Gospel to everyone. No Christian is excluded from the Master's orders.

Rev. Ron Traub
District Missions Director



Sacrifice Youth Convention

This year's youth convention featured speaker Roosevelt Hunter and worship with No Ordinary Legacy. God moved in powerful ways through the services and activities of the weekend.

Roosevelt challenged the students to move out of their comfort zone and to live on the edge. We have heard reports of students following that advice and becoming more bold in their faith in their schools.

Saturday afternoon, students had the option to participate in a two-hour outreach called Impact: Pierre. During this outreach the students would "adopt-a-block" and go door-to-door asking if they could rake leaves, pick up trash, do other service projects, and simply pray with the homeowner.

Several students were able to participate for the first time in an outreach that impacted a community. Nearly 1/3 of the students at youth convention were a part of Impact: Pierre.



God has given us all a variety of talents. March 23-24 your students have the opportunity to gather in Sioux Falls to showcase those talents.

Each year students from across the state come together and present drama, music, poetry, short sermon, and more. These presentations come in the form of individual entries as well as groups.



To find out more information on how your students can be involved in the South Dakota Fine Arts, check out our website at www.faf.atripleshot.com.

Teen Bible Quiz

Romans 12 instructs us to be transformed by the renewing of our mind. The study of and memorization of Scripture is the best way to renew your mind. The end result is a transformed life.

Let me introduce you to the best resource available to get your students to memorize God's word. Any middle and high school student can participate in Bible Quiz with other students from their church.

Not only do they travel for monthly competitions, meet friends from across the state, and learn how to win and lose with a Christ-like attitude, but they get the added bonus of memorizing Scripture that will be with them for the rest of their life.

So what does it take to start Bible Quiz in your church? It's quite simple; to get started you need one adult to coach your team (basically help challenge the students to stay encouraged and keep studying the Word), and at least two students who will commit to study the book of Acts.



It's not too late to join for this quizzing season. If you need more information or would like to schedule a session with our youth director to help get you started or cast vision to students and parents, please contact Mark at mark@sdag.org.

HonorBound Retreats Coming Soon

Our HonorBound annual men's retreats are just around the corner the first two weekends of March, 2007. Our speaker is Randy Ruiz who speaks regularly to men all over the country. He will be conducting this year's Champions of Honor ceremony at the men's retreats. If you wonder if it's worth the effort for you as pastors to encourage your men to go through this process of becoming a Champion of Honor, I'd like you to read the following testimony of Scott Reinhardt from Hill City. He will be getting his sword at this year's HonorBound Retreat at Kamp Kinship on March 9-10. See our home page for HonorBound at www.sdhonorbound.com, and watch for more details coming up!

*Rev. Jeff Mantz
District HonorBound Director*

MY EXPERIENCE WITH THE CHAMPIONS NETWORK

I have been coordinating the men's group at Lighthouse Assembly of God in Hill City, SD for a couple of years. Last January we had a wild game feed where Jeff Mantz, SD HonorBound Director, issued a "Champions" challenge. My wife was involved in a serious motor vehicle accident in February and I didn't get started on the Champions Resource Training until April.

The brochure states in part: "The Champions Network is a formation of men who desire to grow in their relationship with God and become more fully equipped in ministering to men." That's exactly what it has done for me. I feel that I am walking closer with the Lord than I ever have and I know that I am better equipped to serve Him. One of the books I read in this study, "Wild at Heart," gave me a new insight into why I do some of the crazy things I have been known to do, while much of the other study was directed at helping me be able to channel this energy to the service of God.

During the six months that I have been working on completing the Champions Resource Training, I have become involved in another men's ministry with a Christian motorcycle club. Having had a passion for motorcycles for over 36 years, I am very excited about where the Spirit is leading. Praise be to God!

My discipling has centered around the men in my church's men's group, my partner at work, and the men in a Christian motorcycle club. The first thing that is different is that I realize the importance of discipleship. I have often found myself in leadership positions, either formally or informally, but have not used that gift to lead others in their relationship with the Lord. I am now growing in my ability to know and follow the Holy Spirit and have added knowledge to my spiritual toolbox that aides me in my discipleship efforts.

*Submitted by Scott A. Reinhardt
Future Champion of Honor*



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*Minister's Wives
&
Credentialed Women*

**Breakaway
Chamberlain
February 23-24, 2007**

Contact Rachel Schaible for More Information

"Great Escape" News

Here's an update on the "Great Escape" Fall retreat at Kamp Kinship. There were about 90 women who attended this year. In speaking with them, most agreed that this was one of the best retreats ever. The message that Christa brought was not just one of encouragement but also one of sending. We believe that this was a weekend ordained by God to speak to us as His daughters.

The workshops that were presented were full of information to take back with us and put into our everyday lives, along with the new friendships that were birthed. Remember, part of the most important things about a retreat (a time away with and for God) is the journey in getting there.

I pray that you even now plan on setting aside time next year for the Fall Retreat. Mark on your calendar the first weekend in October 2007 . . . Expecting God to Move Always in Your Lives.

Also mark on your calendars for "Planting into the Kingdom." The Spring Luncheon registration information will be coming, and commissary shopping will be available during District Council as well. Begin planning now to join us in Pierre on Wednesday, April 11th.

Christmas candy money, and Christmas gifts for the SD Foreign Missionaries are due by 1st of November. Please be sure to get these in. If you would like information regarding how to be a part of this giving please contact sdwmunlimited@yahoo.com.



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ONETHING OR NOTHING

God longs for us to boldly pursue Him with all that we are as we lay aside the distractions and dare to give ourselves totally to Him. He calls us to love Him with ALL our hearts and ALL our minds (Mt. 22:37). What would happen if we became radical and began to truly take God at His Word?

In this conference we will offer ourselves to God in passionate worship and prophetic music. Come and experience night & day extravagant worship as we encounter God in the power of the Spirit.

Join us for onething 2006, where over ten thousand young adults will gather in Kansas City to call upon the name of the Lord.

www.IHOP.org



M. Phyllis Crouch

December 25, 1913-November 5, 2006

M. Phyllis Crouch was born in Liverpool, England on Christmas day 1913. She had been a resident of South Dakota, Missouri, Iowa, and lived in Costa Mesa, California for the last 30 years. Phyllis was an Assemblies of God minister for 53 years. She was a minister and pastor in the South Dakota District. She co-pastored the Newel church for 6 years with Doris Nixon.

On November 5, 2006 Phyllis Crouch passed away suddenly in Albuquerque, New Mexico and entered into the presence of God. She is survived by her caring brother, Louis Crouch of Albuquerque, New Mexico and two loving sisters, Maxine Gutel of Grand Prairie, Texas, and Esther Bates of Albuquerque, New Mexico, and many nieces and nephews who loved and respected her.

Phyllis loved to talk about the faithfulness of God. She often spoke of the many miracles she had seen God perform. Phyllis loved to tell the story of how God miraculously healed her from polio that she contracted during the 1952 epidemic.

Funeral services were held on Monday, November 13 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Internment service was in Storm Lake, Iowa. A memorial service was held in Costa Mesa, California on November 20.

Praise the Lord!

Greetings once again in the wonderful name of Jesus! In Isaiah 28:3-4 we read; "You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you, trust in the Lord always for the Lord God is the eternal Rock." How we thank God for His peace and the assurance that He is our eternal rock! We are blessed beyond measure.

Our Fall Retreat in September was outstanding; we had a good number in attendance and the ministry of James & Vicky Griep was powerful. James is a South Dakota native and several of his siblings and extended family attended. Their ministry and fellowship blessed us all. We had precious times around the altar after the services, and God's presence was felt throughout the camp. The "Golden Sounds Quartet" ministered in each service and we enjoyed their ministry so much as well. Thank you to all who so willingly helped in various ways to make our retreat a very successful and blessed time together.

We are looking forward to the 2007 retreat, which will once again be held at Camp Judson, September 5-7. Our speaker and musicians will be David and Ladonna Weston. David was recently appointed Seniors Ministries Director in Springfield, MO. Brother Dave plays piano and his wife, Ladonna, plays marimba. For many years, he has been actively involved in music ministry and senior adult ministry.

We are looking forward, with great anticipation, to the Spring Banquet tour April 23-28, 2007. We are blessed to have our SD Assistant Superintendent, Pastor Ron Traub, as our speaker. We look forward to a great time of refreshing and blessing. Watch for more information that will be coming in March 2007.



Again, we ask you to continue to pray for and support this very vital ministry for our senior adult population in South Dakota. Your faithfulness makes it possible for us to continue to minister throughout our state.

*In Christ's Love,
Rev. Nels & Angie Easterby
Senior Adult Ministries Directors*



ROYAL RANGERS

Pow-Wow News

Another District Pow-Wow behind us, and what an adventure it was! There were 117 boys and commanders from 10 churches across our District who took to Camp Wakpa-Puza on the banks of the Missouri River in Pierre, September 14 and 15. On Saturday, we had the awesome opportunity to march in the South Dakota Vietnam veterans "Welcome Home" parade - an event that temporarily doubled the population of Pierre, South Dakota! Honoring thousands of Vietnam era veterans who had converged on the state capitol for the Vietnam Era Veterans Memorial dedication, we weaved a path along Capitol Avenue with almost 200 other entrants in a parade that lasted over two hours. What an opportunity for us to share in that historic event! Saturday afternoon, each Outpost competed in various skills events, from sports challenges to BB guns, archery to the District Pinewood derby.

Congratulations to Watertown Foursquare for being this years Top Outpost. New Life Assembly in Pierre came in second. Rapid City First Assembly and Fountain of Life Assembly in Hot Springs tied for third. Levi Malterud of Watertown Foursquare came in first place in the District Pinewood Derby. Aric McKnight of Spearfish came in second. Reeca Malterud of Watertown Foursquare came in third. In the order of special recognition, Adam McKnight of Spearfish received his Bronze Medal of Achievement. Evan Glanzer of Lead received his Bronze and Silver Medals of Achievement.

Saturday afternoon, about four o'clock, a horrific storm blew into camp. Lasting only about 20 minutes, it left nearly every tent in camp leveled by the wind, covered with hail and filled with water. While most campers and commanders took shelter in the dining hall, some tried to seek shelter within their campsites. In the Watertown Foursquare camp, a small contingency of boys began to offer up spontaneous praise and worship to God, looking to Christ to give them shelter from the storm rather than the things of man. As it was, their tent was the only tent in their campsite to remain standing through the storm! God is good! May we all remember the faith of those boys when we face our own storms in life.

*Reaching, Teaching, and Keeping Boys for Christ,
Rev. Tim Lillard
District Public Relations Coordinator*

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QUICK CALENDAR

December:

- 3: National Teen Challenge Day
- 25: Christmas
- 28-31: Onething or Nothing: Pursuit of the Holy [Kansas City]
- 31: New Year's Eve

January:

- 7-14: National Week of Prayer
- 11-13: Children's Pastor Retreat [Chamberlain]
- 17-25: Nigeria Trip
- 18-20: Youth Pastor Retreat [Chamberlain]
- 26-27: Royal Ranger Pow Wow
- 27: National HonorBound Day

February:

- 23-24: Ministry Women's Breakaway [Chamberlain]
- 25: National Women's Ministries Day

March:

- 2: World Day of Prayer
- 2-3: HonorBound Retreat [Huron]
- 9-10: HonorBound Retreat [Kamp Kinship]
- 11: BGMC Sunday
- 14-16: National Missionettes Leadership Conference [Springfield, MO]
- 23-24: Fine Arts Festival [Sioux Falls First A/G]
- 31: J. Robert Ashcroft Scholarship Deadline



Update

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