



Fall 2008

District Update

South Dakota Assemblies of God



*"Jesus Loves Me"
This I Hear; Will You Show Me?*

Resourcing today's church
for better ministry
to every age and walk of life



The South Dakota District Update
Your Connection to Ministries, News & Events

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

UPDATE

Our mailing address is:
PO Box 91750
Sioux Falls, SD 57109-1750

www.sdag.org
districtoffice@sdag.org

Voice (605) 367-3402
Fax (605) 367-3212

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Rev. Stephen R. Schaible
Superintendent

Rev. Ron Traub
Assistant Superintendent

Rev. Gary Wileman
Secretary-Treasurer

DISTRICT PRESBYTERS

Rev. Paul Thompson
Black Hills Section

Rev. Reggie Ballard
Central Section

Rev. Kirk Strand
South East Section

Rev. Tom Brantner
East Central Section

Rev. Cliff Sheldon
North East Section

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Rev. Ron Traub
World & US Missions

Rev. Mark Entzminger
Youth and Christian Education

Rev. Nels & Angie Easterby
Senior Adult Ministries

Rev. David Winter
HonorBound

Tim Cushman
Light for the Lost

Mike Glanzer
Royal Rangers

Rev. Mary Sheldon
Women's Ministries *Unlimited*

Julie Weller & Diana Kjerstad
Girls Ministries

The SOUTH DAKOTA UPDATE is a quarterly publication of the South Dakota District Council of the Assemblies of God located at 4220 W. 38th St. in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Christie Entzminger
Editor
update@sdag.org

POSTMASTER
Send address changes to:
SD UPDATE
PO Box 91750
Sioux Falls, SD 57109

Gold Medals and Crowns

The imaginations of millions were captured this past month as hundreds of olympiads from all over the world gathered in Beijing.

We watched in awe as one world record after another was not only broken, but shattered. And none of those record breaking performances happened by accident. These men and women have trained for years - some since they were 3 and 4 years of age with the Olympics as their goal.

As I looked into their eyes, I could see the intensity of their focus. They had only one thing in mind - competing with excellence.

Everyone has favorite events, and one of mine is men's gymnastics. These athletes aren't competing for the fastest time, but for their best performance. I did notice that they are given a limited time to do their routines. They even have a signal that sounds to give them a warning that their time is ending soon.

As I looked into their eyes, I could see the intensity of their focus. They had only one thing in mind - competing with excellence.

I've recently been thinking about how our time here on earth is quickly coming to an end. The day of the Lord's return is just around the corner. There are no more signs needed to warn us. All that's left will be a sound. The scriptures tell us that the next event will be the sound of a trumpet and the cry of the archangel.

My prayer is that we would all have the focus of these olympiads as we run the race that God has put us in. And may the performance of our life for Him bring glory to His Kingdom!

Rev. Stephen Schaible
District Superintendent
South Dakota Assemblies of God
schaible@sdag.org



MEDICAL MISSIONS OPPORTUNITY

Healing the Body - Healing the Soul

Coming in early 2009 Pastor Kirk Strand of Brandon Valley AG will be leading a medical missions team to the country of El Salvador.

If you or people from your church would be interested in participating as a member of this team (you do not need to be a medical professional), please contact Pastor Kirk Strand at (605) 582-7622 for additional details including price and dates.



How Is Your Missions Giving?

Many churches will be having Fall Missions Conventions, and many are thinking about their 2009 missions budgets. In light of this, the following information might be of some interest.

In 2007, our SD churches gave \$1,084,791.90 to foreign missions, and \$1,971,307.24 in total giving to all areas of Assemblies of God ministries. Our per capita giving was \$177.20 for the year. That is \$3.40 per week per each one sitting in our pews on a given Sunday (less than 50 cents a day).



While we are grateful for the nearly 2 million dollars invested in the Kingdom of God through our SD Assemblies of God churches, we realize that we cannot say that as a group we are all giving sacrificially. We do realize some are (even some who are giving less than 50 cents a day). We know Jesus is coming back soon, and every day around our world lost souls are going out into eternity without Christ. Let this information motivate us to do more than ever.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we would double our giving to average \$1.00 per capita! It is no time to cut back – not even in the face of recession and rising cost at the fuel pumps. We are living in a time of the greatest harvest of souls ever. We must take advantage of this day of Harvest! It is time for both churches and individuals to do more than ever. Amen! Let it be so!

*Ron Traub
SD Missions Director*

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES

Native American Ministries and Development (NAMD)

LOWER BRULE FAITH FAMILY ASSEMBLY OF GOD

The Summer proved to be full and productive!

Christmas in July, along with a "kicking" Sports Camp started our Summer this year! It all began in "full swing" with a Florida team hosting a Mega Sports Camp VBS. We had 75 kids the first day and a total of 110 total kids throughout the week. Our main sports were soccer and basketball.

The following week, a ladies team from Massachusetts put on a girls day camp and community women's outreach. The week after that, we had two teams (from Missouri and South Dakota) working on a community cleanup and BBQ. Also in July, we had another team do a second VBS program and church building work.

We had a community relations outreach for the Pow Wow in August. We were able to hand out bottled water and the Native Book of Hope!

Other Summer Highlights Include:

- We have just developed the three year master plan for our church;
- We had a summer intern, Heather Vinson, who has now headed back to Missouri;
- We are starting an AA and AI-Anon chapter at our church;
- We went on our first church missions trip to Wagner in July; and
- We are planning to have our new facility dedication October 26th! God is blessing and pouring Himself into the ministry here and the people of Lower Brule!

Pastors Randy (with the hula hoop) and Rebecca Jensen



OTLALA ReCREATION CENTER

The Oglala ReCreation Ministry Team was busy with seven teams and various individuals throughout the summer.

Leon took four of the youth girls to FCA sports camp in June. The girls had a wonderful time and God truly touched them during the week. In July, Leon took a boy to camp with the Methodist association where Leon was a counselor, and had the opportunity to teach one of the nights.

continued on page 7

National Youth Scholarship

We would like to offer congratulations to JaNae Stevenson from Howard Assembly of God, on being selected as the 2008 national J. Robert Ashcroft Scholarship Recipient.



JANAЕ STEVENSON

JaNae's hard work in church, school, and her community have helped her be recognized as one of the top students in the nation. She will receive a \$1,000.00 scholarship for being selected as the national recipient when she arrives at Trinity Bible College this fall.

El Salvador AIM Update

Thank you for all of your prayers and support as our team of 44 students and leaders headed to El Salvador in July.



Our youth outreach was very successful and was received very well by Kings Castle ministries.

Over 5,000 students attended our Saturday stadium event with around 500 souls committed to Christ. Two weekends later 225 of those new converts attended a discipleship camp to help them take their first steps with Christ.

This was only possible through the prayers and support of people throughout South Dakota. Thank you for believing in our students and in the dream God planted.

Teacher Enrichment

If you are a teacher in Sunday School, small groups, or any other church ministry, you will not want to miss the Teacher Enrichment Clinic offered at our Church Ministries Conference this Fall.

Join David Satterfield this October 24-25 at First Assembly of God in Sioux Falls for several great sessions aimed at sharpening your classroom skills and helping you maximize your teaching effectiveness.

You can find more information about our Teacher Enrichment Clinic and the Church Ministries Conference online at www.sdag.org.

Turn Your
Classroom
Into a LifeRoom!



BGMC Provides H2O X2

Every day 25,000 people die from unsafe water. 80% of sickness in the world is attributed to unsafe water. The world's number one killer is unsafe water. BGMC is doing something about it!

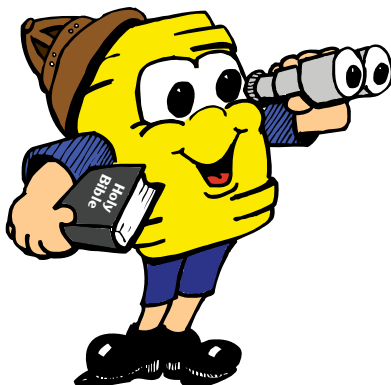


Did you know that one water well in Africa provides water for an entire community? Did you know that every time they dig for a well it costs \$10,000? Did you know that by saving your change and supporting BGMC through your local children's ministry you are providing water wells all over the country of Africa?

It's really exciting to know that whenever possible a water well is dug on church or Bible school property. This provides security for the pump and all of the functioning parts, but also gives the church and Bible school a focal point in the community. As people in the community go to the water well on church property they are given two types of water.

Water for life, and Water of Life!

We are so proud to be partners with BGMC and the Africa's Oasis to provide digging of wells in Africa. Our goal in South Dakota is to provide enough funds to dig for six wells! There are a few churches on the way right now to providing one on their own. Will your church be a part of that?



For more contribution forms and information on the BGMC Africa's Oasis project, please head online to bgmc.sdag.org.

Spring Banquet Tour 2008

Summer is fading away after a very 'different' summer season. In the scripture it reminds us that in the last days there will be various weather related changes as well as many other types of changes as well. We are certainly experiencing these things now. 2 Peter 3:13 gives us peace beyond measure. "Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." Praise the Lord!

We are anxiously looking forward to the Fall Retreat September 3-5, which will once again be held at Camp Judson in the Black Hills, just a few short weeks from this writing. We are anticipating a great time of encouragement in the Word and song, fun, food and fellowship. Larry and Gloria Lundstrom are well known and have a wonderful message, are great musicians and have a wonderful sense of humor that will keep us smiling. We know that we will be blessed.

We are happy to announce that David and Ladonna Weston, our National Senior Ministries Director, will once again favor South Dakota with their music and ministry during the Banquet Tour in 2009. Also, the 2009 Fall Retreat Speakers will be Ken and Marcie Dahlager. The Dahlager's are long time Missionaries in Latin America and continue to serve. You will enjoy their ministry. They are the parents of Joni Wileman (Gary and Joni Wileman are the pastors of Aberdeen First Assembly of God).

We just recently learned that there are some new resources available to our senior population through the National Office:

- Senior adults have contributed \$25,000+ to the AGWM Senders Fund (some have committed to a monthly pledge).
- Primeline is now available on cassette tape for the visually impaired (produced by and made available by the Center for Blind).
- SAM is partnering with Aged Ministers Assistance to inform qualified retired ministers and/or spouses of available funds.
 - SAM is working with the RVer's leadership to recruit volunteer workers.
 - Our office is working toward updating SAM resources and creating new material.



We are happy to hear of these available resources. If you have questions you may contact us at: (605) 853-3925 or by e-mail at: angie@sdag.org.

May the Lord continue to bless you as you support this ministry with your prayers and financial assistance.

*Rev. Nels & Angie Easterby
Senior Adult Ministries Directors*

2008 FALL YOUTH CONVENTION

Extraordinary

We're expecting over 800 students and leaders to gather at the Ramkota Convention Center in Pierre in early November for our Fall Youth Convention.

Featuring evangelist Mark Zweifel, the worship of One Accord, Impact Pierre, and the second annual Dodge Ball Tournament, its shaping up to be a great weekend for our students.



Students that attended this year's summer camp and completed the 21 Days After Camp journal can receive a coupon to pass along to a first-time guest which will provide a complimentary registration for their friend.*

We are also gearing up for the largest Impact Pierre outreach to date. We're still working out some details but plan a large outreach to bless the people of our capital city on Saturday afternoon.

For more information and planning details, please head to www.sdyouthconvention.com.

**Certain Restrictions Apply*

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES *UNLIMITED*

Here we go! The lively Fall season provides many opportunities to join together in His Kingdom's work.

There have been some changes in the WMU Department since the last issue. We are sorry to see our WMU Director, Dorothy Tuft-Ludens, resign with some health issues. We will continue to pray for a full recovery. We thank Dorothy for her years of service. Mary Sheldon will be acting director until a replacement has been elected.

Please note the following updated information about the WMU Fall Retreat!!!

Location: Pierre Ramkota Best Western	Speaker: Laurie Hoyt of Bellevue, NE
Date: Oct. 10-11	Theme: Victorious Living
Lodging: \$77 (up to 4 in a room) To make your hotel reservation, call (605) 224-6877 (Group Name: Assemblies of God Women)	Retreat Registration: \$35 (Due: September 25 th) More information can be found at women.sdag.org
Project: Christmas Blessings for our home missions children's ministries	

We look forward to coming together for this special time in the Lord.

Lastly, let me say how much it is appreciated by all of our missionaries and retired ministers to receive commissary items and gift cards from the WMU groups around SD. We have received many thank you cards at the District Office. You are loved and appreciated for the great effort you make each year.

In His Service,
WMU Ministry Team;
Mary Sheldon, Donna Jameson-Estabrook, Bonnie Hill, Rachel Schaible



**Victorious Living Conference
Women's Retreat**

**OCTOBER 10-11, 2008
Pierre Ramkota Inn**

Guest Speaker: Laurie Hoyt



Laurie is a wife, mother, associate pastor, but first and foremost a woman after God's heart. Her life-long verse is
Jeremiah 29:11
"For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord."
Laurie's message of hope and truth in the midst of pain, grieving & loss has been a call to women to trust in the One who holds the future in His hands.

SAVE THE DATE!

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES (CONTINUED)

The original gym is being renovated into a permanent sanctuary for adults and children, added bunk space, and a youth/fellowship/Sunday School area is being constructed.

The Rec Center had a few setbacks with the death of Elijah Kill Small and "Sparky" Ten Fingers. Leon was able to use this tragedy to really make a wake up call to the youth and drive home the seriousness of needing Jesus.

Eric is "on Fire" preaching! He and Amanda celebrated their 2nd wedding anniversary August 12th.

We will be blessed at the end of August with Mary Maedler. She will come to us from Germany as a missionary for at least 3 years.

In October, we have two concerts at the Rec Center. Ken Verhekee (who is of Alaskan blood) will be first, and then Broken Walls will join us again at the end of the month.

Fall will quickly run headlong into Winter when things will be popping and hopping to prepare for the annual "Christmas Celebration."

Last year, around 300 were blessed by the Oglala ReCreation Center and the Annual New Year's Eve Service and Celebration.

Rev. Leon Schwartz



MISSION ALL NATIONS FAMILY WORSHIP & LEARNING CENTER

We've had a very busy summer with absolutely no down time. In June a crew from Platte, SD and Pierre, SD came and poured the cement foundation for the ministry center. Two weeks later the crew from Pierre Assembly of God came back and framed the 40x100 building. The next week we had a crew from Burlington Assembly come and hang the rafters, enclose it and put on the tin siding. It is enclosed now with the bathrooms partially finished.



We are raising funds to do the interior and purchase a wood/coal boiler to heat the building with hot water in the floor. So far we are debt free, but we need to get the interior as close to done as we can so we can start using it. Thank you to so many who believe in what God wants to do here. We've had ministry teams every week holding Kid's Clubs, women's luncheons, and community outreaches in Mission and Wanblee.

Carla Felton has been doing a great job in Mission. She's heading up the ministry teams and running the learning center at All Nations. Lynnette Istre (our youth pastor) is on her way back from summer vacation with her family in Louisiana. Grady (our intern in Wanblee) is on his way back from his home in NC. Our daughter, Kelli, graduated with a nursing degree and is employed with Rapid City Regional Hospital. We are all excited that God is going to do something great in "08" in our individual ministries and on the REZ! Please pray with us and for us!

A WORD FROM LYNETTE MINCKS

We just received word from Lynette Mincks that they have raised the money to purchase the church building (photo left). The photo on the right is a picture of Lynette with a couple of the ladies from the church.

Continue to remember ALL our Native American Ministries in prayer and support. Thanks to all the churches who went to one or more of our Reservations to minister in some way this year. Please visit www.prministries.net to see continued updates on SD Native American Ministries.



Update

PO Box 91750
Sioux Falls, SD 57109

(605) 367-3402 voice
(605) 367-3212 fax

districtoffice@sdag.org
www.sdag.org

QUICK CALENDAR

September:

1: Labor Day
3-5: Senior Adult Retreat (Camp Judson)
5: Bible Quiz Registration Deadline
8-12: LFTL Tour
12-14: Royal Rangers Pow Wow (Pierre)
14-20: National Mpac Girl's Week
20: Girls Ministries Crowning (Chamberlain)
24: See You At The Pole
26-27: National MPact Girl's Sleepover
28: National Sunday School Teacher Day
29-Oct 1: Minister's Retreat (Pierre)

October:

10-11: Women's Retreat (Pierre)
19: National Speed The Light Day
24-25: Church Ministries Conference (Sioux Falls)

November:

7-9: Youth Convention (Pierre)
27: Thanksgiving

December:

25: Christmas
31: Contribution Deadline

