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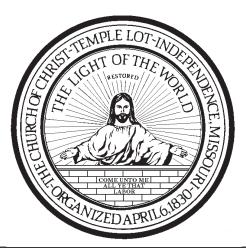
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And Fesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and J will make you fishers of men. —Matthew 4:18-19

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ZION'S ADVOCATE IS...

To promote Jesus Christ as our only Saviour; To promote His Teachings and His Church, the Church of Christ;

To be a voice of warning to His people; to be Zion's advocate.

ARTICLE

Strengthening Our YOUTH



By Apostle Joel Yates

was blessed by God to be sent to the home of parents that loved the Lord and spent countless hours in teaching me His truths. Those early days at home and attending church faithfully with my parents played such a vital role in all of my life, especially when the time came to make spiritual decisions on my own. My parents took their responsibility to share the gospel with us very seriously. I grew up in a small

local of the Church of Christ in Phoenix, Arizona. There where a handful of other kids within a few years of our age and the local church formed a group we called Young People's Group. I cannot begin to express how much of an impact that group made in my life. We were taken seriously by the ministry and they encouraged us in studies, as well as fun activities, to serve the Lord. When I struggled in those teenage years the care and love given to us from our local church people and ministry helped me spiritually survive, and our little Young People's Group was such an important feature to that survival. We could share our troubles with others our age and help and support each other through our temptations and trials. We had some wonderful services in those days, especially when other young people came at reunion time. We had such spiritual services: I shall never forget the joy we had in the Lord. It was those experiences that gave me the courage to follow the Lord and His leading in my life.

I was called to the ministry and ordained as a young man and part of the responsibility I was given by the Lord was to support and minister to the vouth of the church. It must have been needful and important to the Lord because He told me very specifically on what He wanted me to focus. I tried to do that during my early years in the ministry. Time passed and I went on to other responsibilities in the ministry, but I could never forget the youth. In the 1980s, attending ministers conferences and conferences of the General Church led to many discussions among the ministry about the need to give more support to the youth. Finally in 1990 Brother and Sister Smith and Sue Brickhouse, with the help of many others, organized the first Youth Camp on a General Church level and called it Teen Challenge. I was blessed with the privilege of attending and supporting the Youth Camp. Each of us attending as staff could see how great the need was to support the youth. The camp in 1990 was just a small group, but what a won-

derful, spiritual time we had. Since that time we have had a youth camp every summer and have seen the Lord do wonderful things among the youth that attend. A few years ago we changed the name to Teen Camp because a national organization had the name Teen Challenge. We have also had to make some changes to better respond to the needs of those we serve. Many of the staff have changed, but we continue to be committed to encouraging and strengthening our youth.

Some of you may already know most of what I have written, so why this article? I wish I could say it is just a reminder to support and strengthen your children, but I feel the need to tell you in much stronger words. The ministry and staff at our camps and often in different places throughout the church, not at camp time, have had the opportunity to work with some of the youth and have been heartbroken by the spiritual condition which they are in. Many of them have come to us and wept on our shoulders over their burdens and sometimes their sins. So often I have found their parents do not even know what they are going through, or they are not giving them the spiritual support necessary to help them. I feel the burden to warn and admonish the parents of the Church of Christ of the commandments God had given us. I must say this article is not a commercial for the Teen Camp. The Teen Camp provided by the General Church is only one week out of a year and not nearly enough for our youth to survive the spiritual dangers of our day.

The Lord felt it was important to tell His people about our time in history and how we are living in such a dangerous time spiritually. God has given specific direction to His people about surviving spiritually in this time. The Scriptures tell us in 2nd Timothy 3:1 that in the last days will be perilous times. These times will try the souls of men and the conditions of the world will weaken the resolve of God's people to overcome. If you have not noticed we are living in these perilous times, then you are not awake to the conditions that are all around you and it is time to wake up and start looking and watching. We are severally challenged and we have a responsibility as parents, grandparents and a church to support and strengthen our people, especially our young people. In the last several years while working with the youth I have come to believe we do not do a very good job in supporting them. Having many years of experience in working with the youth I know God is very interested in them and is reaching out to them. I also know the Lord gave specific responsibilities to parents as well as expectations about how they bring up their children. Let us consider several scriptures which give instruction to parents and review God's commandments to parents.

• Ephesians 6:4: And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

- Colossians 3:21: Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.
- Proverbs 22:6: Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.
- Mosiah 2:25-27: And ye will not suffer your children, that they go hungry, or naked; Neither will ye suffer that they transgress the laws of God, and fight and quarrel one with another, and serve the devil, who is the master of sin, or who is the evil spirit which hath been spoken of by our fathers; he being an enemy to all righteousness; But ye will teach them to walk in the ways of truth and soberness; ye will teach them to love one another, and to serve one another;

Fathers should be warned from these scriptures that God is going to hold us accountable for bringing up our children in the Lord. Our efforts to teach them and guide them in the short time God has left them in our care will determine the spiritual outcome of many of our children. Do not expect perfection from your children, but use every trial, struggle, or sin as teachable moments to help them see what horrible consequences they might suffer if they continue in those ways, always reassuring them of the love you have for them and the grace and love of God for them. Show them God's expectation and why it is important to follow Him. There is nothing more upsetting or discouraging to young people than waiting until they fail or go astray and then trying to straighten them out, or being angry at them when we might have helped them avoid

those pitfalls if we were guiding them in the love of the Lord. We need to be diligent in making Christ the center of our life and home life and church attendance must be important, never casual. Take time to encourage our children in the word of God and prayer if you want them to survive the perils of this time in history. Most of all, every parent should know that God wants to use your children and young men and women in their youth.

Never think your kids are not capable of doing mighty things in their youth. Teach them those stories in scripture of the young men and women that God used throughout all of time to do mighty things for His cause. Young men like David who slew a giant by faith in a mighty God, and Gideon who led 300 men against an army of 10,000 and prevailed in the strength of the Lord. Remember eight-year-old Josiah who became the most righteous king in Judah and destroyed all the idols in the land in His day. Or the 2,000 sons of Helaman who helped to conquer an army when they were severely outnumbered and were spared to the man because they believed that God could keep them and protect them. Why did they believe God could protect them? Because their mothers taught them if they did not doubt. God could deliver them.

I could go on and on about heroes and heroines in the Lord, but I think you get the point. I was blessed by a father and ministry that believed and taught me to believe God wanted to use me in my life and in my youth. If there has ever been a time in history when God needs young men and women to stand against the enemies of God, it is now. We need to prepare our young men and women to answer His call, and you can be assured God takes our kids seriously. The Lord had much to say to young people in the scriptures and it shows us He is very interested in how we bring up our children. Let us consider several scriptures where God speaks to the young:

- Ecclesiastes 12:1: Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;
- Ist Timothy 4:12-13: Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.
- Alma 17:68-70: O remember my son, and learn wisdom in thy youth; yea, learn in thy youth to keep the commandments of God; yea, and cry unto God for all thy support; Yea, let all thy doings be unto the Lord, and whithersoever thou goest, let it be in the Lord; yea, let thy thoughts be directed unto the Lord; yea, let the affections of thy heart be placed upon the Lord for ever; counsel the Lord in all thy doings, and he will direct thee for good: Yea, when thou liest down at night, lie down unto the Lord, that he may watch over you in your sleep; and when thou riseth in the morning, let thy heart be full of thanks unto God; and if ye do these things, ye shall be lifted up at the

last day.

God is calling out to the youth as He has in every time in history. He is calling on parents to make wise decisions and give attendance to their children: to prepare them for service to God and strengthen them for the trails of our day. God has provided us with many things to help us be successful. The hope that is found in His word and the strength gained by diligence in prayer must be our foundation. Church attendance and keeping our youth involved in fellowship with other young people who can share the struggles of youth and friendship are vital if they are to succeed in overcoming the world. Attending conferences and reunions when possible were a blessing to me in my youth and helped to turn the spiritual tide in my life and can be very helpful to keep our sons and daughters focused in the gospel. Last, but not least, camps and activities like the Teen Camp where they are able to face challenges and develop friendships with youth and adults alike who have a love and concern for them and are encouraging and cheering them on in a evil world.

I pray for you parents because you have a huge responsibility to your sons and daughters and to God. May we be faithful in our day in building up the foundations of those who will follow after us in the army of the living God.



TESTIMONY

Teen Camp Testimonies



-2006-

was at the New York Reunion with my family when I was asked if I was going to church camp.

"No," I answered, "the band rehearses that week and I really should be there."

I was asked multiple times and each time the questioner would give a sad little nod that communicated not only their sympathy but also the hopelessness the church was feeling as the world tore the youth away.

These nods and sympathetic smiles didn't comfort, but built a desire to go and experience the unity and spirit I would be missing. Finally, I reconsidered my situation. I was section leader for our marching band's pit percussion and our pre-camp rehearsals often determined the success of our marching season. Yet the longing to join in and further my spiritual growth tugged at me.

Finally, Kim Yates told me to pray. And I did. I prayed for those lessons I'd miss, the people I wouldn't see and the fun to be had at camp.

I e-mailed my band instructor minutes after I got home to see if he'd let me go. The next day I received a most understanding and cheerful answer. He wasn't worried about my section and told me to have a good time.

It may seem slightly insignificant to some but this small blessing will give me a much needed chance to have fun and connect with my God. And I am thankful.

-2007-

amp is a wholly unique experience. It starts with apprehension; every camper carries a cautious smile and nervous giggle. Yet the awkwardness leaves quickly in an array of pudding flinging, blindfolding fun that leaves everyone quite at ease and filled with a fondness for everyone.

There is a universal love at camp. Often noted, yet never fully explained, there's compassion in every word and a warm fuzzy feeling in the air.

From smashball and swimming to intriguing political debate and amazing food, camp is easily the best week of my year. Yet it's not just the joy that keeps me longing for the hot July days, it's the spiritual enlightenment that touches me every year. I'm brought to tears often during the Thursday night campfires and feel a renewing that fuels me all year and keeps my spirit strong, even states away from my camp friends.

—Sarah Hyde

The first testimony by Sarah Hyde was written in 2006; the second in 2007. Shortly after Teen Camp 2007, Sarah Hyde was baptized. Today, she is a college student in Boston, MA. We look forward to her returning as a CIT to Teen Camp 2008.



By Riley Mengarelli

Riley name is Mengarelli and I'm a member of the Church of Christ in Toppenish, Washington. I would like to give my testimony about what a blessing the Church of Christ Teen Camp has been in my life. As a young boy without a church local or ministry close by I grew up listening to Brother Marvin Ely read stories such as Daniel and the Lion's Den when he would come to visit my family a couple times a year. These stories, along with what my family taught me, were the extent of my spiritual growth until I made the commitment to go to Teen Camp.

When I was twelve I was invited by Brother Joel Yates to go to the Teen Camp held all the way down in Missouri, a very foreign place to me where I just knew I would be eaten alive by ticks and chiggers. I would have to fly in an airplane, meet a whole bunch of new people, and be totally out of my element. It was a hard decision, but I made the commitment, headed off to camp, and that decision changed my life.

When I arrived at camp people were amazingly happy, the counselors and CIT's (counselors in training) were playing games and just having fun. I got to take interesting scripture classes, play softball, and stay up practically all night with my friends in my cabin. I remember that I couldn't wait for the next campfire to start each night so I could listen to everyone sing funny songs, make up skits, and sing hymns like I had never heard before. I had a blast, and even though I had to get a couple staples in my head from a capture the flag accident, that first year of camp was so exciting that I hated to see it end.

Over the next couple of years, I attended camp and my spiritual life and relationship with God grew. After my senior year of high school I went to camp as a camper for the last time. I knew there would be a lot of changes after that summer at camp. I had been thinking about college and what it might be like to be isolated by myself as a Christian on a big, worldly, university campus. These thoughts lingered with me as I went to camp that year and I prayed often that going to college away from my family and a church wouldn't change my spiritual life as so many had told me it could.

At a campfire that year we had all bowed to pray for a few campers who had gotten sick. As I sat there, I felt a hand rest upon my right shoulder and I could feel my shirt move as the hand seemed to hold my shoulder in a comforting way. I then felt a rushing sensation flow from my head to my feet. As soon as it had come, the feeling was gone and I sat there, heart racing, wondering what God had meant by this. It was the first time I'd experienced anything like this. I fasted for an answer to what this experience might have meant over the next couple of days. A couple of nights later, I read the scripture from the first book of Nephi 3:26 which states that the Holy Ghost is the gift of God to those who diligently seek him. I knew that this experience had been an answer to my prayers and that no matter what college I went to, God's Spirit would be there with me as long as I continued to seek him.

God has always kept His end of the bargain, and as long as I strive to keep His commandments and look to Him for help, He will be with me. I'm a junior now at Washington State University and can praise God for taking care of me through these

past three years. I would probably not have much of a relationship with God if it weren't for Teen Camp, the amazing staff there, and the many life-long friends that I met while there. I am grateful for the experiences and the fun that I've had as a camper. If you are considering camp, talk to someone else who has gone or feel free to contact me and ask me more about camp (riley mengarelli@wsu. edu). It is an amazing place where God's presence is real. You will learn, fellowship, and enjoy times that you will never forget. As I think about this coming summer, my prayers are with you all and I hope you will go and see what God has for you in Missouri at the Church of Christ Teen Camp.



By Aimee Yates

amp not only is a huge spiritually uplifting experience, but also an opportunity to learn new things and meet lots of great people! Most importantly, though, Teen Camp can help greatly in shaping the lives of young Christians. In my life, some of the most important spiritual growth I have had has been because of camp. Camp also gives you the chance to learn many new skills, such as first-aid, sailing, kickboxing and even shuffleboard when teachers forget first-aid gear! I have had tons of fun playing sports and games I do not always have an opportunity to play at other times.

Camp is a good place to meet new people and start lasting friendships. You meet kids from all over the country, are able to bond over the week, and can keep in touch to encourage each other during the year. I have met some of my dearest friends, or strengthened former friendships, at camp. Teen camp is a place filled with fun, laughter, friends, and spiritually uplifting experiences. I would not be the same person I am today without Camp.

NOTICE

Counselors In Training

Applications are now being accepted for Counselors In Training (CITs) for the 2008 Church of Christ Teen Camp.

Young people who have graduated from the Church of Christ Teen Camp, High School or are nineteen years or older <u>and</u> are baptized members of the Church of Christ (TL) are eligible to apply to be a CIT. For an application, please contact Kim Yates at <u>yateskimberly@yahoo.com</u>, or call

602-692-4006.

If you have been a CIT at a previous camp, a new application is not necessary. However, you must contact Kim Yates on or before May 1st, 2008, to confirm your interest in returning as a CIT. All other applications must be received by May 1st. CITs will be notified of acceptance by May 31st so that they can help counselors and staff with camp preparations.

What Makes a Successful Youth Camp?



ix years have passed since the Church of Christ came to the Philippines and five Youth Camps have been organized and successfully ended. From the first youth camp with 60 young people, more or less, that participated, to the fifth with nearly 200 in attendance, there's one thing I have learned along the way.

A victorious youth camp is not measured by the number of delegates nor the enjoyment of the youth during the youth camp. It's not the souls that come to Jesus during a night service in the youth camp. Not even the ones who gave testimonies that their lives were changed since they have participated in the youth camp. It is the feedback I hear in every local and mission I happen to visit. The feedback I heard from the leaders about the yearning of each young person

craving for the next youth camp to come. It's a melody in the ears the longing of every Filipino youth thirsty for the gathering and get-together of all the youth in the Church of Christ in the Philippines. It's an inspiration booster for us organizers to put in order the next an-

nual youth camp in 2008—more exciting, moving and inspirational. We will be setting up everything systematically that will go beyond every camper's expectation, an ideal Youth Camp where the young will be able to grasp the truth behind the lines of the yet-to-be theme of the coming reunion.

On the contrary, just like what happened to all the camps that have passed, it is a discouragement to me to hear the plea

of most of the young people, one or two days before the camp that they can't join the camp because they were not able to find money to finance their transportation and registration fee. God knows how eager they are to join, and how much disappointed for not being able to cross the threshold of the most awaited annual youth camp.

I feel frustrated, remembering this same old story for five years. If only I can do something for this. It's a blessing that there are foreign people that have a heart for the evangelization of the youth. Through their help, many were inspired and desire for serving God, the Church and their fellow young people. I am praving to the Lord that He will continue to bless this kind-hearted people that became an instrument of God to be of assistance to the young generation in their quest for a bountiful life with God.

Prulie Ann Alameda President to the Youth in the Philippines



Zion's Advocate



Church of Christ TEEN CAMP 2008 Registration Instructions

TO REGISTER FOR THE CLASSES YOU WANT, YOU MUST COMPLETE AND RETURN THE 2007 Church of Christ TEEN CAMP CLASS SHEDULE.

How to fill out the Class Schedule Form:

- 1. Complete the Personal Information on the Registration Form.
- 2. If you plan to ride the bus from the East Local to Camp, check "YES" in the space provided.
- 3. Mark T-shirt size.
- 4. Mark a 9:00 a.m., 10:05 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. class preference. Indicate 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice.
- 5. Mail your completed Registration Form and Class Schedule to the address below.

Important: We must have your registration fee before we can process your Class Schedule.

Directions to Camp Far Westa from Kansas City:

Take Interstate 35 north to 36 Highway west at Cameron, Missouri. Continue west on 36 for approximately 10 miles. A sign for the Camp Far Westa will be on the right side of Highway 36. (The campgrounds are approximately 1 mile east of Stewartsville, Missouri.)

Transportation:

For those needing a ride from the Kansas City area, a bus will be leaving the East Local at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 22nd.

- Campers must leave on the bus unless written permission is given.
- Campers are NOT to arrive at Camp Far Westa before 3:30 p.m.; check in for campers is from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at camp

Check List:

We must have the following before we can assign your classes to you:

- □ Registration fee—make check payable to "Teen Camp."
- □ Class Schedule form with completed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices for each class time.
- □ Registration form with parent's and camper's signatures.
- □ The form must be notarized for camper to attend Camp.

MINISTRY: There will be Priesthood in attendance at all times.
CHAPERONS: There will be at least one adult for every eight campers.
LIFE GUARD: The Camp provides a certified life guard.
FOOD: The Camp provides the food service—SNACK BAR AVAILABLE.
AGE GROUP: JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH, AGES 12 – 18.
CAMP DATES: July 27through August 1, 2008.
T-SHIRTS: are included in camp cost. Sizes must be received by July 10th.

TOTAL CAMP COST: \$140.00 (\$150.00 IF PAID AFTER JULY 1, 2008).

Mail Forms To:

Michelle Oldham 2417 SW Tracker Lane Lee's Summit, MO 64082 Phone/FAX (816) 645-6436 jandmham@sbcglobal.net

Mailing Address at Camp:

Camp Far Westa P.O. Box 257 Stewartsville, MO 64490 Phone: (816) 669-3359

Church of Christ TEEN CAMP RULES AND TO BRING LIST

MISSION STATEMENT: The Church of Christ TEEN CAMP is committed to edifying all who attend through spiritual education and Godly Association in a fun and moral atmosphere. Commitment to this goal will create an environment where the youth will be invited and encouraged to engage in a spiritual commitment that will help to equip them to take their place in the service of Jesus Christ.

CAMP RULES are to facilitate the camp mission and maintain the safety and well-being of all campers and staff. Campers who do not obey the rules will be subject to disciplinary action which may include being sent home at their parent's expense.

- 1. You are expected to behave in a Christian manner at all times.
- 2. You are expected to obey all safety rules.
- 3. You are expected to participate in all classes and activities.
- 4. You are expected to stay with the group unless special permission is given. Pairing off or groups found in unapproved areas will not be tolerated.
- 5. Sexual misconduct will not be tolerated.
- 6. You are expected to remain on the camp grounds at all times.
- 7. You are expected to wear modest apparel at all times. Inappropriate clothing includes bikini swimsuits, tank tops with straps less than 1.5 inches or with drooping armholes, T-shirts with inappropriate slogans or innuendo, concert T-shirts, shirts that expose the midriff or short shorts. All campers are required to wear a colored T-shirt while in the swimming pool.
- 8. You are expected to turn in all prescription medication to the camp nurse.
- 9. You are expected to leave all body piercing jewelry at home (girls can wear one pair of earrings in their ears).
- 10. You are expected to turn your vehicle keys over to the Camp Director if you drive to Camp. Keys will be returned when Camp is over. Access to vehicles will not be allowed during Camp. Vehicles will be parked in designated areas.
- 11. Absolutely no pranks at Camp. Any materials for pranks will be confiscated.
- 12. Absolutely no electronic equipment, including but not limited to video or electronic games, radios, tape/CD players, MP3 payers, cell phones or pagers. Phones will be available for emergency calls only.
- 13. Absolutely no tobacco, alcohol, drugs, weapons (including knives) or fireworks of any kind are permitted at Camp. Use of these items at Camp will be grounds for sending a camper home at their parent's expense.

This is a *suggested* **To Bring List**. Where clothing items are listed, bring enough for five days; packing may be in a suitcase, duffle bag or camp box. **Please see that all items are marked with your name or initials**.

PLEASE BRING:		OPTIONAL ITEMS TO BRING:
□Bible, Book of Mormon, book bag	1 laundry bag or pillow case	Camera and film
and notebook are mandatory.	□Kleenex	Fishing pole and favorite lures
□Flashlight	□Underclothes	□Stationery, envelops and stamps
Lightweight sleeping bag or 2 twin	□Sandals	Musical instrument
size sheets and 1 light blanket.	Modest 1 piece swimsuit or tankini	Day pack or knapsack
Pillow and pillowcase	PERSONAL ARTICLES:	□Baseball gloves
Tennis shoes (old & worn are best)	Toothbrush, toothpaste, comb,	□Money—canteen will be available for
Extra shoes	hairbrush, shampoo, soap, towels,	snacks.
G pairs of socks	deodorant, etc.	Alarm Clock (no clock radios)
□1 pair of jeans/pants	□Insect repellent (we recommend	LEAVE AT HOME:
Modest shorts or cutoffs	Cutters or Deep Woods Off)	Immodest and inappropriate clothing
Short sleeve shirts	Please do not bring expensive	□Alcoholic beverages and cigarettes
I long sleeve shirt	jewelry which might become lost or	□Video and electronic games
I lightweight raincoat, poncho or	broken.	□All knives, weapons or fireworks
Jacket		Electronic music devices, cell

Church of Christ TEEN CAMP

2008 Registration Form

Camper's Name:		Parent's n	ame:			
Year in school, fall 2008:		Street Add	ress:			
Age:	Date of Birth:	City, ST Z	Zip:			
SSN:		Home Pho	ne:			
Street Address		Parent's er	mail:			
City, ST Zip		Insurance	Carrier:			
Phone Number:		Policy Nun	nber:			
Cell Number:		Please include a copy of health insurance				
		card.				
Camper's e-mail:		T-shirt size:	∎s	ШМ		

Will you be riding the bus?
Yes No. If not, who will be responsible for transportation to/from camp?

Campers must leave on the bus unless written permission is given. Campers will be dropped off at the Missouri Reunion on August 1. If other arrangements are needed, please specify:

Camper and Parent Pledge: I have read the Rules of the Camp and agree to abide by them. I know that if I break the rules I may be sent home at my parent's expense, at the discretion of the Camp Director. I agree to be respectful of other campers, staff and all facilities. I will be on time and prepared for all activities. I understand that I can only leave and return to Camp for emergencies or with prior permission from the Camp Director. I understand that I must bring a Bible and Book of Mormon.

Camper's Signature:	Date:
Parent's Signature:	Date:
Medical In the event of a medical emergency, by my signature below I give for Camp Personnel to administer and/or obtain any necessary to my minor child. NOTE: This form must be notarized to attend Camp Parent's Signature: Date:	reatment for p. interview my child and/or to use his/her likeness in photograph(s)/video in any and all
Please list any medical conditions (allergies, asthma, etc):	known or hereafter existing, controlled by the Church of Christ Teen Camp, in perpetuity, and for
Any medication brought to camp must be in the original container at the Camp nurse to be dispensed. Please list mediations that will be camp:	
Please include a copy of your health insurance	Card.
NOTARIZATION: Subscribed and sworn to me this day of	, 2008
Notary Public County of	

State of

My Commission Expires

•••

Church of Christ Teen Camp Class Registration Form

Name (please print):		PHONE:				
Class/Activity	Time	1 st	2 nd	3 rd		
Choose one 9:00 a.m. class below; include a 2 nd & 3 rd choice.	9:00 a.m.					
A Few Good Men (Ages 16 and above)						
Creation/Evolution	-					
Does God Talk To Me?	-					
GOOOOOOAAAAAAAALLLLLLLS! And how to Achieve Them						
Spiritual Warfare 1						
Prime Rib: Perfection for Women God's Way (Ages 16 and above)						
Women of the Bible						
You're Baptized, or Thinking About itSo Now What?						
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	7 [
Choose one 10:05 a.m. class below; include a 2 nd & 3 rd choice.	10:00a.m.					
Archery						
Candy Making	[
Car Talk						
Epic War Battles of the Book of Mormon						
First Aid						
Lacrosse						
Show Me What You're Made Of! (Character Building)						
Spiritual Warfare 2						
Volleyball						
Woodcarving						
· · · · · ·						
Study: Camp Theme	11:05a.m.					
Lunch	12:05p.m.					
Choose one 1:15 p.m. class below; include a 2 nd & 3 rd choice.	1:15 p.m.					
Aerodynamics						
Archery						
Candy Making						
Dave Ramsey, Jr.						
Digital Photography (digital camera required)						
Sailing (must know how to swim)						
Science Experiments						
Soccer						
Woodn't it be Nice (Construction with 2"x4")	[
Woodcarving	_ <u> </u>					
Free Time: Swimming, Boating, Games, Quiet Time, etc.	2:05 pm – 4	-				
Planned Group Activities available if desired.	3:15 pm – 4	•				
Cabin Time	4:45 pm – 5:30 pm					
Dinner	5:30 pm – 6:45 pm					
Quest Class	6:45 pm – 7	:45 pm				
Campfire	8:00 p.m.					
Snack Time	9:30 p.m.			1		
Lights Out	10:30 p.m.			t i		

TESTIMONY

Yucatan Testimonies

y testimony about the camp is that everything is very pleasant and I am at ease with my brothers in the faith. I am grateful to my counselor and teachers who have taught me to be a better person. I am grateful to God for having permitted me to be at the 2007 Youth Camp. It is easy to associate with persons of the same faith. I feel that I should improve and be a better person. to be a son of God, and not just a creature. I want to be baptized one day soon and persevere until the end. I want to think more about God and follow his leading. Amen.

Alvin Cab Koyoc

ntoliano Cancho Tamay from Cancún – written in Dzan, Yucatán, 29th of July, 2007-08-26

> Youth Camp 2007, My testimony:

The testimony that I want to tell is a little difficult to explain, but God is always present, taking care of us day by day. Many things have happened to me in this life. One time when I had to go to school I headed out very early in the morning towards school. Two people appeared who wanted to assault me, but thanks be to God they didn't do anything to me because God was with me in that moment, protecting me



from these people. I praise God because without Him I don't know what would have happened. For this, I pray always that He will be with me, helping me and giving me encouragement to always walk in His path, because sometimes I fall, but I am never defeated.

zan, Yucatán, July 29, 2007

Greetings to everyone,

I want to give a testimony about the camp. Upon seeing that many of the youth are making a great effort to follow in the path of God it has given me the strength to follow in the same way. At times in the church in my town I feel discouraged, but upon being here I feel strengthened. For example the night of the campfire, upon hearing the beautiful songs and testimonies. I felt something very beautiful. I don't have words to express what I felt. I realized that God has a plan for each one of us and that to each of us He has given a beautiful talent or means to serve Him.

Jose Ángel E. Chan Kantún - Mayapán

his is a testimony about God calling to me in my life before I was received into the waters of baptism. God called to me by means of a dream. One day I dreamed that I was driving a car and I saw that it was very difficult for me. But in an instant I felt a person at my side whose face I couldn't see. He said to me, "Make the effort to drive." I said, "I can't." The angel of God said to me, "With God nothing is difficult, only put your confidence in God." This is my testimony before God, that I could understand that God was asking me to serve Him.

Jose Moo Ma, Mayapán



The testimony that I am

giving is that from the time that God came into my life I have felt joyful in worshiping and glorifying His name. I have had many trials and always I am falling away, but thanks be to God that He lifts me up and gives me enough strength to continue following Him. The camp is something very lovely because the teachers teach us to follow God. Thanks be to my God that I am here in this 2007 Youth Camp. I want to overcome and continue following and serving God, and to associate with my counselors and teachers. That is what camp is about and I hope to return next year for the association with the people and to praise God.

Nahun A. Palomo Cabrera

Camp 2007 Prepare Your Souls July 29, 2007 My testimony: An unforgettable memory.

am Sheila Jeniffer Koyoc Chi. I am a baptized member of the Church of Christ in Yobain. I am 15 years old and this is the fourth camp which I have attended. I am giving my testimony of the great blessing of God permitting me to attend the camp. I am grateful to our Heavenly Father for giving me this great, unforgettable memory. At this camp I learned so many things and participated in the handwork class. I felt a great joy because I saw how all the other girls were trying their hardest to be friendly with the others.

One great thing that I learned is that in order to serve God there can be no excuses. I saw the example of my counselor. My counselor was Maricela Pech, that although she had her twins she went to the camp and gave her 100% effort in being in charge of us, as well as paying attention to her four-month-old babies. She





made a great effort and it was an example to follow.

Another special moment was at the campfire during which many young people gave their unforgettable testimonies. One which touched my heart was from Julio. The part of his testimony that moved me was that, "It is not a shame to shed tears when speaking of the blessings of God."

Another thing that touched my heart and left me to thinking was the study given by Bro. Don McIndoo where he said that we are preparing our souls so that our names are in the book of life and thus we are able to achieve eternal life. It is a very interesting theme which motivates me to serve God with all my heart, and persevere until the end, helping myself by reading the Bible and the Book of Mormon and being a woman of prayer. By this, I will be re-



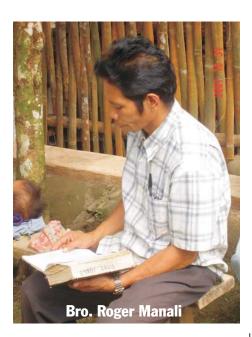
warded by being with God and Jesus for eternity.

This camp is both fun and spiritual, an unforgettable experience. It was a way of getting to know some of the other young people. This camp is an unforgettable memory! And I hope that next year will be even better. For me it is sad that it will be a while before I see my friends again, but there's a happiness also that I can participate in another camp. Sheila



TESTIMONY

LEADERS' TESTIMONIES ON THE CAMP



n the month of April, 2007, we had the annual youth gathering in Puan, Davao City. I was invited to teach the youth. I'm so blessed that because of the continuous fellowship of the youth there is a big chance for them to know how to act and live as Christians. They learned a lot. They became good sons and daughters of their parents and they avoided worldly things. That's why I felt in my heart that the youth needed to have this camp every year to mold them into good people and good leaders in their own way.

Thank you very much and the Lord be with you always.

Bro. Roger Manali

t is a wonderful time when the camp was held in Puan, Davao City, last April 30 — May 3, 2007.

I was glad to be one of the lecturers during that time because the youth are very attentive and responsive and it needs a little more time to develop their behavior and talents.

The program was properly and orderly done and there is an excitement in the faces of the young people during their days. I am looking forward to teaching in the next camp to come.

Elder Jonathan Alameda



As I taught the 2nd part of Prov. 3:5-6 — "...And lean not unto thine own understanding", the adolescent people were very attentive and joyful with enthusiasm because they were prepared and challenged by the lecture of Elder Jonathan Alameda ahead of me. They were challenged to trust the Lord completely with all their heart.

Yes, that challenge, it would also be easy on my part to encourage them, negatively, not to lean with their own understanding — comprehension otherwise, they would not stay long keeping and trusting the Lord and His promises. And on keeping the Lord's promises, they can accomplish greater works for God's glory and honor.

On my observation during that lecture, our potential young people were greatly motivated and committed to the Lord, and committed to do His work of spreading the everlasting gospel to other young people in the world. Elder Demetrio Indangan

Since my part of this lecture is based on the last phrase or clause of the theme verse, Proverbs 3:5-6, which is, "...And He shall direct thy path." — and these young people have been encouraged by the three speakers ahead of me, challenging them to "trust" the Lord, not to "lean" in their own understanding, and to "acknowledge" the Lord in all His way; therefore, I will continue to challenge and inspire them to open their hearts and minds to receive spiritual guidance from God through His words and the Holy Spirit. This could be done by His faithful servants — pastors, teachers in the church, and also the parents in their respective homes.

As I observe during the session, they are joyful and willing to commit their lives to God in serving Him faithfully, and do greater works, as Jesus Christ expects. We based on John 14:12, "Thanks for His trust and faith in me to do greater works for His glory and honor. Amen!"

Let us continue to pray for them, the hope of our church in the years to come!

Sister Remy Indangan



Pikit Mission, Youth Camp Report

ast April 20 to May 3 the vouth members of Pipit Church of Christ (Temple Lot) joined the 5th Annual Youth Camp held at Puan, Davao City. We really thank God for His favor and goodness that despite the distance and the obstacles we attended and participated in the camp successfully. With that, we considered ourselves as blessed or lucky. Through this camp we really understand the importance of having fellowship with other Christians. During these times we're happy to see different faces participate in all

the activities implemented. Really the spirit of joy, peace and love reigned and surrounded us as the Lord blessed us with many speakers who delivered God's words to ignite our hearts and enlighten our minds to really follow the footsteps of Christ. Every topic discussed by the lecturers was so clear and easy to understand because not only the pure lectures but we had a workshop that made us understand fully the topic. All the lecturers were anointed. Thev wanted us to be matured spiritually so that we will be able to share the knowledge which we learned from them. We thank God for the experience we had while we were there. We know that God has a purpose why we joined this camp. We thank God also for the leaders, pastors, elders and the youth officers for using them as the instruments for the success of the youth camp. To God be the glory.



PINOY YOUTH'S RESPONSE TO THE CAMPS

LIBUDON MISSION: Gladys F. Quimintan

when I attended the youth camp in Puan, Davao City, I'm so very thankful to God that lots of things I've learned from there like:

- Having good friends from different missions and locals
- I've known many leaders and pastors
- I've listened and prayed to God with other young people
- Good things were taught to us

LIBUDON MISSION: Bibelyn Sumalitua

thank the Lord for His goodness that He makes me strong. Even in our youth camp, God has blessed me with knowledge and wisdom and also friends. For the glory of God in His mission in Libudon, Mati City.

LIBUDON MISSION: Nuizsan Solis, Jr.

ast April 29 to May 05, 2007, I'm one of those who attended the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) Annual Youth Camp. There are lots of young people and pastors to that guide us. The activities made me happy. Besides meeting new friends, I now know how to discipline myself and be good to others.

I realize also, through the youth camp, that the BIBLE is

very important in my life. Because in this Holy Book, I've known God Who is all-powerful and Almighty. Therefore, I am much stronger now and I trust Him in my life. That's why I'm happy to be one of the young people who repented and reap the achievement made by the Youth Camp I've attended.

Thank you for giving time to read this note. This is Nuizsan Solis, Jr., of Libudon, Mati City, with Pastor Rudy Alayo.



Michigan Moments

he Church of Christ Michigan Reunion was held the weekend of June 23, 2007; it was enjoyed by all who attended. On Saturday, we enjoyed three messages. First of all, Elder Brandon Tarbell compared our church duties as members to using binoculars. Focusing in on knowing and sharing the gospel with others is what we need to be doing. We all like to take a closer look at our world and its wonders; we need to be focusing in on God's word. If Jesus Christ came to town we would all rush out to meet him. Jesus Christ is the word; why do we procrastinate our studies? 2nd Timothy, 2:15: "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the truth." Do I devote as much time to study as I do the cell phone, television, or the computer? Reunion time gives us the opportunity to refocus.

Our second sermon was delivered by Elder Dennis Trudgen. We were directed to

focus on the foundation of Christ; the importance of having faith, hope and charity. Moroni 7:3 tells us that if we are "peaceable followers of Christ, and that have obtained a sufficient hope, by which ye can enter into the rest of the Lord, from this time benceforth, until ve shall rest with him in heaven." We need to endure to the end. Hebrews 6:12: "That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises."

The last sermon for Saturday, Apostle Roland Sarratt asked us if we have the right stuff as a Christian. Do we have the right attitude? "Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the Lord, the God of hosts, shall be with you, as ye have spoken. Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the Lord God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph" (Amos 5:14-15). Are we the church of Christ, a standard of righteousness? Moroni, chapter 7:11, gives us the message to have the right attitude and to avoid evil. "But behold, that which is of God, inviteth and enticeth to do good continually; wherefore, everything which inviteth and enticeth to do good, and to love God, and to serve Him, is inspired of God."

Later in the afternoon, a beautiful

baptism service was held at Miner Lake, Allegan County, with Elder Adam Porter officiating. Three new brothers have joined the Church of Christ and are members of the Bradley local, men who have chosen to live the gospel, serve Jesus Christ, and seek eternal salvation. Going into the waters of baptism were: Gerald Lee, Larry Lee and Edward Lautenschleger. The laying on of hands for the reception of the Holy Ghost was also performed at the lake. Many people witnessed these brothers follow the Lord's directions. Evelyn and Jay Lee couldn't have been more pleased to now have all five of their sons as members of the Church of Christ. "Now our family circle is complete!" was exclaimed by their mother as she and their father embraced them, along with all those who witnessed this blessed event.

On Sunday morning of the reunion Brother Adam Porter gave many comments and scriptures concerning the atti-

tude and reverence with which we view the sacrament emblems, and how Christ would have us appreciate them, being the representation of His body and blood, not just bread and wine. We then enjoyed a sacrament service with many heartfelt testimonies. During the afternoon service we eagerly listened to an update on the missionary outreach by Apostle Smith Brickhouse, along with a slide pre-



sentation. Brother Smith, through the Spirit, related the necessity of the Gospel throughout the world and the part that we can play here at home in many ways. We need to pray for the work, and the calling of the ministry to carry it forth. Also pray for the devoted, loving work in our congregations to help send them out, our witness in our lives and the need to be paying attention to our tithing in order for the costs, and love toward the gospel, to spread throughout the world. We thanked the Lord God and His Son for the time we had to share with our brothers and sisters. We commended ourselves to His future care and had to say our goodbyes.

Sharing Blessings from the Flint Area

eturning from Teen Challenge D Camp, Sarah Ann Hyde asked to be baptized. The ordinance was performed at a secluded spot of Buttercup Beach, just outside of Flint, Michigan, on August 17, 2007. Witnessing her commitment to Christ were her parents, Randy and Dawn Hyde, her grandparents, aunts, uncles cousins and friends. Elder Adam Porter officiated the baptism and couldn't have been a happier uncle on his birthday. August 17th was also the 50th wedding anniversary of Sarah's grandparents, Ken and Velma Porter, cousin Heidi and Tony Jones 5th anniversary, and also the anniversary of cousin Emily Porter's baptism. The family enjoyed a dinner at Frankenmuth, Michigan, in celebration.

If you ever get the chance to visit northern Michigan, stop in at Traverse City and join Elder Conley Addington and his congregation for Sunday services. A loving group has been meeting in a restaurant owned by James and Amanda (Pollack) Washburne. They will all welcome you with open arms.

> God Bless, Sue Porter, Middleville, Michigan



NOTICES

APRIL GENERAL CONFERENCE 2008

As instructed by the 1964 April Ministers' Conference be advised that the 2008 April General Conference (name changed per 2006 conference action) will begin on Monday, April 7, 2008; "Conference Sunday," beginning Sunday, April 6, 2008. The first business session will begin at 9:00 a.m. Monday, April 7, 2008, at the General Church Building on the Temple Lot. According to action taken during the 2007 April Ministers' Conference, two days of fasting and prayer will be held Friday, April 4th, and Saturday, April 5th, 2008, at the General Church Building on the Temple Lot.

All committee reports should be forwarded to the Conference Secretary at least two (2) weeks in advance of the beginning of the first business session. As is always the case, it is requested that any business desiring to be placed before the 2008 April General Conference be forwarded in advance of the first business meeting so that document packets may be completed for distribution.

The mailing addresses for the above requested information is:

Harvey E. Seibel General Conference Secretary 9800 E. 32nd Street S. Independence, MO 64052 E-mail: <u>harvenes@juno.com</u> Your brother in the Lord's work, Harvey E. Seibel, April 2008 General Conference Secretary Church of Christ (Temple Lot)

CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The **2008 General Conference** of the Church of Christ will commence on Sunday, April 6th. The business sessions will start at 9:00 a.m. Monday, April 7th, at Independence, Missouri.

A **Solemn Assembly** will be held prior to the conference, on Friday and Saturday, April 4th and 5th. All services will be held on the Temple Lot.

The **2008 Ministers' Conference** of the Church of Christ will be the three days following the General Conference.

ANNOUNCEMENT

There will be two days of fasting and prayer held at the Temple Lot preceding the General Conference on April 4th and 5th, 2008. We encourage all members of the Church of Christ who are unable to attend these meetings to dedicate the same period to fasting and prayer in their locals or homes that the whole Church may be united in one heart and mind.

Smith N. Brickhouse, Secretary Council of Apostles

AVVAA WEBSITE

The Church of Christ AVVAA Committee is pleased to announce the launching of our Web Site. On this site you will be able to access media such as sermons on-line, studies, *Zion's Advocate*, Bible and Book of Mormon, and much more. We invite you to take a look and discover what a useful tool this can be in expanding your knowledge and faith.

The site is cofcavvaa.net.

CORRESPONDENCE COMMITTEE

The General Church Correspondence Committee would like to extend the opportunity for any who wish to communicate through written correspondence to contact one of the following three committee members:

Pat McCann (Committee Chairman) 18808 N. 30th St. Phoenix, AZ 85050 Marlene Cobb 630 S Pickwick Springfield, MO 65802 June Haines 11589 Genuine Rd Clare, MI 48617

CHURCH HISTORY PHOTOS ON CD

As a fundraiser for the Philippines missionary effort we are offering a CD of church history photos. On each CD there are over 800 photos of various church buildings, activities and members from 1887-2006. Included is a file with photo information.

If you would like a copy, please contact:

Deb Haines (816) 478-6839

debruhaines@juno.com

Barbara Kimball (816) 252-5829

michael.and.barbara@comcast.net Pat McGhee (816) 796-6255

mcgheeme@msn.com

Please send your Philippine Fund donation (amount to be determined by you) to the Church of Christ, East Local, P. O. Box 2243, Independence, MO 64055-9243.

NEW YORK REUNION 2008

Where: Hogansburg, New York

When: July 11 - 13, 2008

The Akwesasne New York Local welcomes all of our brothers and sisters to fellowship and worship with us starting Friday evening at 7:00 P.M., July 11 through Sunday afternoon, July 13, 2008.

In order that the proper preparation may be made, please let one of the people listed below know if you will be attending, how many, and any dietary restrictions that you may have. We have some housing available with church members, as well as some space for campers. There are also plenty of motels in the area.

We are looking forward to spending another Spirit-filled reunion weekend with many of our brothers and sisters.

In Canada: Wayne and Susan Miller (613) 933-5469 wmiller12@cogeco.ca In the United States: Eli and Gretchen Tarbell (518) 358-2911 egtarbell@hotmail.com Brandon and Tara Tarbell (518) 358-9153 btarbell@thetmg.com

PRIESTHOOD VISITATION

If you or someone you know (member or non-member) would like to be visited by a member of the Priesthood of the Church of Christ, please call or write to the Council of Apostles at Church Headquarters in Independence. The phone numbers and addresses are listed on the inside front cover.



Church of Christ

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ing costs. (Multiple copies available: 6-50¢/100-\$5.85 plus postage.)

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