Zion's Advocate

"And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day, for they shall have the gift and the power of the Holy Ghost...."

1 Nephi 3:187

VOLUME 94

INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI—March-April 2017

NUMBER 2

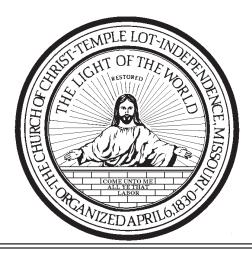


ee then)that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. - Rphesians 5:15-16

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SPECIAL PULL-OUT SECTION: CHURCH OF CHRIST TEEN CAMP REGISTRATION



THE APOSTLES of the CHURCH OF CHRIST

Smith N. Brickhouse, 5713 Logan Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64136; 816-356-9214; e-mail: smithbrickhouse@yahoo.com Duane Ely, 18814 N. 30th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85050; 602-569-1516; e-mail duane1ely@aol.com Placido Koyoc Matu, 99h Calle 24 x 17y 19, Yobain, Yucatan, Mexico; #011-52-991-911-3125; e-mail: ap.matu2@gmail.com Mike McGhee, 18907 E. 6th Street N., Independence, Missouri 64056; 816-796-6255; e-mail: mcgheeme@msn.com Brian McIndoo, 18824 N. 30th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85050; 602-569-1900; e-mail: mcindoo@cox.net Donald E. McIndoo, 18830 N. 30th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85050

Alvin J. Moser, 18829 N. 29th Place, Phoenix, Arizona 85050; 602-569-2414; e-mail: ajmoser3@cox.net
Jeffrey Oldham, 2609 SW Wintervalley Circle, Lee's Summit, MO 64081; 515-339-6226; jrocontact@gmail.com
Roland L. Sarratt, 15910 E. 36th Terrace, Independence, Missouri 64055; 816-373-6605; e-mail: r.sarratt@comcast.net
Joel Yates, 2924 E. Rockwood Drive, Phoenix, Arizona 85050; 602-569-9296; e-mail: jvates2@yahoo.com



GENERAL CHURCH OFFICERS

SECRETARY, COUNCIL OF APOSTLES

Apostle Duane Ely

18814 N. 30th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85050

SECRETARY, GENERAL BISHOPRIC

Elder Rick Olson

5629 Logan Road; Kansas City, Missouri 64136

GENERAL CHURCH SECRETARY

Rhea Housknecht

400 E. Sea Avenue, Independence, MO 64050

GENERAL CHURCH RECORDER

Elder Gordon McCann

18808 N. 30th Street; Phoenix, AZ 85050

BUSINESS MANAGER

Elder Jim Case Church of Christ

P.O. Box 472; Independence, Missouri 64051-0472

ZION'S ADVOCATE STAFF

EDITOR

Elder Gordon McCann 18808 N. 30th Street Phoenix, Arizona 85050 E-mail:cofczaeditor@cox.net

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Apostle Placido K. Matu Calle 24 #99H x 17 y 19 Yobain, Yucatan, Mexico

Priest Bruce Haines 2111 S. Crenshaw Rd. Independence, MO 64057

PRODUCTION STAFF

Harvey L. Seibel

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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.

Visit us at: http://churchofchrist-tl.org/

2016 Teen Camp

By Liza Hedrick

he 2016 Church of Christ Teen Camp focused on the development of faith, hope and charity. The theme verse woven throughout the week's activities and classes was Moroni 10:15, "Wherefore, there must be faith: and if there must be faith, there must also be hope; and if there must be hope, there must also charity; and except ye have charity, ye can in no wise be saved in the kingdom of God."

Campers "broke the ice" with a theme-focused scavenger hunt, created and planned by our senior campers. Campers enjoyed engaging and diverse classes. Things were "cooking" with campers learning candy-making in the kitchen and the art of grilling delicious meals outdoors. There were many outdoor classes as well; from fishing to volleyball campers took full advantage of the great sporting facilities at Camp Far Westa. Whether it was carving, leather-tooling or DIY spa projects, many campers acquired some unique new abilities. The fun theme day this year revolved around a historical era - the Renaissance - and there were some pretty amazing costumes, from



ladies in beautiful period gowns to Knights in shining duct tape!

While there was lots of fun and fellowship, there was also valuable time spent with campers in spiritually-focused classes developing Christian leadership skills. Each evening, campers rallied around the campfire for fun and instruction as each evening wrapped up with a sermonette. The 2016 campfires were AWESOME! Some memorable moments included senior campers reversing roles and feeding their parents baby food,

Rhoades Tarbell +eaching us some fun new songs, Aadam Yates' mail call, and the cabin challenge finale featuring original camper-composed sonnets! Hilarious! Campers enjoyed some new activities this year, including a slipping and sliding kickball game.

It is always a bittersweet time when our senior campers graduate. We are so proud of them, but we will also miss them very much. Hopefully, many of them will be able to return to us as Counselors-in-Training! We experienced



another significant transition this year - the passing of the camp director's torch from Jeff and Michelle Oldham to Liza and Bob Hedrick. We are so grateful to Jeff and Michelle for their many years of service, and we know the Lord has blessed the camp greatly thanks to their hard work and commitment to strengthen our youth spiritually through the Teen Camp experience.

"Bob and I eagerly look forward to taking on this honor of being camp directors. Having attended the first Teen Camp, Bob and I feel that camp instrumentally changed our lives. From experiencing the love of Christ in others to meeting like-minded believers, Teen Camp strengthened our faith by encouraging growth in our own personal relationship with God, and serving others. Bob has attended ALL of the camps, while I took time off while our kids

were young. We know we have a lotto learn and we look forward to time with your young people this summer!" Bob and Liza Hedrick.

2017 camp is just around the corner! Save the dates: Sunday, July 28 at Camp Far Westa in Stewartsville. The 2017 theme is from the 11th chapter of Hebrews, verses I, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." and 6, "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

There are some new classes in 2017, such as Lacrosse, Fitness Boxing, Culinary Concoctions in a Cup, Reader's Theatre and a DIY soap-making class. (See the registration form inside this issue!) Teen Camp needs YOU campers! It is an amazing experience for all in-

volved and ultimately it is the campers who make the camp so special. They come and embrace the opportunities for Christian fun, fellowship and growth. This is always so evident in the Thursday evening campfire which is exclusively reserved for our campers to share their prayers and testimonies. It is such a blessed and powerfully positive service.

Thankful for Teen Camp and Spiritual Warfare Class - Camper, Van McClure.

"As we transition into the New Year it is not uncommon to look back over the wonderful memories of the previous year's camp. Being 15, this was my fourth year at Teen Camp. It feels like it was just last summer when I walked into good old malodorous Cabin 6 for the first time! Teen Camp has for many years been a place of refuge and peace for those of us who want to take a break from the crazed world around us. Not only that, but I have yet to recall a memory of leaving Camp not feeling spiritually full.

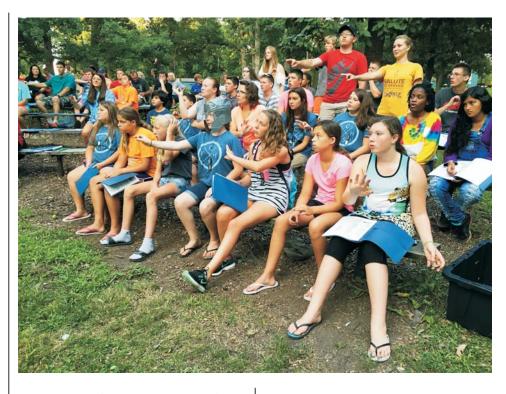
"One class that has been somewhat of a constant in my years at camp has been Spiritual Warfare. This year in the Warfare III class we had more of an in-depth class where we talked more about some of our own 'battles' we fight in our lives away from camp. It was a very nice experience to be able to discuss such a thing in a caring and open environment. The theme classes, along with age group classes, were very well taught. In 2016 we centered around faith, hope, and

charity. On the last night, we held our serious campfire. Every year it seems like they just keep getting better and better. This year I believe we covered over two hours of prayer, testimony, and singing.

"It always seems like we wait forever for Camp, and it always seems much too short. Sometimes we bid farewell to people we won't see for another year. Many of us wish we could stay longer; plus, we're usually just used to the smell by the end of the week! Just as the food, prepared by our amazing cooks fills our stomachs, the love and joy of Teen Camp will always fill a special place in my heart."

Camp Reflection - Camper, Makayla Cole.

"Taking time out of my busy life schedule I have paused to think about what Teen Camp means to me. Well, for starters, it



gives me a break from my busy life and helps me to refocus my mind upon being more spiritual in mylife. I often let my day-to-day routine bog me down and minimize the time I take out for serving God. However, each year I go to

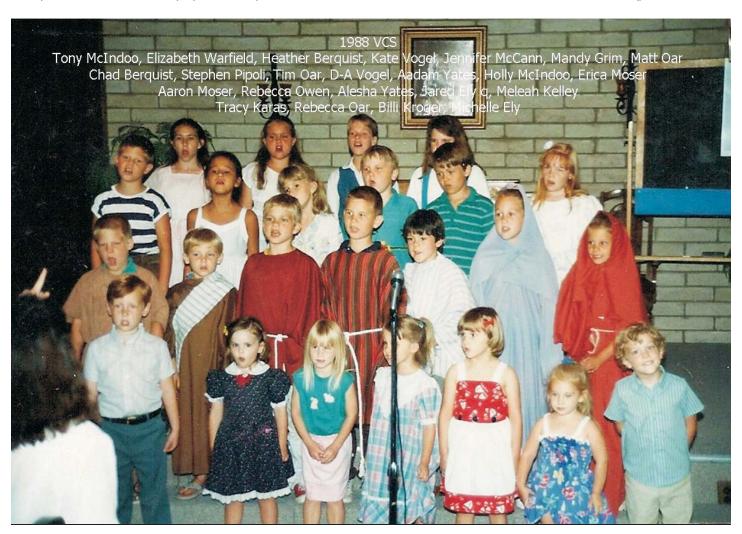
Teen Camp I receive a new sense of purpose in my life and always leave feeling more spiritually edified. The things I've learned atteen camp will definitely stick with me my whole life.

"Not only has camp been a place of spiritual rejuvenation for me, but it has also been a great place of reconnection. I know without a doubt that all the friends I have at Teen Camp are my truest friends. As unfortunate as it is, I usually go the whole year without seeing or talking to most of my Teen Camp Friends. However, we always pick up right where we left off just like old friends. The best part about Teen Camp is the loving people who make you feel truly special, and the food is pretty great too!"



Phoenix Local Vacation Church School 1988

If you look closely you may find at least one of our Church Teen Camp leaders.

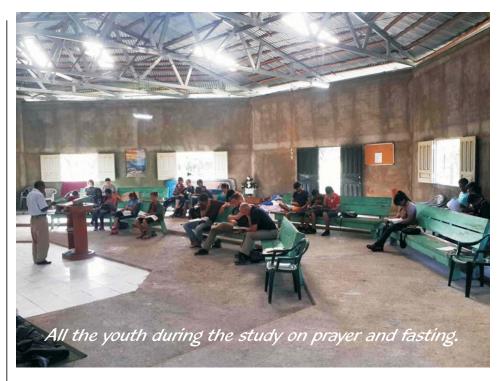


RONDURAS YOUTH CAMP

By Elder Ronnie Gill

January 5th-8th, 2017

year participating in the Honduras Youth Camp. Our theme this year was, "The Center of Your Life," with the theme verse being 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 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







Putting the Treasure Hunt Puzzle together.



ye do these things, ye shall be lifted up at the last days."

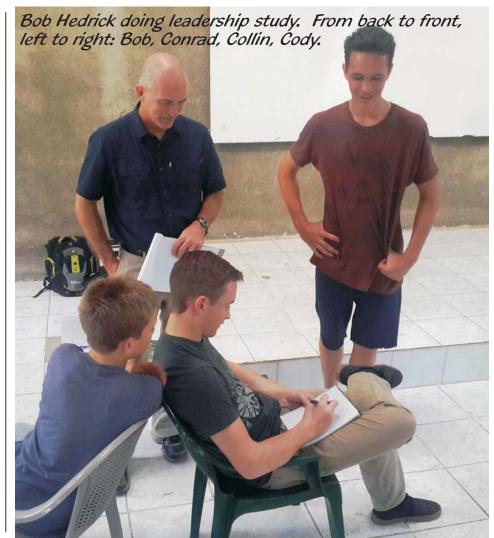
Starting out with the first activities we combined fun with spiritual uplifting. The youth were given clues that, over the next couple of days, would lead them to puzzle pieces that would eventually lead them to a hidden treasure.

We had great participation from several helpers and ministry in studies and lessons to help enrich our lives, with Christ as our center of our lives. We would like to give thanks to all of them for their participation. Bob and Liza Hedrick, John and Nana Gill, Cameron Gill, Laura Gill, Thomas and Santos Gill, Diana Carbajal, Felix Torres, Maybis Zepeda, Jared Gould, Kelvin, Estania Gill, Ronnie and Joani Gill, and any others I may have forgotten.

We had studies that ranged from reviews of the basics of the gospel of Jesus Christ to studies in prophecy concerning the time leading up to the 7th day and the 7th day, to preparing to be adults (learning how to repair or stitch up your own clothes), to the tribulations that many believers have had to go through from the beginning of the church up to today, to being safe and safe practices for using social media, to prayer and fasting and what God expects of us, to learning how to be a leader, and a brief run-through of what each book in the Book of Mormon is about.

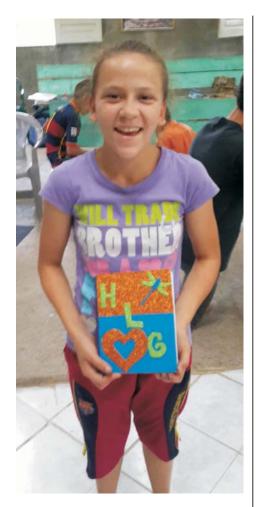
Bob and Liza's class on how to be a leader was a great hit, and had the kids participating and laughing. Bob had two kids sit back to back while one of the kids described a picture to the other, and the other kid had to draw the picture being described. It was quickly easy to see that when you work hand in hand with another person you can accomplish wonderful things, but when you stand apart and only give orders, you oftentimes accomplish little, and even when you accomplish something, oftentimes it less than ideal.

In between the studies, games were played, and art and craft classes took place. This year, in our art and craft class, we were doing Bible journaling and decorating notebooks for taking notes in church.





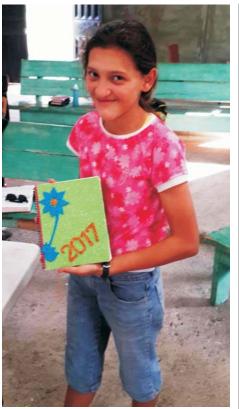




On the first day of camp, the kids were divided into five groups. Each group was given a short story from Genesis that they had to read, and then put together a short skit to tell the story. Each evening a couple of the groups were picked randomly to do their skit.

After the skits, we had supper and a campfire. Some of the kids sat around the campfire singing songs or telling stories while others were off playing games like Capture the Flag.

One of the last activities of the camp is a time of questions and answers. During the camp there is a box set up in one corner where the kids can, during



their free time, take a scrap of paper and write a question that they have been wondering about and place it in the box. At the end of camp the ministry



who are present go up front and read off the questions and then attempt to find scriptures that can help answer the questions. Every year we have great questions; this year was no different.

It was overall a very blessed time.



CAMP DATES: Sunday, July 23 - Friday, July 28

CAMP COST: \$195.00 per camper

(\$210.00 if paid after July 1, 2017)

Camp Basics

Age Group: Junior and Senior High School, Ages 12 - 18

Ministry: There will be members of COC Priesthood in attendance at all times.

Chaperones: There will be AT LEAST one adult for every eight campers. The camp provides a certified lifeguard.

Food: Camp provides 3 meals and 1 evening snack per day - SNACK BAR AVAILABLE

T-Shirts: Shirt included in camp cost. Sizes must be received by early July.

Transportation: For those needing a ride from the KC area, a bus will be leaving the East Local at 1:30 pm on Sunday, July 23. Campers must leave on the bus unless written permission is given. Campers should NOT arrive at Camp Far Westa before 3:30 pm on 23rd - camper check-in is from 3:30 to 4:30 pm at camp. Bus will return campers to the Temple Lot on Friday, July 28 at approximately 2:30 pm.

Dress up day is Tuesday - stay tuned to find out the theme this year!

Interested in a payment plan to fulfill camp fee? Contact Liza Hedrick, (contact information below.)

Registration Checklist

ALSO SEE CAMP RULES AND ITEMS TO BRING LIST.

- 1. Complete the Personal Information on the enclosed Registration Form.
- 2. Read through Camper & Parent Pledge, Photo Release, and Medical Release.

Parent and camper MUST sign form and it must be NOTARIZED!

- 3. Make a copy of your health insurance card to include with registration materials.
- 4. If you plan to ride the bus to and from Camp, check "YES" in the space provided.
- 5. Select a T-Shirt Size
- 6. On Class Schedule Form, choose a 9:00 am, 10:05 am, and 1:15 pm class preference. Indicate 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice!
- 7. Mail in the following items WE CANNOT PROCESS YOUR REGISTRATION UNTIL WE HAVE ALL OF THESE ITEMS:
 - ☐ Registration Fee Make check payable to "Teen Camp"
 - ☐ Class Schedule Form with completed 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices for each class time.
 - □ NOTARIZED Registration Form with parent and camper signatures.
 - ☐ Copy of health insurance card/information.





CAMP FAR WESTA

Directions to Camp Far Westa from Kansas City: Take Interstate 35 north to Highway 36 at Cameron, MO. Take Highway 36 west at Cameron for approximately 10 miles. There is a sign for Camp Far Westa on the right (north) side of Highway 36 and then you will turn right onto the gravel driveway entrance shortly after sign. Mailing Address:

Camp Far Westa c/o Church of Christ TL Teen Camp 6091 US-36, Stewartsville, MO 64490 816.669.3359





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.

Mail forms and check to:

Liza Hedrick 333 34 Road, Palisade, CO 81526 Questions? liza.hedrick@gmail.com (970) 462-8200

Church of Christ Teen Camp 2017 Registration Form

Camper's Name:	Parent	s name:
Year in school, fall 2017:	Street A	Address:
Age:	Date of Birth: City, S	T Zip:
Street Address	Home F	Phone:
City, State, Zip	Parent's	s email:
Phone Number:	Insuran	ce Carrier:
Camper's e-mail:	Policy N	lumber:
T-shirt size: ☐S ☐M ☐L	□XL □XXL	
Will you be riding the bus? □Yes □No. I	f not, who will be responsible for tra	ansportation to/from camp?
Campers must leave on the bus un	less written permission is giv	en.Campers will be dropped off at the
Missouri Reunion on July 28.	f other arrangements are need	ded, please specify:
Camper and Parent Pledge:		
		if I break the rules I may be sent home at my ectful of other campers, staff and all facilities. I
		leave and return to Camp for emergencies or
with prior permission from the Camp Dire		
·	otor. I directotaria triat i maci pring	a Bible and Book of Mormon.
Photo Release:	shild and/or to use his/her likeness	s in photograph(s)/video in any and all of its
		s in photograph(s)/video in any and all of its rexisting, controlled by the Church of Christ
Teen Camp, in perpetuity, and for other u		
against Church of Christ Teen Camp for t		
μ		3 F. · (-), · · · · · ·
Medical:		
In the event of a medical emergency, by	my signature below I give permiss	sion for Camp Personnel to administer and/or
		amp personnel to administer over the counter
medications to my minor child as deemed	necessary. NOTE: This form mu	st be notarized to attend Camp.
Please list any medical conditions (allergi	es, asthma, etc):	
Any medication brought to camp must be	in the original container and given	to the Camp nurse to be dispensed. Please
list medications that will be brought to cam		to the Camp harse to be dispensed. Flease
not inculcations that will be brought to our	ρ.	
Please include a copy of your he	ealth insurance card.	
		_
Camper's Signature:		Date:
Parent's Signature:		Date:
NOTARIZATION:		
Subscribed and sworn to me this	day of, 2	017
Notary Public		
County of		
State of		
My Commission Expires		

2017 COC Teen Camp Class Schedule

NAME (Print):	PHONE:			
CLASS/ACTIVITY	TIME			
Choose one 9:00 am class below; include a 2 nd & 3 rd choice	9:00 am	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
A Few Good Men (Ages 16+)				
Archeology of the Book of Mormon	1			
God's Creation, the Great Flood and Us	1 [
GOOOOAAAALLLLLS! And How to Achieve Them	1			
Spiritual Warfare 2	1			
Prime Rib: Perfection for Women God's Way (Ages 16+)	1			
Peer Pressure - Who's In Charge?	1 [
You're Baptized or Thinking About ItSo Now What?	1 [
Women of the Bible	1			
Choose one 10:05 am class below; include a 2 nd & 3 rd choice	10:05 am	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Candy Making				
Duct Tape Dynasty	_			
Fishing] [
Fitness Boxing with Curtis G.				
Journaling with Jenn	1			
Lacrosse] [
Leather Tooling	1			
Nail Art] [
Reader's Theatre				
Soap, Soap and More Soap!	1			
Ultimate Frisbee	1			
Volleyball	1			
Study: Camp Theme	11:05 am			
Lunch	12:05 pm			
Choose one 1:15 pm class below; include a 2 nd & 3 rd choice	1:15 pm	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Archery				
Boating				
Candy Making				
Culinary Concoctions in a Cup] [
Essential Oils for Wellness				
Grilling: The Manly Art of Food Preparation (Boys 15+)] [
Soccer				
Spiritual Warfare 3+: Applying Spiritual Warfare to Today's Battles	1			
Woodcarving	1			
Zumba with Rhoades] [
Afternoon and Evening Activity and Class Schedule Below:				
Free Time: Swimming, Boating, Games, Quiet Time, etc.	2:05 - 4:30 pm			
Planned Group Activities Available if Desired	3:15 - 4:30 pm			
Cabin Time	4:30 - 5:30 pm			
Dinner	5:30 - 6:45 pm			
Quest Class (By Age Group)	6:45 - 7:45 pm			
Campfire (Followed by snack at approx. 9:30 pm)	8:00 pm			
Lights Out				

HEBREWS II:1,6

- I Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.
- 6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.









Camp rules and suggested items to bring or not to bring:

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 MUST turn in all prescription medication to the camp nurse.
- 9. You are expected to leave all body piercing jewelry at home, including gauges. 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, or MP3 players or cell phones. 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 list of items to bring to camp. Where clothing items are listed, bring enough for 5 days; packing may be in a suitcase, duffel bag or camp box. Please clearly mark items with your name or initials.

,							
PLEASE BRING:							
☐ Bible, Book of Mormon, book bag and no	tebook are mandatory.						
☐ Lightweight sleeping bag or 2 twin size s	heets and 1 light blanket.						
☐ 1 lightweight raincoat, poncho or jacket							
☐ 1 laundry bag or pillow case							
☐ Modest one-piece swimsuit or tankini							
☐ Flashlight	☐ Pillow and pillowcase						
☐ Tennis shoes (old & worn are best)	■ Extra shoes						
☐ 6 pairs of socks	☐ 1 pair of jeans/pants						
☐ Modest shorts or cutoffs	☐ Short sleeve shirts						
☐ 1 long sleeve shirt	☐ Underclothes						
☐ Kleenex	☐ Sandals						
PERSONAL ARTICLES:							
☐ Toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, hairbrush, shampoo, soap, towels,							
deodorant, etc.							
☐ Insect repellent (we recommend Cutters or Deep Woods Off)							
☐ Please do not bring expensive jewelry which might be lost or broken.							
OPTIONAL ITEMS TO BRING:							
☐ Camera and film	☐ Cabin Decorations						
☐ Stationery, envelopes and stamps	■ Musical instrument						
☐ Day pack or knapsack	■ Baseball gloves						
☐ Alarm Clock (no clock radios) ☐ Fishing pole and lures							
☐ Money—Snacks may be purchased at the Canteen when open.							

LEAVE AT HOME:

_	ımr	no	aes	t and	ına	ppro	opri	ate	ciotn	ing	_
											_

☐ Alcoholic beverages and cigarettes

■ Video and electronic games

☐ All knives, weapons or fireworks

■ Body piercing jewelry

☐ Electronic music devices, cell phones, etc.

REPORT



(Hosted in Kisii County, Greenvalley Academy.)

CRIPTURE THEME: Ephesians 5:15-17: "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise...."

Three weeks before the youth camp began, it all started in the church office where all ordained ministers met to discuss and delegate issues of the camp, with only brother Evans Nyaata who did not manage to come because of the distance from Nairobi.

All was planned and accepted by the ministry that the camp should start on the 2nd week of December and a date was picked to be on 9th of Dec. 2015. And the ministry was in agreement that they should all coordinate to see that all has been set and done at the campgrounds. As the days were drawing closer many youths were excited about the camp of this year, which I believe had been fasted and prayed for many weeks.

9th December 2015 came. It was a special day, not only for the youth but the ministry and all those who were looking up for this day; it began with having many come from various

branches to witness the 2015 youth camp. It was a blessing having all of them come that evening and we did welcome them with open arms and we were thankful that the Lord gave them safety while they were traveling. We recorded a good number from various missions and locals: Nairobi, Kipsogori, Solai, Kuria, Kilgoris, Magwagwa, Nyabitunwa, Ibencho, Risa, Sengera, Mwata, Mesisita, Sae township, Nyachichi, Bobaracho, Getuka, Nyaisero, Kinenei, Mochengo. Out of these missions and locals we recorded quite a good number—in total we received 220 youths. What a blessing to the entire Church of Christ! The ministry was at the campground on time to oversee the entry of the youths and help in directing them to their respective dormitories and making sure food was ready, as most of them travelled from a far distance.

Elder Michael Otero was the host. He was given an opportunity to welcome us all to the camping site, which he did with gladness. And he encouraged everyone present to have their minds set as this was a great op-

portunity which comes once, and asked us to make use of the ministry present.

After dinner was served we all assembled to the dining hall. Introduction was done, from the ministry present and all the mission and locals in attendance, remarks were done as we had newcomers who were attending the camp for the first time, and were explained what was expected of them and how important everyone was required to be a participant of this camp. Praise and worship songs were sung, and all knelt down to thank God for His doing for bringing our youth safely to the campsite. Since we were very tired from travelling all were allowed to their destinations to have good rest so as all would be up in the morning on time and ready for the retreat.

Oth, Thursday morning started promptly at 5:30 a.m, All woke up for the glory of our Lord. Morning devotion, and thereafter manual was done at the grounds while others were helping in preparing for the morning breakfast. The youth were as busy as bees. We were so fortu-

nate to have several youths from the past camp; it made it easy for the newcomers to adopt in all their doings. The lessons began at exactly 9:30 a.m. with brother Elder Moses Ohuru taking on to the stage and starting his class on deeper understanding of Apostasy; he had a group of scripture to share but before I share them. he began by asking if we ever wondered why the Church of Christ is different from other churches, or why we say our church is better than others? Many people had different answers regarding the topic and as much as they had the same answers the explanation was different. He basically focused his topic on Revelation, chapters 12:14-17-25; 13:17; 22:1-2, Thessalonians 2:1-5, Daniel 7:24-25, Amos 8:11-13, Isaiah 29:25-26. He said that most of the time we have a tendency to be pulled to the world to believe false prophets of the world. He said if we do not watch and pray always we will stray. He told the gathering youths that God has given us all the responsibility to let our light shine that we may draw others closer to Him. He said to the youths that as long as we have taken His name on we must do what we must do what it takes of Him. He said that he already knew that we are aware of the words spoken in the Bible, but as an elder in the church he was only reminding the youths and all those in attendance so that we may continue to grow in grace. He said it is the job of the ministry to keep reminding the youth of the responsibility and perhaps form a judgment when we see others doing that which they should not do. He provided enough time for the youth to ask questions and get a clean understanding on his topic, and the ministry were at free will to add towards what the elder taught that day. Many had a lot to contribute as regards what makes our church different and why we should not copy and paste of what other churches are doing because that will not be the will of our Lord.

n the 11th Friday was Elder Mi-Vchael's turn of sermon and teaching regarding Restoration, but to our surprise that very morning he said the Spirit had directed to base his topic on the fruits of the spirit, and he gave his topic from the book of Galatians 5:22-23: "But the fruit of the spirit is Love Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, faith, Meekness, Temperance against such is no law." brother started by explaining to the youth and the entire congregation how the quietness of heart and mind is based on our belief in Christ our Savior and His plan of salvation. He said in this topic he was going to encourage not only the youth but the entire visiting members that we should rejoice in serving our Master, who is our Lord Jesus Christ. We should not worry so much about the things of this world, for the things of this world lead us to temptations and after temptations it is sinning. We should not be discouraged when we encounter problems but need to put our trust upon the Lord. He said Jesus did not say that we would not encounter suffering during this time while we are in His service; that is why He mentions longsuffering and by saying so He meant we need to have patience. He gave an example how many people lack patience, everybody wants things to go right, people are never patient, they

are not ready to wait, endure any type of problem or discomfort in their lives. He gave his references from the book of Romans 5:1-5. Mosiah 1:118-120, James 1:2-4. He emphasized on this topic encouraging our youth to have patience, and to let it have the perfect work. He said trials and problems are part of life, we have them and we will always have them as long as we are in this life. The greatest comfort he said is to know how to deal with it: he encouraged everyone to handle all issues in a righteous way so that in so doing they make us strong and make us grow spiritually.

Elder Michael finished by saying God wants us to obtain salvation and He has shown us by His longsuffering because of the love He has for us.

Later that afternoon brother Peter Nyamira stood up to enlighten the youths on a courtship topic.

First he said the camp is a key of building friendship, creates a positive frame of mind, and helping all the youth discover their abilities. He also told the youth that attending the camp helps them build love for one another, and helps in building a natural relationship with others and God.

He encouraged our youth to take advantage of this camping opportunity, so as to ask the Lord to open their eyes to see what the Lord desires them to see. He told the youth that God has bound our hearts to Him by unnumbered tokens in heaven and in earth. They were encouraged to continue learning about God and developing a close relationship with Him.

He gave a Bible reference in relation to the way God designed; he taught from the book of Alma 18:1-2, if the youth would keep

the Lord's commandment and seek His direction, nothing can hinder them from prospering. He said even when the young generation want to start a relationship they should learn to pray about it before the Lord, but there is a warning that whoever does not keep His commandment shall be cut off from His presence. The priest gave an encouraging message based on the 2nd verse, that we the Church of Christ members shall have great joy when we know that our youth have been steadfast and faithful to the Lord. Finally the youth were told how great it was for them to be patient and wait upon the right time for a pure marriage.

The youth were encouraged by the present ministry and reminded that God has bound our hearts to Him by unnumbered tokens in heaven and in earth. They were encouraged to continue learning about God, and that developing a closer relationship with Him is the goal. We are members of one family, members of the Church of Christ, and we should be a family with a purpose (an example was given on the physical family). Every earthly family needs to have goals, and plans to reach those goals, such goals might include the size of family, the future of children, the style of house, the spiritual prosperity of the family, etc. They were told that like the physical family, God's family has goals and plans too. Our heavenly Father Himself has specific aims for His church and its youth and has the plans to fulfill them: Genesis 12:2-3. What Purpose did God Have to His People from the very beginning?

The youth of God are His representatives upon the earth, and He intends that they should be

lights in the moral darkness of this world. When we speak about the future of the Church of Christ we are speaking about our youth. In the Bible and in the Book of Mormon we see young people in their youth being bestowed the responsibilities of leadership, because they were seeking the face of the Lord.

Sister Margaret asked all in attendance if they believed that God will use our youth for great purposes? And if we needed this to happen, the spiritual parents should take serious responsibility given to them by God. And when we as leaders don't fulfill the will of God we will be answerable before the Lord. She said it required a commitment of our time and our life; give time to our youth in the church and society, more especially when we teach and show them the true gospel and all of His words which guide our lives. Sister Margaret went further by saying a life in Christ is a life of restfulness. There may be ecstasy of feeling, but there should be an abiding, peaceful trust; your hope is not in ourselves but in Christ. She told the youth that any heart that rests most fully upon Christ will be most earnest and active in labor for Him. Final advice from her was: do not be misled by evil devices. Talk and think of Jesus. Let yourself be lost in Him.

unday was here, time had gone really fast. This was our last day at the camp! Elder Simion advised the youth to be faithful givers, of their tithes. He gave a reference from the book of 3 Nephi 11:11. The scripture reminds us all that as much as we do not heed to correct giving in tithes and offering, we are robbing God, and the curses overflow to our genera-

tions, our families, our communities, our business, and our whole nation.

He gave some references to the youth to refer to when they want to read on being a cheerful giver: Mosiah 3:8-10, Hebrews 3:10-11, Leviticus 27:30, Matthew 6:23.

Honestly, time had come for us to say goodbye, and none of the campers wanted to hear that it was time to get ready to return to their respective missions or locals. However it was time to come to the end of the program. And encouraged to be faithful, steadfast and enduring to the end, is when we can see each other the next event. Hymns were sung, praise and worship, followed by prayers for the safety of our travel, appreciating our missionaries in charge of Africa, for their endless support to the Kenyan Church and helping the church in all ways. Prayers were offered on behalf of the organizers and those who were in charge of the whole event that the blessing may continue to overflow to them all. Most of the campers testified, that they really miss this event a whole year and they wait for it with a lot of enthusiasm.

Sister Margaret gave a closing remark, by saying that it was a privilege for her to participate and help in the camp, seeing all the young growing to adults and the small to the older children.

I am so thankful that the Lord brought us this far. I also attached some pictures from the camping.

Margaret Kerosi Reporting for Church of Christ (TL)



We Will Stand for Jesus

The 14th Annual Youth Camp was held at Mt. Carmel Baptist Assembly in Kinuskusan, Bansalan, Davao del Sur last April 18-22, 2016, with a theme found in Psalm 94:16: "Stand Up for Jesus."

One hundred seventy-five [175] delegates from all over Mindanao arrived on that day. The numbers decreased since last year because of the distance and the lack of rain that almost all our members suffered be-

cause agriculture is their livelihood; thus, they lack financial support to attend the camp.

To officially open the program, Priesthood and Leaders, facilitators and all zones paraded in their respective colors carrying the banner to represent them.

Lectures with four (4) different topics namely: Characteristics of Christian Youth, Love, Evangelism

and Stand up for Jesus lectured by Elder Roger Manali, Elder George Cabriadas, Priest Arturo Superio and Elder Tobias Operio substituted by his brother-in-law Ptr. Melvin Manginsay due to emergency situations respectively. This was done on the morning of the first and second day of the camp.

During the afternoon of the first two days are the outdoor















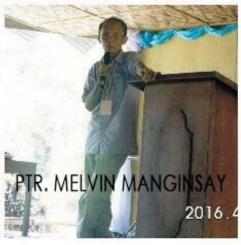










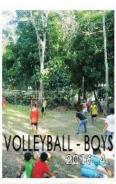


games which are Baskteball. Volleyball and Sack Race, played by category of boys and girls in each zone. In the first evening was Teaching Contest and Preaching Contest on the second evening after the service.

On the morning of the third day are the Bible Games: Bible Quiz, Bible Telephone, Book of Mormon Hunting and Book of Mormon Drill. On the afternoon is the Singing Contest: Solo, Duet and Group Singing, still represented by each zone.

For the last night, we are so blessed to hear the message from Ptr. Lody Jay Alameda. With God's help, he was able to touch the hearts of the youth and gave us the courage to stand up for Jesus. With the verse from the Bible found in Joshua 24:15, he used some words and change the other words to conform with this year's theme. As one, the congregation stand firm and says "As for me, I will















stand up for JESUS!"

The food is great, everyone slept comfortably with more than enough beds to occupy, the weather is just right, everyone went home happily, more than what I expect them to feel.

Our theme which was found in





the Book of Psalms 94:16, "Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? Or who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?"

In answer to these questions, I will be sharing with you the chorus of our theme song:

"You're my brother, you're my sister

So take me by the hand
Together we will work until He

There's no foe that can defeat us When we're walking side by side As long as there is love We will stand."

Thank you and to God be all the glory!

Report by Sister Omega Mae Alameda

Collins Local Report



By Czerna Kauffman

Editor's Note: My humble apologies to our sister Czerna Kauffman and the Collins Local for misplacing her report and not publishing it last year.

he seasons have rotated around to fall! Some of the leaves are drifting down and walnuts are falling. Those funny little tail-flicking squirrels are gathering the walnuts, hulling them and digging holes all over the yard to hide them up until later in the year when they need a snack. I don't know how they will ever find their little treasures again, but I guess the Lord will provide. It works for me!

Very soon after I sent in my last report to the *Advocate*, we lost our Brother Curtis Yates on 7-4-16. His lungs just couldn't work for him anymore. There is such a vacancy here at our local. We all have such fond memories of Curt. He used to say, "You're where you want to be...," and now he is too! Give praise to our Heavenly Father for His perfect plan.

Services were conducted by Elder Randy Sheldon and Apostle Mike McGhee at the Hathaway-Peterman Chapel in Wheatland. Randy told several stories and happenings he remembered about Curtis—many bringing laughter in our own reminiscing of our time spent with our brother. Brother Mike McGhee shared the gospel with everyone, leaving us with encouragement and hope for our own lives.

Just over two weeks later (7/24/16) our sister, Betty Martin also left this world to take her place in God's Paradise. I had mentioned in my last writing that Allen and I had hoped to get to visit with Betty on our way back from Phoenix. We did just that. Betty had been sleeping in her chair in a "TV room," so was brought back to her own room where we jiggled her awake. When she opened her eyes she seemed so pleased to see us and said, "Well HI!" and smiled so big! I feel sure she



recognized us. Betty's daughter, Laura Mae, came and we all visited before it was time for us to leave. Allen had the privilege of administering to our sister and asking God to bring her comfort and peace. I believe He did.

Apostle Roland Sarratt, along with Elder Larry Beem, officiated at Betty's service at the Sheldon-Goodrich Chapel in Osceola. Her family were all present, and though it was a sad occasion it was also a time of rejoicing in knowing the kind of person Betty had always been and the life of goodness she had lived. She was one of my dearest friends.

At the end of August, Allen, and I, along with Shawna, Dale, and Sheala Herd drove to Aztec, New Mexico to attend our son Brian Coberly's wedding. He married a wonderful girl, Sandra Valencia. Elder Hubert Yates had visited with them a few months prior to the wedding, holding classes with them and teaching the gospel, when Sandra asked for baptism. What a joy to my heart! Their wedding was beautiful, and even more so now.

Our brother and sister, Larry and Jewel Beem, have sold their house in Independence, have purchased a place not far from Paul and Sharon Liekness, and have transferred their membership to the Collins Local. What a joy to all of us!! There is enough land there that Jewel can have some chickens to tend. She loves chickens and also wants to have her own garden area. You know, if the chicken "ranching" doesn't work out, they can always have chicken soup! (Big grin!)

Sisters Sharon Liekness, Shawna Herd and myself drove up to Excelsior Springs this past weekend and enjoyed spending time with our sisters in study and fellowship. Our theme this year was John 15:5—I am the vine and ye are the branches.... It was time well spent. Thank you to all those who put in a great deal of time and effort to put it all together for our enjoyment and learning. We hope to see you again next year.

I have some quotes from recent sermons I'd like to share with you. These are things that meant a lot to me—per-

haps they will have place in you as well.

- Why are we attending church? Because I was expected to—not by Mom or friend—but by GOD!
- Satan doesn't teach us to "hate" God—he teaches us to FORGET God.
- We just have to lose this thing called pride.
- Because I am a natural man—I see YOUR sins better than I see MY sins.
- Are you worried? Are you His?
- Do you know the Father or are you just "religious"?
- Arm yourself with HIS righteousness not your own.
- It's not whether we have success, it's whether we are doing what God tells us.
- Do we "use" God as the last resort?
- What separates us from the world is the gift of the Holy Ghost.

- If Jesus was coming tomorrow—what would you do for the rest of today?
- Be prepared—you may meet some "giants" out there!
- It's not a trial to serve Him (God), but an opportunity.
- African proverb: If you want to go fast—go alone. If you want to go far—go together. We need to go together.
- Do you pray in fear or faith?
- It's no sacrifice if it has no cost to us.
- The time to prepare our "armor" is when things are going "easy." Trials happen.

Thank you for letting me visit awhile.

Your reporter, Czerna Kauffman

OBITUARY

Meredyth Irene (Willard) Malone

(1924 - 2016)

eredyth passed away from this life on December 9, 2016, and was preceded in death by her husband Merl Malone, her second husband Jerry Basket, her parents Don and Ruth Willard, her siblings Donna Moser and Bob Willard, and her two sons Michael and William.

Meredyth is survived by two children: James and spouse Valarie, Becky and spouse Brian, daughters-in-law Karin and Verda, nine grandchildren: Dennis, Kira, Darrin, Michael, Scott, Liegh Ann, Daniel, Holly and Tony, as well as sixteen great-grandchildren and countless extended family.

Meredyth had a heart of a servant. With her warm and friendly smile she welcomed many into her heart and home. She would eagerly welcome guests and would go out of her way to make the memories last, from making special-request dill pickle pies or becoming an impromptu safe haven for cold Christmas carolers to warm up with hot chocolate and cookies. She would help monetarily if she could, finding special jobs for children in her family and church local or gifting donations to those in need. Moreover, she was quick to offer prayers on the behalf of those in need. She gave much more than she received.

Meredyth was an example of triumph through adversity. She endured very heavy trials and burdens and through it all she found peace and hope through Christ. She admitted how she strayed from the path at times but found her way back. She was

quick to go to her Lord with her burdens and needs and learned to follow His will. She was not quiet in praise, but became a living witness of God's grace and mercy.

Meredyth's legacy is the depth of love she showed to those around her. Her love and strength came from those before her: a heritage of believers. She was so very proud to be part of that heritage of faithful followers of Christ and took the time to witness of that truth. Meredyth is a beautiful soul who endured to the end and has now found rest. Her hope is that the generations to follow her will always remember that strength of this heritage legacy and continue on the path to life eternal.

TESTIMONY

A Dream

By Hellen Carrol

Was shown two roads. One road was uphill, not very wide, rather a shining road. The other road started out level but sloped downward and had ruts where you could not do anything but get stuck. I heard a voice that spoke to me and said, "Which road will you take?" I decided to take the high road. It takes effort but is the best.



NOTICES

REUNION

▶ JULY 7-9: The Akwesasne New York Local welcomes all our brothers and sisters to fellowship and worship with us from Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. through Sunday afternoon. Questions? Contact:

BRANDON TARBELL (518) 358-9153

btargbell@thetmg.com

CCEG

The Church of Christ Email Group is a church member-only (and spouses, even if not a member) email communication group existing to keep the general church membership informed about prayer needs, blessings, and more. It does not have officially elected management (member volunteer only), although it regularly functions for the Church of Christ for missionary news and various announcements, like state rallies and reunions.

If you have email capability and are not a member of the CCEG, you may join by first visiting the Web site at www.cceg.net and after reading about us on the home page, click the link in the left sidebar, "Join the CCEG" and follow the simple instructions.

If any existing members feel you are not getting CCEG emails as expected, contact the CCEG manager (below) so you can be verified.

RHEA HOUSKNECHT

CCEG Manager ccegmgr@icloud.com

THE HOPE of ZION

The Board of Publications has made available a copy of the report from the Committee to Study Zion entitled, *The Hope of Zion*. Contact **Elder Robert Oldham** at rwoldham1@sbcglobal.net, or any member of the Board.

AVA WEBSITE

On the Church of Christ AVA web site you will be able to access media such as archived sermons in video and audio formats, past issues of *Zion's Advocate*, searchable Bible and Book of Mormon studies and Sunday School lessons. Real time live streamed sermons are broadcast every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. central time, which can also be accessed from the site. We invite you to take a look and discover what a useful tool this site can be in expanding your knowledge and faith. The address is www.cocsermons.net.

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Middleville, MI 49333

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Phoenix, AZ 85050

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