

Winter 08-09



District Update

South Dakota Assemblies of God



I Am the Gate

All Who Enter Will Be Saved.

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



The South Dakota District Update
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Update

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

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From The Superintendent



Thanksgiving 2008

The economy is sinking, the country is in transition, the future is uncertain, and many are worried about tomorrow. Yet, American families recently gathered together to celebrate one of our greatest holidays, Thanksgiving. It is time, therefore, to stop and reflect on just exactly what we have to be thankful for.

I have the privilege and freedom to live in the greatest Constitutional Republic that has ever existed on this planet. Even as a middle class American, I live a lifestyle in a country that is the envy of the rest of the world. A land where I am free to travel its length and breadth without papers, check points, or guard towers. A country and society that are based on the words, "We hold these truths to be self-evident..."; giving every mother's son or daughter the opportunity to achieve their dreams. I live in the land of the free and the home of the brave, where only a few decades ago Dr. Martin Luther King declared, "I have a dream..." and today a black man is our President Elect. So yes, I am thankful.

I live in a country that guarantees my right to have faith in my God and worship Him openly in assemblies throughout my community and across the land. I need not fear persecution, prison, nor execution, should my faith be different from some government's mandated church or atheistic laws. So yes, I am thankful.

As I pen these words, it is November 11th, the day we remember and honor our Veterans. I can write everything in the previous paragraphs, and be thankful for my freedoms, only because of the countless men and women who have served this country and sometimes given their very blood to keep our flag standing proud and our country free. So yes, I am thankful.

I am blessed beyond measure by the love and support of my family. I watch with pride as my children continue to grow and flourish in our society. I am overcome with inexpressible joy at the sound of my grandchildren's laughter. I know what it is to share the gift of friendship. So yes, I am thankful.

No, I don't know what the future holds. But my life thus far has overflowed with countless blessings, more than anyone could dare to hope for. I bet your experiences are similar to mine. So rather than worrying about what tomorrow could take away, let's be thankful for what the past and present have already given us. Let's stand united together as Americans and share our thankfulness unto God, our country, our families, and our neighbors.

*Rev. Bill Woods (former pastor of Sisseton AG)
Executive Director
Iron County Care and Share*

Ministry At Eagle Butte

We are still flying high over the success of the Cheyenne River Outreach in Eagle Butte, SD. God gave Gloria and me a vision and a burden to return to our home state to reach those in need physically and spiritually on our Native American Reservations.

With the help of Mel Erickson of Dakota Missionary Evangelism and many others, we saw the vision come to fulfillment. We knew it was going to require a step of faith as the entire project was a stretch for our own capabilities. We prayed and asked God to guide us, give us favor and let us know that "He" was in it.

We were honored to partner with Melena Dugan of Operation Outreach located in Ohio and Convoy of Hope from Springfield, Missouri. With partners like these we were able to distribute two semi-trucks of food and clothing.

Ministry began with setting up two tents, laying out massive lines of tables and organizing thousands of articles of clothing. When all was said and done we distributed 71,000 pounds of food which would feed 3,500 families.

We sang and shared a simple Gospel message which provided an opportunity for people to accept Christ. The last estimate was that approximately 300-400 people received Christ. There was also one-on-one witnessing, counseling, and ministry taking place all over the grounds. Eleven Bible study groups are being implemented in four communities following-up of these precious new believers.

We praise God for His hand in this outreach. It's all for His glory!

*Larry & Gloria Lundstrom
Evangelists*



Larry & Gloria, Melena Dugan, Mel & Corliss Erickson

Native American Ministries



Faith Family Assembly of God

Congratulations Pastors Randy & Rebecca Jensen and the Congregation of Faith Family AG! Sunday, October 26th, the Jensen's and congregation and a whole host of friends celebrated the dedication of the new facilities in Lower Brule! The main speakers were Pastor Randy Jensen, Superintendent Steve Schaible, Mike Kolbaker and KC Kopaska.

Founding pastors Virgil and Donna Zeigler were among those who made the journey for this occasion as well as Sis. Holland, whose husband pastored here in the 1970's.

Other guests came from Missouri as well as several churches in South Dakota. Pierre New Life Worship team did the music. The Chamberlain ladies ministries helped a lot with food and with the kiddos. Attendance was around 100, including kids.

Upcoming Event: Kids Christmas Outreach. Christmas we will be doing a carnival, a Nativity presentation and gifts.

Congratulations to the Mincks

Congratulations to Owen & Lynette Mincks on their move to new facilities! The Minck's and congregation celebrated their first Sunday in their new church a few weeks ago. EVERYONE IS EXCITED AND LOVES ALL THE ROOM. They do have a few needs though. If you have, or would like to, contribute some tables and chairs they would be greatly appreciated. Just contact the District office to learn more about making your donation.



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2008 Youth Convention Update

Youth Convention weekend was crazy all around South Dakota. The first snowstorm of the season was in full force just hours before the start of our first service.

About 25% of the registered guests were unable to make the drive in because of road closures on the western end of I-90.

Those who were unable to attend may have been down, but not out.

Several youth pastors got together and hosted "Snow-Inn 08" which included shoveling sidewalks, two services, and other youth-oriented games.

In Pierre, students participated in an outreach where they shoveled snow (or more accurately - ice) off of driveways of shut-ins, and spent time with senior citizens at a few retirement communities.

During the Saturday morning STL service, Pastor David Bauchspiess (Aberdeen) shared his journey in training and running a 26.2 mile marathon where he raised funds for missionaries overseas. Students set goals of over \$21,000 in the next six weeks.

Mark Zweifel challenged the students with a message about "Three Crosses" on Friday, being a "Watchman" on Saturday night, and learning "How to Kill a Bear."

In all, teenagers were saved, healed, and touched by the power of God.

We are thankful that none of the students from TBC were severely injured in the vehicle rollover on their way to convention.

Thank you for your prayers.

Mark Entzminger
dyd



Group Photo: Pierre



Group Photo: Rapid City



Spring Convention & FAF

February 13-14, 2009 will be our Fine Arts Festival and first-ever Spring Convention.

Guest Speaker: Rick Lorimer (student outreach director for the national youth ministries)

Worship Leader: Joe Garcia (worship leader from Falls Church, Sioux Falls)

Location: Sioux Falls, First Assembly of God

Price: Convention Only - \$25.00, Convention and FAF Participant - \$35.00*

Saturday Morning Options:

- Fine Arts Participant
- Fine Arts Spectator
- 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament
- Impact Sioux Falls Outreach

*Includes up to four different categories. Additional entries can be added for \$5.00 each.

Spring Banquet Tour 2008

The seniors in the State of South Dakota are alive and well. That certainly was proven on September 3-5 when we gathered for the Annual Mid and Senior Adult Retreat at Camp Judson in the Black Hills. We had the largest number of registered guests that we have ever had, and many were first timers. Due to the National Seniors Cruise, which was scheduled to begin September 8th, a number of our "regulars" were not in attendance. As a result, we are looking forward to an even greater group at the 2009 Retreat, September 9-11.

The first state-wide event for 2009 is the Annual Banquet Tour, which is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 27th, in Sioux Falls and will conclude at noon on Saturday, May 2nd in Rapid City. We are so happy to once again have Dave and Ladonna Weston as our guest speakers and musicians. Those of you who were privileged to attend Retreat in 2007 have had a 'taste' of what is in store for us in April 2009. Put these dates on your calendar now and invite your friends and neighbors to attend with you. Specific locations for each banquet will be confirmed and the information will be sent to all of the churches early in 2009.

Our speaker for Middle and Senior Adult Retreat will be Ken Dahlager, along with his wife Marcie. The Dahlager's are parents of Joni Wileman, who is the wife of Gary Wileman, pastor at First Assembly of God in Aberdeen. The Dahlager's served as missionaries in Costa Rica for sixteen years and in Mexico for eight. In 2000, Ken became the director for Latin American Child Care. Today, LACC ministers to nearly 100,000 at risk children who attend more than 300 elementary and high schools in 20 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. We are looking forward to a great time of ministry and fellowship with them in 2009.

We are happy to hear that activities are being planned throughout the year for the seniors in your area, and we always look forward to the time we all come together in the Spring and Fall to get reacquainted and renew friendships.



Keep your minds sharp and your hearts in tune with our heavenly Father by daily reading His Word, praying and ministering to others when the opportunity arises. Thank you for your prayers, financial support and your love. Without you we would not have the needed resources to continue in this vital ministry.

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



Girls Ministries

Honor Stars

This year, 17 young women from 6 different Assemblies completed the Stars discipleship program, and earned the designation Honor Star. These girls were recognized at Local and District Crowning Ceremonies.

We would like to congratulate the following Honor Star recipients: KyLee Alspaw, Adriana Arrambide, Micheala Bales, Hope Delfanian, Gabrielle DeVoogd, Ashley Harter, Annika Hietpas, Savannah Huntley, Briel Kjetland, **Carissa Koan** (pictured, standing on left), Marissa Malisch, **Emali McGee** (pictured, standing on right), Samantha Madsen, Abigail Shashikanth, Abby Steven, Destiny Velez, and Cherish Winter.



In 2009, we plan to continue to change the world, one girl at a time. The Mpart Girls Clubs will present our Love Basket donations at District Council, have Day Camps for 4-8 year old boys and girls, a camping retreat/outreach for 8-10 year old girls and our District Crowning Ceremony. Teengirl Ministries will have a purity retreat for middle school and high school girls. I look forward to serving the Lord with you.

*Julie Weller
Girls Ministries Director*

Women's Ministries *Unlimited*

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord" is a line from a praise song. Each time I think of how God blessed the ladies at Fall Retreat with speaker Laurie Hoyt, it warms my heart and I'm sure many 'good things' are coming from our time together.

There is still time to give to the Christmas Blessings project for home and foreign missionaries. So far \$616.77 has come in to the District Office and there's always room for more blessings.

Our Spring Luncheon will be coming up on Wed., April 15, 2009 at Aberdeen during District Council with Justeina Brownlee speaking. Her husband is on staff at Teen Challenge of the Dakotas and she has her own ministry called **True Identities**. Be thinking ahead and working on Commissary items and money for all our missionaries. I know that it is very appreciated by those who participate. Please contact Rachel Schaible for commissary lists and questions.

MARK your calendars now for October 9-10, 2009 to attend the Fall Retreat in Pierre with Lisa Alipate speaking. You will be changed, renewed and pampered!

*Be Blessed,
Mary Sheldon
SD Women's Ministries*



"BEAR YE ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS AND SO FULFILL THE LAW OF CHRIST" GAL. 6:2

CONNECTIONS

SD MINISTRY WOMEN'S BREAKAWAY

BEGINS: FEBRUARY 20, 2009 3:00 PM

ENDS: FEBRUARY 21, 2009 1:30 PM

FOR MINISTER'S WIVES, CREDENTIALLED WOMEN, AND WOMEN PASTORS

CHAMBERLAIN, AMERICINN

LODGING: \$49.95/ROOM 1-2 PEOPLE (\$5.00 EACH ADDITIONAL PERSON)

RETREAT: FREE REGISTRATION (CONTACT RACHEL TO REGISTER AND LIST ROOMMATE REQUESTS)
(605) 362-6858 OR RSCHAIBLE@SDAG.ORG

FEATURING: ACCESSORY & CLOTHING EXCHANGE (NEW AND USED)

continued from page 3.

Eagle Nest Life Center

Missionary/Pastors Terry & Gus Craven

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH! We had a large article to print about the happenings in Mission and Wanblee; but as of this printing everyone knows of the devastating snow storm that hit November 5th and 6th. There have been more than 5000 homes without power and water and many children in need of diapers and baby formula. Wanblee has continued to be without water & power. We have set up a district Emergency Relief Fund where donations can be made directly to the District office. We raised around \$650 overnight, and Tim went immediately and purchased a needed generator, snow boots, socks, mittens, power cords. Check out www.pministries.net for a list of continued needed articles. THANKS to Pastor John Hostettler for stepping right up and sending funds. The Craven's continued with their Feast of Nations in Missions and Wanblee.



Oglala ReCreation and Worship Center

Always a place of things HAPPENING! October was a month of great concerts with *Broken Walls* sharing again this year!



The Oglala Team is gearing up once again for their annual CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION to be held Sunday, December 14th. If you would like to contribute to their Christmas fund to purchase coffee, blankets, personal toiletry items, and laundry supplies, please contact them at PO Box 108, Oglala, SD 57764.

Welcome Back Tim and Elaine Harris

Yep! They are Baaaack! And back to stay as they report. Their hearts and calling is here in SD among the Native American People and Native Ministries. They are ministering in Wagner and their new address is PO Box 28, Wagner, SD 57380. The home/office land line is 605-384-5867. CALL OR WRITE ANYTIME.



We want to thank KC Kopaska for being a partner with the ministry here in Wagner and for getting the plans together for the BIG CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION Saturday, December 13! Much planning and work has gone into this project. We greatly appreciate all the effort and look forward to being a part of it.

Oglala Welcomes a New Team Member



Welcome to the ministry team Mary Maedler from Germany! Mary will be serving as part of the Ministry Team for the next 3 years as a "Missionary." Mary came to Oglala the first time in the summer of 1998 and we are excited to have her back. She is an awesome part of this group!



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Update

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Quick Calendar

December:

12-13: PK Christmas Party
25: Christmas
31: BGMC & STL Contribution Deadline

January:

2-3: Teen Bible Quiz (Rapid City)
4-10: National Week of Prayer
12: Kids Pastor Connection (Sioux Falls, Crosswalk)
14: STL Tour (Aberdeen)
15: J. Robert Ashcroft/SH Petersen Scholarship Application Deadline
15-17: MOMENTUM Youth Pastor Retreat (Mitchell)
17: STL Tour (Rapid City)
23: Spring Convention/Fine Arts Deadline
25: National Men's Ministries Day
30-31: Royal Ranger Winter Pow Wow

February:

7: Junior Bible Quiz
13-14: Spring Youth Convention/Fine Arts Festival (Sioux Falls)
14: Teen Bible Quiz (Sioux Falls)
16: AIM Registration Deadline
20-21: Ministry Women's Breakaway (Chamberlain)
22: National Women's Ministries Day

March:

2: Kids Pastor Connection (Yankton)
6-7: Men's Retreat (Kamp Kinship)
7: Junior Bible Quiz (Rapid City)
8: BGMC Sunday
13-14: Men's Retreat (Huron)
14: Teen Bible Quiz