

# District Update

South Dakota Assemblies of God

SPRING 2005

Volume 2.1

## 2005 SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT COUNCIL

MARCH 29-30, 2005

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD, RAPID CITY



Our 2005 South Dakota District Council will soon be upon us. The location this year is First Assembly of God in Rapid City. The dates are March 29 & 30, 2005. We are looking forward to a great Council from the Tuesday afternoon Call to Prayer & Communion Service, the World Missions Banquet on Tuesday evening at Mt. Rushmore, all the way through our Ordination service on Wednesday evening. We are praying for the touch of God on every session and event.

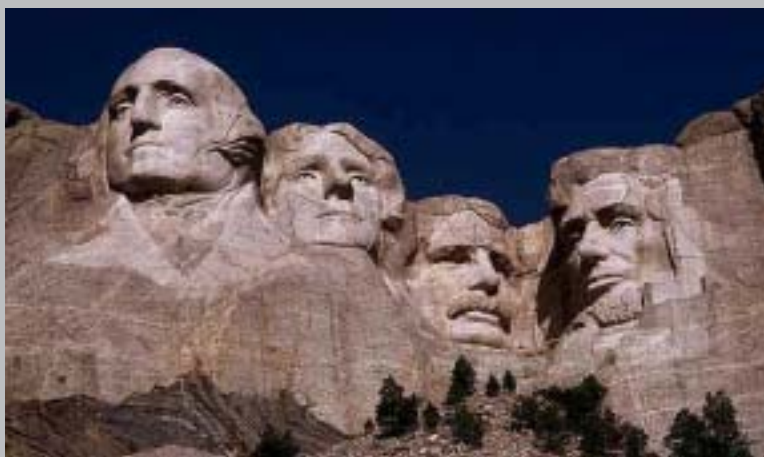
The World Missions Banquet at the Mt. Rushmore Dining Room will be an incredible event. Rev. Dan Betzer will be our guest speaker for the evening. The Ukrainian born "Light Springs" will provide the music. We'll have all of this with the breathtaking back-drop of Mt. Rushmore National Monument! You will want to make every effort to be there!

Arrangements have been made for charter bus transportation from Rapid City First Assembly of God, which departs at 5:45 p.m. The buses will return to the church, following the dinner, by 9:30 p.m. The dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. and costs \$25 per person.

For the convenience of parents with children, childcare will be provided at First Assembly of God for the evening. A meal will be served for a nominal fee of \$5.00 per child. Please plan accordingly for your children's meal and inform us when you RSVP for the banquet.

Reservations are going to be limited, so please arrange your reservations through your local Assembly prior to March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Stephen Schaible  
South Dakota District Superintendent



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1,265 Students  
27 Majors  
1 Mission

 North Central  
UNIVERSITY

## 70<sup>th</sup> Annual South Dakota District Council - March 28-30

### UPDATE

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

www.sdag.org  
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### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Rev. Stephen R. Schaible  
*Superintendent*

Rev. Ron Traub  
*Assistant Superintendent*

Rev. Gary Wileman  
*Secretary-Treasurer*

### DISTRICT PRESBYTERS

Rev. Dan Kent  
*Black Hills Section*

Rev. John Hostettler  
*Central Section*

Rev. Kirk Strand  
*South East Section*

Rev. Daniel Campbell  
*East Central Section*

Rev. Cliff Sheldon  
*North East Section*

### DEPARTMENT HEADS

Rev. Ron Traub  
*World & US Missions*

Rev. Mark Entzminger  
*Youth and Christian Education*

Rev. Nels & Angie Easterby  
*Senior Adult Ministries*

Rev. Jeff Mantz  
*HonorBound*

Tim Cushman  
*Light for the Lost*

Mike Glanzer  
*Royal Rangers*

Dorothy Tuft Ludens  
*Women's Ministries Unlimited*

Marvel Baker  
*Missionettes*

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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## World Missions Banquet

Rev. Dan Betzer will be the guest speaker at our Tuesday evening World Missions Banquet at the Mt. Rushmore Dining Room in the shadow of Mt. Rushmore National Monument. The evening will also be graced by the harmonious music of "Light Springs" (a sharp young vocal group from the Ukraine).

Dan Betzer has been the Senior Pastor of Fort Meyers First Assembly since 1987. He also serves as Assistant District Superintendent of the Peninsular Florida District of the Assemblies of God, carrying the portfolio of world missions. Pastor Betzer is also an Executive Presbyter of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, representing the Southeast Region of the United States.

Pastor Betzer is a veteran of over 60 years in areas such as broadcasting media, pastoring, writing, television and radio hosting, as well as ventriloquism.



Pastor Dan Betzer

## Schedule\*

### MONDAY, MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup>

6:30 PM Speed the Light Grand Club Banquet *(By Special Invitation Only)\*\**

### TUESDAY, MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup>

9:30 AM BGMC Grand Club Brunch *(By Special Invitation Only)\*\**  
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Registration  
2:00 PM - 4:30 PM Call to Prayer & Communion Service  
5:45 PM Buses Leaving from Rapid City First Parking Lot  
6:00 PM World Missions Banquet [Mt. Rushmore Dining Room]  
*Rev. Dan Betzer - Speaker*

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup>

9:00 AM - 11:30 AM Council Business Session  
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM Women's Ministries Luncheon  
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM Men's HonorBound Luncheon (Location TBD)  
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM Council Business Session  
7:00 PM Ordination Service  
*Rev. Stephen Schaible - Speaker*

*\*All events take place at Rapid City First Assembly of God unless otherwise noted.  
\*\*Tickets may be purchased by calling Mark at the District Office at (605) 367-3402.*

## Lodging Information

NAME OF HOTEL	PHONE	RATE (+TAX)	POOL	BREAKFAST
Alex Johnson Hotel	605-348-2539	\$61.00	No	No <i>(Restaurant on site)</i>
AmericInn Lodge & Suites	605-343-8424	\$62.99	Yes	Yes
Comfort Inn I-90	605-348-2221	\$59.99	Yes	Yes
Country Inn & Suites	605-394-0017	\$64.00	Yes	Yes
Days Inn I-90	605-348-8410	\$49.00	Yes	Yes
Fair Value Inn	605-342-8118	\$34/\$46	No	Yes <i>(Coffee and Rolls)</i>
Hampton Inn	605-348-1911	\$80.00	Yes	Yes
Holiday Inn Express (Cathedral Dr.)	605-341-9300	\$63.96*	Yes	Yes
Howard Johnson Express	605-737-4656	\$65.00	Yes	Yes
Quality Inn	605-342-3322	\$59.99	Yes	Yes <i>(Hot Breakfast Buffet)</i>
Red Roof Inn	605-343-5434	\$39.99/\$59.99	No	Yes
Rodeway Inn	605-342-1303	\$49.99	No	No

*\*Request the A/G rate*

### Stay Connected Online

Did you know that you can find information for activities and events for the South Dakota Assemblies of God on the world wide web?

Next time you're online, sit back with a cup of your favorite coffee and spend a few minutes getting familiar with the information that's available at [www.sdag.org](http://www.sdag.org).

You can download the quarterly District Update, find registration information for retreats and conventions, keep informed about summer camps, even see some photos of past events.

You can also find links to other A/G churches across South Dakota.



Our hope is that this technology will assist you in staying connected.

### A Familiar Directive

It's a familiar directive from Jesus. He said in Luke 10:2, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." That directive has never been more urgent, for the harvest is great, the time to harvest is short, and the laborers often too few.

The Lord's words on that occasion apply to every Believer. Recently, we were privileged to meet with and credential many persons whom God has called into ministry. What a delight to hear their testimonies and the ways in which God has called them! It reminds us that though the task is great, God has a plan—a plan to reach people with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Please pray with us that God will anoint and equip these persons as well as call many more into laboring in this harvest field.

*Rev. Gary Wileman  
District Secretary-Treasurer*



### MISSIONS

### Holy Land Trip

Ron and Margo Traub, Senior Pastors at Sioux Falls First Assembly of God, are taking their 5<sup>th</sup> tour group to the Land of the Bible in January of 2006. You are invited to join them for the trip of a lifetime, a trip to walk where Jesus walked.

This ten-day trip, which departs from Minneapolis, MN, includes a memorable communion service in Garden Tomb, a baptismal service in the River Jordan, a boat ride across the Sea of Galilee, plus much more.

The \$1990 trip fee includes round trip airfare from Minneapolis, first class hotel accommodations, full breakfast & dinner daily, touring in deluxe motorcoaches, complete sightseeing including all entrance fees, and a licensed guide.

If you would like to go or need more information, please contact Ron Traub at [rtraub@aogsf.com](mailto:rtraub@aogsf.com), by phone (605) 361-6300, or by mail at First Assembly of God, 6300 W. 41<sup>st</sup> Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57106.

*Ron Traub  
District Missions Director*



Israeli Flag



Dome of the Rock



Praying at Western Wall - Jerusalem

## BGMC - 4th Consecutive Record Year

For the fourth consecutive year, our South Dakota churches have set new records for BGMC giving.

In 2004, South Dakota boys and girls saved, looked behind sofa cushions, did odd jobs around the house, and even gave birthday money in order to meet needs all over the world. With the help of parents, church members, and children's leaders, a record \$26,614.00 was given this last year!

While we often don't know where these funds end up, we do know that this year we were able to help scholarship many students to summer camp through a special BGMC fund.

Additionally, we had a record number of churches give over \$1000. These ten churches will be honored at a special BGMC brunch prior to District Council.

Thank you for meeting these needs.



## Character Connex

Character Connex, a character-based school assembly program, was recently launched by the National Children's Ministries Agency. It is a high-quality program that any church could perform in their local public schools.

This pre-packaged school assembly program will enable children's leaders to build relationships with their local public schools. The kit will be complete with scripts, props, training DVD's, background DVD's, a background banner, and sound effects. The school assemblies can be done by a single person or a team. The Character Connex kit will be affordable so that any church could buy it.

Character Connex will eventually have eight or nine assemblies developed. The first four that will be released are: Kindness, Responsibility, Respect, and Honesty.

More information is available online.



## The Seven Project Goes to Huron

Pastor Tom Brantner, Senior Pastor of First A/G in Huron, helped coordinate a community effort to partner with the Huron area schools and churches to Build a Better Student. February 14-17, a team of South Dakota youth pastors participated in eight different school assemblies and one Seven at Night.

During the assemblies, students are encouraged to make positive choices regarding scholastic achievement, peer pressure, abstinence and more. At the Seven at Night, a Gospel presentation is given.

If you would like the Seven Project to come to your community, contact Mark at the District Office at (605) 367-3402.



## District Fine Arts Festival

### DIVISIONS:

**Art:** Graphic Design, Traditional Photography, Digital Photography, Visual Art

**Communication:** Short Sermon, \*Sign Language, \*Video Production, \*Web Design, \*Puppets

**Drama:** Drama Solo, Small Drama Group, Large Drama Group, Human Video Solo, Small Human Video Group, Large Human Video Group

**Exhibition:** \*Percussion, \*Children's Sermon, \*Sketch Writing, \*Original Instrumental Composition

**Instrumental:** Wind/Brass Solo, String Solo, Ensemble, Keyboard Solo, Guitar

**Vocal:** Female Vocal Solo, Male Vocal Solo, Small Vocal Ensemble, Large Vocal Ensemble, Worship Team, Christian Band, Youth Choir, \*Songwriting, \*Rap

**Writing:** First Person Essay, Poetry, Short Story

**Miscellaneous:** More information available online at [www.atripleshot.com](http://www.atripleshot.com)

\* Available in Solo or Group Categories

## Become an HonorBound Champion

If there was ever a time of the year to think about getting men motivated for the Lord, this is it! January 30<sup>th</sup> was National Men's Day. I hope you will take time to consider what God is doing in your life and how you can take steps to becoming more of what God has called you to be.



I have determined to become the first **HonorBound Champion** in South Dakota. Men who desire to do the same can work through the Champion's tool kit that includes required reading and courses such as "Dad's Coaching Clinic" and "Personal Holiness in Times of Temptation." Additionally, an HonorBound Champion supports the national ministry on a monthly basis and, most importantly, is involved in discipling other men. I pray men all over South Dakota will strive with me to become a better man of God through the National Champion's Network.

Chuck Brewster will be our guest speaker at the Huron Men's Retreat this March 4-5. Chuck, the former National HonorBound Director, and the developer of the Champion's Network, is moving into a ministry that is solely dedicated to refathering America through this Champion's Network ministry. During our retreat in Huron he will be conducting the Commissioning Service and presenting the first swords in South Dakota to those that have completed the **Champion** requirements.

Since the **Champion** is not a one-time achievement but a lifestyle of spiritual growth and development, each **Champion** will be reviewed by the district HonorBound leadership.

I am also looking forward to the second Men's Retreat in the Black Hills at Kamp Kinship with Sean Smith, who is also a powerful and anointed speaker on March 11-12.

With these two retreats right around the corner, take time right now to contact your church for more information. Let us see what God can do to change men's lives.

American children need heroes like never before and I believe it should be their dad. Even kids who don't have a Christian dad can have a powerful influence. Kids are looking for good achievable and available role models that will give more than the time of day with a word of encouragement and even a hug.

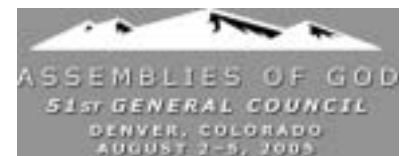
*Jeff Mantz*  
District HonorBound Director

## GENERAL COUNCIL

### Two Options to Enjoy the 2005 General Council

#### Head to Denver

Every two years A/G ministers from across the nation gather together for more than just business. With events such as the World Missions Rally, Celebration of Ethnicity, and Adult/Youth Rally, this council will highlight the unique diversity of our Fellowship and call us together to reaffirm our commitment to reach the world through the power of the Holy Spirit.



Each night some of the nations greatest pastors and preachers take the pulpit for one enormous worship service. This year the speakers include:

- **REV. THOMAS E. TRASK** - General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God [August 2]
- **REV. JOHN LINDELL** - Sr. Pastor of James River Assembly of God in Ozark, MO [August 3]
- **REV. LAZARUS CHAKWERA** - President of the Assemblies of God in Malawi [August 4]
- **REV. DAN BETZER** - Sr. Pastor of First Assembly of God in Ft. Myers, FL [August 5 - AM]
- **REV. BRYAN JARRETT** - Sr. Pastor of First Assembly of God in Pine Bluff, AR [August 5]

For more information on registration and lodging, contact your local church or log on to [www.ag.org](http://www.ag.org).

#### Head to the Recliner

By far, the best way to experience all of the great services in the 51<sup>st</sup> General Council of the Assemblies of God is to take the entire family to Denver, Colorado! However, if you are unable to make the trip, rest assured families across the nation will be able to watch the General Council evening rallies from the comfort of their homes. All evening services in the Pepsi Center will be televised LIVE over the Inspiration Television networks. Visit [www.getinsp.com](http://www.getinsp.com) to check availability in your area.



*See General Council activities for children and youth on page 6.*

## WOMEN'S MINISTRIES UNLIMITED

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Spring is almost here and with it, District Council and our Dedicated Dollars Spring Luncheon. The Luncheon will be held at First Assembly of God in Rapid City on March 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM. Reservations will need to be made no later than March 23<sup>rd</sup>, and the cost will be \$8.50.

This year's project is the Teen Challenge of the Dakotas in Brookings with Mike and Denise Gilmartin as Directors. If you are interested in a Teen Challenge promotional DVD and brochures outlining the exciting things God is doing and their plans for the future, please call me at (605) 361-3231, (605) 321-4558 or email me at dorthy@sdag.org. These free resources would be great tools for promoting the Project at your next women's get together!

The members of our District committee have asked me to be the Luncheon Speaker. They feel this will be a good opportunity as your new District Director to share what God has placed on my heart as His vision for the women of South Dakota. I have graciously accepted their request and am very excited to share with you during our time together.

Along with our Luncheon will be our Annual Business Meeting with several issues up for ratification. I look forward to seeing you at Spring Luncheon and also to hear of your great efforts on behalf of Teen Challenge, our Spring Project.

*Dorthy Tufte Ludens*  
District Women's Ministries Unlimited Director

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### Women Touching the World

Generous. That's what women are. The one and a half million women who attend our Assemblies of God are generous givers. The math is amazing. Since 1951, giving has topped \$300 million dollars. We truly are Women Touching the World.

Missions giving has been at the heart of Women's Ministries since 1925. Unlike other national departments, Women's Ministries does not have one single missions project.

#### In 2003 women across America gave:

- Nearly 3.5 million to World Missions
- Nearly 2.1 million to U.S. Missions
- Nearly .5 million to Benevolences
- Nearly 3.3 million to district projects and educational institutions
- Over 3.6 million to local ministries
- More than 258 thousand to the national Women's Ministries Department
- For a total giving in 2003 of \$13,186,443.



### GENERAL COUNCIL (CONTINUED)

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#### Kids Council:

**Jay Risner** will be speaking Tuesday through Thursday evenings. Jay has served in the professional entertainment industry, as a missionary to children in Africa, and as a children's pastor. He is currently pastor of KIDS Church Ministries at Timberline Church in Fort Collins, CO. Jay's fun personality, love for children, and dedication to spiritually impacting the lives of children will make this a life-changing event.



**Bibleman**, the popular children's stage show, will be featured on Friday evening. The show depicts the life of the action superhero BIBLEMAN and his battle against evil. Bibleman is a full-scale action-packed, Scripture filled adventure complete with sets, vivid costumes, and spectacular lighting. The character is now played by "Pastor T," Robert Schlipp, an Evangel University graduate and youth minister.

Two afternoon sessions (Wednesday and Thursday) will be held where the children will spend quality time with experienced children's pastors and workers. All children will be assigned to grade level classrooms to best meet their needs.

Registration for Kids' Council is for all children in kindergarten through sixth grade. Registration is limited, so reserve your child's space early.

#### Youth Activities:

- National Youth Convention  
-*WORSHIP:* Jeff Deyo  
-*SPEAKERS:* Ronald Rhodes, Charles Crabtree, Michael Fernandez
- AIM 05 Denver Outreach, National Fine Arts Festival, Bible Quiz Bible Challenge Tournament, and PK Party
- Call the district office for information on blocked hotel rooms and South Dakota activities at denver05.



## New Directors and Banquet Tour

We are privileged and grateful for the opportunity to serve the Lord and the South Dakota District as your Senior Adult Ministries Directors. We are excited to see what God has in store for us.

Lamentations 3: 22,23 tells us, "every day His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is Thy faithfulness." We thank God for His faithfulness! We are busy making plans for the upcoming Spring Banquet tour, are looking forward to a great time of fellowship with all of you.

The dates for the tour are April 25-30, with the first one in Sioux Falls and the last one in Rapid City. Information will be forthcoming regarding the location and cost for each banquet. Our banquet speaker & musicians will be evangelists Dale & Rita Lidstrom of the Arizona District. They have been on the evangelistic field for many years. We know you will enjoy their ministry in Word and song.



Nels and Angie Easterby

Thank you for your continued support with your prayers and finances to further this very important ministry in our fellowship.

*Nels & Angie Easterby  
District Senior Adults Directors*

## SUMMER CAMPS

### For Your Library

Framed as a discussion between a pastor six months out of seminary and a veteran pastor. *One size Doesn't Fit All* tackles the issues of how churches grow and how church size determines effective strategy for ministry.



Filled with practical wisdom and biblical insight, this book is a vital resource for any new pastor, church planter, Sunday school teacher, or lay leader concerned about his or her local church.



In the simplest terms, cultivating a biblical worldview means learning to think and act like Jesus. But how can the Church and parents teach children something their own parents didn't know and teach them? Many parents have never had early spiritual training, so they look to the church to provide it for their children.

The problem is, adults fail to realize that a child's moral development is set by the age of nine.

The answer? George Barna says that churches must begin now to come alongside parents and equip them to provide their children, at the earliest age possible, with biblical precepts that will protect them from a barrage of worldly ideas and teaching that is hostile to the biblical worldview. It's time to wage a spiritual war, time to equip parents to help their children become the spiritually mature Church of tomorrow, literally transforming them into spiritual champions!



## QUICK CALENDAR

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### March:

- 5: JBO District League Meet
- 4-5: HonorBound Men's Retreat [*Huron*]
- 7-9: Pentecostal Preacher's Week [*Springfield, MO*]
- 11-12: HonorBound Men's Retreat [*Kamp Kinship*]
- 12: TBQ District League Meet [*Brandon*]
- 13: BGMC Sunday
- 20: Palm Sunday
- 27: Easter Sunday
- 28: STL Grand Club Banquet [*Rapid City - By Invitation*]
- 29: BGMC Grand Club Brunch [*Rapid City - By Invitation*]
- 29-30: District Council [*Rapid City, First Assembly of God*]
- 31: J. Ashcroft Scholarship Deadline

### April:

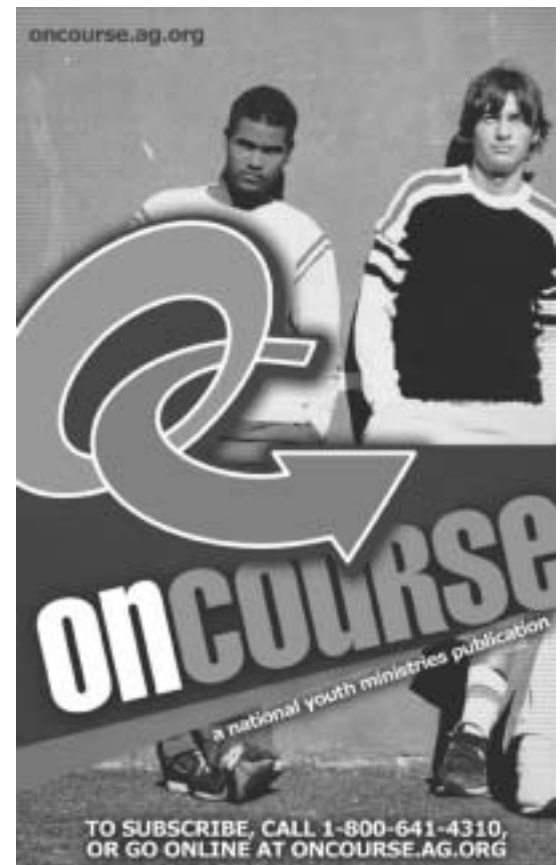
- 2: JBO District Finals [*Sioux Falls - First A/G*]
- 6: Camp Candy Payment Due
- 9: TBQ District Finals [*Pierre - New Life A/G*]
- 14: Department Head Planning Meeting for 2006 [*Sioux Falls*]
- 15-16: Royal Rangers Commanders Conference [*Pierre*]
- 22-23: Fine Arts Festival [*Huron*]
- 25-30: Senior Adult Banquet Tour

### May:

- 5-7: Regional Bible Quiz Tournament
- 8: Mother's Day
- 15: National High School Day
- 30: Memorial Day

### June:

- 2: Prayer Across America [*Pierre*]
- 4: Day Camp - Royal Rangers & Missionettes [*Kamp Kinship*]
- 6-10: Kids Camp I [*Ellendale*]
- 13-17: Kids Camp II [*Kamp Kinship*]
- 19: Father's Day
- 20-24: Middle School Camp [*Kamp Kinship*]
- 27-Jul 1: High School Camp [*Kamp Kinship*]



## Update

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