

Old Paths

Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.
Jeremiah 6:16

The secret of the LORD is with them that fear Him; and He will show them His covenant.
Psalm 25:14

Vol. 12, No.7

Straight and Narrow

July 2003

Showers of Blessings

A Report on the 2003 West Virginia Camp Meeting

Pre-Camp Meeting

The 2003 West Virginia camp meeting had many showers; beginning with rain showers and ending with showers of God's blessings. With West Virginia having its wettest spring in recorded history, the Smyrna family had been praying for sunny skies during the entire camp meeting. However, our kind Father did not see it best to answer our request in the manner we wanted. The weather the week before the camp meeting had been very wet. We only had one dry day which God blessed us with to get all the grass cut. It rained some, and at times hard, the first four days of the meetings. Only on Sabbath did we totally escape the rain. This rain, while dampening tents and sleeping bags, didn't dampen the spirits of the strong campers.

The theme of the camp meeting was, "Fellowship," fellowship with God and Christ, and fellowship with each other. Those at Smyrna did not need to wait for the camp meeting to officially begin to have a special blessing of both types of fellowship. Several brothers and sisters came early to help our local church to make final preparations for the meetings. This included mowing grass, cooking food, putting up tents, preparing the meeting rooms, and many other duties. During the week before the official start of the meetings, Brother Glen Ford was having evening Bible studies at his house on the seven trumpets described in Revelation.

The schedule for each day was to begin with a song service, followed by special music



"Little Jamaica" – A section of the campers composed of Brothers and Sisters from Jamaica

Prayer Request

We are sad to announce that we learned, just before going to press last month that Brother Richard Carlson of Florida had a severe stroke, leaving him in a very serious condition. Brother Carlson and his wife, Bonnie, publish a paper entitled, *The End Times News*. Please keep them in your prayers. If you would like to send Bonnie a card of encouragement or any help, their address is P. O. Box 1102, Lady Lake, Florida 32158.

As noted on page 5 in the report on our camp meeting, Brother Kevin Schmidt has amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, better known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. Please keep him and his wife Judy in your prayers as they fight this deadly disease.

This summer I will be visiting several groups of believers in Europe with Brother David Clayton. Brother Lynnford Beachy will be having meetings in four different locations in the western part of the United States. Please see the notice on page ten of this issue. We sincerely covet your prayers that we may do only God's will.
Editor

Also in this issue:

Camp Meeting Tapes	p. 6
Youth's Corner - E. G. White	p. 7
Up Coming Meetings	p. 7
Obituary Notice	p. 8

and then a message from God's Word.

After a break for breakfast we had the mid-morning sessions. The first mid-morning session began with a song service, followed by Dr. Stephen



Campers experiencing the theme of the camp meeting – Fellowship

Burks giving a health talk and then a Bible study by Brother David Sims. After a fifteen-minute break, the meetings usually began with another special musical selection followed by Lynnford Beachy bringing the message, except on Thursday when Sister Janette Heath shared a message.

In keeping with the theme of the camp meeting, the afternoon schedule was open to allow time for extra study, prayer, and fellowship with each other. The exception being the youth meetings, Wednesday through Friday, and then on Sabbath afternoon we had a baptismal service followed by "Focus on Missions" and testimonies.

The evening meetings began with a song service followed by another health talk (except for Tuesday night) followed by special music and then Brother Howard Williams of Jamaica brought the Word for the evening.



Fellowship in front of the chapel

We we might make a special note that due to his need to get ready to go on a mission trip to Europe this month, Brother David Clayton of Restoration Ministries was not able to attend the camp meeting. Always a favorite, speaker and singer, David was missed. However, his brother Darlston was able to attend and very amply filled his place in the Quartet.



Brother Kelly Case's semi truck was a favorite of the young people.

The special music was one of the highlights for many at the camp meeting. Several different people helped to make this an exceptional part of camp meeting.

Tuesday

The camp meeting officially began Tuesday evening, June 17. Throughout the day believers arrived with tents, campers, and smiles despite the periodical rain. The first meeting began as most services did with congregational singing. Then Brother Allen Stump gave a hearty welcome to the campers followed by the message, "Fellowship, the ABC's, or Who's Your Partner?" The message was based on 1 John 1:3 which states, "That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ." As we have fellowship with God and

His Son, we have fellowship also with other believers. The message also gave the Bible warning against having fellowship with devils.

Wednesday

Wednesday morning began with a song service led by Brother Malcolm McCrillis. In fact, Brother McCrillis accepted the responsibility of coordinating the music for camp meeting. This included asking someone to lead the song services as well as scheduling special music.



Dr. Burks being recorded

After the song service, Brother Bob Habenicht brought the message, "The Majestic Revelation 14:7." The basis of the message was the need to honor both the Father and the Son.

At the Wednesday mid-morning ses-



David Sims Preaching

sion Brother Stephen Burks, M . D . began a series of t a l k s dealing with d i s e a s e s that are o f t e n associated with harmful lifestyles. He called this the plague series. The Wednesday talk was on the AIDS virus.

David Sims, of California, brought the main message. Brother Sims has a wide background in Adventism and

was able to draw upon his experiences that God has given to him to share fundamental issues of truth. His first message was, "The Importance of Knowing the Truth." In this study, Brother Sims discussed the experience of some close friends who left Adventism to become Jehovah's Witnesses only to later realize how deceived they had become. Using the Bible, he showed the importance of knowing the truth.

The second mid-morning meeting was conducted by Brother Lynnford Beachy. The message was, "Our God is One" The heart of this study was the understanding of the the meaning of the term, "one Spirit," in the Bible.



Quartet

During the afternoon there were special classes for children aged four and up in four different classes. Sister Sandy McCrillis helped with the kindergarten class. Sadly, one family, who had a boy in the class, needed to leave due to illness. Even though he was only there for one day, he really enjoyed the class so much that he wanted to stay just for the class. Sister Janet Cox taught the primary group. Allen Stump taught the pre-teen class and Howard Williams taught the thirteen and up group.

Each afternoon, Wednesday through Friday, an unscheduled video presentation by Dr. Frank Garlock, on proper Christian music, was presented for those who wished to know more about the subject.

In the evening Dr. Burks shared a health talk on the cause and prevention of diverticulosis and diverticulitis.



The "new look" Howard Williams shared during the evening meetings

Brother Howard Williams of Jamaica brought the evening message entitled, "The Essence of the Christian Life." Preaching under great conviction, Brother Williams dealt with the core issue of Christianity, one-on-one contact with God. It was a spiritually bright message to end a physically rainy day.

Thursday

Thursday began with a promising weather forecast that was never fulfilled.



Faithful paramedic, Russell Bond, manned the first aid tent and even had time to visit some!

While a storm was forecasted for the morning, the forecast also called for the weather to quickly clear off and be nice the rest of the day. We were still waiting for the rain to let up by late afternoon. Thankfully, the weather did break before

evening and we had a little time to dry out.

The morning meeting featured Brother Bob Habenicht sharing experiences from a recent trip to Brazil. At one time Brother Bob and his wife, Ardis, were very well respected and liked among the brethren in Brazil where he had done prior missionary work when he was in the ministry. Now his name is not so well respected due to his acceptance of the truth about God. However, the Lord overruled this and gave Bob several wonderful testimonies of His working among the people.

At the Thursday mid-morning session Brother Stephen Burks, M.D., talked about the West Nile Virus, how it affects the body and its prevention.

Brother Sims, in his mid-morning meeting, presented a message entitled, "Do We Have to Know Hebrew?" This message dealt with the issue that has arisen concerning the concept of the "sacred name," as well as other terms that some have concerns with being in the Bible.

Taking the day off from preaching, Brother Lynnford Beachy's slot was filled by Sister Janette Heath whose topic was "Christ's Priestly Ministry." The study was very well prepared and began with Biblical proof that Christ was a minister of the heavenly sanctuary. She discussed the covenants, contrasting the old and new covenants. Sister Janette certainly did an excellent job proving her points from the Bible alone which was a powerful witness to those who say our sanctuary message only comes from Ellen White's writings.



Sister Janette Heath

The afternoon youth meetings got a special treat when Big Bertha blew her top. Big Bertha isn't a Christian sister gone mad, but rather a model rocket. Nine successful launches were made with the rocket going hundreds of feet into the air. Perhaps the very vocal countdown was the favorite part for the younger children.

One of the highlights of the evening was a baby dedication with two precious children, Enoch Kritzell and Patience Heath, presented to the Lord by their parents, Tim and Alicia Kritzell, and Larkland and Janette Heath.



Child dedication

In the evening Dr. Burks shared a health talk on the cause and prevention of sinusitis.

Brother Howard brought the evening message entitled, "The Most Essential Element of the Christian Life." Brother Williams spoke clearly about the necessity of denying self and taking up the cross daily.

Friday

The weather forecast for Friday called for a chance of showers. By the mercy of the Lord, we only had a small amount of rain as we began the evening meeting. Fortunately, the rain ended before the meeting was out.

Friday morning began with Brother Dennis Robertson sharing the message, "Even the Devils Call Him Lord." This stirring message showed that all will acknowledge Jesus as Lord. The big question is, when will we do it? Now, unto salvation? or 1,000 years from now unto damnation?



Glen Ford and Malcolm McCrillis on their way to perform some helpful duty

At the Friday mid-morning session Brother Stephen Burks, M.D., continued his series of talks dealing with diseases that are often associated with harmful lifestyles. The Friday morning talk was on what we commonly call "Mad Cow Disease."

Brother Sims, in his mid-morning meeting, presented a message entitled, "How to Study and Be Not Deceived." The title accurately describes the content of the message. Reviewing the experience shared Wednesday, David demonstrated how one can study the Bible for themselves so that they need not be deceived.

Brother Beachy's mid-morning talk was simply entitled, "Gospel Order." This message showed from the Scriptures that God had placed different gifts within the church, and that a denial of the recognition of these gifts was not only non-Biblical, but harmful to the church. He also showed from the Bible that God has the ability to speak through His people and not just through a minister or a small committee.

In the evening Dr. Burks shared a health talk on the cause and prevention of lung problems such as bronchitis and asthma.

Brother Howard again brought the evening message entitled, "The Kingdom of Stone." In this study, based in Daniel chapter two, Brother Williams showed the importance of the truth about God and Christ, for it is the heart of the message that destroys Babylon.

Sabbath Morning

Sabbath was truly a high day. First, the weather fully cooperated. It was the only totally clear day of the camp meeting. Second, the messages were very inspiring.

Brother Dennis Robertson began the morning session with the message entitled, "The Gates of Hell Shall Not Prevail." This message was an encouragement that no matter how dark the day, no matter how difficult the trial, God has a plan to deliver His people that will not be brought to nought!

Dr. Burks continued his morning series by discussing anthrax, its origin and prevention.

David Sims, in the first mid-morning meeting, gave a message entitled, "No more a Servant, But a Son." In this message he spoke very straightly concerning the attitude God has towards us and our attitude toward Him. He carefully and pain-stakingly showed the folly of the belief that Christians are bound to keep the typical feasts, such as Passover, Trumpets, Day of Atonement, etc..

Brother Lynnford Beachy then finished the morning off with an excellent lesson entitled, "Putting Faith to Work." This sermon demonstrated some of the practical aspects of Bible Christianity.



Jennifer Corklin being baptized by Pastor Stump

Sabbath Afternoon

For many, Sabbath afternoon was the highpoint of the camp meeting. After a good haystack dinner, we had a baptismal service with twelve souls



Zachary Corklin being baptized by Pastor Stump

committing themselves to be baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus and make a public confession of their faith. This new group of believers composed a wide variety of people from different backgrounds, yet they came together with one mind and one purpose.



Katelyn Arredondo played "Jesus Loves Me" before the baptism

While each new believer could be mentioned and have an inspirational story, I will share just one. Brother Kevin Schmidt came from New Jersey with his wife, Judy. Kevin has amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, better known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. While Kevin made a great effort to be at the camp meeting, it was only by the grace of the Lord that he was able to attend. Before his baptismal service, he was anointed and prayer was made for him. By the grace of God, he was able to enter the icy cold water and be baptized in the name of the Lord.

Following the baptismal service, my secretary, Sister Ann Ford, shared reports from around the world concerning the progress of the message. It was really thrilling to hear how the stone that was cut out without hands,



Let's get ready for the meeting

mentioned by Brother Williams the night before, was making inroads into the beast and its image.

Sabbath Evening

The evening before Sabbath closed out brought us all back together for one more session. After song service, the meeting began with Dr. Burks giving a recap of the earlier messages and then taking extra questions for the evening.

Brother Williams' last challenging message was entitled, "What Lack I Yet?" The core of the message was total surrender. Brother Williams demonstrated that we may have knowledge of all the facts, but we must be surrendered to God. He emphasized that people everywhere need the Lord and encouraged us to make sure that we were in Christ and then share Him with others.

The final service of the camp meeting was held by Brother Allen Stump. Shortly before the camp meeting, Sister Mattie Laurell, the mother of Esther McDaniel, and grandmother of Lynnford and Kendra Beachy, died. We devoted the last service to the remembrance of not only Sister Mattie, but also Beverly Grant and Andres Morales who had died this last year.



Bible discussion after a meeting

We had earlier published obituary notices for Sister Beverly and Brother Andres and a short notice can be seen on the last page of this issue for Sister Mattie. We closed with the thought that not only possibly, but probably, if we are still able to have a camp meeting next year, someone else will be missing. An appeal was made to be ready always for the coming of the Lord and to prepare for the great reunion that the Lord is planning for His people when Jesus comes.

Sunday Morning

Sunday morning found people taking down tents and packing up to travel home. I am very sorry that I could not say a personal goodbye to each camper. Before some of our singers got away, I was able to video tape some special musical selections for the series we are preparing for television. While I was thankful for the work we were able



Breaking camp

to do, I was sorry that the sealed door had to contain the message, "taping, please do not knock." I know that it kept a few from being able to properly say their farewells and for this I am very sorry.

In the end, it was the spiritual fortitude of the campers and the blessings of the Lord that made the camp meeting so good. It makes me really look forward to the next camp meeting a lot. However, it makes me look forward even more to the great camp meeting for God's people in heaven, when I will be allowed to sing in the chorus without people making awful faces!


Allen Stump

2003 West Virginia Camp Meeting Tapes


Tape #	Speaker	Date	Subject
CM 2003-01	Allen Stump	June 17	Fellowship: The ABC's, or Who's your Partner?
CM 2003-02	Bob Habenicht	June 18	The Majestic Revelation 14:7
CM 2003-03	Bob Habenicht	June 19	Experiences from Brazil
CM 2003-04	Dennis Robertson	June 20	Even the Demons Call Him Lord
CM 2003-05	Dennis Robertson	June 21	The Gates of Hell Shall Not Prevail
CM 2003-06*	David Sims	June 18	The Importance of Knowing the Truth
CM 2003-07*	David Sims	June 19	Do We Have to Know Hebrew?
CM 2003-08*	David Sims	June 20	How to Study and Be not Deceived
CM 2003-09*	David Sims	June 21	No More a Servant, But a Son
CM 2003-10	Lynnford Beachy	June 18	Our God is One
CM 2003-11	Lynnford Beachy	June 20	Gospel Order
CM 2003-12	Lynnford Beachy	June 21	Putting Faith to Work
CM 2003-13	Janette Heath	June 19	Christ's Priestly Ministry
CM 2003-14*	Howard Williams	June 18	The Essence of the Christian Life
CM 2003-15*	Howard Williams	June 19	The Most Important Element of the Christian Life
CM 2003-16*	Howard Williams	June 20	The Kingdom of Stone
CM 2003-17*	Howard Williams	June 21	What Lack I Yet?

* These tapes have a short health talk by Dr. Stephen Burks on them.

Camp Meeting Tapes Now Ready

We are thankful to announce that the video and audio recordings from the 2003 West Virginia camp meeting are ready. The suggested donation is \$7.00 U. S. per video tape plus actual postage and \$2.00 per audio tape plus actual postage. Please request by tape number and specify if video or audio tapes are requested. Due to time constraints, we are not able to offer a tape with just the musical selections as we have in prior years. 

Camp Meetings Sermons and Special Music selections available on one mp3 Disc.

All of the sermons and special music selections are available on one compact disc in mp3 format. MP3 is a compressed storage format for audio recordings that allows very near Cd quality. You must have either a computer with an mp3 player program or a newer CD player with mp3 capabilities to be able to use the disc. The suggested donation for the disc is \$10.00 plus actual postage. 

Youth's Corner – Working with God

Multitudes are vainly seeking happiness in worldly amusements. They crave something which they do not have. They are spending their money for that which is not bread, and their labor for that which satisfieth not. The hungering, thirsting soul will continue to hunger and thirst as long as it partakes of these unsatisfying pleasures. O that every such one would listen to the voice of Jesus, "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink." Those who drink of the living water will thirst no more for frivolous, exciting amusements. Christ, the well-spring of life, is the fountain of peace and happiness.

God bestows various talents and gifts upon men, not that they may lie useless, nor that they may be employed in amusements or selfish gratification, but that they may be a blessing to others by enabling men to do earnest, self-sacrificing missionary work. God grants man time for the purpose of promoting his glory. When this time is used in selfish pleasure and amusement, it is lost to all eternity.

The youth, as well as those of more advanced age, are accountable to God for their time, their influence, and their opportunities. They hold their destiny in their own hands. They may rise to the highest excellence, or they may sink to the lowest depth of depravity. Every person is a free moral agent, by his daily life deciding his future.

What course, then, is it wisest for us, as rational beings, to pursue? Shall we live as candidates for eternal life, or shall we fail of fulfilling the great end of our creation?

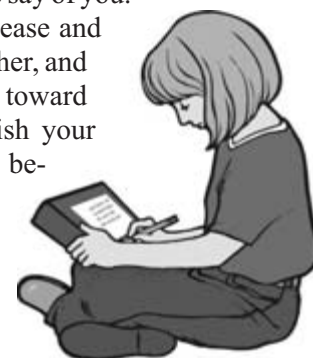
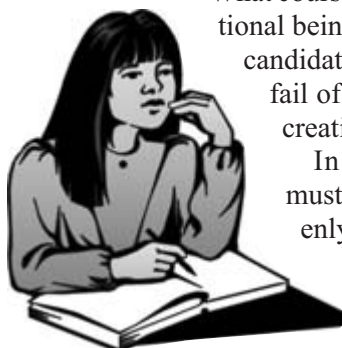
In our character-building we must work in union with our Heavenly Father, our will conformed to his will. We are to work in union with him "who gave

himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." Then why should we doubt him? Let us not stop, my dear young friends, with a work half done. Let us not rest satisfied before we receive a new and sanctified nature, in which will appear the fruits of righteousness. Those who stop short of this are Christians only in name. We are to make diligent work for eternity. Helping one another, and walking in all humility, we shall receive grace for grace.

Let the youth magnify the name of the Lord for his great goodness, his loving mercy, his tender compassion. They can magnify his name by revealing his grace through a well-ordered life and a godly conversation. And as they do this, the disposition is sweetened; irritability passes away.

To every young man and young woman I would say: Come to Jesus just as you are. With humility and contrition express to him your penitence. Make a vigilant, earnest effort to serve him, and perseveringly keep up this effort. Cherish constantly the spirit of gentleness and kindness. Cultivate sympathy—not for yourself, but for others; "in all things showing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine showing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, sound speech, that can not be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you."

"The Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you: to the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints." (Mrs. E. G. White, *Youth's Instructor*, Nov. 6, 1902)



Meeting Schedule


We would like to inform you of some upcoming meetings in July and August of this year. Brother Lynnford Beachy will be speaking at the following locations:

Moab, Utah Meetings: Friday evening, 7:00 p.m., July 18 and Sabbath morning, July 19, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the conference room of the Moab Valley Inn, 711 S. Main St., Moab, UT. For more information contact Dave Seibert at: (435) 259-5336.

Tucson, Arizona Meetings: Friday evening, 7:00 p.m., July 25, and Sabbath, starting at 9:30 a.m., July 26, at "The Tree of Life Ministry," 4545 S. Mission Road, Mountain Vista Mobile Home Park, Trailer #317, Tucson, AZ. For more information contact Valerie Williams at: (520) 731-2212.

Sacramento Area, California Meetings: Sabbath 3:00p.m. – 8:30 p.m., August 2, at a home located at 5405 Celestial Way, Citrus Heights, California (Sacramento area). For more information contact Sally Specht at:

(707) 965-1379, or after July 31 call (916) 965-6393. If you plan to attend please make sure to call Sally ahead of time so she can make proper arrangements.

Northern Minnesota Meetings: Friday evening, 7:00 p.m. August 8, and Sabbath August 9, 2003, 9:00 a.m.– 12:00 noon on the corner of 3rd St. and Eaton Ave. N. in Fosston, Minnesota. For more information contact Joseph Lahud at: (218) 945-3733. 

PERMIT # 35
WELCH, WV
US POSTAGE PAID
PRESRT STD

Address Service Requested

SMYRNA GOSPEL MINISTRIES
HC 64 BOX 128 B
WELCH WV 24801-9606 U.S.A.

Obituary Notice

We are very saddened to announce the death of Sister Mattel Laurell. She was eighty-seven years old. Sister Mattie worked in various occupations throughout her long and fruitful life, including medical and dental assistant, advertising sales and baker. Perhaps she would like best to be remembered for being a volunteer adult literacy teacher at Solusi College in Zimbabwe, Africa, while her daughter Verna, and son-in-law, Harold, were there. I am sure that her labors are still speaking and will continue to speak till the coming of Christ through the witnessing and teaching she did at Solusi



**Sister
Mattie Laurell**

Her heart was clearly in the work and she never tired of telling others of the Saviour's love.

Sister Mattie was an excellent writer. While living in West Virginia with her daughter Esther and her son-in-law, George, she wrote articles for *Hearth to Hearth* and *Old Paths* publications.

Sister Mattie had four sons and two daughters, one of whom is Esther McDaniel, secretary to Brother Lynnford Beachy. She had twenty grandchildren, thirty-nine great grandchildren, and two great, great, grandchildren.

The last eight months of her life she lived with her son, Ken, in Arkansas. Before that she lived with her daughter Esther. Our first three camp meetings were graced with her presence and many of those who have attended the camp meetings well remember her kind broad smile and cheerful spirit.

Editor

Old Paths is a free monthly newsletter/study-paper published by Smyrna Gospel Ministries, HC 64 Box 128-B, Welch, WV 24801-9606 U. S. A. The paper is dedicated to the propagation and restoration of the principles of truth that God gave to the early Seventh-day Adventist pioneers. *Duplication is not only permitted, but strongly encouraged.* This issue, with other gospel literature we publish, can be found at our web sites. The urls are: <http://www.smyrna.org> and <http://www.presenttruth.info>. Phone: (304) 732-9204. Fax: (304) 732-7322.

Editor Allen Stump – editor@smyrna.org
Associate Editor Lynnford Beachy – berean@smyrna.org