



# TEXICO LEADERSHIP UPDATE

March 2007

Dear Fellow Leaders:

We have had many activities going on in our Conference since the last update. Therefore, we would like to let you know what has been taking place.

Most recently, the Pastor's Wives Retreat was held here in the Conference office last month. This is a bi-annual event that is a highlight for the pastor's wives. It's a time where they can fellowship with one another and grow spiritually. This is a retreat that the ladies do not want to miss. The theme this year was "Preparing for the Bridegroom." The guest speakers were Carmen Griffith and Betty Trevino.

Baptisms continue to take place around our Conference. This year we are focusing even more on winning souls for Christ. I have included some pictures of baptisms at the Albuquerque Metro Church by Pastor Manuel Rodriguez. Twelve people were baptized at the end of an evangelistic campaign held at the church by Pastor Chacon.



Pastor's Wives' Retreat



Pastor Fernando Villegas also was privileged to baptize six people in the Dixon Church at the conclusion of a week long reaping meeting conducted by Pastor Hector Quinones. We praise God for these new souls for the kingdom.



Jason, Kim and Jacey Simpson with Pastor David McLaughlan

The Abilene Church had a baby dedication for Kim and Jason Simpson's daughter, Jacey. She is a miracle baby. The doctors told Jacey's parents that her kidneys had shut down and it was just a matter of time until she would die. Kim and Jason spent time in prayer for their baby and the church anointed Jacey. Now the doctors say that her kidneys are functioning properly and her future looks positive. God is answering the prayers of our people. Miracles are still happening today.



**Abilene Junior Academy  
Choir**



**Abilene Primary Sabbath  
School Class**

I've included a picture of the Abilene School choir singing in the church on Sabbath. The school has ten students, eight of which are shown in this picture. Also, the primary Sabbath School class has renovated their room. Here you see the Primary teacher Sherri Ryan with four class members.

Sandia View Academy conducted a Christmas program, which included various talents from the students.

Pictured is the choir under the direction of Melody Jagitsch. There was a good turn out of people that attended, which left the auditorium with standing room only.

As you know, Elder Manny Cruz and his wife, Melanie have moved to the Washington, D.C. area, but Melanie is still leading out in our Children's Ministries. She has a passion for young people and training church leaders to have a vibrant children's program.



**Sandia View Academy Choir**

The Albuquerque Central Church has had many activities going on at their church. I have included pictures of several of them and will tell you a little bit about each one. The Kenneth Cox team finished an evangelistic crusade at the beginning of November 2006. They had an average attendance of approximately 150 people attending per night. At the beginning of the crusade there were more Adventists attending than visitors, but as the crusade continued the visitors outnumbered the members. There was a total of 23 people baptized at the conclusion of the meetings. Kenneth Cox will be holding campaigns in Santa Fe this year, and in El Paso and Lubbock in 2008.



**Melanie Cruz Working With  
the Children**



**Top: Kenneth Cox Team; Bottom: Veteran's Day Service;  
Right: Alb. Central Adventurer Group**

In celebration of Veteran's Day, The Albuquerque Central Church held their annual Sabbath recognition for the area veterans of the different armed forces. Visitors were invited from the community to participate. The veterans present felt appreciated for the sacrifice that they made for



**Above: Excellence in Ministry Class**  
**Below: Pastoral Growth Class**



their country. The church also had their Adventurer kick-off program, and then enjoyed their first meeting at the end of February.

We believe it is important to nurture the pastors here in our Conference. We offer the Excellence in Ministry class four times a year for the ordained pastors on a

volunteer basis to help enhance their ministries. Our most recent speaker was Larry Moore, senior pastor from the Burluson, Texas Church. For the beginning pastors, we conduct a Pastoral Growth class nine times a year to help them sharpen their pastoring skills. They meet together as a group to discuss how to enhance their ministry. We, the Texico Conference, have a two year curriculum covering 50+ topics relating to pastoral ministry, which each pastor must cycle through twice prior to ordination.

I'll give you an update of some of the building projects that are taking place around the Conference. The Albuquerque Heights Church had their ground breaking service on February 11th inaugurating their renovation project. Ted Stevens wife, Theresa, painted a beautiful mural to chart the progress of their fund raising efforts. As money comes in, the hot air balloon goes up. Approximately, \$40,000 has been received so far for their building project.

**Albuquerque Heights Ground Breaking**  
**Bottom: Fund Raising Chart**



The Dalhart Church building project is getting closer to completion. They are currently waiting for the stained glass windows to come in for the front of the building. They have been meeting in the church since the beginning of the year and plan to have an open house on April 7, including a concert given by Michael Harris.



**Dalhart Church**

The Hobbs Spanish Church has been growing in attendance and membership. They are currently looking to purchase a different church building to worship in. I have attached a couple pictures of the building they are considering to buy.





**Dalhart Interior**



**Potential Church Building for Hobbs Spanish**



The East Mountain Church is almost completely framed in and they are working on the roofing, plumbing and electrical.

They hope to have it finished this summer. The members of the church did all the framing under the direction of Fred Jensen, contractor and fellow member. Almost every Sunday they go out to the site and work together.



The Midland English Church building is still progressing. The church is raising money to be able to finish the building. As you can see by the pictures, it is coming nearer to completion.

It is a privilege to be able to minister for the Lord in the Texico Conference. Thank you for all your support of the leadership of our Conference, as well as your efforts to advance the gospel in your territory.

May God continue to bless you in every way.

Sincerely,

Dr. James L. Stevens  
President



**Midland English Church**



**East Mountain Building Project**

