

## Harvest Conference Camp Meeting Brings Healing From Racial Sins

The 2006 Harvest Conference Camp Meeting, June 19-23, began with an unusual stirring in the spirit realm. The intensity and anticipation increased as the praise and worship team from Glorious Life PHC led the worshipers into the presence of God. With hands raised and hearts rejoicing totally, they were unaware of the momentous events that were about to take place as the service progressed.

Tim Nicholson, pastor of Eagle's Nest and camp meeting host, greeted the worshipers and welcomed them to Wichita, Kansas. Reflecting on a meeting he and several other ministers had attended the previous weekend with Chuck Pierce,

Nicholson shared a little of the history of Kansas during the 1800s and the wrongs that had been perpetrated on Native Americans and slaves who found themselves in the middle of a rapidly expanding nation and the unrest preceding the Civil War. Pierce believes the land was cursed as a result of atrocities committed during that time.

Charles Womack, conference evangelism director, described it as one of the most revolutionary and life-changing camp meetings he can recall. "By the time Macon Wilson took the pulpit, the crowd sensed something powerful was about to happen," he says. Wilson, who serves as

director of African-American Ministries for the IPHC, "preached under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and God began to deal with hearts."

The night became a time of healing and forgiveness as Wilson heard the congregation confess the sins of their forefathers, who had been part of the wrongs done to both the African Americans and the Native Americans of Kansas and the rest of the country.

"We prayed for a healing of our lands and a release from the bloodguiltiness that was ours," say Womack. Grandchildren of former slave owners and settlers who had participated in the wrongs came forward and prayed for forgiveness for their ancestors' wrongs and the effects it has had on the generations.

The night ended with the altars filled and the power of God poured out on hungry hearts. "We will never be the same," says Womack. "The curse of the past was broken."



*Macon Wilson and his wife, Zuella, minister during the Harvest Conference Camp Meeting.*

## Alpha Weekend Challenges EC Students

Faculty, staff, and students of Emmanuel College welcomed the new school year August 18-20 with Alpha Weekend on August 25. The event featured a series of worship services with an emphasis on the spiritual needs and concerns of the student body.

During Alpha, great effort was made to stimulate the entire college community to respond to the truths of the gospel and to make the commitments necessary to serve the kingdom of God. Students were encouraged to begin the academic year with a mind spiritually prepared for the challenges ahead.

The weekend began with services on Friday and Saturday night in the

Swails Center and concluded on Sunday morning during a joint service with the Franklin Springs Pentecostal Holiness Church, which neighbors the EC campus. The services consisted of student-led praise and worship and messages by Campus Pastor Chris Maxwell. Each day, Pastor Chris challenged students with messages focused on words beginning with the letters in alpha. These included acceptance, love, purpose, hope, and assignment.

Each service closed with the students receiving prayer from the EC faculty, staff, and fellow students. On Sunday, Pastor Chris invited students to come forward to be blessed by EC President Michael Stewart; Bishop Bill Jones, superintendent of the Georgia Conference (IPHC); and the Reverend Harrison Lampley, pastor of Franklin Springs Pentecostal Holiness Church.

For more information about the spiritual life of Emmanuel College, e-mail Campus Pastor Chris Maxwell at [cm Maxwell@eclions.net](mailto:cm Maxwell@eclions.net).

## **Prayer SURGE Brings Youth Quest Results**

**P**rayer covering for the 2006 Youth Quest was initiated prior to arrival in Daytona. The Teen World Intercession Network (TWIN) across the nation was mobilized to pray simultaneously by following a 10-day agenda.

Onsite in Daytona, the waves of the Atlantic were not the only surging force during Youth Quest 2006. Four teams of TWIN prayer warriors, under the direction of Mike Gray, chief operations officer at the IPHC Resource Development Center, experienced a continual SURGE of the Holy Spirit as they “stood in the gap” for the events that filled the Youth Quest schedule.

During these times, TWIN prayer teams met to pray for the Sudden Unexplainable Release of God Empowerment (SURGE!) over the YQ leadership staff and IPHC youth.

The TWIN Prayer Center was open at all times for people with a heart to come aside and pray. It was staffed twice daily for several hours per session. A number of young people received personal prayer and ministry from the TWIN teams in the YQ prayer center.

Additionally, an afternoon prayer rally was held from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. daily. Wednesday afternoon's session covered the YQ outreach event planned by National Youth Director Steve Ely. The outreach, featuring King of Kings Skateboard ministry, was a huge success, as was the entire YQ!

## **RiverBlend: An Innovative Approach to Discipleship**

**I**n October 2005, River of Life Church in Oklahoma City initiated a new ministry for couples, known as RiverBlend. The young adults meet in a coffee shop the church built just inside the front doors of the building.

RiverBlend members gather on Wednesday nights for lively discussions about whatever book they are currently studying as a group. The coffee shop is standing-room-only most weeks.

Danny Nix, a member of the group, was familiar with Myspace.com through his teenagers. He began to investigate ways RiverBlend might be able to incorporate a Myspace.com page into the Wednesday night program. “I found that Myspace.com is a great way to post the questions for the discussions to be read before people come. We also promote any activities we sponsor through RiverBlend, such as Girls' Night Out.”

The Myspace.com page helps people connect to RiverBlend in a whole new way. People who visit RiverBlend on Myspace.com are able to comment on the various discussion questions. Several online discussions have taken place.

So far they have had over 300 visitors to their Myspace page. As the site progresses, Nix hopes members will post prayer requests as well. “We also have families who have moved away,”

Nix reports. “They can still be a part of RiverBlend by joining us online.”

Another exciting aspect of the Myspace page is the outreach potential. Even before RiverBlend knew the page was up and running, someone from Alaska had found their page and was asking questions about the book discussions.

In fall 2006, River of Life launched a Sunday morning Faith Café class for young adults, using the new Faith Café curriculum from LifeSprings Resources. Though the class takes place in another part of the building, it still follows the coffee shop format.

## **Study Finds Teens Are Less Sexually Active**

**H**igh school students in the United States are less likely to engage in sexual activity than they were a decade ago, according to a study released August 10 by the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

According to Reuters, the study, based on surveys done in 2005, found that 46.8 percent of students reported they had experienced sexual intercourse; 54.1 percent reported the same in 1991. In 2005, 14.3 percent reported having had multiple partners—down from the 1991 figure of 18.7 percent.

Abstinence educator Victoria Koloff said such studies provide strong evidence that abstinence programs work.

Linda Klepacki, analyst for sexual health at Focus on the Family Action, agreed. She said most of the improvement is attributable to an increased number of teens remaining sexually abstinent. “We have seen a continual downtrend since 1991 in teen sexual activity and pregnancy rates,” Klepacki said. “This is continuing the good news about teens and their sexual activity rates.”

Abstinence-education curricula increased in scale in the early 1990s, and the advent of federal funding in the mid-1990s meant abstinence programs began to make a significant impact. 📌