



A Periodic Newsletter

Issue N° 2~Summer 2010

ACF @ UTK exists to facilitate an atmosphere of belonging, believing, and becoming for all students. We desire to see each student maturing in their faith, ministering to the needs of others, being involved in mission and exploring leadership opportunities.

## Past Events

### CONNECT 2010

From February 26-28, ninety students, sponsors, and guest presenters filled worship spaces, various sleeping quarters, and got better acquainted all for the sake of discovering more of what it means to be Salt and Light at the annual Adventist Christian Fellowship conference. Over ten public colleges and universities were represented—our young adults are students everywhere and we need to intentionally inspire their spiritual growth.

Matthew 5:13-16 served to ground this year's theme. Our presenters included Zane Yi, PhD philosophy student from Fordham University, Eddie Cornejo, youth pastor for the Foster Seventh-day Adventist church in Asheville, NC, the Knoxville Fellows program, and Michaela Lawrence.

Zane and Eddie led each session in word and song, both intentionally reminding us that by being salt and letting our light shine we glorify God. Students came away with the following statements: "I've got to extend God's kindness," "Our job is to really learn how to love and listen to others," and "We can't be hidden; we must shine Jesus!" Four of the Knoxville Fellows came on Sabbath morning for a panel discussion moderated by Matthew Nam. The Knoxville Fellows program is a "Christ-centered leadership and internship program for recent college graduates seeking to live, work, study, pray,



Four of the Knoxville Fellows

and serve in community." Each of the Fellows has a unique perspective and each was able to share the challenges and joys of living out salt and light in very practical and meaningful ways. Michaela (accompanied by her husband Justin Jeffery and friends Chris Clayton and Rachel Stearns) shared several songs in concert.

There were a few glitches (like cold showers) to keep the weekend exciting, but the students made the best of things and most importantly, God was glorified.



**Mark your calendars:  
CONNECT 2011,  
February 25-27**

Many traveled 3+ hours to attend CONNECT 2010. Those who didn't depart early are pictured here.

## Spring Campout Reflects Traditions

The 2009-2010 year has been a hard year for all of us—and it's been a rapidly changing year too. From a financial standpoint, bank crises and rising unemployment forced us to acknowledge that everyone endures the same struggles no matter what your tax bracket is.

As the world changed during the past year, so did Advent House. We gained a new chaplain, said goodbye to some old friends, and even gained some new ones. Thankfully, traditions have kept our eager group on the right path to unearthing what's real, what's good, and what's bad. One of those traditions happens to be an annual spring campout.

From April 9-11, a large group of students gathered at Norris Dam State Park. The warm, yet cool weather enjoyed by the group is described here by student Rachel Day: "We were blessed to have no rain and weather that a few people deemed warm enough to take a little swim in the Reservoir on Sabbath but cool enough in the evenings to enjoy our campfire."

Camp activities began with devotional thoughts on Friday night and Saturday morning. Following Saturday's service, a group of about twenty people separated into different hiking trails. While one group explored alternate hiking paths and local scenery, another encountered some familiar faces. "They were cool," said student Chris Clayton, commenting on a surprise visit from friends of student Ashley Carlton.

The Sabbath day drew to a close as students rejoined to enjoy a "yummy supper of haystacks and s'mores," Day said. On Sunday morning, the group left camp and returned to Advent House.

Sounds traditional enough. Anything out of the ordinary? "I learned that burning superglue [supposedly] makes cyanide gas," Clayton said. A little quirky, but it's a type of quirky that's perfectly normal for a stable Advent House engulfed in an ever-changing world.

## Ongoing Fun

This summer has been filled with volleyball games, spaghetti dinners, Friday vespers, a pool party and an assortment of other activities.



Dutch blitz never goes out of style...neither does spaghetti, bruschetta and tomato-basil salad

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## Student Achievements

**Elisabeth Tilstra**—Study Trip to Mexico

**Katie Rowinski**—Graduation

**Olivia Jenson**—Jordan Archeological Dig

**Shekaina Domingo**—Pi Delta Phi Induction (National French Honors Society)

**Scott Hansen**—Graduation

**Warren Edmunds**—Graduation

## Future Events

**August 29:** Lake day at the Denney's

**September 5:** Boomsday

**October 29-30:** Advent House 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

## Student Spotlight



**Name:** Elisabeth Tilstra

**Year & Degree Focus:**

Senior: Global Studies & Spanish

**Hometown:**

Chattanooga, TN

**Why did you choose UTK?**

I had a choice between UTC [University of Tennessee-Chattanooga], Simon Fraser [University] in British Columbia, & UTK. UTK was the closest, and I received a good amount of in-state financial aid and scholarships. Why not Southern Adventist University? I liked the non-Adventist setting. I wanted the resources of a big university—UTK has a lot of good resources, especially for my major. No Adventist school in the country has my major.

**What do you like about Advent House?**

It's a relaxed atmosphere, [and] it creates a space. I like that it's a place where non-Adventists or questioning Adventists are welcome. I'm [also] glad to have a familiar place within the campus, a fun place with people who have similarities, [but also] lots of differences, broad beliefs.

**Random facts:**

I enjoy doing dishes, but I dislike putting them away. I am addicted to traveling. I have 3 rules about food: 1) don't think about it [what I'm eating] 2) always eat it and never translate what it is 3) I like the food if I know the cook, but if I genuinely like [the food], then I love it.

## Alumni Spotlight



**Name:** Melissa-Kay Grey

**Current pursuits:** I reside in Ann Arbor, Michigan preparing for a doctoral degree. I am excited to work with internationally renowned flutist Amy Porter ([www.amyporter.com](http://www.amyporter.com)) as the production manager for her company, Porter Productions, and I have the pleasure of arranging and promoting

the upcoming concert tour of composer Michael Daugherty and flutist Amy Porter's new concerto "Trail of Tears."

### What did you enjoy about AH?

Whether you attend regularly or sporadically, you always have a place to call home in the Advent House. It is a safe haven for many. The fellowship and healthy friendships that are cultivated at AH are something I will miss. It's a place to express yourself creatively, theoretically, and spiritually. There are so many positive examples of the depth of AH from chopping too much garlic for Spaghetti dinner because you're involved in an interesting conversation, reading Shakespeare as a group, spending Boomsday together, lake day at the Denney's, Sabbath afternoon activities and boat rides to watch the eagles. A vital aspect is having the ability and freedom to discuss the depth of each of our spiritual walks with God. Understanding the impact of God's love for us, and realizing we are not alone in this world has the capability of changing your life. God provides a place for us to turn to. Advent House is a place where we can renew ourselves in His love for us.

**Hometown:** My family has moved frequently, so I like to say my hometown is where I currently reside.

**Why did you choose UTK?** It has a very good music program and I wanted to study with Dr. Shelley Binder. I met wonderful instructors in the music department who encouraged me to stretch my musical ideals. Collaborative pianist Patrick Harvey exposed me to operatic repertoire. He showed me how music comes from the heart and intense work. Hillary Herndon, professor of viola, showed me different bowing techniques similar to flute articulation and tone production. These avant-garde approaches to flute playing taught me how musicians have the ability to step out of the box and sculpt music to our heart's desire.

**Random facts:** Mint Chocolate Cookie ice cream from Ben and Jerry's is unbeatable, unless you add hot fudge.

## Matthew Nam

July 22, 1988—April 16, 2010

Matthew Nam joined Advent House as Assistant Chaplain in January 2010. He came because he wanted to be used by God to impact the lives of students here. He had a passion for ministry, an unquenchable thirst for the will of God. Matthew did whatever he could to build the community around him. He didn't mind the teasing, the tough conversations, the late nights and early mornings. He worked hard and still wondered if he was doing enough. We loved him and we'll be forever grateful to God for letting us be part of Matthew's life.

A very active member of the Georgia United Korean Church, Matthew coordinated VBS and many other



activities for Korean youth in the Atlanta area. While attending the University of Georgia, Matthew served as president of Adventist Students for Christ. He had also been accepted into Loma Linda school of Dentistry for the fall semester, 2010.

Matthew was a friend. He was a mentor. He was a brother. He was a prayer partner. He was an example of unconditional love.

"I would like to ask God to help me make friendships that will last for eternity," Matthew said when he started working at Advent House. God answered his prayer—not just at Advent House but everywhere he went.

### Advent House News Credits

**Co-editors:** Shekaina Domingo & Michaela Lawrence Jeffery

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