

# Youth messenger

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# Eye on London

*Claudia Loredana Maris*

**T**he whole world looked to London this summer as the host city for the 2012 summer Olympics. But there was another kind of team in London this year—a team of youth that shared the wonderful message of salvation in one of the largest cities on earth.

From March 16–18 the SDARM held its first ever youth convention in London. With the assistance of Brethren Neville S.

Brittain (past GC president) and Ferenc Matyas (current regional secretary for Europe) the youth assembled to prepare themselves as missionaries and then put what they had learned into action.

The meeting started as planned on Friday evening at 17:30 with the young people receiving a very warm welcome in the House of God here in London. The singers remained afterwards for a choir practice.

Ever since we made a commitment to hold a special event for the young people in London, Satan tried hard to put obstacles in our way. First, we had difficulty in finding a location for the event. When we found a place, the hours that we could use the facility were restricted. Then we had difficulty finding proper lodging for those coming from outside London. London is too big to come in every day from outside the city, so we needed to find accommodations within a reasonable distance to be able to participate every day. And so on, and so on. But every obstacle Satan put in our way we submitted it to the Lord in prayer and for each one a solution was found, so that the enemy had no success in stopping this youth convention.

After having such a wonderful experience at the opening of the Sabbath, we all gathered the next morning to begin the meetings only to find the facility locked and the responsible person could not be found. Rather than be discouraged, the choir began to practice right in front of the doors, and soon the situation was resolved. Bro. Brittain held a series of presentations through the day that strengthened our resolve to share the present truth in this city of millions. The afternoon also provided an opportunity for the young people present to share their praise and thanksgiving.

Sunday was our opportunity to put what we had learned into practice. It was a real blessing for us as a group because we





felt bound together in Christ. All the youth were divided into groups of 6 persons and went out to distribute magazines and pamphlets in different areas of Westminster, a famous area of London. It was a true blessing to be able to share this precious truth with others. At lunch time we met at Hyde Park where we not only ate but also formed a group of singers who started praising the Lord while the rest distributed all the remaining literature.

In the evening we gathered for the closing program of the

youth convention, where I had the opportunity to challenge everyone present to answer the question, "Why are we here?" Bro. Matyas gave the closing message of encouragement and helped us make plans for how we can continue the good work which was begun at this convention.

We all praised the Lord because this event gave us the strength to believe that all things are possible with God. As a result, we made many new contacts to share the gospel with them. With over 60 participants at the





youth convention, we hope that the next event will continue this evangelistic work of the young people. This summer we will be visited by Bro. Peter Lausevic (GC vice president) who will help us continue this good work. Greetings to all the young people around the world from your church family in London. May the Lord richly bless you as He has been blessing us. 🌱

**Claudia Loredana Maris** attends the London SDARM Church.





# Novi Sad

## *Evangelism Report*

Ana Todorovic

**T**he health outreach and missionary programs of the Novi Sad Church in Serbia have been on hold for a little while. The reason for this was not negligence but the construction of the new church facility, and the preparation

of the space where medical missions can be done better in the future. By the grace of God the restoration is now complete and a missionary health lecture was organized as the first in a series of educational activities that will bring practical training



to the population of Novi Sad on living healthy lifestyles.

The subject “Elixir of Body and Soul” in the evening on Sunday, February 26, attracted unexpectedly large numbers of visitors. In addition to regular church members and friends, about 160 souls were gathered to hear Dr. Dragan Ivanov (GC medical director) presented the message. The sanctuary and balcony were completely full, so that it became necessary to provide additional seats from the dining hall. Our experience in Novi Sad shows that the first lecture is

usually the least visited, as those who attend spread the invitations by word of mouth, which means that in the future we can count on an even greater turnout. When we were constructing this new church some said it was too big, but from the first evangelistic outreach it now seems too small!

Dr. Ivanov focused his first presentation towards one of the fundamental laws of health—the importance of adherence to the natural rhythm of day and night. He showed those present everything needed to maximize the synthesis of the hormone melatonin as an



elixir of physical and mental health and longevity. An improper diet, use of alcohol and coffee, smoking, certain medications, exposure to radiation, and lack of physical activity all contributed to significantly reducing the natural synthesis of this hormone. This leads to specific disorders, diseases, and shortened life expectancy. The lecture was interwoven with appropriate biblical verses and quotes from the Spirit of Prophecy.

The Novi Sad Choir and a number of duets from the local church made this session more enjoyable. Visitors were allowed to express their wishes and interests for future lectures and to obtain valuable health and spiritual literature.

The following health lecture was scheduled and held on Sunday, March 18. The lecture featured the same teacher, the same

environment, and with another overflow audience. This message was adapted to the upcoming season of spring here in Serbia, as fresh fruits once again become locally available. An example was made of almonds, the “spring grain,” which bring vitality by naturally supplying the body with vitamins, minerals, dietary fiber, fat, protein, and carbohydrates. There was also a focus on how to properly use the abundant grains that the Creator has provided for our energy. Those present were blessed as the thoughts were focused on men and women’s necessity of complying with the Creator’s laws of nature and the need to use the abundant blessings that nature offers.

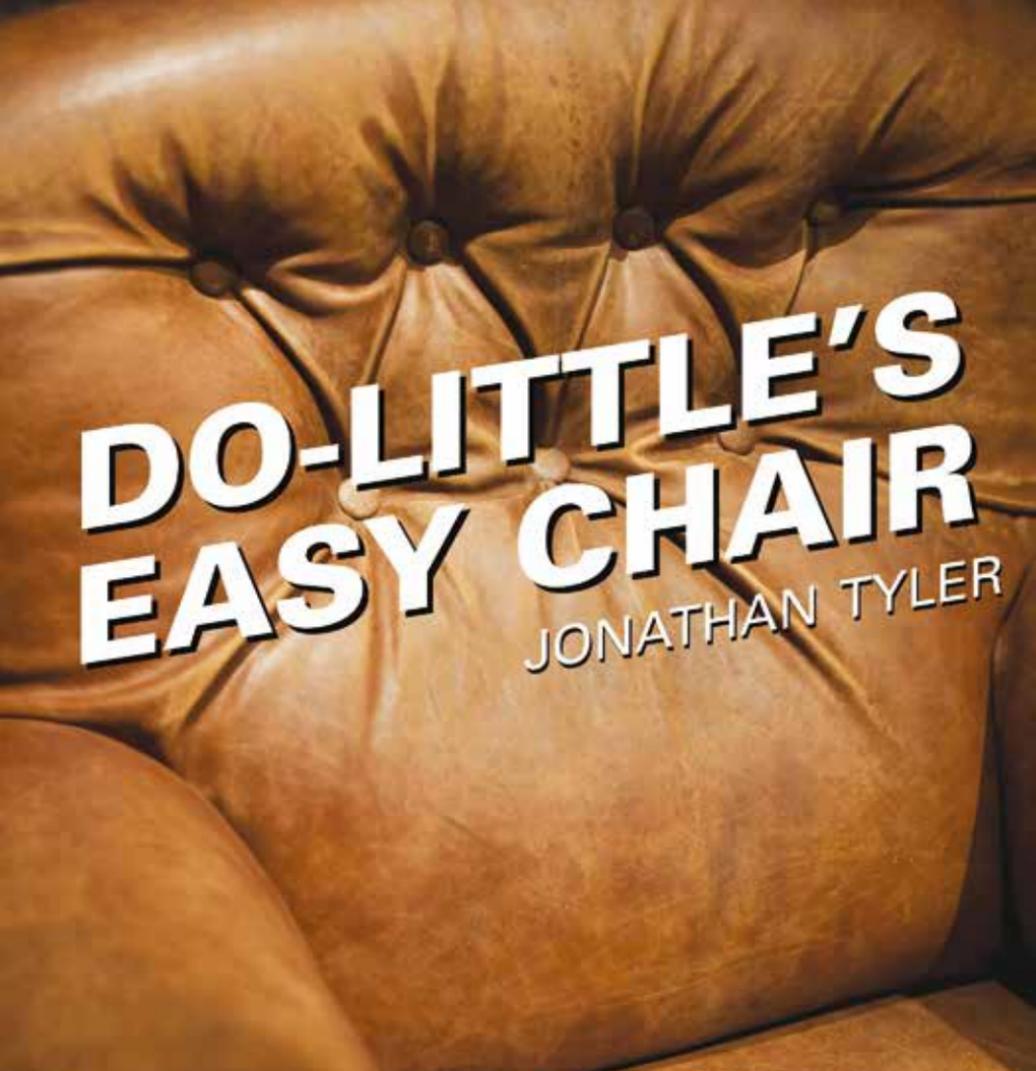
On April 11 the Christian world celebrated the resurrection, and so to attract the interest of as many people as possible the health presentations focused on how health reform brings the medical possibilities of

resurrection. The next day the same topic was continued and a concert of sacred music was presented. The entire program was recorded and transmitted by the local television station. The church is complete, but we still need to finish the kitchen facilities. As soon as this is completed, we will begin the vegetarian cooking classes, for which we have already had a great interest from just these first three events.

We thank God for enabling us to utilize this new space, with new forces, new ideas, and new ways of contributing to the glory of His name and to spread the knowledge of Him in this city. We also want to thank all those around the world who helped us in the special collection that was made in the Sabbath School offering and their continued prayers. 🙏

**Ana Todorovic** attends the Novi Sad SDARM Church.





# DO-LITTLE'S EASY CHAIR

JONATHAN TYLER

**Y**ou know the chair (the one that everyone sits in until dad gets home), you fall into its cushy, cozy comfort and drift away to the oasis of inertness. Easy chairs have become standard equipment for most homes, and nowadays some homes have several of them. The easy part of the easy chair is getting in; but once you're there, getting out can be

a real chore. Most people make choices every day that involve these chairs. When you get home from work or school, do you (a) sit in the chair and be amused or (b) do chores or (c) do homework? While I am all for rest after a long hard day, that easy chair can be a bit of a trap for some of us. It is much harder to make the choice to engage in something productive, or to go

get some exercise when you're lounging in the favorite recliner. The will power is a bit weakened by the plush comforts of easy sitting.

Although it may be the favorite chair in the house, for less energetic types it may be a trap. When Abram asked his nephew where he wanted to live, Lot looked over the lush valley of Sodom and chose the easy life. Lot ended up losing everything because of his decision. The Bible says that the iniquity of Sodom was "pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness . . . neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy" (Ezekiel 16:49). It was not just that they did wrong by being lazy, but also because they failed to help others. We can fall into the same trap of too much food, too much ease, and not enough helping out. So next time we should think before we sink into that plush, soft chair; are there any needy hands that I could strengthen? Is there something I could do to help out?

We often face in our spiritual life the same type of difficulties that we do in our physical life. It is really easy to sink into spiritual halfheartedness. Let's face it, to be spiritual is a battle and sometimes we can get a little weary. Besides daily devotions and prayer, we need those spiritual rejuvenation periods

where we come together and get recharged. There is real danger in choosing the easy life. Just like Lot who picked the lush valley as his home, we can do the same spiritually by letting things slip back into the old habits of human nature.

"In a divided, halfhearted life, you will find doubt and darkness. You cannot enjoy the consolations of religion, neither the peace which the world gives. Do not sit down in Satan's easy chair of do-little, but arise, and aim at the elevated standard which it is your privilege to attain. It is a blessed privilege to give up all for Christ. Look not at the lives of others and imitate them and rise no higher. You have only one true, unerring Pattern. It is safe to follow Jesus only. Determine that if others act on the principle of the spiritual sluggard you will leave them and march forward toward the elevation of Christian character. Form a character for heaven Sleep not at your post. Deal faithfully and truly with your own soul." (*Testimonies*, vol. 1, p. 241.) Watch out for that easy chair trap! We have a life to live and a character to form. 🍷

**Jonathan Tyler** is a church member living in Spaichingen, Germany.



# IT'S JEWISH

*Uriah Smith*

When we present God's holy law,  
And arguments from scripture draw,  
Objectors say, to pick a flaw,  
'It's Jewish.'

Though at the first the Most High blessed  
And sanctified His day of rest,  
The same belief is still expressed,  
'It's Jewish.'

Though with the world this rest began,  
And thence through all Scriptures ran,  
And Jesus said "'twas made for man"—  
'It's Jewish.'

Though not with Jewish rites,  
which passed,  
But with the moral law 'twas classed,  
Which must exist while time shall last,  
'It's Jewish.'

If from the Bible we present  
The Sabbath's meaning and intent,  
This answers every argument—  
'It's Jewish.'

Though the disciples, Luke and Paul,  
Continue still this rest to call  
The 'Sabbath day,' this answers all:  
    'It's Jewish.'

The good news teacher's plain expression,  
That " Sin is of the law's transgression,"  
Seems not to make the least impression—  
    'It's Jewish.'

They love the rest of man's invention,  
But if the LORD's day we mention,  
This puts an end to all contention:  
    'It's Jewish.'

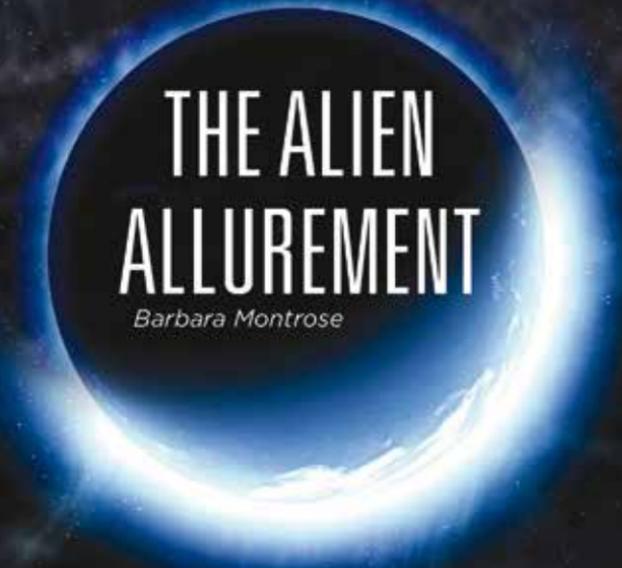
O ye who thus GOD's day abuse,  
Simply because 'twas kept by Jews,  
The Saviour, too, you must refuse,  
    He's Jewish.

The Scriptures, then, we may expect  
For the same reason you'll reject;  
For if you will but recollect,  
    They're Jewish.

Thus the apostles, too, must fall;  
For Andrew, Peter, James, and Paul,  
Thomas, Matthew, John, and all  
    Were Jewish.

So to your helpless state resign  
Yourself in wretchedness to pine;  
Salvation, surely you'll decline,  
    It's Jewish.

*Submitted to YM by **Noel Tumang** who attends the  
Sacramento SDARM Church.*



# THE ALIEN ALLUREMENT

*Barbara Montrose*

**T**he year is 1938. You're in the privacy of your home. You flip on the switch of your wooden radio box to the sound of 1930s music—suddenly interrupted by an emergency news broadcast.

What's up? An agitated male voice announces that "incandescent gas" explosions have been observed on Mars. Another bulletin follows shortly, reporting that a "huge, flaming object" has just crashed on a farm outside Grover's Mill, New Jersey.

Further bulletins follow: "Radio news reports" and "government officials" paint a ghastly, unfolding picture of a Martian

invasion. Finally, a reporter breathlessly describes one of the alien invaders emerging from its spacecraft:

"Good heavens! Something's wriggling out of the shadow like a gray snake. Now it's another, and another. They look like tentacles to me. There, I can see the thing's body. It's large as a bear and it glistens like wet leather. But that face. It . . . It's indescribable. I can hardly force myself to keep looking at it. The eyes are black and gleam like a serpent. The mouth is V-shaped with saliva dripping from its rimless lips that seem to quiver and pulsate. . . . The thing is raising up. The crowd falls back. They've seen enough. This is the most extraordinary

experience. I can't find words. . . . I'll have to stop the description until I've taken a new position. Hold on, will you please. I'll be back in a minute."

What was actually happening? Radio dramatist Orson Welles was presenting the science fiction classic *The War of the Worlds* in such a convincing way as to trigger mass hysteria in the United States. As a result, many citizens fled in their cars or barricaded themselves inside their homes. The power of modern electronic media as a controlling agent was manifested.

## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS LATER

The year is 1963—soon network television shows will be broadcast in color. Already, however, a "control voice" is able to dominate a generation of black-and-white television viewers with the ominous introduction, "There is nothing wrong with your television set. Do not attempt to adjust the picture. We are controlling transmission."

An eerie oscilloscope waves white lines on a jet-black background, mesmerizing the audience as the speaker continues in an official, authoritative manner:

"If we wish to make it louder, we will bring up the volume. If we wish to make it softer, we will tune it to a whisper. We will control the horizontal.

We will control the vertical. We can roll the image, make it flutter. We can change the focus to a soft blur or sharpen it to crystal clarity."

Then came his hypnotic instructions: "For the next hour sit quietly, and we will control all that you see and hear. We repeat: there is nothing wrong with your television set. You are about to participate in a great adventure. You are about to experience the awe and mystery which reaches from the inner mind to—The Outer Limits."

What followed was a weekly series of episodes, usually about aliens from outer space. A new scenario every week, a new type of alien. Audiences were spellbound—until another generation of science fiction shows and movies followed—each more convincing than the one that preceded it.

## STOP AND THINK . . .

We all laugh at the way gullible people were fooled in 1938. We mock at the clumsy, primitive plots that television screenwriters had in 1963. Let's face it—technology and scientific knowledge were not as advanced as now. *The Outer Limits* was totally redone in the 1990s—and if were remade again today around 20 years later—it would certainly have even newer, state-of-the-art screenplay and even more



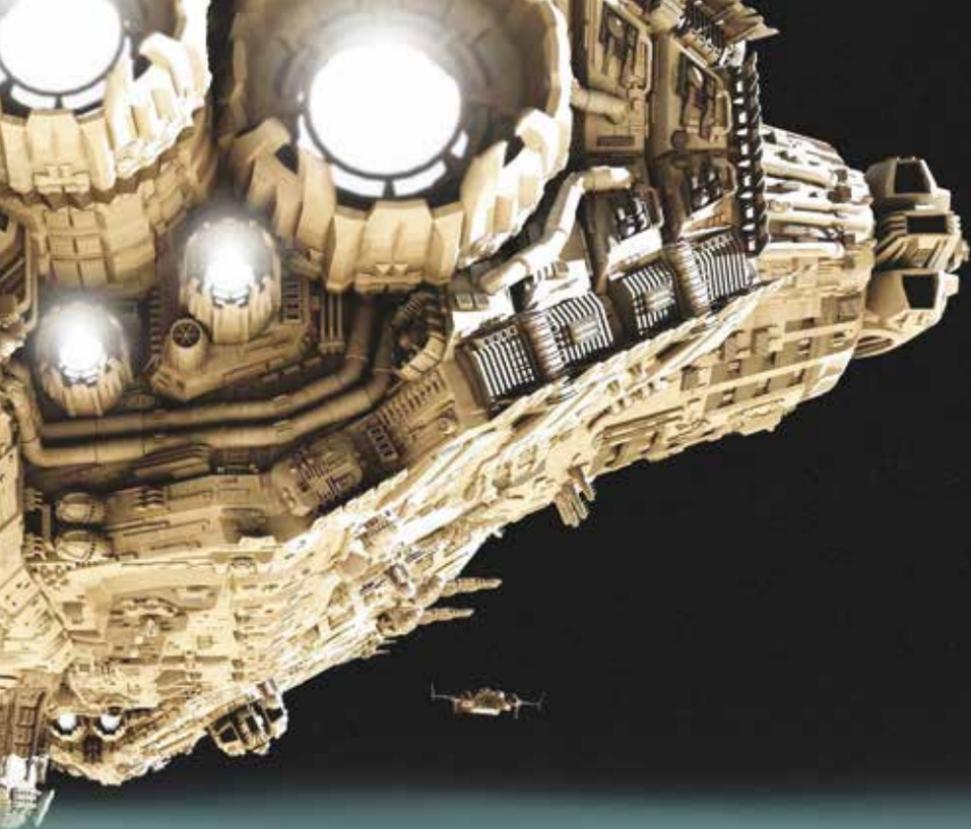
sophisticated special effects. And anyone watching would surely be even more mesmerized and convinced than other people were in previous generations.

So what are we really laughing at? What should we be laughing at? Should we be laughing at all—or entertained by this at all? The fact that electronic media can actually control us? The “control voice” in 1963 made a point: the viewers were under the control of Hollywood producers. Do you really want to surrender your mind to a lie?

## REALITY CHECK: WHAT ARE ALIENS?

Yes, there are other planets. Yes, they are inhabited—by innocent beings. Our planet is quarantined—we as humans cannot interact with the creatures on those planets because our race has been corrupted by sin—which is defined in Scripture as violation of the Creator’s moral law of Ten Commandments.

Proud people think that through technology we will triumph—that we will be able to live wherever we want in the universe, once



science discovers the answer. Perhaps bodies can be deep-frozen until that time, they figure, so they can get a chance to be thawed out when things have progressed enough to provide immortality. Such an idea may seem to be science—but it is indeed science fiction. Remember, fiction is defined as something untrue. It's a lie. Do you want to keep on pursuing a lie? A lie is an escape—just like drugs and alcohol. The longer you live a lie, the worse you end up having to regret it. So, snap out of it! “The pride of thine heart hath deceived thee, thou that dwellest

in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high; that saith in his heart, Who shall bring me down to the ground? Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, and though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence will I bring thee down, saith the Lord” (Obadiah 3, 4).

Yes, astronauts can go into outer space—into the second heaven beyond Earth's atmosphere—but God still brings them down. They will not be able to stay up there forever by their own devices, for the Almighty has declared it.

“But something inside of me longs to explore the universe! When I look up at the stars, my heart soars! Doesn’t that feeling come from God?”

You say you have a yearning in your heart to visit other planets and meet other creatures from those planets? Okay, then turn over your heart to Jesus Christ. He is the ultimate “Alien”—“Outsider”—from another world. He is from the third heaven—the very throne of God beyond Orion, and He came down here to rescue us—to show us what our perfect heavenly Father is like and to provide us with real answers. (Read about this in Luke 15:4-7. Our planet is the poor, lost sheep that went astray.) Jesus knew that people would doubt and scoff at this reality. “He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not” (John 1:10, 11).

### “GOOD HEAVENS!”

People use the expression “Good heavens” in the subconscious hope that unknown beings from the sky—who would surely be more powerful than humanity—might somehow be mercifully interested in our well-being.

Good news: Yes, the government of heaven is good, and Jesus Christ is definitely the benevolent King. “Unto the Son [God] saith, Thy throne, O God, is

for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom” (Hebrews 1:8). He is the self-existent Author of life itself, through whom the Creator made the worlds (Verses 1, 2). He is not only friendly—He actually loves you! “God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins” (1 John 4:8-10).

Now “sin” is that nasty word nobody wants to hear about. The idea that we might be doing anything wrong makes us feel cramped, awkward, and just plain uncomfortable. But realize this: Jesus, the divine Hybrid (God+man) from outer space is actually willing to give us supernatural power to help us take care of that yucky-old-sin problem! That makes the whole scene something we should be willing to face and come to grips with. Let’s determine to “nuke” out of our life that polluted rebellion of sin and just allow Jesus to make us pure and clean within.

To find out more, read the gospel according to John. Read in Revelation 20-22 about how the world will end and be made fresh and new. This is scientific—but it’s not fiction! It’s real! How wonderfully refreshing!



So ditch the sci-fi lies—even if they seem sophisticated, scientific, and colorful. Don't be mesmerized by all the audiovisual trappings of alluring myths about imaginary extraterrestrial aliens. Jesus promises, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. . . . Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever. If the Son therefore shall make

you free, ye shall be free indeed" (John 8:31, 32, 34–36)!

Finally you can be free from wrong, destructive habits, free from guilty practices, and finally free even from the bondage of death! Instead of trying to escape into a sophisticated, high-tech lie, why not wake up to victory by living in the reality of Jesus Christ? Amen! 🙏

**Barbara Montrose** is the assistant to the editor of *The Reformation Herald magazine*.

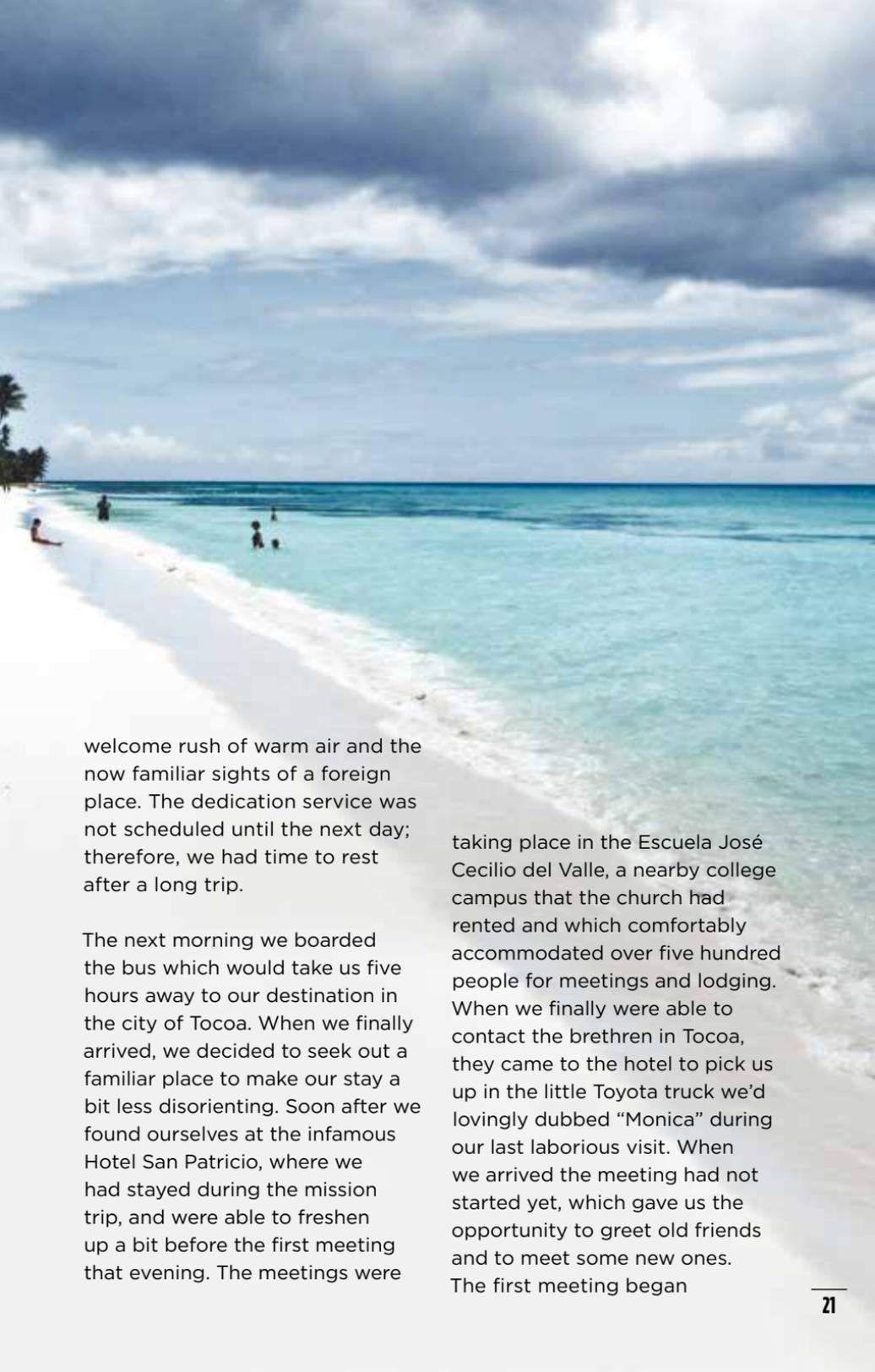


## *Reform Corps* **HONDURAS REPORT**

**I**n the summer of 2010, 22 young people from the United States set out on an adventure with Reform Corps that none of them would ever forget. The mission: to build something to further the Lord's work. No one would have believed that this place that we all had loved and worked so hard to construct would end up being such a wonderful place to carry out God's work. Our mission continued on December 25, 2011, when Jeriel Fountain and I boarded a plane bound for that place in which we had labored over one year before. Our task was simple, take pictures and report back what we experienced.

We decided to divide the labor; therefore, Jeriel took the pictures and I was to relate the experience in writing.

When we arrived in Honduras for the second time, there was a strange feeling of joy and excitement that you don't often feel. This was not an ordinary trip; this was a special trip for both of us because it was the dedication of a special place, a place we had labored together with 8 other volunteers one year before. As we arrived in San Pedro Sula, we both felt the thrill of doing something useful, something valuable. Arriving on the 26, we were greeted by a



welcome rush of warm air and the now familiar sights of a foreign place. The dedication service was not scheduled until the next day; therefore, we had time to rest after a long trip.

The next morning we boarded the bus which would take us five hours away to our destination in the city of Tocoa. When we finally arrived, we decided to seek out a familiar place to make our stay a bit less disorienting. Soon after we found ourselves at the infamous Hotel San Patricio, where we had stayed during the mission trip, and were able to freshen up a bit before the first meeting that evening. The meetings were

taking place in the Escuela José Cecilio del Valle, a nearby college campus that the church had rented and which comfortably accommodated over five hundred people for meetings and lodging. When we finally were able to contact the brethren in Tocoa, they came to the hotel to pick us up in the little Toyota truck we'd lovingly dubbed "Monica" during our last laborious visit. When we arrived the meeting had not started yet, which gave us the opportunity to greet old friends and to meet some new ones. The first meeting began



promptly at 6:00 p.m. with a song service, followed by the opening of the congress led by the members of the Executive Committee of the North Oriental Association of Honduras. The purpose of this congress was most importantly a spiritual conference, but it also included a graduation of the 4th class of missionary school students from the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement School "Ebenezer," with its headquarters in Siguatepec. While we were in Tocoa the previous year, another group of 12 Reform Corps volunteers were at that school helping to build their auditorium. Intertwined with these events was the dedication of the building we had helped construct; it will be the headquarters for the work in the region as well as a church and school, which was the highlighted purpose of our visit. I sincerely believe the believers were as excited as we were for the dedication service. Unfortunately, they told us that they would allow neither Jeriel nor myself to see the building until after the dedication service. During the first meeting something wonderful happened that really demonstrated to me how much God cares



about the little things in our life. As the speaker was giving the study, suddenly all the lights went out. It was pitch dark; there was absolutely no light because it was a citywide blackout. The speaker could not continue because his sermon was aided by PowerPoint, and he could not read his notes. So someone decided that we should say some passages from the Bible and pray that the electricity would soon come back. A brother whom I could not see stood and began to repeat the words found in Matthew 5:14-16. "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Before he had even finished speaking the lights came back on and stayed on for the rest of the

congress. I really believe everyone felt God's presence with us that evening and throughout the rest of the meetings. That night Jeriel and I went back to our accommodations feeling that God was with us on this trip.

Wednesday was the first full day of meetings: two morning services, followed by an interesting presentation about the fruits of nature called "Nature: Variety of Colors and Flavors." Jeriel and I tried some new fruits that we had never tried before, one called lychee, and another fruit called perrita. After that there was another topic, "The Sealing of a Special People" and finally a lunch break. I have to say, if you ever go to Honduras, do not miss out on "baleadas"! Absolutely delicious. After lunch there was another meeting, and then a slide show on the work that the members of this Field had been doing. Finally, after a song service there was the



as we arrived at our room, we understood that some of the brethren were going back to the church to finish up the final details for the dedication service the next day. That night we were out until 4 a.m. trying to get the building ready for the next day. After a very long day and an even longer evening, we were finally able to get some rest.



The next day was very special. We woke up fairly early and took a taxi to the church for the dedication services. As we drove up we saw the fruits of our labor from the night before, the building looked magnificent in the sunlight. We were very excited to be there for this special time. This building in which we had labored twice already was finally completed. The inauguration and dedication of the buildings of the North Oriental Association of Honduras was conducted by the executive committee of the Field, with some honored guests from the city of Tocoa: the mayor, a lawyer, and some engineers, as well as the man who had donated

graduation service of 30 young people for the missionary work from Ebenezer Missionary School. These 30 missionaries were the fourth group to graduate from that school.

After a very long day Jeriel and I were ready to fall asleep even when standing up, but,



the original property for the building of this church; also in attendance was my uncle, Bro. Dorival Dumitru representing the General Conference. The dedication service was about two hours, which included many participations by the choir and much thanksgiving by the believers. The people of the region were overjoyed to have another lighthouse with which to spread the message of the church. When the participations ended, the esteemed visitors from the city of Tocoa along with the executive committee performed the ribbon cutting ceremony. When the ribbon fell, I felt a

great happiness that cannot be expressed. After the dedication we began to take pictures; unfortunately, the pictures do not do justice to this place. I wish each one of you could be there to see the beautiful building that has been erected for the furthering of the Reformation message. After lunch we made our way back to the school along with about 22 other people in one small truck. It was very enjoyable yet bumpy, as those who had been there would testify. When we arrived at the college, new meetings started again with participations from all the brethren from different fields reporting on the work their local



churches were doing for the Lord. That evening we heard a very good message about the “Love of Jesus for Us,” by Bro. Otoniel Sánchez presented one of the most touching sermons I have heard. It reminded me why I was there, and why I was doing this, not for me but for our Savior. As we headed back to the hotel after another long day, I felt happy to be among people who believe as I believe and who want to work for the Lord in every way possible.

The next day, Friday, was an epic day, because it was a free day. Along with about 70 other

people, Jeriel and I went to nearby Trujillo. I have this to say: getting sunburned in December was an amazing experience. We spent the day with friends enjoying the beauty of God’s creation. When we got back it was time to prepare for the Sabbath, so we went to the hotel to get ready for the meetings of that evening. It must’ve been a funny sight for the locals to see us walking and properly dressed from the hotel to the meeting place, with ties and all. When we arrived we welcomed the Sabbath with the believers; there was right after another delicious

dinner. That night we were exhausted, not only from the trip we had taken a few days before but also from the physical exercise on the outing that day. I was very grateful for the Sabbath.

The next day we arrived for the first meeting, which was about “The Holy Sabbath in the New Earth.” After the daily lesson and the sermon entitled, “144,000: Kings and Priests in the New Earth,” we had some free time to just hang out and rest and





eat “tamales.” However, I was beginning to stress because I was to help out with the next meeting. Having had no prior warning of what I was going to do, I began to prepare for the thing I dreaded most: to preach and in Spanish. As the time went by and the time for the meeting came closer, I still had no idea what I was supposed to do. I speak Spanish, but it is not my native tongue. As I realized that I was not going to preach, I began to relax a little

bit. After all, it was only a young people’s meeting. I do this all the time. However, it was difficult to concentrate in Spanish.

Later in the meeting when it came our turn to participate together, Jeriel and I made a short presentation on the work our local churches had been doing, starting with the mission to Honduras. I also had the opportunity to share with them the work of Reform Corps in





Burundi, which I also attended the previous August. We also mentioned something about our plans to attend the Reform Corps mission to the Amazon this summer. I believe the Lord blessed us with the right words to say even in Spanish. The believers were encouraged by our efforts to do the Lord's work

and promised to pray for us that the Lord might bless us in the next mission. After sundown there was the closing of the camp meeting, which ended around 9 p.m. Since we had checked out of the hotel already, we got a ride to the church that was dedicated where we spent the night. It just so happened





to be New Year's Eve, which made it difficult to sleep because of the fireworks and celebrations taking place. The next day we had to wake up at 4 a.m. in order to catch a ride back to San Pedro Sula. Our flight left that morning at 11 a.m., so we were eager to leave early to not miss it. When we were picked up, we found out that we would be traveling in the company of 7 other brethren, which would make 9 total. Normally, a small truck could only seat 5 comfortably and 6 uncomfortably. Due to these circumstances, Jeriel, myself, and another brother had to ride in



the back of the small truck for 5 hours. I can't begin to describe the uncomfortable misery of that adventure. After 5 hours of 60 mph winds and rain, we finally arrived at the airport just in time. Jeriel's relatives were there to see us off with food, and we ate our last Honduran breakfast before boarding our flight to Atlanta.



During the long trip home, we both realized how special the events that took place were, and how blessed we were to be there. This trip made us realize that we both love to go on mission. We thank God for His care over us and the believers of Honduras for their friendliness and look forward to the next opportunity to work for Christ. 🌱

**David Zic** attends the Sacramento SDARM Church in California, U.S.A. and is the Secretary of the General Conference Youth Department. Pictures by **Jeriel Fountain**, who attends the Moriah Heights Church in California, is a member of the Northwest U.S. Field Youth Committee. Both David and Jeriel will be attending the Reform Corps mission trip to the Amazon this July, along with 95 other volunteers that will be providing free medical services and health education.



# Editorial

**P**opular culture is having a devastating effect on Christianity. We are so engrossed with fantasy that we have forgotten the reality of the gospel of Jesus Christ. In this issue we have decided to focus on one subject that the enemy of souls is using to distract Christians: the alien allurements.

“On a certain occasion, when Betterton, the celebrated actor, was dining with Dr. Sheldon, Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop said to him, ‘Pray, Mr. Betterton, tell me why it is that you actors affect your audiences so powerfully by speaking of things imaginary.’ ‘My lord,’ replied Betterton, ‘with due submission to Your Grace, permit me to say that the reason is plain; it all lies in the power of enthusiasm. We on the stage speak of things imaginary as if they were real; and you in the pulpit speak of things real as if they were imaginary.’” —Ellen G. White, *Evangelism*, p. 179.

The reality of the gospel can be seen in the reports of the mission work which is being done around the world by young Reformers. This month we have given feature space to a report of the Reform Corps project in Honduras. Keep the news coming in to *YM*. It is a great encouragement to young people around the world.

Last month we exceeded 7,000 subscribers (electronic edition) for the first time in the history of *YM*, and we hope and pray that this number continues to grow. 🌐

*Christian greetings, DZ*

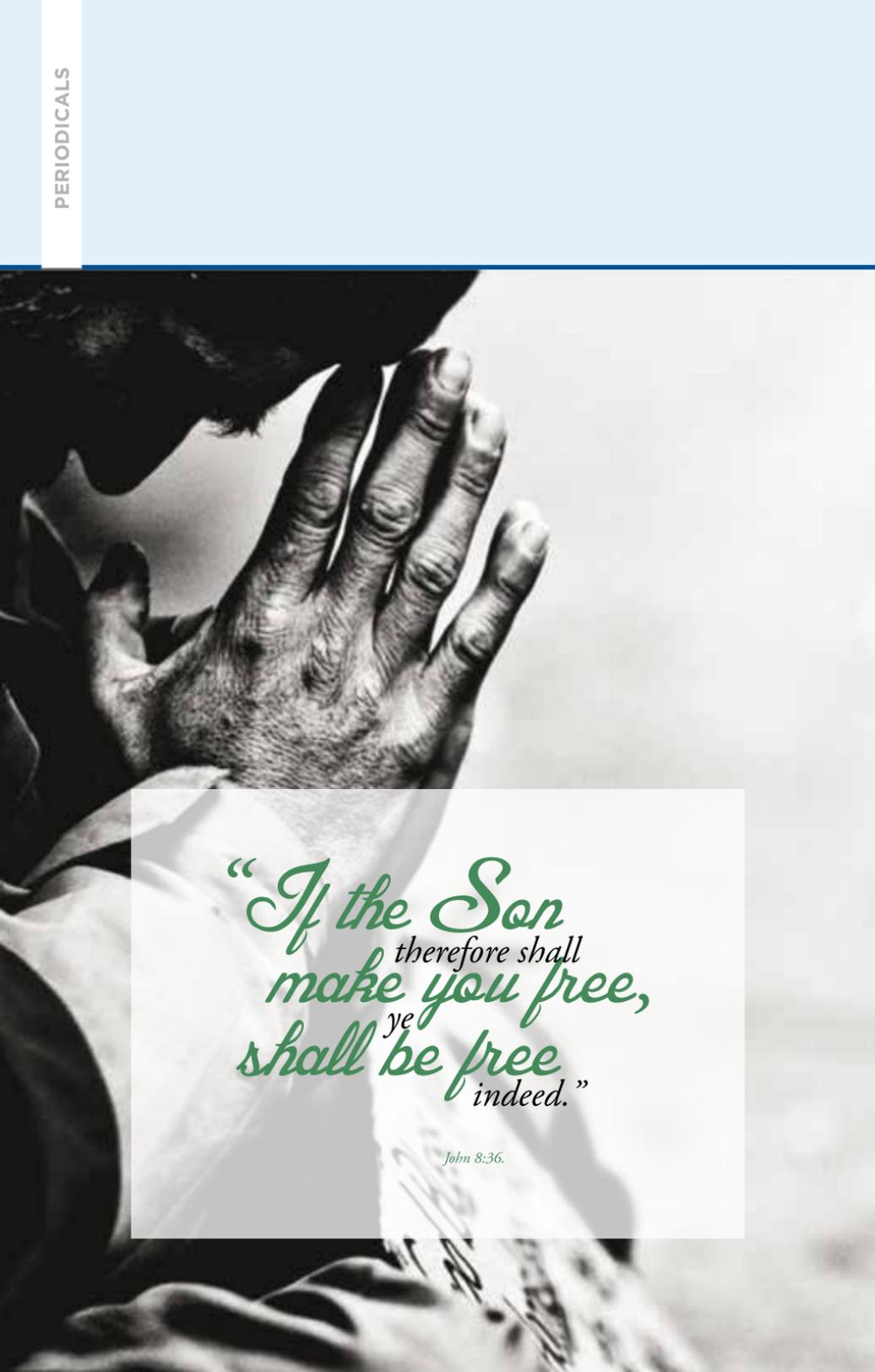


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*“If the Son  
therefore shall  
make you free,  
ye  
shall be free  
indeed.”*

*John 8:36.*