United News WEEKLY
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Good News From a Far Country: Visiting Brethren in Chile

by Ben Light, Senior Manager, International Services

"As cold water to a weary soul, so is good news from a far country" (Proverbs 25:25).



That verse came to life during my recent visit to Chile. Last week in *United News Weekly* I wrote about the combined ABC Sampler and leadership training program held in Santiago. This week, I wanted to share some firsthand "good news from a far country" by telling you a little more about the faithful brethren we had the opportunity to visit.

From June 28-July 6, members from Chile, Argentina, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia and the United States gathered for this special weeklong program. Classes focused on what it means to be a servant and gave participants the opportunity to study a variety of biblical subjects in greater depth. For many, it was a meaningful opportunity to experience a setting similar to Ambassador Bible College, especially for those for whom attending the full program in Cincinnati may not be within reach.

On the Sabbath before the conference, I visited the Temuco congregation in southern Chile. Though small, with just over 10 members, the congregation was warm, welcoming and deeply committed to God and His Word. The local elder, Mr. Jaime Díaz, has helped foster a strong desire for biblical learning and discussion. After services concluded, the brethren stayed late for additional Bible study and conversation—a wonderful reflection of their dedication and hunger for God's truth.

The Sabbath following the conference brought the opportunity to worship with the Santiago congregation. This vibrant congregation, with approximately 70 members, includes many youth and young adults. The brethren have been blessed to rent a very useful building, which they have worked hard to improve and adapt for congregational needs. It has also helped make Santiago a valuable hub for serving the region.

Their pastor, Mr. Marcelo Saavedra, serves not only the brethren in Chile, but also members in Argentina, Bolivia and Peru. He and his wife, Marcela, are deeply devoted to serving the brethren and fostering a warm family atmosphere within the congregation. That spirit was evident in the warmth, hospitality and enthusiasm of the local members.

The faith, warmth and dedication of God's people in the region are deeply inspiring. We are thankful for the brethren in Chile, for those who traveled from several countries to take part in the Bible classes, and for the faithful service of those caring for God's people across the region. Their example is a reminder that God is working with His people around the world, and that good news from a far country can truly refresh and encourage the whole Body of Christ.

Please continue praying for the brethren in Latin America and for the ongoing work of strengthening, encouraging and serving God's people wherever He has called them.



Feast of Tabernacles in Chile

The Feast site in Lican Ray is still open for registration, and is situated in a beautiful part of Southern Chile. The primary language is Spanish, and so an intermediate (conversational) level of Spanish would be recommended if you were interested in attending to provide the best experience for you and the local brethren.

Learn More

United Youth Camps



Camp Report—Southwest Camp

Greetings from beautiful Southwest Teen Camp near Prescott, Arizona!
Camp is off to a wonderful start. Throughout the week, our 60 campers and 50 staff are experiencing "the Zone"—an environment intentionally set apart from the world around us. It provides a real-life glimpse of how amazing God's way of life truly is when young people are surrounded by Christian fellowship, encouragement, and biblical values.

Our theme this year is "Follow Me," based on Christ's invitation to His disciples. Each day, campers participate in Christian Living and Bible classes that encourage them to deepen their walk with Jesus Christ and consider what it means to follow Him in their daily lives long after camp has ended.

The days have been filled with exciting activities, including horseback riding, mountain biking, archery, arts and crafts, volleyball, disc golf, and capture the flag. These activities not only provide fun and adventure but also help build friendships, teamwork, confidence, and lasting memories. Each evening concludes around the campfire, where campers enjoy games, meaningful discussions, and fellowship before ending the day by joining together to sing the camp song.

God has also blessed us with beautiful weather. We've enjoyed sunny skies throughout the week, with daytime temperatures in the upper 80s and cool evenings in the mid-60s—ideal conditions for both outdoor activities and relaxing around the campfire. Thank you for your continued prayers, encouragement, and generous support of our youth programs. Your support makes opportunities like Southwest Camp possible and helps provide an environment where young people can grow closer to God, build lifelong friendships, and experience the joy of living His way.

Please continue to pray for the campers, staff, and the remaining summer camps, asking God to bless each one with safety, spiritual growth, and lives transformed through His calling.

With gratitude,
Brent Fogelson, Southwest Camp Director

(The full report, along with additional photos will be included in the print *United News.)*

Upcoming Events

July
12-15: Camp Ironwood - Stewartville, MN
12-15: Camp Ochoco - Prineville, OR
19-26: Camp Woodland - Temple, GA
19-26: Northwest Camp - Rockaway Beach, OR
26-29: Camp Buckeye - Delaware, OH
26-29: Camp Seven Mountains - Spring Mills, PA

August
7-9: Women's Enrichment Weekend - Portsmouth, OH
14-17: Indianapolis Regional Young Adult Weekend - Nashville, IN
16: ABC Welcomes Class of 2027 - Milford, OH
16: Northwest Kids' Rodeo - Portland, OR

September
6: Gear Grinder Bike Ride - Twin Cities Minnesota
12: Feast of Trumpets
21: Day of Atonement
26-Oct. 2: Feast of Tabernacles