

"Let us go up at once and take possession [of the land],  
for we are well able to overcome it." Numbers 13: 30

# Hilltop Herald

A Newsletter of Aledo Christian Center  
July, 2010



**Celebrate Freedom!**



## **234 Years and Counting...**

Every seven years the Fourth of July falls on a Sunday, as it does this year. We will take advantage of the opportunity with a special celebration this Sunday, the Fourth of July. Damaris Barton will be giving a special patriotic presentation at the morning service. NOTE: the morning service will be at church as usual at 10: 30AM, not on 'the Hill' as previously announced.

On Sunday evening the youth and adults will join together for a special fellowship time together on 'the Hill' (400 Queen Street). We will start with sharing a meal together at 6:00 PM. We will bring food and drinks and share a meal together in the Multipurpose Center (gymnasium). A 'Bounce House' will be set up for those of any age (!) who feel so inclined. There are other activities planned for the kids. Also, be sure to bring your glove and we will enjoy a softball game at the ball field.

As David Barton has mentioned, each year the United States sets a new record for the longest standing constitutional republic (234 years and counting!). In addition to enjoying a great time of fun and fellowship on July 4, we can also use this day renew our dedication to serve and pray for the nation. As Psalms 33:12 tells us "blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." May that always be the case for this country that we love!

# Guatemala Missions Prayer Meeting July 6

## Guatemala Missions Trip Leaves July 9

The Missions Team to Guatemala will be leaving on July 9 to spend eight days working with the Robertson family in Guatemala City. There is a sign up sheet at church to donate items that will be blessing to the work there. If you have any questions about the trip, please contact Hanna.

In order to help the missions teams prepare for the ministry opportunities in Guatemala, there will be a special prayer meeting from at church from 7:00 until 9:00 on the evening of Tuesday July 6. For more information, please get with Elaine.

## Men's Conference in Dallas Saturday July 10



**NO MORE EXCUSES!**  
MEN'S CONFERENCE

**Life in the RED ZONE**  
Face Life's Pressures Head-On!  
Get your Game Plan to Win!

DR. TONY EVANS   COACH TONY DUNGY   COACH BILL MCCARTNEY   DR. STEVE FARRAR

**SATURDAY, JULY 10**  
8:30 am - 4:00 pm  
click here for more info

The men have the opportunity to participate in a conference to be held at the Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship on Saturday July 10. This event will feature Tony Evans (host pastor and great speaker), Tony Dungy (ex-NFL coach who left coaching at the height of his career to go into 'everyday' ministry; wrote a great book recently), Bill McCartney (Founder of Promise Keepers) and Steve Farrar (who we've heard before). FYI, there is no group registration. The attached link will enable us to register individually online: <http://www.ocbfchurch.org/index.cfm/pageid/1963/index.html>. The cost is \$35.00.

# China Update

As you know, Bonnie F. is spending the summer as a business internship in China. Here is a portion of a recent update from Bonnie:

**“At church (an international church that requires a foreign passport for entry – Chinese people are not allowed to attend), I’ve met people from Australia, the Philippines, Africa, as well as from Ft. Worth! It is amazing to hear their stories and to realize the commitment they’ve made to come here. It is no small task to get a VISA, travel here, and learn how to go about the daily tasks of eating and sleeping in a culture that is not their own. They didn’t come here because it was convenient to do so, but the call on their lives to be here supersedes the daily struggles they face. Every week I am blessed by their fellowship.**

**There is also a group of Americans from the church who I have the opportunity to spend time with on a regular basis. Most of them grew up here, are now in college in the States, but are here for the summer. Tonight we are meeting at the girls’ apartment to make tacos in honor of the 4th of July!**

**There is much more that I wish I were at liberty to share.**

**I am amazed by the Chinese people.”**



Thought that you would enjoy another example of expressing our faith 'out there':

## Winsted-native sisters: 20 marathons and counting

June 28, 2010

By Starrla Cray  
Staff Writer



**"Life is not a sprint, but a marathon."** – Naomi Behrens

WINSTED, MN – For Naomi Behrens of Winsted and her three older sisters – Hannah Behrens, Leah Borg, and Sarah Borg – running is about perseverance, teamwork, and faith. The four women have participated in a combined total of 20 full marathons. "It's been quite the adventure," Naomi said. We love the challenge of having a personal goal and sticking to it."

Their most recent 26.2-mile trek was Grandma's Marathon in Duluth June 19. Although they've each done several marathons, this was the first one all four sisters have run together. They grew up in Winsted with their parents, Dave and Mary, along with other siblings. Dave and Mary have since moved to Lester Prairie, and the girls have moved to other areas, as well.

Sarah Borg, 30, lives in Georgia with her husband, Mark, and 1-year-old daughter, Keziah. Leah Borg, 28, is married to Mark's older brother, Tim. The Cokato couple has four children under the age of 6. Hannah, 26, works in real estate in Texas, and Naomi, 24, lives in Winsted and is a dental assistant in Watertown and Winsted.

The June 19 marathon experience varied greatly for each of the four girls. Leah received a personal record with a time of 4 hours and 16 minutes, while Sarah suffered from a foot injury and struggled to complete the race. Throughout it all, however, the girls supported and encouraged one another, as they do in other areas of life. "Life is often a race where you have to endure," Hannah said. All four girls said that running parallels their Christian walk with God.

"We all have challenges in life that come our way. Running is a physical reminder to challenge and stretch ourselves," Hannah said. "We can often push past the limitations that we think we have – physically and spiritually." "Life is not a sprint, but a marathon," Naomi added. The sisters, who were home schooled, started running as a way to stay in shape.

"All of us girls owe a lot to our parents for teaching us the importance of staying active and living a healthy lifestyle," Naomi said. "Our parents were both runners when they were younger, and I think it just trickled down," Sarah added,

Even though Sarah and Hannah live farther away now, they still encourage one another in their training. "It's been really fun as we've gotten older," Hannah said. "In the last six years, we've become really close."

Training for a marathon takes time and effort, the girls said. "If you're going to train for anything, it's one of those things you have to work up to," Sarah said. "You don't just go out and run 20 miles one day." "We try to keep ourselves healthy and not overdo it," Naomi added. Leah said she enjoys running early in the morning. "It really helps the outlook of my day," she said. During training, she's sometimes out as early as 5:30 a.m. Her longer runs range from nine to 18 miles, but when she's not in training, she usually does about three to five miles at a time. "I love just being outside," Leah said. "It's a great way to keep in shape." "For me, I think it's that runner's high," Sarah added. All four sisters said running is also a great way to clear their minds and worship God. "It gives me time to pray and talk to God and just feel really alive," Hannah said.

# ACC Church Calendar

July, 2010						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
27 10:30 AM/ 6 PM	28	29 10 AM WPG	30 7PM Youth/Adults	1	2	3
4 <sup>th</sup> of July!!! 10:30AM/ 6 PM @GYM	5	6 10 AM WPG 7PM Prayer	7 7PM Youth/Adults	8	9 Missions Team to Guatemala	10 Men's Conference
11 10:30AM/ 6 PM	12	13 10 AM WPG	14 7PM Youth/Adults	15	16 Missions Team returns	17
18 10:30 AM/ 6 PM	19	20 10 AM WPG	21 7PM Youth/Adults	22	23	24
25 10:30 AM/ 6 PM	26	27 10 AM WPG	28 7PM Youth/Adults	29	30	31

**Blessed is the Nation whose God is the Lord.  
Psalms 33:12**

## **Aledo Christian Center**

**A Spirit-filled, Bible-based Church**

**Grady Barton, Pastor**

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