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# South Central Conference

## Disabilities Ministry Newsletter

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"It's Ability – Not Disability that Counts"

October 2006

### South Central Conference (SCC) NEWS

#### True Values -

To realize the value of a sister or brother,  
ask someone who doesn't have one

To realize the value of ten years:  
ask a newly Divorced couple.

To realize the value of four years:  
ask a graduate.

To realize the value of one year:  
ask a student who has failed a final exam.

To realize the value of nine months:  
ask a mother who gave birth to a stillborn.

To realize the value of one month:  
ask a mother who has given birth to a  
premature baby.

To realize the value of one week:  
ask an editor of a weekly newspaper.

To realize the value of one minute:  
ask a person who has missed the train, bus or  
plane.

To realize the value of one-second:  
ask a person who has survived an accident.

To realize the value of a friend or family  
member:  
lose one.

Time waits for no one. Treasure every moment  
you have.

You will treasure it even more when you can  
share it with someone special.

The origin of this letter is unknown.

**Contributed by:**  
**Bonita Dudley-Scott**

SCC Tennessee State  
Co-District Leader

#### District Leader Training:

The District Leader Training **has been postponed until 2008.** Thank you for your interest.

### NATIONAL NEWS

#### Congregations Who Care - Prepare



Following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001 and the recent hurricanes in the Gulf Region, America's congregations have fulfilled their scriptural mandate to offer hospitality and help those in need. People of all faiths have contributed millions of dollars and countless hours assisting older adults and people with disabilities. Congregations of all faiths have provided transportation, medical care, housing, food, clothing and tutoring to Americans with physical, sensory, psychiatric and intellectual disabilities. People of faith from America's congregations continue to make a critical difference in disaster recovery.

In November 2001, the National Organization on Disability launched the Emergency Preparedness Initiative (EPI), a program to address the special concerns of the nation's disability community and to ensure that people with all types of disabilities are included in emergency planning at all levels. EPI is currently working with its sister program, the Religion and Disability Program, to help ensure that congregations are prepared to assist people with disabilities in the event of a natural or man-made disaster.

### **'Evita,' Trying Hard to Be Populist**

At the Open Circle Theatre in Washington, DC, the current production of the Andrew Lloyd Webber's 'Evita' features a cast of performers both with and without disabilities. Actors with disabilities are included among the crowd depicting the Argentine populace, and one of the main characters, Che, is played by an actor using a wheelchair. In addition, the entire production is interpreted in American Sign Language, with interpreters doubling the main characters, and often taking their place side-by-side on stage with their corresponding characters during scenes.

### ***Credits: National Organization of Disability.***

*You can find many interesting disability initiatives by going to:*

<http://www.nod.org>



*The children were lined up in the elementary school cafeteria school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. There was a note posted on the apple tray that said: "Take only ONE. God is watching."*

*Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table, was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note, "Take all you want. God is watching the apples".*



***This is the 3rd issue of the SCC Newsletter that is published quarterly. If you have news relating to Disabilities Ministry, please contact George Hamilton at 256-503-9521 or via email at [George.Hamilton@scc-adventist.org](mailto:George.Hamilton@scc-adventist.org)***

*Published by George Hamilton, SCC Disabilities Coordinator*