



The Voice of  AVENTURA

# THE CROAKER

Volume 35, Issue #10

## President's Letter:

Welcome new Aventurites!

Congratulations! You made it through this crazy weekend of extreme caring, candy and Christ! Going on the weekend is always a mixed bag of emotions, from panic and anxiety to sleep-deprived and silly, as well as becoming deeply passionate and vulnerable. A two and a half day roller coaster that feels like it abruptly ends right when you hit a high point, and the coming back to solid ground can leave you a bit shaky.

As I was writing this, I kept getting stuck on what I could possibly say about the days following the Weekend. In my hours of stand-still brain-block, I stumbled across this song from my favorite artist that even I didn't know existed, "Before You" by Jon McLaughlin. As I sat there listening, I immediately became smitten and the more I listened, the more my mind became clear and I realized that this song reminded me of when I first accepted Jesus:

"I feel like somebody else; I don't recognize myself. Staring into the mirror,  
Smiling ear to ear. It's funny how all this time I thought I was alive, now I  
see things clearer... Take whatever you like; Change me from the inside;  
I can feel you taking over... My heart is racing and even the ordinary is amazing...  
I am opening my eyes for the very first time. I never knew what love could do,  
before you."

If you accepted Jesus into your heart this weekend, whether this is the first or fifteenth time, I hope you're feeling this hope, clarity and indescribable joy that this song conveys. I hope you felt the power and warmth of His love through the Rollos, conversation with the team or simply through God's touch.

After the Weekend, people may see a difference in you, a fire ignited inside, and a cold dark world will recognize that warmth and light you are now beaming with. Don't waste an opportunity to tell others about the love and acceptance Christ can give. Give someone the gift of Even if nothing comes of your interaction immediately, the Word of God never comes back empty.

I pray for your journey following this experience, that you will find a home in a church or youth group that will help support you and help you tend the fire inside. Staying connected is very important, like a lamp plugged into a socket; we need the energy of God to light the world. If you have any problem getting connected to a church or youth group, please ask anyone on team, we are more than happy to help. Aventura is made up of many denominations, churches and youth groups. I'm sure we could find one near you that will be a good fit.

Have a good night's rest tonight and keep on shining!

*Emily Lamy*

Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal.

Isaiah 26:4 NIV

## Reunion Report:

We had a fun and productive Palanca Party in October, and a small time of fellowship for our reunion following the party (not to mention some yummy pizza to munch!!!) Hope to see all of our new Aventurites at the November Reunion!

### Upcoming Reunions and Other Dates:

#### November Reunion:

Saturday, November 7, Assembly Meeting at 6:30, Reunion at **7:00pm**  
1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church of Thomaston  
135 Main Street, Thomaston CT Across from Adams Market

## Prayer Requests:

Please join me in praying for the Co-ed INKY Via De Cristo #22 weekend that is happening the weekend of November 5-8. Also for the Women's Cursillo weekend in Calgary, Alberta Canada on the same weekend. Their communities were praying for ours when our weekend happened, and now we can support them.

Please feel free to send prayer requests to our 'prayistas':

Barb Clavette ( JEClavette@snet.netor 482-0172)  
Sandy Miller ( SanJeanM@AOL.comor 482-5601)

They will pass the appropriate ones along to the Croaker to be listed here and send out emails to the prayer chain. Be sure to let them know if you wish to remain anonymous or if you don't want the prayer published at all.

## Servants of Aventura:

**President** Emily Lamy .....(860) 484-1562  
**Vice President** Matt Johnson ..... (860) 489-9606  
**Treasurer** Amanda Morse..... (860) 806-2825  
**Corresponding Secretary** Amanda Johnson .....(860) 489-9606  
**Recording Secretary** Elizabeth Mefford .....(860) 201-7150  
**Publications** Amanda Johnson ..... (860)489-9606  
**Information & Registration** Art Richards Jr. ....(860) 307-4806  
**Reunions** Amanda Johnson .....(860) 489-9606  
**Prayista** Barb Clavette .....(860) 482-0172  
Sandy Miller ..... (860) 482-5601

## Miscellany:

For information on Aventura, contact Art Richards at  
Registration@AventuraCT.com or call (860)-307-4806.  
To put something into the Croaker, email Amanda Johnson at groveramanda@hotmail.com.  
Follow us on Twitter @AventuraCT  
For people who have been on an Aventura weekend, join AventuraCT on Facebook!