

Gleaner

Northwest Adventists in Action

MARCH 2009, Vol. 104, No. 3

Max Torkelsen II Steps In 6

www.GleanerOnline.org

I m a g e s o f C r e a t i o n



May Your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, even as we put our hope in You.
PSALM 33:22 (NIV)

“Calliope Hummingbird” by Michael Woodruff of Spokane, Washington.

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Max Torkelsen II steps in as NPUC president, the same position his father held from 1976-1980. Get acquainted with the new president in this month's feature interview.

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Published by the North Pacific Union
 Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®
 (ISSN 0746-5874)

Postmaster — send all address changes to:

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 GLEANER
 5709 N. 20th St.
 Ridgefield, WA 98642

Phone: (360) 857-7000

gleaner@nw.npuc.org
www.gleaneronline.org

SUBMISSIONS—Timely announcements, features, news stories and family notices for publication in the GLEANER may be submitted directly to the copy coordinator at the address listed to the left. Material sent directly to local conference correspondents may be forwarded to the GLEANER.

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GLEANER, (ISSN 0746-5874) is published once per month for a total of 12 issues per year by the North Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®, 5709 N. 20th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642. It is printed and mailed at Pacific Press Publishing Association®, 1350 N. Kings Rd., Nampa, ID 83687-3193. Subscription rate: \$13 per year. Periodical postage paid at Ridgefield, WA 98642 and additional mailing offices.

LITHO U.S.A.

When God *is in* Control

“Jere Patzer used to say that whenever a vacancy occurred, the Lord already had someone in mind to fill it.”

Cindy Stewart is pictured here with UCC and NPUC presidents, from left: Jere Patzer, Don Reynolds, Max Torkelsen II and Richard Fearing.



In the spring of 1975, I was eagerly finishing my course work at Walla Walla College, anticipating graduation and thinking about the next phase of my life.

One afternoon my major professor called me into her office and told me Richard Fearing, then Upper Columbia Conference president, was looking for someone to assist him. Upon her recommendation, he interviewed me, and two days after graduation I began work at the conference. I never mailed one résumé or had any other interviews. I’m convinced the Lord led me to this opportunity, and will be forever grateful Elder Fearing took a chance on a young, untried, fresh-out-of-college graduate.

Perhaps he felt church work was in my genes. The Stewart family tree has recorded a long history of service to the church. And, since 1975, I’ve had the privilege of carrying on that tradition in the Upper Columbia and the North Pacific Union conferences. I feel fortunate to have teamed with Christian leaders who I observed in both public and private moments to be men of prayer and conviction with a sense of humor and zest for life. Although each had unique gifts

of leadership and administration, they all shared a deep passion for finishing the

Lord’s work and a definite vision of how it should be accomplished.

I could share a lot of experiences about each person with whom I’ve worked, but instead, let me tell you a few of my impressions about Max Torkelsen II, our new NPUC president. Years ago I remember telling someone I found Max to be “real,” the genuine article. Forgive the cliché, but he talks the talk and walks the walk—a true Christian gentleman. And while you won’t have to guess where you stand with him or where he stands on any given issue, Max has a calming presence about him, a caring heart and a love for people. You’ll learn to appreciate his wisdom and discernment, seasoned with a bubbling sense of humor. His commitment to scripture is not just limited to his leadership in Bibleinfo.com over the years. If you ever receive a letter from Max, you’ll find he often closes his notes with a text that just fits the topic.

I served on an administrative team with Jere Patzer, first in the UCC, and then at the NPUC, for 25 of the past 26 years. I greatly miss working with him. But Jere Patzer used to say that whenever a vacancy occurred, the Lord already had someone in mind to fill it. As our Northwest members face future challenges together, I have no question that God guided the selection of Max to follow Jere.

It will help Max to know he’s not alone. If you happen to call the president’s office in the days ahead, I’d love to hear you say, “We’ve been praying for Max.” Your prayers will make all the difference. •

Cindy Stewart

North Pacific Union Conference executive
assistant to the president

Did You Know?

The North American Division's In Step for Life program (www.instepforlife.com) involves wearing a pedometer—a step-tracking device. This gauge was invented by U.S. President Thomas Jefferson. Among Jefferson's inventions were the swivel chair and macaroni and cheese. Jefferson did not patent his inventions, believing they belonged to, and should benefit, society.

—SOURCE: *Interesting Thing of the Day*

MARCH

Celebrating Women's History Month

"Cautious, careful people, always casting about to preserve their reputation and social standing, never can bring about a reform. Those who are really in earnest must be willing to be anything or nothing in the world's estimation."

—Susan B. Anthony

"We object to that narrow-souled theology which will not allow the old ladies to have dreams because the prophecy says, 'your young men shall see visions.' These stingy critics seem to forget that 'man,' and 'men,' in the scriptures, generally mean both men and women... But the prophecy does say, 'Your sons and your daughters shall prophecy.'"

—James White (*Spiritual Gifts, Vol. 3, Preface*)



Study: Many Faiths Even Means Non-Christians

Last year we reported a study by the PEW Research Center where a Christian majority said some religions, other than their own, could lead to eternal life. The findings caused a stir among the evangelical community, who claimed the survey was misleading and respondents had meant only other Christian denominations.

This prompted another study by PEW, specifically identifying non-Christian religions, like Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Buddhism. The new study found 80 percent of Christians believed at least one non-Christian faith could lead followers to eternal life, and more than 60 percent believed two or more non-Christian faiths could do so. To learn more, visit <http://pewresearch.org>.

Max To Steps



GLEANER: You're stepping into a position left vacant by Jere Patzer's death and once occupied by your own father.

MAX: In my opinion, Jere Patzer was one of the finest church administrators of this generation and it was my privilege to work closely with him for more than two decades. I've lost a mentor and a coach. I will miss him.

And, yes, as long as I can remember, I have always wanted to be like my Dad. I never anticipated following in his footsteps quite this closely, but it's an honor to do so. Through the years, my deep respect for my Dad has made me think twice about certain decisions or temptations—because I always wanted him to be able to be proud of me. Now I'll be walking past his photograph in the hall every day at the office, and I'll be reminded that it's still my desire.

In this time of economic downturn, do you feel our church needs to re-evaluate its structure?

While economic hardship brings uncertainty and challenge, it also gives us opportunity—opportunity to re-evaluate and reprioritize. In the months ahead, the church at every level will have to re-evaluate every service and function to make sure each is mission-driven and *essential* to the task God has given us. And, wherever possible, I believe our resources need to be put at the front line of mission which is at our local churches and schools. The structure of the church must always serve the needs of the local fields and not the other way around.

Torkelsen II In

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Although the transition was delayed by enormous challenges following the devastating fire at the Upper Columbia Conference headquarters, Max Torkelsen II has now taken up his duties as North Pacific Union Conference president, a position his father held from 1976–1980. It's our hope this brief interview will give our readers a snapshot of the new Torkelsen at the helm. A more complete interview is available at www.gleaneronline.org.

What are the three most critical challenges for our church mission in the Northwest?

First, I believe the greatest challenge is to stay focused and loyal to our commission to take the Good News to every man, woman and child in the Pacific Northwest. Every individual, every congregation, every school, every department and every conference must be willing to ask the tough question: "How are we making a positive difference in reaching our corner of the world for Christ?"

Second, a significant challenge is keeping our church responsive to and engaged with youth and young adults. Are we listening? Are we integrating them into the life of the church? Do we trust

them with significant responsibilities? And how can we grow and change without compromising the essential principles of the Adventist Movement? It will require love and understanding on the part of both young and old.

Third, is how we'll respond to the economic downturn which is likely to affect us for years to come. It's time we get serious about ways of doing church that are less dependent on money and buildings and more dependent on real Holy Spirit power. The early Christian church had few earthly resources, yet was rich in spiritual energy which empowered them to reach the entire known world with the message of Jesus. We who are called to "finish the work" in these last days will

undoubtedly be successful only through the Spirit's power.

What do you look forward to the most in this new position?

It's a bit of a sentimental journey for us. Linnea and I began our pastoral ministry in the Woodland and Cedar Creek (in the Oregon Conference) district just a few miles up the road from the NPUC office. So in a way, we're coming full circle—it's like coming back home.

Several of Max and Linnea Torkelsen's former parishioners from the Cedar Creek Church were on hand recently to welcome them back to the district where they began their ministry, including from left: Earl and Addie Stacy, Trena Anderson, Trudi Kinsman, and Janice and Gary Stumper.



“It’s time we get serious about ways of doing church that are less dependent on money and buildings and more dependent on real Holy Spirit power.”

I also look forward to meeting thousands more of the wonderful Seventh-day Adventist Christians who live in the Pacific Northwest. I look forward to working together to do great things for Jesus. What a privilege if we could together be among that special group who live through the last days and are translated without seeing death. It could happen in this generation...it could happen NOW!

Who do you consider mentors in your life?

Well, no two people have had a greater impact on my life than my parents. They have encouraged and counseled me and held me accountable in ways no one else could.

My wife, Linnea, has been a mentor. Since we first met at Pacific Union College, she has made me want to be a better person. She encourages me, loves me, prays for me and says things I need to hear whether or not I want to hear them. We are, in every way, united in our desire

to minister faithfully in the area God calls us to serve.

Finally, the impact of Adventist teachers is probably immeasurable, but there are two teachers who stand out in a special way. Elder Winston DeHaven was my seventh- and eighth-grade teacher in Phoenix, Arizona. He believed in me and inspired me to believe in myself. He encouraged me to develop leadership gifts I didn’t know I had. Elder Carl Coffman has had a profound effect on my life and my ministry. As my professor at Pacific Union College, he allowed me to see what a true pastor’s heart looks like. He showed us how to love the church and how to be practical, faithful servants of God.

What is a “guiding principle” at the core of your ministry and leadership?

Servanthood, like it is found in Matthew 23:11. I want to be a faithful and devoted follower of Jesus Christ.

What is the most important lesson you have learned throughout your life?

You can’t do it all by yourself. You have to depend on God to see you through the stress and complexities that have to be met as a church leader. And, you have to learn to trust those God has called you to work with. Delegate responsibility to them and let them utilize their gifts even if they do it differently than you.

Is there a book that has made a great impact on your life?

My favorite book is *The Ministry of Healing* by Ellen G. White. Soon after I met Linnea, I discovered Olov Blomquist, her father, offered to pay his three daughters five dollars each time they read the last five chapters of the book. Naturally, wanting to raise some additional capital to properly court his daughter, I asked if he would include me in the deal. He did. So...I have read those five chapters of *Ministry of Healing* lots

John Littlefield, retired pastor, welcomes Max Torkelsen II during a visit to the Cedar Creek (in the Oregon Conference) Church. Both men pastored the Cedar Creek/Woodland district.



Red Door Studio



Meet Max Torkelsen and his family

Pictured from left back are: Brian and Analisa Kleven, Linnea and Max Torkelsen II, front: Kirsten and Ethan Spoo.

and lots of times! In the process of falling in love with Linnea, the words on those pages became very precious to me as well. Here are just a few: “Often our plans fail, that God’s plans for us may succeed.” (p. 473) And here’s another thought: “In the future life, the mysteries that here have annoyed and disappointed us will be made plain. We shall see that our seemingly unanswered prayers and disappointed hopes have been among our greatest blessings.” (p. 474)

What about a favorite, meaningful Scripture?

Philippians 1:6, which says, “Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.” I began claiming that promise the day I left to serve as a student missionary in Djakarta, Indonesia, and I’ll continue to claim it until Jesus comes. •

Max’s Education

Bachelor of Arts in theology from Pacific Union College, 1972.
 Master of Arts from Andrews University, 1974, with emphasis in church administration.
 Master of Public Health from Loma Linda University, 1975, with emphasis in health education.

Max’s Family

Max married Linnea (Blomquist) Torkelsen September 30, 1972.
 Linnea is a registered nurse and also has a degree in elementary education. She is the Upper Columbia Academy alumni and development director.
 They have two daughters:
 Analisa is a registered nurse and Walla Walla University graduate, married to Brian Kleven, an electrical engineer in Hillsboro, Ore.
 Kirsten is a graduate of Walla Walla University with a degree in communications, married to Ethan Spoo, the senior city planner for Oak Harbor, Wash.
 Max’s father, Max C. Torkelsen Sr., was the North Pacific Union Conference president from 1976–1980.

Max’s Ministry

He has pastored in Oregon, Hawaii and Upper Columbia conferences. His ministerial internship was at the Springfield (Ore.) Church. Upon completing seminary, his first full pastorate was the Woodland and Cedar Creek district in the Oregon Conference.

Max’s Hobbies

He enjoys photography, snow skiing, travel and reading.

Max’s Favorite Quote

“Stay in the middle of the right side of the road.”
 —Max C. Torkelsen Sr.



Max follows in the footsteps of his father, NPUC president, 1976-1980.

WORLD NEWS

RWANDA

Bishop Honored for Reconciliation Program

Rwandan Bishop John Rucyahana has been given the William Wilberforce Award for his program preparing perpetrators and victims of Rwanda's infamous genocide for face-to-face reconciliation meetings. The program helps both sides seek closure, forgiveness and restoration. The award is presented by Prison Fellowship, a Christian ministry for the reconciliation of prisoners to God, their families and communities. The award is given annually to a distinguished Christian leader who has confronted social injustice.

SOURCE: Christianpost.com

JAMAICA

Adventist Named Governor General

Patrick Linton Allen, West Indies Union president, has been appointed Jamaica's governor general by Queen Elizabeth II. Allen will serve as the queen's direct representative in Jamaica on ceremonial occasions. The role is considered non-political, yet the governor general has authority to appoint civil service officers. Allen says his Adventist faith will "undergird" his new role. "Any decision I make will be cast in justice, equality and compassion," he says.

SOURCE: Adventist News Network



NEWS BRIEFS

ENGLAND

Adventist Midwife Honored

Huedel Morgan-Isaac, a Seventh-day Adventist midwife for 28 years, was given the award, Member of the British Empire. This is a fifth-level honor for British civilians. Morgan-Isaac received the award for her work as a midwife, as well as the leadership role she played in launching an education program for teen mothers.

SOURCE: *Adventist News Network*



RUSSIA

3ABN Launches Russian Channel

The Three Angels Broadcasting Network successfully launched the first Seventh-day Adventist Russian TV channel. The channel features 24-hour Christian Russian-language programming, and distributes via the Internet. This allows 3ABN programming to reach closed communities in their native language. There are more than 300 million Russian-speaking people worldwide.

SOURCE: *3ABN*



MALAWI

ADRA Radio Drama Wins Award

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency in Malawi received a 2008 Entertainer of the Year Award for a radio play addressing HIV/AIDS prevention and personal health. The program, entitled Tikuferanji, which means "Why are we dying?" appears on Television Malawi and airs on a state-run radio station. The show provides education in an effort to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS by advocating responsibility and safe behavior.

SOURCE: *ADRA*



Sitka Teacher Rings Chimes in Tobago

The Mt. Pleasant Adventist Church had a problem. In their small West Indies' town on the island of Tobago, illiteracy and drugs are rampant. Unwilling to lose youth, church leaders made a plan: Operation Mustard Seed. The church would start a musical group, teaching youth to play tone chimes.

Tamara Randolph, Walla Walla University associate professor, who had visited there, spearheaded the idea and raised money through the WWU Education Club.

But there was a missing

element—a bell teacher.

Randolph found her answer in Sitka, Alaska, where Ruth Millard, a summer WWU student, teaches in a one-room school. Ms. Millard has taught music for 38 years.

So in mid-December, Ms. Millard left icy Sitka, and after four planes, two days, and thousands of miles later, she arrived in tropical Tobago. Rehearsals began as soon as she got off the plane. Even though it was Christmas break, players practiced several hours each day. While some could read music, most couldn't.

Nevertheless, the group performed "Angels We Have Heard on High" on Sabbath morning. Although Ms. Millard was there only a week, the practices paid off and the group played the following Sabbath, on their own.

And back in Sitka, Alaska, the one-room school boasted a Walla University associate professor as their substitute teacher. •

John Kriegelstein, Alaska Conference communication director



Ruth Millard, Sitka Adventist School teacher helps youth in Tobago get positively involved in music. Lincoln Archer, local member, helps coordinate the innovative project.

Arctic Mission Adventurers Receive Bible Worker Training

With more than 250 remote Native villages in Alaska, the Alaska Conference is intentional in its efforts to train and place lay workers in the areas beyond the reach of pastors. In January, 13 people from across Alaska gathered for training.

A few years ago, the Alaska Conference launched Arctic Mission Adventure, an initiative providing an Adventist presence in remote bush-Alaskan communities. Initially, nine villages were targeted. Today, five of those communities either have an AM Adventurer present or are in the process of getting one.

The training in January was designed to provide

insights into the Alaskan culture, especially in Native communities, as well as practical how-to tips. Due to the remoteness of the communities, the opportunity to develop relationships and network with other AM Adventurers is vital to fighting the all-alone feeling.

Jim Kincaid, former Alaska Conference executive secretary, now runs a flight service in Kotzebue, Alaska and is reviving the little group of Adventists. He spoke to the group, "It is heartening to see, at long last, some hardy souls coming forward to face the challenges of ministry in one of the most beautiful and extreme places in the world."



Jim Kincaid, former Alaska Conference executive secretary and long-time Alaskan missionary, gives cultural pointers to 13 Arctic Mission Adventurers during a recent training session for Bible workers in Alaska.

There is no fixed profile for an AM Adventurer. One has a family of three young girls. Another is a retired widower. The common factor is their

passion to reach people with the good news of Jesus. •

John Kriegelstein

Gem State Academy Students *Learn Family Living Skills*

Gem State Adventist Academy students have many opportunities to learn family living skills. For a few weeks senior Bible class focuses on marriage and family. In one activity the seniors care for babies. They take pretend infants to class, work and church. The computerized dolls respond just like newborn babies. Seniors have to support the babies' heads; they feed and burp the babies; and they make sure the babies have clean diapers and are soothed to sleep. If they don't care for the baby, the computerized life-size dolls cry.



The Living Skills class with Karen Davies (left), teaches students about nutrition and food shopping.

Samiu Moala says, "I learned that if you're going to have a child, you need to be very responsible. At first I was excited to get my baby. But after the first couple of hours,

I was ready to get rid of it. The hardest part was it required constant attention. It was even hard to find time to take a shower."

Gem State also offers

an elective helping students prepare for family responsibilities. In Living Skills class students learn principles of nutrition and fitness, healthful cooking, comparison shopping, and basic sewing. Megan Yarlott says, "Mrs. Davies is a cool teacher. This past fall we went to the orchard and bought some peaches. Then we brought them back to school and canned them. Later we made homemade applesauce." •

Linda Klinger, GSAA GLEANER correspondent

Weiser Ladies Prepare *Bags for Foster Children*

Women in Weiser, Idaho, have an outreach project making bags for foster children, which contain a handmade quilt, stuffed toys, personal items, coloring books, crayons and other toys. Usually, when a child is taken from a home, there isn't time to pack belongings. The bags bring comfort to children experiencing trauma and give them something to call their own.

The project began nearly three years ago when Myra Walker saw a program about a similar project on 3ABN.

In those three years, Walker, Renee Stiltz and Delma Strawn have donated more than 100 bags to children in three counties in the lower Treasure Valley of southwestern Idaho. Each bag takes about an hour to complete, but each quilt takes six to eight hours.

Shortly after they began, Walker was delivering some of the first bags. A 10-year-old boy was there, and a social worker gave him a bag. Walker watched from a distance as he took everything out of the bag, inspected each item, and

cuddled with each toy. That was all the incentive the women needed to keep the project going.

Stiltz says this is a project anyone can do. There is always a need—contact your local Children's Services department and they can let you know how to begin. •

Renee Stiltz, Weiser Church member, and Eve Rusk, Idaho Conference administrative assistant



Myra Walker, Weiser Church member, puts the finishing touches on a quilt.

New Havre Church Opens

More than 94 church and community members came together on Sabbath, Jan. 24, to mark the opening of a new church building and to welcome a new pastoral family to the Havre, Mont., congregation. The building fulfills a dream to have a church, parsonage, school and gymnasium all on one campus. God obviously directed the process by guiding the sale of the former church building. The cooperation of local contractors and the generosity of members and friends reflected in the donations of time and money have made the dream a reality.

The congregation has been meeting in the school since the sale of the former church building in June 2006. In the fall, construction began on

the new church, and as funds came in, the building began to take shape. Local contractors allowed members to do as much of the plumbing and electrical work as possible. Several projects are still being completed.

During the morning service, John Loor Jr., Montana Conference president, introduced Richy Thomas, the new pastor, his wife Shannon and their two children. Also participating in the service were Ray Jimenez, vice president for finance, and David Prest, ministerial secretary. Jim Jenkins, former Havre district pastor, delivered the sermon and urged all to make this sanctuary a place of prayer, forgiveness, acceptance and growth by allowing the Holy Spirit to make a sanctuary of

each individual. Darren Wilkins, Mt. Ellis Academy principal, and Leisel Rogers, music director, brought six vocalists from Mt. Ellis to enrich the service with music.

Following the morning celebration, nearly 80 people stayed for lunch in the school gym. Many came back that evening for a family fun night in the gym. •

Leo Beardsley, Havre Church communication leader



John Loor Jr., Montana Conference president, introduces Richy Thomas, pastor, his wife Shannon and their two children to the congregation.

The new Seventh-day Adventist church in Havre, Mont., is a dream come true.

Julie Jimenez



Ronan Church Members *Serve Their Community*

Ronan Church members have been singing at St. Luke's Nursing Home one Sabbath a month for the last six years. Russ Jenkins, head deacon, started this tradition. Jenkins also involves members with Mission Mountain Enterprises.

MME is a nonprofit organization helping developmentally challenged individuals. So far, the church has adopted a group home and

has decorated the outside of the house, as well as throwing a Christmas party. Students at Glacier View Seventh-day Adventist Christian School and the church provided music for the annual Christmas party at the Ronan Community Center. •

Kevin Miller, Ronan Church pastor



Members of the Ronan Church sing at St. Luke's Nursing Home.

Pathfinder TLTs Gather for Annual Convention

It's not often you find an equal number of teens and adults in the same place, working together, for the same goal. However, this was the case Jan. 23–25, at Camp Harlow just outside of Eugene, Ore. Nearly 70 teens and adults met at the camp for the annual Pathfinder Teen Leadership Training Convention. TLT, as it's known, is a program pairing adult mentors with high school to college-age youth to teach leadership skills and Christian encouragement.

In addition to workshops and training sessions, the weekend offers a chance to



Pathfinders pray together at the annual Pathfinder Teen Leadership Training convention.

put knowledge into action. On Sabbath afternoon the TLTs and mentors headed for

Junction City, Ore., where they teamed up with the Junction City Church to go door to door

passing out *Discover Bible* lesson invitations.

In the afternoon, the group held an induction ceremony for the 12 incoming TLTs. Jeffrey Dale, a 16-year-old Pathfinder from Grants Pass, Ore., was one of the inductees who joined the TLT program Sabbath afternoon. When asked why he joined the program, Dale says “because it’s a good opportunity to learn leadership skills and grow closer to God.” •

Krissy Barber, Oregon Conference communication intern

PAA Students Certified for Disaster Response

The Oregon Conference community outreach department inspired Portland Adventist Academy students to join in Adventist Community Services Disaster Response (ACS-DR) for Oregon, the Pacific Northwest and beyond.

Twenty PAA students signed up for specialized training and certification after Dan Patchin, a doctor and a volunteer for the ministry, shared stories and pictures of his experience volunteering after hurricanes Ike and Gustav.

Students Chelsea Bishop, Morgan Crawford, Coisha Graham, Nayeli Herrera, Cynthia Morales, Sierra Nelson and

Tae Woo Yang completed the training and testing required for certification. Patchin expects more will follow.

“Once they’re certified, the students can be called upon during regional disasters,” explains Patchin. “Like the ones we’ve seen here in the Northwest recently.” The students also may be called upon for national disasters such as Ike and Gustav.

Opportunities like this are shaping the next generation of Adventists. “We’re giving the students a hands-on practical approach to the ministry of Jesus,” says Patchin. “And we’re equipping them with

training and certification so they can continue serving people as adults.”

“I know that I want to do this kind of stuff the rest of my life,” says Nayeli Herrera, PAA sophomore and program participant. “Helping people makes me feel so good. And I don’t mean to just say that as a cliché. It’s like you really don’t want anything back afterward. The feeling is enough.” •

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA GLEANER correspondent



Nayeli Herrera (right) and friend Katie Paulumbo are painters during a mission trip to Mississippi.

Poster Child

For the second year in a row, a student from Mid-Columbia Adventist Christian School in Hood River, Ore., was a winner in the 2008 Lions Peace Poster Contest.

Madison Baird, an eighth-grade student, was encouraged by Bobbie DeWebber, teacher, to put all her ability and talent to the test. This year's theme was "Peace Begins With Me."

Madison's poster melds crosses with a heart into one fertile tree, with the earth and a smiling child in the center, and

colorful rays of light beaming in all directions.

Three students from three other schools in Hood River also won. All four were honored along with second- and third-prize winners at a dessert banquet. The four winners' posters have been sent to district judging at the state level. •

Joyce Gallentine, Hood River Church communication leader



Madison Baird, an eighth-grade student from Columbia Adventist Christian School in Hood River, Ore., was a winner in the Lions Peace Poster Contest.

Rivergate Honors Veterans *With Music and More*

While most children have no school on Veteran's Day, students of Rivergate Adventist Elementary in Gladstone, Ore., spent the day a little differently. In keeping with a school tradition reaching back more than a decade, the students presented a music and recitation program on Nov. 11, 2008, to celebrate the patriotic sacrifice of America's veterans.

After a formal flag presentation by local veterans, students contributed to performances, including a choral presentation of each armed force's song, signing to music and reciting patriotic poems.

Four fifth- and sixth-grade students, who formed a band called Three Plus



Bianney Resendez and Charles Handley, first-grade students, join their class in a sign language performance to music during Rivergate Adventist School's annual Veteran's Day program.

One, performed an original composition for voice and piano. "I like remembering the veterans and what they did for us," explains Griffin Leek, the

sixth-grade student who wrote the piano portion of the piece.

Wade Byers, Gladstone mayor, spoke to the assembly. The kindergarten class gave

flowers to the more than 30 veterans who attended.

Ann Campbell, principal, believes the celebration better enhances students' understanding of Veteran's Day more than having a day without school. "Freedom comes with a price," Campbell says. "This program is a great way to teach our students about patriotism, love and service to our country and gives them a chance to say 'thank you' to our veterans."

Shylla Gessele, a sixth-grade student who shared the day with her great-grandpa and stepfather, both Navy veterans, agreed. "We got to honor veterans and make them proud." •

Laurel Rogers, Rivergate parent

Oregon Congregation Raises \$15,000 to Build “One-Day” Churches

“This is the answer we have been waiting for!” exclaim church leaders around the globe. According to Maranatha’s data, more than 100,000 Seventh-day Adventist congregations do not have permanent church buildings. Maranatha and Adventist-Laymen’s Services and Industries are partnering to purchase, ship and assemble (yes, in one day) church buildings in developing countries, such as Ecuador, Mozambique and Mexico.

In the Autumn 2008 Communiqué then Oregon Conference president Don Livesay challenged Oregon congregations to take advantage of the opportunity to build churches for as little as \$3,000 each. The 60 attending



Maranatha and Adventist-Laymen’s Services and Industries are partnering to purchase, ship and assemble (yes, in one day) church buildings in developing countries.

members of the Gresham congregation made this project a focus in December 2008. One Sabbath morning, members Lorain Miller and Nancy Godman presented the One-Day Church project

during the worship service.

When the final count was in, not only was \$1,500 raised, but seven times the amount! Over the next couple weeks, another \$5,000 was raised, for a total of \$15,000. With the

ASI matching funds for the first 4,000 churches, the total became \$30,000—enough to ship and build 10 churches.

“This has to be a God-thing!” exclaims Rudy Salazar, church member. “These projects struck a chord, as we realized how blessed and thankful we are to have a church that is paid for. We want the same for other believers.”

With only 875 of the targeted 4,000 churches funded to date, there is room for others to help. For more information on the One-Day Church project, visit <http://onedaychurch.org>.

Glenn Wachter, Oregon Conference communication department freelance correspondent

Bonanza Youth Bring Holiday Help

The Bonanza Pathfinders and Adventurers provided Thanksgiving boxes and fruit baskets for 20 families. For one family this was their last Thanksgiving together as the father had only a few weeks to live. In addition, the overwhelming opportunity came, from the Klamath County Foster Home Association, to supply a Christmas program and presents for 28 foster families with more than 160

children. Moving ahead in faith, they invited the Klamath Falls and Bonanza (Ore.) churches to sponsor families. This left 10 families the club decided to sponsor. God gave His abundant blessings as donations flowed in, providing large Christmas baskets overflowing with presents for each child and their parents. •

Jeanette Fry, Bonanza Church member



Bonanza Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs supply food for 20 families.

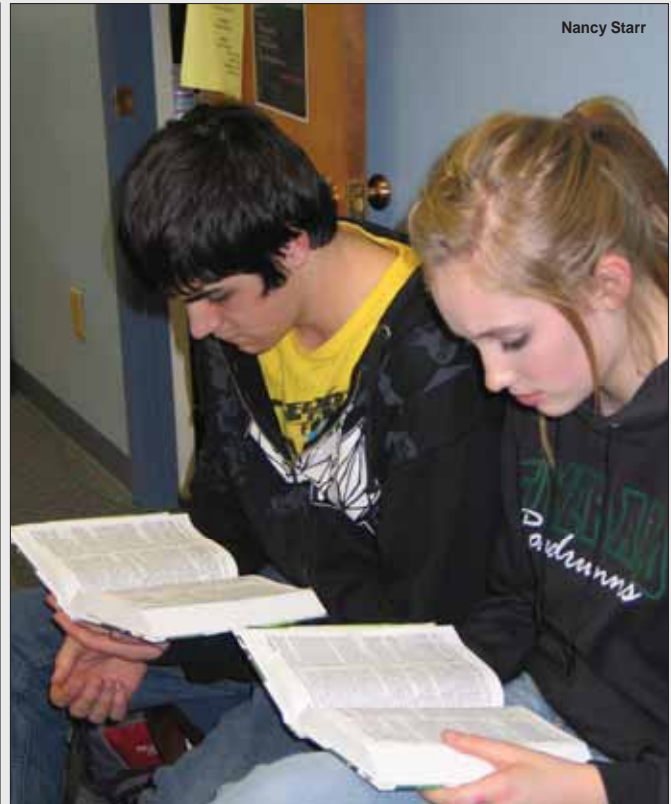
Milo Students Read the B-I-B-L-E

It's a fantastic sight to walk through the administration building at Milo Academy and see students reading Bibles. If you walk into the Campus Ministries office, you might find a group of seven or eight reading aloud to each other. Sitting in the administration offices you'll find students sitting quietly reading chapters. Even riding on the bus to a basketball game in the next town, you find someone reading aloud to a seatmate.

Jeff Deming, Milo pastor, challenged students to search for themselves, become acquainted with God's word and get the whole picture of God. Many students chose to meet

the challenge of reading the Bible through and are finding it to be an amazing experience.

Alyssa Talimao, a junior from Scappoose, Ore., says this is her second time reading the Bible through, and she thinks it "gets better every time." Alexander Marshall, Another student from Roseburg, Ore., thinks it's a good activity for Bible class because "it's totally based around the scriptures and we learn a lot more from it." Bethany Benton, from Springfield, Ore., says, "I am learning so many things I never knew were in the Bible, and I'm not even all the way through yet!"



Bethany and Stephen, Milo Academy students, read the Bible during a free period.



Molly Caulder, Milo Academy student, reads the Bible on her way to a basketball game.

Eric Wagner, a senior from Rogue River, Ore., accepted the challenge to read the entire Bible in 30 days. He is now on Revelation 2, and says the most amazing thing about reading it straight through is to see over thousands of years, where God remains steady through each and every situation. After reading on the bus, Molly Caulder, a junior from Turner, Ore., says she hadn't been looking forward to the

reading and wasn't sure she was going to do it. "Then I found that I kind of enjoy it and the more I've read the more I want to read. Now it's less of an assignment and just something I want to do!"

Jeremiah 29:13 says, "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." •

Carol Bovee, Milo Academy teacher

Campmeeting Earliteens Win Award

Earliteens attending camp meeting last summer in Gladstone, Ore., received an award in December 2008, from the City of Gladstone. Wade Byers, Gladstone mayor, and Frank Grace, Gladstone chief of police, presented a certificate to Rhonda Whitney, Oregon Conference community outreach director, in recognition of the “outstanding community service” provided by the Earliteen department.

The Earliteens, responding to a request from the city, joined other groups to distribute door hangers to all 14,000 residents in one weekend. The students covered almost three times as many homes as expected,



Wade Byers, Gladstone mayor (left), along with Frank Grace, the city's chief of police, present the award certificate to Rhonda Whitney, Oregon Conference community outreach director.

allowing the city to finish distribution ahead of schedule.

Byers reminded the Award Dinner audience of Gladstone's tight budget and remarked

how this kind of volunteer help supplements the community tax base in very tangible ways.

Monte Robison, Earliteen leader and Open Arms Church

pastor, shares the sense of excitement the teens felt as they prepared for this voluntary outreach event. “They were so excited,” he says, “to have so much fun helping the community. It was very positive all the way around.”

The Earliteens also experienced working with the leaders of the community. After hearing a short pep talk by Grace, one Earliteen observes, “He's pretty cool, for a policeman.” About the Earliteens, Grace says, “They were a great group. Wow!” •

Rhonda Whitney, Oregon Conference community outreach director

Teams Respond to Winter Storms

Adventist Community Services Disaster Response leaders in the Oregon Conference are responding to requests for help following widespread flooding and significant snow damage in Clatskanie, Columbia and Clackamas counties in Oregon, and Wahkiakum, Skamania, Cowlitz and Clark counties in Washington.

ACS-DR Oregon has been monitoring the situation closely and awaits damage assessments from the Red Cross and public entities.

“Our teams are responding to requests for immediate help from Clackamas County and Damascus, Ore. Debris removal, including trees, limbs and mobile-home awnings are the most immediate needs in these areas right now,” says Rhonda Whitney, Oregon Conference community outreach director.

Churches are strongly encouraged to appoint disaster response leaders who can assist in this community outreach.

To make a donation, please send it to the Oregon

Conference Disaster Relief Fund code #7517, Oregon Conference Department of Community Outreach, 19800 Oatfield Road, Gladstone, OR 97027.

Additional response information will be distributed to churches via e-mail. •

Rhonda Whitney

Sam Pellecer, Hood View Church member and an Oregon Conference Disaster Response team member, fixes a stair railing demolished by a collapsed awning.



Upper Columbia Conference *Leases a Temporary Office*

On Tuesday, Jan. 27, the Upper Columbia Conference received the key to a temporary location for the office. The search took several weeks of looking at available space and negotiating a lease agreement.

The temporary site will be home to the UCC staff for the next two years while the office building that burned in December 2008, is rebuilt.

The new location seems to be a miracle from God. Doug Johnson, UCC vice president

for administration, says, “We are amazed and thankful for His leading in this relocation process.”

It will take several weeks for the building to be prepared for the office staff and even more time for the staff to move in and get established in this facility. UCC tentatively plans to open the new office to the public in early to mid-March. The exact date for the opening ceremony will be announced on the conference Web site,

www.uccsda.org.

The office building is located at 15918 East Euclid in the Spokane Business Park in the Spokane Valley. The office building, built in 1996, has adequate space, although it is smaller than the original office that burned. In addition to the office staff, the new building will also house the Adventist Book Center. •

Jay Wintermeyer, UCC communication director

This office building in Spokane Valley will be a temporary home to the UCC staff.



UCC Welcomes Folkenberg Jr. as New President

Robert Folkenberg Jr. accepted the call to serve as the Upper Columbia Conference president Tuesday, Feb. 3. He plans to assume his new responsibilities in mid-March.

“My wife, Audrey, and I are very excited about joining the Upper Columbia Church family. We are living in momentous and exciting times,” says Folkenberg. “I believe with all my heart, now, more than ever before, the Lord is calling His church—all His church, both young and old, to press forward in faith to let the world know of Christ’s redeeming love and His soon coming! This is our mission. That’s why we are here.”

Folkenberg began his

ministry as an associate pastor in Port Charlotte, Fla. He has served as pastor of the Tallahassee and Crawfordsville, Fla., districts. Later Folkenberg served as senior pastor of the Orlando Central Church in Orlando, Fla.

In addition to serving as a pastor, Folkenberg has administrative experience, having served for several years as a field secretary for the Chinese Union Mission and also as president of the Taiwan Conference. For the past four years Folkenberg has served as associate director for *ShareHIM*, assisting churches to organize international and homeland evangelistic outreach, with an emphasis

in mobilizing and training lay men and women to become involved in a lifestyle of evangelism.

Folkenberg and his wife Audrey live just outside of Collegedale in Apison, Tenn. Audrey has her master’s in nursing and is currently working at *ShareHIM* helping coordinate homeland evangelistic efforts. Bob and Audrey have three children: Robby, a junior; Randy, a freshman; and Katie, a sixth-grade student.

Max Torkelsen

II, North Pacific Union Conference president, says, “It’s providential we have such a well-qualified, energetic and committed person to lead the Upper Columbia Conference.” •

Jay Wintermeyer



The Folkenberg family, from left: Robby, Audrey, Katie, Bob and Randy.

Bibleinfo.com Returns Home

January marked the beginning of a new ministry phase for Bibleinfo.com. Following a decision last year by It Is Written to discontinue its association with this global outreach ministry, the Upper Columbia Conference executive committee voted to resume ownership of Bibleinfo.com and KidsBibleinfo.com. The official change of ownership took place Dec. 31, 2008.

The transition means Bibleinfo.com will continue sharing Bible truth with people from around the world. It also means there have been staffing changes. Up until the first of the year, Bibleinfo.com was lead by Fred Hardinge. After It Is Written stopped support for BibleInfo.com, however, Hardinge began an online health evangelism ministry, PositiveChoices.com, providing interactive online



lifestyle change courses, valuable health information from an Adventist perspective, and answers to common health questions.

Following Hardinge's decision to move in a new direction, the conference executive committee voted to make Jay Wintermeyer the new director for BibleInfo.com. Wintermeyer is also the conference's communication director and has a background in online ministry.

The Upper Columbia Conference is currently seeking funding for ongoing support of Bibleinfo.com and KidsBibleinfo.com.

Wintermeyer is also talking with other Adventist ministries to find ways to partner in order to provide even greater Bible-based resources. To learn more, visit www.uccsda.org/bibleinfo.

"Bibleinfo.com and KidsBibleinfo.com are valuable outreach tools for the Adventist church," says Wintermeyer. "Bibleinfo.com alone had more than 750,000 unique visitors last year and over 2.6 million page views. My staff and I intend to continue working with our dedicated volunteers to strengthen and grow both of these sites."

The power of Bibleinfo.com comes from its interactive nature. Visitors are encouraged to ask Bible questions or submit prayer requests. Each receives a personal response from one of more than 200 qualified volunteers serving around the world.

Bibleinfo.com began in Spokane over 14 years ago when Max Torkelsen II, then conference communication director, felt impressed to use telephone technology to share the good news of Bible truth. Shortly thereafter, Hardinge harnessed the power of the Internet to extend the ministry's reach. Since its simple beginnings, Bibleinfo.com has grown to offer Bible answers on more than 350 topics in 21 languages. •

Jay Wintermeyer, Upper Columbia Conference communication director

Singing in the Rain

Cornerstone Christian School Performs

On Veteran's Day, Bonners Ferry Cornerstone Christian School students honored veterans by singing "America the Beautiful" in less than beautiful weather. Led by Dennis Shelton, principal, on the guitar, they gave a strong witness to the

community gathered around the flag pole at the memorial service. Despite the cold, wet conditions, the 32 students sang well, proud to give honor to the veterans and to their country. •

Karen Drechsel, observer



UCA Plays At Spokane's Fox Theater

On Saturday, Jan. 10, Upper Columbia Academy performed their postponed Christmas concert, *A Savior From on High*, in the Fox Theatre in Spokane, Wash.

Although rescheduled, the concert attracted more than 1,000 people. The performance featured the concert band and various instrument ensembles, the full choir and UCA's two elite choirs: Choraliers and Octet. It also gave students the opportunity to perform in a

professional concert hall.

The Fox is Spokane's pride and joy, a masterpiece of architecture and décor, and a prestigious venue for performing arts. UCA charged no admission, offering the concert as a Christmas gift to the community.

The concert was originally scheduled for Dec. 20, 2008, but was delayed after a winter storm buried the Spokane area under a record 19 inches of snow in 24 hours. UCA



released students for Christmas break three days early out of concern for their safety and as roads became increasingly treacherous. Throughout

December snowfall in the Spokane area accumulated to a record 66 inches. •

Danielle Shull, UCA senior

Positive Life Radio Listeners Stand in the Gap

Kevin Krueger works in telephone central during the *Stand in the Gap* broadcast.



More than 300 Positive Life Radio listeners pledged \$40,000 during a three-and-a-half hour special fund-raising broadcast on Jan. 28.

Like many other Christian ministries, Positive Life Radio has felt the economic downturn. Over the past six months the radio network has seen a growing gap between donations and expenses. The support will help close a portion of the shortfall, allowing the music and blessings to continue for more than 85,000 listeners.

"It was an amazing and overwhelming show of support," says Kevin Krueger, Positive Life Radio's afternoon

host, "one we'll remember for a long time. What an amazing God-size blessing. We hesitated at first but we knew we had to act—and quickly. Karen's (not her real name) e-mail reminded us why we need to do all we can to keep Positive Life Radio strong—even if it meant having an emergency on-air fundraiser."

Karen writes: "I got in my car after my first mammogram since going through breast cancer this past year and heard the song 'Praise You in This Storm.' I had gone through two surgeries, chemo and radiation, and a flood of unexpected emotions swept over me when I went in for the mammogram.

The song was a reminder I have gone through the storm and I know He was there with me. Thank you for your ministry."

Positive Life Radio shares Jesus Christ with people through a network of partner radio stations and translators around the Inland Northwest serving Yakima, Wenatchee, Spokane, Tri-Cities, Walla Walla, Lewiston-Clarkston and many more communities. Its netcast is available worldwide at www.plr.org. •

Kevin Krueger, KGTS station manager

Virtual Field Trip With NASA!

To reach out to their community, the Colville Valley Junior Academy is providing several virtual field trips on space and other science topics. The first one, held Jan. 16, attracted 22 guest students and 10 parents, with 11 students from the community. Dean Edwards, ninth- and tenth-grade teacher, has been the one to put together the field trips. Prior to this first one, he trained students on using the air-traffic control simulators so they could help their guests.

The first field trip was with Greg Pitzer, NASA scientist, who was “connected” to the classroom via a video-conference camera. The highly interactive session was about how air-traffic controllers use proportional reasoning and distance-rate-time relationships

to get airplanes to their destinations safely and on time. Students were able to try their hand at getting three different airplanes to Modesto, Calif., without “crashing” or taking too long to arrive.

Pitzer also discussed the math behind the air-traffic controllers’ decisions to have pilots change speed or direction before having the students try other flight patterns, and even create their own flight-pattern simulation.

Other virtual field trips are planned for this year, including two back-to-back virtual tours of NASA’s Kennedy Flight Center, the first one geared for the lower grades (K–4) and the second one for upper grades (5–10). •

Shelley Bacon, coordinator



Colville Valley Junior Academy students and guests watch the computer screen as they try to land three airplanes safely using an air-traffic controller simulator.



Dean Edwards, ninth- and tenth-grade teacher at Colville Valley Junior Academy, helps guests use the air-traffic controller simulator.

Connecting **The Gospel** and **Health**

Uniting the Gospel and Health Ministries in Your Church for Effective Outreach

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April 3-5, 2009

Spokane Valley Adventist Church
1601 S Sullivan Road . Spokane, Washington
To register call: 509-838-2761 or visit: www.uccsda.org/health

Adventists Respond To Storms

Pathfinder teens recently helped with flood recovery efforts in South Prairie, Wash., by filling sandbags and shoveling mud—both tiring, but rewarding tasks.

“I really enjoyed working with all the teens to help people recover from the flood,” says Marissa Minnich, 16, who shoveled mud and dirt. “It was hard work, but it was worth it. It was fun to make a difference and actually see the progress made.”

Pathfinders are not the only ones making a difference in the community following widespread winter flooding in the Northwest. Adventists across the region are making a difference in their own communities.

Auburn Adventist Academy loaned 200 to 300 cots to Pierce County to use in emergency

shelters. Members of the Auburn Academy Church helped a fellow member clean out a flooded home. Sunset Lake Camp was put on alert to serve displaced people in the Orting area. Although the camp facility was not used, camp staff helped serve meals to survivors and responders.

“As Adventist Disaster Response works officially with city, county and state governments in response to specific needs,” says Byron Dulan, Adventist Community Services–Washington executive director, “we’re encouraging individuals to help their neighbors.”

In Chehalis, Cameron Beierle, KACS Christian radio station manager, and his son, Cameron Jr., made a difference when they manned the radio station studio during the height

of the storm and provided flood watch reports to the community.

“With my son’s help, we stayed connected and distributed river-level watch information, evacuation orders, safety information and directions to area shelters,” says Beierle.

As Adventists continue to seek ways to help the community, Adventist Disaster Response has two requests. “Please evaluate your family disaster preparedness plans,” says Dulan, “and consider volunteering to help with long-term recovery efforts.”

To volunteer, visit www.washingtonconference.org/disaster.



Pathfinders from Auburn City Church help with flood recovery efforts as part of the annual conference-wide Pathfinder teen retreat.

washingtonconference.org/disaster •

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference associate communication director

Youth Live Loud in Seattle

Mike Yankowski remembers sitting in a fast food restaurant, hungry, with no money, eavesdropping on a Christian Bible study group, and waiting for the group of Christians to share a meal with him and his friend. It didn’t happen.

This encounter and others changed Yankowski as he and a college friend discovered firsthand what it was like to (purposely) be homeless for

five months in six different cities.

Yankowski, author of *Under the Overpass*, shared his testimony recently at the annual Washington Conference Youth Rally and challenged his audience of young people to “Live Loud” for Christ.

As a part of the youth rally, more than 300 young people and sponsors headed into Seattle, Wash., to a community center where they made

nearly 2,000 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for lunch sacks. The sandwiches were distributed to six Seattle-area homeless shelters and parks.

At their debriefing session, young people indicated the outreach project was “eye-opening.” •

Heidi Martella

Young people make 2,000 sandwiches to help Seattle homeless.



Auburn Embraces Diversity

From ice-capped mountain villages to quiet lotus gardens, sandy desert towns to tree-top jungle homes, the world is full of colorful cultures, customs, and communities. Nestled in the foothills of Mount Rainier, Auburn Adventist Academy is comprised of a unique global population.

Auburn's school family is made up of students from all over the world: Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Thailand, China, Vietnam, Mexico, Canada and Indonesia.

"It's so good to be at Auburn," says Miki Kutsuma of Tokyo, Japan. "When I first arrived, I didn't speak any English at all. I made great friends who helped me learn. My English

has improved 100 percent since coming to Auburn."

As students grow academically, the impact of being a part of a worldwide school family is life-changing. "I've had the chance to make friends from all over the world," says Jin Kang of Federal Way, Wash.

"I love Auburn's diversity," says Eric Bing, senior. "You feel comfortable with who you are here."

Most importantly, the gospel of Christ is being shared from AAA's doorsteps. For example, each morning the boys' dorm has Bible study and prayer groups led by Patrick Clifford, task force dean.

Clifford notes how many of

the international students are interested in Bible studies and desire "to take Bible studies home to share with their families."

The international perspective and unique combined culture of the campus offers opportunities for friendships that will span the earth for years to come. It has also created avenues to share Jesus Christ and embrace the gospel commission.

As one faculty member puts it, "AAA is creating a global family and in turn, making a big impact on our world." •

Jondelle D. McGhee, AAA GLEANER correspondent



Sally Lee and Shanelle Kim, both from Korea, are part of the global family at Auburn Adventist Academy.

Snohomish Welcomes Four Members

The Tolt River had just receded from a flood when Larry Leshar stepped into the rushing waters with tethered, retired pastor, Leonard Klein, for baptism.

"Everything out there [in the world] is utter confusion," he said later. "As I came to an understanding of the biblical truth held by this church, everything became clear. I concluded that if I want to follow Christ, I have to be a part of His church."

Leshar, and his wife, Michelle, who joined the Snohomish Church through



With family, friends and church members on the riverbank, Larry Leshar is baptized by retired pastor Leonard Klein in the Tolt River.

profession of faith, are both excited about sharing

their faith. In early March, the Leshars, who have a

background in organic farming and nutrition, plan to host an organic and whole foods health fair.

The Snohomish congregation also welcomes Timoci and Alena Moroca and children Alisereti and Mili. After difficulty in transferring their membership from Fiji, the couple joined the Snohomish Church through profession of faith. •

Janelle Klein, Snohomish Church member

Shelton Opens Child Care Center

Shelton Valley Christian School, established in 1901, is a small elementary school that has faced its ups and downs in enrollment over the years yet continued its commitment to educating young people.

A vision for creating a child development center for children ages six weeks to 12 years of age emerged as the Shelton Church brainstormed ways to better sustain the school.

In a series of miracles, the church purchased a three-building facility next to the existing church and school campus, hired personnel, obtained permitting and licensure, renovated the first building in six week's time, networked in the community and prayed for 30 children.



The center serves 100 children and continues to grow because of the vision of Shelton Church members.

“As a church, our mission is to serve and educate families,” says Jennifer Scott, pastor. “We also believe that the more we strengthen our small schools, the

stronger our Adventist Christian education system will be.”

Shelton Valley Christian Child Development Center has expanded beyond expectations,

growing to serve 100 children since opening in September 2008 and continuing to grow. In addition, Shelton Valley Christian School doubled in number this academic year.

“As a church, we’ve been changed by this experience,” says Scott. “Many times we’ve been flattened to our knees in prayer. And one step at a time, God opened the doors and has blessed in a mighty way.”

Quality child care is the first step, Scott says, in serving the local community. The church is also planning to launch lifestyle and parenting seminars, while expanding facilities for current growth. •

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference associate communication director

Healthy Cooking Attracts Community

Linda Gleim, Ferndale Church member, noticed a growing list of health-related prayer requests and felt God prompting her to begin a cooking school to teach people healthy ways to prepare food.

Her first class in February 2008, attracted only five women, but the class has grown since then to nearly 30 participants from the community and other area Adventist churches.

Gleim, a medical

receptionist, begins each class with a buffet meal where participants sample new recipes. She also provides a lending library with books, DVDs and videos on nutrition and health. First-time attendees receive a free cookbook and a basket of menu ingredients, including samples of organic and whole-grain products.

Participants enjoy the informative classes, themed presentations (such as vegetarian holiday dishes or

winter soups and muffins), the tasty food samples and the provided child care.

As one member notes, “We are gaining new friends while learning a new, healthy way of eating.” •

Maritess Branson, Ferndale communication leader

Each cooking school session begins with a buffet of food samples.



Allen Branson

WWU Students Make a Difference

In Their Backyard



The His Kids in Action group are from left: Pamela Roe, Seth Taylor, Lauren Spady, Sarah Radelfinger, Joseph Radelfinger, Canda Lodge, Becky Perdeu, Sadie Gonzalez, Elizabeth Trumbo. Not pictured: Sara Saunders.

Walla Walla University's School of Theology requires all theology majors to spend one year with a pastor mentor within the Walla Walla Valley.

Joseph Radelfinger, senior theology and mass communications major, was assigned to the Northside Church in October 2007, one month after he and his bride, Sarah, were married. It was a small, 60-member church in what Radelfinger calls "the worst part of town."

"At first I thought it was a mistake," recalls Radelfinger. "But I soon learned God can work anywhere, and with anyone, no matter how big or small."

The Radelfingers discovered there was something unique about the children in the church. All but two of them in Sabbath School were from the local community and were brought to church each Sabbath by church members.

"The kids are, in a sense, inner-city kids," says Sarah, a WWU senior mass communications major. "For them, life means existing in 'survival of the fittest' mode. We found out some of the kids didn't even have a bed or blankets."

The Radelfingers also learned the church had started as an outreach for the children in the Northside area. Together, with a handful of other church

members, they created His Kids in Action.

Like Vacation Bible School, the program offers an hour of Christian camp songs, story time, and an activity/craft period. As the number of children grew to 15 and then 20, the Radelfingers asked fellow WWU students to help. Today, about a dozen WWU students help at the church, attending the kids' basketball games, inviting them for lunch or taking them out for ice cream.

"To me, all the WWU students who help out have become a family," says Sarah. "We know about the kids' lives and are constantly updating each other."

In addition to Sabbath School programs and the His Kids in Action program, the WWU students do other things with the children. This past December, they hosted a Christmas party, even providing gifts and brand-new Bibles chosen specifically for each child.

"One of the neatest miracles I've seen is the number of WWU students who have stepped up to help with this project," says Sarah. "The kids at Northside hold a special place in our hearts, and our lives would not be the same without them." •

Becky St. Clair, WWU GLEANER correspondent

Care Continues Despite Winter Weather



Brenda Sherman, a registered nurse and member of the Home Care Services team, prepares for a snowy day treating patients at home. Bernie Hartnell describes his team during the storm: "The staff bundled up, got picked up and stayed positive. They are very committed."

An epic snowstorm ravaged the Walla Walla Valley in December 2008, putting a crimp on most activities—but not patient care at Walla Walla General Hospital in Walla Walla, Wash.

With many

people unable to leave home without a four-wheel drive and much plowing, a department based on transportation might seem doomed. But the Home Care Services team—dedicated to providing in-home care prevailed. With a coordinated effort between the department, patients and the community, all homebound patients received necessary care during the storm.

The key was planning. Bernie Hartnell, Home Care Services director, likes to quote Eisenhower who says, "Plans

are nothing; planning is everything."

"We prioritized patients to determine if they needed immediate attention or if they could wait," says Hartnell, describing wound care and oxygen tank refilling as priority, while those like house cleaning or laundry could wait.

"Katrina was a wake-up call. We always had a disaster plan, but we did much fine-tuning after that," Hartnell states, describing his four-inch binder of disaster planning materials. Hartnell also gives kudos to Linda Givens, director of the ER and ICU, who championed the organization-wide disaster plan.

Monty Knittel, WWGH president and CEO, comments, "Bernie and his team have done a great job planning for various emergency situations that could impact their patients."

Citing Hartnell's work with county officials and community organizations, Knittel continues, "It's a good example of how the community works together."

"A lot of people worked really hard. People worked extra shifts when their co-workers couldn't make it in," says Knittel, who himself played chauffeur—picking up snow-stranded staffers from their homes. "In an emergency situation, people are willing to go beyond the scope of their normal duties. That's one of the reasons people go into health care...to help people in need. These types of situations unite us as a family."

Also united during the storm was the Plant Services team. At

the hospital by 4 a.m. to push snow, they worked late to keep the hospital warm and safe.

"It's every grown boy's dream to play in the snow for three weeks. It was a blast," says Bruce Price, Plant Services director, demurely mentioning the 300 hours of pushing snow his team completed—in addition to their normal duties. "It's just a normal day in Plant Services." •

Shawna Malvini, Adventist Health GLEANER correspondent

Brenda Sherman, registered nurse and Home Care Services team member.



FYI

Northwest Ministry Leaders Recognized

Several Northwest Adventists were recognized for ministry work at the 2009 North American Division Adventist Ministries Convention in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Bryce Pascoe, NPUC executive secretary, was awarded for his work in health ministries. Monte Church, NPUC native ministries director, was honored for his native ministries work. Sherri Uhrig, Oregon Conference children's ministries director, was awarded for excellence in children's ministry. Corleen Johnson, Oregon Conference women's ministries director, received the award for excellence in women's ministries.



Sherri Uhrig, Oregon Conference children's ministries director, was one of four Northwest Adventists recognized for their ministry work at the 2009 North American Division Adventist Ministries Convention.

A Sabbath Blog

Adventist youth are invited to visit and join a Sabbath blog. This Christian blog highlights youth events, meetings, movies and music. Youth are encouraged to submit original material and personal experiences for sharing Jesus around the world on the Web at: <http://asabbathblog.blogspot.com>.

Latest Conference Updates

As local conferences make administrative and executive decisions we will provide reports on their activity in upcoming issues of the GLEANER. You can also find this information on our Web site: www.gleaneronline.org, or by subscribing to our e-newsletter (available on the same site).

Northwest Spotlight on Mission

Have you seen the NPUC's locally produced quarterly DVD program which features local stories, testimonies and experiences? DVDs are delivered to each church's Sabbath School superintendent and head elder or to the church directly. You may also watch episodes online at the NPUC Web site: www.npuc.org.

Son Screen 2009

Make plans now to attend the 2009 Son Screen Film Festival, April 16-18, 2009, at the Adventist Media Center in Simi Valley, Calif. This year's theme, Changing the World 24 Frames per Second, will feature film entries in animation, comedy, documentary, drama/narrative, music video, PSA, high school and international categories. For more information, visit www.plusline.org or www.sonscreen.com.

OOPS!

In the February issue, we mistakenly referred to the country of Colombia with the spelling Columbia in the World News Briefs.

THE ADVENT MOVEMENT

Dan Bentzinger will join the Washington Conference in April to serve as conference evangelist.

Damien Chandler became pastor of the Maranatha and Love of Life churches (Seattle, Wash.) in February.

Barry Curtis left the Great Falls/Choteau (Mont.) district to become the new pastor/chaplain of Mt. Ellis Academy in February.

Victor Infante and **Rogelio Reynoso** accepted part-time Bible worker positions with the Washington Conference in January.

Wally Lyder left the Maranatha and Love of Life churches (Seattle, Wash.) to become associate pastor of the Emerald City Church (also in Seattle, Wash.) in February.

VJ Puccinelli returned to retirement in February after serving with the Gresham (Ore.) Church.

Richy Thomas is the new pastor of the Havre/Shelby and Ft. Belknap (Mont.) districts. He comes from the Theological Seminary at Andrews University where he finished his M. Div Degree.



Cathey and Stan De Fehr

De Fehr 65th

Stan and Cathey De Fehr celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on Nov. 28, 2008, with family at their daughter Jan's home. Jan lives next door.

In 1962, Stan moved with Cathey and their children to Salem, Ore., to further his education at Willamette University, receiving his B.A. in 1965 and an M.A. in 1966. He retired in 1987 as assistant director of youth services for the state of Oregon, and Cathey retired about the same time from a long career in dental assisting.

The two have been active in the Silverton (Ore.) Church since moving there in 1970.

The De Fehr family includes Jan and Randy Blem of Silverton, Ore.; Lanelle and Jerry Northrop, serving as missionaries at Daries Memorial Hospital in Georgetown, Guana; 8 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

Eiseman 90th

Jim Eiseman Sr., of Elk, Wash., celebrated his 90th birthday with family and friends on Dec. 13, 2008, at a reception hosted by his children at the Walla Walla University Alumni Center in College Place, Wash.

Jim was born in Benge, Wash., on Dec. 14, 1918. He met Lela Mannen at Gem State Academy their senior year and they were married the next year in Caldwell, Idaho. Jim and Lela enjoyed 65 years of marriage together.

Jim spent his entire life in the baking business. He opened his first bakery at age 21 in Huntington, Ore. He operated bakeries in Jerome, McCall and Boise, Idaho, and also in Cheney and Spokane, Wash. At age 65, he sold his bakery in Spokane and built a home in Elk, where he included a hobby-horse bakery in the daylight basement. At 90 years of age, Jim is still living in the home he built for Lela and continues to bake specialty items two days a week, delivering to nearly 30 customers in the Spokane area.

Jim's family includes Carolyn and Bernie Janke of Milton-Freewater, Ore.; Marolyn and Don Wagner of Walla Walla, Wash.; Jim Jr. and Lana Eiseman of Milton-Freewater; Tom and Gytha Mannen of Riverside, Calif.; 6 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.



Betty and Robert McBain

McBain 60th

Robert and Betty McBain celebrated their 60th

anniversary with their children at a lakeside cabin at Paradise Cove Resort. They also celebrated with extended family at their home in Brush Prairie, Wash., on Nov. 30, 2008.

Robert T. McBain married Betty J. Miller on Nov. 6, 1948, in Vancouver, Wash., after serving in the U.S. Navy. Robert worked for Columbia Steel Casting in Portland, Ore., until his retirement as a senior product engineer in 1993. Betty retired from the Washington State Highway Department—District 4 as office manager in 1991.

Since retirement they have enjoyed extensive travel across the U.S. and several continents. Robert participated in the Andrews University and Walla Walla University Madaba Plans Archeology Project in Jordan during the summers of 1994 and 1998.

Robert and Betty have been active members of their church since 1952. Betty served as a church treasurer for more than 40 years and Robert as elder and head deacon. Robert and Betty have been charter members in two local church building projects. They are currently members of the Hockinson Heights Church in Brush Prairie, Wash.

The McBain family includes Beverley Leyerle-Justus of Palmdale, Calif.; Robert and Cyndi McBain of Vancouver, Wash.; Donald and Patricia McBain Ritterskamp of Oakland, Tenn.; 6 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

Robins 50th

Dick and Joan Robins celebrated their 50th anniversary with a reception at the church on Sunday, Nov. 23, 2008.

Joan was born and raised in Seattle, Wash., and Dick in McMinnville, Ore. They met their sophomore year at Auburn

Adventist Academy. Joan's dad, a builder, kept Dick busy on breaks to help pay his way through academy.

They were married right after academy on Thanksgiving Day in 1958. Joan took a year of secretarial business while Dick worked in carpentry. The couple moved to Walla Walla, Wash., where Dick took general studies and Joan worked part-time as a secretary for the Catholic Diocese. Dick graduated in 1963 and taught in Milton-Stateline, Ore. He then returned to Walla Walla and got his master's degree. The years since have included teaching in many Washington locations, including Ferndale, Bellingham (where Joan had a wholesale bakery for three years), Wenatchee, Meadow Glade, Wapato, and teaching special education in Goldendale, Wash. They also spent time in Guam where Dick managed the farm and maintenance and Joan worked for Guam Adventist Academy. When they returned to the U.S., Dick taught in several schools, finishing with 15 years teaching kindergarten in a public school in Toppenish, Wash. Near retirement, they moved to Goldendale.

At their 50th wedding reception they followed a tradition and used 100-year-old goblets, which were also used at Joan's grandparents' and parents' 50th wedding anniversaries. They used an original wedding album which was also signed by guests from other family weddings and anniversaries.

The Robins family includes Dawn and Ray Spoon of Michigan; Julie and Dan Russell of Albany, Ore.; Valerie Robins of Goldendale, Wash.; and foster daughter Angie and Dan Flahaut of Olympia, Wash.; 6 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Family
B I R T H S

CALDERON—Katie L. was born July 19, 2008, to Jonathan and Karen (Sabrice) Calderon, Kennewick, Wash.

COOPER—Ava L. was born May 18, 2008, to Todd and Holly (Smith) Cooper, Kennewick, Wash.

COOPER—Spencer G. was born July 6, 2007, to Todd and Holly (Smith) Cooper, Kennewick, Wash.

ENGBERG—Grant D. was

born Dec. 1, 2007, to Monte and Bobby Jo (Haste) Engeberg, Pasco, Wash.

GRIFFIN—Jesse Mitchell was born Nov. 10, 2008, to Jeremy M. and Carol B. (Pratt) Griffin, McCall, Idaho.

HESGARD—Javen Alexander was born Dec. 24, 2008, to Joel M. and Amber E. (Shaughnessy) Hesgard, Camas, Wash.

KEYMER—Ava Mattie was born Sept. 22, 2008, to Mark and

Jaemi (Dotolo) Keymer, Walla Walla, Wash.

ROYER—Emily M. was born Sept. 2, 2008, to David and Jenni (Swisher) Royer, Loma Linda, Calif.

SCHROETLIN—Ameryn Glen was born May 17, 2008, to Dennis and Sarah (Hager) Schroetlin, Garfield, Wash.

SMITH—Thorin Andrew was born June 20, 2008, to Jeremy and Annie (Hager) Smith,

Vancouver, Wash.

WENDT—Hayden Alexander was born Nov. 23, 2008, to Greg and Jennifer (Quast) Wendt, Hillsboro, Ore.

WICKLUND—Jenna Noelle was born Dec. 5, 2008, to Dennis A. and Bonnie A. (Bennett) Wicklund, College Place, Wash.

WOODS—Ethne Alora was born Dec. 19, 2008, to Randy E. and Rebecca (Vaught) Woods, Vancouver, Wash.

Family
A T R E S T

AFFOLTER JR.—Richard J., 81; born April 19, 1927, Portland, Ore.; died Dec. 23, 2008, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: wife, Bette (Hircock), College Place, Wash.; son, Gary, Gentry, Ark.; daughters, Jan Enders, Chehalis, Wash.; Karen Johnson, Castle Rock, Colo.; 5 grandchildren, 3 step-grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren and 7 step-great-grandchildren.

ANDERSON—Homer Walter, 86; born April 3, 1922, Lawrenceville, Ill.; died Aug. 27, 2008, Springfield, Ore. Surviving: wife, Iva Mae (Johnson); daughters, Donna Mittleider, Springfield; Pamela House, Vancouver, Wash.; sisters, Betty Park, Surprise, Ariz.; Dorothy Parks, Wheaton, Mo.; 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

BOOTH—Shari Renae, 19; born Dec. 20, 1988, Portland, Ore.; died May 19, 2008, Rosario Beach, Wash. Surviving: mother, Marsha (Simpson) Booth, Brush Prairie, Wash.; sisters, Sharla Carlson, Apple Valley, Calif.; and Sarah Reilly, London, England.

DIETRICH—William "Bill," 96; born July 13, 1912, Calistoga, Calif.; died Nov. 28, 2008, Glide, Ore. Surviving: sons, Douglas, Glide; Richard, Portland, Ore.; Bruce, Mt.

Vernon, Wash.; 5 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

FETTY—Margaret Mildred Nee (Method), 105; born Aug. 31, 1903, Tekamah, Neb.; died Dec. 17, 2008, La Pine, Ore. Surviving: daughters, Jeanne Balt, Grants Pass, Ore.; Jeri Reinhart, La Pine; 7 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

FORGEY—Esther D. (Gonsalves), 79; born Aug. 8, 1929, Reedley, Calif.; died Sept. 30, 2008, Hermiston, Ore. Surviving: husband, Glenn M.; daughter, Janice Atkins, La Center, Wash.; brother, Edward Gonsalves, Sangor, Calif.; and 7 grandchildren.

HALL—Bonita J. (Brumitt), 74; born Feb. 14, 1934, Camas, Wash.; died Dec. 3, 2008, Salem, Ore. Surviving: husband, Ted; sons, Ted, Boring, Ore.; Eugene, Salem; Lee, Puyallup, Wash.; 5 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

HAMILTON—Robert Sidney, 94; born Feb. 15, 1914, Missoula, Mont.; died June 5, 2008, College Place, Wash. Surviving: son, Robert, Conrad, Mont.; daughters, Candace Shermeta, Largo, Fla.; Melissa Cadieux, Walla Walla, Wash.; Shelley Hamilton-Kaylor, Walla Walla; 9 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

HOUTCHENS—Mary Ellen Horton, 45; born Jan. 12, 1959, Takoma Park, Md.; died Nov. 23, 2004, Boulder, Mont. Surviving: mother, Sally (Duram) English Houtchens, Boulder; half-brother, Rich English, Hot Springs, S.D.; brothers, David Houtchens, Collegedale, Tenn.; Mike Houtchens, Battle Ground, Wash.; Larry Houtchens, Cheyenne, Wyo.; Charles Houtchens, Vancouver, Wash.; half-sister, Roberta English, White Sulphur Springs, Mont.; and sister, Juli (Houtchens) Byard, Brush Prairie, Wash.

SARVE—Sharon A. Brown Marietta, 67; born Dec. 24, 1940, Chicago, Ill.; died Nov. 20, 2008, New Hartford, N.Y. Surviving: sons, Gary Brown and Larry Brown, both of Walla Walla, Wash.; daughters, Sherilyn Booth, Kettle Falls, Wash.; Debbie Brown, Utica, N.Y.; Rosemary Angotti, Auburn, Wash.; brother, Robert Sarve, College Place, Wash.; 10 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

SETTLEMIER—Eugene Edward, 71; born Nov. 24, 1936, Salem, Ore.; died Sept. 30, 2008, Bonita Springs, Fla. Surviving: wife, Caroline M. (Nelson), Vancouver, Wash.; son, Jason B., Auburn, Calif.; daughter, Jill

M. Clay, Kirkland, Wash.; mother, Ruth N. (Hoeffler) Settlemier, Scio, Ore.; brother, Kenneth L., Scio; and 5 grandchildren.

SMITH—Jack A., 67; born July 19, 1941, Silverton, Ore.; died Aug. 12, 2008, Wenatchee, Wash. Surviving: wife, Joyce (Northrop); sons, Jeff and Jeremy, both of Vancouver, Wash.; daughters, Janelle Clendenon, West Richland, Wash.; Jodie Meads, Spokane, Wash.; mother, June Smith, College Place, Wash.; brother, Lee, Whittier, Calif.; sisters, Joy Robinson, College Place; Laurie Personius, Grants Pass, Ore.; and 4 grandchildren.

WESSON—Miles "Ray," 86; born June 2, 1922, Vancouver, Wash.; died Dec. 1, 2008, Vancouver. Surviving: brother, Roy A., Vancouver.

WITZLEBEN—William L., 83; born April 4, 1925, Sheridan, Wyo.; died Dec. 5, 2008, Walla Walla, Wash.





A N N O U N C E M E N T S

NORTH PACIFIC UNION

Offerings

March 7—Local Church Budget; **March 14**—World Budget: Adventist World Radio; **March 21**—Local Church Budget; **March 28**—Local Conference Advance

Special Days

Curriculum Focus for the Month—Women in the Church+

March 7—Women’s Day of Prayer; **March 8–14**—Adventist Youth Week of Prayer; **March 21**—Disabilities Awareness Sabbath

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

FIRST LEGO League is coming to WWU again this April. To be a part of this fun event where kids get excited about science and engineering, volunteer to help. For more information, call (800) 541-8900, ext. 2446. **March 5–8**—U-Days. Come experience WWU! To reserve your spot, call (800) 541-8900 today. **March 6–8**—Young Writer’s Conference. For more information, call (800) 541-8900, ext. 2862. **March 13–14**—The Center for Bible, Faith, and Mission welcomes Jan Paulsen, General Conference president, as keynote speaker for their annual conference. More information is available by calling (800) 541-8900, ext. 2194. **March 29**—Spring Quarter Registration. **March 30**—Spring Quarter classes begin.

IDAHO

Gem State Adventist Academy Homecoming

April 3–5—All alumni, former students, faculty, parents and friends are invited to *Experiencing Jesus* at the annual homecoming. Honoring the graduating classes of: ‘39, ‘49, ‘59, ‘69, ‘79, ‘84, ‘89 and ‘99. The alumni office is looking for addresses for the following honor class graduates. If you see your name listed, or know the whereabouts of an

individual on this list, please contact Linda Klinger at (208) 459-1627, ext. 158 or lklinger@gemstate.org. 1939 Grads: Goldie Dano, Marjorie Holaday, Helen Kiesor, Dorothy Thomas. 1949 Grads: Roberta (Nash) Anderson, Maryann Rogers. 1959 Grad: Gary Bass. 1969 Grads: Alan Carey, Kathy (Chandler) Chance, Ron Edgerton, Ruth (Skidgel) Fisher, Jan (Thom) Hickman, Kathy (Merrill) Lowell, April McCorkle, Connie Nelson, Lynda (Oxley) Teeter, Bill Thomason. 1979 Grads: Melinda Baumbach, Bob Buckles, Gayla (Hendrickson) Calvert, Renee Mershon, James Todd. 1984 Grads: Glenn Debard, Wendy Edwards, Shannon Gardner, Sheila Hoyt. 1989 Grads: Tony Gray, Tom Huff, Rose Marie Jenkins, Denise (Johnson) Jerome, Scott Johnston, Karen Ritterskamp, Beth Sturm. 1999 Grads: Rachelle Bock, Colby Carper, Kathy (Tucker) Dixson, Tina (Bradshaw) Heinrich, Sarah (Bowman) Kellogg, Alexandra PerezOroz, Chisae Sotokawa.

OREGON

Walter Arties in Concert

March 14—Expressing in his own inimitable style the love of Jesus...musical artistry with a spiritual sensitivity seldom encountered. He has toured the United States, Sweden, Finland, India, the West Indies, the former Soviet Union and many other international locations. He has also appeared in crusades with Billy Graham. Come join us for an evening of Walter Arties in concert at 6 p.m. at Sunnyside Church, 10501 S.E. Market St., Portland, OR. A freewill offering will be received for People to People Ministries, Inc., a nonprofit organization committed to urban ministry.

Adventist Single Adult Ministries

March 21—Potluck lunch at 1 p.m. after Beaverton Church service. Please bring food to share. Afterward we will carpool to the Tualatin River Wildlife

Refuge in Sherwood, OR, for a one-mile hike. www.fws.gov/tualatinriver/. Don’t forget your camera and inclement weather gear. For information, call: Tom Terry, (503) 684-7971; tom.te@verizon.net; or Charlotte, (503) 579-9549; or go to www.beavertonsda.com, then to the Singles page. Maps will be available. Save this date: **April 18**—Hike on the Old Salmon River Trail.

Coronary Health Improvement Project (CHIP)

March 23, 26 & 31 at 7 p.m.—Preliminary free identical informational and registration opportunity sessions for the **April 5–May 4** Coronary Health Improvement Project (CHIP) seminar at the Hood View Church, 26775 S.E. Kelso Road, Boring, OR. The four-week CHIP seminar offers instruction in prevention and reversal of coronary heart disease, type 2 diabetes, overweight, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, cancer, arthritis, osteoporosis, depression, digestive problems and high medical/medication costs. Classes will be held three days each week: Sunday afternoon from 2 to 6 p.m., and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. (No meeting on Easter Sunday.) Health screenings by professionals will be held **April 3 & May 1**, 6:30 to 9:00 a.m. A graduation celebration for those who complete the seminar will take place at 6 p.m., **May 7**. For information, call (503) 658-2329.

Columbia Adventist Academy Alumni Homecoming Weekend

April 3–4—on the CAA Campus in Battle Ground, Wash. The classes being honored include ‘29, ‘34, ‘39, ‘49, ‘59, ‘69, ‘79, ‘84, ‘89, ‘99 and 2009. Plan to join us Friday evening, April 3, for a special celebration of our new administration building being completed! For more information, or for lodging options, contact Lara Dowie at

(360) 687-3161.

Oregon Adventist Men’s Chorus Annual Festival

April 4—The Oregon Adventist Men’s Chorus will hold their annual festival concerts on Saturday, April 4, at 3 and 7 p.m., at Sunnyside Church, 10501 S.E. Market St., Portland, OR. The concerts will feature music of the Passion of Christ, leading into the celebration of Easter. The concerts are free; organizers recommend tickets be reserved in advance by visiting www.oamc.org or by calling (503) 317-5159. A freewill offering will be collected during each concert to offset concert expenses and support the OAMC ministry.

Life Renewal Institute Seminar

April 4–5—Ron and Nancy Rockey and Life Renewal Institute will present a live seminar, “Why?” Have you ever wondered why we are so driven

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A N N O U N C E M E N T S

to self-survival and selfishness? Is it difficult to get on the narrow way? Is it possible? Get your questions answered at this seminar. Register online at www.yourlri.com or call 1-888-800-0574. Seating is limited. Register early to reserve yours. Local contact: Audrey Woods at (503) 252-2112.

Portland Adventist Academy Alumni Weekend

April 17-18—Vespers, church, children's church, potluck lunch, afternoon music concert and evening games. Also, special honors to Jim Robertson, PAA Bible teacher for over 34 years. Celebrate his final year with PAA friends and family this spring. Call (503) 255-8372, ext. 230 for details.

UPPER COLUMBIA

Mike Bishop Concert

March 7—Come enjoy the singing voice of Mike Bishop at the College Place Village Church, main service and at a 5 p.m. concert. His new CD project, *Not On My Own*, as well as his previous CDs, *Rise Again* and *My Hymnal: Fourth Generation* will be available for purchase after the concert. College Place Village Church, 715 S.E. 12th St., College Place, WA.

IMPACT Renewal Weekend

March 7—IMPACT, Unleash the Power of Kindness coming to the Tri-Cities. Learn how to develop a caring church community that acts as rich soil for planting the gospel seed. David Jamieson, keynote speaker, will share how you can develop a church community that reaches people the way Jesus did. IMPACT Tri-Cities will be held at the Pasco High School Auditorium. The all-day event begins at 9:15 a.m. and is sponsored by Upper Columbia Conference.

Week of Renewal

March 7-14—A week of renewal for the Spokane area at the Linwood Church.

Lee Venden will speak and Darrell Marshall will provide inspirational music. The Heritage Singers will be there March 14. For more information, contact the Linwood Church at (509) 327-4400.

ShareHIM Boot Camp

April 3-4—The ShareHIM Boot Camp will be held at the Wenatchee Church beginning at 7 p.m. Continuing Sabbath from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Training will include every aspect of presenting a series. If you want to hold a full series or a small group or use the materials in a private Bible study, this will give you confidence in your presentation. For more information, contact Dave or Teresa Livermore at (509) 838-2761.

UCC Health Convention

April 3-5—Discover how you can use the Adventist health message as an outreach tool for Christ's kingdom at the Upper Columbia Conference Health Convention. This weekend event will be held at the Spokane Valley Church. For registration information, visit www.uccsda.org/health.

UCA Class of '59 Looking for Classmates!

In preparation for their 50th class reunion **May 2-3**, the class of '59 is looking for the following individuals: Audrey Blanc, Sandra (Lippert) Cox, Teresa Evans, Tom Fontaine, Lowry Glanzer, Mary Ann Haley, Lorraine Jackson, Ted King, Paul Mund, Denny Nelson, David Pierren, James Ross, Leo St. Clair, Sharon Tison, Myran Sutton, David Wilson and Phila May Wong. If you have any information about these individuals, please contact: Sandra Ratliff, 33 Coyote Ridge Drive, Walla Walla, WA 99362; (509) 529-1126; or e-mail sandraratliff@hotmail.com.

WASHINGTON

Auburn Academy Class of 1969

April 30-May 2—Auburn

Academy Class of 1969's 40th class reunion. Don't miss out on the fun! Make plans now to attend. For more information, please contact Pat Mundy at (360) 829-0517 or mundy12481248@aol.com.

SAGE Seniors Retreat

May 8-10—in the lovely Victorian seaport town of Port Townsend. Featured speakers are Karl Haffner, author and senior pastor of Kettering Adventist Church and Carl Wilkins, telling his story as the last American to leave Rwanda. Lodging will be at the Harborside Inn. Meetings and meals, including a Mother's Day Brunch, will be at the historic military Fort Worden. An optional boat cruise to Protection Island is available to the first 70 who sign up. Call (253) 681-6018, e-mail joan.libby@wc.npuc.org, on the web www.washingtonconference.org, 32229 Weyerhaeuser Way South, Federal Way, WA 98001. Registration deadline is April 1st.

WORLD CHURCH

2009 Lodi Academy Alumni Weekend

April 3-5—Friday hospitality evening, 6-8 p.m., library; Sabbath worship service, 10 a.m.—noon, academy gym; Sunday golf tournament. For more information, call (209) 368-2781 or www.lodiacademy.net.

2009 Annual Oakwood University Alumni Weekend Homecoming Celebration

April 9-12—Homecoming celebration on the campus of Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama. This year's speakers are: Ron Smith, divine worship service; Jeffery Watson, youth worship service; and Linda Penick for Friday evening vespers. For further information, visit our Web site at www.oakwoodalumni.org or contact Oakwood University Alumni Relations at (256) 726-7039.

Sunset Schedule

March	6	13	20	27
ALASKA CONFERENCE				
Anchorage	6:39	7:57	8:16	8:34
Fairbanks	6:25	7:47	8:08	8:30
Juneau	5:41	6:57	7:13	7:29
Ketchikan	5:33	6:47	7:01	7:15
IDAHO CONFERENCE				
Boise	6:40	7:49	7:58	8:06
La Grande	5:47	6:56	7:05	7:14
Pocatello	6:26	7:34	7:42	7:51
MONTANA CONFERENCE				
Billings	6:08	7:18	7:27	7:36
Havre	6:11	7:22	7:32	7:42
Helena	6:22	7:32	7:41	7:51
Miles City	5:57	7:07	7:16	7:26
Missoula	6:29	7:39	7:49	7:59
OREGON CONFERENCE				
Coos Bay	6:13	7:21	7:30	7:38
Medford	6:08	7:16	7:24	7:32
Portland	6:05	7:14	7:24	7:33
UCC CONFERENCE				
Pendleton	5:49	6:59	7:08	7:17
Spokane	5:42	6:53	7:03	7:13
Walla Walla	5:47	6:57	7:06	7:16
Wenatchee	5:54	7:04	7:15	7:24
Yakima	5:56	7:06	7:15	7:25
WASHINGTON CONFERENCE				
Bellingham	6:02	7:13	7:23	7:34
Seattle	6:02	7:12	7:23	7:33

Add one minute for each 13 miles west. Subtract one minute for each 13 miles east. Daylight Savings time March 11.

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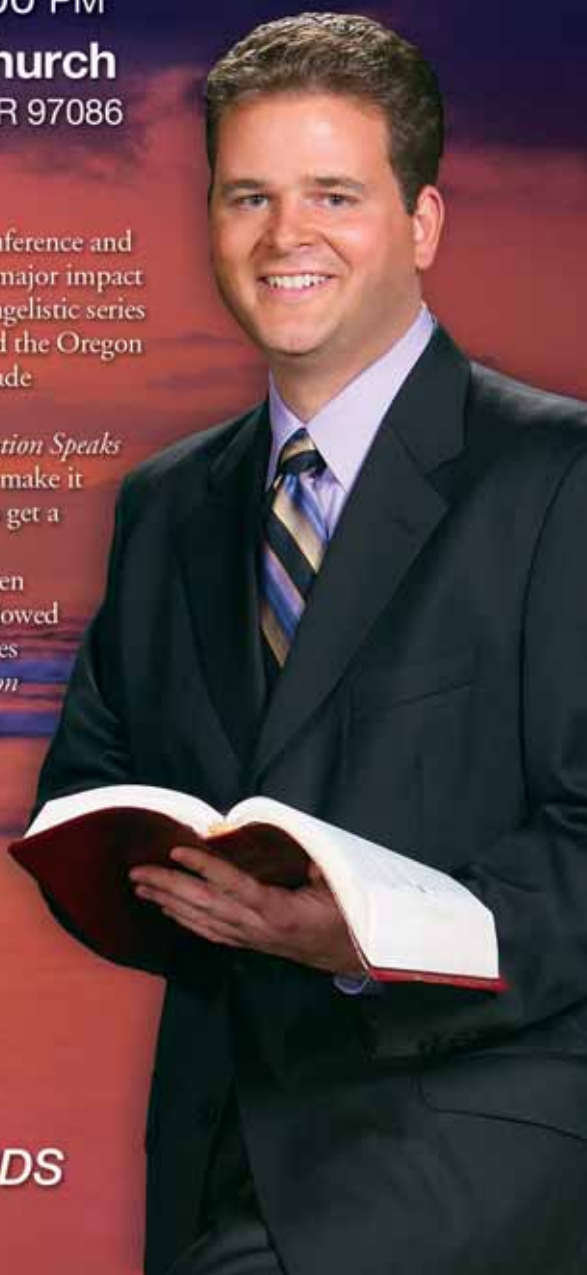


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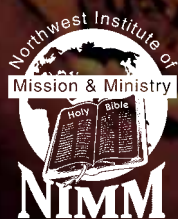
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It's All in How You Slice It



"I believe in His ability to turn barriers into blessings, problems into possibilities, and obstacles into opportunities."

If you showed me a waffle and offered me half, I would reply, "It depends on how you slice it." Here's why.

I was the youngest of three boys—the baby of the family, the rambunctious one, the pill. Ten years stretched between us. My two older siblings had already spent five years bonding before I joined the nest, so I was at the bottom of the heap, the "Hand-me-down Kid."

All of which goes to explain my penchant for being a pest—the default mode for little brothers in my generation which often backfired.

I well remember the surge of mischievous glee I felt when my brother agreed to eat half a waffle if I ate the other half. "Whatever I put on that waffle, you'll eat half of it?" I said incredulously. "Sure, but I get to choose which half," he replied with a smile. Too delighted to see trouble brewing, I concocted a revolting mixture of garlic and cayenne pepper, among other sundry spreads and spices in the kitchen.

When I triumphantly presented him with the awful waffle, he took a knife, and according to our agreement, sliced it in half. But that's where the level playing field began to tip. For, instead of cutting right down the middle, he sliced it laterally, separating the TOP half from the bottom. I remember him laughing uncontrollably while nibbling the pristine bottom half of the waffle as I stared at the TOP half slathered with the horrific paste. My memory gets a bit fuzzy after that.

As a pest, I was easily vanquished. Our universal adversary, however, was once the most revered of angels. His intellect and capacity for evil are always ten steps ahead of the sharpest human mind.

You may recently have been one of his targets. You can testify that his aim is nearly perfect. With devilish intuition honed over milleniums, he knows just where to hit us at the worst time and in the worst place.

But our Father has an amazing way of turning evil back upon itself, just as Joseph said to his brothers: "As far as I am concerned, God turned into good what you meant for evil" (Gen. 50:20). And the familiar old promise in Romans 8:28 still rings true: "For all things work together for good to those who love God and are called according to His purposes."

In spite of my rambunctious early days, I've seen God at work. I believe in His ability to turn barriers into blessings, problems into possibilities, and obstacles into opportunities.

So, when faced with the enemy's worst challenge, remember the awful waffle. Give it to God and let Him wield the knife. •



Steve Vistaunet, NPUC assistant to the president for communication

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