

**EDITORIAL**  
OUR FIRST WORK

**PERSPECTIVE**  
FALSE EXPECTATIONS

**JUST LIKE JESUS**  
THE CEDAR CHEST

# gleaner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION

# EDUCATING INQUISITIVE MINDS

HOW FOUR WWU STUDENTS  
ARE TURNING CURIOSITY  
INTO CAREERS



JAN/FEB 2018 | VOL. 113, No. 1



So do not throw away your confidence;  
it will be richly rewarded.  
Hebrews 10:35

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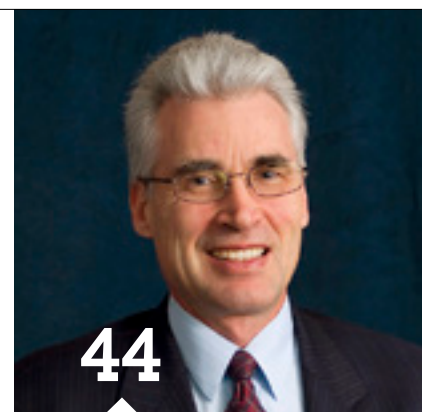
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MARTIN WEBER

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# gleaner

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“High Up Where the Dall Sheep Live”  
in Turnagain Arm, Alaska,  
by Gary Lee Lackie,  
of Anchorage, Alaska



## OUR FIRST WORK

“**H**appy New Year” greetings bring all sorts of thoughts. Out with the old and in with the new. An opportunity for new beginnings, new habits, new choices, new resolutions to be better people. All of that is good until we realize our promises and resolutions are often no more substantial than the proverbial ropes of sand. With our human

This is work our Lord delights in — to remake us from the inside out.

propensity toward evil, we are in bondage to a power we cannot break on our own. Scripture alone reveals the remedy for our condition. Our only hope is Jesus Christ — crucified, risen and returning soon.

In many hearts, there is scarcely a breath of spiritual life. Our need is to look to Christ, who said, “I in them and You in Me, that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me” (John 17:23). It is hard to wrap our minds around the fact that the Father loves us as much as He loves His Son.

More than 100 years ago, Ellen White believed that “a revival of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our needs. To seek this should be our first work” (*Selected Messages*, book 1, p. 121).

AUTHOR

John Freedman

than 100 years ago, Ellen

Imagine what she would say now. Satan fears nothing more than when God’s people clear the way for the Lord to pour out the His Spirit on a weak church. Why? Because every struggling Christian who prepares their heart to receive the anointing of the Holy Spirit will be spiritually strengthened and renewed.

The Bible reminds us that spiritual revival is not something we muscle up on our own. It is the unique work of the Holy Spirit and will come only in answer to earnest prayer. The Spirit brings us the breath of spiritual life we are dying for. It’s the only way Christ can be in us and us in Him. Every church, every one of us, needs this, and the time to pray for it is now.

So, how do we do that? How do we change from lukewarm Christians and faltering churches to being fully alive in Christ?

Here are a few suggestions from Scripture that have richly blessed my life as I have brought my own failings to Jesus.

First, an earnest, sincere searching of the heart and confession of sin. “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).

Second, united, persevering prayer and through faith a claiming of the promises of God. “If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much

more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him” (Luke 11:13).

Third, deep humility — being willing to accept instruction and guidance from the Lord. God dwells “with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble and to revive the heart of the contrite ones” (Isa. 57:15).

Fourth, allowing the Spirit to help us love others as Christ has loved us in acts of kindness throughout our neighborhoods. The Holy Spirit will communicate and bless all who are doing service for God. “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:34, 35).

Let this be our first work of the new year. Create a process to follow throughout the year. Do not get discouraged. Remember, this is work our Lord delights in — to remake us from the inside out. He will bless all who come to Him in faith and trust in His goodness.

*John Freedman, North Pacific Union Conference president*

Respond to any *Gleaner* topic by emailing [talk@gleanernow.com](mailto:talk@gleanernow.com).

## DULAN ACCEPTS ROLE AS NPUC REGIONAL AFFAIRS VP

**B**yron Dulan has accepted the invitation of the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) executive committee to become vice president for regional affairs. Dulan has served the Washington Conference in several capacities and is currently the conference's director of Adventist Community Services, disaster response and personal ministries. He will begin his new role with the NPUC in January 2018.

Dulan's experience is well-suited for the NPUC role, which adds coordination of human relations, urban ministries and community service, disaster preparedness and response, and prison ministries. In his main function as vice president for regional affairs, he will support the efforts of local conference leaders to enhance regional ministry within the Northwest. Dulan will also serve on the NPUC administrative committee, president's council and executive committee. In addition, he will chair the NPUC regional advisory committee, serve as co-chair of the West Coast Black Caucus, and be the liaison for regional ministry to the NPUC youth, ministerial and evangelism departments.

Dulan graduated from California State University with a bachelor's degree in business administration then obtained his Master of Arts in religion from Loma Linda University in California. He is an ordained minister,

with pastoral experience in Southern California and more than a decade as pastor of the Maranatha and Lighthouse Christian Fellowship churches in Washington. He has directed student employment and housing for Pacific Union College and been an associate youth director for Southern California Conference. Before his current role, he served as regional affairs director for the Washington Conference for nine years.

Spiritual life, evangelism, community service and urban development are all at the core of Byron Dulan's passion within the Adventist mission. He has been active through the years on both church committees and community-related organizations. It's no mystery that he fits this new NPUC role like a glove.

"In conversations with our Northwest pastors and leaders who are active in regional affairs work," says John Freedman, NPUC president, "Byron was one of the



Byron Dulan

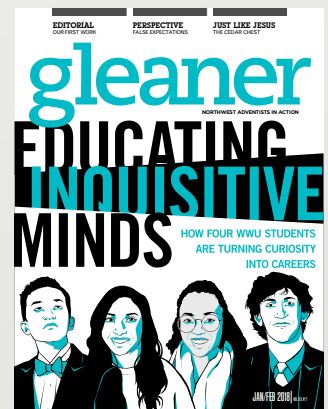
names that kept coming up as someone who would have the necessary level of experience and respect. We believe he is the person God has provided for this important role and are excited to welcome him to our Northwest team."

Dulan and his wife, Linda, a licensed marriage and family therapist, share two daughters and six grandchildren.

## A COMBINED JANUARY/FEBRUARY ISSUE

The sharp-eyed among us have noticed this already, but just in case ... we're issuing a bold prediction: Some will look in vain for their February *Gleaner* in the mail and miss a simple fact. What you hold in your hand is the January/February issue. The next issue — our annual Images of Creation issue — will come to your mailbox in March. There will be one more combined issue this year, for July/August.

We do this, risking worried phone calls and letters from peeved parishioners, because it will enable us to save valuable postage and printing dollars that can be put toward increased digital options for a growing number of *Gleaner* readers. Effective communication supported by good stewardship is something we all strive for, and we hope this may be a step along those lines.



# + PICTURE THIS



**Newmyer**  
Adventist Health  
Northwest Region

**Bill Wing**  
President  
Adventist Health

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Joe Robertson, M.D.  
President  
OHSU

Mitch W.  
Executive Vice President  
OHSU

SONIA BOERGERT



NAIM HASAN PHOTOGRAPHY

A new pastor for Sharon.

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Time to GLOW.

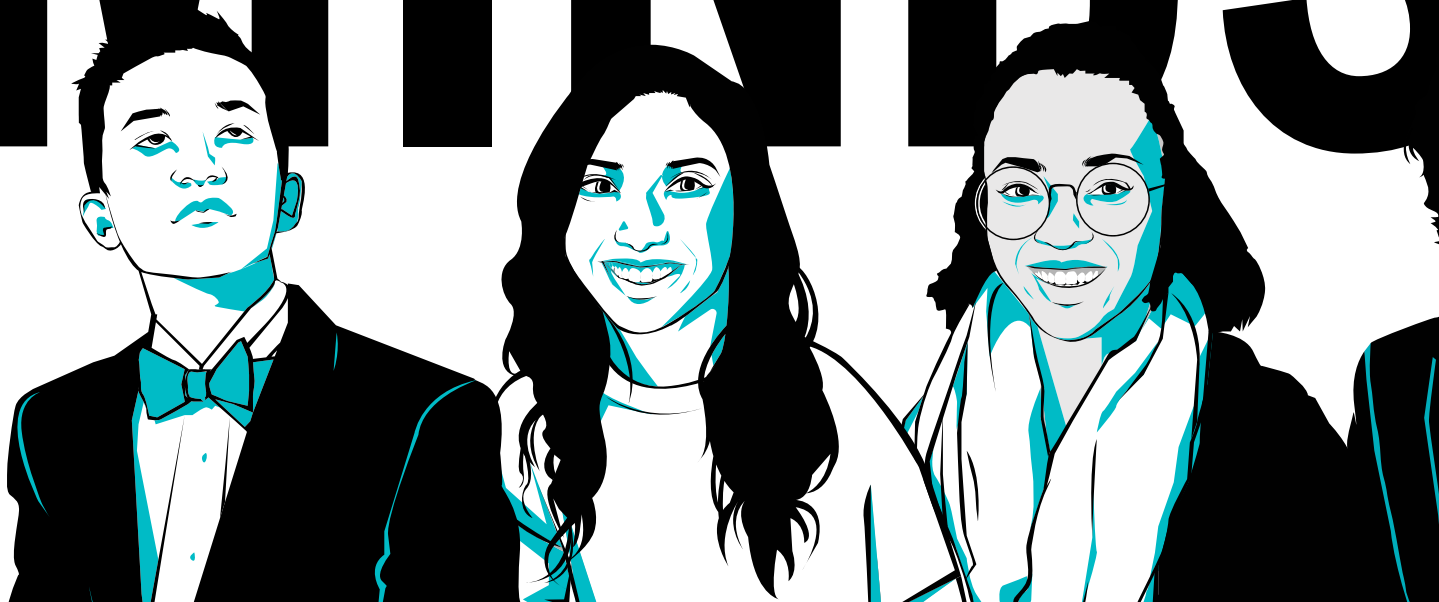
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# EDUCATION INNOVATION

# MINDS





# ASKING SITATIVE

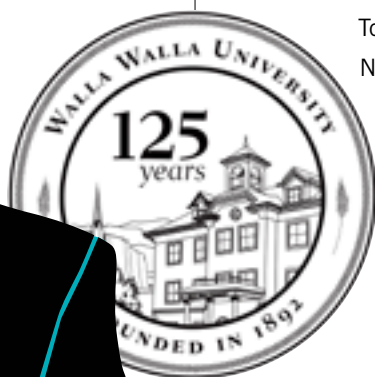
**HOW FOUR  
WWU STUDENTS  
ARE TURNING  
CURIOSITY INTO  
CAREERS**



**WHY DO SOME PEOPLE LIKE CILANTRO AND OTHER PEOPLE DON'T? WHAT ARE THE ELEMENTS OF A POTENTIALLY SUCCESSFUL NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION? WHY ARE STOP SIGNS RED AND STREET SIGNS GREEN?**

Humans are curious, and we often ask intriguing questions. It turns out that curiosity — the mother of invention — is also quite possibly the beginning of an exceptional college education, not to mention a fulfilling life. Research is showing a student whose curiosity is piqued is more likely to remember what they learn in subsequent lectures and conversations.

To nurture and support the inquisitive minds of college-age students in the North Pacific Union Conference and beyond, Walla Walla University offers 104 areas of study. Many students choose to combine these diverse areas of study in interesting ways to prepare for unique career goals or simply to satisfy their desire to learn. During the 2017–2018 school year, 103 of WWU's 1,825 students are pursuing more than one major, and 83 students are working on more than one bachelor's degree. We think you will find them as interesting as we do.



## EMBRACING OUR DIFFERENCES

**AS A HOME-SCHOOLED** student, during high school Isaac Arakaki embraced the opportunity to enthusiastically explore a wide array of subjects. That curiosity has translated well to college life at Walla Walla University, where he is working on majors in both health science and music with the ultimate goal of going to dental school.

“At one point music was something I considered as a career path, but right now I’m

focusing on dentistry and music is something I like to do on the side,” says Arakaki. “Having the variety between my two majors has really helped me. When I hit a wall in a science class, it is nice to work on something with music that is difficult in a different way. I also think there are elements in music classes that will help me later on in dental school.”

Arakaki sings bass in the University Singers and the select

choir, *I Cantori*. “I think that has been one of the greatest ways I’ve met people. Students in the choir have different majors and think differently, but even though there are differences we still have similarities between us, and we all love to make music together,” he says.

A self-described quiet person, Arakaki is not shy. He participates in intramurals, helps with the Music Club and the Asian Club, is part of the Buddy

Program helping community members who have disabilities, and is choral president for both choirs. As choral president, Arakaki is developing valuable leadership skills. He helps organize choir events and tours, facilitates communication between the choir and the director, and is part of the group that interviews potential choir members and evaluates auditions.

When it comes to taking two majors, Arakaki says, “It can

# Isaac

MAJORS: **BIOENGINEERING AND FRENCH**  
HOMETOWN: **LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK**

# Evelyn Ouro-Rodrigues

be difficult to figure out all the details, but it is worthwhile to study several subjects even if it is just to have a change of pace sometimes.” Now that the details are worked out, he is taking full advantage of the options available at college and nurturing his curiosity in the process.

See a full list of WWU areas of study at [wallawalla.edu/areasofstudy](http://wallawalla.edu/areasofstudy).

# Arakaki



## BALANCING ART AND SCIENCE

**AS A NATIVE NEW YORKER,** Evelyn Ouro-Rodrigues grew up surrounded by people from wide-ranging backgrounds and cultures, but it was during a year studying abroad in Collonges, France, with the Adventist Colleges Abroad program that she developed a full appreciation of what it's like to be a foreigner in another country.

“Your whole life you've been inside of your little bubble. Then you go somewhere else, and you have to adapt to other people's customs and norms. You don't know the language, and you're just trying to grapple with that,” she says. “Once you've experienced being the outsider or the foreigner, you tend to see when other people feel that way,

and it's a lot easier to empathize with them.”

As a pre-med student working on majors in bioengineering and French, Ouro-Rodrigues counts building empathy as one of the principal reasons for studying another language and culture — and an indispensable quality for a physician. She says finding balance is another reason. “It's just so nice to have this balance between really intense science classes, but also classes that challenge you in completely different intellectual ways. I'm so glad to have the STEM classes [science, technology, engineering and math] but also the humanities side, having classes where I can just sit down and talk about

literature and philosophy. It is so refreshing to have both.”

It was her interest in math and engineering that initially drew her to Walla Walla University. “When I came out here and I visited, I saw all the engineering labs, and I was like, wow! This seems like exactly what I wanted,” she says. It was WWU's bioengineering program — an opportunity to combine her love of math and biology — that sealed the deal.

Ouro-Rodrigues has thought a lot about her college experience in terms of potential mission work afterwards. “I know there are a lot of Adventist hospitals in French-speaking countries in Africa,” she says, and she looks

forward to exploring the options for mission service.

A curious and determined student, Ouro-Rodrigues says, “I think my quality of life would be diminished if I was denying the part of me that loves French. By completing two majors, I get to do both,” she says. “It's hard for me to believe that everyone just has one thing they like to learn about. I'm sure that most people have a wide variety of interests, and we have the opportunity to be at a school where you can take lots of different things.”

*Students can schedule a visit to the WWU campus at [wallawalla.edu/visit](http://wallawalla.edu/visit). We'll cover meals, lodging and half of travel costs up to \$250.*

MAJORS COMMUNICATION  
(EMPHASIS IN FILM AND TELEVISION)  
AND SPANISH  
HOMETOWN MARTINEZ, CALIFORNIA



# Auriyani-Alexis (Auri) Yates

## A LAUNCHING PLACE FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP

"I HAVEN'T DIALED it in yet, exactly where I'm going, but with these two degrees it leaves it open," says Noah Dybdahl of his work on a bachelor of arts degree in business and a bachelor of science degree in product design. "Entrepreneurship is at the forefront — to be able to take an idea and product and be able to build a business around it."

Dybdahl describes classes he's taking for product design: "We're learning 3-D imaging software, rendering software, simulation software, and three Adobe software programs. There is a lot of theory — understanding how humans relate to design as well as the psychology of

consumers. Then there are also the hard skills — woodworking, metal working, prototyping, drawing."

Dybdahl says he likes to learn, but during his senior year in high school he didn't have a clear understanding of what he wanted to study in college. "I guess I did sort of know ultimately what I wanted to do, but I didn't really know what majors fit into that," he says. "I started with business because it's applicable to every industry and it was interesting to me, but I also knew I wanted to do something creative." Now that he's taking classes in both areas, he sees crossovers between business and product design — market-

ing and design to name just two.

Even with his full academic load, Dybdahl notes the benefits of the small, close-knit campus community at Walla Walla University. Referring to a recent lunch in the WWU cafeteria sitting next to a faculty member, he says, "I talked about my summer job, which was on a farm, and then we got going down this whole rabbit trail about the best way to grow tomatoes. I probably wouldn't have had that conversation outside of just being there, sitting next to them, and having that opportunity. That conversation would never happen in a class setting. There are opportunities for that on this campus."

"I think it's really healthy here," he says, "because you get involved in things that you wouldn't have otherwise thought of and then you find new things that you want to do or learn." To avoid distraction, Dybdahl's advice for students interested in pursuing multiple areas of study: "You have to be diligent, plan it out, and make sure you've set yourself up to be able to actually complete it and do it in time. Go into it with at least a little bit of a plan!"

*Learn seven reasons to study product design at WWU at [walla-walla.edu/product-design](http://walla-walla.edu/product-design).*

## SET GOALS AND GO FOR IT

**"I HAVE ALWAYS** been interested in everything," Auri Yates says with a laugh. "It's a very hard life to live being interested in everything because logically I understand that it is just not possible to do anything and everything." That being said, Yates is doing her best to fit in as much of "everything" as she can during college.

"I came to college to study film. That's what I started with, and that's what I'm still doing," she says. Along the way, however, she took a Spanish translation class and was hooked. "I discovered it was incredibly fascinating, and it is super cool what you can do by

knowing a second language."

Now in her senior year at Walla Walla University, she has spent a year abroad studying in Spain through the Adventist Colleges Abroad program and is just a few credits shy of completing a major in Spanish in addition to her major in communication. "I would like to work for a subtitle company if I get to that stage of fluency," she says, "or work for a Spanish film production company."

Yates credits her freshmen mentor with planting the seed of the idea to study abroad. (The WWU Freshman Mentoring Program provides a mentor for each freshman to help them

navigate the challenges that can arise during the first year of college life.) "Everyone at WWU has a mentor when they start out," says Yates. "I didn't really feel like I needed a mentor, but I think that it's a good requirement. At one point my mentor asked me, 'Have you ever considered going abroad or being a student missionary?' And I remember thinking, 'No, I just want to finish school, graduate and start working.'"

Yates will indeed graduate soon and is looking forward to a successful, rewarding career. Yet while her original choice to study communication, film and television has stayed rock-solid,

her perspective has shifted since those initial meetings with her mentor. "I have my entire life to work," she says. "We're so money-oriented. I didn't want to be that way." She would now tell new college students: "Be patient. Don't limit yourself. If you have goals you want to set for yourself, then try. Go for it!"

*See all available locations for international study through the Adventist Colleges Abroad program at [wallawalla.edu/aca](http://wallawalla.edu/aca).*

*Kim Strobel, WWU university relations supervisor*

MAJORS  
HOMETOWN

**BACHELOR'S DEGREES IN  
BUSINESS AND PRODUCT DESIGN  
WALLA WALLA, WASHINGTON**



# Noah Dybdahl

## UN CUIDADO ESPECIAL DE DIOS PARA SUS HIJOS EN ALASKA

**C**omo ustedes se habrán dado cuenta en ediciones pasadas, les estuvimos compartiendo las ricas bendiciones que hemos estado teniendo aquí en Alaska, mediante las campañas evangelistas que se realizaron en Marzo 2016 con el Pastor Luis Mota donde 12 almas se bautizaron, seguidas por las 15 bautismos por la visita del Pastor Inmer Zorilla; y este año 4 bautismos por el Pastor Don West. ¡Es por eso que nos encontramos alabando el nombre de Dios por las obras de su Espíritu aquí en Alaska!

Este año en Septiembre 11 al 23, terminamos la “Obra de Alcance” con una

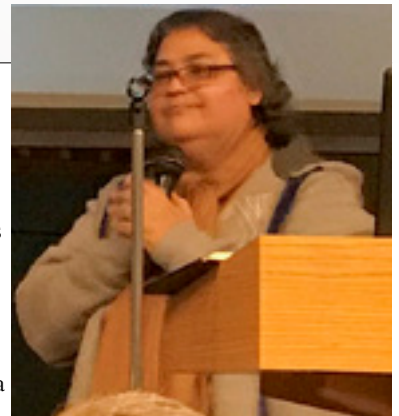
campana evangelistica bajo la dirección de la hermana y Evangelista María Navarro oriunda de Puerto Rico. Durante estas reuniones no tuvimos bautismos, pero si un ferviente deseo de parte de toda la hermandad por aprender más de la Palabra de Dios inclusive hasta los amigos que nos acompañaron también tuvieron ese mismo deseo y hambre por conocer y adquirir un conocimiento más amplio del Dios de la Biblia.

La hermana María N. explico el Libro de Apocalipsis de una manera tan sencilla, pero con profundidad, porque todo lo que expuso estuvo respaldado por la Palabra de Dios y por toda una fuente inmensa de información

adquirida a través de sus años de lectura e investigación. Baso sus temas no solo en la Palabra de Dios sino también en los libros de nuestra hermana Elena White, libros de Historia y de las fuentes de ciencia e información más recientes que se tienen hasta el momento. En conclusión, el Dios de la Biblia no se equivoca y Él tiene un plan para todos sus hijos que le aman, que le son fieles y que son obedientes a su Palabra.

Cabe destacar que durante la predicación de la Hermana María, los hermanos con varios años en el evangelio, pudimos darnos cuenta del letargo espiritual en el cual nos encontrábamos. Es por eso que alabamos y honramos el nombre de nuestro Dios porque solo Él conoce la necesidad de sus hijos y le agradecemos porque sabemos que Él tiene un especial cuidado por cada uno de nosotros.

Invitamos a todas aquellas personas que tienen un Espíritu Misionero a que vengan a Alaska con el firme propósito de alcanzar este Estado para el Señor nuestro Dios. Si tú estás leyendo este artículo y el Señor te ha inquietado a servirle y eres una persona



Evangelista Radial Maria Navarro en Campaña de eventos finales, exponiendo el tema: “Apocalipsis: Un Libro Preparado Para Ti” (Septiembre 2017).

que te gustaría compartir con los demás tus conocimientos, dones y habilidades te invitamos a que seas parte integral de la Iglesia Adventista Hispana de Anchorage, Alaska. Necesitamos personas con experiencia, capacidad y visión para generar un programa de alcance masivo en este lugar. Dios nos ha proporcionado los recursos en el pasado y sabemos que lo hará de nuevo si llegamos a organizarnos para que esto sea una realidad.

Solo necesitamos más obreros ... ¿serás tú uno de ellos?

*Elsa Coronado, primer anciana de la iglesia hispana en Alaska*



Pastor Luis Mota con el grupo de hermanos recién bautizados en Marzo 25, 2016.

## PALMER OPENS FIRST ADVENTURER CLUB IN ALASKA

**I**t was a dark and stormy night. Despite the weather, children were scurrying door to door in quiet neighborhoods of Palmer. They weren't demanding "trick or treat," however. Instead, they were braving the wind and rain to request canned food donations for Thanksgiving food baskets.

Contributions were shared with Feed the Need, a program sponsored by the Amazing Grace Academy and the Palmer Church to help area families at Thanksgiving time. "The kids were so excited about collecting that they had me running between houses," says Katie Arndt, Adventurer director.

"It was awesome," adds Jared Beaubien, a Pathfinder. "We got to meet some really nice people. One handicapped lady even invited us in and had us pick cans out of her pantry."

This year marks the start of the first-ever Adventurer

Club in Alaska — the Pioneer Puddle Jumpers — as well as the resurrection of the Pioneer Peak Pathfinder Club after more than a decade hiatus.

The clubs held their induction ceremony during the church service on Nov 11. The Adventurer Club welcomed 23 new members, and the Pathfinders added seven kids to make a total of 10 members. Jeff Coleman, Palmer Church pastor, and Carl Butler, Eagle River/Wasilla District pastor, gave a joint sermonette, "Grace + Faith = Hope," celebrating the churches' partnership in youth ministry.

"I am so happy to have Adventurers and Pathfinders in our church again," said Coleman. "Restoring these ministries makes our church feel more complete."

*Marta Beaubien, Palmer Church member*



(From left) William Lula, Aloha Poulivaati, Kisione Lula and Enimoa Poulivaati participate in the Singspiration ministry.

## SINGING INSPIRES ANCHORAGE COMMUNITY

**T**he sweet sound of gospel music was heard at the Alaska Native Medical Center in October 2016 and will continue as long as God's dedicated people are there each Sabbath afternoon. That's thanks to the music ministry of Anchorage's Northside Church.

This vision for ministry began when Alice Moncher observed that other church denominations and Alaska Native dance groups were represented and visible at the center, but the Adventist Church was absent. She wondered how to get a ministry started.

Northside members answered the call and now have a music ministry every Sabbath afternoon, 4:30–6 p.m. Each week, about 15 members come together to sing and pray with patients and visitors at the hospital. Sister churches are welcome to participate, and Paul Forde from the Eagle River Church has faithfully hosted each Sabbath to lead song and prayer.

To begin the ministry, the group needed songbooks. Jim Jensen, Alaska Conference

vice president of finance, knew of the ministry's need and was able to locate songbooks at the conference office for the group to use. As the ministry grew, more songbooks were needed, but they were out of print. Again God supplied their needs, and more songbooks were located at the conference office.

The Northside Church believes its "Singspiration" ministry was divinely appointed. The beauty of this ministry is that it can continue indefinitely as long as people come to join together to sing, pray and renew the Sabbath time slot with the hospital. As requested, participants cannot preach or hand out materials, but they can raise their voices in song and testify of the goodness of our Lord.

*Alice Moncher, Northside Church member*



# MERIDIAN CHURCH PRIORITIZES ACTS OF KINDNESS

Community service has long been a priority of the Meridian Church, but to encourage members to initiate more projects, church pastor Michael Pearson said, “Let’s do acts of kindness.”

When Pearson offered to allocate \$100 from a special church evangelistic fund for each act of kindness project undertaken, ideas began circulating.

Some members organized a Diabetes Undone clinic hosted at the church in September.

“Statistics regarding diabetes are alarming,” says member Beverly Logan, who helped to plan the event. “One in three Americans has diabetes or is prediabetic. Our clinic really made a difference in people’s lives.”

Meridian Church members Jerry and Pauline Rowan chose to reach out closer to home. They baked homemade loaves of bread and gave them

to neighbors.

“I knocked on each door and said, ‘We’re your neighbors, and we just wanted to get to know you.’ After that, people began stopping to talk if we were out in the yard,” Jerry Rowan reports.

“It’s a step-by-step process,” he added. “The next step is to invite neighbors to study the Bible with us.”

Member Alex Rusu began repairing broken appliances such as stoves and washing machines and giving them to people in need. Aaron Martin started a similar ministry only with cars. He asks people to donate old cars to the church, repairs them and gives them to community residents in need of transportation.

Members Beverly Logan, Pat Britzius and Carolyn Curtis organized a God’s Closet — a “shopping” event held four times a year

for those in need of children’s clothing. Church members as well as people and organizations in the community donate children’s clothes, which volunteers then gather and sort.

“People came from all over the Treasure Valley and were so appreciative of what we were doing,” Curtis says. “We were filling a real need.”

Meridian

Church members also recently conducted a nine-week Depression Recovery Seminar, which

about 70 people attended nightly. It was followed by a cooking school.

“The Meridian Adventist Church is becoming known in the community as a caring church,” Pearson says. “At a recent meeting with the Meridian mayor, her minders and local faith leaders, I overheard one of the mayor’s staff members say to another, ‘Every time we turn around the Adventists are doing something new to help our community.’ It was good to hear.”

To learn more about the Meridian Church, go to [meridianadventistchurch.org](http://meridianadventistchurch.org).

*Sandra Blackmer, Meridian Church communication leader*

◀ Alex Rusu, Meridian Church member, repairs broken appliances and then gives them to people in need.

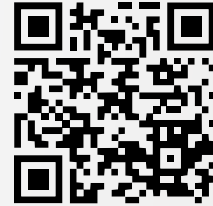


ALEX RUSU





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## MONTANA HOLDS OUTDOOR SCHOOL TO REMEMBER



**M**ontana outdoor school at the end of October?”

This was a question asked by many as plans and preparations were made for the annual fifth- and sixth-grade Montana Conference Outdoor School, Oct. 23–26, 2017.

Students arrived at the conference office in Bozeman on Monday evening full of excitement in anticipation of this year’s outdoor school list of activities. After registration and a delicious supper, students and staff made their way over to the Mount Ellis Elementary

gymnasium for team-building activities and initiative games. Then they headed to set up camp in the academy lodge at Bear Canyon Ski Hill.

The group gathered around the blazing warmth for worship and praise. Academy students from Mount Ellis led praise time, and an inspiring message was provided by Barry Curtis, Mount Ellis Academy Church pastor. Following worship, students were given some time to journal, reflecting on the pastor’s message and the evening’s events.

Tuesday morning dawned clear and crisp. Personal devotions were followed by

breakfast and worship. Principal Jared Meharry, from Libby, led morning praise time and worships.

With sack lunches packed and coats donned the group loaded the conference school bus to head for a round robin of activities ... but the bus would not start.

A quick prayer and a pair of jumper cables sent them on their way. The students enjoyed courses in orienteering, predators and prey, scat and tracks, and fish technology.

While the students enjoyed the morning agenda the bus driver went to fuel the bus. Once again, the bus would not

start, and this time the jumper cables were no help. The bus was out of commission.

Prayers were answered, and the driver arrived with a functioning bus just as the students finished their sack lunches.

The afternoon was filled with a hike to the top of Drinking Horse Mountain and lessons in plant identification, survival skills and shelter-building. After another delicious supper provided by the cook, Bette Wheeling, they found themselves back in the gym for more team-building challenges. The students learned the importance of communicating, listening and working together to complete a task.

Back at the lodge the group learned the importance of the Protestant Reformation through an intriguing message by Barry Taylor, Montana Conference ministerial director. Following a full day of activities and only a few complaints of cold toes, the students quickly fell asleep as the fire began to fade.

The creaking of the lodge door announced it was time to crawl out of warm sleeping bags the next morning. Wednesday began with personal devotions, a



JARED MEHARRY



JARED MEHARRY

## MOUNT ELLIS STUDENTS JOIN YELLOWSTONE EXPEDITION

**T**he junior high class from Mount Ellis Elementary in Bozeman spent an educational and fun-filled week in Yellowstone National Park through the federally funded program Yellowstone Expedition. Open to all U.S. schools, several schools are chosen to participate each year through a lottery system.

Teacher Michelle Wachter had applied for a spot in the program for four years without being chosen. Finally a few spots opened in September, so the Mount Ellis kids were able to go in October.

The expedition began on a Monday afternoon with a hike to familiarize the students with some of the Yellowstone terrain. Each day of the week was dedicated to outdoor activities about the various parts of Yellowstone. “The History of Yellowstone” was discussed and explored on Tuesday, followed the next day with “The

Geology of Yellowstone.” The students’ favorite day was “The Ecology of Yellowstone.” The days were filled with some classroom education, scavenger hunts around the old military buildings, tracking a coyote and sampling the temperature/pH levels of several geysers.

The students and chaperones who have lived so close to Yellowstone for years were thrilled to experience so many new things about the park “in Bozeman’s backyard.” Mount Ellis Elementary students will remember forever their week filled with amazing facts about Yellowstone National park and wonderful memories.

*Michelle Wachter, Mount Ellis Elementary principal*

short hike up Bear Canyon and a much-appreciated hot breakfast. Following morning worship, the students were treated to an interactive lesson on fire ecology and wildfire behavior presented by a representative from the U.S. Forest Service. Students then enjoyed the challenge of building their own one-match fires while learning about fire safety.

The afternoon was packed with educational presentations. The students were given the opportunity to help train Gallatin County Search and Rescue dogs while learning to stay put when lost. Then they learned about Montana raptors with guest appearances from the Montana Raptor Conservation Center’s resident red-tailed hawk, great horned owl, peregrine falcon and Pilgrim, the turkey vulture. The afternoon was topped off with a Central Helicopters helicopter landing right in front of the group to surprise the kids.

This fun-filled day ended with a fantastic meal, games in the gym and worship at the lodge. Michael Lee, Mount Ellis Academy principal, shared lessons from Scripture as the tired group relaxed around the fire. Exhausted, the students found their way to bed with

very little persuading from the staff.

They awoke Thursday to a white blanket of freshly fallen snow. After the morning routine, students packed their bags and cleaned the lodge. The final worship was a highly anticipated conclusion to a three-part story on answers to prayer. Outdoor School 2017 concluded with the regular favorite visit to Bozeman Hot Springs.

Yes, outdoor school was scheduled for the end of October, but God blessed with sunshine, blue skies and highs near 60 degrees. With warm temperatures for daily activities, beautiful fall colors, God helping find a bus and a fresh dusting of snow on the final morning, this outdoor school will be remembered by many for years to come.

*Jared Meharry, Libby Adventist Christian School head teacher*



More online at [glnr.in/113-01-mt\\_outdoor](http://glnr.in/113-01-mt_outdoor)



MICHELLE WACHTER

Mount Ellis Elementary seventh- and eighth-grade students explore Norris Hot Springs with two ranger guides.

## MCMINNVILLE BAGS LOVE FOR COMMUNITY

**T**he Bags of Love outreach program meets in the McMinnville Church's Friendship Hall twice a month. A small but faithful group runs this quiet ministry, which began at the Apache Junction Church in Arizona and was introduced in McMinnville by Delores Ringering. Nancy Reed now leads the outreach.

What is a Bag of Love? It is a bag containing a soft, handmade quilt; an age-appropriate toy, game or stuffed animal; and personal hygiene items such as toothbrush and toothpaste. The bags made by the McMinnville group are given to Child Protective Services (CPS) in Yamhill and Polk counties for children who have to be taken from their homes due to unsafe conditions. The children often don't have time to grab any personal items.

Many of these children are abused or neglected; they are

usually afraid and feel alone. A "love bag" can be something to cling to, and the quilt is like a warm hug — reminders there is love and kindness in the world, even though the kids never know who prepared the bags. Each quilt, however, does have a sewn-on tag stating it was made for the child by loving hands at the McMinnville Church and includes the church's phone number.

The McMinnville Church group gave 70 quilts to children through CPS in 2016. In May 2017, they worked more than 250 hours to qualify for a monetary donation through First Federal Savings and Loan Association's Community Giving program.

*Michelle McMillen, McMinnville Church communication leader*



Each quilt has a tag stating it was made for the child by "Hands of Love."



Gale Crosby (left), Oregon Conference education superintendent, has served as PAA's auctioneer for well over a decade. He is a gifted fundraiser, and his energy encourages gifts from the hearts of supporters.

## PAA SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION RAISES \$103,000

**A** remarkable \$103,000 in donations made for a record-breaking night at the Portland Adventist Academy Student Scholarship (PAASS) Auction. The support reflects a faith and love for Portland Adventist Academy (PAA) as it serves students a Christ-centered and character-driven education

challenging circumstances. From single-parent homes to families managing major health crises, job losses and even the death of a caretaker, PAASS offers parents and grandparents peace of mind through the storms of life.

Furthermore, those who give to PAASS give a student a chance to thrive.

"Now that [my son] is at PAA, he comes home more confident, outgoing and positive," says one mother. "It's changed his life to be in a place that doesn't contradict his beliefs."

"You're providing a spiritual home for [my son] and all of these students," she adds. "They are getting opportunities they need that they could never get at a public school. God is working through you to bring students to a safe place where they can be supported in their faith and love of Jesus. It's overwhelming how grateful I feel."

*Liesl Vistaunet, PAA Gleaner correspondent*



PAA senior Gabriella Hutuleac and the rest of the class of 2018 were responsible for the event setup, take down and the entire dinner service.

in Portland, Ore.

"It was absolutely amazing," says Jason Bibb, acting PAA principal. "God brought our faithful supporters together to help students through PAASS. He is so good, and He has blessed PAA immensely."

This school year, more than 80 students are receiving tuition assistance from PAASS, funded entirely by community donors.

The students come from families dealing with a variety of

+ More photos online at [ghr.in/113-01-or\\_paa](http://ghr.in/113-01-or_paa)

## BYRD CALLED TO SERVE IN SOUTHERN OREGON

**C**harles Byrd recently answered the call to pastor Oregon's Grants Pass and Cave Junction churches. When asked how he and his wife, Karen, were led to southern Oregon, the response was direct: "I want to be where the Lord leads." In ministry, Byrd hopes others will seek a connection to Jesus. He wants everyone to desire to share the gospel.

Byrd has served the denomination since 1984 as an academy dean, teacher, pastor, missionary and evangelist. He pastored churches in Pennsylvania, Washington and Wisconsin, as well as in Saipan. He was also host of a daily call-in show on LifeTalk Radio.

The Byrds have three sons, all raised in the Northwest. Their oldest son has called Oregon "home" for the last six years.

Before moving from Tennessee to Oregon, the Byrds pioneered QuestLine Productions. With QuestLine, the Byrds developed the multimedia *Thunder in the Holy Land* series. Filming this premier Bible study series required the Byrds to live in the

Middle East for several months. *Thunder in the Holy Land* now has more than 6,000 sets in circulation. It is being used all around the world to lift up the teachings of Jesus. QuestLine Productions is still an active ministry, with Karen Byrd as its new president.

Charles Byrd appreciates the "nice people and hometown feel" of Grants Pass. What would he say to anyone visiting the Grants Pass or Cave Junction churches? "I'm in town, looking for the honest people. I'm looking for the people who really want to know God, experience Him," he says. Through Jesus, all can experience victories when there have only been failures.

"My job as a pastor is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable," he says. Since his arrival near the end of August, he has worked to achieve this very thing. This began by gauging the expectations of those around him. It also continued by communicating his expectations.

Entering a new community, Byrd knew there would be expectations. In the days and weeks following the Byrds' arrival in Grants Pass, these were carefully considered. What is expected from those who hear Byrd's message? He wants everyone to "be in the Word." That is the key to having a lasting relationship with Jesus Christ.

*Jennifer Burkes, Grants Pass Church communication leader*



(From left) Pastor Martin Jackson, Brian and Donna Miner, Pat and Lon Tweed, and Connie Jackson celebrate the Tweeds and Miners joining of the Cedar Creek Church.

## CEDAR CREEK CHURCH WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

**N**ov. 11, 2017, was a high day for the Cedar Creek Church in Woodland, Wash., as they had the joy of baptizing four new members into the church family: Brian and Donna Miner and Pat and Lon Tweed.

Both Brian and Lon were members of the Adventist Church years ago but drifted away from God and His church. Each of them had children and eventually got remarried.

Donna is from a Baptist background, and Pat is from a Lutheran background. But over the last couple of years all of them felt a need to get closer to God and back to church. They ended up connecting with the Cedar Creek Church. Brian's

mother, Marcia Plotner, is also a member of the Cedar Creek Church. As they have been attending church and taking Bible studies, they have been getting involved in church life and already have felt like part of the family at Cedar Creek. Cedar Creek members praise God for the way He leads families back to church.

*Marty Jackson, Hockinson Heights Church pastor*



Charles Byrd



## MILO STUDENTS HELP NEIGHBORS

Students at Milo Adventist Academy in Days Creek recently took a school day to help elderly neighbors in their community. Milo has had a long tradition of helping with community needs over the years, but Neighbor Day became an official school program when Carl Wilkens was pastor of the Milo Academy Church.

“There were stories up and down the valley of different projects that Milo students had done over the years for community members in need,” Wilkens says. “We just decided to make it a regular thing four times a year.”

This year student chaplain and event organizer Justin Corral called Days Creek residents to tell them about the program. “I explained that we want to go out to help our neighbors,” Corral says. “We didn’t have limits on what they could ask us for. We trimmed blackberry bushes, chopped wood, raked leaves, cleaned windows and picked fruit.”

Chad Reisig, current Milo Academy Church pastor,

whose campus ministries team organized the event, says, “The community folks really appreciate that teenagers are willing to help out.”

“The best part for me was helping a man cut wood,” reports Corral. “He said it would have taken his wife and him three days to do what we did in three hours.”

“I always enjoy Neighbor Day, not because we get to take a break from school but because it shows me that even though I’m a teenager I can still help others and make a difference through

## SHARON CHURCH WELCOMES NEW PASTORAL FAMILY

Members, friends and families of the Sharon Church in Portland welcomed their new pastor, Garth Dottin, and his family — Melainie, Brooke and Levi — to the great Pacific Northwest and into their new church family on Oct. 21, 2017. It was a day of thanksgiving, praise, prayer and love as the pastor and his family were presented with kind words, love and gifts.

Dottin and family moved to the Sharon Church family from Ontario, Canada, where they were members of the Kitchener-Waterloo Church.

Dottin hit the ground running. He has already conducted his first communion, chaired his first church business meeting, chaired several board meetings, gone on hikes sponsored by the health ministry team and visited members in the hospital. He led his first

Portland Adventist Elementary School family worship near the end of October and held a baptism on Nov. 11.

The members of Sharon Church are quite pleased with Dottin and his dedication to the work in this part of the vineyard — and his family is plenty of icing on the cake.

You’re welcome to join the Sharon congregation on any given Sabbath, any Wednesday night prayer meeting or any number of activities hosted at the church to hear this dynamic pastor preach the Word of God.

Like SharonChurchSDA on Facebook and visit [sharonsda.net](http://sharonsda.net) to stay abreast of the various activities happening at Sharon Church.

*Denise Williams, Sharon Church communication leader*



Junior Alex Miller chops wood for one of Milo’s neighbors.

simple acts of kindness,” says Alex Miller, a Milo junior.

For more information about Neighbor Day at Milo, email [chad.reisig@miloacademy.org](mailto:chad.reisig@miloacademy.org).

*Kathy Hernandez, Milo Adventist Academy teacher and recruiter*



Freshman Angelina LaRicca hauls away leaves her group picked up.



More online at [glnr.in/113-01-or\\_milo](http://glnr.in/113-01-or_milo)

## WESTERN DEAF CAMP MEETING CELEBRATES 40 YEARS

**T**he 40th anniversary Western Deaf Camp Meeting was held July 9–16, 2017, at Milo Adventist Academy in Days Creek. The nearly historic attendance of 143 people came from all over the country, even from the East Coast.

The theme this year centered on the 1888 General Conference message. In addition, a hands-on cooking class provided practical instructions in healthy living and tasty samples. An active and interesting children’s class kept the kids busy each day.

This year, an evening program of skits was held. Participants worked in teams and practiced throughout the week, often laughing as they bonded.

The gym came alive with volleyball, and nearly 70 people hit the Rogue River for a rafting trip.

Friday evening was focused on the Lord’s Supper. This time has always been

treated as the most important event during the camp meeting. This year, the elders on the platform were accompanied by 12 men, all dressed in biblical-period clothing, portraying the disciples. After the service many people shared their joyful testimonies, including stories of miracles, to close the evening.

The highlight of camp meeting is the baptism, and this year was no exception. Five people were baptized or rebaptized: David Lopez of New Mexico, Julia Sutton of Washington, Valerie Wendel-Filkins of Iowa, Beth Dobson of Virginia and Stephen Hinkle of Washington.

A special recognition was given to Sandra Alejo, an active deaf member of the Tabernacle Church in Portland. She has served in many capacities including as treasurer and has been a large part of organizing this camp meeting.

Chuck McGehee, another



These men portrayed the 12 disciples and participated in the Lord’s Supper by sitting at the long table during the service.

member of the Tabernacle Church, was also recognized for his dedicated service to deaf ministry for many years as a key leader in deaf ministry in Oregon. He has provided leadership for several deaf groups in the Northwest, including the Tabernacle group. He also directed the Western Deaf Camp Meeting for years and is on the board of Three Angels Deaf Ministries, a supporting ministry.

The Western Deaf Camp Meeting is put on by the Tabernacle deaf group at the Tabernacle Church. This gathering was started by deaf ministry leaders who had a vision for Adventist deaf members to meet and have a focused time for spiritual growth. The event has had a huge impact on the spiritual growth of deaf mem-

bers across North America. As a result, several other deaf camp meetings sprouted up across the North American Division and around the world.

Deaf members attending the camp meeting decided they do not want to celebrate any more camp meeting anniversaries. Rather, they hope to celebrate God’s mercy and grace together in heaven with ears that hear Jesus’ voice and voices that sing His praises for eternity.

*Esther Doss, North American Division deaf ministries coordinator*



More online at [glnr.in/113-01-or\\_deaf](http://glnr.in/113-01-or_deaf)

## COLLEGE PLACE VILLAGE CHURCH CELEBRATES 125TH ANNIVERSARY



**C**ollege Place (Wash.) Village Church members and friends spent Oct. 13 and 14, 2017, celebrating the 125th anniversary of the church's founding. On the church podium furnishings of the era reproduced as authentically as possible the Ragsdale parlor of 1892, where the first members met.

Pastoral staff in traditional dress led the worship hour with a congregation considerably larger than the 36-member group established by R.S. Donnell in early summer of 1892.

On Friday evening at 6:30 p.m. Terry Koch, church choir director, orchestrated a historical hymnfest accompanied by his wife, Terri, on the old-fashioned pump organ in the podium "parlor." At 7 p.m.

Daniel Jackson, North American Division president, spoke. He also presented the Sabbath morning sermon at the 8:15 and 10:45 a.m. worship hours. The adult Sabbath School special feature at 9:30 a.m. included historical sketches of God's providential leading.

The celebration continued at 2:30 p.m. Sabbath afternoon with another historical advent hymnfest followed by a seminar 3–5 p.m. featuring several

historians and theologians from nearby Walla Walla University who, along with Jackson, challenged the audience to consider carefully its place in history and its calling as God's people. A panel discussion and question/answer period followed as the holy hours of the Sabbath drew to an end with sundown worship.

Of course the weekend would not be complete without a good old-fashioned social arranged by the church social committee at the youth center. Beginning at 6:45 p.m. with games, food and fun reminiscent of 1892 and complete with the traditional garb of the era, the celebration came to a historic close.

The Three Angels' Messages arrived in the Walla Wal-



la Valley in 1869 by way of a most unlikely person — a layman convert from the Church of the Brethren, Franklin Wood, who had moved to California to escape the Sabbath promoted by a Walla Walla Valley neighbor. In California the family attended a series of evangelistic meetings and became Seventh-day Adventists with a strong desire to share the message back in the Walla Walla Valley.

However it wasn't until the summer of 1874 that I.B. Van Horn — the first Seventh-day Adventist minister to visit the Northwest — set up his tent for an evangelistic series in Walla Walla, and the work began to “go forth with power.”

Seventeen years later, by 1891, it had grown to such an extent the need for an education facility led to a decision to build a college in the valley. This was not just for “higher” education and included primary and secondary schools. Adventist believers began to settle in droves near the proposed school site, and, in 1892, a full year before the opening of the

school, a Sabbath School began meeting.

Its first meeting place was the T.S. Ragsdale home, a brick farmhouse near the college site. They gathered for services in the Ragsdales' parlor or, on sunny days, met in the shade of the majestic trees surrounding the home. When tithes and offerings began coming in and going off to the conference, the name “College Place” was chosen to identify their origin.

That year the parlor soon filled to overflowing. Once construction of the college administration building had progressed sufficiently, the congregation began meeting in the administration building's unfinished basement. Later a chapel built on the second floor of the ad building became the church's home.

Twenty years later the need for a building of its own became obvious to the growing congregation. Financial pledges were called for and came in with such rapidity that on Aug. 4, 1912, H.W. Decker laid the cornerstone. With a seating capacity of 700

the church opened for Sabbath services on March 28, 1913. By the time the church was dedicated debt-free on Dec. 28, 1918, it had already begun to outgrow its capacity and was again using the college facilities for Sabbath School classes.

Of course this was no reason for the building to come down. But it did. Three weeks after the dedication ceremony, it burned to the ground. Undaunted, the congregation commenced construction of a new building in September 1919. With a seating capacity of 950, it nicely accommodated its first worship service on Feb. 7, 1920.

As the town of College Place continued to grow, so did the congregation, which soon surpassed the church's seating capacity. Once more college facilities became dual purpose accommodations — school five days a week, then Sabbath School and worship overflow every Sabbath.

By the end of 1947, the Walla Walla College Church was established with 636 members, leaving a congregation of 1,178 members in the Village Church. The large Village congregation necessitated two Sabbath services each week. A plethora of committees began meeting to discuss the feasibility of building yet another church.

Young couples who started their families at the end of World War II would see their children enrolled in Walla Walla College before church building plans became finalized. Purchase of a lot at 12th and Larch in College Place opened the way for construc-



tion of the present facility, and a groundbreaking ceremony took place on March 3, 1968.

Nine years later, on Feb. 5, 1977, the cost of \$700,000 had been retired and the church, with a seating capacity of 1,500, was dedicated debt-free. In the intervening years a chapel and Sabbath School wing have been added.

Today's membership of 1,600-plus is rejoicing in the ways the Lord has led in His work in the Walla Walla Valley, through Blue Mountain Television, and around the world. With a 50-year renewal project underway for its aging building, Village Church can continue to look forward to providing facilities to carry the Three Angels' Messages to all the world, “for a witness unto all nations — and then shall the end come.”

May God continue to lead and bless as this church goes forward in His name.

*Donna Casebolt, Village Church member*



During the anniversary celebration, the stage represented the parlor of the T.S. Ragsdale home in what would eventually become College Place, Wash. The Ragsdale home was the first building to host an Adventist service in the College Place area prior to the construction of the college and the first church.

## KAMIAH MEMBERS GET GLOWING

**W**hen Mission 365 extended the GLOW Northwest challenge for mission-minded members to distribute a million GLOW (Giving Light to Our World) tracts across the Northwest in a 10-day period (Oct. 22–31, 2017), the Kamiah (Idaho) Church accepted the challenge.

On Sabbath, Oct. 28, 11 members gathered to plan and pray before spreading through several neighborhoods to give away 100 GLOW tracts. Tucked inside each tract was a personal invitation to come to church for a Bible study on the book of Romans. After an hour the teams began returning with experiences.

“We met new parents

of twins,” one member said. “Could we put together a baby gift basket?” One team prayed with a lonely man who had recently lost his wife. Some contacted friends and reached out to former members. Everyone ran into someone they knew.

In an hour 70 tracts had been distributed. After prayer and praise, even the surplus tracts began to disappear as everyone wanted to share with a neighbor or friend.

Don’t ever pass up a chance to go GLOWing. The blessings are splendid.

*Cathy Law, Kamiah Church member*



## PRISON MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS WITNESS MIRACLE

**T**hursday evening began like any other for the Adventist prison ministry volunteers at Walla Walla State Penitentiary in Walla Walla, Wash. We quickly began our regular routine. I opened the two lockers assigned to us, then we set up tables, chairs, piano and hymnals. Finally, we gathered together for a time of prayer asking for God’s presence and leading during our meeting.

We warmly greeted each of the men as they entered the chapel. One of the men, Jo Jo, had been recently baptized and was waiting to receive his baptismal certificate. Jo Jo was scheduled to be transported to another prison on the west side of the mountains in a few days and badly wanted his certificate before he left.

After the volunteers and men were seated, Jo Jo asked Dan Preas if he had the certificate. Preas’ response was, “I apologize [Jo Jo], but I think I know where it is, and I will look for it at home.” Jo Jo was disappointed.

A noise coming from the locker suddenly captured our attention. A second or two later a folded piece of paper flew out of the locker and drifted to the floor. Jo Jo walked over and picked it up. It was his baptismal certificate. We were amazed and astonished.

Then one of the volunteers, Ed Hatcher, remembered putting the certificate in the locker under a couple of Bibles a week or two earlier to save it for Jo Jo. An angel must have pushed the certificate out of the locker from under these Bibles. This miracle left a marked impression on volunteers and inmates alike.

As always God’s wisdom and timing are perfect.

*Don Blue, College Place Church member*



(From left) Fernando Borgert, Mark Law, Sonia Borgert, Victor Hays, Lillie Hetze and Marvis Hays were among the Kamiah GLOWers.

## POST FALLS CELEBRATES VETS WITH QUILTS

**I**t began as a dream for Bethanne Moseanko, with the idea of celebrating the service of veteran Charles Smith (now in his 90s), who was at Fort Ord during the last days of World War II. Smith came out of that military experience and studied medicine and has been practicing for years in the Northwest.

In reviewing how many additional veterans were in the Post Falls (Idaho) Church congregation, members discovered there were many. Members well-versed in quilt-making taught those who had not done any quilting. By meeting every Thursday night, the quilting group was able to piece together more than 10 quilts in less than three months' time.

In October they gave a quilt to their first veteran (from Desert Shield), Tara Gonzales, well before Veterans Day because she was required to be on duty elsewhere for a couple of months. And on Nov. 18, 2017, the Post Falls Quilts of Valor Chapter gifted quilts to veterans

Robert Pielact, Jerry Usher, Darrell Winslow, Leroy Kro-nvall, Charles Smith and Brad Fanning. Service times for these soldiers and airmen ranged from two to 20 years in duty stations like Germany, Iraq, Greenland, Korea, Bay of Pigs, Vietnam and even the famed White Coats. Two more quilts are slated to be given to Zane Hall and Alvin Bartholomew, who were unable to attend the ceremony.

As their Quilts of Valor were draped over their shoulders, most of these heroes teared up to be given recognition for their selfless service.

The eight members of the Post Falls chapter agree it was a lot of work but a pleasure to award the Quilts of Valor to local wartime and peacetime heroes of the armed forces.

*Jeanne Barrett-Usher*

 More online at [glnr.in/113-01-uc\\_quilts](http://glnr.in/113-01-uc_quilts)



Jerry Usher shows off his Quilt of Valor.



MOISES RAMIREZ

Alison Cover spoke during the healthful cooking class held at the Post Falls Church.

## POST FALLS HOLDS HEALTHFUL COOKING CLASS

**A**fter a health class held earlier in the year, Post Falls (Idaho) Church held a cooking class during the fall of 2017 for those in the community who were interested in a plant-based diet. In fact, in nearby Hayden, Idaho, a friendly group was established and shared plant-based food and recipes in weekly potlucks.

Health coordinators Alison and Jay Cover were dedicated in educating the public about the value of eating healthily and showed the 15 people attending ways to cook and substitute other items for dairy or animal products.

To top off the monthlong series, a sumptuous Thanksgiving meal was served well ahead of the holiday, using plant products alone and offering gluten-free options. The

food was delicious, and the 38 people church members and class participants got ideas for making a traditional holiday meal with heart-healthy foods.

Candi Shafer and Bethanne Moseanko assisted in the kitchen to ensure the meal was planned and prepared well. The people sat in rapt attention as the smells of the meal wafted toward them. They seemed to enjoy trying healthy alternatives for Thanksgiving feasting.

*Jeanne Barrett-Usher, Post Falls Church communication leader*

## SOUTH DISTRICT VALUES ADVENTURERS

**W**hat would you think if you saw a large group of children and parents flying kites, riding bikes and having a great time in the park on a beautiful fall day? If you guessed “it must be Adventurer Awards Day,” you are correct.

God provided a beautiful day with sunshine, no rain and



Eager Beavers learn all about farms with teacher Virginia Hoffarth from the Waiilatpu Club.

very little wind for the Upper Columbia Conference South District Adventurers Awards Day on Oct. 22, 2017. Staff, club members and parents came together in Richland, Wash., for the event, hosted by the Richland Orcas.

They started their time together at the Richland Church with a special worship talk during which Celeste Graves shared a story about a special family pet that was lost. Graves shared how the family prayed for their pet. The whole time God watched over the dog, guided the family in their search and finally brought their pet home safely home.

Graves reminded attendees that, as much as God cared for and watched over this dog, He loves each Adventurer even more.



Waiilatpu director Brian Huxel flies gliders with the Adventurers working on the build and fly award.

Members from the Richland Orcas and Wenatchee Spanish Soldaditos de Jesus clubs helped lead opening pledges and praise music. Then the Adventurers continued their learning with a variety of award classes, including road safety, Bible royalty, beads, cooking, potatoes, down on the farm and puppets.

After lunch club members rode their bikes and trikes in Leslie Grove Park, threw gliders and flew kites. After riding and playing, the club members

made some fresh apple cider with the cider press.

The action-packed day developing relationships with Jesus and each other was special for God’s most valued treasures.

*Anita Lebold, Upper Columbia Conference Adventurers South District coordinator*



More online at [glnr.in/113-01-uc\\_adventurers](http://glnr.in/113-01-uc_adventurers)

## YOUTH LEARN THEY’RE ONE OF A KIND

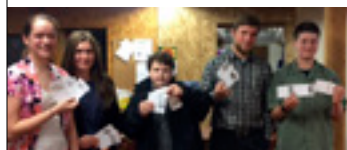
**G**od made each of us unique!” That was the message given to five youth during the first Sabbath in November at the Orient Adventist Fellowship Company in northeast Washington. Retired Alaska state trooper Charles Lamica explained to his students that “God made each of us in His image, and yet He also made each of us different from anyone else.”

To bring home this

point, the students got a lesson about fingerprints. “Out of the billions of people who have lived on Earth, no two people have ever been found to have the same fingerprints,” Lamica told them. “It reminds me of Ps. 139:14, which says, ‘I will praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.’”

At a mock “crime scene” the students used powder and soft brushes to “dust” for

fingerprints. After finding the prints, they used clear tape to “lift” the print. The lifted print was then transferred onto a paper card, thereby



(From left) Susanna McCurdy, Maddie Alluis, Evan Robbins, Sam McCurdy and Josh Ford display the fingerprints they lifted in class.

preserving it as “evidence.”

Jer. 1:5 says, “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.” Who knows, but maybe God has ordained one of these young people to someday become a detective.

*Charles Lamica, Orient Adventist Fellowship Company member*

## AMEN TACOMA MEETS COMMUNITY MEDICAL NEEDS

**M**elody was diagnosed with a brain tumor back in July.

She'd had cancer previously, it had gone into remission, and then it came back. She started a treatment plan first with radiation and then with plans for chemotherapy.

She went to visit her oncologist, who ended up not being willing to sign off on Melody's chemo treatment because she had an infected tooth. She told her medical provider she didn't have dental insurance and couldn't afford treatment out of pocket.

The oncologist listened and then picked up a flyer. "Here's a free clinic coming to our community that you should take advantage of," the provider said.

Melody came to the two-day, pop-up mobile AMEN (Adventist Medical Evangelism Network) Clinic in Tacoma, held in November 2017. There, dentists volunteering their time and expertise took care of her needs.

"Melody was so overwhelmed with gratitude for the clinic," says Amanda Sanders, a Tacoma Central Church Bible worker who was part of the AMEN chaplain team. "Not only did Melody receive clinic



A member of the Tacoma community gets dental work done during the AMEN Tacoma clinic weekend.

services, she also brought her son who needed dental care too."

The two women ended up talking for a solid 30 minutes. "To hear someone be so positive and praising God for answered prayers, it was really encouraging," Sanders says. "We were able to pray together, and I invited her to future events at Tacoma Central."

### MEETING A NEED

Visionaries associated with AMEN Tacoma saw a need to assist underinsured and uninsured citizens in the community.

"Despite the recent rollout of the Affordable Care Act, there are still 40 million Americans without health insurance and 100 million without dental coverage," says Nelson Miles, AMEN Tacoma spokesman. "We don't have to travel overseas to find a need when there's a mission field in our own backyard."

So how does this all work? AMEN Clinic brings dental, medical and optical equipment and sets up a temporary mobile clinic at a community location such as the Boys & Girls Club of South Puget Sound.

For the two days of the

clinic, 627 patients came from the greater Tacoma area and received services on a walk-in basis (first come, first served). The clinic was staffed by dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, optometric physicians, opticians, trained assistants, medical doctors, physician assistants, nurse practitioners and registered nurses. Nonmedical volunteers helped with registration, cleaning, crowd control, visiting with patients and much more.

"Every AMEN free clinic is made possible by the compassion and love of our volunteers," says Miles. "From setup to tear down, from the first patient to the last, nothing could happen without the sacrifice of our volunteers and sponsors."

The next AMEN Clinic in western Washington will be held in Everett on April 20 and 22, 2018. Interested in volunteering? Sign up at [ameneverett.org](http://ameneverett.org).

*Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director*

More photos online at [glnr.in/113-01-wa\\_amen](http://glnr.in/113-01-wa_amen)



## AAA REACHES COMMUNITY THROUGH MUSIC

**A**uburn Adventist Academy (AAA) music teachers have expanded their programs and are taking them into the surrounding community. The department is led by Melia Williams, choral and drama director, and Trenton Russell, instrumental music director. Both have years of experience and have dedicated their lives to their area of expertise.

An exciting opportunity came when Sylvan, the select

choir, had the opportunity to sing with the Auburn Symphony. The symphony accompanied Sylvan for one number, then for three songs they sang with the chorale.

"I think it's more than a big thing. It's an honor that they asked us to come sing with them," says Williams. "We're really glad to be a part of something in our community."

Each year they make a point of performing for many constituent churches.

This past year, the jazz band performed for the Skyline Retirement Community in Seattle near the Harborview Medical Center.

"When [my son] Noah had his stroke, he was taken to Harborview, and within two to three hours of his arrival there, through a friend's connection, we were given a room to stay at Skyline Retirement Community," says Russell.

Russell takes the jazz band to Skyline at least every other year to show his gratitude to

them for their support and generosity.

The music programs have been blessed by being involved in the community surrounding Auburn Adventist Academy.

*Amber Pettey-Torres, AAA media literacy student*



# WASHINGTON CHURCHES CELEBRATE SPIRIT OF JOY AND GIVING

## THANKSGIVING BLESSINGS

On a Sabbath morning at New Life Adventist Ministry in Fife, members were talking about how they were going to collect food items, pack them into boxes and determine what families would appreciate the holiday gift.

During the discussion, it came to the members' attention that the church they rent from had been collecting food items — canned food, bread, stuffing and so on — and had too much to use for their ministry.

Suddenly, everything the church needed to fill 10 large boxes with food for families in need during the holiday season was there. In addition to the food stuff, God had been generously blessing through the children's offering to provide a \$75 Visa card for each family.

In the end, these members watched the blessing of receiving, the blessing of working together, the blessing of giving away and the blessing of people willing to be the deliverers of God's bounty.

— Gayle Lasher

## NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

Kent Church's Neighbor to Neighbor ministry volunteers provided 76 Thanksgiving dinner meals, with all the

trimmings, for members of the Kent community the day before Thanksgiving.

Twenty church members and community volunteers from elementary age to senior citizens pitched in to set up, cook, serve and clean up for this special meal.

For more than 25 years, the Neighbor to Neighbor community meal program has provided hot dinners and sack lunches each Sabbath and Wednesday to anyone who is hungry, fulfilling their Matt. 25:35 mission to feed the hungry. The program provided more than 7,400 meals to the community in 2017.

— Willie Iwankiw

## A COMMUNITY FAMILY

Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on all you're thankful for, but more importantly a time to give of yourself. At Tacoma Central Church, people from all walks of life served God daily during the holiday season. Tacoma Central is a family. For some it's all they have, and for others it's an extended family.

Tacoma Central Church members show thanks every day by serving God daily in continuous outreach and evangelism programs, and the holiday season was no excep-



JESSE SANDERS

Tacoma Central Church opened its doors for a community Thanksgiving dinner.

tion. During the Thanksgiving Sabbath and Thanksgiving community dinner, Tacoma Central chose to contribute their gifts from God to the community in need by providing a dinner and coming together like a family.

The love, time and resources given at Thanksgiving continue throughout the year at Tacoma Central. Members feel welcome year-round because this church family is a home they can rely on.

— Belinda Laju

Katie Henderson, Washington Conference communication intern



WILLIE IWANKIW



WILLIE IWANKIW

Kent Church members of all ages provided 76 Thanksgiving meals to community members this year.

## ADVENTIST HEALTH PORTLAND AFFILIATES WITH OHSU

**A**dventist Health Portland and Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU) formally announced an agreement recently to form an affiliation to better serve the metropolitan population of Portland, Ore. This relationship becomes effective Jan. 1, 2018.

Under the affiliation, both organizations will operate as a unified system of clinical services and share a financial bottom line for those services. Each, however, will retain its unique mission, existing hospital licenses, capital assets and employees.

The *Gleaner* talked with Joyce Newmyer, president of the Adventist Health Pacific Northwest Region, who offered some helpful information about this new collaboration.

**GLEANER:** *This is a big change for Adventist Health Portland.*

**JOYCE NEWMYER:** It is, and it isn't. Our sacred mission and sacred calling to the healing ministry of Jesus Christ by living God's love is not changing. Our culture as an Adventist hospital remains the same. What we are already known for will continue to define us. We'll continue as an Adventist Health-owned entity,



Joyce Newmyer, Adventist Health Pacific Northwest Region president

directing our unique mission and supporting our dedicated ministry team to provide hope and healing to our communities. But our ability to do much more on behalf of this mission, to reach the people of Portland and beyond, will be enhanced through a clinically integrated network of services. That means patients from Adventist Health Portland will have greater access to specialists and OHSU patients will have greater access to primary care inpatient services.

**G:** *Following the recent closure of Walla Walla General Hospital, this new step might feel to some like Adventist Health is retreating from the Northwest. Why does this make sense for the Adventist Health mission in Portland?*

**JN:** Well, first of all, we are not retreating from the Pacific Northwest. Our impact in the Northwest will in fact expand. I can understand why that may feel counterintuitive to those in the Walla Walla Valley. We are heartbroken that we could not find a lasting solution there for the staff and patients of Walla Walla General Hospital. The challenges of operating in that location were long-standing. Throughout the years good people made the best decisions they could with the information available at the time. It wasn't enough. This new direction for the greater Portland area will help us avoid some of those same challenges in the light of a rapidly changing health care environment. This affiliation makes sense because it will enable us to expand our mission to more people. We'll have access to resources and personnel we wouldn't otherwise have. This agreement benefits both Adventist Health and OHSU. It is difficult, perhaps even impossible to effectively compete — and therefore carry out our mission — when the market is dominated by larger provider networks. This gives us both an ability to make real headway, to make a much greater impact in our communities.

**G:** *So the Adventist Health mission in the Northwest is not in jeopardy?*

**JN:** No, I believe our mission will have a greater opportunity than ever to touch more people. Our mission is not negotiable. It will not be watered down by any affiliation. It is who we are as people and as an organization. Our mission is simple: living God's love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope. That was and is central to Jesus' ministry, and, in my opinion, it will always be what defines our Adventist mission in health care.

**G:** *Oregon Health Sciences University is not a faith-based organization. Do you see a problem with two dissimilar organizations working together in light of the spiritual mission of Adventist Health?*

**JN:** I have found great respect from the leadership of OHSU for our faith-based mission and services, and we in turn respect the values they have exhibited throughout Oregon and beyond. We are both dedicated to healing and serving. Our Adventist Health team carries out mission in the name of our Lord, and I do not expect any roadblocks for our unique method of ministry. There are, in fact, many at OHSU who are people of faith, who greatly appreciate



the added spiritual dimension this affiliation brings to the communities served by both entities.

**G:** *Even though the Adventist Health corporate office has begun rolling out a new visual branding design for all of its hospitals, Adventist Health Portland has not.*

**JN:** Correct. Some of our Portland area members will soon notice that our Portland-area facilities will adopt and display the OHSU flame logo along with the words “Adventist Health.” That is not an indication that we’ve been swallowed up by OHSU, but it is an obvious reflection of this new affiliation. We’re calling it a shared brand experience. Both organizations will be represented by the design. We will face our communities together — no one is going away.

**G:** *In practical terms, what will stay the same and what will change at Adventist Health Portland?*

**JN:** Well, beyond the noticeable difference in affiliation branding, much will carry on unchanged. Our mission and vision delivery will not change. Our staff will continue to be employed through Adventist Health and do their extraordinary lifesaving work as usual. Our leaders will continue to be active in mission at their own local Adventist churches. Our close working relationship with the Walla Walla University School of Nursing will remain unchanged. Our employees will continue to care for the mind, body and spirit of all who entrust us with their care. Our leaders will lead with the values we hold dear. But, speaking of leaders,



Adventist Health's Bill Wing and OHSU's Joe Robertson respond in kind after the official signing.

David Russell, our Adventist Health Portland president, will now report to two leadership teams. He will report to me at the Adventist Health Pacific Northwest Region office and also to one of the OHSU executives. He will get to meet not only with our existing Adventist Health Portland governing board, but also with a combined board of managers who will oversee affiliate operations. Our administrative team will be fully accountable to both organizations.



David Russell, Adventist Health Portland president

**G:** *There have been some significant changes recently in the employment picture at Adventist Health Portland. Are these related to the affiliation?*

**JN:** No, most of these have come from a reorganization in how Adventist Health is accomplishing basic services. For instance, much of the accounting and payroll services has been moved to the corporate office in Roseville, Calif. Rather than duplicating those services throughout our 20 Adventist Health hospitals, they are now being centralized in one place — thus eliminating some redundancy across the system.

**G:** *Is this affiliation in Portland the start of a trend for Adventist Health?*

**JN:** I cannot predict the future, but there are indeed huge challenges in health care that are only increasing. In certain market situations, affiliate relationships can be an

effective course. We believe it to be so here in Portland. More than 100 such agreements across the country were consummated just last year. The entire health delivery system across the nation is dramatically shifting. We have to ensure we are doing our part to be good stewards of the community’s resources to have a sustainable presence in Portland for years to come. Only time will tell if other Adventist Health entities will find this to be an effective answer to serving their communities.

**G:** *So you can assure our Northwest members that this new affiliation will only enhance the Adventist Health mission?*

**Our mission is not negotiable. It will not be watered down by any affiliation. It is who we are as people and as an organization.**

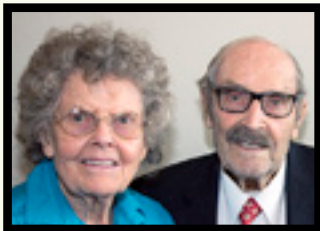
**JN:** It is my personal commitment, and that of our Adventist Health Portland leadership team, that every decision we make going forward will be passed through the spiritual filter of our mission — living God’s love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope. This is not an area open to compromise. Our Adventist roots in healing ministry are solid, strong and unchanged. This new effort is all about expanding, not changing, our mission.

**Read the official release on the new affiliation agreement issued jointly by Adventist Health and OHSU on Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2017, at [glnr.in/113-01\\_ah](http://glnr.in/113-01_ah).**

**Beavon 70th**

Fred and Velma Beavon celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on Aug. 24, 2017, as family joined them at their residence of 31 years on the shoreline of Flathead Lake, Mont.

As Fred was looking out his dorm window at Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University, in Berrien Springs, Mich.) he saw Velma Boelter and exclaimed to his roommate, "I'm going to marry that girl!" At the time, Fred was studying theology and Velma was taking Bible workers training. They married on Aug. 24, 1947, at the Raymond Church in Wisconsin. Velma wore a white satin dress she made herself. In recent years she repurposed her dress into keepsake pillows for her grandchildren.



Velma and Fred Beavon

Following their honeymoon on Gull Lake, Mich., they worked in evangelism with J.L. Shuler and pastored a couple churches in the Detroit area. Their ministry continued in the Manastee District where they pastored four churches and started one of the first Pathfinders club.

In the summer of 1949 Fred directed the waterfront activities for the first camp session at renowned Camp Au Sable.

Their next move was to Lansing, Mich., where Fred served for eight years as youth leader for the Michigan Conference. Following was a move to Berrien Springs where he took a position as youth leader for the Lake Union Conference for 10 years.

In 1968 Fred and Velma and their three sons — Eric, Fred and Ted — moved to Bozeman, Mont., where Fred took a sabbatical and study leave in order to have more family time.

Following his studies in business and law, Fred accepted the position as trust and stewardship director at Mount Ellis Academy in Bozeman, Mont. After their sons finished their education, they moved to Gresham, Ore., where Fred took the position of professional relations with the Northwest Medical Foundation.

Next the couple moved to Alaska where Fred became the mission president. Finally they returned to Montana where Fred directed the trust, stewardship and Sabbath school departments.

Their son, Eric, helped them build their retirement home in 1985 on the shoreline of Flathead Lake where they still live. Their retirement years have made possible volunteer trips with Marantha International and Mission Projects Incorporated.

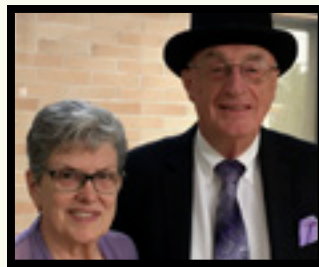
**Godman 50th**

Dan and Nancy Godman celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 3, 2017, at the Havstad Alumni Center on the campus of Walla Walla University, in College Place, Wash.

Dan Godman married Nancy Knopp on Sept. 3, 1967, at Lynnwood Church in Spokane, Wash., attended by many family and friends. After they purchased a brand-new, red GTO sports car, they were set.

In 1970, their son, Don, came along. Two years later, their little girl, Debra, was born. Out went the GTO and in came the Datsun station wagon.

Through the years they have had many adventures: Dan's work at several universities, including WWU and WSU; building a



Nancy and Dan Godman

house from ground up in Pullman, Wash.; heading a successful campaign to pay off Moscow Church; Nancy's earning top saleswoman for Tupperware in Washington state; owning and operating a dairy farm in Elk, Wash.; business management and executive secretary work at Milo Adventist Academy in Days Creek, Ore., and putting it on strong financial footing; 20 years at Oregon Conference with Don in treasury and Nancy at the Adventist Book Center; getting their children all the way through Adventist education with WWU college degrees with no debt; and retiring to Milton-Freewater, Ore.

Dan and Nancy attend the Village Church in College Place, Wash., and have a small farm, Briar Patch, that keeps them busy along with volunteering at Gospel Outreach and looking after Nancy's mother, who is 96 years young.

The Godman family includes Don and Lennae Warwick Godman of Nampa, Idaho; Debra and Dave McCarver of Nampa; Nancy's mother, Velva Knopp of Walla Walla, Wash.; and 6 grandchildren.

**Hieb 90th**

On July 1 and 2, 2017, 50 family members came together for a weekendlong celebration for Lyndel Hieb's 90th birthday.

Lyndel was born Jan. 14, 1967, to Irene and Harold Peterson in Minneapolis, Minn., where she grew up the oldest of five children. She did most of her schooling in Minneapolis, graduating from

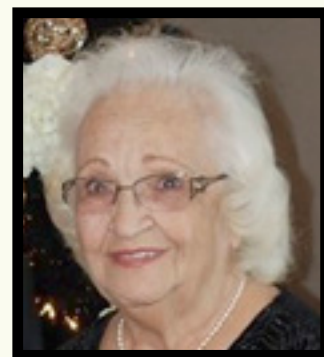
Maple Plain Academy in 1945 and received a teaching certificate from Union College in Lincoln, Neb.

She was teaching at a small country school in North Dakota, when she met Archie Hieb. After a short courtship of two and a half months, they were married and lived near Cleveland, N.D., for the next 27 years.

Lyndel kept busy raising eight children and helping on the farm and was an active church member in Cleveland. After sending their first four boys to boarding academy and college, they moved to Walla Walla, Wash., in 1973, where the last four children attended Walla Walla Valley Academy and Walla Walla College.

Lyndel has always been an excellent seamstress and has enjoyed many other hobbies such as tole painting, ceramics, knitting, reading and crossword puzzles. Lyndel and Archie have been married for 70 years and still live in their home of 44 years.

Her family includes sons, Bruce and Patti (Albrecht) Hieb of Loveland, Colo.; Randy and Susan (Elliott) Hieb of Las Vegas, Nev.; Brian Hieb of North Carolina; daughters, Kris and John Christensen of Walla Walla, Wash.; Kandyce and Keith Hallem of Atlanta, Ga.; Kenda Cleveland of Vancouver, Wash.; 16 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. Her sons Jon Hieb and Michael Hieb are both deceased.



Lyndel Hieb

**CARRILLO** — Alexander Eli was born June 22, 2017, to Lucas and Karen Carrillo of Boise, Idaho.

**GALVEZ BLOOD** — Elijah Gabriel was born Nov. 17, 2017, to Jaime Galvez and Heather Blood of Newport, Wash.

## FAMILY AT REST

**BENSON** — Barbara Arline (Booth), 71; born April 30, 1946, Seattle, Wash.; died May 21, 2017, Fremont, Calif. Surviving: husband, Frank; son, Michael, San Jose, Calif.; daughters, Maignon Davey, Sacramento, Calif.; Jyl Benson, Fremont; Shelly Harding, Newton, Miss.; brothers, Wayne Booth, Silverdale, Wash.; Jimmy Booth, Austin, Texas; Keith Corvelo, Grass Valley, Calif.; John Corvelo, Los Angeles, Calif.; sisters, Mary Wilson, Fremont; Tammy Brooks, Big Trees, Mont.; 12 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

**BLAKELY** — Virginia Louise (Willard), 93; born April 17, 1924, Provo, Utah; died Aug. 3, 2017, Battle Ground, Wash. Surviving: husband, Fred T.; sons, Ken F., Las Cruces, N.M.; Wayne W., Yacont, Wash.; daughter, Carole L. Anderson, Battle Ground; brothers, Clyde Willard, Portland, Ore.; Gene Willard, High Springs, Fla.; Bob Willard, Yoder, Wyo.; sister, Evelyn Rockwell Klotz, Paradise, Calif.; 3 grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, 4 step-great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

**CONLEY** — Annette Louise (Warner), 63; born July 27, 1953, Montebello, Calif.; died July 8, 2017, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: husband, Gene R.; son, Gene R. Jr., Washougal,

Wash.; daughter, Kimberly Elyse Conley, Loma Linda, Calif.; father, Eugene V. Warner, Fresno, Calif.; brothers, Eugene “Todd” V. Warner Jr., Fresno, Calif.; David Warner, San Diego, Calif.; sisters, Roxanne Warner, Lebanon, Ore.; Martha Ann Warner and Kori Warner, both of Fresno, Calif.

**ERLANDSON** — Ann Louise (Krakenberg), 89; born Aug. 7, 1927, Portland, Ore.; died March 26, 2017, Gresham, Ore.

**GERHARDT** — James Richard, 83; born Sept. 17, 1934, in Missouri; died Sept. 21, 2017, Pleasant Hill, Ore. Surviving: wife, Joyce (Lange) Rowell; sons, James Gerhardt, Klamath Falls, Ore.; Christopher Gerhardt, Richmond, Va.; daughters, Julie (Gerhardt) Wehling, Oregon City, Ore.; Cynthia (Gerhardt) Thompson, Portland, Ore.; Jennifer (Gerhardt) Samujh, Daly City, Calif.; stepson, Edward Rowell Jr., Pleasant Hill, Ore.; 12 grandchildren, 20 step-grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren and 25 step-great-grandchildren.

**HANNAH** — Harry F. Jr., 95; born Feb. 1, 1922, Linn, Ind.; died Aug. 17, 2017, Beaverton, Ore. Surviving: son, Randy, Dayton, Ohio; daughter, Candace Duncan, Beaverton; 3 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

**JONES** — Mabel M. (Jacobson), 103; born June 29, 1913, Arena, N.D.; died Aug. 30, 2017, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: daughters, Janet Biloff, Fresno, Calif.; Patsy Wagner, Walla Walla; Vera Morrow and Vicki Harrison, both of Longview, Wash.; Judith Lastra, Pomona, Calif.; 5 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

**OTZENBERGER** — Beulah Mae (Bloom), 88; born June 22, 1929, Baker City, Ore.; died Aug. 26, 2017, Hermiston, Ore.

Surviving: son, Steve Layman, Hermiston; daughter, Sue Phykitt, Jacksonville, Fla.; sister, Lagreta Johnson, Hermiston; and 8 grandchildren.

**PAULSON** — Josephine Louise (Roby) Myers, 84; born July 30, 1932, Port Townsend, Wash.; died June 12, 2017, Everett, Wash. Surviving: sons, Richard Myers and Donald Myers, both of Gig Harbor, Wash.; Alfred Myers, Tonasket, Wash.; Ralph Myers, Thornton, Colo.; daughter, Bernice (Myers) Brower, Everett, Wash.; adopted sons, Franco Hernandez-Paulson and Julio Hernandez-Paulson, both of SeaTac, Wash.; many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

**PETERSON** — Rulene Elizabeth (Karr) Guth, 91; born Dec. 5, 1925, Madison, Wis.; died Sept. 10, 2017, Milwaukie, Ore. Surviving: son, Jerry Guth, College Place, Wash.; daughters, Ruth (Guth) Sheidler, Medical Lake, Wash.; Gail (Guth) Horton, Gladstone, Ore.; Carol (Guth) Davidson, Portland, Ore.; 8 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

**PORTER** — Larrie Lee, 83; born Aug. 6, 1933, Cottage Grove, Ore.; died June 15, 2017, Portland, Ore. Surviving: wife, Glenda LaVon (Mann), Vancouver, Wash.; sons, Larrie D., Vancouver; Denis, Monroe, Wash.; James, Vancouver; daughter, Sheron Alvarez, Tillamook, Ore.; 8 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

**SISS** — Hazel I. (Remington), 84; born Aug. 1, 1932, Sumas, Wash.; died Jan. 9, 2017, Chico, Calif. Surviving: husband, Herb; sons, Don Calvin, Portland, Ore.; and Stewart Douglas, Oroville, Calif.

**THORNTON** — John Herbert “Skip,” 75; born Sept. 4, 1941, Seattle, Wash.; died June 17, 2017,

Las Vegas, Nev. Surviving: sons, Tyler, Vancouver, Wash.; Tony, Eugene, Ore.; brothers, Tim Thornton, Olympia, Wash.; sisters, Aleta Hubbard, of Missouri; Penny Thornton, Port Angeles, Wash.; and 6 grandchildren.

**TOMLINSON** — Sheryl Beth, 69; born Sept. 16, 1947, Tillamook, Ore.; died Aug. 23, 2017, Spokane, Wash. Surviving: brothers, Richard, Las Vegas, Nev.; Steven, Hermiston, Ore.; sisters, Geraldine Ruth, Echo, Ore.; Elizabeth Tomlinson, Garfield, Wash.; and Sharon Strunk, Ketchikan, Alaska.

**TORKELSEN** — IvyJo (Larsen), 91; born May 22, 1926, Genoa, Colo.; died June 26, 2017, Ashland, Ore. Surviving: sons, Jere, Jon, Jesse Somer and Bill Howey; 6 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**WIEBE** — Louella (Schild), 101; born Dec. 5, 1915, Harvey, N.D.; died Sept. 12, 2017, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: son, William D., Lacey, Wash.; brother, John Schild, Harvey; sisters, Marge Weems, Willows, Calif.; Lucy Bowman, San Leandro, Calif.; and 2 grandchildren.

The *Gleaner* also accepts expanded obituary announcements with short bio and photo. For submission and cost info, contact [info@gleanernow.com](mailto:info@gleanernow.com) or call 360-857-7043.

**Go to [GleanerNow.com/](http://GleanerNow.com/) contribute to submit family announcements.**

The North Pacific Union Conference *Gleaner* accepts family listings as a service to members of Adventist churches in the Northwest. While this information is not intended as an endorsement of any facts or relationships represented, the *Gleaner* does not knowingly print content contrary to the biblical beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

### Offering

- Jan. 6** — Local Church Budget;  
**Jan. 13** — Local Conference Advance;  
**Jan. 20** — Local Church Budget;  
**Jan. 27** — North American Division: Religious Liberty;  
**Feb. 3** — Local Church Budget;  
**Feb. 10** — World Budget: Adventist Television Ministries;  
**Feb. 17** — Local Church Budget;  
**Feb. 24** — Local Conference Advance.

## IDAHO CONFERENCE

### Missing Members

The Wood River Valley Church in Hailey, Idaho, is looking for missing member Maria Borges. If you have any information about her, please contact the church clerk, Juli Miller, by email at [topcub2@earthlink.net](mailto:topcub2@earthlink.net), by phone at 916-717-4118, or by mail to Church Clerk, Wood River Valley Church, PO Box 2642, Hailey, ID 83333.

## OREGON CONFERENCE

### His Praise Men's Chorus

**Jan. 20** — His Praise Men's Chorus will be presenting two concerts. The first concert is during the 9:30 a.m. service in the Estacada Church, 207 N. Broadway St., Estacada, OR 97023. Meet the singers afterward at a potluck luncheon provided by the church members and chorus families. For more information about this concert, call Greg Sandidge, Estacada bulletin secretary, 503-630-7189. The second concert will be at 3 p.m. in the Sunnyside Church, 10501 SE Market St., Portland, OR 97216. Attendees can meet and greet the singers after the concert. For more information about this concert, call Rosie Bixel, Sunnyside Church secretary, 503-252-8080. His Praise is a group of about 25 men, directed by Charlie Drury and drawn from the Portland, Ore./Vancouver, Wash., area and from all walks of life, who have one thing in common: They love to sing gospel music. For more information about the chorus, call Jerry Irvine, His Praise scheduling coordinator, 206-261-6452, or Wes Wilbur, His Praise president, 360-936-1401.

### Yacolt Church Dedication

**Jan. 20** — Inviting all former members, past and present to the dedication for Yacolt (Amboy) Adventist Community Church, 32605 S. Parcel Ave., Yacolt, WA 98675. Following the dedication there will be a fellowship potluck. For more information, call Carl at 360-607-9023 or Annetta at 360-687-3716.

### Central Valley Christian School Turns 60

**Feb. 17** — Help us spread the word to any and all students, faculty and staff who attended Central Valley Christian School or Central Valley Junior Academy in Tangent, Ore., even if they didn't graduate; we want to celebrate together. Save the date for Saturday. A school-hosted church service, lunch, afternoon alumni event and evening dessert auction fundraiser

are all things to look forward to. Please call 541-928-7820, email [contact@cvcs.edu](mailto:contact@cvcs.edu) or send us a message via Facebook [facebook.com/centralvalleychristianschool](https://www.facebook.com/centralvalleychristianschool) to be added to our mailing list for a formal invitation.

## UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

### UCA Alumni Chapter Meetings

Upper Columbia Academy hosts brunch for the 2018 Alumni Chapter Meetings beginning Jan. 21 in Portland, Ore.; Jan. 28 in Walla Walla, Wash.; and Feb. 11 in Loma Linda, Calif. These offer a chance to meet with the principal and alumni director, ask questions and learn about current happenings at UCA. For more information, contact [alumni@ucca.org](mailto:alumni@ucca.org) or 509-245-3692.

### UCA Second Annual Spring Gala

**April 22** — Michael Card concert during the UCA second annual Spring Gala. For table reservations, please contact [alumni@ucca.org](mailto:alumni@ucca.org) or 509-245-3692.

## WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

### Men's Chorus Event Needs Male Singers

Wanted: Male singers, 12-92, for a large men's chorus event at Auburn Academy on Feb. 3. No auditions needed. If you'd like to participate, contact Doug Woods at [dougndonnawoods@gmail.com](mailto:dougndonnawoods@gmail.com) or 253-951-4218.

## WORLD CHURCH

### Union College Homecoming

**April 5-8** — Honor classes are 1948, 1958, 1963, 1968, 1978, 1988, 1993, 1998 and 2008. For more information, contact the alumni office at 401-486-2503 or [alumni@ucollege.edu](mailto:alumni@ucollege.edu). Union College, 3800 S. 48th St., Lincoln, NE 68506.

MORE EVENTS LISTED AT [GLEANERNOW.COM/EVENTS](http://GLEANERNOW.COM/EVENTS).



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**Classes**

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**Employment**

**SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** is seeking an online adjunct professor(s) to teach part-time courses in newly organized senior living management certificate program through the department of business. Submit cover letter and current CV/resume to denise.rivera@swau.edu. Candidates must have industry-specific (independent living, assisted living, memory care) knowledge and/or experience and a minimum of a master's degree in a related field. Preference given with prior teaching experience.

**SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** is looking for a full-time English professor with a Ph.D. Candidates with a degree in any literature or writing specialty will be considered.

Send a CV to Dr. Judy Myers Laue, Chair, Department of English, Southwestern Adventist University, 100 W. Hillcrest Street, Keene, TX 76059, or lauej@swau.edu.

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**THE EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT** at Southwestern Adventist University invites applications for a full-time faculty position. Preferred candidates will hold a doctorate in educational psychology or secondary

education and have university teaching experience. Master's degree considered. Must have or be able to obtain a Texas teaching credential. Send CV and cover letter to Dr. Donna Berkner, [dberkner@swau.edu](mailto:dberkner@swau.edu).

**SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** seeks a full-time systematic theology faculty member for 2018–2019. Ph.D. preferred; master's degree considered. Successful candidates will have teaching and pastoral experience. Send CV and cover letter to Dr. Amy Rosenthal, [arosenal@swau.edu](mailto:arosenal@swau.edu).

**Events**

**ROSARIO SINGLES RETREAT**, April 5–8, 2018, in Anacortes, Wash., with keynote speaker Marvin Wray. Experience a spiritual, social and fun time. Registration opens March 1,

2018. Join the retreat email list, [WashingtonASAM@gmail.com](mailto:WashingtonASAM@gmail.com).

**LOMA LINDA ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND**, April 13–14. Honoring all classes ending in 3 or 8. Special honored 50-year class of 1968. For more details on your class reunion, visit [lla.org/alumni](http://lla.org/alumni).

**LAURELWOOD ACADEMY** Class of 1963 Reunion. Dinner/program on July 24; picnic at Oaks Park in Portland on July 25. Oregon register: Dean at 503-784-6264, [dean@deanpayne.net](mailto:dean@deanpayne.net) or Lynda at 971-235-5878, [lydurbin@gmail.com](mailto:lydurbin@gmail.com).

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January	5	12	19	26	February	2	9	16	23	
<b>ALASKA CONFERENCE</b>										
Anchorage	3:58	4:13	4:30	4:48		5:08	5:27	5:47	6:06	
Fairbanks	3:03	3:23	3:45	4:09		4:34	4:58	5:22	5:45	
Juneau	3:22	3:34	3:49	4:04		4:21	4:38	4:55	5:12	
Ketchikan	3:31	3:42	3:54	4:08		4:23	4:38	4:53	5:07	
<b>IDAHO CONFERENCE</b>										
Boise	5:22	5:29	5:38	5:47		5:56	6:06	6:15	6:25	
La Grande	4:23	4:31	4:40	4:50		5:00	5:10	5:20	5:30	
Pocatello	5:09	5:17	5:25	5:34		5:43	5:52	6:01	6:11	
<b>MONTANA CONFERENCE</b>										
Billings	4:43	4:51	5:00	5:10		5:20	5:31	5:41	5:51	
Havre	4:37	4:46	4:56	5:06		5:18	5:29	5:40	5:52	
Helena	4:54	5:02	5:12	5:22		5:32	5:43	5:53	6:04	
Miles City	4:30	4:38	4:48	4:58		5:08	5:18	5:29	5:39	
Missoula	5:01	5:09	5:19	5:29		5:39	5:50	6:01	6:11	
<b>OREGON CONFERENCE</b>										
Coos Bay	4:55	5:02	5:10	5:19		5:29	5:38	5:48	5:57	
Medford	4:52	5:00	5:08	5:17		5:26	5:35	5:44	5:53	
Portland	4:41	4:49	4:58	5:07		5:17	5:28	5:38	5:48	
<b>UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE</b>										
Pendleton	4:25	4:33	4:42	4:52		5:02	5:12	5:22	5:32	
Spokane	4:12	4:20	4:30	4:40		4:51	5:02	5:13	5:24	
Walla Walla	4:22	4:30	4:39	4:49		4:59	5:09	5:20	5:30	
Wenatchee	4:24	4:33	4:42	4:52		5:03	5:14	5:25	5:36	
Yakima	4:28	4:37	4:46	4:56		5:06	5:17	5:27	5:38	
<b>WASHINGTON CONFERENCE</b>										
Bellingham	4:28	4:36	4:46	4:57		5:08	5:20	5:31	5:42	
Seattle	4:32	4:40	4:50	5:00		5:11	5:22	5:33	5:44	
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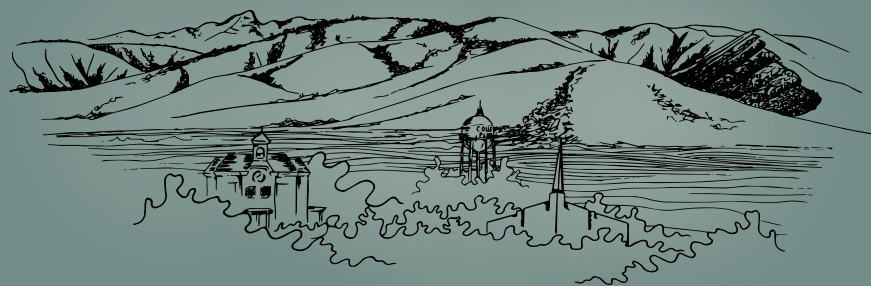
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# FALSE EXPECTATIONS

T

here was an island where a few Englishmen, Frenchmen and Germans lived in 1914. It was so remote that news arrived every 60 days. In September, when news finally came, they learned that for more than six weeks now English and French people had been fighting over the sanctity of treaties against Germans.

For six weeks, these disparate people on the island had acted as if they were friends, when in fact they were enemies. Four years later an armistice was reached. Yet in the time it took to get that news to the battlefield, young men continued to fight and die as if the war was still on. In his book *Public Opinion*, Walter Lippmann notes, “Looking back we can see how indirect we know the environment in which we nevertheless live ... Whatever we believe to be a true picture, we treat as if it were the environment itself” (p. 4).

The world is too complex to know everything directly, so we reconstruct simpler mental pictures to navigate life, and those mental pictures create expectations for how the world is supposed to function. What if the people we fight with aren't really our enemies — or vice versa? What if our conflicts are rooted in false assumptions rather than reality?

God desired Cain to sacrifice the blood of a lamb to Him on the family altar, but instead Cain sacrificed his brother on the altar



AUTHOR

Seth Pierce

know everything directly, so we reconstruct simpler

of his own anger. Cain thought the way to get ahead was to tear apart other people who were doing well. When God confronts him about the murder, Cain replies, “Not my problem.” Where did this kid get the expectation we don’t have to own up to our wrongs? Male Hollywood producers and American politicians hadn’t been invented yet. Oh, right. I guess the forbidden fruit hadn’t fallen far from the tree ...

When God called Abram to travel to a new world with his wife, they passed through Egyp-



## Cain sacrificed his brother on the altar of his own anger.

was distressed. I would be too. What a creepy family. He didn't want to execute John, but his guests expected him to honor his promise. Sometimes the expectations of our peers and our culture override common sense, and good people end up casualties to our perceived social obligations.

In our final scenario, Peter told Jesus he would never deny Him. Even if everyone fails, he said, Jesus could expect him to remain faithful. That sounded good until he denied Jesus not once but three times. After it happened, Scripture says Peter “went out and wept bitterly” (Luke 22:62). Have you ever wept because you couldn't live up to all the expectations you place on yourself?

One way you can discover some of those expectations is by noticing how many times the word “should” is used in your internal monologue. We project the word “should” on ourselves and others with regard to spouses, kids, career goals, etc. Too often, though, those expectations are based on practices and cultures we have never thoughtfully evaluated. We sometimes assume societal

norms are correct or treat the expectations of others as if they were the gospel itself. Let's not forget — people crucified Jesus because He didn't fulfill their expectations. So cut yourself a break. Even God can't make everyone happy.

Expectations aren't bad — they are a part of life. We need them to help us navigate our highly nuanced world ... as long as they are true. Too often we assume they are true because they match preconceived ideas or our own limited experience.

This month take time to think through your expectations in some areas in which you experience conflict. *What are my expectations? Where did they come from? Are they rooted in God's love? Do they actually fit this relationship?* Jesus tells us, “Stop judging by mere appearances and make a right judgment” (John 7:24). That includes the “appearances” we carry around in our heads that lead to false expectations.

*Seth Pierce, Puyallup Church lead pastor*

tian territory and it made Abram nervous. So, he asked Sarai to pretend to be his sister so they wouldn't kill him to take his wife. Believing that lie, Pharaoh took Sarai to his house, but, the text says, “the Lord afflicted Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram's wife. So, Pharaoh called Abram and said, ‘What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife?’” (Gen. 12:17–18). Unfortunately this wouldn't be

the last time Abram, or men in general, expected their wives to be someone other than who they are.

King Herod arrested John the Baptist for calling him out on his shady divorce and remarriage. During Herod's birthday party his stepdaughter danced for him (which hopefully grates on your family expectations), and he promised her anything she wanted. Scripture says her mom told her to request John the Baptist's head (Mark 6:24–25). Herod

# 2018: COMFORTABLE OR COURAGEOUS?

W

ill 2018 be the year you escape your comfort zone to live courageously for Jesus?

Some Northwest Adventists devote themselves daily to pursuing Jesus and helping others find Him. They do this amid life's demanding responsibilities in the marketplace, classroom or at home caring for loved ones young or old.

Meanwhile, others of us are merely aspirational. *Someday I'll do something for Jesus!* Then another year goes by with our witness stagnant or sporadic, compartmentalized from daily life.

If that's your experience entering this new year, please don't feel guilty. We all fall short of what we could be as ambassadors for Christ. But if you want to narrow that gap, let's take a fresh look at Christ's Great Commission.

First remember that worshipping our Lord precedes service for Him. Unless we come to Jesus and

rest ourselves in Him first thing every day, everything we do for Him is diminished and dysfunctional. So enjoy a morning Psalm or a story from the gospels and pour out your heart to God in prayer. Then what?

Christ commissions us: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing" and "teaching them" (Matt. 28:19–20). But how can even the most devoted layperson find time to "go" and

do something significant for Jesus when inboxes are scolding us with unanswered duties?

The remedy is apparent in a compelling insight into the meaning of the Great Commission: *Jesus may not want us to interrupt our work to "go!" somewhere and share the gospel.*

You see, the entire Great Commission passage has only one explicit imperative verb — to "make disciples" or, literally, "discipline."\* The other three verbal words are in par-



AUTHOR

Martin Weber





## The Great Commission is not about cold contacts but about warm relationships.

ticipate form — which means that “go!” should be translated “going,” just as “baptizing” and “teaching” are.

So what? Here’s the point: Jesus doesn’t ask us to “go” and do discipleship as a separate function of life, different from what usually keeps us busy. Instead, as we are going about our lives, He wants discipling mingled into everything we do — a lifestyle activity. As we are “going” about daily duties, Jesus commissions us to keep an eye out for people who need His love.

Do you see it? Jesus wants us to be incarnational — that is, interacting within our everyday world as ambassadors of heaven, fully engaged and engulfed in discipleship — not just as an overseas mission trip but as a whole life experience. That’s because *the Great Commission is not about cold contacts but about*

*warm relationships.* It means more than “go” knock on doors of strangers, interrupting their TV ballgames in hopes of persuading them to enroll in a depersonalized Bible correspondence course. (Yes, there is a place for self-study lessons online and by mail — augmented by local fellowship, if desired.) As we are going about our daily lives, we can make friendships for God with the people He entrusts to our witness in the workplace, marketplace and classroom.

It seems trite yet it’s true: People do not care how much we know until they know how much we care. Many colleagues and neighbors are weary of the world, sick and tired of the antics of celebrities and politicians. When they sense the fragrance of Christ with us, they get curious about what makes us different. This opens the door for us to give a reason for the hope that is in us — not arrogantly but respectfully.

Is there still a place for traditional public evangelistic meetings? Only, in my opinion, if the people invited have experienced our compassion, joyfulness and integrity. Then they will entrust us with their questions about the meaning of life and death, pardon

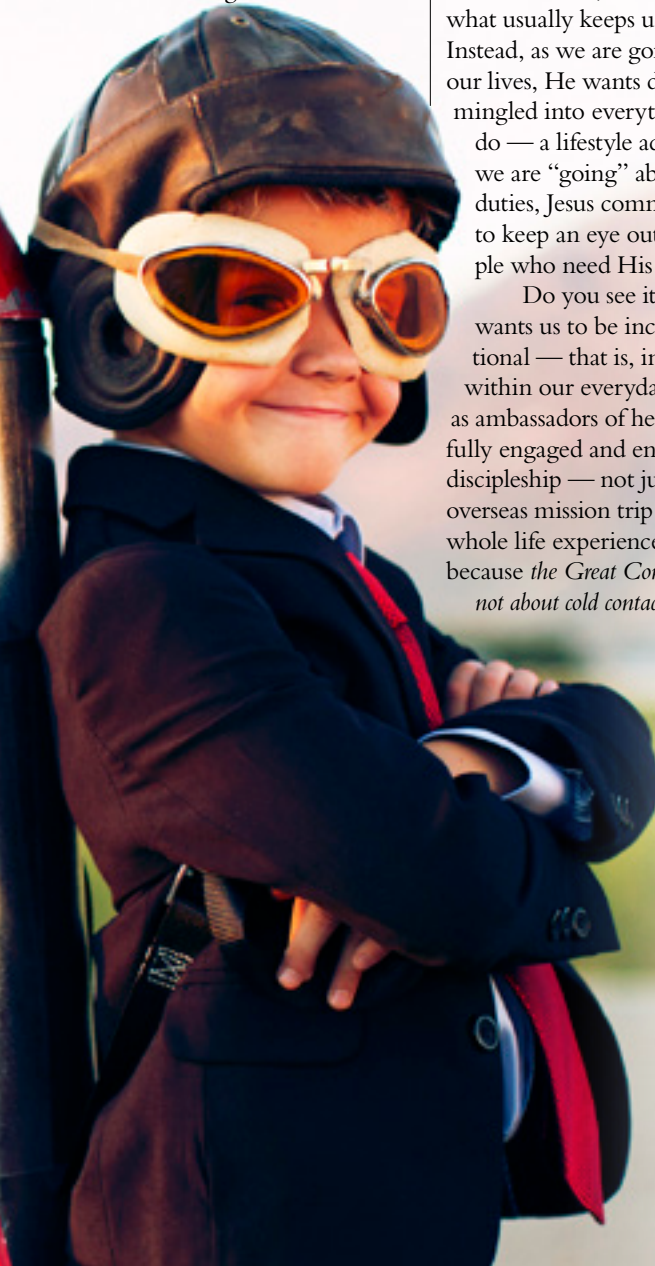
and power, the past and the future. Finally they are ready for answers only Seventh-day Adventists can give. After being baptized, these endeared souls will endure to the end with us — becoming not just disciples but disciple-makers, winning new souls to the incarnate body of Christ.

Only thus will the Great Commission be fulfilled, and finally the work of God will be finished in the world and in the North Pacific Union. Jesus will come and take us to heaven. Just imagine strolling along the streets of gold beside the River of Life. Or feasting at God’s table with your favorite Bible character. Joys now unimaginable will become eternal.

But there’s one thing we can’t do in heaven that we can and must do here and now: shining for God amid the darkness of apathy and apostasy. 2018 can be your breakout year. Pray that it will be mine as well.

*\*Some Bible translations pick up this morphology in the original New Testament Greek, such as Young’s Literal Translation and International Standard Version.*

*Martin Weber, retired from denominational service, is a hospice chaplain.*





# JUST LIKE JESUS

## THE CEDAR CHEST

*“Get rid of all your stuff now. It may have meaning for you – but not for us.”*

THE CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN

**G**

rowing old can be ugly. Stressful, even, especially as our parents grow ill and require additional time and resources. It is painful to

unreadable. Untreatable pain ruined even the good days.

She died softly, at 97 1/2, after praying hundreds of nighttime prayers begging God to allow her to sleep until His bright morning. Finally, He agreed.

My father, age 99-plus, is following.

Painfully. Recently he asked me to remove all the books from his house. “I don’t want them here anymore,” he announced. “Take them and anything else visible. The plants too. I can’t keep them alive.”

That required 10 boxes for books and four for “stuff.” Then he added the chest.

“Take it to your daughter Joy,” Dad said. “It belonged to your mother, June, and Joy ought to have it.”

That took much more space, but we brought it home. For Joy.

But first, for us.

The chest was purchased in Korea in about 1925 by my great aunt, May Ames Rue, the wife of Dr. George Rue. Together, they started the Adventist medical work in Korea. Aunt May gave the beautifully lacquered chest to her mother, my great-grandmother, Vashti Ames. Vashti gave it to my mother.

The chest overflows with 80 years of black-and-white photographs, a palace glittering with tales of family challenges, missionary adventures, successes, failures and the victory of God’s grace.

The pictures have led us to contact cousins, aunts and uncles for additional information. Those conversations have been like relighting dormant lightbulbs. We have shared old stories and new ones, and this time we’ve written them down so we can share them with the next generation of this worldwide family we treasure.

The old cedar chest is far more than a piece of furniture. It is a five-generation link from great-grandma Vashti to our daughter Joy and her family. It is a trail of tears and a trove of celebrations. A reminder of how God works within families. Especially as we age.

*Dick Duerksen, Oregon Conference assistant to the president for creative communications*

**It is a trail of tears and a trove of celebrations.**

feel the fabric of life unwind as we try to wrap it more tightly. “Safety,” “dignity” and “protection” shift meanings as muscles defy commands and memories fog.

A ringing phone brings rational fear. We check the area code and pray for God to wrap our hearts with His wisdom. “Has Dad fallen again?” “Is this from the hospice caregiver?”

My mother, June, died in an auto accident when I was 21. Two years later, Dad married Arlene, a good family friend. Arlene was the bright light of our family for nearly 50 years, teaching the kids to paint ceramics, healing bruises of body and heart, loving the unloved, and constantly uplifting Jesus. She was “Mom” to all.

Her last years were hard. Not just difficult, HARD. The dimming of her eyes brought tears as Bible words became



AUTHOR

Dick Duerksen



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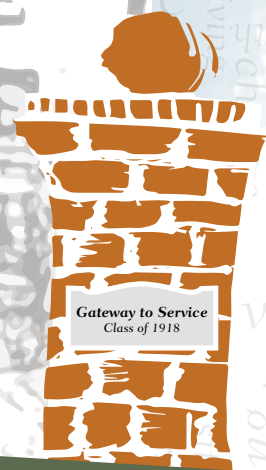
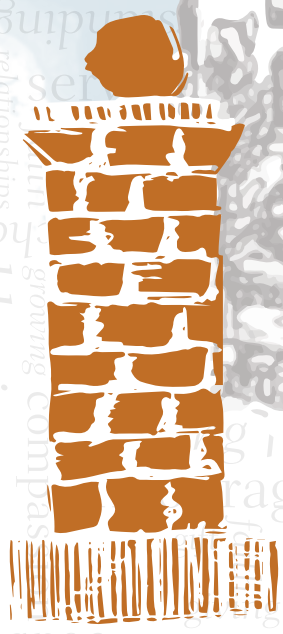
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sharing faith