

Gleaner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION

SEPTEMBER 2011
Vol. 106, No. 9

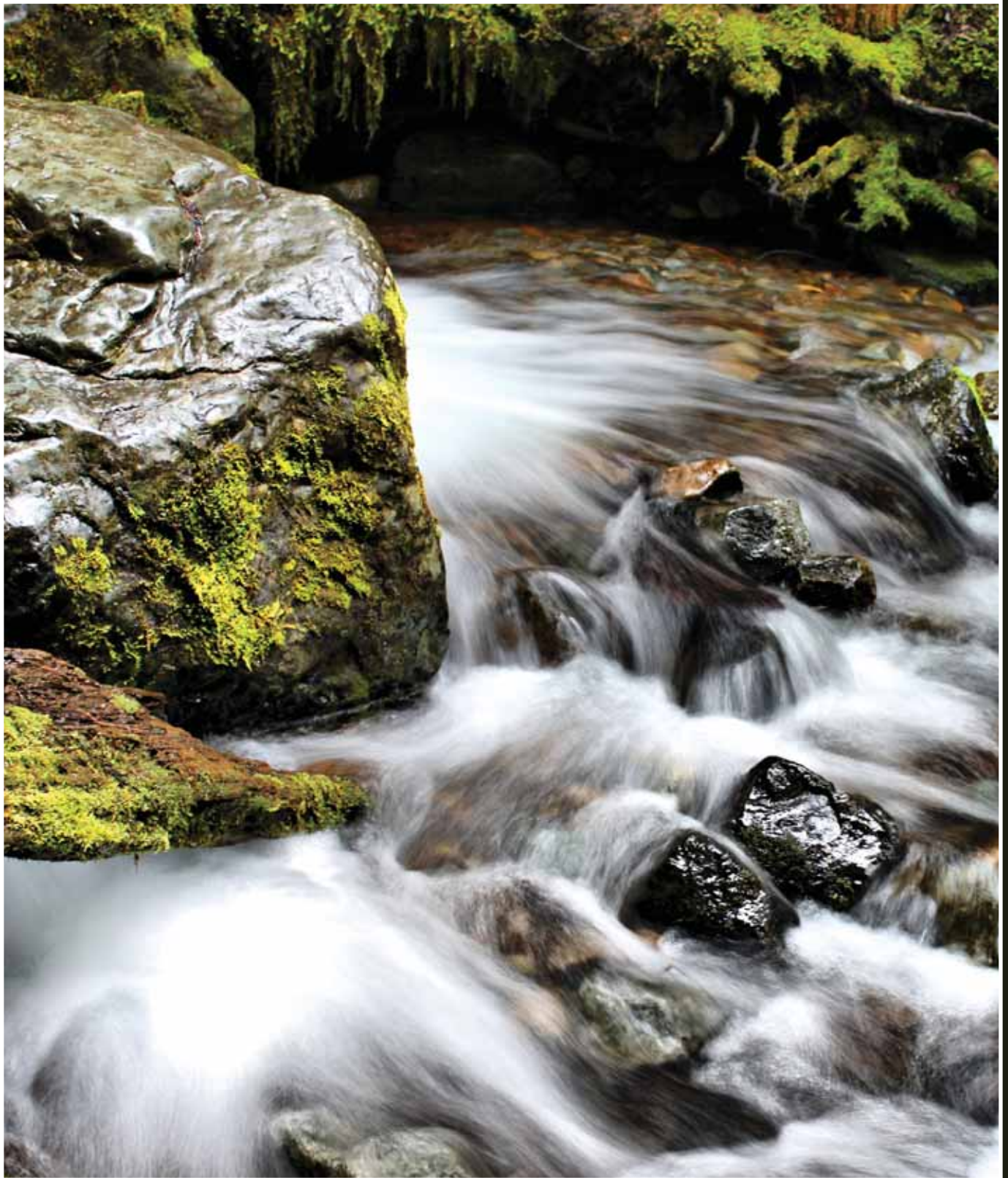
Power Surge

Spirit-Led Ministry

Constituency Report

WWW.GLEANERONLINE.ORG

IMAGES OF CREATION



The words of the mouth are deep waters, but the fountain of wisdom is a rushing stream.
PROVERBS 18:4 (NIV)

'Rainier Creek' in Mt. Rainier National Park by Rick Lawler of Oak Harbor, Washington.

Introduction

Dear fellow members:
The North Pacific Union Conference was organized more than 100 years ago to help members and local conferences share our Adventist message in the Northwest. That mission still binds us together toward a common purpose in preparing others for our Lord's return.

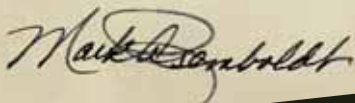
On September 11, delegates will meet on the campus of Walla Walla University for the 27th constituency session of the North Pacific Union Conference. They will act on your behalf to elect NPUC officers and executive committee members charged with leading our church's mission in the Northwest for the next term.

We invite you to review the following reports and evaluate this partnership in our church's mission for yourself. We encourage you to share your thoughts or concerns with any of the delegates listed later in this *GLENER* before the session.

We all have an important part to play. Lynn Horsch, NPUC office maintenance supervisor, and Edma Castillo, receptionist (pictured below) are as important to our Northwest mission as any officer, director or pastor. And so are you.

We are so thankful for your partnership in this mission during the past five years. The days ahead will be both challenging and exciting. We all need a Power Surge from on high to enable us toward Spirit-led mission and ministry. Let's unite in prayer that the Spirit will work in and through us all to share our love for Jesus and hope in His soon return with our friends and neighbors.

Sincerely,
Max Torkelsen II, president
John Loor Jr., secretary
Mark Remboldt, treasurer




NPUC Executive Committee 2006-2011

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Ammon, Donald R. | Libby, Steve * |
| Barahona, Doug | Livesay, Don |
| Borg, Kami * | Loor, John * |
| Canals, Ramon * | Mansker, Alix * |
| Clark, Dick * | McCarthy, Alphonso * |
| Corder, Jon * | McPherson, Stephen |
| Crawford, Ken * | McVay, John * |
| Dodds, Larry | Mead, Don * |
| Dodge, Gary | Montgomery, Donna * |
| Downs, Wendell * | Parks, Gary * |
| Dixon, Harold | Pascoe, Bryce |
| Dunbar, Colin * | Patzner, Jere D. |
| Emori, Grace | Paulsen, Bob * |
| Escalante, German | Pozos, Pedro * |
| Farnsworth, Ruth * | Prest, David * |
| Folkenberg, Bob * | Reimche, Al * |
| Fowler, Judy * | Remboldt, Mark * |
| Freedman, John * | Ro, Dean H. |
| Furne, Ervin * | Roberts, Bill * |
| Galusha, Dale * | Rodriguez, Ben * |
| Haeger, Eric * | Russell, Jerry |
| Hastings, Robert | Sauza, Alvaro * |
| Hernandez, Kathy * | Schroeder, Kimberley * |
| Hoehn, Deanne * | Sigh, Odea |
| Hurlbert, Alan * | Thomas, Conrad * |
| Jimenez, Raymond | Torkelsen, Max * |
| Kenney, Blaine * | Wang, Andre * |
| Klam, Norman | Washington, LeRoy |
| Knowles, Merlin * | Westermeyer, Ann * |
| Lee, Marvin * | * Currently Serving |



Lynn Horsch, NPUC office maintenance supervisor.



Edma Castillo, NPUC receptionist.

NPUC Constituency FAQ

With the North Pacific Union Conference constituency session coming up Sunday, September 11, here are some questions and answers in an attempt to demystify the process. You can view an expanded version of “Frequently Asked Questions” or submit a question of your own on the *GLEANER* Blog at gleaneronline.org. But here, at least, is a start.

How many delegates are involved in the NPUC constituency session?

As we go to press, the official listing of delegates includes about 320 names. The actual number present and voting at the September 11 session will be somewhat less. A delegate must be present to vote. There are no proxy options.

How are they selected?

The majority directly represents and is proportional to local conference membership. Each conference, regardless of its size, is allowed three delegates “at large.” In addition, their executive committees must elect an additional delegate for every 400 members. For instance, the Idaho Conference with approximately 6,300 members has three “at large” delegates, plus 16 additional delegates who represent the membership formula. A majority of these delegates must be lay members without direct ties to church employment. According to the NPUC bylaws, there are also “ex-officio” delegates who represent specific institutions or groups. You can read the exact wording of the bylaws on delegate selection and view a complete listing of all delegates in this issue.

Why is the Walla Walla University constituency session held at the same time and place?

The university’s constituency and delegates are essentially the same as the NPUC, with one small difference: the addition of WWU board members who are not already NPUC delegates. At some point during the day on September 11, the NPUC session will adjourn and the WWU session will convene.

What do the delegates actually vote on?

Delegates will vote on the names for officers (president, secretary and treasurer) recommended by the nominating committee. According to the NPUC constitution, only the three officers are voted into office at the main constituency session. Departmental directors and their associates are selected and approved at the executive committee meeting following the session (in November this year). During lunch, delegates will be grouped by conference to choose recommended names to be presented for a vote later in the afternoon to select the executive committee for the next five-year term. They will also vote on any changes to the bylaws and upon other legal and financial matters.

Is the September 11 session a closed meeting, or can anyone attend?

This is an open meeting, but to ensure equal representation, only the official delegates are allowed to participate and vote. Between now and September 11, each member has an opportunity to find someone on the delegate list with whom to share opinions and concerns.

Do you have a question?

Read more FAQs and join the dialog on the *GLEANER* Blog at gleaneronline.org or via the *GLEANER ON THE GO* mobile device code here.



Get the free mobile app at
<http://gettag.mobi>

A Journey of Faith

The Let's Talk column on "Fate or Faith" in the June 2011 issue of the *GLENER* came at just the right time. We have lost our sister-in-law Nancy Cross to brain cancer, and we take courage from your reminder that "beyond our immediate understanding, God is on His way." She battled glioblastoma for 10 months. We laid her to rest this past Sunday, and are grateful for the "promise of faith." Thank you for your poignant reflections.

Edwin and Marilyn Karlow, Walla Walla, Washington.

Tech-YES

The *GLENER* article entitled "Tech-NO" (Let's Talk, July 2011) brought a smile to my face.

[As children] my sister and I were such voracious readers, we would

rather read than eat or communicate with our family members. And where do you think we learned this "non-communicative" behavior? [This came] from our mother, of course, who took every opportunity to read both silently to herself and aloud to us. Her example of using the "technology" available to her for teaching moments with her children is not lost on us.

Donna Lang, Caldwell, Idaho



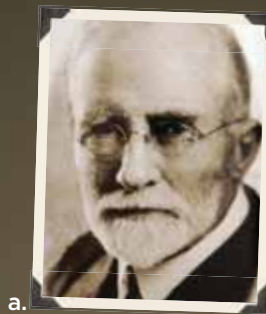
Oops

In the Caring Heart Award Winners article [July 2011 *GLENER*] Herbert Sweezey's parents were not identified correctly. His parents are Robert Sweezey (deceased) and Karen (Muffy) Piper.

FROM THE *GLENER* ARCHIVES

Who Are these Former NPUC Presidents?

Can you identify these distinguished gentlemen? Do the names Walde, Cottrell, Johnston or Scriven tickle your memory? Which name goes with whom? And when did they serve Northwest members? Do your best. Peek if you must at the names and dates printed upside down in extra-small type below.



Answers:
a. Hampton W. Cottrell, 1921-1923
b. Bruce Johnston, 1986-1996
c. C.A. Scriven, 1948-1964
d. Elmer R. Walde, 1969-1976

President

Fast Facts

Summary spiritual gifts.

The office of the president articulates the vision that keeps Adventist work in the Northwest unified. Typically, the union conference president represents the church at various meetings, advises local conference administrators and provides leadership or input to the committees of local conferences, the North American Division and the General Conference. This office seeks to make sure that leadership is accountable to membership.

- › Max Torkelsen II has particular interests in furthering the Lord's work through international communication strategies, including Adventist World Radio and Lifestyle TV.
- › Torkelsen is the co-founder of Bibleinfo.com, a global Internet ministry currently translated in 14 languages.
- › He serves as the vice-chair of the Adventist Health board and is the chair of the Walla Walla University Board of Trustees.

President Mission

The mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the North Pacific Union Conference is to prepare people for the imminent return of Jesus Christ by nurturing, educating and motivating its membership. We will empower our conferences to help each member demonstrate God's character of love through the power of the Holy Spirit and share the gospel message with other people through the development of individual

Max Torkelsen II,
president

Cindy Stewart,
executive assistant



What's Been Accomplished

In completing the term of former president Jere Patzer, we have concentrated on continuing the initiatives he began, including the following areas:

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH — There have been increased continuing education opportunities, including geo-science and New England heritage trips and Reformation tours. A leadership convention has been planned for each quinquennial period to inspire and train pastors and teachers.

PUBLIC AWARENESS — In order to position Adventism in the Northwest as a visible and attractive option, increased study has been given to establishing a greater media presence throughout our territory.

CHURCH PLANTING — Conferences have been encouraged to hire pastors passionate about church planting and educating members in the related outreach. We have been intentional in encouraging the development and hiring of Bible workers.

EVANGELISM — The NPUC-sponsored Momentum series of meetings in various parts of the Northwest has helped inspire a year-round cycle of sowing and reaping.

INFORMED MEMBERSHIP — The *GLEANER* website, weekly GleanerNOW! e-newsletter and social media sites are helping to keep our members connected.

ETHNIC DIVERSITY — We foster our annual black convocations and monthly Spanish-language pages in the *GLEANER*, along with other avenues to support ethnic diversity.

EDUCATION SUMMIT — We held a Northwest-wide education summit to deal with areas of concern related to Adventist education. Our education department continues to work on this process of constantly improving how we teach and train our youth.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH — Along with other personal growth tours and trips, we partnered with Pacific Press and Lightbearers Ministries to publish the New King James Version editions of *The Desire of Ages* and *The Great Controversy*.

GLOBAL MISSION — The NPUC has continued to seek ways to encourage a spirit of global outreach. It continues to positively impact our Northwest students and church members.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY — While we recognize that our mission must determine how finances are allocated, we will carefully use the resources according to responsible and accountable forms of stewardship that honor the Lord and are faithful to the trust of His people.

The Challenges Ahead

While there are many, here are several important areas of focus.

- » Successfully launch a NPUC lay-training plan to equip church members to do Bible work with a goal of eventually having a Bible worker trainer in every church or church district.
- » Implement recommendations from the NPUC Ad Hoc Mission Advisory Study Committee (see the article on pages 26-33) to enable us to downsize the NPUC office need of financial resources while enhancing our partnership with Northwest conferences and churches in fostering frontline ministry.
- » Give greater attention to stewardship education and leadership development at every level of church organization.
- » Emphasize the use of technological advances in user-friendly ways and use these tools effectively for inter-church communication and for evangelistic outreach.
- » Define and implement plans to reach the urban mission fields of the Northwest.
- » Create an inactive member reclamation ministry.
- » Develop an intentional plan for integrating young adults into the life and mission of the church — not just as token members of boards and committees.
- » Develop a passionate pool of lay people anxious, willing and capable of helping accomplish the mission of the church in the Northwest.
- » Establish Adventist education as a core value and reverse the rising costs and declining enrollments.

Secretariat

Fast Facts

Summary

The executive secretary's office deals not only with the infrastructure and policies of our church organization, but also coordinates the record-keeping that ensures fair and accountable processes for each employee and member. In this office, John Loor Jr. also keeps abreast of health and stewardship issues and, with Sue Patzer's coordination, leads out in the Northwest Institute for Mission and Ministry, which has sponsored geo-science trips, Reformation tours and the Faith in Focus seminars throughout the Northwest.

Mission

To provide fair, honest and consistent processes of accountability for church members throughout the Northwest.

John Loor Jr.,
executive secretary

Kristina Lopez,
executive assistant

- › The Institute for Mission and Ministry has sponsored 20 Faith in Focus forum weekends in local churches throughout the Northwest conferences since 2006.
- › The Institute for Mission and Ministry has also sponsored three inspirational overseas study tours, two Adventist Heritage study tours and one Northwest Adventist Heritage weekend.
- › We sponsored nine pre-retirement seminars at five different sites for church employees who are nearing retirement.



What's Been Accomplished

EADVENTIST — All membership records have been transitioned from the older system of paper record-keeping to the new eAdventist Web-based system, which allows unprecedented access, flexibility and security.

CONFERENCE CONSULTATION — Continued support to local conferences has been given to help with procedural issues and to provide continuity during administrative transitions.

ACCOUNTABILITY ASSURANCE — This office has maintained files and policies that ensure accountability to each member, should questions arise.

FAITH AND FINANCE — A 12-lesson practical seminar and DVD presentations management has been prepared by the stewardship department of the North American Division and has been introduced in the NPUC.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES — In cooperation with the women's ministries departments of the local conferences, the NPUC in 2008 sponsored a Women's Retreat at Sea, in which attendees participated in 15 outreach/service projects at isolated ports of call in Southeast Alaska. Northwest women have also led out in evangelistic efforts as part of short-term overseas mission trips in such places as Peru, the Dominican Republic and the Philippines.

The Challenges Ahead

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH — North American culture has proved more challenging to church growth than other parts of the world. Here in the Northwest, we must find the balance between nurturing existing members and attracting and keeping new believers.

ETHNIC DIVERSITY — Ethnic ratios are changing. We must adapt our focus and priorities to respond to a growing number of Hispanic and other cultural forces within and without our church.

YOUTH EMPHASIS — Along with the growth of different cultures in the NPUC, emphasis needs to be placed on the youth being more involved in the governing bodies of the church.

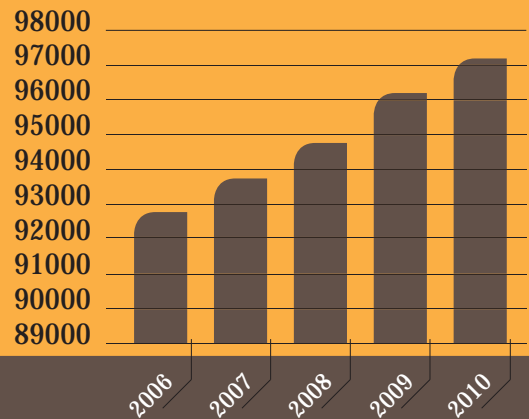
SAFE FAMILY SUMMIT — A Northwest-wide study has clearly shown that Adventist homes and churches are not immune to the problems of abuse, in its many forms. In response, the NPUC established a Safe Family Committee which has met regularly to review and implement study recommendations. A Safe Family Summit-Northwest is planned for the educational benefit of Northwest constituents and church leaders.

EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT — With the uncertainty surrounding Social Security and other funds, we must develop better tracking to help our retiring employees to apply for and receive their retirement funding more quickly. A new Internet-based system is helping with this.

North Pacific Union Conference

MEMBERSHIP

5 YEAR COMPARISON



So What Else Happens Here?

- » The North Pacific Union Conference executive secretary wears several other hats, including coordination of stewardship and health programs, as well as leading out in the activities and events of the Northwest Institute for Mission and Ministry.
- » Besides providing periodic stewardship emphasis stories in the *GLEANER*, this office has introduced the new North American Division stewardship series to the NPUC and provided consultation and continuing education for conferences upon request.
- » Health-wise, this office will continue to provide support and resource materials in health education to the local conferences in the NPUC territory.
- » Under the direction of Sue Patzer, the Northwest Institute of Mission and Ministry will continue sponsoring and promoting Faith in Focus forum weekends at the request of local churches, featuring some of the denomination's leading theologians, scientists and gifted speakers. Faith-affirming study tours continue to be scheduled in cooperation with Walla Walla University, the Seventh-day Adventist Seminary and Ellen G. White Estate. The strong women's ministries programs of our local conferences will continue to be supported and encouraged by the NPUC.

Treasury

Summary

We are grateful for the faithful stewardship of our members and friends. It is the Spirit of God working through them that makes a good report possible. Those who are faithful in returning tithe and generous with the offerings have the joyful experience of having the windows of heaven opened on their behalf.

The treasurer and the entire treasury department ensure that financial policies and practices at the NPUC are consistent with general church guidelines and ethical financial principles. The treasurer provides monthly financial statements and reports to the executive committee members and departmental directors.

He also acts as a counselor to local conference, university and academy treasurers. Personnel in this department take care of human resource issues, personnel records, and payroll and health benefits.

Mission

To be honest and accountable stewards of the funds God provides for the fulfilling of His mission through this church.

Fast Facts

- › More than \$44 million in appropriations was passed on to local conferences through the North Pacific Union Conference during the last five years, ending in December 2010.
- › Education funding amounts to 68.62 percent of all appropriations to local conferences and institutions by the North Pacific Union Conference.
- › More than \$18.5 million in appropriations was provided to Walla Walla University during the last five years.

Anne Vu, assistant treasurer
Bob Sundin, undertreasurer
Mark Remboldt, treasurer
Judy Driver, accounting clerk



NPUC - Tithe From Conferences

Year	Tithe Received	Percentage Increase	Tithe per Capita %
2006	87,811,003	7.33%	972.80
2007	94,164,216	7.24%	1,028.40
2008	85,410,914	-9.30%	919.23
2009	83,661,567	-2.05%	890.09
2010	84,788,467	1.35%	887.10
	435,836,169	16.66%	-8.81%

What's Been Accomplished

CONFERENCE EVANGELISM FUNDING — The NPUC is committed to provide increased evangelism funds to our local conferences each year. We are also committed to staffing union evangelists to assist and provide evangelism meetings within our local conferences.

RELOCATION OF THE NPUC OFFICE — The long process of acquiring land, the proper permits, building and then relocating to Ridgefield, Washington, was completed early in 2007. The location and building are adjacent to Interstate 5. The office has provided a place for local civic leaders to visit and hold meetings and for staff to participate with community events. Each year NPUC employees erect a large 300-foot-long lighted nativity scene in front of the office, easily visible to Interstate 5 travelers.

TREASURER RELATIONS — During the past years, many of our local conferences have converted to new and more efficient accounting and payroll software. The NPUC treasury department has assisted with the conversions and maintenance and has provided for its training and use. In addition, the treasury has mentored local conferences in communicating financial data more clearly to membership and helped them track monthly budget changes.

TREASURY STAFF — During the past five years, there have been several changes in and some downsizing of our treasury staff. With fewer treasury personnel, our staff is still committed, competent and ready to serve the needs of our Northwest members.

The Challenges Ahead

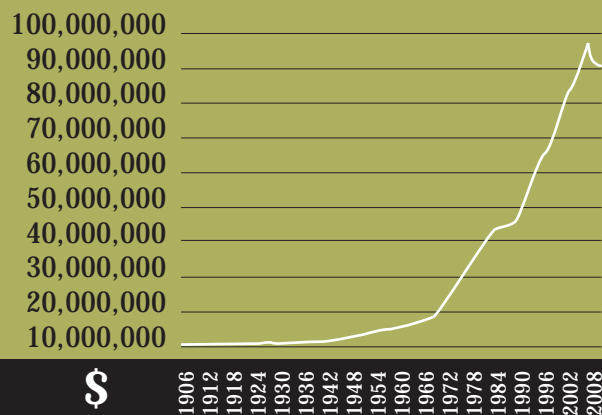
ETHNIC FUNDING — We need to provide additional funding to help meet the growing diversity in our church. There are capital needs to update and/or provide a place of worship for our growing ethnic groups and companies. Many of our ethnic families cannot afford to send their children to Adventist schools. Changes need to be made to provide elementary and secondary education to all of our members' children.

THE ECONOMY — A recent study by the Barna Group shows the recent uncertain economic landscape has changed Americans' giving patterns and optimism for the future. Between 2005 and 2010, the NPUC has seen a decline in tithe per capita by 8.8 percent. Even with this decline, David Kinnaman, president of the Barna Group, points out that "churches and nonprofits with the most effective responses to the downturn are those that have reduced their operating costs without undermining their impact, enabling them to remain effective with less revenue. At the same time, they view these lean years as a chance to invest back in their relationships with supporters and refresh and reframe the tangible impact of the organization. This is especially important when so many donors are rethinking their financial and charitable priorities."¹

OUR ECONOMIC RESPONSE — The NPUC needs to reduce operating costs without weakening programming and our commission found in Matthew 28:19-20. Overall, we believe what God has called His church to do, He will enable it to do — and that includes all of us in His plan for success.

1 Barna Group, 2011, "Donors Proceed with Caution, Tithing Declines." www.barna.org/donorscause-articles.

Tithe Received by Conferences



Communication

Summary

North Pacific Union Conference communication personnel are focused partners with local conference partners with local conference colleagues in “telling the story” of Northwest Adventists in Action to members and the public through print, broadcast, video and social media technology.

Mission

To provide inspiration and resources to foster a sense of Northwest church community and support conferences in helping each member share the Adventist message and mission.

Steven Vistaunet,
assistant to the president

Desiree Lockwood,
administrative assistant

Todd Gessele,
associate director

Cindy Chamberlin,
assistant director

Fast Facts

- › More than 2 million pages are printed each month to provide the *GLEANER* to Northwest Adventist homes.
- › The GleanerNOW! e-newsletter is sent out each week as a free service to those who subscribe online.
- › Adventist media touches more than 150,000 listeners/viewers each week in the Northwest.

What’s been Accomplished

WEBSITES — The *GLEANER* site has pioneered regularly updated news, articles and opportunities for Northwest member interaction.

MEDIA SUPPORT — Produced and facilitated distribution of evangelistic videos from nearly 10 series held within the Northwest.

EXPANDED INFORMATION — During the 2010 General Conference session, the GleanerNOW! e-newsletter was sent out each day with Northwest reports —

the only union-level service of that frequency in the North American Division.

CENTRAL INFORMATION SOURCE — The NPUC and *GLEANER* websites have provided a common point for immediate information — to the farthest reaches of Alaska or Montana, and around the world.

The Challenges Ahead

MEMBER SURVEY — We must evaluate how the *GLEANER* and other communication resources can remain responsive to Northwest Adventists of differing ages, using a growing list of new technologies.

WEBSITE UPDATES — The NPUC and *GLEANER* websites must be updated to remain on the cutting edge of effective online communication and 24/7 mobile access technology.

PUBLIC AWARENESS — We plan to support each local conference in reaching their Northwest communities with an effective use of public awareness.





Disaster Response

Fast Facts

- › Alaska Adventist Community Services director, received the President's Volunteer Service Award for response following the Spring Breakup Flood in 2009.
- › Oregon and Washington conference teams conducted several New Orleans rebuilding trips.
- › Upper Columbia Conference Disaster Assistance Account raised \$150,000 for Haiti.

What's Been Accomplished

ACS TRAINING — Trained 500 Northwest Adventist Community Services Disaster Response volunteers.

TRANSLATION — Translated "Introduction of Disaster Preparedness" into Spanish.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS — Helped develop a proposed final draft of "Memorandum of Understanding" between Washington State and Oregon, Upper Columbia and Washington conferences.

SAFETY RESOURCES — Developed safety materials for H1N1 concerns in Alaska, Oregon and UCC.

STUDENT GUIDELINES — Developed and adopted Department of Education and ACS Disaster Response Deployment Guidelines for academy and college students in Upper Columbia.

WORKSHOPS — Provided workshops or informational webinars about the National Donations Management Network with AidMatrix Software, Chain Saw Recovery, Fork-Lift Operation, "Intro to Disaster Preparedness" and "Management of Volunteers and Donated Goods."

DISASTER DONATIONS — Conducted donations operations for flooding in Vernonia, Ore., and fires in White Swan and Toppenish, Wash.

The Challenges Ahead

PROPHETIC WARNINGS — The Bible, Spirit of Prophecy and news media alert us to increasing disasters near the time of the end.

PREPAREDNESS — Personal, family, community and institutional preparedness requires a plan, trained personnel, equipment and resources.

PILOT PROJECT — Explore a "Hands Across the Border" pilot project with our ADRA/Canada counterparts.



Summary

The NPUC disaster response director is a volunteer position with a small budget funded by the NPUC in partnership with the local conferences. This helps manage relief efforts and training as needed in support of local coordinators who have served at some point during the past five years: Debra Finley, Washington; Sam Pellecer, Oregon; Donna Cantrell, Idaho; Butch Palmero, Alaska; and David Prest, Montana.

Mission

To serve the poor and hurting in Christ's name.

Doug Venn,
NPUC-area director

Education

Fast Facts

- There are 536 certificated, full-time K-12 teachers in 112 schools within the North Pacific Union Conference.
- During the past five years, the NPUC has provided nearly \$4 million for "remote and necessary" schools throughout the Northwest.
- During the 2010 -11 school year, there were more than 6,500 K-12 students in the NPUC.

Summary

The office of education coordinates and assists in funding special programs for K-12 schools throughout the Northwest. It serves as a liaison between the North American Division policies, educational standards and curriculum and the local conference programs here in the Northwest. It is also responsible for the certification of all teachers within the union.

Mission

Because Seventh-day Adventist education is a ministry essential to fulfilling the unique mission of the Adventist Church, the office of education is dedicated to implementing the mission of the church in the K-12 educational program.

What's Been Accomplished

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE — Appointed a coordinator to assist local conferences in providing information and oversight for local early childhood centers.

GOALS — Encouraged the development of specific, written goals for Northwest Adventist schools and provided subsidies to help schools begin working toward those goals.

PROGRAM SUBSIDIES — Provided more than \$10 million in overall financial aid to Northwest schools for special programs beyond the normal operating costs.

QUALITY ASSURANCE — Ensured high-quality Adventist education by administering policies for school evaluation and professional development.

TEACHER CERTIFICATION — Provided an objective, neutral center for the certification of teachers.

The Challenges Ahead

ENROLLMENT — While enrollment in K-12 schools has dropped by nearly 1,000 students during the past five years, we must continue to provide quality education in an Adventist Christian context.

COST — With the rising expense of education, both public and private, we must partner with conferences and churches to keep costs as affordable as possible.

MINORITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS — We must pioneer new efforts to include minority families in the benefits of Adventist Christian education to ensure successive generations will be faithful church members.

Carol Dodge,
administrative assistant

Patricia Revolinski,
associate director-elementary

Alan "Lanny" Hurlbert,
vice president

Keith Waters,
associate director-secondary

Sue Patzer,
coordinator early childhood education

Linda LaMunyon,
certification registrar



Hispanic Ministries

Fast Facts

- › Hispanic membership and tithe have both increased 15 percent over the last five years.
- › The ratio of Hispanic Seventh-day Adventists to the Northwest population is now 1:156.
- › The Northwest population of people of Hispanic origin jumped to 1,449,567.

What's Been Accomplished

QUALITY PASTORS — Worked with local conferences and churches to hire high-quality, committed pastors as leaders for growing Hispanic churches.

COMMUNICATION — Produced "ACCION," a monthly Spanish-language feature in the *GLEANER*.

LOCAL EVANGELISM — Hosted the North American Division Hispanic Net meetings held October 23–31, 2009, in Portland, Oregon. More than 350 people were baptized just that week in the NPUC.

CHURCH FUNDS — Coordinated subsidies from the NAD and the NPUC for purchasing or remodeling more than 10 buildings for Hispanic churches.

STUDENT FUNDS — Coordinated and distributed funds to help place Hispanic Adventist students in Adventist schools.

ADVISORY — Aided conferences and members in the process of hiring pastors and workers, as well as in other personnel issues.

SCHOOLS OF EVANGELISM — Provided workshops to train members in personal and public evangelism. Several schools of evangelism have been started to train, equip and inspire lay leaders for service.

MULTICULTURAL CHURCHES — The challenge of reaching out to second-generation Hispanics has now turned into a tremendous opportunity. Several multicultural churches with Spanish flavor are being planted throughout the union.

The Challenges Ahead

SECOND-GENERATION HISPANICS — We must continue to find creative and innovative ways to reach this group.

HISPANIC EDUCATION — We are currently seeking ways to help about 130 Hispanic students afford an Adventist education each year.

CHURCH BUILDING — We must find more ways to provide church buildings for this growing segment of our membership.



Summary

The NPUC vice president for Hispanic ministries works with local conferences to foster evangelistic activity and visioning for the future.

Mission

To support local conferences and their Hispanic pastors in fulfilling the great Gospel Commission of Jesus Christ.

Lisa Rodriguez,
administrative assistant

Ramón J. Canals,
vice president

Information Technology

Fast Facts

- > IT processed more than 600 gigabytes of data last year — nearly two gigabytes per day.
- > We provide technical support for nearly 200 church-related employees in the Northwest.
- > IT performs weekly data backups equal to approximately 56,000 copies of the King James Version of the Bible.

Summary

Technology is vital to the work of reaching people for God's kingdom. The NPUC information technology department, provides technology engineering, management and support services to Northwest conference offices. It seeks to raise the technological bar for Adventist schools and churches.

Mission

To empower and facilitate advancement for the cause of Christ.

Loren Bordeaux,
director

Tami Edwards,
administrative assistant

Daniel Cates,
associate director

What's Been Accomplished

IMPROVED INTERNET CONNECTIVITY

— Provided all offices with 3Mbps or better Internet connectivity.

ENGINEERING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

— Designed and set up new network (wired and wireless) for improved infrastructure and security. Installed new servers using virtual technologies to decrease power and cooling requirements and installed new client systems throughout the union.

SOFTWARE UPGRADES

— Deployed and maintained new accounting and payroll software and upgraded trust management software and operating systems for Northwest conferences.

ONGOING SUPPORT — Provided up to 100 percent of the technological needs for Alaska, Montana and Washington conferences and additional consultation

for Oregon and Upper Columbia conferences.

The Challenges Ahead

CLOUD SERVICES — Public clouds, private clouds, mixed clouds, they all have their place and we'll be implementing them prudently.

TRAINING — We will help provide access to training so Northwest church workers stay up-to-date with current technology.

SECURITY — We will seek to stay ahead of cyberspace threats from around the world, to enable our church's mission to move forward.

EXPANDED SERVICES — In partnership with our conferences, we plan to offer additional cost-effective technical services for our schools and local church audio-visual teams.



Legal Counsel

Fast Facts

- › Legal work for estate planning fills 60 percent of David Duncan's time; the remainder is spent on "church" law.
- › Duncan has been NPUC legal counsel since 1984.
- › Duncan works through enough paper each year to create several stacks equal to his height.

What's Been Accomplished

LEGAL ASSISTANCE — Provided legal counsel and advice to conference, church and school leadership.

ESTATE PLANNING — Prepared documents and provided counsel to conference trust departments and church members where such service is requested and ethically permissible.

TRUST SERVICES — The most common form of support is found in legal guidance to support conferences as they work directly with members in an estate planning process.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE — Helped conferences and churches find the balance between legal protection and pastoral concerns.

The Challenges Ahead

REFINE ATTORNEY ROLES — As church estate planning activities grow, we will assist conferences in locating and using independent attorneys to join with conference trust departments in providing quality estate planning to the client.

REFOCUS OUR ROLE — Once an adequate group of qualified, independent attorneys is in place, we wish to focus our work on providing legal advice to the church in areas of church and school law. This will permit us to provide the essential time needed in areas of corporate, property, employment and transactional law that directly affect the organization.

Summary

The NPUC office of general legal counsel provides guidance with a goal of minimizing legal exposure and liability. It supplies a unique and valuable perspective because of its close association and understanding of the structure and operation of the church.

Mission

To provide effective and ongoing access to legal counsel to church leadership at all levels and to minimize legal risks and distractions in order to permit the church to actively focus on fulfilling its mission.

Sharon Pierson,
administrative assistant

David Duncan,
director



Ministerial

Fast Facts

- In the Northwest there are about 13 million people and 97,133 Seventh-day Adventists, a ratio of 1:134.
- There are 398 pastors in the NPUC to assist members in carrying out their mission.
- The Northwest, considered to be the most secular area in the U.S., offers the greatest opportunity for reaching people with the gospel.

Summary

The North Pacific Union Conference believes in the priesthood of all the believers and that the core of the Adventist mission is at each local church. The ministerial department exists to encourage and support the local conferences and members in advancing the Adventist mission throughout the Northwest.

Mission

The NPUC ministerial department is committed to supporting our local conferences to take the Adventist message to everyone living in the Northwest and beyond.

NPUC Evangelistic Teams

Richard and Mary Halversen
Brian and Heidi McMahon
Ramón J. Canals
Jac and 'dena Colon
Lyle and Peggy Albrecht

Ramón J. Canals,
director

Marella Rudebaugh,
administrative assistant

What's Been Accomplished

ONGOING TRAINING — Provided important information and training through on-site workshops in each conference and through monthly e-newsletters.

GLOBAL MISSION — Organized annual mission opportunities for pastors and members to participate in evangelism in diverse places such as the Philippines, India, Bolivia, Dominican Republic and Peru.

LOCAL EVANGELISM — NPUC Evangelists have assisted with more than 100 major reaping meetings in response to conference requests.

SOUL WINNING — Pastors and many lay leaders have been trained to implement a regular harvest cycle in their congregations.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT — Hosted on-site seminars in each conference, 20 Andrews University Seminary extension classes, and the annual Ministerial Network Retreat.

The Challenges Ahead

NPUC FOR CHRIST INITIATIVES — The North Pacific Union Conference will focus its ministerial resource priorities in support of local conference efforts using the acronym T.R.I.M.:

Targeting large metropolitan areas with the gospel of Jesus;

Reviving and transforming Adventist members and churches;

Involving young people in the Adventist mission;

Maximizing media in connecting the Adventist mission with the public.



Native Ministries

Fast Facts

- › Monte Church travels more than 150,000 miles every year to visit far-flung Native groups throughout the NPUC.
- › There are 31 Native churches or companies in the NPUC, with more than 2,000 members.
- › We conduct six Native camp meetings each year across the NPUC.

What's Been Accomplished

LEADERSHIP TRAINING — Encouraged and trained Native workers in fulfilling their mission to native populations.

NATIVE NEW DAY VIDEOS — Produced 25 of the planned 26 video lessons. It is likely every Native person baptized in the last four years has been touched in some way by these videos.

BIBLE WORKERS — Helped to provide Bible workers specifically for the Native populations within local conferences.

CAMP MEETINGS — Provided additional coordination and programming for Native camp meetings, a tremendous boost in reaching Native people in remote areas.

The Challenges Ahead

NATIVE NEW DAY VIDEOS — We must raise funds to produce another 13

videos on topics related to Native Christian lifestyle issues.

NATIVE NEW HEALTH VIDEOS — We will seek to encourage continued production of this series as an adjunct to the Native New Day series.

NAD COORDINATION — We will be working to increase coordination of the Native work across the North American Division.



Summary

The NPUC has a unique approach to Native ministry. The challenges of reaching Native groups in the vast reaches of the Northwest are enormous. Isolation can create difficulties for maintaining active church groups and Native workers. Yet, Native members make up some of the staunchest parts of the Northwest Adventist mission.

Mission

To become a partner with Northwest Native groups in seeking to better their lives, physically, mentally and spiritually.

Native American Evangelistic Team

Brian and Denise Bechthold, who annually conduct at least four series of meetings across the Northwest and Canada.

Monte Church,
director

Northwest Religious Liberty Association

Power Surge
Spirit-Led Ministry

Fast Facts

- › The NRLA works within legislative, civil, academic and other public arenas on behalf of the church and all people and institutions of faith.
- › Since 2006, the NRLA has mediated in behalf of 919 individuals in the workplace and other public venues.
- › The NRLA is the only professionally-functioning state government relations program in the North American Division.

Summary

The North Pacific Union Conference continues to champion the principles of religious liberty in the public arena as a ministry to all people of faith and for its members. The Northwest Religious Liberty Association provides professional legislative advocacy services, as well as legal guidance, mediation, representation and referral services in the workplace, home, schools, prisons and military. It provides noncombatancy letters connected to immigration and naturalization applications.

Mission

To champion the constitutional guarantee of religious freedom on behalf of Christ and all people of faith in its government relations and mediation services.

Gregory W. Hamilton,
president

Rhonda Bolton,
administrative assistant

What's Been Accomplished

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS — Supported two successful legislative efforts on religious freedom in Oregon, helped defeat the unionization of faith-based child care centers in Washington State and helped pass Idaho's Freedom of Conscience Bill for health-care workers.

PUBLIC CONTACTS — Developed substantial contacts throughout the Northwest with state and federal lawmakers, as well as interfaith leaders, through our team of capitol pastors.

PUBLIC AWARENESS — Participated in civic, academic and interfaith events in the Northwest, Washington, D.C., and internationally.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES — Provided sermons and seminars for churches and public events, including a national attorneys' convention.

WORKPLACE MEDIATION — Consulted 167 individuals in 2010 alone.

INTERNET SERVICE — Provided a professional online resource center for pastors, members and the general public at nrla.com.

The Challenges Ahead

STRATEGIC VISION — As religious discrimination for people of faith rises, we will strive to balance the increasing demand with legislative remedies and public awareness efforts.

FACEBOOK NETWORK — We plan to use Facebook, and develop an online mentoring and training network program to share religious freedom concerns.



Planned Giving, Trust Services

Fast Facts

- › \$35 million in trusts and annuities are administered annually, representing nearly 400 charitable documents.
- › Distributed \$9.6 million in benefits to donors and nearly \$5.3 million to beneficiaries in the last five years, benefiting family, local conference ministries and other mission-driven organizations.
- › NPUC church members made possible nearly 120 new building-related projects through support of the mission of the revolving fund.

What's Been Accomplished

ACCREDITATION — Maintained level “A” accreditation for all Northwest local conference trust services departments by providing training and certification.

SEMINAR ASSISTANCE — Assisted local conferences in preparing and presenting financial and estate-planning seminars.

TRUST MANAGEMENT — In cooperation with local conferences, managed trust and annuity documents.

REVOLVING FUND — Administered the revolving fund, which provides much needed resources for facility advancement.

The Challenges Ahead

DONOR RELATIONSHIPS — We must find ways to meet the needs of project-based donors through planned giving opportunities.

YOUNGER MEMBERS — We will work with younger members by tailoring estate plans to meet their changing needs.

ONLINE COORDINATION — We must update the NPUC trust services website to highlight the cooperative efforts of the local conference and union planned giving departments.

APPRECIATION — We will look for additional opportunities to thank our members for their support of the church's mission.

Summary

A growing number of Adventist members want to manage their resources in a prudent manner that not only benefits their families, but also the ongoing work and mission of the church. Your local conference and union planned giving and trust services departments provide these services free to members who have a charitable intent. It is our desire to continue serving in a way that benefits the mission of the local church and conference.

Mission

The planned giving and trust services department cultivates, designs, and facilitates gifts to further the work of the Adventist Church throughout the NPUC.

Debbie Morauske,
assistant

Bonnie Rhodes,
assistant

Lori Ermshar,
assistant

Kimberley Schroeder,
director

Jon Corder,
treasurer

Allee Currier,
assistant treasurer



Regional, Multicultural, Youth

Fast Facts

- > African-American Adventists celebrated their 35th Annual Convocation in May 2011.
- > There are more than 130 Pathfinder clubs throughout the Northwest.
- > During the past five years, regional members have contributed more than \$7.3 million dollars in tithe and baptized 750 new members.

Summary

The North Pacific Union Conference facilitates networks and events to help maintain both a sense of cultural identify and unity by fostering an active multicultural and multigenerational work. The director promotes issues of diversity, family life and human relations throughout the Northwest.

Mission

To provide financial and spiritual support to Northwest regional work and resources for conferences to empower youth for Christ-centered ministry.

Alphonso McCarthy,
vice president for regional affairs

Patric Parris,
administrative assistant

What's Been Accomplished

REGIONAL CONVOCATION — Added new programming to provide training, spiritual nurture and fellowship for regional church members.

PATHFINDERS/YOUTH — Provided leadership and support for 3,000 Northwest Pathfinders attending the NAD 2009 Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis., as well as youth and Bible conferences held throughout the Northwest and beyond.

NAD REGIONAL MINISTRY — During the past five years, distributed funds from the NAD Special Assistance and Capital Reversion funds to help the regional work in the Northwest.

PRISON MINISTRY — Sponsored NPUC Prison Ministry Convention in April 2009. Provided training and networking for prison ministry volunteers.

TRAINING SUBSIDIES — Provided subsidies to NPUC youth leaders to attend continuing education workshops.

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY — Encouraged and assisted ethnic students to attend WWU to increase the enrollment of multicultural students. Co-sponsored Black History weekend and College Days.

The Challenges Ahead

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH — We need to increase ethnic membership with the support of a union-wide African-American full-time evangelist and a full-time Bible worker in each church.

CHURCH SCHOOL ATTENDANCE — We must find new sources of funding to increase the number of minority students attending Adventist schools.

CHURCH BUILDING FUNDS — We will assist in funding the purchase of new church buildings for regional congregations currently renting.



Walla Walla University

Fast Facts

- › More than 100 areas of study are featured, including four graduate degree programs.
- › Satellite campuses include School of Nursing in Portland, Ore.; a marine laboratory near Anacortes, Wash.; and graduate social work programs in Missoula and Billings, Mont.
- › Approximately 80 percent of students qualify for financial aid.



What's Been Accomplished

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES — Adopted a 2010–13 master plan outlining campus-wide goals, including the reach of the mission, alternate revenue streams and enhancing academic community.

MENTORING PROGRAM — Adopted Freshman Success Program to foster retention. Each freshman student is matched with a trained mentor.

STUDENT MISSIONS — Marked the 50th anniversary of Student Missions Program, commemorating the service of 3,000 WWU students. Currently, about 90 students serve each year.

PROGRAMS OF STUDY — Added or adapted programs to meet demands from the field, including studies in international communication, web design, industrial design and long-term health care concentration in business.

SCHOOL OF NURSING EXPANSION — Completed a \$1.5 million expansion at the School of Nursing's Portland campus to accommodate up to 140 students.

FRESHMAN STUDENT AID — Launched Freshman Achievement Scholarship program, offering significant financial aid incentives for first-time freshmen.

The Challenges Ahead

ENROLLMENT — We will address declining academy enrollments with increased student aid, recruitment of Adventist students in public high schools and other resources.

HIGHER COSTS — We must meet rising operating costs, such as health care and other budget constraints.



Summary

Walla Walla University was founded in 1892, an act of faith and perseverance by the 1,500 Seventh-day Adventist pioneers in the Pacific Northwest. WWU currently enrolls 1,791 students who are working as well as shaping personal and spiritual values.

Mission

Walla Walla University, a Seventh-day Adventist university, is a community of faith and discovery. WWU is committed to excellence in thought, generosity in service, beauty in expression and faith in God.

Dennis Carlson,
vice president for advancement

Ginger Ketting-Weller,
vice president for academic affairs

John McVay,
president

Ken Rogers,
vice president for spiritual life

Jodi Wagner,
vice president for marketing and enrollment

Steve Rose,
vice president for finance

Northwest Delegates

The delegates on these pages represent those individuals or positions designated as of the press time for this issue of the *GLEANER*.

Article VII of the North Pacific Union Conference constituency session points out that the voting delegates at any regular or special constituency meeting of this union shall be:

- a. Appointed delegates which shall represent the local conferences within the NPUC territory. Each local conference shall be entitled to three delegates without regard to conference membership and one additional delegate for each 400 church members or major fraction thereof, based on its membership on the last day of the third full calendar quarter preceding the constituency meeting. Not less than 50 percent of the delegates in this category shall be individuals other than active or retired church pastors, officers, department directors, associate or assistant department directors of General Conference, division, union, or local conferences. Delegates shall be selected in a manner determined by each local conference executive committee unless otherwise specified by the local conference constitution.
- b. The following ex-officio and other delegates.
 - (1) The individual members of the Executive Committee of this union.
 - (2) The individual members of the General Conference Executive Committee who may be present at any constituency meeting of this union. The number of such delegates representing the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists shall not exceed 5 percent of the total number of appointed delegates provided for hereinabove in Section 2.a. of Article VIII.
 - (3) The Vice President for Academic Affairs, the chairman of the School of Theology of Walla Walla University, plus three additional delegates selected by and representing the faculty and staff of Walla Walla University, and two additional delegates selected by and representing the students of Walla Walla University. The student delegates shall hold membership in one of the churches within this territory.
 - (4) Two employees of Adventist Health, chosen by its governing board. At least one of these individuals shall be the president of a hospital within this Union territory.
 - (5) Two employees of Pacific Press Publishing Association, chosen by its governing board.
 - (6) The members of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee of this union.
 - (7) The directors of all recognized departments of this union, as determined by the Executive Committee of this union conference.
 - (8) Such other persons as may be selected by the Union Conference Executive Committee, including officers of the North Pacific Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists. The total number of delegates from this category shall not exceed 5 percent of the total number of appointed delegates provided for herein above in Section 2.a. of Article VIII.

Your Northwest

NAD Committee

Dan Jackson
Tom Evans
G. Alexander Bryant

Executive Committee

Kami Borg
Dick Clark
Kenneth Crawford
Wendell Downs
Colin Dunbar
Ruth Farnsworth
Robert Folkenberg
Judy Fowler
John Freedman
Ervin Furne
Dale Galusha
Eric Haeger
Kathy Hernandez
Deanne Hoehn
Blaine Kenney
Merlin Knowles
Marvin Lee
Steve Libby
John Loor, Jr
Alix Mansker
Alphonso McCarthy
John McVay
Donna Montgomery
Gary Parks
Bob Paulsen
Pedro Pozos
Al Reimche
Mark Remboldt

Bill Roberts
Tom Russell
Ben Rodriguez
Alvaro Sauza
Conrad Thomas
Max Torkelsen II
Andre Wang
Ann Westermeyer

Constitution Committee

Dave Allen
Dave Cannard
Barry Curtis
Terry Gobel
Dwayne Kluchesky
Thomas Knoll
Vern Pritchard

Adventist Health

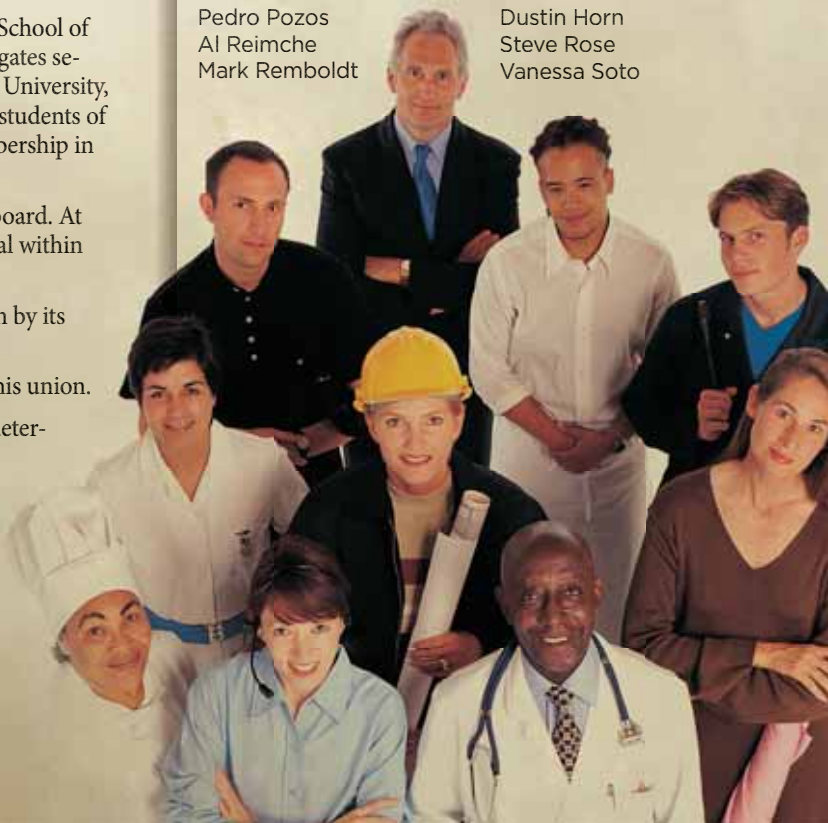
Pam Heiser
Duane Meidinger

Pacific Press

Scott Cady
Don Upson

Walla Walla University

Austin Archer
Nicole Batten
Dustin Horn
Steve Rose
Vanessa Soto



Delegates

Dave Thomas
Ginger Ketting-Weller

North Pacific Union Directors

Loren Bordeaux
Ramon Canals
Greg Hamilton
Alan Hurlbert
Alphonso McCarthy
Sue Patzer
Kimberley Schroeder
Steve Vistaunet

Other Appointed Delegates

Jon Corder
Bryce Pascoe
Ron Oliver

Alaska

Victor Dasher
Steve Evenson
Clint Hess
Kevin Miller
Bill Kasper
Joe Koliadko
Glenda Pyle
Quentin Purvis
Calvin O'Brien
Keith Olson
Howard Williams

Idaho

Cameron Cook
Phil Cromwell
Ted Edmister
Tim Essink
Alita Henslee
Don Klinger
Edwin Lopez
Jamie Miller
Peter McPherson
Steve Meharry
Mickey Meyer
John Rogers
Dan Ross
Judy Shaner
Sylvia Tetz
Ray Trees
Bonnie Tyson-Flyn
Don Vietz
Brian Yarbrough

Montana

John Clark
Ronda Evans

Rudy Fallang
Milton Fish
Ron Harmon
Gayle Harris
Kathleen Hixson
Ray Jimenez III
Shaya Kyle
Anita Ojeda
Ben Pflugard
Bill Patten
Cindy Patten

Oregon

Larry Aldred
Brian Allison
Connie Allred
Martha Alonso
Harold Altamirano
Wayne Alvarez-Rojas
Embil Alvizures
Lyle Arakaki
David Ballard
Abraham Barajas
Stan Beerman
Lance Behm
Lutz Binus
Randy Bovee
Rick Bowes
Mary Boyd
Holley Bryant
Ruben Bullon
Chuck Burkeen
Aurora Canals
Dale Cardwell
Leon Colburn
W Allan Cram
Ivan Cruz
Randy Cummings
Bob Davis
Larry Davy
Jon Dickerson
Nadine Dower
Wilfredo Duran
James Foster
Derrick Foxworth
George Gainer
Japhena Hall
Gene Heinrich
Vernon Henry
Roger Hernandez
Tim Holven
Tanya Huether
Jim John
Corleen Johnson
Jerry Joubert
Dennis Kingma
Vicki Koger
Young (James) Lee

Scott LeMert
Sanford Maddox
Walter Mancina
James Martin
David McCoy
Dan McCulloch
Robert McDonald
David Merino
Calvin Miller
Eugene Miller
Lorraine Miller
Frederick Morris
Thomas Mostert
Ralph Neidigh
David Paczka
Alex Paraschuk
Jonathan Pawson
Rodney Payne
Arnold Petersen
Kevin Pillow
Troy Price
Larry Reinecke
Roberto Rinza
Azucena Sanchez
David Smith
Britt Spaulding
Tawny Sportsman
Chris Tait
Louis Turner
Bob Uhrig
Sherri Uhrig
Oswaldo Villalobos
Saul Wade
Kathy Westermeyer
Tom White
Gerald Winchell
Rory Wold

Upper Columbia

Shelley Bacon
Valerie Bass
Sandra Bautista
Christian Bell
Alejandro Betancourt
Michele Borders
Leslie Briggs
W Alex Bryan
Neil Busby
David Carl
Dennis Carlson
Fred Christensen
June Christensen
Sara Coder
Marty Craft
Robert Daniel
John Deming
Gary Evans
Daniel Featherston

Joan Fernish
Ronald Fleck II
Patrick Frey
Russell Gilbert
Larry Goodhew Jr
Diane Grabner
Leonard Harms
Clifford Hendrickson
David Hensel
Kessle Hodgson Sr
Kenneth Iblings
Jeannie Jesseph
Doug Johnson
Monty Knittel
Michael Lambert
Jack Larrabee
Ronald Larson
Claudia Lopez
L 'Guy' Maniscalco
Larry Marsh
Patty Marsh
R Edie Matoske
Richard Mehrer
Marvin Mitchell
Robin Molina
Alice Morgan
Volodymyr Nesteruk
Dennis Olson
Paula Oltman
Troy Patzer
Walter Pintos-Schmidt
Paul Rasmussen
Shirley Ringering
Katherine Rowe
Dick Ruder
Calixto Ruiz
Regina Sanchez
Linda Sloop
Suzanne Swisher
Randall Terry
David Thomas
Rose Marie Tiffany
Silvia Velasquez
Phyllis Wagner
Steve Walikonis
Melissia Wallen
Steve Wohlberg
Donald Zacharias

Washington

Jonathan Altman
Robert Baker
Doug Barahona
Samir Berbawy
Doug Bing
Kelly Bock
Pam Burghart
Dennis Carlson

Andrew Carrington
Betty Case
Geraldo Castillo
Marilyn Cramer
Jeffrey Devers
Byron Dulan
Peggy Emery
Matthew Enders
Kevin Fletcher
Gary Fogelquist
Gary Fresk
Ed General
David Glenn
Omar Grieve
Al Griffone
Lon Gruesbeck
Paulette Jackson
David Johnson
Jeff Keating
Lynda Kim
Brent Kimura
Alice Kirkman
Nathan Klingstrand
Bruce Koch
Jim Leon
Alfred Lewis Sr.
EuGene Lewis
Mileen Loeffler
Twyla Luke
Heidi Martella
Bill McClendon
John Miller
Jesus Padilla
Ken Parker
Nessy Pittau
Harold Richards
Jerry Russell
Jennifer Scott
Dick Seidel
Barney Shortridge
Tyler Stewart
Don Sullivan
Linda Taber
John Thorn
Ron Trautwein
Duane Triplett
Luis Velazquez
Lindsey Venden
Diane Vyskocil
Tiana Waterbrook
Doug White
Mark Witas

A Report on NORTHWEST CHURCH MISSION

ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS SPEAK OUT



Dennis Carlson, committee chair, is Walla Walla University vice president for advancement.

EDITORS' NOTE

During challenging economic times, Northwest Adventists are more apt than ever to ask if the North Pacific Union Conference and the six local conferences within its territory are helping or hindering the church's mission in the Northwest. On May 5, 2010, the NPUC executive committee voted to "appoint an ad hoc advisory study group to present findings to maintain the focus on mission by addressing operational efficiencies and cost effectiveness within the NPUC." Dennis Carlson, Walla Walla University vice president for advancement, was named chair of the 20-member group of which 50 percent were lay members. It focused on five key areas:

- » Advancing the mission of the church
- » Communication to members
- » Efficiencies in the use of funds and personnel
- » Church structure and organization within the NPUC
- » Adventist education

A brief summary of the report is in this issue, on pages 32 and 33. A more in-depth report is linked to this article in the online version at gleaneronline.org. Use your mobile device to access it via the mobile access code here.

In the next few pages, five key members of the committee share their perspectives on the process.

G: What do you see as major challenges which impact the current structure of the church?

BERGLUND: I believe many of our challenges mirror current issues in our culture. The economic downturn means our contributing families have far less discretionary money. Sacrifice as a principle of Christian living is less of a priority in this generation. Our temptation in this age is to give with a consumer-based mentality. Philosophically we struggle to balance how to adopt current business trends to downsize administration while maintaining a representative system of government. In an environment with an ever-increasing push toward congregationalism, we have a challenge to recognize the benefits of the unique representative system that we have. We take for granted some of the pitfalls that we avoid by having neither an authoritarian hierarchy nor a congregational affiliate style of governance. It is a quandary: How can we reduce costs and still maintain an effective representative system? Many of the recommendations we have proposed deal with this challenge.

HUETHER: First, I would say, is a looming leadership gap. How can we create a culture that actively trains and mentors new leaders at every level? It is unreasonable to expect young leaders to seamlessly fill upcoming vacancies if they have had little or no preparation or mentoring in leadership?

Secondly, in addition to trained leaders, there's a need for greater member participation in our mission. As important as the pastor is, he or she is only a part of church ministry. Our members possess a wealth of expertise from their professional training and personal interests that can be used to bless the mission of the church.

And, thirdly, tuition costs and subsidies for Adventist education continue to increase while elementary and secondary school enrollment has declined across North America. The financial strain on constituent churches and conferences can hinder other ministry endeavors. Yet, there seems to be a corporate reticence to say or do anything that could be construed as unsupportive or critical of our educational system. While churches, conferences and unions are making significant cuts, our schools and universities continue to increase tuition and subsidy needs.

HARMS: I also have three areas in mind. First, diversity: The church and society isn't as homogeneous as it used to be. While most people acknowledge some processes should change, the desire to be unified is a high priority in our church. The appropriate balance between diversity and unity isn't always easy to ascertain.

Second, the baby-boomer effect: Our society is more individual-oriented than in previous generations, and our congregations reflect that. More lay people are involved in church business. Yet, baby boomers don't just assume "the brethren" will do it all, or do it right. That challenges our traditional beliefs, institutions, finances and organizational structure.

A third area is what I would call "challenge to the old ways." Our church was started by spirit-led people. In most cases I believe they did what was appropriate for their times (even though they sometimes argued vigorously and grew and developed over time). A century and a half later our world is a different place. Spirit-anointed structures may need spirit-led altering or adapting. It's important for us to discern between God's continued leading and our tendency to simply want things our way.

DENNIS CARLSON:

The success of our church in growth over the past several decades has also made a sense of community more difficult to maintain. Everyone no longer knows everybody else. When we are more distant there is a greater likelihood of questions about all the structures earlier generations established to maintain the community of churches and membership. This distancing of the member from the understanding of church organization creates questions on the use of tithe and offerings. That, along with an economic downturn, contributes to an eventual decrease in tithe, which, in turn, results in cuts in the conference offices. Fewer conference leaders results in less contact between members and conference personnel and, thus, the increasing difficulty of maintaining community within a conference and a union.

So, a significant challenge for our church is to maintain the fellowship of unity. My testimony, based on more than 40 years of work in the church on all levels, is the unity we enjoy in the Seventh-day Adventist church is a miracle. It is the working of the Holy Spirit on the hearts of the members based on the belief in the prophetic role of the continuing Advent movement. The power of divinity can overpower natural human inclinations that could otherwise divide us.



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ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS SPEAK OUT

G: Did you have any preconceived assumptions about the NPUC that changed as a result of the these meetings?

HARMS: I was surprised to find out how much leaner the NPUC office staff is now compared with previous decades when we had more resources to work with. When there is a surplus, we are able to offer more services. When there are fewer funds available, services have to

be cut. I really appreciate that the church operates on a cash basis and isn't like the federal government that goes out and borrows money (or raises taxes) to do what it chooses to do or what it assumes the people are demanding.

HUETHER: Certainly there is always room for improvement, but overall, I didn't find the "bloat" that so many members complain about. With current staffing levels, many people are wearing multiple hats, something we did not see 30 years ago. The question to

ask now is, are we advancing the gospel mission as effectively with less staff? If we are not, then what are some potential no- or low-cost alternatives to make this possible?

G: In what area of our church in the Northwest do you feel greater efficiency is most needed?

DOUG JOHNSON:

Whenever an organization is around for a long time, it's easy for the leaders and members to get busy with a lot of good activities and slowly lose focus on the primary mission of the organization. Adventism in the Northwest is no different. Our greatest need, in my opinion, is for us to refocus on our primary mission and pursue it with passion.

HUETHER: We need a contingency plan for disaster. Many times it seems we are reactive rather than proactive. We need to consider what our plan is should tithe and offerings drop significantly again. How will budget choices be made? What will be our key priorities?

BERGLUND: Yes, I think our greatest need is in prioritizing. In these economically difficult times we have to make financial appropriations by determining, not what could be beneficial, but what is absolutely necessary — not to protect status quo, but to accomplish our God-given mission. The economic crisis is hitting home in cuts of pay and benefits for pastors, teachers and administrators. It shows itself in the increasing district sizes for pastors of smaller churches, stretching them to the limit in covering as many as five churches in some of our Northwest conferences. One of the largest churches in our conference, with a membership of nearly 600 and more than 12 percent of the conference tithe does not have a conference-funded associate pastor. One of the truths that hit me during the process is that we

cannot function on some levels of our church structure with a "what's beneficial" mentality and at other levels with a "what's absolutely essential" mentality and avoid resentment. So I appreciated that this group discussed what prioritization may mean — not just reducing the number of positions, but developing new positions to replace old ways of functioning. I appreciated so much that these concepts were addressed in specific recommendations concerning everything from placing percentage caps on the number of office to field workers to considering restructuring the configuration of our conferences and unions.



Jim Berglund is a pastor in the Idaho Conference.

“Our greatest need is in prioritizing. In these economically difficult times we have to make financial appropriations by determining, not what could be beneficial, but what is absolutely necessary — not to protect status quo, but to accomplish our God-given mission.” — JIM BERGLUND

G: What significant facts during this process did you find especially interesting?

BERGLUND: I was impressed with how much more work we need to do on communicating how the church functions and the services the church provides. Sometimes we naively presume we can cut personnel and maintain the same services. I do not think members realize how much the NPUC and many conferences within our union have already downsized.

JOHNSON: One significant finding dealt with the funding of Adventism. During the three decades prior to 1980, per capita tithe increased at a greater rate than inflation. This allowed conferences to aggressively expand the work of the gospel in the Northwest. The trend reversed during the last three decades. The per capita tithe during the 1980s and the first decade of the new millennium were significantly lower than inflation. As a result, conferences, whose primary expense is personnel, were forced to give both pastors and conference of-

fice employees more and more responsibilities. Through this period, though, teacher-student ratios were not increased, partly because of decreasing enrollments.

In the area of church growth, some of us on the committee questioned whether NPUC membership increases during the last 60 years can be used to evaluate the current health and vitality of the churches and conferences of the Northwest as compared to the 1950s or even the 1980s. Church attendance records would have been help-

ful in evaluating the current condition of Adventism, but many churches do not count their weekly attendance. A general sense among the committee members seemed to be that Adventism is hitting a plateau and needs to more fully focus on its mission.

“I didn’t find the “bloat” that so many members complain about. With the current staffing levels, many people are wearing multiple hats, something we did not see 30 years ago. The question to ask now is, are we advancing the gospel mission as effectively with less staff?” — TANYA HUETHER



Tanya Huether operates her own business in Brookings, Oregon.

ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS SPEAK OUT



Ruth Harms is a business owner in Pasco, Washington.

"Our church was started by Spirit-led people. A century and a half later our world is a different place. Spirit-anointed structures may need Spirit-led altering or adapting. It's important for us to discern between God's continued leading and our tendency to simply want things our way." — RUTH HARMS

G: Do you feel this process will result in any positive changes? What would you tell a member who says this was all just a waste of time?

HUETHER: Our report is only beneficial if administration chooses to use it. If it just sits on a shelf and the information and recommendations are never read or considered, then yes, this committee was a waste of time. However, a significant amount of data was compiled from our research that was never available before in one place. This gives our leaders solid historical facts and trends upon which to base their decisions.

HARMS: I think we all felt frustrated at times by the immensity of the challenge and the uncertainty of the future. But Max Torkelsen said that input from the meetings and the resulting report would be helpful to him in the future, so if it is useful to leadership, I'm glad.

BERGLUND: During the process I was not sure how I would feel in the end. This was an advisory committee, not an action committee. Its primary benefit may not be determined until the future reveals how the recommended changes were embraced and implemented. But as far as a waste of time? I sensed the passion of those who were together in this process. We were not merely administrators, educators, pastors and laity representing

our interests, we were brothers and sisters passionate about seeing the church we love fulfilling the commission we have been given.

"The success of our church in growth over the past several decades has also made a sense of community more difficult to maintain. Everyone no longer knows everybody else. When we are more distant there is a greater likelihood of questions about all the structures earlier generations established to maintain the community of churches and membership." — DENNIS CARLSON



Dennis Carlson, committee chair, is Walla Walla University vice president for advancement.

"We became convinced that more resources need to be directed to frontline ministry. Our recommendations provided to Max Torkelsen suggest how this could take place, including some additional reduction for the NPUC office." — DOUG

JOHNSON



Doug Johnson is the Upper Columbia Conference vice president for administration.

G: What about this process would you most want Northwest church members to know?

BERGLUND: Well, two things, actually. First, this committee did not consist of a body of yes-men and -women but individuals that spoke the truth in love to the concerns at hand. We earnestly wrestled with the issues. Second, the issues are so significant we should not settle for a one-time shot at solutions but should continue to evaluate how to implement these recommendations and research further advancements.

HUETHER: From my perspective, the NPUC administration was very open and engaged in this study. I appreciated that Max Torkelsen did not try to direct the process, but instead allowed "anything on the table." As a result the committee felt free to explore any area of church structure within our union and look at ways it could be more efficient and effective in accomplishing the mission of the church. Torkelsen did compile an intriguing list of ideas from various discussions around the union and submitted it to us early in the process.

I was disappointed that we did not explore some of the items in more depth. However, many of them fall into one of the five categories within the report, so these ideas could potentially be developed at a later date.

CARLSON: The administrations and executive committees of the conferences in our union and the union office as well have made significant reductions in staffing as economic or strategic factors were considered. It is important to remember that the local conference is not an entity in and of itself. The conference was set up by members of churches for the benefit of the local congregation for services and resourcing. The conference system is a very effective mission system in that unity of action is coordinated and local churches are served in regard to pastoral placement and property management, for instance. This allows the local church to concentrate its efforts on mission to its specific community. I hope members who are interested in digging

deep into the matters studied in the report will indeed do so, because the depth and breadth of the data brought together for this study is significant. We have drawn some observations based on the research we did, but I am sure more study would enhance our understanding of the church, its leadership and functions.

HARMS: This emphasizes the reality and challenges of the larger church beyond our local church. We are fortunate to have it there. So keep thinking, get to know your leaders and be involved where you can. Leaders do listen and care what you think. Don't underestimate the complexity of their responsibilities. It's easy for the rest of us to be armchair experts, to sit back and criticize. When comparing our union with all the other unions in the North American Division, it doesn't appear that we are being lavish with our current level of employees and services. And we are attempting to live within our means.

JOHNSON: During the last decade, most conferences in the Northwest reduced the number of employees in their conference offices. While some church members want more and more services provided by the conference offices, requiring additional employees, it appears that the majority of our members want more resources sent to the local level. We became convinced that more resources need to be directed to frontline ministry. Our recommendations provided to Max Torkelsen suggest how this could take place, including some additional reduction for the NPUC office.

A Few FIGURES, FACTS AND FINDINGS

North Pacific Union Conference Ad Hoc Mission Advisory Group members encountered a number of comments as they talked with people in their home conferences. Some of the recurring concerns were:

This advisory is a waste of energy, time and money. Let's eliminate the union level of organization. Let's eliminate conferences and put those responsibilities directly under the umbrella of the union. Let's combine some conferences to save money. Let's keep some of the tithe in the local church to be used for local ministry. Let's find a way to make Adventist education affordable.

Some of these questions fell outside the scope of this Advisory Group. While the union/conference structure of the church should be addressed, it is so systemic to overall world church governance and financial flow, it requires an entirely different study from a more representative group. This committee decided to instead focus on several key areas that could be effectively changed within the NPUC.

Here is a summary that highlights just a few of the recommendations offered by the Advisory Group in their five main areas of focus. A fuller report is available online as a link to this article at gleaneronline.org or via the GLEANER ON THE GO code here using a mobile device.

	Alaska	Idaho	Montana	Oregon	Upper Columbia	Washington
1985						
Congregations*	23	41	40	117	92	64
Membership	3,757	6,530	4,034	35,669	25,552	21,591
Tithe	\$1,528,627	\$2,380,231	\$1,435,884	\$12,973,588	\$9,648,937	\$6,370,320
Office Staff**	9	15	11	77	40	38
Pastors**	19	24	19	81	80	59
Teachers K-12**	17	46	32	213	147	100
2010						
Congregations*	28	45	38	132	107	84
Membership	3,667	6,506	4,014	35,513	25,436	21,155
Time	\$3,714,425	\$5,365,884	\$3,880,473	\$31,273,062	\$22,864,772	\$17,485,994
Office Staff	8	8	6.5	50.5	40.5	31
Pastors	11***	22	15	118	84	74***
Teachers K-12	12	43	21	190	152	118
* This figure does not include companies ** This figure comes from 1984 instead of 1985 except for the Montana & Upper Columbia conferences *** This figure comes from 2009 instead of 2010						

Advancing the Mission of the Church

- › Encourage the inclusion of young adults in leadership positions and on boards and committees.
- › Intentionally develop diversity in denominational leadership positions and on boards and committees to better reflect the constituency demographics.
- › Consider creating a lay member coordinator position to develop a network/pool of laity willing to use their gifts to help others within the NPUC accomplish its mission.

- › Communicate and illustrate how the principles of united action and pooled funds benefit the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination.
- › Actively address the large number of inactive members within the NPUC by encouraging an intentional reclamation ministry.

Communicating to Members

- › Develop a communication plan to advance employee and member understanding of the purpose and function of the union and conferences.
- › Invite recommended local church invitees to attend conference

and NPUC committee meetings where appropriate.

- › Recognizing tithe has not kept up with inflation for the past three decades, implement a plan of education in regard to stewardship principles of tithe and offerings and the use of tithe.

Efficiencies in the Use of Funds and Personnel

- › In order to shift a higher percentage of resources and people to the front lines of ministry, the following recommendations should be considered:
- › Reduce the current ratio of one NPUC office employee to 2,447

North Pacific Union Conference

	1985	2010
Congregations*	377	434
Membership	66,559	97,133
Tithe	\$34,329,989	\$84,788,468
Office Staff	56	39

* This figure does not include companies

- members to 1 to 3,000 and no greater than one local conference office employee to every 700 members where feasible.
- › Move more resources to support the hiring of additional pastors, teachers, Bible workers and evangelists.
- › Seek ways to consolidate services and ministries among the conferences and union to avoid unnecessary duplication.
- › Decrease administrative costs at union and conference levels with fewer face-to-face meetings and more frequent use of video conferencing and electronic and Web-based meeting software.
- › Identify funding priorities and develop a strategy to reach ministry goals, with contingency plans to cope with the potential of a further decline in the economy and tithe income.

restructuring can set back mission in that region. In light of the desire to move mission forward, the advisory wants to be measured in its recommendations, while still addressing expressed concerns that the union or the conferences should be abolished or at a minimum restructured. ... The advisory suggests that if a study into a restructure be deemed necessary, that committee members from this advisory be included in that process.' Note, however, the accompanying graphs that show how some adjustments have indeed been made at union and local conferences in the past 25 years.

Adventist Education

- › Form a plan to identify and visit every NPUC-area Adventist school-age person in regard to attending an Adventist school.
- › Create a plan to make education affordable and available to all Adventist parents who desire an Adventist education for their children.

Evaluating the Structure and Organization

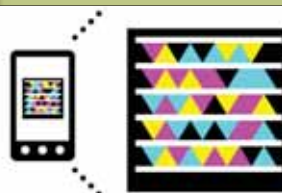
The Advisory Group's report contains this statement: "Past experience has taught that ill-considered conference

Ad Hoc Mission Advisory Group

The advisory group met six times: Aug. 26, 2010; Nov. 18, 2010; Jan. 17, 2011; March 3, 2011; March 31, 2011; and April 27, 2011. Group members were:

- Dennis N. Carlson** (chair), vice president, Walla Walla University
- Doug Johnson** (secretary), vice president, Upper Columbia Conference
- Harold Altamirano**, pastor, Oregon Conference
- Jim Berglund**, pastor, Idaho Conference
- Sandy Eickmann**, lay member, Montana Conference
- Ruth Farnsworth**, lay member, Alaska Conference
- Gary Fogelquist**, pastor, Washington Conference
- Robert Folkenberg**, president, Upper Columbia Conference
- Russell Gilbert**, lay member, Upper Columbia Conference
- Ruth Harms**, lay member, Upper Columbia Conference
- Tanya Huether**, lay member, Oregon Conference
- Lanny Hurlbert**, vice president, North Pacific Union Conference
- Steve Libby**, lay member, Alaska Conference
- Don Mead**, lay member, Washington Conference
- Mickey Meyer**, lay member, Idaho Conference
- Richard Parker**, youth director, Upper Columbia Conference
- Bob Paulsen**, lay member, Washington Conference
- Mark Remboldt**, vice president, North Pacific Union Conference
- Tom Russell**, lay member, Oregon Conference
- Alvaro Sauza**, pastor, Montana Conference

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ACCION

En Cristo y en su Causa

Más de 800 personas se dieron cita el último fin de semana de Junio en la Academia del Valle de Walla Walla en Washington, para celebrar el Campestre Hispano de la Conferencia de Upper Columbia bajo el lema “En Cristo y en su Causa”.

Una hermosa decoración deslumbraba la vista de los espectadores a la derecha de la plataforma, ilustrando un bote abandonado en la costa rocosa con las redes dejadas al viento recordando que los discípulos abandonaron sus quehaceres seculares para vivir en “Cristo y en su Causa”. Varios distinguidos predicadores enriquecieron el evento con sus presentaciones; el Pr. Carlos Camacho, Director de Mercadeo de la Pacific Press Publishing Association abrió el campestre el Jueves 23 en la tarde con el tema “Los Jóvenes y la Fe del Viejo Abraham” cerrándolo el Domingo 25 en la mañana con el tema “Cristo, centro y esencia de todas las cosas”. En la mañana del Sábado el Pastor David Libermore,



Pastor Libermore y Steve Rogers poderosamente conectando con los líderes.

Director del departamento de Evangelismo Personal en UCC acompañado por Steve Roger, coordinador del equipo de Evangelistas, presentaron el seminario “Share the Life” (Comparte la Vida) conectando con los líderes poderosamente. Durante el seminario explicaron la iniciativa de la Conferencia para animar y equipar líderes laicos en la obra del evangelismo personal y el uso de la palabra de Dios en la testificación. Así mismo el Dr. José Angel Fuentes, Pastor, evangelista y Psicólogo, fue el predicador principal de los adultos, entre sus

temas se destacó una exégesis de Proverbios 22:28 “No traspases los linderos antiguos que pusieron tus padres”, desarrollada durante el culto divino.

Una de las características remarcables que caracterizó el campestre del 2011 es la tremenda participación de líderes y miembros de iglesia en el desarrollo de 4 programas simultáneos que permitió ministrar a niños, menores, adolescentes & Jóvenes y adultos en forma simultánea. El campamento de Jóvenes comenzó el Jueves 23 y

terminó el Domingo 26; fue una buena oportunidad para que los jóvenes de las diferentes iglesias interactuaran y se conocieran. El Sábado en la noche, el Espíritu Santo se manifestó en la tienda de los Jóvenes, hubieron testimonios, lágrimas y conversión. Los jóvenes se regresaron a sus hogares deseosos de seguir viviendo en “Cristo y en su Causa”. El presidente, Roberto Folkenberg Jr., se hizo presente para atender a la graduación de la clase 2011 del Seminario Adventista de Líderes donde ochenta y cuatro alumnos se graduaron (algunos en absentia) en la tarde del Sábado recibiendo sus certificados por los méritos académicos alcanzados durante el año lectivo. Dios bendijo a su pueblo que se reúne cada año para alabar su nombre.

*Pastor Walter Pintos-Schmidt,
Coordinador Hispano de la
Conferencia de Upper Columbia*



Celebración del Campestre Hispano de la Conferencia de Upper Columbia en la Academia del Valle de Walla Walla.

Ketchikan Celebrates Double Baptism

On June 25, Jo Ellyn Baham and Tracy Salazar made a public profession of faith through baptism at Ward Lake in Ketchikan, Alaska. Todd Ervin, Ketchikan Church pastor, ministered the ordinance of baptism, and the celebration was witnessed by Baham's and Salazar's church families and friends.

Both Baham and Salazar took Bible studies and have been actively attending the Ketchikan Church. Salazar grew up an Adventist, but never made the decision to fully commit until recently.



Todd Ervin, Ketchikan Church pastor, shares Scripture as Jo Ellen Baham (left) and Tracy Salazar eagerly await baptism.

Bonnie Paddock, church member, mentored Salazar in the fellowship of the Adventist Church.

Baham grew up in Ketchikan and is married. She feels a sense of urgency to share Jesus with her friends

and family.

Winning souls for Christ and discipleship training are a high priority for Ervin. Ervin; his wife, Sharlene; and his daughters, Erin and Liesel, moved to Ketchikan last September. Their love of Christ is evident in the light they have shined on the community.

Please pray for Baham, Salazar and others who receive the word of God and believe in Christ.

Sandy James, communication ministry assistant

Alaska Reconsiders Mission



Every

In an endeavor to reach the population base of the Last Frontier, which includes some of the most isolated areas in the United States, the Alaska Conference has partnered with the Voice of Prophecy Bible School. The goal for this partnership is to blanket Alaska with Bible study enrollment cards and to initiate Bible studies all over the state. All Alaska villages will receive invitations to study either the Native New Day lessons or the Discover Guides and KidZone Guides, along with Discover and Native New Day DVDs.

The plan is to send an invitation to every household in every town and village in Alaska and train church members to give follow-up Bible studies in several ways:

1. Personal visitation (face to face where there is a local church presence);

2. Internet and telephone (Skype or Facebook) where there is phone and Internet service;

3. Postal service (correspondence) in the most remote areas.

Voice of Prophecy has established Discover Bible Schools with amazing success all over North America and currently has more than 2,600 churches involved nationally with hundreds more worldwide.

On the weekend of June 8–10, 2012, there will be a mass graduation celebration in Anchorage, Alaska, with each Bible-study interest invited. This high weekend will be followed by “Net 2012,” a NAD division-wide, satellite evangelistic series with top speakers from across the division. Please pray for this initiative.

Ken Crawford, Alaska Conference president

Students Lay Wreath

At Tomb of Unknowns

Recently 24 students and adults from four Idaho Conference elementary schools took a two-week school fieldtrip to Washington, D.C., from March 24–April 8.

It took three days by train to get to D.C. and three days to return. The group had a very inspirational time on the first Sabbath. They had sundown worship in the observation car with singing and a short worship talk. What was so inspirational was that there were other passengers who joined in with the group. Afterward, Josiah, a youth pastor, had a small Bible study with a young man who had joined the worship service.

Cody Ottaway, a seventh-grader from Desert View Christian School, in Mountain Home, Idaho, gave this insight into the



trip: “At first I thought my teacher, Mrs. Carrie Tow, was joking when in October she shared with my parents about the possibility of going to Washington, D.C., with this group,” he says. “I felt raising \$800 by March would be impossible. I washed cars, mowed lawns, shoveled snow and began to hope. When she announced that I and two other

‘Codys’ would be laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns. This was UNBELIEVABLE!”

In reflection, Ottaway adds, “Seeing the Memorials, Smithsonian museums, touring the Capitol, even seeing the President’s motorcade were awesome, but laying the wreath with the Honor Guard was all of our favorite thing on the whole trip.”

Cody Davis, from Timberline Elementary, had been saving since 2007 when he was in first-grade, to go on a trip to Washington, D.C. When he was old enough he was excited to be included.

The wreath laying occurred on April 1. Ottaway, along with Davis; Cody Blakeney from La Grande Adventist School in La Grande, Ore.; and Dakota Maura from Enterprise (Ore.) Adventist School, presented the wreath on behalf of all Adventist schools in the United States.

All participants of the trip would like to thank Cheri De La Rosa, head teacher of the La Grande Adventist School, for coordinating this trip.

Byron Fesler, Home and School coordinator

Idaho Constituency Report

“**D**isciples in Action” was the theme for the 52nd-Session of the Idaho Conference, which met May 22 at Gem State Adventist Academy. This theme anticipates conference membership being motivated and involved in making disciples for the kingdom. In his devotional, Max Torkelsen, North Pacific Union Conference president, encouraged delegates to get involved in working together to help others have a love relationship with Christ.

The 331 delegates unanimously elected David Prest Jr. as president for the ensuing quadrennium. He comes to Idaho Conference from the Montana Conference,

where he worked as a departmental director. Don Klinger was reelected as vice president for administration, communication and planned giving. Gary Johnson from Hawaii was elected vice president for finance. Paulette Jackson was reelected superintendent of education.

The delegates took time to recognize Harold Dixon, retiring vice president for finance, for his more than 41 years of service to the Seventh-day Adventist church, primarily in the Northwest.

Because Gary Johnson declined the invitation, the Conference Executive Committee subsequently elected John Rogers, Oregon Conference undertrea-

sure, to serve as vice president for finance. Rogers and his family moved to Idaho in August.

Prest challenged the delegates to participate in a shared vision for the future. That vision must be free from personal agendas, grounded in Scripture and the Spirit of Prophecy; a God-given,

Holy Spirit-blessed vision. He called on all delegates to begin by praying for God to give us the vision He wants for the Idaho Conference.

Don Klinger, Idaho Conference communication director



Three officers will serve Idaho Conference members. Pictured here, from left are: John Rogers, vice president for finance; David Prest, president; and Don Klinger, vice president for administration.

MEA goes through Summer Updates

JOIN US ONLINE!



With a new school year fast approaching, Mount Ellis Academy has been in full swing with campus and online changes. In late June, the decision to move forward with necessary changes in the Ad Building was approved. First, the walls were transformed with fresh texturing and then painted a warm shade of beige. Phase two is apparent the moment one walks into the Ad Building; the aroma of freshly laid carpet easily informs the newcomer of the updates being made.

On a digital side, MEA has taken the web by storm. Via the MEA website (www.mtellis.org), anyone can connect to what's happening by following the school's official Facebook, Twitter, Blogger, Issuu and YouTube accounts. These new pages give students, parents, alumni and prospective students an innovative look at what MEA is all about.

Ashley Peterson, MEA GLEANER correspondent

Leaders Work to put Winnings to Best Use *For Sewer System*

Last summer, in what seemed like every nation, tribe and tongue, people were talking about the sewer system at Mount Ellis Academy. It's old news now that MEA won a \$500,000 grant with 144,000 votes in the Kohl's Cares competition. It was a tremendous miracle and blessing.

Many of those who worked hard for MEA during the contest have inquired about the status of the project. It was the school's hope that workers would already be putting pipes in the ground. However, when faced with the happy circumstance of having some money to address the need, a number of unanticipated options presented themselves. The most notable one was the city of Bozeman expressed some initial willingness to provide a path of least

resistance to connect the school to the city sewer, thus avoiding the need for a new on-site system.

Desiring to make the best possible decision for the school, the MEA operating board appointed an infrastructure committee to evaluate options and recommend a way forward. After weighing alternatives, the infrastructure committee has recommended, and the board has approved, the following plan regarding school infrastructure and use of grant money:

To construct a sewer system accommodating several campus buildings, thus removing significant load from the old system. This allows continued function at lower capacity. Operating two smaller systems promises significant savings

both in terms of initial installation and long-term maintenance. This solution allows the school to move forward with construction of new buildings that can be tied into the newer system. Construction is anti-

pated to begin in the spring of 2012. Thank you so much for your support and interest in this project.

Darren Wilkins, MEA principal



Mount Ellis Academy won a \$500,000 grant with the Kohl's Cares competition last year and has been working strategically since that time to upgrade the academy's sewer system.

Gladstone Camp Meeting

Coming Home ... Again

Go to Gladstone Camp Meeting. Stand in the main plaza. Wait long enough, and you'll see just about anyone who's ever been an Adventist. That's not literally true, of course, but sometimes it seems that way.

"Camp meeting is like a family gathering," says Al Reimche, Oregon Conference president. "Lots of people come who don't attend church anymore, but this is where they come back to reconnect."

One of those who came back this year was the evening speaker, Dwight K. Nelson. Thousands know him as the pastor of the Pioneer Memorial Church; hundreds of thousands have heard him speak on TV. But in the Or-



Pictured here are the children's division leaders for the Gladstone Camp Meeting this year. Comments could be heard all over the campus about leaders' creative innovation of a cowboy theme.

regon towns of Roseburg, Fall Creek, Myrtle Point, Coquille and Salem, they remember when he was their pastor. In fact, Nelson was ordained at the Gladstone Camp Meeting in 1979.

"The theme for this year's camp meeting is 'Coming Home ... Again,' and it's like this theme was chosen for us," says Nelson. "We have so many friends here in Oregon; we have

so many memories of camp meeting on these grounds. It is truly an honor to share this festive occasion."

People Watching

Even if you didn't recognize someone at camp meeting, you could often identify them by their clothing. Cleaning staff wore orange polo shirts; hospitality wore blue; security wore red; maintenance wore green; evangelism training

camp wore apricot; Big Lake Youth Camp wore burnt orange. Black polo shirts were tricky; they could mean a pastor, a staff member for Juniors (grades 5-6) or a member of the Oregon Adventist Men's Choir. But if you saw someone dressed as a cowboy, they definitely worked in the children's divisions. Most striking of all were the purple and green T-shirts worn by teens (grades 7-8). These T-shirts proclaimed "No place like home."

But along with them and everyone else at camp meeting, you would have seen Jesus, maybe in a sermon, maybe in the music of the Oregon Adventist Men's Choir, maybe in the kindness of the stranger who shared their umbrella on Sabbath morning. Or maybe you saw Him in the eyes of an old friend — someone you'd not seen in years, but ran into in the main plaza.

"I want us to connect with each other at camp meeting," says Reimche. "I want everyone to feel as though they're part of the family. But more than that, I want everyone to connect with Christ. I want them to see that He's in love with them. And if that happens, then camp meeting is worth it."

And if you stood there in the plaza this year, then you saw that it was worth it.

*Greg Brothers, Lincoln City/
Nestucca Church pastor*

More Camp Meeting News

Visit gleaneronline.org to learn more about Gladstone Camp Meeting.

Read "A Quick Guide to Who Wore What at Gladstone Camp Meeting 2011" to learn about the "uniforms" of camp meeting.



Dwight Nelson comes "home" for camp meeting as the evening speaker in the Plaza Pavilion. He spoke to capacity crowds as well as the audience watching the live stream, offered for the first time this year.

Volunteer Revives VBS at Forest Grove

Monday morning, June 13 marked a significant event in the Forest Grove (Ore.) Church. For the first time in many years, the Forest Grove Church held Vacation Bible School. It began months earlier when Robyn Cottrell felt a calling to do something for the community and to introduce the concept of a loving God accepting everyone. Several weeks prior to the launch date, Cottrell stood in front of the church with requests for help and supplies. A core group stepped forward donating time and materials.

Monday morning arrived, and an apprehensive group of adults and teenagers gathered

for last-minute instructions and assignments. Dennis James, photographer, donated his time and equipment to produce photographs of each child. The photographs became part of a popular craft frame. Parents arrived earlier than planned to guarantee their child's participation. Jeannine Ballard and

Cheryl Ryerson led registration.

Opening worship was led by the rousing and enthusiastic musical group BET (Brianna Finch, Evelyn Moore and Tracy Danielson). Song service was followed by worship from Cottrell. The youth chapel was decorated with shrubs, trees, blocks of letters and words for

the memory verse; and backdrops illustrating a beach-bash theme.

Following worship, children were divided into groups by ages and named: Sharks, Dolphins or Whales. Groups participated in crafts, recreation and snacks.

On Friday evening, parents were invited to a special program with a slideshow for the week. Special thanks to Robyn, Matt, Jeannine, Cheryl, Tonya, Marla, Louise, Clair, Laura, Donna, Cecelia, Priscilla, David, Tracy, Evelyn, Brittany and Dennis.

Dennis James, Forest Grove Church communication leader



Hometown Nazareth

Where Jesus was a Kid

Vacation Bible School at Sunnyside Church in Portland, Ore., drew more than 134 children from June 20–25. Nearly 40 were non-members. More than 100 adults volunteered and donated food each night. Chris Marin, volunteer, and Shirley Allen, pastor, along with “a

Nick Gosney plays his violin in costume at Vacation Bible School.



BEN DALUSONG JR.

village,” put on the event.

Each night a different children's program was featured. At the Sabbath “graduation,” each child received a certificate. Also, Sabbath School teachers were introduced and children were invited to a new sing-a-long taking place prior to Sabbath School. An appeal was given for children and parents to give their hearts to Jesus. Many responded.

A special thank-you note sent to Allen says, “I think my granddaughter did learn a lot. She has never been exposed to anything, not even preschool or outreach of any kind, so this was a totally

new experience for her ...

Thanks so much for loving all those little children ... This is such a memorable thing, not only for the children but for ‘grandma’ as well.”

As a follow-up, all the families received an invitation to SunnyCity in Ventura Park in Portland, Ore., for Aug. 7, from 1–5 p.m. SunnyCity is a mini-town created with the help of doctors, police officers, firefighters, pastors, teachers and librarians that prepares children to be great citizens.

Phyllis Foster Woods, Sunnyside Church communication leader



BEN DALUSONG JR.

Children help themselves to healthy snacks at Vacation Bible School.

Portland Adventist Academy Teacher Earns Doctorate



KRISTY ERICH

Tim Erich receives his Doctor of Education degree from La Sierra University while working as a fulltime teacher and department chair at Portland Adventist Academy.

Tim Erich, Portland Adventist Academy social studies department chair, recently received his Doctor of Education degree from La Sierra University.

“Earning a doctorate is a test of perseverance,” says Erich, who has spent the last 25 years working fulltime as an administrator, teacher or department chair while completing educational certifications and working on prerequisites to the doctorate. Erich has earned an Educational Specialist degree in administration and leadership, a master’s (M.A.) in education and a Bachelor of Arts degree in history and political science with minors in French and religion.

Erich’s dissertation was on the pitfalls and possibilities of public funding of private schools. His study was based on interviews of 24 individuals with expertise related to the issue of public funding of private, religious schools within the United States. Interviewees were primarily experts in historical and legal developments in public aid to private schools, the funding of private schools and the principle of the separation of church and state affairs.

Erich plans to submit summaries and related articles to numerous professional journals for publication.

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA GLEANER correspondent

Students Bring Smiles to Parkhurst Manor

With a mixture of joy and excitement, students from the Mid-Columbia Adventist Christian School in Hood River, Ore., made their way to Parkhurst Manor for their final visit of the year.

Stacy Duffield, teacher for grades 1–4, had made arrangements throughout the year to visit and read to the residents. Not only was it fun and enjoyable; credit was also given to each child for their social science class.

Since the facility is only about three blocks from the school, the entire class delight-

ed in walking the distance in all kinds of weather. Starting from the beginning of school in the fall to springtime, in rain, snow or shine, students found it fun to visit Parkhurst Manor.

The student body learned to talk and read with the older people and form great friendships.

After about an hour, students waved good-bye. And it was wonderful to see the smiling face of each resident.

Joyce Gallentine, Hood River communication leader



The King's Heralds

On the Road

The King's Heralds performed several concerts in the Oregon Conference this past summer. These included stops at: Coquille, May 4; Meadow Glade, June 22; McMinnville, June 23; Sunnyside June 25; Brookings, June 26; and other churches.

The King's Heralds have been around for 85 years with thirty men having sung in the group. Current quartet members include: Don Scroggs is in his 29th year as first tenor; Joel Borg as second tenor; Russell Hospedales as baritone; and Jeff Pearles as bass. In a typical manner, the

Heralds blessed audiences with their tight harmony, traditional songs, presentation, and using God's word through message. Their selection of both old and new songs, from a cappella to Southern Gospel drew crowds.

The Heralds rely solely upon supporters' gifts through concert offerings and/or monthly financial commitments.

For concert information, go to the King's Heralds website at theheralds.org.

Diana Carter, Vancouver Church member



Free! Open to all ages!

Ministry Fest 2011

"Discovering ministry has never been so much fun!"

September 24, 2011 Holden Convention Center
Doors open at 2 p.m.

Dozens of interactive ministry idea booths and *Info-Blitzes!*
Drawings! Free Haystacks! And so much more!

After sundown...

- The ABC will open!
- A family movie night on the plaza!
- Camp Meeting corn dogs, ice cream & more at the Snack Shack!

Plus... Sunday Morning Training Tracks!

Visit www.OregonConference.org for more information!

Sponsored by the Oregon Conference Member Ministries Dept.

Academy Foundation Launches Website

The Upper Columbia Academy Foundation is excited to announce the development of a new website. The Foundation is an independent group consisting of alumni, friends and family of Upper Columbia Academy who desire to assist qualified students in the opportunity to enroll in Upper Columbia Academy year after year.

The objectives of the progressive UCAFoundation.org redesign are to provide interactive capabilities for its visitors, serve as a relationship tool to glean visitor data and draw additional Foundation partners. It will also function as a technologically robust information hub, offering relevant news and opportuni-

ties relating to UCAF's goal to assist UCA students.

The executive board has initiated the website project as part of an aggressive plan to move the Foundation's efforts into higher gear, wid-

ening its partnership base by creating stronger awareness and retaining active support.

The Foundation's central decision to build the new website is based upon their appreciation for all friends,

family and alumni of UCA who have decided to partner with the mission by creating endowments. The site will share stories of the endowments and outline their specific profiles that directly relate to helping UCA students.

Currently, the website is promoting the UCAF Annual Golf Tournament, which will take place Oct. 7 (during UCA's alumni weekend). Those who are interested can learn about the event and sign up to participate.

Shari Krall, Upper Columbia Academy Foundation writer



Sharing Jesus in Irrigon



The Irrigon Church was proud to have hosted the All About Jesus Revival Seminar presented by Lee and Marji Venden. The seminar was held at the Irrigon Church in Irrigon, Ore., but was attended by members from other area churches as well. It began on July 1 and concluded on July 9. The presentations began each evening at 6:30. Each Sabbath there were three presentations at 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The Vendens presented new ideas on how to have a closer friendship with Jesus and how to

not just love Him but fall in love with Him each day all over again. They helped church members have that "bubbling over" feeling in their hearts again like when they first gave their hearts to Jesus. What a blessing the meetings were to the surrounding communities and churches!

Linda Anderson, Irrigon Church communication leader

More of His Travelers than Ever

Eight young adults lit a flame of inspiration across Eastern Washington this summer. The group called His Travelers, visited 16 churches around the Upper Columbia Conference conducting Vacation Bible Schools, community service events and youth ministries. The goal was to simply be a blessing to churches by assisting their ministries and by creating awareness of the church within the local communities.

"I am a big fan of the His Travelers program," says James Shires, Lewis-

ton (Idaho) Church pastor. "Their youthful enthusiasm brings a fresh spark and new dimension to our church. Their energy is a big boost for our adult members and a wonderful inspiration for our youth members. These kids are especially spiritual, and they are a powerful tool in the Lord's work."

When His Travelers arrive at a church, they immediately get to work, getting members excited about ministry and teaching others how they can be role models. They bring church youth alongside them as assistants and leaders.



Shalise Gross, in her second summer with His Travelers, listens carefully to a Vacation Bible School student.



Jonathan Sharley, His Travelers member, is a sophomore music and pre-med student at Walla Walla University. Here he teaches children at the Spokane Valley Church Vacation Bible School program how to sing loud enough for even Grandma and Grandpa to hear them in the back row.

"After His Travelers came to Lewiston last year, I noticed a big difference in our youth," says Shires. "A few months after, I could see our kids were much more confident about getting up front and leading out."

"Some churches are small and don't have a lot of help, so it is refreshing for them when we come and give them fulltime workers," says Mena Ikladios, a senior high school student from Abbotsford, British Columbia.

While in Lewiston, Idaho, one group of His Travelers spent time each day at the park after VBS. The first day they gave out popsicles and GLOW literature tracts. The next day they played sports. Soon children were opening up to them, and His Travelers had a chance to share spiritual ideas. Eventually one of the local children said, "I am

going to go home and read those papers."

"We have to depend on God to lead us to ministry opportunities," says Jonathan Sharley, a sophomore music and pre-med student from Yakima, Wash. "On the last day of VBS at the Ione Church, I felt impressed to invite a 7- or 8-year-old girl to ask Jesus to come into her heart. She had been so open and sincere all week, and I just felt she was ripe for harvest."

There are many more miracles that happened with His Travelers this year, and by God's grace the impact of their ministry will have a lasting effect in the months and years to come.

Jon Dalrymple, Upper Columbia Conference communication assistant

Evangelistic Meetings

A Wonderful Event

As the evangelistic series, led by Brian McMahon, drew to its conclusion in May, the members of the Valley View Church in East Wenatchee, Wash., had many reasons to rejoice. Over the course of two Sabbaths, 14 new converts chose to be baptized and follow their Savior. In addition, eight current members chose to recommit their lives to Jesus through baptism.

Each night, as the adults met in the sanctuary, the younger children attended a program of their own. The children enjoyed music, stories and crafts with their leaders Desiree Wichapool and John Goodwill. Attendance in the children's program averaged 18–22 nightly.



New members pause for a picture with pastoral couples Jim and Becky Anderson and Brian and Heidi McMahon as they are welcomed into church fellowship at the Valley View Church in East Wenatchee, Wash.

Their enthusiastic singing echoed through the halls of the church, bringing smiles to many faces.

The series of 24 meetings began April 16. Genelle Pepple, local coordinator,

undaunted by the enormity of details involved in organizing such an event, inspired the majority of fellow church members to take an active role. Enthusiasm was abundant throughout the series as

members and visitors alike were blessed in the study of God's word. It was a joy to see the sanctuary filled night after night. It was an even greater joy to see lives changed by the power of God's word.

We Can Keep Them in the Church



The book *We Can Keep Them in the Church*, compiled by Myrna Tetz, urges leaders in local churches to involve the youth in leadership and outreach activities. One church following this appeal is the Kettle Falls Church in Kettle Falls, Wash.

On any Sabbath, Cayce Martin may be playing the piano with Roseanna Page leading the song service — both are high school students. Stephen Shaeffer will likely be working with another college student, Jefferson Clark, to manage the

public address system. If the A Cappella Choir sings, Cami Martin, college student, directs. Erica Kinjo, high school student, plays her violin for special music.

During the church service, Elijah and Gabriel Goforth, junior deacons, frequently help collect the offering. Richard or David Page may read the Scripture, and Debra Reeves prays. During school vacation, students home from college, including Joseph Reeves, Tanner Martin or Christian Reeves, often preach.

On Sabbath, July 1, Michelle Kinjo and Matthew Shaeffer, high school students, each presented a short sermon for the church service.

In addition, young people lead monthly nursing-home visitations, and six have done colporteur work.

Older people greatly appreciate the willingness of youth to share their talents in service.

Marilyn Morgan, Kettle Falls Church clerk

Evangelism Anchors Camp Meeting Messages

Albert Kegley from Shelton, Wash., remembers attending Washington Adventist Camp Meeting every year — for 75 years.

“I can’t remember when I didn’t come to camp meeting,” says Kegley. For the last 15 years, Kegley invited his best friend, John Dennehy, to attend camp meeting with him. This year, Dennehy finally accepted the invitation.

A Time to Reflect Jesus

Kegley is a living example of Washington Conference’s vision to see every member, church and school reflecting the image of Jesus and working together to share the everlasting Gospel of Jesus Christ and His soon return.

This vision formed the basis for messages at Washington Adventist Camp Meeting in Auburn, Wash., where guest speakers explored the characteristics of “Reflecting Jesus” through listening to God, living with humility, praying for others, showing mercy, practicing good stewardship, caring for

family, worshiping with sincerity and sharing faith.

“If you have a relationship with Jesus, you are qualified to share your faith and reflect Jesus to others,” says Shawn Boonstra, first weekend speaker. Boonstra is the new evangelism coordinator for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America.

David Smith, outgoing Union College president and week-night speaker, encouraged the live and online camp meeting audience to reflect God in daily living and in each church.

“God wants church to be a caring environment,” says Smith. “Notice who is in church ... these are God’s children who need love, forgiveness, acceptance and salvation. Let everyone who comes through the doors of your church know that you and Jesus love them and that they are in the right place.”

The messages throughout camp meeting resonated with attendees. “My members want to go home and make church a safe place for people,” says John

Kurlinski, Bremerton (Wash.) pastor.

A Time to Reach Washington

The evangelism focus continued with the unveiling of evangelism plans to “Reach Washington” to reach up for revival and reformation; reach in for spiritual gifts, ministry and community; and reach out for evangelism and witness.

More than 80 of 100 churches in western Washington will begin evangelistic series on Sept. 30. Camp meeting attendees raised \$470,954.38 — including a \$100,000 matching fund from a matured trust — to fund evangelism activities in western Washington.

“The members and leaders of this conference can do amazing things in evangelism,” says John Freedman, Washington Conference president, “because we are united in Christ and united in our vision.”

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication director



HEIDI MARTELLA

Albert Kegley from Shelton, Wash., remembers attending Washington Adventist Camp Meeting every year for 75 years.

HEIDI MARTELLA



Camp meeting programming for children, teens, young adults and adults is about bringing people of all ages into a closer relationship with Jesus so each person can reflect the image of Christ in their lives.

the BIG PICTURE of ministry

Did you know ... 83 percent of Washington Conference churches are working together to “Reach Washington” and starting an evangelistic series on Sept. 30?

DISCOVER MORE:

WASHINGTONCONFERENCE.ORG

Teens Serve Friday Harbor

Forty service-minded teenagers and chaperones from western Washington volunteered for this year's Local Teen Mission Trip in July. This year they chose Friday Harbor in Washington's San Juan Islands.

"The United States, like any country in the world, is a mission field," says Byron Dulan, Washington Conference outreach ministries director. "The Local Teen Mission Trip is offered as an opportunity to illustrate to young people that they can serve God anywhere."

The teen missionaries spent a long weekend upgrading and improving the San Juan Community Garden on the property of Friday Harbor Church, spreading God's word through

literature evangelism and serving the community through service projects such as landscaping, gardening, building, painting, music performance and ministering to children.

"It's a great experience working on a mission field that is sometimes overlooked — right on our own turf," says Komar King, a teenage participant.

The Local Teen Mission Trip

is in its third year, with teen volunteers previously serving in Chehalis, Wash., and Burlington, Wash. The trip was co-sponsored this year by the Island Churches. Washington Adventist Community Services, which traditionally coordinates this mission trip, is exploring local church and community partnerships for future mission venues.

"It was wonderful to serve

God outside my comfort zone without having to go too far," says Timmy Kosaka, teen participant. "We have our own mission field right in our backyard."

View a mission trip photo gallery at washingtonconference.org.

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication director



Love of Gardens Benefits Student Scholarships

Auburn Adventist Academy supporters recently organized a community garden tour called Pleasures of Planting to benefit student scholarships.

When Samir Berbawy, AAA principal, asked at the opening garden lecture how many people were on the academy campus for the first time, about a third of the audience raised their hands. Others had previously attended a community memorial service, graduation exercises or holiday events on campus.

"We believe God really opened doors and helped to build bridges in the community through this event," says

Alice Kirkman, who chaired the garden tour planning team. "We're praying the seeds of friendship and truth will keep growing."

The garden tour began with a lecture by Marianne Binetti, a respected local garden expert, who presented a slideshow highlighting garden techniques used in six featured gardens.

"You save so much money by attending garden tours and gleaned creative ideas such as recycling planters, creating focal points, dramatically using one plant and incorporating color," says Binetti.

Beyond visiting six featured gardens in the community, garden tour attendees were

also able to interact with local vendors and artists. In all, more than 200 people registered and participated in the garden tour to raise nearly \$9,000 for student scholarships.

A photo gallery is available at facebook.com/auburnacademy. Another garden tour benefit is scheduled for July 8, 2012.

Heidi Martella



The Pleasures of Planting garden tour attendees visit six featured gardens and at the same time support student scholarships for Auburn Adventist Academy students.

Mountain View Benefits from Church Support



Sequim (Wash.) Church volunteers, including Bob Bagwell, work together throughout the school year and the summer months to support Mountain View Christian School.

Behind every successful school is a supportive church — and the Mountain View Christian School in Sequim, Wash., appreciates the help of volunteers from the Sequim Church.

Volunteers manage the library, produce fliers and advertisements, help with the school website, write articles about the school for the local newspaper, clean the school, mow the lawn and perform needed maintenance. The church also repainted the outside of the school this summer.

“It is a true blessing to have the help of the church,” says Nancy Ley, lower-grades teacher. “We couldn’t do it without them.”

The church has also been extremely generous in their financial support of the

school, with monthly church school subsidy and \$29,000 for student scholarships. Recently the school made several technology upgrades through specific donations.

However, the support is truly felt through the prayers of each church member and the value they place on Christian education. School leaders believe it is both the church’s and school’s collective mission to draw people closer to Christ. It doesn’t matter whether those people are young or old, in the church, at the school, or in the community. All need to work together to draw others to Christ.

Brian Gang, MVCS principal and upper-grades teacher

Lacey Continues Depression Recovery Outreach

Thirty-three people participated in a Nedley Depression Recovery Program in February and March at the Lacey (Wash.) Church.

Each session began with a DVD segment from Neil Nedley, M.D., who has a special interest in helping people to overcome depression. Participants then divided into small groups to discuss the evening’s topic.

“The Nedley Depression Recovery Program helped me to discover how the human brain works and how proper diet, sleep, exercise, music and trust in God affect how we feel,” says one participant.

Another participant adds: “Already I am so much better off with the lifestyle tools that I

have learned.”

At the conclusion of the eight-week community outreach program, group facilitators and seminar participants attended a graduation banquet with a vegan menu, followed by a showing of *The Adventists*, a documentary about Seventh-day Adventist health practices.

Small-group facilitators included Edward Case, M.D., co-leader and psychiatrist; Mirna Selby, M.D.; and Kevin Fedak, D.D.S. Small-group assistants included Steve Enders, D.D.S.; Wayne Hurley, M.D.; Charles Richert, M.D.; and Theresa Johnson, Ph.D., a clinical psychologist.

“Having these health professionals donate their time to a life-improving community



Steve Shipowick, Lacey Church pastor, partners with Edward Case, M.D., psychiatrist, and his father Ronald Case, M.D., retired allergist, who led a team of Adventist health professionals in presenting an annual Depression Recovery Program in Lacey, Wash.

service for over eight weeks has contributed to the success of this program,” says Ronald Case, M.D., who co-leads Lacey’s Depression Recovery Program with his son.

As a follow-up, the father

and son team held a vegetarian/vegan cooking school in May in addition to small-group therapy follow-up classes.

Joan Case, Lacey Church member

More Than a Job

Positive Life Radio a positive experience

Melissa Erbenich remembers when she was five years old, sitting on her mom's lap on Friday evenings, listening to Positive Life Radio while her mom pampered her by painting her nails. Even then she wanted to be an announcer someday. Years later, when she attended Walla Walla University Days during her senior year of high school, Erbenich took a résumé to the station, located on the university campus, and asked for an audition. She walked away with a job.

PLR employs numerous WWU student interns each year. These valuable employees do everything from picking up office supplies to editing public service announcements and announcing on-air.

"It's so much more than a way to earn money for college," says Kevin Krueger, general manager. "Our students learn how to be highly productive in a real-world work setting and learn skills that will serve them well in whatever field they get into."

In addition to operating a soundboard, articulating thoughts clearly and concisely, going on-air, and myriad other things interns at PLR do, students learn to evaluate priorities and set reasonable goals.

"Our conversations with students go far beyond the day-to-day work duties," says Krueger. "We talk about life, spiritual growth, relationships. I love the mentoring side of what I do here; it is one of the

primary reasons I've stuck around so long."

Krueger particularly enjoys watching the transformation of students as they grow and learn.

"I love their big hearts," he says. "When I hear them praying on the phone with listeners, I'm reminded how special this place is and how important their work is to the church."

Interacting with listeners is a huge part of the ministry that is PLR. Erbenich recalls a variety of phone calls she has handled over the years, giving her a deep appreciation for all kinds of people and teaching her to find the good in what each one has to offer.

"My experience at Positive Life Radio has transformed my

life," she says. "It's more than a great technical, hands-on experience. Everything I've learned there has prepared me for the next step in my life, even teaching in Thailand. Being aware and respectful of lifestyle differences is important, and I learned that very quickly when working at Positive Life Radio. I had to set aside the fact that I was Adventist and they were Catholic or Baptist or from a different culture. It doesn't matter. We're all children of God."

To learn more and become a part of the PLR ministry, visit www.plr.org.

*Becky St. Clair, WWU
GLENER correspondent*

more WWU news

Auditions for WWU students at Positive Life Radio take place three times each year. Students are invited to stop by for information and a tour. The station is located in Canaday Technology Center.

READ MORE AT:

WALLAWALLA.EDU/NEWS



For Melissa Erbenich it's more than just a job. While at Positive Life Radio, she learned career skills, gained confidence and discovered who she was.

Adventist Health Embraces Innovation

The world is becoming innovative. Now more than ever, people and businesses are trying to come up with great ideas never thought of before. It is known Edison didn't invent the light bulb on his first try, and Google's founders didn't launch their search engine in an afternoon. Yet, both innovations have rocked our world and are evolving every day.

Adventist Health wants to rock the health-care world — or at least its patients' worlds. "Innovation Everywhere" has become a call to action for employees across the four-state system.

How does AH define innovation? According to JoAline Olson, vice president for innovations, it is the "introduction of new processes, products, services, systems, organizational structures or business models consistent with our mission."

The Blue Pillowcase

AH hospitals in the Northwest have taken up the call and are becoming innovative in more ways than one. When Adventist Medical Center, in Portland, Ore., wanted to decrease the rate of ventilator-acquired pneumonia cases, staff got innovative.

A respiratory therapist noted when a patient was cleaned and turned, all pillows were removed from the bed and then replaced. But how could staff know the pillow supporting the patient's back or between the legs was not placed later under his or her head? Could germs and bacteria travel to the patient from a contaminated pillow?

The idea was to use blue pillowcases only for the head. Using this method, patients would not be exposed to bacteria from other parts of their bodies. Today, nurses as a rule put blue pillowcases under patients' heads and replace the pillow with a blue pillowcase when changing linen. This innovative idea was implemented along with previously identified best practices and there have been no ventilator-acquired pneumonia cases since.

Plant a Seed

To ignite excitement for hospital innovations and to cultivate new ideas, the Innovations Council, AH's committee to help spread innovation throughout the system, offered seed money for new ideas to be implemented.

Earlier this spring, the council received 25 proposals from six different hospitals, clinics and the corporate office. In June, they awarded a total of \$250,000 to six proposals best representing innovative concepts that assist in accomplishing the system's strategic



initiatives and which could be duplicated at other locations throughout the system.

AMC-P was awarded \$75,000 to help fund the development of a new leading edge health plan product that will encourage active participation by health plan members, to lead to healthier living and more efficient delivery of health and wellness services.

A Reason to Innovate

AH isn't just trying to innovate to increase revenues or become better known. Innovation is an organization-

wide culture change, affecting employees and patients. Innovation at AH is about collaboration and diffusing ideas from one care site to another.

"By spreading successful innovations throughout our hospitals, we can develop a deep and enduring capability for innovation in our organization," says Olson. "Our patients will ultimately reap the benefits of this innovative culture shift."

*Brittany Russell Dobbs,
Adventist Health GLEANER
correspondent*

m.adventisthealth.org

m.AdventistHealth.org is now ready for your on-the-go needs. Visitors to the mobile site will find:

- Adventist Health Description/Facts
- Directions and Phone Numbers to AH Hospitals
- Career Information
- Latest AH News
- Link to the Main Site

Use the QR code to view the mobile site on your smart phone. The site can also be viewed on your computer browser, though the appearance will be slightly different from what is shown on your smart phone.



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MILESTONES

Ames 65th

The Chewelah Church Fellowship Hall was the location where Roy and Rubye Ames celebrated 65 years of marriage with a Thai and Chinese meal prepared by their children. The 100 guests included church guests, friends and family members.

Roy met Rubye Mozelle Kinman while stationed near Fort Worth, Texas. They married and moved to the Valley and Chewelah, Wash., area, where they resided for the past 65 years. They raised their five children, farmed and were



Roy and Rubye Ames

employed in various jobs over the years. At ages 90 and 82, the couple has decided to cut back on the work load on the farm ... and are now planning their next big anniversary celebration in five years.

The Ames family includes Stan and Cheryl Ames of Portland, Ore.; Merita and Del Dysart of Banning, Calif.; Wes Ames of San Diego, Calif.; Arlita and Ken Parr of Mead, Wash.; Randy and Darleen Ames of Valley, Wash.; 12 grandchildren, and a great-grandchild.

Bissell 60th

Gordon and Joan Bissell celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with extended family and friends at their home in Walla Walla, Wash. They were married on May 28, 1951, in Lincoln, Neb. The family honored their parents with flowers

at both the Eastgate (Walla Walla) and Meadow Glade (Battle Ground, Wash.) churches. While Gordon and Joan miss all their Meadow Glade friends, they are enjoying making new friends in Walla Walla and being closer to four of their children and their families. The Bissells were both former teachers for over 30 years. They continue to enjoy family and friends, gardening, occasional farming and raising livestock.

At the celebration, all eight children and spouses, along with many of their grandchildren, were in attendance. The Bissell family includes Lee and Janet Bissell of Culver, Ore.; Lewis and Conni Bissell of Milton-Freewater, Ore.; Linda and Tom Hickerson of Damascus, Ore.; Laurie and Lou Roosma of Walla Walla; Bob and Lisa Bissell Paulson of Angwin, Calif.; Lavonne Bissell and Lou Urrutia of Edmonds, Wash.; Robin and Larry Bissell of Pasco, Wash.; Lafe and Rebecca Bissell of College Place, Wash.; 17 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.



Joan and Gordon Bissell

Clayville 65th

Robert and Peggy (Dempsey) Clayville celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on Nov. 25, 2010. They were married in 1945 and have four children: Dennis, Diane, Donald and Douglas. They also have 13 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. The event was

celebrated with their family at the Cove (Ore.) Church where they are members.



Robert and Peggy Clayville

Mace 90th

Maxine Thomas Mace celebrated her 90th birthday on March 3, 2011, in Boise, Idaho. A lovely meal was planned by her stepchildren, Max and Lucy, Jerry and Mary, and Lorraine; catered by Tim and Rhonda Morauske; and attended by her family.

She was born March 3, 1921. Maxine married Leonard (Whitey) Mace on her 35th birthday and has resided on the Mace Farm in Eagle, Idaho, since that time. She has been an active member of the Eagle Church since 1956, serving as the church clerk for many years.

Maxine has 10 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

Starr 100th

Lyril (Walter) Pryor Starr celebrated 100 years of life on June 8th with her family. She is a life-long Adventist and a member of the Gladstone (Ore.) Church. She resides at Somerset Assisted Living in Gladstone.

Lyril was born June 8, 1911, at home by the Alsea River in Oregon, to A.A. and Grace Walter, the oldest of 11 children. When she was a small child, her family lived in Canada, where her parents were baptized into the Adventist Church. Two of

her brothers, Clifton and Elden Walter, served the church as evangelists. She was married to John Pryor for 53 years and they had seven children. Sometime after John died, she married Lloyd Starr, who has also died.

Over the years she taught school in little one-room country schools and in church schools at Klamath Falls, Ore., and Flagstaff, Ariz. From 1964-1972, she served the church as the dean of girls and taught classes at the Holbrook Mission in Arizona. She now keeps busy by reading her Bible, walking, baking bread and sewing quilts for Dorcas, foster children and others. Up until recently, she helped in the Kindergarten division at church. She says she doesn't know why she has lived so long except maybe "God isn't finished with me yet."

Lyril's family includes: Lorraine and David Bakeman (deceased); Dolores and George Lizer of Portland, Ore.; Riger and Sally Pryor of Yakima, Wash.; Doris Riehle of Santa Maria, Calif.; Dorothy and John Stellner of Spring Creek, Nev.; Barbara and David Cooper of Priest River, Idaho; Robert and Lois Pryor of Portland; Elwood Starr; Loren Starr; 16 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, 2 great-great-grandchildren and 3 step-great-great-grandchildren.



Lyril Starr

BIRTHS

ANDERSON — Samuel Luke was born June 14, 2011, to Todd and Cas (Benfield) Anderson, Central Point, Ore.

CHRISTENSEN — Joshua Randall was born June 29, 2011, to Mark and Debra (Bredall) Christensen, Damascus, Ore.

CLUM — Jeremiah Roland was born April 5, 2011, to Morgan and Laura (Rozen) Clum, Medford, Ore.

GRIFFITH — Jonah was born May 8, 2011, to Shane and Adrianna (Martinez) Griffith, Salem, Ore.

HOLLISTER — Alanna Elizabeth was born May 17, 2011, to Peter Benjamin and Heidi Jean (Gruzensky) Hollister, Portland, Ore.

HOLLISTER — Jesse Thomas was born May 17, 2011, to Peter Benjamin and Heidi Jean (Gruzensky) Hollister, Portland, Ore.

WAGNER — Dillon Michael was born June 6, 2011, to Mike and Anna (Lewis) Wagner, Kettle Falls, Wash.

WEDDINGS

GRUZENSKY-HOLLISTER — Heidi Jean Gruzensky and Peter Benjamin Hollister were married July 17, 2005, in Lacey, Wash. They are making their home in Portland, Ore. Heidi is the daughter of William D. and Trish C. (Tallant) Gruzensky. Peter is the son of Edward A. and Lynne E. (Thirkell) Hollister.

AT REST

ANDERSON — Walter M. "Walt," 81; born Nov. 1, 1929, Camas, Wash.; died May 19, 2011, Hermiston, Ore. Surviving: daughters, Connie Burke, Hermiston; Lynette Gordon, Walla Walla, Wash.; brothers, LeRoy, Home Valley, Wash.; 5 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

BAKKE — Martena M. (Thompson), 101; born April 19, 1910, Colman, S.D.; died May 15, 2011, Curlew, Wash. Surviving: daughters, Joyce Goldsborough and Darlene Clark, both of Curlew; 7 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

BENWELL — Wilfred, 80; born Nov. 5, 1930, Watford, England; died May 11, 2011, Nampa, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Hazel (Ginbey); daughters, Lorna Johnson, Hammett, Idaho; Deirdre Benwell, Walla Walla, Wash.; Ginette Lanto and Jackie Hood, both of Nampa; 8 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

BESSEL — Deborah Cornelia (Mason) Wadholm, 56; born Oct. 29, 1954, Yuba, Calif.; died May 5, 2011, Boise, Idaho. Surviving: daughters, Stacy (Wadholm) Cox, Pocatello, Idaho; Debra (Wadholm) Finn, Nampa, Idaho; Georgette Wadholm, Boise; Erica (Wadholm) Byrd, Kennewick, Wash.; Jessica Besel, Nampa; and 8 grandchildren.

BIXEL — Wayne Ray, 71; born May 20, 1939, Portland, Ore.; died May 14, 2011, Forest Grove, Ore. Surviving: wife, Darlene; sons, Robert, Vancouver, Wash.; David, Lake Oswego, Ore.; Michael, Portland; daughters, Karen Bixel, Phoenix, Ariz.; Angela Vargas, Newberg, Ore.; Stephanie Bixel, Vancouver; brothers, Marion, Clackamas, Ore.; Noel, Turlock, Calif.; Doug, Bellingham, Wash.; Roger and Dan, both of Happy Valley, Ore.; sisters, Nadine Constable, Battle Ground, Wash.; Linda Wren, Burnsville, Minn.; and 11 grandchildren.

BREN — Dorothy Jane (Fish), 74; born Nov. 17, 1936, Denver, Colo.; died March 2, 2011, Medford, Ore. Sur-

viving: daughters, Marilyn White, Medford; Roxanne Storm, Spokane, Wash.; Annette Wilson, Seattle, Wash.; Verneta Rumboltz, Omak, Wash.; sisters, Ruth Underwood, of Virginia; Doris Villa, of California; 8 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

BREWER — William T., 79; born Sept. 2, 1931, New York; died May 8, 2011, Knoxville, Tenn. Surviving: son, Dana, Shallotte, N.C.; daughters, Cheris Current, College Place, Wash.; Amber Gustin and Hillary Brewer, both of Knoxville.

CALLAHAN — Anna Jane (Todhunter), 75; born Feb. 17, 1934, Montrose, Colo.; died Jan. 7, 2010, Bellingham, Wash. Surviving: sons, Brian, Bellingham; Bruce, Dover, Del.; daughters, Peggy Larsen, Bellingham; Debra Wolcott, Bremerton, Wash.; Becky Moreau, Ferndale, Wash.; Susan Watson, Bellingham; brothers, Frank Todhunter, Bellingham; Bob Todhunter, Gig Harbor, Wash.; sisters, Olive Jansen, Mt. Vernon, Wash.; Gloria Stinde, Federal Way, Wash.; Mary Williams, Grand Junction, Colo.; 13 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

CALLAHAN — James Martin, 78; born Aug. 23, 1932, Detroit Lakes, Minn.; died Dec. 12, 2010, Bellingham, Wash. Surviving: sons, Brian, Bellingham; Bruce, Dover, Del.; daughters, Peggy Larsen, Bellingham; Debra Wolcott, Bremerton, Wash.; Becky Moreau, Ferndale, Wash.; Susan Watson, Bellingham; brothers, Don, Bremerton; Terry, Medford, Ore.; 13 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

CASEBEER — Charles "Jack," 86; born Dec. 2, 1924, Mt. View, Calif.; died May 14, 2011, Nampa, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Karel Knigge-

Casebeer.

DEDERER — Alexander, 94; born March 22, 1916, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada; died March 14, 2011, Jasper, Ore. Surviving: sons, James, Pleasant Hill, Ore.; Paul, Jasper; daughter, Carol Ranck, Vancouver, Wash.; 4 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

DICKERSON — Wilma G. (Miller), 100; born Sept. 17, 1910, Kansas City, Kan.; died May 1, 2011, Milton-Freewater, Ore. Surviving: sons, Bill and Clinton Dickerson, both of Milton-Freewater; Burton, Quincy, Wash.; daughters, Leonardine Steinfiel, Denver, Colo.; Joella Harlan, Portland, Tenn.; and 16 grandchildren.

FIELDS — Esther F. (Schimke), 92; born Oct. 1, 1919, Walla Walla, Wash.; died April 18, 2011, College Place, Wash. Surviving: son, David, Surprise, Ariz.; daughters, Faye Krenkel, Spokane, Wash.; Joan Garton, Pendleton, Ore.; 8 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and 5 great-great-grandchildren.

FRANZ — Bennie, 98; born Sept. 13, 1912, Kulm, N.D.; died March 23, 2011, Moses Lake, Wash. Surviving: sons, K. Franz, Berrien Springs, Mich.; J. Franz, Spokane, Wash.; T. Franz, Liberty Lake, Wash.; daughters, L. Smith, Moses Lake; J. Hall, Yakima, Wash.; brothers, L. Franz, Aberdeen, S.D.; M. Franz, Gig Harbor, Wash.; 11 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-grandchildren.

GONZALEZ — Reginaldo O., 59; born Oct. 26, 1951; died April 3, 2011, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: son, Reginaldo A., Walla Walla; daughters, Delia Gonzalez, Annie Gonzalez, Donna Gonzalez and Denise Gonzalez, all of Walla Walla.

AT REST

GREGG — Robert James, 92; born May 5, 1918, Exira, Iowa; died April 3, 2011, Sun City West, Ariz. Surviving: wife, Diane (Snarr) Snow; son, Jim, Medford, Ore.; stepson, Ronald Snow, Galt, Calif.; daughters, Phyllis Lee, Hillsboro, Ore.; Carol Hudson, Kansas City, Mo.; Susan Condon, Sun City West; stepdaughter, Becky Herzberg, Winston, Ore.; 18 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

HAYDEN — Omer Keith, 83; born March 7, 1928, Peru, Iowa; died May 17, 2011, Burley, Idaho. Surviving: brother, Merrill, of Iowa; sisters, Norene Zimmerman, Burley; Beulah Harrison, Grace Anne Faux, Helen Salsbury and Marjorie Gallentine, all of Iowa.

HOLBROOK — Floyd D., 89; born March 20, 1922, Culdesac, Idaho; died May 16, 2011, Pendleton, Ore. Surviving: wife, Pearl (Davis); son, Glenn, Pendleton; brother, Clement, Goldendale, Wash.; sister, Ruby Snell, Goldendale; 3 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

HOLDEN — Fred R., 80; born Jan. 19, 1931, Oskaloosa, Iowa; died May 14, 2011, Medford, Ore. Surviving: sons, Mark, Medford; Brian, Wichita, Kan.; daughters, Brenda Faber, Wichita; Becky Harvey, Portland, Ore.; 12 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

HOLSCLAW — Bernadine A. (Lamon), 89; born Aug. 2, 1921, in Wisconsin; died Feb. 26, 2011, Gresham, Ore. Surviving: sons, Richard, Boring, Ore.; daughters, Linda Walker, Sequim, Wash.; Sharon Snelling, Anchorage, Alaska; and 6 grandchildren.

JOHNSON — Nadeen (Abnot) Carroll, 98; born Dec. 9, 1912, Mound City, Kan.; died Jan. 3, 2011, Boise, Idaho.

Surviving: daughter, June MacKenzie, Boise.

JOHNSON — Pansy M. (Luchessa), 81; born May 20, 1923, Gilroy, Calif.; died March 28, 2011, College Place, Wash. Surviving: husband, Melvin; sons, Roger, College Place; Lee, Zephyrhills, Fla.; daughter, Melva Lou Johnson, College Place; half-brother, Glenn Bowen, Marshall, Mich.; and 3 grandchildren.

JOHNSON — Virgil Earl, 96; born Sept. 20, 1914, Viola, Idaho; died April 11, 2011, Battle Ground, Wash. Surviving: sons, Ranz, Vancouver, Wash.; Malcolm, Battle Ground; 7 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

LAMPSON — Elmer E., 83; born May 28, 1927, Goldendale, Wash.; died April 9, 2011, Milton-Freewater, Ore. Surviving: wife, Joyce (Zummach); sons, Dale, Sunnyvale, Calif.; Clark, Milton-Freewater; daughter, Merilee Stein, Walla Walla, Wash.; brothers, Charles, Spokane, Wash.; Warren, Ridgefield, Wash.; Eugene, Vancouver, Wash.; sister, Ann Paddock, Vancouver; 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

MCCARTNEY — Ellen, 98; born June 22, 1912, Extension, British Columbia, Canada; died May 1, 2011, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: sister, Ann Saunders, Aldergrove, British Columbia.

MERICKEL — Stacia (Alexenko), 93; born Jan. 17, 1918, Mary, N.D.; died May 21, 2011, Portland, Ore. Surviving: son, Charles A., Houston, Texas; daughters, Donna Judy, North Port, Fla.; Phyllis Wilson, Portland; 7 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

OROCK — Reva M. (Moore), 83; born Dec. 15, 1927, McCook, Neb.; died April 20, 2011, Olympia, Wash. Surviving: son, Billy G. Jr., Vancouver, Wash.; daugh-

ters, Sandra Orock, Olympia; Jeannine Orock-Takele, Walla Walla, Wash.; Maria Togsstad, Auburn, Wash.; sisters, Rebecca Strasheim, Fort Collins, Colo.; Pauline Proctor, of Colorado; 10 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

PELTON — Dorothy (Appleton), 84; born May 17, 1926, Halifax, England; died April 13, 2011, Tacoma, Wash. Surviving: sons, Andrew, Tacoma; Richard, Spanish Springs, Nev.; Paul, Puyallup, Wash.; 12 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

PIERCE — Geneva L. (Porter), 70; born Feb. 15, 1941; died May 2, 2011, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: son, Dennis Porter, Davenport, Wash.

SANDERS — Scott A., 51; born Dec. 26, 1959, Livingston, Mont.; died April 23, 2011, Boise, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Tina (Larson), Nampa, Idaho; father, Oral, Desert Hot Springs, Calif.; mother, Norrita Sanders, Nampa; brothers, Oral D. and Kevin, both of Nampa; Mitchel Sanders, Chino, Calif.; and sister, Teresa Luff, Caldwell, Idaho.

SCHILT — Janice (Rockwell), 95; born Sept. 5, 1915, Lincoln, Neb.; died Feb. 2, 2011, Port Orchard, Wash. Surviving: sons, Clarence and Eric, both of Port Orchard; Nathan, Colton, Calif.; Stephen, Tacoma, Wash.; daughter, Mildred Colson, La Belle, Fla.; 20 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and 5 great-great-grandchildren.

SMITH-ROBERTS — Geneva (Green) Furber, 89; born May 13, 1922, Spokane, Wash.; died May 27, 2011, College Place, Wash. Surviving: sons, Wayne Smith, New Sweden, Maine; Mark Smith, Anchorage, Alaska; daughters, Judy (Smith) Henry, Auburn, Wash.; Margaret (Smith) Duhart, College Place; Carolyn Smith, Aleknagik, Alaska; sis-

ter, Virginia (Green) Oswald, Berrien Springs, Mich.; and 7 grandchildren.

THOMPSON — Richard W., 91; born Oct. 8, 1919, Minatare, Neb.; died April 26, 2011, Idaho Falls, Idaho. Surviving: sons, Dean W., Lincoln, Neb.; Dale E., Hazelton, Idaho; daughter, Kathryn L. Stubblefield, Bridgman, Mich.; 8 grandchildren, 3 step-grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren, 11 step-great-grandchildren and 3 step-great-great-grandchildren.

THORNTON — Charles "Bob" Robert, 67; born June 19, 1943, Missoula, Mont.; died Dec. 5, 2010, Seattle, Wash. Surviving: wife, Mary (Heberlein), University Place, Wash.; and sister, Doris Ellison, Lincoln, Calif.

WILSON — Laura Eva (Brownell), 92; born Dec. 4, 1918, Eaton, Colo.; died April 15, 2011, Hermiston, Ore. Surviving: son, Danny, Gaston, Ore.; daughters, Myra Sanders, McMinnville, Ore.; Lila Schlaht, Hermiston; sisters, Shirley Spears, La Grande, Ore.; Betty McCauley, Redmond, Ore.; Esther Huey, Newport, Calif.; 7 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

WORTH — Joann Marie (Erickson), 54; born Dec. 18, 1955, Spokane, Wash.; died Sept. 12, 2010, Spokane. Surviving: husband, John D.; mother, Barbara King, Cottonwood, Ariz.; brothers, John Erickson, Westwood, Calif.; Philip Erickson, Spokane; sisters, Ruthann Erickson, Spokane; and Bonnie Staggs, Okanogan, Wash.

ZIERLE — Grover, 95; born Sept. 27, 1915, Wray, Colo.; died April 28, 2011, Klamath Falls, Ore. Surviving: daughter, Elaine Ewert, Chiloquin, Ore.; 4 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

North Pacific Union Conference

Offering

- Sept. 3** — Local Church Budget;
- Sept. 10** — World Budget: Fall Mission Appeal;
- Sept. 17** — Local Church Budget;
- Sept. 24** — Local Conference Advance.

Walla Walla University

- Sept. 7-11** — NPUC Constituency Session;
- Sept. 18-24** — JumpStart. Incoming students, reserve your spot now and get a head start on familiarizing yourself with the WWU campus. Call 800-541-8900 for more information;
- Sept. 25** — Registration for autumn quarter;
- Sept. 25** — Welcome Back Bash. Meet the clubs and various groups on campus on the softball field behind the Winter Educational Complex from 6-9 p.m.;
- Sept. 26** — Autumn quarter classes begin;
- Oct. 1** — Kraig Scott organ recital. University Church at 6 p.m. Free admission.

Montana

Men's Summit

Sept. 23-25 — The Montana Conference will hold their annual Men's Summit at Mount Ellis Academy in Bozeman, Mont. Accommodations will be at the MEA dormitory, and meetings will be held at the MEA Ski Hill. The featured speaker will be Steve Wohlberg, White Horse Media director/speaker. For more information, please go to www.MontanaConference.org/men.

Women's Retreat

Oct. 7-9 — The Montana Conference will hold their annual Women's Retreat at Fairmont Hot Springs near Anaconda, Mont. The guest speaker for the weekend is Lynn Ortel, Northern New England Conference communications and support ministries. She has her master's degree in counseling and is a clinical counselor for the State of Maine. Deadline to register is Sept. 2. For more information, please go to www.MontanaConference.org/women or call Judy Schwab at 406-287-3465.

Oregon

Reunion Sunnyside

Sept. 3 — Special Reunion Sunnyside service and potluck are being planned for all current and former Sunnyside Church members. Including the ninth-annual Bobbie McGhee and Friends Vespers in the afternoon. Please plan to attend this special Sabbath at Sunnyside Church. For more information, visit www.sunnyside-sda.org or call 503-252-8080.

BattleField Hollywood in Gresham

Oct. 7-8 — The entertainment industry has made their merchandise nearly all-pervasive in this day and age. What is not pervasive, however, is an awareness of the curriculum and

agenda with which Satan is educating even those who claim to be followers of Christ through this industry. Little Light Ministries, founded by two former Hollywood film-crew members, will be at the Gresham Church, 223 S.E. Cleveland Ave., Gresham, OR, to share their testimony of what they have seen and heard of the anti-Christian agendas pervading many Hollywood productions today. Learning more about these agendas will help our Christian families make entertainment choices that lead to a deeper connection with Christ. For more information, call 503-257-0871 or email rondelli@clear.net.

Upper Columbia

WWVA's 125th All School Reunion

Sept. 16-18 — Come on home to celebrate Walla Walla Valley Academy's 125 years of Adventist Education in the Northwest. Alumni, faculty, family and friends are welcome to join WWVA in this special celebration weekend. Friday through Sunday will be filled with events for all. Schedules and registration are available at www.wwva.org or contact the Alumni Office at 509-525-1291. Call 509-525-1050, ext. 223; email evanch@wwva.org; online www.wwva.org; 300 S.W. Academy Way, College Place, WA 99324.

World Church

Sheyenne River Academy/Dakota Adventist Academy Alumni Weekend

Sept. 30-Oct. 2 — Sheyenne River Academy/Dakota Adventist Academy Alumni Weekend at Dakota Adventist Academy, 15905 Sheyenne Cir., Bismarck, N.D. Come renew your friendships! Honor Classes: '42, '47, '52, '57, '62, '72, '82, '87, '92, '02 and '07. For more information, call 701-258-9000, ext. 236, or visit our Web site at: www.dakotaadventistacademy.org/alumni/alumnievents.

Association of Adventist Women's 28th annual Convention

Oct. 13-16 — You are invited to the Association of Adventist Women's 28th annual convention at La Sierra University, in Riverside, Calif. "Total You - Body, Mind and Spirit." Keynote speaker is Chris Oberg. Registration fee \$125. Register online at www.aaw.cc.

Greater Boston Alumni Weekend

Oct. 14-15 — Stoneham Memorial Church, 29 Maple St., Stoneham, MA. Friday, 6 p.m., light supper followed by vespers at 7:30 p.m. Sabbath, Church at 10:45 a.m. Guest speaker is from the Class of 1961. Fellowship luncheon at 1 p.m., at GBA followed by activity. Class reunions and alumni basketball games Saturday night. For more information, please call Tom Giampa at 508-243-7458.

Andrews Academy Homecoming Weekend

Oct. 14-16 — All alumni of Emmanuel Missionary College Academy, Andrews University Academy, and Andrews Academy plan now to join us for special services on Friday evening and all day Sabbath. Honor classes are 1937, '42, '47, '52, '57, '62, '67, '72, '77, '82, '87, '92, '97, '02 and '07. For more details, contact the Academy Alumni office at 269-471-6140 or email acadalum@andrews.edu.

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EMPLOYMENT

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S School of Education/Psychology announces full-time faculty position to teach undergraduate and graduate courses. Doctoral degree in education required, K-12 classroom experience, and a commitment to the principles of Christian education. Teaching experience in higher education desired. The position requires applicant be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, in good and regular standing. Qualified individuals should submit a résumé and letter of application to Dr. John McCoy, Dean, 5010 University Drive, Collegedale, TN 37315; sep@southern.edu; fax 423-236-1765.

CHEMISTRY PROFESSOR sought by Union College, Lincoln, NE. Ph.D./ABD preferred; strong commitment to integrating Adventist faith, teaching and scholarship essential. Several specialties acceptable; budget approved. Submit vita and cover letter to Dr. Carrie Wolfe, Chair, Division of Science, cawolfe@ucollege.edu.

UNION COLLEGE seeks committed Adventist candidate for tenure track faculty position in voice/choral music beginning June 2012. Responsibilities include overseeing the voice program, directing vocal groups, advising undergraduates, and teaching undergraduate courses and voice lessons. Doctoral degree in music preferred. Send CV and references to Bruce Forbes, b2forbes@ucollege.edu.

Sunset Schedule

September DST	2	9	16	23	30
Alaska Conference					
Anchorage	9:03	8:41	8:19	7:56	7:34
Fairbanks	9:05	8:40	8:14	7:48	7:23
Juneau	7:54	7:35	7:14	6:54	6:34
Ketchikan	7:37	7:19	7:01	6:43	6:25
Idaho Conference					
Boise	8:19	8:06	7:54	7:41	7:28
La Grande	7:28	7:15	7:02	6:48	6:35
Pocatello	8:03	7:51	7:38	7:26	7:13
Montana Conference					
Billings	7:51	7:37	7:24	7:10	6:57
Havre	7:59	7:44	7:30	7:15	7:00
Helena	8:06	7:52	7:38	7:24	7:10
Miles City	7:41	7:27	7:13	6:59	6:46
Missoula	8:14	8:00	7:46	7:32	7:18
Oregon Conference					
Coos Bay	7:51	7:38	7:25	7:13	7:00
Medford	7:44	7:32	7:20	7:07	6:55
Portland	7:47	7:34	7:20	7:06	6:53
Upper Columbia Conference					
Pendleton	7:32	7:18	7:05	6:51	6:38
Spokane	7:28	7:14	7:00	6:46	6:31
Walla Walla	7:30	7:17	7:03	6:49	6:36
Wenatchee	7:40	7:26	7:12	6:57	6:43
Yakima	7:40	7:26	7:12	6:58	6:44
Washington Conference					
Bellingham	7:50	7:36	7:21	7:06	6:51
Seattle	7:48	7:34	7:20	7:05	6:51

Add one minute for each 13 miles west. Subtract one minute for each 13 miles east.

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EVENT

HIS PRAISE MEN'S CHORUS is planning their 20-year Reunion Concert at Meadow Glade Church on Sabbath, Oct. 15. All former members are encouraged to attend (contact Rick Martin, 360-624-2381 to get your concert music). Sabbath service will feature their first director, Joedy Melashenko and the men's chorus. Full concert at 3 pm. Don't miss it!

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September 2011
Vol. 106, No. 9

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POSTMASTER: send all address changes to: North Pacific Union Conference, *GLEANER*, 5709 N. 20th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642

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“Some might say they invoke a simpler, naïve view of the world and of our church when Linketts were considered health food, H.M.S. Richards walked on water and Del Delker had perfect pitch.”

An old story tells of a hopeful young bachelor searching eagerly for the Perfect Woman. Day in and day out the quest continues until finally he hits the mother lode — the Perfect Woman. She’s unbelievable, with internal and external qualities surpassing every item on his dog-eared list. He’s ecstatic ... that is, until one day his friend finds him mournfully nursing a lemonade at the corner deli. Of course, in the original tale it’s neither lemonade nor a deli, but you get the picture. “Why the long face?” the friend asks. “You found the Perfect Woman ... you should be happy.” “Yeah, but there’s a big problem,” moans the young man. “She’s looking for the Perfect Man!”

Your spouse or best friend has no doubt discovered the truth by now. Even the dog knows it. Weighed in the balances of perfection, we all come up tarred and feathered.

The reality that we are not the only blemished gems in God’s creation is fed by an ocean of data incessantly sweeping over all of us. With blinding speed, the Internet and other media continually confront us with the fallibility of politicians, professors, preachers and presidents. We are an increasingly jaded, skeptical, cynical society. We’ve witnessed sports heroes unmasked as charlatans, corporate icons turned to greed, religious pillars reduced to dust. And in the process, we’ve exchanged our rose-colored glasses for those of a darker tint. Far from expecting the best, we have begun to assume the worst.

Throughout my office are volumes of *GLEANERS* from the past century. Every so often, I coax one down off the shelf to join me for lunch. Sandwich in

one hand, I step via musty pages into another time and place. Some might say they invoke a simpler, naïve view of the world and of our church. It was a time when Linketts were considered health food, H.M.S. Richards walked on water and Del Delker had perfect pitch.

But these pages also tell of innovative leadership — the kind of vision that enabled Northwest members to become leaders in supporting the church’s mission around the world. They may not have been perfect, but they were passionate.

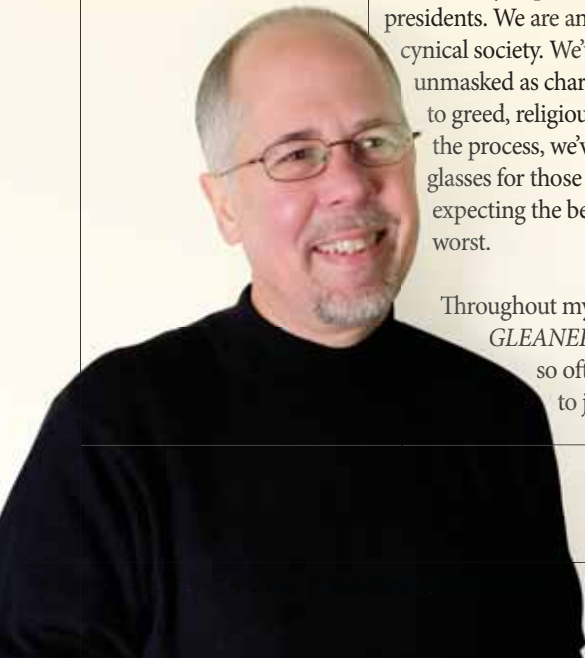
This September, delegates will gather in Walla Walla, Washington, for the North Pacific Union Conference constituency session. Leaders will be elected, budgets reported, and strategic decisions made.

As these delegates take their seats, it will be 10 years to the day since the horrific tragedy of September 11, 2001 — when, by the actions of a few, our world became somehow darker and filled with fear.

May God grant us the wisdom to revise this story with a better byline that reads: “On this September 11, 2011, by the actions of a few, our world became somehow brighter and filled with hope.”

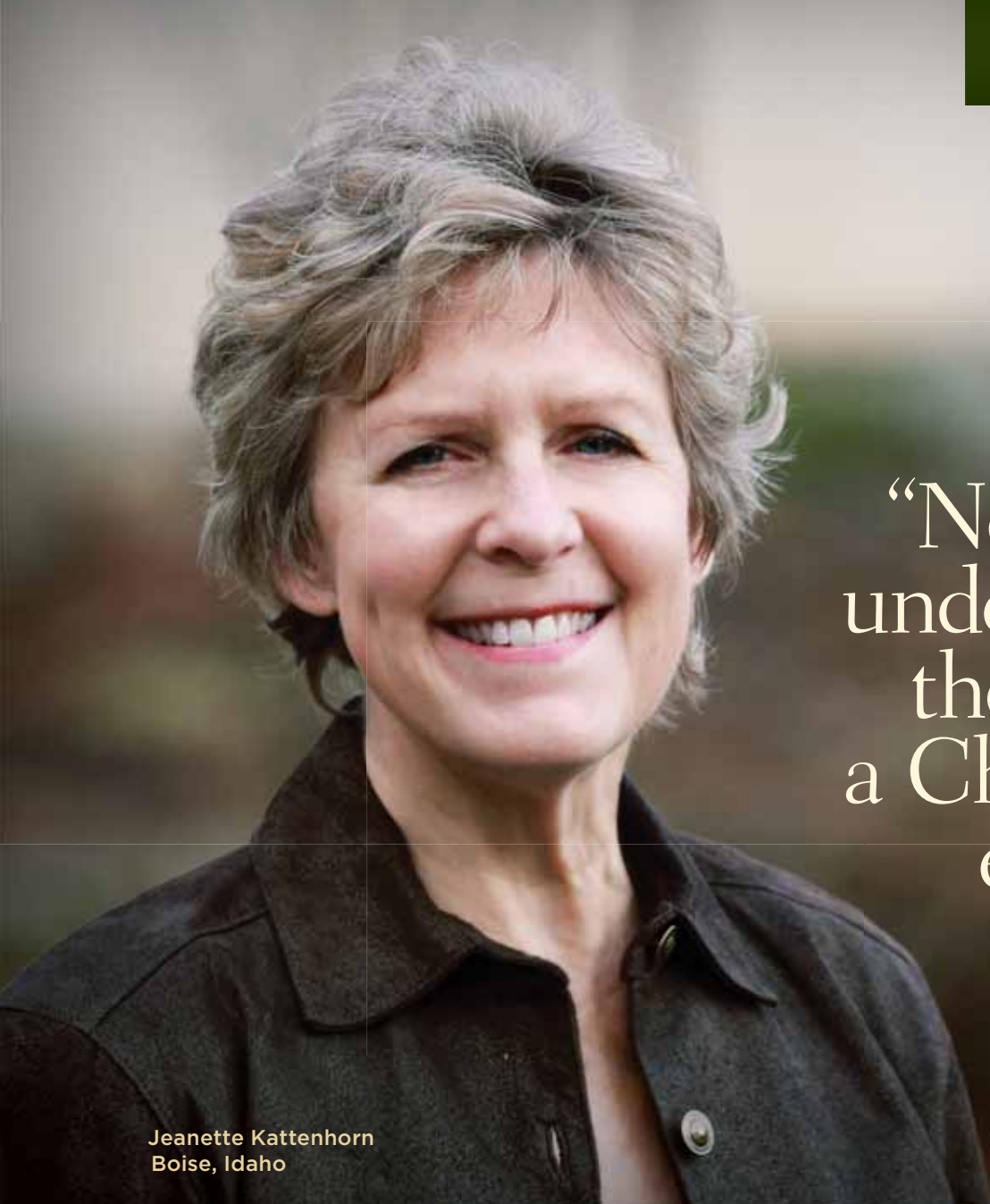
It can happen, one personal, passionate connection at a time. I won’t ever succeed at becoming the Perfect Man. But you and I can share One who is with the world right next door and just down the street.

You may respond to any *GLEANER* topic by sending an email to: talk@gleaneronline.org.



Steve Vistaunet

NPUC ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR COMMUNICATION



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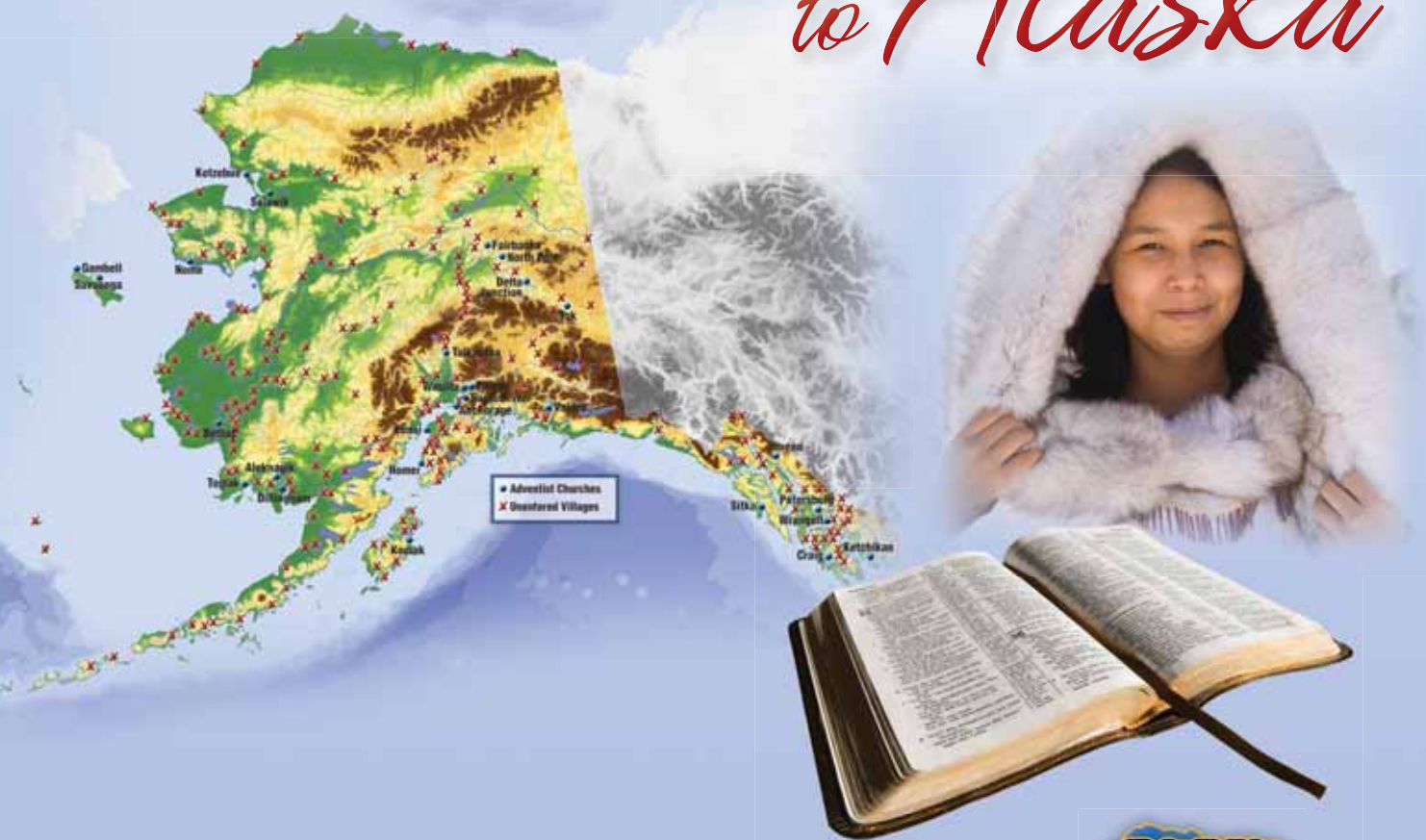
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