

Gleaner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION

DECEMBER 2012
Vol. 107, No. 12

WATCHING GOD
WORK IN
SOUTH AFRICA

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IMAGES OF CREATION



Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
ISAIAH 60:3 (NIV)

'First Light on Rainier' by Gary State of Gaston, Ore.

WATCHING GOD

WORK IN

SOUTH AFRICA



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December 2012 | Vol. 107, No. 12

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

POSTMASTER: send all address changes to:
North Pacific Union Conference
GLEANER, 5709 N. 20th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642
Phone: 360-857-7000
gleaner@nw.npuc.org
www.gleaneronline.org

SUBMISSIONS: Timely announcements, features, news stories and family notices for publication in the *GLEANER* may be submitted directly to the project manager at the address listed above. Material sent directly to local conference correspondents may be forwarded to the *GLEANER*.

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Paulette Jackson



Brent Hardinge

News Notes

Jackson Named NPUC Registrar

Paulette Jackson has succeeded Linda LaMunyon as the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) education registrar. LaMunyon resigned at the end of September to focus on full-time motherhood. Jackson, most recently Washington Conference associate education superintendent, brings three decades of experience to her role at the NPUC. She previously served as Idaho Conference superintendent of schools and worked as the principal of Holbrook Indian School in Arizona. She also taught at Portland Adventist Academy in Oregon and at Meadow Glade Elementary School and Columbia Adventist Academy in Battle Ground, Wash.

Hardinge Fills New Digital Media Position

Brent Hardinge began a new role in September as the digital media coordinator for the NPUC communication department. Hardinge came to this position from Spokane, Wash., where he was working for PositiveChoices.com, an online health outreach sponsored by the General Conference. He has extensive experience in website management, having been instrumental in the updates for Bibleinfo.com and KidsBibleinfo.com. He will oversee the outreach of the NPUC and the *GLEANER* through social media and other digital media.

Folkenberg to Leave Upper Columbia for China

Bob Folkenberg Jr., has accepted a call to serve as president of the Chinese Union Mission based in Hong Kong. He and his wife, Audrey, will be leaving to assume this new post effective January 1, 2013. Folkenberg has served as Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) president since early 2009. During that time he implemented the *Share the Life* evangelistic initiative, which has been responsible for more than 1,000 requests for Bible studies and hundreds of baptisms. Folkenberg also led out in the reconstruction of the UCC headquarters in the wake of the 2008 fire that destroyed much of the previous facility. North Pacific Union Conference leadership is working with the UCC nominating and executive committees to find a new president. In the meantime, Doug Johnson, UCC vice president for administration, is serving as interim administrator for the conference.

Letters

Don't Forget Early Childhood Education

Thanks to the *GLEANER* for including the well-written article [October 2012] by Tamara Terry about the recent North American Division (NAD) Teachers' Convention in Nashville [Tenn.]. I would like to add a very important and unique aspect of this convention: This was the first NAD Teachers' Convention to include early childhood directors, educators and administrators from across the NAD who are responsible for beginning our students on their JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE. Of the hundreds of early childhood personnel who attended the convention for the very first time, over 30 were from the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC). They were thrilled to be recognized as part of the education team. Not only did the convention include a special early-childhood general session, but of the

500 plus breakout sessions, 36 uniquely dealt with early childhood issues.

Sue Patzer, Battle Ground, Wash.

Editor's Note: Sue is the NPUC early childhood education coordinator.

A Question About Homosexuality

In reference to your articles on homosexuality [September 2012], there is a question that concerns me about that orientation. Do homosexuals feel a need or drive for love, companionship and close physical relationship that is outside of, greater than or different from that felt by heterosexuals, other than sexual preference?

If not, why can't they deal with it in ways other groups such as the following do? Singles who would like to be married but haven't

found a suitable partner; those who have lost their spouses; missionaries, explorers, military personnel, etc., who find themselves in isolated circumstances for long periods of time; those who rather not be married for other than sexual reasons; the young woman who dreamed all her growing up years of being a mother, then developed uterine cancer and lost a husband in the war. Do homosexuals have a different or bigger problem that justifies being met outside biblical principles?

Betty Scott, Lebanon, Ore.

Keep the Lights On!

CNN reported on October 9 that America's fastest-growing "religious" group is made up of people who claim no religion at all. This startling statistic is taken from a recent Pew Research Center survey that reveals that one in five Americans is not affiliated with any religious denomination. This trend has grown by 25 percent in just the past five years.

The survey goes on to note the number of young Americans unaffiliated with any religious group is growing faster than any other segment of the population.

Let's face it. The worldview you and I embrace as followers of Jesus is increasingly foreign to many we call neighbors, colleagues and friends. In many ways, it is like we are speaking different languages. What we understand to be good and right and just — because our Lord Jesus and His Word have proclaimed it so — is, to many, bad, wrong and unjust! The mantra of this new worldview is simply that all worldviews are equally valuable and acceptable.

Now, more than ever, we need to keep the lights on! Jesus, in speaking of the power of the eye to discern and to shape our reality, said, "The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!" (Matt. 6:22–23).

Have you ever been in a room that is so absolutely dark you can't see anything — not even when you

raise your hand to your face? It's almost physically oppressive. Then, light a simple match. The contrast is brilliant and surprising. That's what we have been called to be — lights in a dark, dank world. At a time when the world seems to be growing darker and more distant from the true Light of the World, Jesus calls us to uncover our lights and keep them on every day during which we are blessed with life!

Remember what Jesus said? "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lamp-stand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matt. 5:14–16).

Do you recall those old Motel 6 commercials in which Tom Bodett ends his invitation to the weary traveler by saying, "We'll leave the light on for you"? As Christ's disciples we can do better than Tom. We can daily share the life we have in Christ with those around us. We can let our light shine in the gathering darkness that is enveloping this world. In fact, let's keep our lights on all the time as an invitation for the sin-weary sojourner to come and rest in Jesus, our Lord!

"The worldview you and I embrace as followers of Jesus is increasingly foreign to many we call neighbors, colleagues and friends."



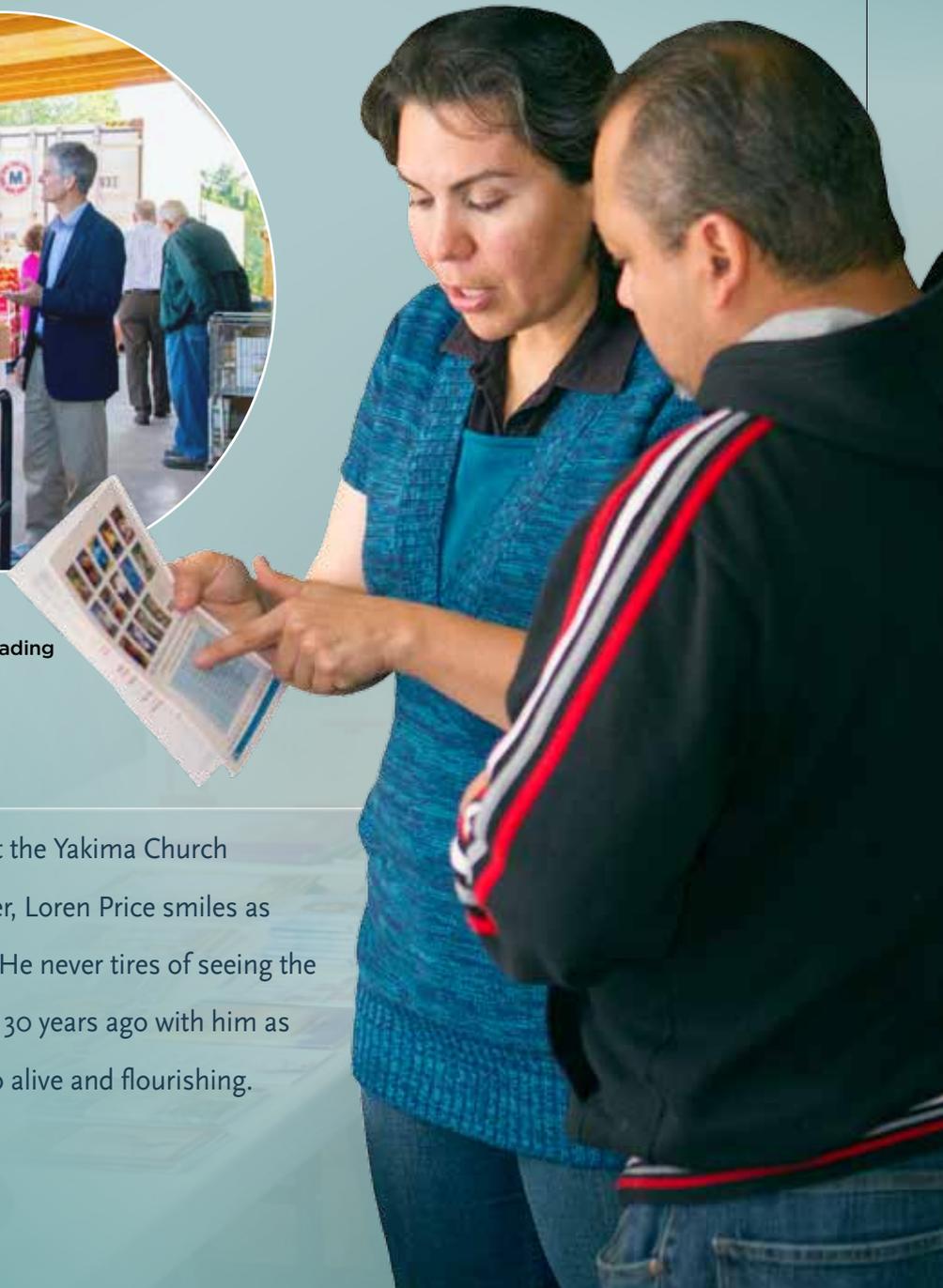
BOB FOLKENBERG JR.
UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE PRESIDENT



More **THAN JUST** Handout



Jim Wenzel, who helps direct the food bank ministry, confers with the Yakima Church pastor, Harry Sharley, on the loading dock adjacent to the food bank truck.



On a Tuesday morning at the Yakima Church community service center, Loren Price smiles as clients stream through the door. He never tires of seeing the vision, which was hatched nearly 30 years ago with him as building committee chairman, so alive and flourishing.



Ron Blakely and Loren Price help unload pallets of food just delivered from resources such as Northwest Harvest, area grocery stores, and local farms and orchards.

Price and others at the Yakima Church presented a fundraising vision to members in 1984 that outlined a plan to add more than 7,000 square feet to the church complex as a new community service building. They also enlisted the guidance of community leaders throughout the greater Yakima, Washington, area.

AN ACTIVE FOOD BANK

The center that sprung from those vital efforts now hums with activity as a food bank — especially each Tuesday morning when doors open to the public. The hub around which this world has turned for more than a decade is Jim Wenzel, director. Harry Sharley, Yakima Church pastor, calls Jim one of the finest finish carpenters in town. That he may be, but on Tuesdays Jim works with a different set of tools — and a host of volunteers.

At the center, Jim is all business, issuing directions, moving boxes and ironing out a few snags with the client process. “I want things to run efficiently and well,” he says. And they do. Just this particular morning, the center’s truck arrived with six pallets of food that had to be off-loaded and sorted. On the loading dock are colorful crates of fresh tomatoes, peppers, and other fruits and vegetables.

Things are so busy that Jim has welcomed Maryann Risenhoover as a co-director. Maryann adds a long resume of social services experience to the skills already evident at this popular food bank and service center.

The food and resources distributed at the Yakima center represent a community and region-wide partnership. Northwest Harvest, a statewide supplier of food banks, is a major source, as are local grocery stores, farms and orchards. The Rotary Club helps organize an annual Operation Harvest that collects non-perishable food from around the area. In the storeroom, volunteers are sorting more than 5,000 pounds of food that Pathfinders helped collect from the Rotary food resources.

Thanks to these collaborative efforts, food is never the problem. “We always have enough food,” Jim says. “The biggest challenge is finding enough volunteers to drive our big truck around to pick up the resources.”

In plain sight of each client as he or she heads to the food resources are signs pointing to a more eternal food source — spiritual literature available for the asking.



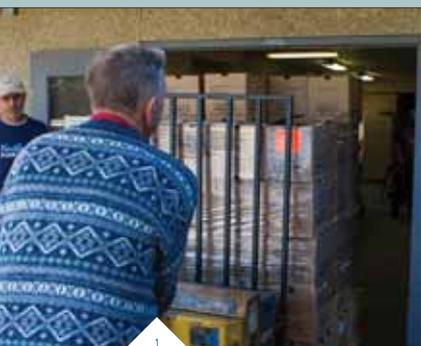
Clients have the privilege of selecting first-rate produce donated by area orchards and farms. The experience is not a handout, but an empowering choice in healthy food.



Jim Wenzel and his food bank co-director, Maryann Risenhoover, discuss plans for food bank storage.



Before opening the doors to more than a hundred clients, the volunteer staff gathers in the back room for a circle of prayer. The weekly effort is bathed in prayer and a constant desire to make an eternal difference for each client.



The job of unloading the truck each morning means more room must be found for storage. But, as items come in, more are given away to those who come looking for a way to make the food ends meet.

A SPIRITUAL OUTREACH

But there's something else going on here that makes this effort even more special. The Yakima vision takes Jesus' method of ministry seriously — ministering to people's physical needs and then giving them an opportunity to learn life-changing spiritual principles.

Each Tuesday morning, Blanca Zamudio sets up a computer and projector in the adjacent fellowship hall, teaching life lessons from the Bible. Upward of 70 or more center clients each week may slip in for these sessions, bringing completed Bible lessons for her to check.

Blanca's been volunteering her time to do this since 2010. "It's been such a blessing for me," she says. "Sometimes I'm doing something else, and I think ... 'Oh, I'm wasting time, when I should be telling someone about Jesus.'" Her work and that of others before her is paying eternal dividends with several baptisms already and more ready and waiting.

Having escaped from a recent bout with illness in the hospital, 90-plus-year-old Paul Dressel is back in his blue bib overalls, keeping the clients organized for the food line and aware of the Bible study option

June Everly, who is not an Adventist, came to the center 20 years ago with a friend and has been helping as a volunteer receptionist with a radiant smile ever since.

just through the open door. "I used to think all these people were just freeloaders," he says. "But eight years ago, the Holy Spirit completely changed my perspective. I see them now through different eyes — they are important souls for Christ." Paul has overseen part of the evangelistic thrust of this project, handing out more than 1,000 *Steps to Christ* booklets each year and many *El Centinela* (*The Sentinel*) magazines as well.

SALT IN THE COMMUNITY

Pastor Sharley says the Yakima area is home to thousands struggling at the edges of poverty. "We're trying to make a difference for Jesus in this valley," he says. "It's a collaborative effort of all five of our English- and Spanish-speaking Adventist churches here." More than 20 volunteers representing these churches are regularly part of the program.

"This is about sharing Jesus in a tangible way," he continues. "We take James' counsel seriously — not just praying for people, but also doing something that physically helps them to see beyond the barriers that life seems to have handed them. It's a vital part of our year-round cycle of evangelism."

Even the youth have gotten involved. At the local Adventist school, when student teams are asked to choose a community service project, this important center of activity is often the recipient of their creative energy.

After all, it's a great joy to be part of the salt in your own community. As Ron Blakely, one of the happy volunteers, said while directing traffic out in the parking lot, "When God is blessing — and He is — it's not work. It's fun!"



WATCHING GOD

WORK IN

SOUTH AFRICA



Ralph Stathem

Chorus members prepare to sing July 28 at a church launch in Moruleng, near Rustenburg. The choirs had only rehearsed separately at this point in the mission, but the performance was amazingly successful.

“But Lou, why should I go to South Africa? I don’t get it ... what is the mission?” For nearly two decades, Lou Wildman, conductor and co-founder of the Oregon Adventist Men’s Chorus (OAMC), has heard this question.

“Gentlemen,” he says, “the mission is to show up. It’s just that simple — show up and watch God swing into action.” Smiling, he muses, “And swing into action He did!”

Thus began an epic journey—a journey that would include long, cold, dark nights on the buses; breakdowns, showers and sinks without water; a fierce storm that would result in a concert in the dark; the worst snowstorm in decades; last-minute meal improvisations when food-service plans fell through; and the list goes on. Yet God worked through all these circumstances to bring about His purposes.



Ralph Stathem

Audience members in Durban join in the hand motions for "Uthando Lwakhe."



Ralph Stathem

During the final Friday evening of the mission to South Africa, members of the combined chorus join hands following a communion service.



Ralph Stathem

"... I'm taking home the idea that black vs. white, or black plus white, is a void concept. ... I only found brothers here."

— Viorel Rosca, Hillsboro, Oregon

In a tent in Moruleng, South Africa, 81 members of OAMC and more than 100 singers from the Arise O Man chorus and the Romanian Adventist Men's Chorus greeted each other on Sabbath, July 29, for their first combined performance.

The combined choruses rehearse jointly at Golden Harvest Adventist Church in Randburg.

Milo Adventist Academy student Sterling Cornwell and Gem State Academy graduate Dallas Amen shared their testimonies that day. Two members of the audience said afterward that those testimonies were the key factor behind their decision to follow Jesus.

A POSITIVE SPIRIT

Lou decided to meet one of the buses that had traveled throughout the subfreezing night without heat. "I was sure I would have an insurrection on my hands," he recalls. "I rather dreaded greeting the first man off the bus, but to my amazement he threw his arms high. 'Man, oh, man,' he said, 'you should have been there.' The next man off the bus exclaimed, 'What an incredible night!' and others chimed in."

While waiting in a truck stop restaurant for the bus to be repaired, the men began to sing for the employees. On their way out, one of them stopped by the table of another patron and apologized for interrupting. "No, no," he said with tears in his eyes, "this was exactly what I needed tonight."

A FLASHLIGHT SERENADE

And what of the concert in the dark? Lightning flashed, the wind howled, and the pre-concert rehearsal came to an abrupt halt when the lights went out. The backup generator also failed, and the entire building was dark. Even the exit signs failed to illuminate. With the aid of cell phones and a few flashlights, the singers navigated to the lobby. Their local accompanying orchestra canceled.

Literally and figuratively things were looking pretty dark.

Fifteen minutes after the concert was scheduled to start, there were still no lights. A few intrepid ticket holders had braved the elements for the concert and were standing uncertainly in the upper lobby. So Lou and the other two conductors, Mokale Koapeng and Alin Apostol, organized the singers in the lower lobby's dark atrium and invited the audience to sit on the steps. The concert began with only a pitch pipe, trumpet and clarinet for accompaniment, and the men sang entirely from memory. About all the singers and audience could see were the conductor's white-gloved hands, illuminated by two flashlights.

As the concert ended, one of the South African singers said, "You couldn't see the person next to you. You could only hear. In the darkness, I met God in a way I had never known before."

A CROSS-CULTURAL BROTHERHOOD

God forged the singers from three continents and seven nations into a cross-cultural, cross-generational Christian brotherhood, to be used for His glory. With miracles and divine appointments, He repeatedly overcame the enemy's disruptions. They showed up, and He did indeed "swing into action."

Louise Craig, Oregon Adventist Men's Chorus spokesperson, with Todd Gessele, North Pacific Union Conference associate communication director

COMING UP IN 2013

- ACADEMY MENTORING WEEKEND, JANUARY 18–20
- FESTIVAL CONCERT, APRIL 27
- OREGON CAMP MEETING, JULY 20
- ALASKA CAMP MEETING TOUR, JULY/AUGUST

VISIT OAMC.ORG FOR DETAILS



After the power failed in Grahamstown, the concert proceeded in the dark, with the conductor's white-gloved hands illuminated by two flashlights.

Ralph Stathem

ACCION

Anticipo del Cielo

Hija, mira, allí hay una iglesia donde guardan el sábado. ¿Por qué no me llevas a esa?” Considerando que María de Jesús era miembro de una denominación guardadora del sábado, su pedido resultaba intrigante, pero su hija Adriana la comprendía. Sin objetar el pedido de su madre, el día sábado la trajo en su vehículo y la dejó frente al templo de la Iglesia Adventista de Nampa, en tanto que ella se iba con su familia a su propia iglesia.

La presencia María no pasó desapercibida para las hermanas de la congregación, quienes pronto empezaron a brindarle su amistad e interés. El siguiente sábado, María estaba en el templo otra vez. Y al siguiente sábado, su hija Adriana decidió acompañarla junto con su esposo, Diego.

Los hermanos de la iglesia, en vez de ofrecerles doctrina pura, les brindaron su afecto y cuidado. Y entre invitaciones a almorzar y otros encuentros, la amistad fue creciendo.

El efecto de la gracia es incalculable, y en el caso de María, Adriana y Diego,

nadie sospechaba que cada manifestación de afecto e interés estaba haciendo germinar en sus corazones una profunda convicción, sanando sus corazones.

Un día, en una reunión del ministerio de damas, María se puso de pie y con lágrimas en los ojos dijo, “Aquí me siento como en el cielo. Me siento amada y siento que me consideran como de su familia, yo quisiera saber qué debo hacer para ser miembro de esta iglesia.”

Las hermanas la abrazaron y le dijeron, “María, ya es parte de nuestra familia.”

Llegó el mes de julio y con él el tiempo para que las familias de la iglesia fueran a acampar. Diego, Adriana y sus hijitos decidieron llevar a María a acampar con los hermanos, que para entonces eran sus amigos.

El Espíritu seguía trabajando. Pronto fue día para regresar, y María decidió que no deseaba volver a casa sin ser bautizada.

*Francisco Altamirano,
coordinador de ministerios
Hispanos de la Conferencia de
Idaho*



Mana recibiendo a su nueva familia.

New Parsonage Prepared in Shungnak

After being faced with delays this past summer caused by missing portions of the building materials (yes, some shipments are still being sent by dog team!), the parsonage in the arctic village of Shungnak has finally taken shape.

Volunteers from around the Northwest worked hard in July to close-in the building by adding windows, the roof and partial siding. They secured drywall and other materials inside from the



arctic elements. Electrical and plumbing are complete, and the building is insulated and

ready for heat.

Despite the efforts of the evil one to sidetrack and stop

the progress, God enabled this project to move forward through individual contributions and support. Alaska volunteer missionaries Tony and Airen Sherman are enjoying a warmer dwelling this winter. The Alaska Conference continues to accept contributions toward making the Shungnak parsonage renovation a reality.

Sharon Staddon, Alaska Conference vice president of finance

Alaska Youth Finish Strong

The Alaska Prayer Conference, themed "Finishing Strong," came to Anchorage in September. Craig Harris, Michigan Conference youth ministries associate director, helped inspire the young people to the reality that, while the world caves into the devil's pressures, Alaska youth will finish strong in Christ Jesus.

Harris believes every young

person can have an active connection with Jesus. This connection process is called "tagging" Jesus. Tagging Jesus, along with practical, interactive training, will lead young people to be effective leaders for Christ's kingdom wherever they are called.

Friday night's topic inspired the group to finish strong. Individuals make decisions every day of their lives, and it is important

for us to connect with Jesus to help us to make right decisions.

The Sabbath day was full of interactive activities, including practicing what was learned by going door to door in the local community and distributing GLOW (Giving Light to Our World) tracts.

The goal of the prayer conference was to inspire youth and leaders to go back to their dis-

tricts and ask their pastors to be more involved in outreach and evangelism. Research indicates that when young people are active participants in the evangelistic mission of their church, they remain in the church.

Quentin Purvis, Alaska Conference vice president for the secretariat



Craig Harris, Michigan Conference youth ministries associate director, spoke at the Alaska Prayer Conference in September and encouraged young people to finish strong.

Roes Celebrate 20 Years

of Leadership at Camp Ida-Haven

On a warm late-September evening, friends of Camp Ida-Haven in McCall celebrated Darla and Douglas Roe's 20 years of leadership as camp director and ranger.

Under the Roes' leadership the grounds have seen significant changes, including an upgraded lodge. Eight new cabins form a circle, and a retaining wall shores up the beachfront. The beautiful landscaping, a new well and a cathedral bowl for campfire worships complete the picture. A new shop and storage garage are under construction.

The camping program has also grown. The camp offered three weeks of camp in 1993, with 28 staff and 215 campers attending. This past summer, the staff of 49 organized and implemented six weeks of camp for 629 children. New boats and Jet Skis, a challenge ropes course, digital photography, video editing, white-water rafting, a climbing wall, and gymnastics all keep the young campers challenged and engaged as they have fun and learn.



Douglas and Darla Roe celebrate 20 years of service to Camp Ida-Haven in McCall.

The vision set by the camp operating board has expanded the services of the camp beyond Adventist youth. Camp doors are kept open year-round for both non-Adventist and Adventist campers and groups. Not only has this philosophy helped the camp operate debt-free, but it has provided many opportunities for Adventists to share their special understanding of Scripture with other Christians in a natural way. Today Ida-Haven, "where the fun never ends" according to its slogan, is dear to hundreds of Adventist young people as well

as other Christian and community groups.

Dozens of volunteers spend a week of their vacation time every summer helping at Ida-Haven. "None of the projects that have been accomplished would have happened without volunteers," says Darla. The volunteers say the Roes make the work enjoyable by keeping everything organized and filling them with gourmet food.

Why have the Roes been willing to work 12-16 hour days year-round for 20 years? Because at Camp Ida-Haven, nestled there in the mountains,

surrounded by giant ponderosa pines on the shores of picturesque Payette Lake, people connect with God. This past summer, five campers gave their hearts to Jesus and were baptized. The thousands of seeds sown will produce a rich harvest for God's kingdom.

While it is impossible to calculate the full extent of the Roes' influence at Camp Ida-Haven, the camp's alumni include dozens of church leaders who "grew up" at Ida-Haven, including a dean at Walla Walla University, the principal and several staff at Gem State Adventist Academy in Caldwell, and many doctors, teachers and pastors.

"Ida-Haven is a place we feel safe sending our daughter 2,038 miles away to camp for a week," one parent explains. "Her confidence, independence and growth in faith are evident." And that's the best thanks to the Roes for their passion to see all of God's kids in heaven.

Don Klinger, Idaho Conference communication director



David Prest Jr., Idaho Conference president, and Milford Terrell, Camp Ida-Haven operating board chairman, enjoy the evening.



Darla Roe (center) chats with friends.

Salmon Students Retrace Steps of Lewis and Clark

The Salmon (Idaho) Adventist School students spent Sept. 13 on a Lewis and Clark expedition. The students enjoyed a day retracing the steps of famed explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, despite the smoke from the forest fires burning nearby. It was a

learning experience as well as a fun time for them.

Thanks to Rawhide Outfitters and guide Mike Crosby, the students traveled by van and toured around all the local historic trails of Lewis and Clark, Sacajawea, and the Shoshoni. The tour started at Lemhi Pass

with a few stops along the way to point out different sites. At the top the group saw where Lewis crossed the Continental Divide.

Some of the other sites visited included where the expedition first encountered the Shoshoni. During lunch the guides

showed the students different items that were probably used on the expedition.

The trip gave students a chance to have their classroom studies brought to life.

April Copley, Salmon Adventist School principal

Salmon Adventist School students enjoy the opportunity to see where early explorers may have journeyed through the Northwest.

Salmon Adventist School students tour the local historic trails of Lewis and Clark's expedition.



Blesses Eagle School

The Eagle Adventist Christian School and Preschool has been tight on budget and enrollment, but God is blessing in several ways.

Grants: A grant allowed the elementary teachers to attend the North American Division Teachers' Convention in Nashville, Tenn., but the grant did not cover the preschool teachers. Then the Adventist Child Care Network offered the school a \$1,000 grant that allowed the preschool teachers to attend with their colleagues.

Debt: The elementary school owed a past debt of \$41,000 to the conference. The wonderful sacrifices of many people have paid the debt.

Accreditations: The preschool is part of the IdahoSTARS child care Quality Rating and Improvement

System (QRIS). It recently obtained a five-star rating — the highest awarded. The preschool is also accredited

with the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

Computers: The elementary school needed updated computers because the old ones were not all working properly. The board decided to try to raise funds to obtain 10 upgraded computers for a computer lab and to explore using iPads in the classroom in the future. Within only one week of announcing this need to the church, the upgrade was fully funded. The computers were ordered, and volunteers are already setting them up.

God has poured out blessings on Eagle Adventist Christian School and its students, like those working on a project in Mrs. James' room.



Jodi Giem, Eagle Church secretary

Montana Men Attend Annual Summit

The last weekend of September found 57 men gathered at Mount Ellis Academy (MEA) in Bozeman for the 10th-annual Montana Men's Summit.

As the men drove into the valley on Friday, smoke from wildfires hundreds of miles to the west obscured some of the usually stunning scenery,

Damien Lowrimore, Leo Beardsley, Eric Beavon and Clyde Knecht lead a praise service during the annual Montana Men's Summit.



but that did not dampen the enthusiasm of the group. Wes Peppers, a pastor from Michigan, challenged them to be the servant leaders God calls them to be by allowing the Holy Spirit to do its work in them.

Peppers also spoke of the precious and unique understanding we have of prophecy,

including the end-time events we are witnessing and the relevance of the Remnant. The world is starving for what we have to offer, but too often we are more concerned about what folks might think of us than we are for the eternal salvation of those about us.

Sabbath morning dawned beautiful and clear of smoke. The day was spent at the MEA ski lodge in a setting that was a constant reminder of the Creator's power and care. Music added to the worship experience. Guitars, violins, a banjo, a flute and a harmonica accompanied singing voices. Dan Clark shared several of his compositions (vocal with guitar), sometimes accompanied by Jent Kyle on violin. C.J. Mocabee, as well as the Montana Men's Chorus directed by Josh Holloway, performed several special numbers.



Wes Peppers speaks at the Montana Men's Summit.

Once again the fellowship was strengthening, the food was excellent, the setting beautiful, and the message and music inspiring. Those attending hated to see it end. They look forward to the 11th-annual summit scheduled for the last weekend in September 2013 — or Jesus' Second Coming, whichever comes first.

Leo Beardsley, Montana Men's Summit committee member

New Pastoral Faces in Montana



Daniel Nelson

John Bryson, formerly of Gem State Academy in Idaho, is now pastor for the Billings District. He and his wife, Joan, took up their duties in Montana July 1.

Daniel Nelson, also from the Idaho Conference, is the new pastor for the Miles City District. He and his wife, Joann, began their work in Montana at the end of July.

The Montana Conference team is glad to have both of these families as part of the Montana pastoral staff.



John Bryson

Portland Adventist Elementary Extends Helping Hand

Tony Finch, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) International representative, reached out to Portland Adventist Elementary School (PAES) in mid-September for assistance in preparing equipment for shipment to an overseas project in Africa. Due to ill health, Gladys Kalebu Semakula, a dentist in Tacoma, Wash., was donating her five-chair dental practice to ADRA through collaboration with Caring Hand to Mouth/International Caring Hands,

Meyer, volunteer dental equipment technician George Waldrip, and Claudine Stevenson, a dental hygienist who is joining her husband soon in Mozambique. This team of willing workers completely dismantled a five-chair dental unit, boxed and shrink-wrapped equipment and supplies, and put everything on the truck and trailer for shipment to Oregon and then on to Africa.

It was a long and hard day's work, but one that was very gratifying to everyone. Because



Two helpers tear apart one of the dental chair locations.



Gladys Kalebu Semakula (third from right), a dentist in Tacoma, Wash., is donating her equipment to a clinic in Africa through the help of a team from Portland Adventist Elementary School.

an organization that provides mobile dental solutions to poor countries.

PAES rallied their resources. With the school truck and trailer, a 24-foot box truck borrowed from Hood View Church (Boring, Ore.) members John and Judy Griffin, and manpower including the principal as well as staff members Ron Sulzle and Kevin Mengis, the team left for Tacoma. They were met by Finch, Caring Hand to Mouth/International Caring Hands executive director Randy

of the generosity of Semakula and the hard work of the team, the equipment will soon be blessing thousands of people in Mozambique.

This equipment will be installed at the Munguluni Mission School and Clinic in Mozambique so this small clinic can offer dental care to local residents. The mission school, though once a thriving center for Christian education, has been dormant for about 20 years because of civil wars in the country. ADRA is rebuild-

ing the school and developing a farm to help sustain its operations. Thousands of children live in the bush nearby, and most have not had the opportunity to go to school.

God used PAES and these volunteers to be His "helping hands" to move this project forward to completion in the near future. "This compassion and spirit of service is the very foundation of ADRA's work," says Finch. "We couldn't have had a better team of missionary volunteers."

North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) schools would like to forge a "school-to-school" connection with ADRA mission projects. These projects would help to bring "mission" into local curriculum by engaging NPUC students and teachers directly with their counterparts abroad through the Internet and by supporting the mission through local projects.

Bob McDonald, Portland Adventist Elementary School principal

Munguluni Mission School and Clinic in Mozambique will be able to offer free dental care when the equipment arrives from the Northwest.



God Paves Way for Woodland VBS

After several years without offering a Vacation Bible School, the Lord impressed the Woodland (Wash.) Church to host one again.

The VBS leadership prayed for help, guidance and 50 kids to attend. Two weeks before it started, only five helpers had volunteered, so more prayers were sent heavenward asking for assistance and attendees.

When asked, the church's youth all agreed to assist. One girl even agreed to lead the kindergarten class at the last minute and did a great job. Another who had not attended church for awhile was asked, but she had a job. On opening day, she too showed up to help. Another girl had attended church as a smaller child and came to help as well. These girls have been coming to church ever since —



God answered prayers and brought dozens of youngsters to the first Vacation Bible School held at Woodland Church in several years.

showing that God made VBS not only for little kids.

Each day of the VBS, there were just enough helpers for that day, but they were short by seven for the last day. God again answered prayers, and exactly seven people unexpectedly showed up that last day, which featured a picnic lunch the church family provided to the

children and their parents.

Forty-seven children registered, and the average daily attendance of 36 included 24 from the community. One grandmother of another faith brought three of her grandchildren and asked if she could stay and help because she was so impressed with the program. She even asked where she could

get some of the DVDs featured. VBS is a big mission outreach to all ages and should not be neglected. The Woodland Church saw firsthand how God provides, as He always does, so little ones can be led to Him.

Cora Risley, Woodland Church VBS director

Adventist Inter-Mission Founder Shares Story

in Klamath Falls



Daniel Adams shares his spiritual journey at Klamath Falls Church.

Daniel Adams, founder of Adventist Inter-Mission (AIM), spoke for a vespers service at the Klamath Falls Church in September

His story told how he always wanted to become a missionary pilot, a dream that became reality when God miraculously provided the funds he needed for training.

He also described how, when missionaries first went to visit a native tribe in Guyana, they found the people already knew

most of the church's doctrines. The natives described angels who had instructed them.

When Adams noticed many of his classmates were no longer in the church, he dreamed of a mission program through which youth would spend nine months in the field learning different facets of mission work. This hands-on exposure would lead them to start college knowing what they wanted to study. He pointed out that students would gain spiritual stability,

learn teamwork and rely on God.

The AIM program connects the home church to the mission field. Adams said people who serve in the mission field are more likely to stay in the church. He hopes this program will put young people in the mission field and keep them involved later.

Marcia Mollenkopf, Klamath Falls Church assistant communication leader

Concert Offers a Gift in Jars of Clay

Jars of Clay, a well-known contemporary Christian group, performed on the campus of Columbia Adventist Academy (CAA) in Battle Ground, Wash., on Sept. 7 following the performance

of Found, a group of CAA students who love music and God. Gorgeous weather with evening warmth set the tone for welcoming the Sabbath with a meaningful evening of worship and praise.

The event was the result of long-term planning to advance the school's mission, introduce the greater community to the school and thank CAA's supporters. These objectives were met by bringing together "God-shaped" students, Jars of Clay and about 1,000 community members. The CAA campus as a concert venue provided the perfect opportunity to introduce the community to the mission, the "earthen vessels" (students and staff), and our "Treasure" (God).

Watching a skilled potter take a slab of clay and shape it into something beautiful can be thrilling. Seeing the same thing happen in the lives of CAA students is even more thrilling. CAA is blessed with more than

"We have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us" (2 Cor. 4:7, NKJV).

130 "jars of clay" on campus this year.

In addition to meeting objectives, the event provided wonderful memories and contributed to a transforming process by the Master Potter. In the words of a community member who participated that evening, "My family and I were so blessed by your generosity. What a wonderful blessing." To God be the glory that earthen vessels can share such a Treasure.

Larry Hiday, CAA GLEANER correspondent

Christian recording group Jars of Clay brings Columbia Adventist Academy students together with the greater community for a free outdoor concert on the Battle Ground, Wash., campus.



Meadow Glade Hosts Phipps

for Worthy Student Fundraiser

About 1,200 people packed into the Meadow Glade Church in Battle Ground, Wash., on the evening of Sept. 8, to hear Adventist recording artist Wintley Phipps perform a benefit concert. His booming voice filled the church with traditional hymns and inspirational thoughts.

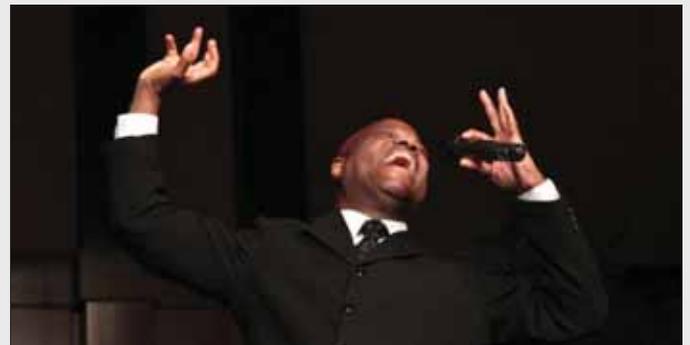
"My favorite song he performed was 'How Great Thou Art,'" says Charla Pooley, who attended. "The way he can hold notes on pitch for so long is just thrilling to listen to."

Brian Allison, principal of neighboring Meadow Glade Adventist Elementary School,

spoke about the reason for the concert. "I want everyone who wants their child to attend Meadow Glade and get a Christian education to have that opportunity," he explained, "and our worthy student fund makes that possible."

A family who benefited from the fund tearfully shared their journey. "I just thought Christian education would never be possible for my kids," said Jay Boatwright. "I just couldn't believe it when we visited Brian [Allison] and by the end of our meeting our two children were enrolled at Meadow Glade."

By the end of the concert,



Wintley Phipps performs at a concert for Meadow Glade Adventist Elementary School.

Allison announced the offering raised \$80,000. Voices singing "praise God from whom all blessings flow" began to echo through the church.

"If that didn't move you,"

commented Pooley when the concert ended, "then I don't think anything will."

Brenda Ermshar, MGAES parent

Fall Creek Member Cares

Hand to Mouth

Cedric R. Hayden of the Fall Creek Church has a vision — a vision to provide free oral health care to those in need on every continent in the world.

From the time he was a young boy traveling to other countries with his family, Hayden learned by watching his father that caring hands make a difference in the lives of the people God loves. Hayden and his wife, Julie, began fulfilling their mission in 2006 by forming Caring Hand to Mouth (CH2M) — an Oregon-based nonprofit that has provided free dental care to underprivileged Oregonians for years.

Now, as Hayden's vision unfolds, free oral health care will

also be offered in Micronesia on the island of Chuuk (formerly Truk), site of a major battle during World War II, by a mobile dental system called WELTRAC (Wellness Evaluation Limited Transport Rural Access Clinic). This particular unit is unique because it is capable of loading and off-loading itself from a flatbed truck without a crane, making it usable in remote locations and moveable as needed.

The WELTRAC system was displayed on the front steps of the Oregon Capitol and at the Lane County Fairgrounds in Eugene, Ore., before being prepared for shipment to the Pacific. International Caring Hand, a sister organization headed by Hayden's brother, Matthew, is

shipping another unit to Zambia. Additional units will follow to other continents.

Cedric Hayden is recruiting dentists, dental hygienists, assistants, evangelists and volunteers to help him provide free care in mobile dental clinics overseas. CH2M is working with a company out of Portland, hoping for a grant to help cover

the \$10,000 transportation expense to get the container to Micronesia.

If you'd like to be a part of the vision, contact Randy Meyer, executive director at randym@hfdg.com.

Tawny Sportsman, Fall Creek Church member



The CH2M mobile dental clinic is displayed at the Oregon Capitol before being shipped to help the people of Micronesia.

Oregon Recognizes Adventist Veterans

As we hear in the news what great service our military provides, we sometimes forget that this group includes Adventist young men and women who have felt the call to serve God and country.

Many of these veterans have returned from the recent wars with stories they really don't want to talk about much. But leaders in the Oregon Conference believe the Adventist church family needs to express gratitude for their service and help where possible in their transition back to life at home and in the church.

At the National Service Organization booth on Sabbath of this year's Gladstone Camp Meeting, Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries teamed up with the Oregon Conference youth de-

partment to serve ice cream to all returning Adventist military personnel, along with their families and other veterans in our churches.

The goal was to not only

Family members brought their grandfather, a Korean War veteran, for the Veterans Recognition Day at Gladstone Camp Meeting.



say "thank you," but also to encourage older and younger vets to form friendships and to become a team in the church that will make a difference in the community. Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries wants to help the military members and their families cope with deployments as well as the challenges related to transitioning back home again, including post-traumatic stress disorder, family and marriage challenges, and joblessness.

Larry Roth, Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries Northwest region assistant director

Youth Rush Makes Life-changing Connections

For the past three years, the Upper Columbia Conference has hosted a summer youth outreach called Youth Rush. During this 10-week program, students get involved in literature evangelism, work with a team of other students, learn valuable people skills and earn money for school.

Christine Lomeland participated in Youth Rush this past summer. While knocking on the doors of elegant vacation homes in Lake Chelan, Wash., one evening, she noticed two men farther down the street. They were in their early 30s, shirtless and obviously drinking.

The men were yelling at each other, and Lomeland really didn't want to go and talk to them. She prayed that God would help her because she knew she didn't have the courage to talk to them by herself.

Lomeland worked her way down the street and finally reached the spot where the men were. One of them was on the phone. "Go talk to my brother," he told her.

So Lomeland went around the house and talked to the other drunk man. "It's actually kind of funny," says Lomeland, "because I don't think I'd ever talked to a drunk person before this summer."

She showed the man the *Final Events* DVD by Doug Batchelor. The man said it looked kind of interesting. While talking with him, Lomeland shared that she wanted to become a nurse.



(From left) Greg Garner, Christine Lomeland and Holly Sheese had many experiences during their work with Youth Rush in the Upper Columbia Conference.

"Oh, my brother over there is going to become one too," the man told her. He also told her their mom was dying of cancer, and he wanted to be able to help her.

That's when Lomeland showed both of them *Peace Above the Storm* (aka *Steps to Christ*). One brother said it would be perfect for their mom while she was sick. Meanwhile, the other brother was flipping through the book.

"You know," he said, "actually there's stuff in here I think would really help me. ... I just

got a divorce because my wife cheated on me." By this time both men had completely calmed down and were talking fairly normally.

They shared how they were from Seattle and were there for the weekend at their parents' vacation home to drink as much as they could and forget all their problems. They really wanted *Peace Above the Storm*, and one of the brothers said he was going to read it that night. Lomeland asked to pray with them, and they said they wanted to pray for their mom but also for themselves

to have the peace and happiness Lomeland had discussed.

Afterward they told her it must have been fate that brought her to them because they weren't even supposed to be there. They were going to leave that morning, and then she just walked out of nowhere. They told Lomeland they wanted to start going back to church, and they thanked her repeatedly for coming to their door.

Kathy Marson, Upper Columbia Conference communication administrative assistant

Closed Doors Open Miracles

in St. Maries and Goldendale

At the end of last school year both Goldendale (Wash.) Adventist School and St. Maries (Idaho) Christian School were facing closures. Goldendale had three students and no funds, and St. Maries had one student in the lower grades and two set to graduate. Here's what God did to help them reopen their doors.

St. Maries Christian School

"We voted to close our school," says Gail Resser, St. Maries Christian School treasurer, "because we had only one student." Their rented school building was sold by the owner, and the contents were moved to a storage shed. "Things looked pretty bleak," says Resser.



Caleb and Jasmine pray at Washington's Goldendale Adventist School.

Because of this decision, Aleida Quick, the teacher, began to search for a new job. The school board met to brainstorm how to reverse their decision, recounting the miracles of when their school closed for nine years and how the Lord helped them reopen in 2001. The local newspaper, the *Gazette Record*, placed free ads for more students, to no avail.



Chris Laulile, Goldendale Adventist School kindergarten teacher, enjoys teaching some of the school's youngest students.

Quick says, "I held on to Jer. 29:11, "I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." But the summer passed with no teaching jobs and no prospects for the school."

"I believed the school would remain open," says Sue Clark, teacher's aide, "until a week or two before the school should open. Then I began to realize the school was going to close. But I hung on to the promise, 'If we are faithful and true to the Lord, He will be faithful and true to us.'"

On Aug. 20, one week before the looming school opening date of Aug. 27, some things began to fall into place. "I received a phone call from a lady interested in putting her two daughters in our school," says Quick. "From that phone call until the late start of school on Sept. 4, we registered six students, found a suite in a mall to

lease, and moved in our books and supplies."

The sudden turnaround was another miracle for Kim Schwanz, a member of the St. Maries community. His son, R.J., attended the school from kindergarten through eighth grade. He is thankful R.J. is able to stay and take ninth-grade classes online through the school. "The St. Maries Christian School has done everything

they can for our son to keep him interested in school. Every child that goes to this school gets one-on-one attention," says Schwanz. "If it wasn't for these dedicated teachers, we would not have the son we have today."

Goldendale Adventist School

In Goldendale, even with the lack of funds and students, board members decided to spend time in study and planning for the future of their school. They began to read the book *Education* by Ellen G. White. Through this book, they realized what a priceless experience an Adventist education can be for children and the entire church family. Then they cast a vision and prayed about how the school would change if it were to open again.

"We made a vow that we would partner with God to provide a first-rate program for our Adventist young people," says Gary Garvin, school board chairman, "and trust that others



St. Maries Christian School students in Idaho are getting an Adventist Christian education thanks to their teacher, Aleida Quick, and teacher's aide, Sue Clark.

not of our faith would recognize the excellence of what we do and want their children to experience it as well.”

Goldendale stepped out in faith and hired Carrie Ferguson. She, along with the pastor and school board, recruited students. By the time school began, they had eight students in grades 1–9 and four in preschool. They also hired a kindergarten teacher, Chris Laulile.

“The Goldendale Adventist School experienced a new start this year,” says Tim Gray, Goldendale Church pastor. “With the renewal of the school that

has taken place, there is a new optimism, and we thank God for His blessing of our school.”

“This has been such a faith-building experience to watch two schools reopen after the challenges they faced,” says Becky Barts, Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) associate education superintendent. “We spent hours in prayer, agonizing over each situation.”

For more information about either of these schools, contact the UCC education department at 509-838-2761.

Kathy Marson, UCC communication administrative



Carrie Ferguson with her students at the Goldendale Adventist School.

Loewen Ordained

Kristopher Loewen was ordained as a minister of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on Sept. 29. The service was held in the Walla Walla University Church where he serves as the youth pastor.

Loewen grew up in Walla Walla Valley and attended the Stateline, Rogers and Walla Walla Valley Adventist schools. While he was in high school and college, his call to ministry became clear.

He celebrates the Adventist lifestyle and message of hope it brings. He’s grateful for the opportunity to serve and lead within it.

Loewen has been married to Paige Wisbey for seven years. They have a 1-year-old



Bob Folkenberg Jr. (left), Upper Columbia Conference president, and Gerald Haeger (right), UCC ministerial secretary, congratulate Paige and Kristopher Loewen on Kris’ ordination to the gospel ministry.

son, Finley Scott. Both Kris and Paige are committed to welcoming all people to the table of God’s grace.

Kathy Marson



Paige and Kristopher Loewen with their son, Finley Scott.

Rathdrum Prays for Local Business

Recently the Rathdrum (Idaho) Church had an opportunity to minister to some of their members and provide a unique witness to the community.

Joe and Emma attend church. Joe is an Adventist, but Emma isn't. They own a small store in Rathdrum and became concerned when they began experiencing conflict with another business nearby.

It wasn't long before Joe and Emma's business started to suffer. They began to lose many customers and were afraid they were going to lose everything.

Then the Lord impressed Todd Parker, the church's outreach coordinator, to have prayer for them at their business for seven days at 10 a.m.



Rathdrum (Idaho) Church members met together for an entire week to pray for a struggling business owned by church members.

Parker recruited other church members to help in this spiritual warfare.

For an entire week, most of the church showed up at Joe and Emma's business or

prayed in their homes for them every day at 10 a.m. The united prayer effort lifted up the couple and rebuked Satan's attacks on their lives.

At the end of the week, Joe and Emma reviewed their books. To their joy, they had record sales that week. In addition, one of the church members saw an acquaintance at the rival business and started a conversation. That visit led to the two businesses talking.

As a result of the church family rallying together in a time of need, Emma has expressed a desire to study the Bible. It's certainly true that "they will know we are Christians by our love."

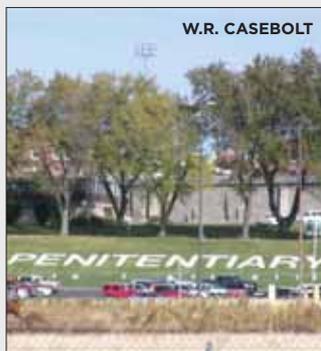
Jay Wintermeyer, UCC communication director

Prison Outreach Takes God Behind Bars

During the past 18 months, more than 60 residents of the Washington State Penitentiary (WSP) in Walla Walla, Wash., have been baptized.

Walla Walla Valley volunteers have been working at the penitentiary for more than 30 years. This recent upsurge in baptisms encourages this volunteer outreach. About 60 members of several area churches volunteer their time to serve at the prison — some monthly and others several times each week.

The heart-warming testimonies given by the new church members are faith-building. These new Christians have learned about forgiveness



and know that nothing stands between them and eternal life; the former life is gone.

Seeing the residents' lives change is life-altering for the volunteers. Watching firsthand how the power of forgiveness transforms a life is unforgettable.

Several of the officers employed at WSP have noticed improved behavior in these men. As a result, one officer asked for prayer so he could find a new job within WSP that would allow him to attend

church. The volunteers prayed for him and rejoiced with him when his prayer request was answered.

Those involved in WSP prison outreach are excited to watch how active the Holy Spirit is as daily miracles are changing lives.

Donald E. Casebolt, prison ministry volunteer

Multisite Bible Prophecy Meetings Offered in Washington

The fall series of Reach Washington, a coordinated effort to present multisite Bible prophecy seminars, launched on Oct. 5. This is the second year of coordinated Bible prophecy meetings in western Washington.

“Through these Bible prophecy seminars, our desire is for people to understand the truth of the Bible and discover hope for a better future through a relationship with Jesus Christ,” says John Freedman, Washington Conference president.

Speakers represented a span of ages and backgrounds. Seminars ran for different amounts of time and with various frequencies. Audiences listened to seminars in English, Spanish, Russian and Samoan.

Conservative estimates show 2,500–3,000 guests attended at least once at 62 sites. Most sites averaged 30–35 guests, according to Bill McClendon, Washington Conference vice president for church growth.



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

Ty Gibson explains “How Prayer Works” at the Reach Washington Prayer Rally. An audio recording is available online.



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

Pastors, conference leaders, members and young adults all presented Bible prophecy meetings at 62 locations this fall in western Washington.

PRAYER RALLY

Before the Bible prophecy seminars began, 150 prayer warriors gathered for a Reach Washington Prayer Rally. Guest speaker Ty Gibson explained “How Prayer Works” based on descriptions in Daniel 7, Ezekiel 1 and Revelation 4–5.

When a person prays and intercedes for someone else, he or she sets in motion wheels of angelic activity. “Through prayer you can open angelic passageways to allow God to work in people’s lives,” says Gibson. “Our world is a territory in dispute. Prayer can be leveraged in the Great Controversy for people’s lives.”

SEMINAR STORIES

Ninth- and 10th-grade students from Lewis County Adventist School, with coaching from David Glenn, Chehalis Church pastor, presented a Bible prophecy seminar in Chehalis.

Steve Leddy, church planter, used Bible prophecy meetings in the South Hill region of Puyallup to start a brand-new church. Their first church service was Oct. 20.

Lynnwood Adventist Company adopted a lifestyle of evangelism for their congregation and offered outreach activities throughout the year. Lynnwood welcomed 50-plus guests the first night of their Bible prophecy seminar and continued to have 25–30 guests each night.

Port Angeles Church hosted a Bible prophecy seminar with evangelist Jac Colon at their new, larger church facility. Twenty-seven people are interested in exploring a lifelong relationship with Jesus.

Samoan churches in western Washington are working together and are celebrating with five people who made life commit-

ments to Jesus through baptism.

Tacoma Hispanic Church prayed for a member’s spouse for years, and she made a decision during the church’s Bible prophecy meetings to join her husband’s faith.

Kent Church introduced listeners to the seventh-day Sabbath, and 14 people accepted the invitation to set aside a 24-hour period from Friday sundown to Saturday sundown to observe the seventh-day Sabbath. “It [is] amazing to witness what God is doing in the hearts of people,” says Greg Schaller, pastor.

The story continues at washingtonconference.org.

Heidi Martella Baumgartner, Washington Conference

the **BIG**
PICTURE
of ministry

Washington Conference is preparing to partner with GYC to invite people to Bible prophecy meetings in January.

DISCOVER MORE:

WASHINGTONCONFERENCE.ORG

Colorful Ministry Grows in Ferndale

From July through mid-October, a riot breaks out in Ferndale — a riot of color, that is.

When Vera Herm's garden bursts forth in bloom, her dahlia ministry gets into full swing. She digs 175 tubers every fall and prepares them for winter. Then she replants them each spring with her husband, Ron.

Herm's joy comes from sharing the bounty of her garden with others. The Ferndale Church is one of the biggest recipients of Herm's largesse as colorful dahlia arrangements — interspersed with roses, lilies, delphiniums and peonies — are scattered throughout the church on many Sabbaths from July



CONNIE MORRISSEY

Vera Herm stands among hundreds of dahlias in one of three large flower beds on her seven-acre property that form the basis for her ministry.

through October if the weather cooperates. She loves using the green thumb God gave her to bring God's creations to life.

This past summer and fall,

Herm and some fellow church members started going door to door to present a dahlia bouquet and a copy of *The Great Hope*. One couple faithfully attended

the Bible prophecy meetings held in Ferndale in October as a result. Herm reports that some people may be reluctant at first to accept the book, but they always accept the flowers that accompany it.

Herm frequently brings vases of dahlias to shut-ins around Ferndale and Bellingham. Her ministry weaves a colorful tapestry all over Whatcom County, and she does not hesitate to give God all the glory for His blessings to her in this special way and the privilege of serving Him through sharing these blessings with others.

Connie Morrissey, Ferndale Church member

Skagit Students Join Project Homeless Connect

Two dozen students from Skagit Adventist Academy in Burlington volunteered on Sept. 6 at the annual Project Homeless Connect on the campus of Skagit Community College in nearby Mount Vernon.

"I liked knowing that our community takes a day to make a difference in people's lives," says Ruby Padgett, an eighth-grader.

Skagit Community Action, a local organization that fosters and advocates for self-sufficiency among low-income people, organizes Project Homeless Connect to provide basic vision, dental and medical screening

plus housing, education and counseling assistance.

The seventh- and eighth-grade students rotated through responsibilities such as picking up trash, cleaning the cafeteria and providing hospitality.

"I really enjoyed telling people about our faith and what we believe," says Bailey Schmidt, eighth-grade student. "One of the couples I was talking to asked me lots about what we believe as Seventh-day Adventists."

During the hospitality rotation, pairs of students escorted guests to assistance booths.

"I enjoyed being able to help

out the community and get to know some people better," says Emma Claridge, seventh-grade student.

Spending the day meeting people in the community was a growth experience for all of the students, pushing them outside of their comfort zones in an effort to make life better for someone else.

Nerida Habenicht, Skagit Adventist Academy seventh- and eighth-grade teacher



Two dozen seventh- and eighth-grade students from Skagit Adventist Academy in Burlington spend a day volunteering with Project Homeless Connect.

Auburn Students Enter Community Classroom

Auburn Adventist Academy (AAA) students entered a different classroom on Oct. 15 when they stepped off campus to learn more about the community during a day of service.

The academy also involved seventh- and eighth-grade students from Buena Vista Elementary School in Auburn and Northwest Christian School in Puyallup. In all, more than 350 students and sponsors participated in service activities at 11 locations across the Auburn area.

“Organizing our community service day was a lot of hard work,” says Kelia Cook, student coordinator for the day of



Auburn Adventist Academy students make sandwiches to distribute in the community as part of their day of service.

service, “but the extra work was definitely worth it to be able to help out our Auburn community.”

Service projects included clearing property for a new park, painting fences, planting trees, digging drainage ditches, painting murals on community

center walls and sorting food at Auburn Food Bank.

“The students have helped us get our work done so much faster,” says Debra Hester, Auburn Food Bank volunteer coordinator. “Plus I love that the kids get to see what goes on behind the scenes here at the Auburn Food Bank.”

The academy is already receiving emails and phone calls from Auburn residents who saw the student volunteers and were impressed by their attitude toward service.

“Because Christ is the center of our school, we must put our Christianity into action,” says Samir Berbawy, AAA principal. “Community is important, and

we were happy to show our Auburn community that we are here to help.”

Jessi Turner, AAA GLEANER correspondent



Auburn Adventist Academy student volunteers help with a number of outdoor projects including planting bushes, clearing a new park and working at a local farm.

Washington Members Participate in Let's Move Day

Adventists in western Washington participated in Let's Move Day activities throughout September.

Bellevue Church held their first-ever 5K run/walk on Sept. 16 with a goal to get people moving and more aware of the importance of exercise.

Twenty participants ran and 15 people walked the 5K course, which included three loops around the Kelsey Creek Park area in Bellevue, not far from the church. Families brought their friends and neighbors and stayed for a picnic lunch after the event.

“They don't want to wait



Bellevue Church joined the Let's Move Day activities this year and organized the church's first 5K run/walk.

another year, but rather do it in six months,” says Martha Hammen, organizer and head of Bellevue's health ministries. “I'm sure we'll make this a tradition.”

Elsewhere, Mount Tahoma Church in Tacoma hosted a 2K and 4K fitness walk at a neighboring school's athletic track on Sept. 23. Skagit Adventist Academy in Burlington held a 5K

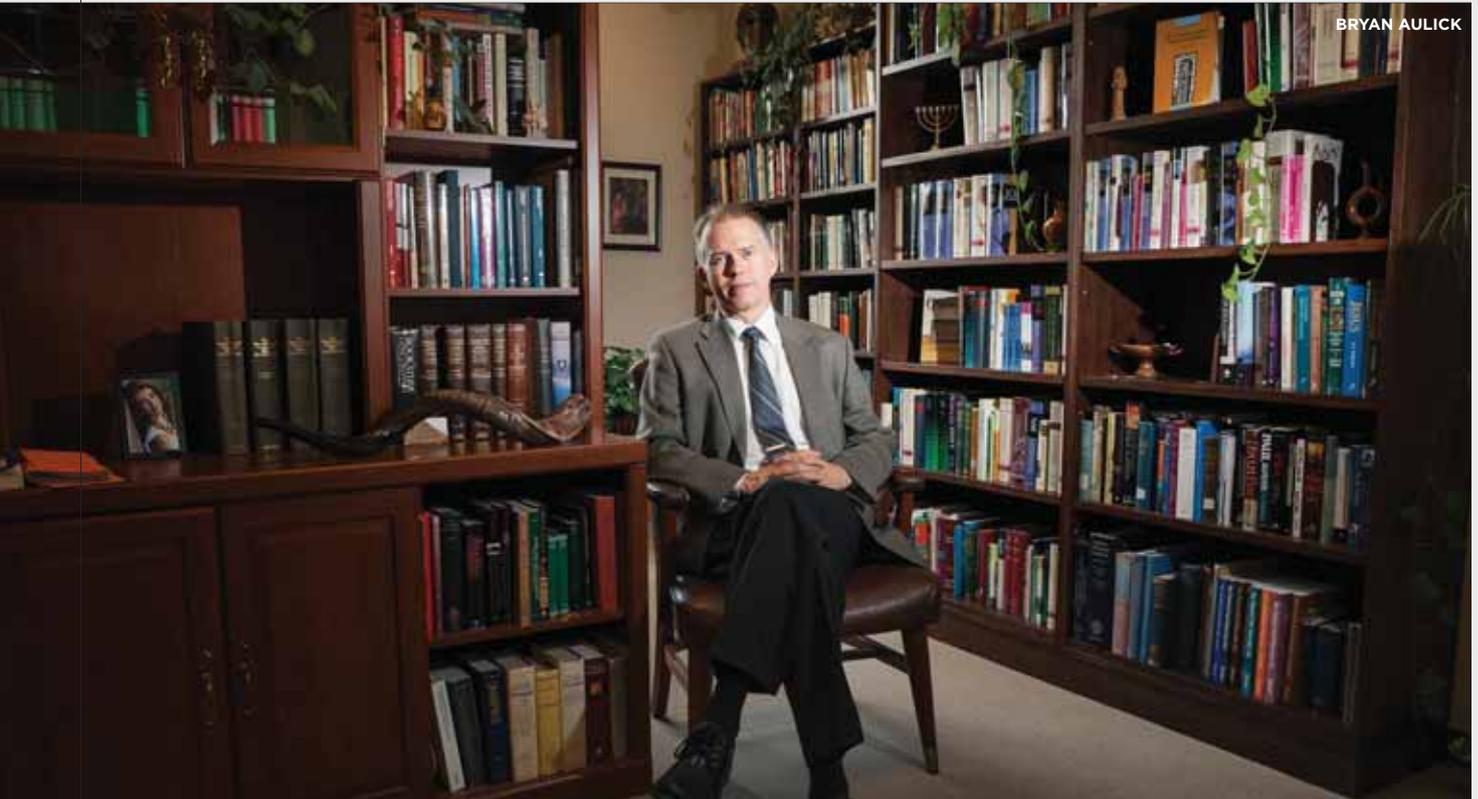
road race/walk plus a one-mile kids' fun run on Sept. 30.

Auburn Adventist Academy provided 12 activity stations for students to rotate through on the national Let's Move Day on Sept. 23. These activities ranged from organized sports and choreography to individual sports like longboarding and the P90X workout program.

“It was a fun way to get us interested in becoming active,” says Mikeala Herman, a sophomore from Puyallup.

Teresa Joy, Bellevue Church member, and Jessi Turner, AAA GLEANER correspondent

WWU Scholars Contribute to Bible Commentary



WWU School of Theology professor Carl Cosaert, along with two other WWU scholars, are contributing to the new Adventist Bible commentary.

When Carl Cosaert, Walla Walla University (WWU) biblical studies professor, was asked to participate with a group of international Adventist scholars authorized to publish a new Adventist Bible commentary, he expected to be asked to cover Galatians, the topic of his most recent book. To his surprise, he was asked to prepare commentary on First and Second Timothy.

“First Timothy is a book full of controversial issues,” says Cosaert. “Not only does the book address the role of women and the issue of adornment, but critical scholars do not believe Paul actually wrote the letter, claiming it is a later forgery. So,

no matter what a person says about the book, someone is bound to strongly disagree.”

Knowing it would be a difficult project, Cosaert agreed to its undertaking. One of his biggest challenges was interpreting Paul’s comments about women in First Timothy, chapter two. What really helped was gaining a better understanding of the historical circumstances that prompted Paul’s letter in the first place.

“I’m hopeful that my work will become a helpful reference for individuals trying to better understand Paul’s comments and apply them to life today,” says Cosaert.

In addition to Cosaert, two

other WWU professors are delving into the challenges of creating this new commentary. Pedrito Maynard-Reid, missiology professor, and John McVay, biblical studies professor and WWU president-elect, are also contributors.

Having done much research and his doctoral dissertation on metaphors for the church in Ephesians, McVay was a natural choice for the commentary on Ephesians.

McVay is also the New Testament editor for a separate commentary project, a one-volume Bible commentary that is to be a companion volume to the Andrews Study Bible.

“I have long wished for a

one-volume Adventist Bible commentary,” says McVay. “This one will reflect on the Bible from the standpoint of those awaiting the return of Jesus.” He is in the process of editing initial writing samples from commentary contributors — a diverse and global group of New Testament scholars.

The *Seventh-day Adventist International Bible Commentary* will be published in five languages (English, French, Spanish, Portuguese and Russian), with the first few volumes available at the General Conference Session in 2015.

Becky St. Clair, WWU graduate

Northwest Doctors Win Physician Mission Award



Arnold L. Petersen serves patients at Adventist Medical Center in Portland, Ore.

ARNOLD L. PETERSEN

Adventist Medical Center



Calvin Hill cares for patients at Oregon's Tillamook County General Hospital.

CALVIN HILL

Tillamook County General Hospital



Joseph Wren visits his young patients at Washington's Walla Walla General Hospital.

JOSEPH WREN

Walla Walla General Hospital

Adventist Health doctors are on a mission to heal. To “share God’s love by providing physical, mental and spiritual healing” reflects a long-standing heritage and identifies a faith-driven organization whose higher purpose is to provide exceptional, loving care for the patients and communities we serve.

Our mission motivates us to remain focused and dedicated to patient safety, quality, innovation and stewardship, as we each aim to be living examples of our mission. Adventist Health physicians are leading the cause on these fronts. The Physician of the Year Mission Award recognizes these physicians for their dedication to the mission and their communities.

Arnold Petersen is recognized throughout the Portland area for his ability to nourish the spirit of his patients, colleagues and community. This humble man of God has established a patient-centered OB-GYN practice that has been a trusted cornerstone of care for multiple generations.

His commitment to service is felt far beyond the walls of Adventist Medical Center. For years Petersen has organized annual medical mission trips to third-world countries. His passion for the Lord, coupled with his genuine love for people, has taken him to the far corners of the globe, where he has touched the lives of those who don’t have access to care.

Petersen’s footprints of faith have helped make a difference for others. He continues to inspire and lead.

Calvin Hill was one of the first faith-based physicians who responded to Adventist Health’s call in 1979 for professionals to practice in rural Tillamook, Ore. Growing up in the Philip-pines as part of a missionary family gave him a mission-focused spiritual foundation visible throughout his medical career in internal medicine. Over the years, he has actively shared God’s love in serving his church, his community and his hospital.

A conscientious leader who practices what he recommends for others and doesn’t shy away from making or supporting tough decisions, Hill has earned the confidence and respect of all around him. This award honors the intersection of mission, ministry and medical care in Hill’s life.

As a well-loved pediatrician, Joseph Wren is known for his tender heart and kind care for the children in the Walla Walla, Wash., community. His passion for service extends outside the exam room — on more than one occasion he has given patients and their families rides home when their appointments extended after local bus service ended.

“My mission is to treat each patient as though they were a member of my family,” says Wren. “Sometimes that means I listen patiently, and other times it means tough love.”

Wren says what he loves most about his occupation is interacting with families as a partner to achieve health for their children.

Brittany Dobbs, Adventist Health GLEANER correspondent

MILESTONES

Axford 90th

Beatrice Axford celebrated her 90th birthday with family and friends at a lovely park in Prosser, Wash., on Sept. 2, 2012. Bea was born in Portland, Ore., on Sept. 3, 1922, to parents Jacob and Lillian Oster.

Music has always been a huge part of Bea's life. She was well-known as a fine violinist when she was a child in Portland, playing in the Portland youth symphony. Her name preceded her when she went to college at Walla Walla College (now Walla Walla University), and she was asked to play for many events while attending college. She graduated in 1940 with a degree in music. While there, she met the love of her life, Robert Axford, and they married in 1943.

Bea was always proud of the fact that she taught school and budgeted to pay the way for Bob to attend medical school at Loma Linda University School of Medicine. He became a physician in 1944 with no school debt.

Bob and Bea spent much of their married life in Prosser. They had three children (Melody, Carolee and David) and now have 5 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. They moved to Kennewick, Wash., in 1977 and were charter members of the Kennewick Church. Bea played in the Mid-Columbia Symphony for 45 years. She also gave piano, organ and violin lessons in her home. Bob passed away in 2009.

Bea loves Jesus with all her heart and served many church positions throughout her life until bad hearing and age has

forced her to slow down. She lives with her daughter and son-in-law in Kennewick.

Bunker 90th

Dean Bunker celebrated his 90th birthday with a potluck in Willow, Alaska.

Dean was born July 28, 1922, in Jackson, Mich., where he grew up, then met and started a family with Mazie, his wife of 71 years. They moved to Alaska and settled in Willow in 1960.

They left Michigan June 21, 1960, and crossed into Alaska on Aug. 6 of that year in a caravan of cars and trucks. This included a semitruck hauling a bulldozer, a Jeep and a tractor, plus a panel van and a flatbed truck filled with gear they'd need, including a portable sawmill and a welding outfit. Along the way they camped in two travel trailers they towed behind.

By August 1961, Dean and Mazie had each homesteaded 80 acres, four miles up Willow Fishhook Road and another four miles off the road into the wilderness.

Dean and his oldest son, Terry, started school bus contracting in 1962 in the Matanuska Valley, forming a partnership that celebrated its 50th year in business this year. With summers off, Dean and Mazie started commercial fishing in Cook Inlet in 1964, and Dean still spends part of his summers at the family fish camp. During the past 71 years, their branch of the Bunker family has grown from seven members to 46 so far.

Descended from Dean and Mazie are children Terry and Juanita Bunker

of Willow; Bob Bunker of Wasilla, Alaska; Diana and Joe Walker of Trapper Creek, Alaska; Gloria and Doran Lee of Willow; Phyllis and Tom Symmonds of Longview, Wash.; 15 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

Fritz 90th

Huldah M. Fritz celebrated her 90th birthday with family and church friends on May 5, 2012, with a potluck dinner following the Ephrata (Wash.) Church service.

Huldah was born May 3, 1922, in Portland, Ore., to Charles and Marjorie (Rue) Peterson. Her sisters, Martha and Rose, both had whooping cough so they had to go live with their aunt and uncle until they were well and could come home and see their new baby sister. The Peterson family lived in Hillsboro, Ore., when she was born and later moved to Castle Rock, Wash., and Ridgefield, Wash.

Huldah graduated from Columbia Academy in 1940, went on to Walla Walla College for nursing and then to Portland Sanitarium and Hospital School of Nursing, where she graduated in 1945.

While living in Yaak, Mont., in 1964, Huldah was called to Puerto Rico to be a nurse at the Bella Vista Hospital. She worked there for 14 years until she went to Taipei, Taiwan, in 1979 on a two-year volunteer assignment at the Taiwan Adventist Hospital. Then she went to work as a nurse at Monument Valley Adventist Hospital in Utah, where she retired in 1987 to Soap Lake, Wash.

After retiring, Huldah went to Taiwan five times to teach English with student missionaries. Many of her Chinese students have visited her, and she is thankful for the opportunity to meet so many special people.

Huldah lives in Ephrata and has been active as the health ministries leader and helping in community service.

Her family includes her son and daughter-in-law, Bill and Bonnie Fritz of Staten Island, N.Y.; a grandchild and 2 great-grandchildren.

BIRTHS

EKKENS — Sophie was born July 11, 2012, to Lauren and Roseane (De Oliveira) Ekkens, King City, Ore.

MORGAN — Melana Katherine was born Aug. 9, 2012, to Joel and Connie (Hoover) Morgan, Walla Walla, Wash.

WELSER — Hailey Celeste was born Aug. 14, 2012, to Jeremy and Cristina (Downer) Welser, Priest River, Idaho.

AT REST

ARONSON — Samuel, 83; born Feb. 13, 1929, Alma, Wash.; Aug. 27, 2012, Tacoma, Wash. Surviving: wife, Nel (Tapares); son, Eric, Auburn, Wash.; daughters, Sandy Maynard, Tacoma; Joyce White, Cheyenne, Wyo.; 6 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

BOM — William "Bill" B., 90; born Sept. 4, 1921, Anchor-age, Alaska; died Aug. 22, 2012, Medford, Ore. Surviving: wife, Dorothea "Dottie" (Meehan); sons, Jerald, Loma Linda, Calif.; Roger, Medford; Douglas,

Portland, Ore.; sisters, Elizabeth Bernardi, Georgetown, Ind.; Katherine McDuffie, Oxnard, Calif.; 2 grandchildren and 2 step-grandchildren.

BRANTLEY — Dora E. (Young) Kitzerow, 79; born May 18, 1933, on a highway in California; died July 27, 2012, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: stepsons, Rick Brantley, Santa Rosa, Calif.; Robert Brantley; daughter, Mary (Brantley) Noble, Vancouver; stepdaughter, Donna (Brantley) Martino, Vancouver; sister, Laura (Young) Sommers, Ellijay, Ga.; 3 grandchildren, 6 step-grandchildren, 10 step-great-grandchildren and a step-great-great-grandchild.

COUNCIL — Lester L., 73; born Aug. 6, 1939, Milton, Fla.; died Aug. 21, 2012, Grants Pass, Ore. Surviving: wife, Lorie (Bantug); brothers, Gordon, Las Vegas, Nev.; Doug, Milton; and sister, Gladys Linch, Wooster, Ohio.

CRATTY — James R., 71; born Aug. 22, 1940, Sutherlin, Ore.; died Aug. 7, 2012, Eugene, Ore. Surviving: son, Tony, Salem, Ore.; daughter, Kristi Cratty, Portland, Ore.; brothers, Royce, Sutherlin; Terry, Sandpoint, Idaho; sisters, Ione Peterson, Pleasant Hill, Ore.; June Marquette, Yuba City, Calif.; and 3 grandchildren.

CRISP — Wayne Lyle, 56; born Jan. 24, 1956, Baker, Ore.; died Feb. 26, 2012, Eugene, Ore. Surviving: wife, Ruth Ann (Yarbrough), Sutherlin, Ore.; son, Michael, Roseburg, Ore.; daughter, Kimberly Schermerhorn, Sutherlin; parents, John and Malinda (Schrenk) Crisp, Sutherlin; brothers, Jerry, Bozeman, Mont.; Norman, Oakland, Ore.; sister,

Nancy Worley, Roseburg; and 4 grandchildren.

DIMOCK — Norman W., 90; born July 12, 1921, Vale, Ore.; died Feb. 29, 2012, Portland, Ore. Surviving: wife, Caroline; son, David; stepsons, Barry; Alan Lutz, Gentry, Ark.; daughter, Barbara Scardi; brother, Cecil; sisters, Myrtle and Vera, both of Vancouver, Wash.

ELLIS — Bradley Scott, 53; born March 25, 1959, Hinsdale, Ill.; died July 5, 2012, Portland, Ore. Surviving: mother, Dorothy (Zeisner) Ellis; brother, Troy, Portland; and sister, Karen Ellis, Lyons, Ore.

FEHRER — Evaine Peter, 78; born Dec. 30, 1933, Boulder, Colo.; died March 18, 2012, Boise, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Barbara; sons, Kelly and Robert, both of Boise; daughter, Karmen Kirsinas, Rancho Mirage, Calif.; and 7 grandchildren.

FREEMAN — M. Carmen (Coster) FitzGerald, 72; born Jan. 10, 1939, Salem, Ore.; died Dec. 30, 2011, Portland, Ore. Surviving: husband, John, Boring, Ore.; son, Dannie L. FitzGerald, Grants Pass, Ore.; stepsons, Curtis Butler, Salem, Ore.; Daniel Freeman, Scappoose, Ore.; daughters, LaWanda (FitzGerald) Hurst, Cave Junction, Ore.; Mary (FitzGerald) Knutson, Lakeview, Ore.; stepdaughters, Linda (Butler) Butler, Grants Pass, Ore.; Lisa (Freeman) Moore, Tigard, Ore.; Cindy (Freeman) Hernandez, Kelso, Wash.; Kerri (Freeman) Workman, Seattle, Wash.; Johnna (Freeman) Nasario, Tigard, Ore.; 4 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

GOODMAN — Donald Warren, 94; born July 13, 1918,

Olympia, Wash.; died Aug. 26, 2012, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: wife, Garnet (Hills); son, Gary, Battle Ground, Wash.; and 2 grandchildren.

GRAFFEE — Michael Eugene, 64; born May 13, 1947, Shelton, Wash.; died March 30, 2012, Spokane, Wash. Surviving: wife, Marilyn J. (Russell); daughters, Crystal James and Heidi McCarthy, both of Soap Lake, Wash.; and 7 grandchildren.

GRAHAM — A. Jean (Miller), 65; born May 28, 1947, St. Helena, Calif.; died Sept. 4, 2012, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: husband, Tom; son, Thomas T., Vancouver, Wash.; daughter, Lisa Ferguson, Everett, Wash.; father, A.C. Miller, Days Creek, Ore.; brother, A.C. Miller Jr., Days Creek; sister, Judith Peters, Grand Terrace, Calif.; and 4 grandchildren.

HEISLER — Rodney, 70; born Jan. 1, 1942, Tamaqua, Pa.; died March 8, 2012, Port Angeles, Wash. Surviving: wife, Elizabeth (Kutzner); sons, Donald, Seattle, Wash.; Jon, Port Angeles; daughter, Tamara Brown, Charleston, S.C.; mother, Irene (Snyder) Heisler Jones, Hazelton, Pa.; brother, Bruce Jones, Hazelton; sister, Sharyn (Jones) Bower, Wister, Okla.; and 5 grandchildren.

HISLIP — Ruby C. (Pierce), 89; born Feb. 18, 1922, Coquille, Ore.; died Feb. 6, 2012, Coos Bay, Ore. Surviving: daughter, Clara "C.J." Petersen, Myrtle Point, Ore.; sister, Clarissa Pierce, Winston, Ore.; and 4 grandchildren.

HOFFER — Leonard T.D., 94; born June 13, 1918, Reliance, S.D.; died Aug. 10, 2012, Talent, Ore. Surviving: 2 grandchildren.

MONKEN — Steven August, 45; born May 20, 1967, in California; died June 20, 2012, Portland, Ore. Surviving: fiancée, Trisha Erickson, Portland; son, Aaron, Portland; brothers, George, Milwaukie, Ore.; Robert, Los Angeles, Calif.; Brian and Curtis, both of Portland; sisters, Debi Morton and Paula Diez, both of Big Spring, Texas; Diane Vanderburg, San Angelo, Texas; Heather Harmon and Amethyst Monken, both of Gresham, Ore.

NULL — Marilyn Jean (Church), 83; born April 9, 1929, Chicago, Ill.; died June 12, 2012, Portland, Ore. Surviving: husband, Kenneth E.; daughters, Myrna J. Barr, Bakersfield, Calif.; Denise E. Harbeck, West Linn, Ore.; and 4 grandchildren.

SACKETT ROSE — Mildred (Smith), 90; born Nov. 2, 1921, Miami, Fla.; died Jan. 2, 2012, Nampa, Idaho. Surviving: daughters, Susan (Sackett) Stewart, Nampa; Maryann (Sackett) Adler, Bend, Ore.; sister, Winifred Barrows, Grants Pass, Ore.; 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

TANDY — Susan Claire, 69; born Sept. 6, 1942, Napa, Calif.; died Aug. 5, 2012, Vernonia, Ore. Surviving: brother, Douglas Tandy, Vernonia; and sister, Cindy Tandy, Valdosta, Ga.

THORPE — Lyla (Anderson), 96; born April 29, 1916, Gackle, N.D.; died Aug. 26, 2012, Battle Ground, Wash. Surviving: sons, David, Mollalla, Ore.; Dennis, Vancouver, Wash.; daughter, Sharon Beymer, Milwaukie, Ore.; sister, Lee Sigler, Brush Prairie, Wash.; a grandchild and 3 great-grandchildren.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

North Pacific Union Conference

Offering

Dec. 1 — Local Church Budget;

Dec. 8 — Inner City - North American Division World Budget;

Dec. 15 — Local Church Budget;

Dec. 22 — Local Conference Advance;

Dec. 29 — NAD Evangelism.

Walla Walla University

Dec. 1 — Evensong, featuring organ and spoken word, University Church at 4 p.m.;

Dec. 1, 2, 6, 8, 9 — *The Importance of Being Earnest*, wwudrama Fall Show, Village Hall. Ticket information at drama.wallawalla.edu;

Dec. 4 — ASWWU Tree Lighting, Kellogg Hall Lawn at 7 p.m.;

Dec. 7 — At the Door Christmas Concert, University Church at 6 and 8 p.m.

Oregon

International Food Fair and Bazaar

Dec. 1 — International Food Fair and Bazaar at the Beaverton Church, 14645 SW Davis Rd., Beaverton, OR 97007, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. All proceeds will go to FETCH India Mission Projects. For more information, call Franklin Moses at 503-533-0409.

Live in Concert

Dec. 9 — Fountainview Academy Orchestra and Choir at the Bend Church at 7 p.m. Don't miss these talented young musicians as they present the gospel through music and this year's Christmas program. Donations accepted in lieu of admission. For more information, contact Jonathan Kasabasic at 541-647-1726 or jandjkass@hotmail.com.

Christmas Concert

Dec. 16 — Come, listen and enjoy the Fountainview Academy Orchestra and Choir concert, O Holy Night, at 7 p.m. at the Adventist Community Center of Vancouver, 9711 NE St. Johns Rd., Vancouver, Wash. The concert is free, and during the concert there will be a freewill offering. For more information, call 250-256-5400 or go online to www.fountainofmusic.ca.

Musical Christmas Program

Dec. 21 — Sunnyside Church's 31st-annual Musical Christmas program will be on Friday at 7 p.m. Invite your friends to enjoy an evening listening to some of Portland's finest musicians. Bring your music and join in singing the "Hallelujah Chorus" for the finale. An offering will be taken at the door for the ministry that feeds the hungry at O'Bryant Square.

Upper Columbia

Christmas Concerts

Come, listen and enjoy Fountainview Academy Orchestra and Choir concert, O Holy Night. **Dec. 5** — at the Yakima Church, 507 N 35th Ave., Yakima, Wash., at 7 p.m.;

Dec. 6 — at the College Place Village Church, 715 SE 12th St., College Place, Wash., at 7 p.m. The concerts are free, and during the concerts there will be a freewill offering. For more information, call 250-256-5400 or go online to www.fountainofmusic.ca.

Washington

Christmas Concert

Dec. 4 — Come, listen and enjoy Fountainview Academy Orchestra and Choir concert, O Holy Night, at 7 p.m., at the Kirkland Church, 6400 108th Ave. NE, Kirkland, Wash. The concert is free, and during the concert there will be a freewill offering. For more information, call 250-256-5400 or go online to www.fountainofmusic.ca.

Missing Members

The Centralia Church is looking for the following missing members: Jessica Angel, Donna Bahrman, Charlyce Baker, John Barlow, Rebecca Barlow, Brenda Craven, Ginger Dockstader, Reynold Gibson, Sherry Hehn, Barbara Ribera, Kermit Thomas, Jahaziel Velazquez and Hazel Ware. If you have any information about these missing members, please contact Edee Shannon at 360-736-4434 or the church at 360-736-4262.

World Church

La Sierra Academy Alumni Weekend

April 26-28, 2013 — Celebrate our 91st year. We invite all former students, faculty, staff and supporters. Golf tournament Sunday morning on April 21; Friday evening welcoming reception; Sabbath morning services on campus, campus potluck, and reunions; Ladies' Gala Tea Sunday afternoon. Honor classes include 50+ years and those ending in 3 and 8. For more information, call 951-351-1445 ext. 244, email jnelson@lsak12.com or go online to the LSA website lsak12.com/alumni.

2013 Bible Study Tour

July 28-Aug. 9, 2013 — There is room for just nine more people to participate in the 2013 Bible Study Tour hosted by Carl P. Cosaert, Walla Walla University biblical studies professor. The group will visit ancient biblical sites that make the Bible come alive. Stops include Istanbul, Cappadocia, Tarsus, Antioch, Antalya, Perga, Aspendos, Laodicea, Aphrodisias, Ephesus, Patmos, Assos and Troy. No course on the Bible, no study of geography, no book on history or archaeology can ever give more insight into the Bible than a trip to the Mediterranean world itself. We hope you can join us for a trip you'll never forget. The cost of the tour is \$1,825 per person for a double-occupancy room, plus airfare. To receive a complete itinerary and additional information, contact Sharon Searson, tour coordinator, at sharons@uccsda.org.

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CLASSES
SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OFFERS MASTER'S DEGREES in business, computer science, counseling, education, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit southern.edu/graduatedegrees.

EMPLOYMENT
WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY seeks applicants for a full-time faculty position as dean of the School of Education & Psychology to begin July 2013. For more information and to apply, please visit jobs.wallawalla.edu.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks dean for School of Business and Management. A doctoral degree required. Will oversee the undergraduate and graduate programs. Priority given to applications received by Jan. 31, 2013. The successful candidate must have a strongly expressed commitment to Jesus Christ and be an Adventist church member in good and regular standing. Submit curriculum vitae and cover letter to Pat Coverdale, Director of Human Resources, pcoverdale@southern.edu, or Human Resources, Southern Adventist University, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37363.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks graduate faculty to join our mission-focused team at the MSN and DNP levels. Candidate must hold current family/adult NP certification. Requisite qualities include interest in research, successful teaching and advanced practice nursing experience,

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Jerico Aldana brings tremendous positive energy to every aspect of his life – from his daily patient care interactions to his hobbies of bowling and skateboarding. He recognizes that Loma Linda is a place where people share common values and where his desire to grow professionally is supported. Jerico is one of the people who help to make Loma Linda a center of clinical excellence and supportive faith-based care.

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flexibility, and commitment to Adventist education. The candidate must be a member in good and regular standing in the Adventist Church. Doctorate required. Send curriculum vitae or inquiries to Dr. Holly Gadd, hgadd@southern.edu, SAU School of Nursing, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

department of Information Systems Services is seeking to hire a Microsoft SharePoint/ASP.NET application developer to continue the development and maintenance of their SharePoint document management infrastructure. Applicants should have multiple years of development and server administration experience and be able to implement complex web architectures using ASP.NET/IIS/SQL Server. Previous exposure to SharePoint administration and

development would be ideal. It is the policy of the GC to hire only Adventist church members who consistently financially support their church. Applicants may apply by faxing or emailing their résumé to GC Human Resources at 301-680-6768 or stavenhagenr@gc.adventist.org.

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

seeks applicants for full-time, tenure-track faculty positions in biology. For more information and application process, please visit jobs.wallawalla.edu. All positions will remain open until filled.

EVENT

LOMA LINDA VEGETARIAN CONGRESS

Researchers and experts will present the latest scientific facts about plant-based diets and health Feb. 24-26, 2013, at Loma Linda University. Speakers include Dr. Gary Fraser, principal investigator of the Adventist Health Study-2, and Dr. Neal Barnard, author and

advocate. Visit vegetariannutrition.org to learn more.

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Ginny Allen shows God's love through stories that come from the deepest places of the heart. *God's Love Song* is the women's sharing book for 2013. To order, call 800-765-6955 or shop online at AdventistBookCenter.com.

TERRORIST THREATS.

devastating tornadoes, a shaky economy — it's enough to frighten anybody. Mark Finley's *End-Time Hope*, the 2013 sharing book, provides answers to the turmoil the world is facing. To order, call 800-765-6955 or shop online at AdventistBookCenter.com.

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Sunset Schedule

December	7	14	21	28
Alaska Conference				
Anchorage	3:45	3:41	3:41	3:47
Fairbanks	2:49	2:41	2:39	2:46
Juneau	3:07	3:04	3:05	3:10
Ketchikan	3:18	3:16	3:17	3:22
Idaho Conference				
Boise	5:08	5:09	5:11	5:15
La Grande	4:10	4:10	4:12	4:16
Pocatello	4:56	4:56	4:58	5:03
Montana Conference				
Billings	4:30	4:30	4:32	4:37
Havre	4:24	4:23	4:25	4:30
Helena	4:41	4:41	4:43	4:47
Miles City	4:17	4:17	4:19	4:23
Missoula	4:48	4:48	4:50	4:54
Oregon Conference				
Coos Bay	4:41	4:41	4:44	4:48
Medford	4:39	4:39	4:42	4:46
Portland	4:27	4:27	4:30	4:34
Upper Columbia Conference				
Pendleton	4:11	4:11	4:14	4:18
Spokane	3:58	3:58	4:00	4:05
Walla Walla	4:08	4:08	4:10	4:15
Wenatchee	4:11	4:11	4:13	4:17
Yakima	4:15	4:15	4:17	4:21
Washington Conference				
Bellingham	4:14	4:14	4:16	4:20
Seattle	4:18	4:18	4:20	4:25

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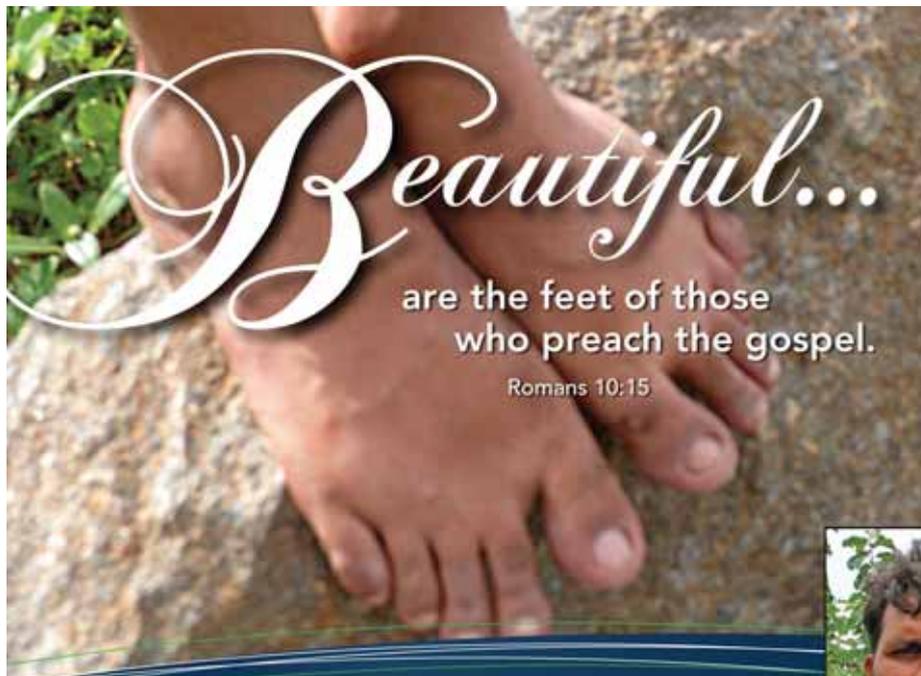
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More or Less

Though he was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich (2 Cor. 8:9, NIV).

“We Americans throw away an astounding 40 percent of our food supply each year.”

Late this summer a sudden spurt of creative insanity caused me to blurt out the fateful words, “I’m going to build a shed.” To be honest, this had been somewhat premeditated. We needed space for garden tools and other detritus that had bloated our garage toward morbid obesity.

“But,” said my planner/designer wife, “it can’t just be any old shed. It’s got to be ... cute.”

So, the remnants of my summer were sucked into a game attempt to construct “cute” from my limited supply of skill. Helpful friends, who unlike me had actually built things before, occasionally stopped by, out of morbid curiosity I suspect, to appraise my latest efforts, scratch their heads and offer cheerful advice: “Well ... what you should’ve done is ...”

The summer is long past. But in spite of my daily dance with incompetence, we now have an adorably flawed little edifice that has enabled our garage to undergo dramatic weight loss.

Gazing at it the other day, though, I realized that no overall reduction has occurred. I’ve simply spread it over a wider area. Yet here’s what soberes me: This insignificant 80-square-foot structure is far more palatial than many in this world will ever own. Slum shanties, cardboard walls and open sewers are the sum of their reality. My little shed with four solid walls, a real floor and a watertight roof would overwhelm them with luxury.

Obesity, as we commonly perceive it, is often, though not always, the result of choice run amok — the

unregulated intake of food beyond ideal caloric need. But the broader application is what gives me pause.

It’s a symptom of our American infatuation with excess — the insatiable desire for more. In contrast, some have estimated that half of the world’s people live on less than \$2.50 per day, and 80 percent on less than \$10 per day. One out of every three children clings to life without adequate shelter, and 1.4 million of them die each year from lack of safe drinking water and adequate sanitation.¹

Our problem with abundance shows up not only in a mirror but in the trash. We Americans throw away an astounding 40 percent of our food supply each year.²

So, in this celebratory season that often shouts “more, more, more,” I ponder how the Best Christmas Gift left heaven for the humble shelter of a shed.

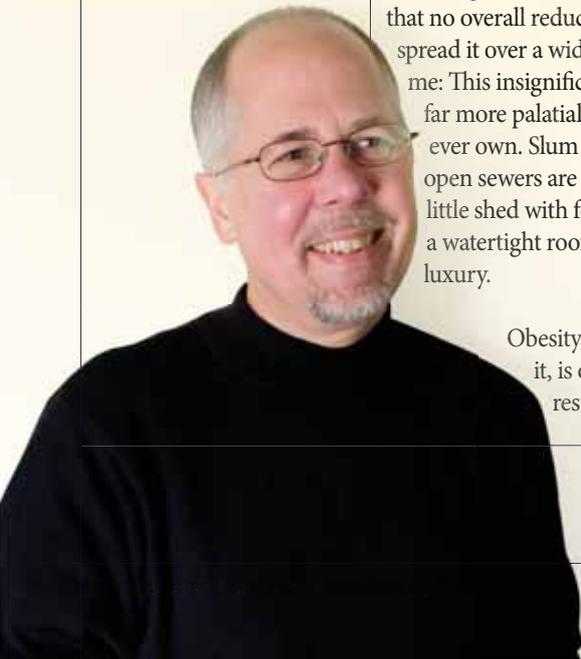
And, I choose to regard His legacy as an annual reminder to bring my excess baggage into the gap of someone else’s lack.

It’s a Christmas choice we all can make — more or less.

1. The Human Development Report, July 23, 2012, <http://www.statisticbrain.com/world-poverty-statistics/>.

2. National Resources Defense Council, “Spoiling to Fight Food Waste,” *The Oregonian*, Oct. 23, 2012.

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Steve Vistaunet
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Scott Hadley
2009 WWU graduate
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PERIODICALS

Our Wish for a Christ-Centered Christmas

— GLEANER Staff

A
glowing
fireplace
with yuletide
log, children
caroling in the
streets, brightly
wrapped packages
— these are images of

Christmas so many
hold dear.

But when the Word became flesh,
there was little celebration, no red
carpet, not even a welcome mat. If

not for the **heavenly choir** or star in
the sky, even the shepherds and wise men
would have skipped the occasion.

The **Son of God**, considering the
plight of His creation, took a long look at the glories
of heaven, stepped into His jeweled chariot and swept
over the edge of time and space to become one with us,
so we could become one with Him. That great leap of faith
brought Him here the first time. His unqualified love will
bring Him back.

Those who welcome Him back will be those who have chosen to
take the priorities of **HIS KINGDOM** to heart: "Inas-
much as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to
Me" (Matthew 25:40).

Looking from self to the needs of others, may *His values* be at the
centerpiece of your holidays this year.