

**EDITORIAL**  
STORY

**PERSPECTIVE**  
FOUR UNLIKELY MOTHERS  
AT CHRISTMAS

**YOU SAID IT**  
#ButNow

# gleamer

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION

## *THE* KING'S SPEECH

IS YOUR BIBLE STILL THE WORD OF GOD?

DEC  
2017

VOL. 112, N° 12



Now faith is confidence in  
what we hope for and assurance  
about what we do not see.  
Hebrews 11:1

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**gleaner**

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*"Frosted Leaves"*  
in Columbia River Gorge, Ore.,  
by Jane E. Gilliland,  
of Vancouver, Wash.



## STORY

A

bove and beyond all the warm and winsome myths of Christmas is the divine story of redemption, a Word that became flesh and dwelt among us for an eternal purpose.

I was raised on stories. Aside from daily infusions of other essential nutrients like

of mystery and wonder, just like life.

The best efforts in media today deal honestly with issues that challenge the human spirit to think beyond status quo. The most compelling stories help us understand how others have navigated the unknown. Their willingness to try, sometimes fail but keep on going gives us added courage to step into our own abyss.

Story is important, says author John Eldredge, because “life doesn’t come to us like a math problem. It comes to us the way that a story does, scene by scene. You wake up. What will happen next? You don’t get to know — you have to enter in, take the journey as it comes.”

Scripture provides a clear beginning and ultimate end to this stage we call the Great Controversy. But it’s the area in between — what C.S. Lewis called the “shadowlands” — where our personal uncertainties linger, where faith is tested and tried. Some of us are uncomfortable with uncertainty. We do all in our power to plan ahead, to create reasonable expectations for what tomorrow may bring. But we quickly disconnect the gospel message from real life when we approach it like a math or science class. We expend enormous efforts at finding the empirical evidence and key texts, constructing watertight formulas, selecting the right answers and policies. Yet in doing so, we to often

turn our backs to faith in God’s creative Spirit and lose sight of the greatest story ever told.

It’s the story woven again and again by the Master Teacher. Scripture says “Jesus spoke to the multitude in parables; and without a parable He did not speak to them” (Matt. 13:34). “A sower went out to sow ...,” “a certain man had two sons ...,” “a certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves ...” — all tapped responsive chords in listeners. They were drawn from familiar experiences but connected by divine warp and woof to the core values of the kingdom. Each listener had the imagination awakened to consider his or her own place in His story.

When heaven came down, when the Word became flesh, humanity came face to face with the story of redemption. Where do you see yourself in His story? Where does it fit in your daily “to do” list? How many of His words have been written on your heart? How willing are you to step out with Him on a journey of faith into the unknown? How ready are you to exchange a formula-driven existence for a Spirit-guided ride beyond your wildest imagination?

*Steve Vistauet, Gleaner editor*

It’s the area in between — what C.S. Lewis called the “shadowlands” — where our personal uncertainties linger, where faith is tested and tried.

green beans and potatoes and homemade bread, tales of miracles and missionary adventures found fertile soil in my young imagination.

Morning classes in grade school gave way to lunch time and recess. The incentive to plop our sweaty selves back indoors was more than a shrill whistle from the teacher. It was story time with books from the Little House on the Prairie series, Adventist tomes like *Tales from the Haunted Pagoda* or *Singer on the Sand*.

Effective stories trigger our imaginations and without complexity give pure minds room to roam. Simple phrases like “Jimmy was an unusually well-behaved lad, but then one day ...” or “Sarah crept to the edge of the window and silently peeked in ...” are full

AUTHOR

Steve Vistauet



## NPUC CHILDREN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE DRAWS HUNDREDS



More photos online at [glnr.in/112-12-CLC](http://glnr.in/112-12-CLC)



José Rojas, featured keynote speaker for CLC, adds his unique brand of inspiration to the gathering.



Benjamin Lundquist, Oregon Conference youth ministries director, addresses the Children's Ministries Conference crowd.



Roundtable interactions are encouraged throughout the CLC event.

# M

ORE THAN 300 CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES LEADERS FROM AROUND THE NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE (NPUC) ATTENDED THE NPUC CHILDREN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (CLC) HELD OCT. 12-15 IN PORTLAND, ORE.

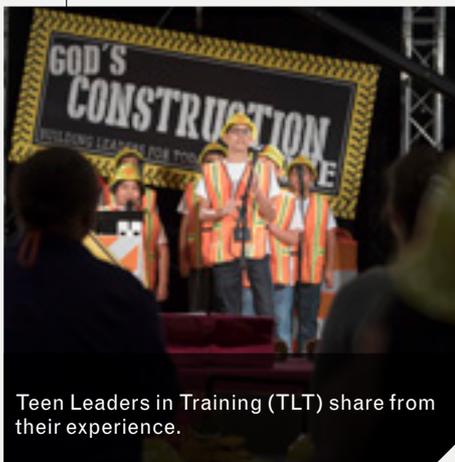
The event theme of "God's Construction Zone" promoted a vision of "building leaders for today's kids." Sherri Uhrig, North American Division children's ministries director, cut the "construction site" ribbon to open the session. Everyone was given a hard hat to complete the construction motif. The energy of the event was heightened throughout by well-known keynote speaker José Rojas.

Organized by Shirley Allen, Oregon Conference children's ministries director who also took on the temporary title of CLC construction site coordinator, the four-day conference featured six general sessions with Rojas, seven distinct training tracks and a total of 56 seminars.

The photos with this article provide a small window into a very active and full weekend that encouraged, inspired and energized a host of leaders for perhaps the most important ministry our church has — that of reaching and mentoring our children.



Sandra Brewer is honored for 49 years of service in children's ministries with an award presented on behalf of the North Pacific Union Conference by Dennis Plubell, NPUC vice president for education



Teen Leaders in Training (TLT) share from their experience.



Shirley Allen, Oregon Conference children's ministries director and CLC event coordinator, welcomes more than 300 registered attendees.



Note taking proves an important part of this year's NPUC Children's Leadership Conference.

# + PICTURE THIS



Apple festival fun.

SEE PAGE

**20**



Young adult cohort begins.

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**29**

José wows the CLC.

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**5**





Apple pie for a good cause.

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A watery Pathfinder challenge.

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# IS YOUR BIBLE STILL THE KING'S SPEECH?

## + EDITOR'S NOTE

During this 500-year celebration of the beginnings of the Reformation, we've been reminded of the centrality of *sola scriptura* to our faith. Dependence upon God's Word is a key element to both our personal spiritual journeys and in guiding our collective mission as the Seventh-day Adventist Church. So suggestions from fellow believers that a Bible version you are reading is riddled with errors or that key passages have been omitted can be earthshaking. How can we have confidence that our primary source of truth, the Word of God, has been appropriately conveyed to us through fallible human language? Is our challenge found in reading different Bible versions or that we don't read the Bible, any Bible, at all? In the following feature, we welcome the observations of Alden Thompson, Walla Walla University professor of biblical studies and familiar friend to longtime *Gleaner* readers. Thompson references several common versions, but whether you get your Bible off the shelf or via a mobile app, the question is the same: Is your Bible still the King's speech? We invite additional perspectives from our readers at [talk@gleanernow.com](mailto:talk@gleanernow.com).

ALDEN THOMPSON

**THE EMAIL CAME FROM A DEVOUT BELIEVER WHO WAS ALARMED AT THE RUMOR THAT MODERN VERSIONS OF THE BIBLE HAD STRIPPED MORE THAN 64,000 WORDS FROM THE KING JAMES VERSION (KJV). SURELY THIS MUST BE A DEMONIC PLOT!**

If I didn't know something about how the Bible has come down to us, I too would find such a statistic troubling. And because the subject can be so volatile, pastors and scholars are often reluctant to "educate" the church. That's tragic. We don't need to add the Bible to the list of frightening things in our world.

Interestingly enough, the KJV translators themselves shed helpful light, not only on the translation process, but on the psychology of those who resist new translations. Read "The Translators to the Reader," the original preface to the 1611 KJV.<sup>1</sup> It's amazing.

In this article we will discuss the question of Bible translations in two parts. The first discusses "missing" words, showing that these omissions are simply human, not demonic, the result of God's willingness to place His precious words in "earthen vessels" (2 Corinthians 4:7).

The second part surveys modern translations to help you find a Bible that is both safe and helpful.



## PART 1: MISSING WORDS

The problem of missing words is actually rooted in the habits of devout scribes who didn't take words out of the Bible but actually added them — unconsciously, to be sure — as they copied biblical manuscripts by hand. Equally devout modern scholars are charged with the task of recovering the original manuscripts as far as possible. It is their God-given task to take out the additional words. These are the words that frightened people announce as “missing.”

Sometimes ancient scribes took dictation, sometimes they copied by sight. By comparing ancient manuscripts scholars can spot the errors. The scribes weren't wicked. They were simply human. Ironically, the more devout they were the more likely they would be to add words, simply by force of habit. Because of their deep piety, it was easy to write down what they already knew rather than what they heard or saw. Let's use the Lord's Prayer to illustrate.

Today, when we repeat the Lord's Prayer, we quote Matthew 6:9–13. Even though there is another version of the

Lord's Prayer in Luke 11:2–4, we never ask, “Which one?” Luke isn't even on our radar!

Now let's imagine a dedicated scribe who knows Matthew's version by heart but is assigned the task of copying Luke. Matthew's version is a bit longer and includes several phrases that are not in Luke. How do we know they don't belong in Luke? Because careful scholars have compared manuscripts and have discovered the phrases from Matthew that have sneaked into Luke quite unintentionally. Modern versions remove those lines that originally came from Matthew. “Demonic”? Not at all. These scholars are simply doing what their God-given task calls them to do.

To illustrate, let's look at the KJV of Luke 11:2–4, capitalizing all the words that came from Matthew and don't belong in Luke: “OUR FATHER WHICH ART IN HEAVEN, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. THY WILL BE DONE, AS IN HEAVEN, SO IN EARTH. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL.”

Note that all the additions are from Matthew. It's a devout but sleepy scribe

at work. We don't need to panic. We can even chuckle if we do so carefully, for KJV-only defenders are not likely to be amused. B.G. Wilkinson, for example, referred to the “mutilation” of Luke's version of the Lord's Prayer.<sup>2</sup> But “mutilation” isn't the right word once we understand what has happened.

Another example of “missing” words comes from the story of Saul on the Damascus Road, recorded three times in Acts (9:5, 22:7 and 26:14). The KJV rendition is memorable: “It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.” No translation includes these words in Acts 22:7, all translations include them in Acts 26:14. But in Acts 9:5, the KJV includes them while modern versions omit them. Why? Simply because the scribe remembered the words from 26:14 and slipped them into the narrative of 9:5 without realizing what he was doing. It's not demonic. It's simply another example of a serious but human scribe. Yet these words would likely be included in someone's list of 64,000 words left out of your Bible.

Note that with just two examples, we have accounted for 30 missing words: 20 from Luke's version of the Lord's Prayer and 10 from the account of Saul on the Damascus road in Acts 9:5.

One final example of “missing” words involves references to God. Earnest scribes, it seems, found it easy to slip an extra “God” or “Lord” into a passage. And once such a word appeared in a handwritten manuscript, it would not come out until a modern scholar compared manuscripts and discovered what was there originally. I will admit I don't like it when scholars take “Lord” or “God” out of a familiar passage. Even though I know they had good reasons for doing so, it still triggers a small earthquake in my soul. My favorite New Testament prayer, for example, is from the father of the epileptic boy: “Lord, I believe, help thou mine unbelief” (Mark 9:24). Modern versions drop the initial “Lord,” and it nearly ruins the prayer for me!

Scholars who have dropped this “Lord” out are neither wicked or mean. They are simply seeking to be faithful to their God-given task.

As a conclusion to Part 1 of this article and a bridge to Part 2, I refer to four points that the KJV translators made in their original preface, noted above. If modern KJV-only supporters would simply read that preface, it would open their eyes to the value of other translations. Here are the most intriguing points:

» *Nobody likes change, especially in connection with religion.* The translators noted that King James himself knew the danger of initiating a new translation, for “whoever attempts anything for the public, especially if it has to do with religion or with making the word of God accessible and understandable, sets himself up to be frowned upon by every evil eye and casts himself headlong on a row of pikes, to be stabbed by every sharp tongue. For meddling in any way with a people’s religion is meddling with their customs, with their inalienable rights. And although they may be dissatisfied with what they have, they cannot bear to have it altered.”<sup>3</sup>

» *God even used translations by heretics to serve His people.* Here the translators referred to Greek translations of the Old Testament produced by Symmachus and Theodotion, both “vile heretics.” The early Christians did not burn these translations but “published them openly to be considered and read by everyone.”<sup>6</sup>

With that encouragement from the King James translators, let’s explore the question of how to choose a good and safe Bible from among the many modern versions available today.

## PART 2: CHOOSING YOUR NEXT BIBLE

First, let’s consider three different ways we use our Bibles: the familiar, the devotional, the intellectual. Do you want one, two or three Bibles? Read on.

**1. The Heart’s Treasure — the Familiar.** For most, this means the KJV, and often in leather and thin paper. Because it is so familiar, some depend on it as a treasure

out to be understood and applied.

**2. Soul Food — the Devotional.** Not everyone separates the devotional from the intellectual. But many will know what I mean. Devotional reading moves us toward the gentle and the heartwarming and away from the technical, abstract, violent and strange.

A key factor in devotional effectiveness is culture gap. If the gulf is too wide, we simply set the Bible aside or save it for moments of “intellectual” study. Some stories (Ruth, for example) are so powerful they shout down the cultural oddities. And in a case like Psalm 23, the winsome Good Shepherd draws us in even if we don’t know much about sheep.

But usually, a passage is most effective devotionally when it doesn’t force us to grapple with culture. The love chapter, 1 Corinthians 13, for example, walks right into our hearts with no cultural hurdles to cross.

As for translations, some prefer the familiar, usually the KJV, though the NIV is gaining ground. Others want a modern paraphrase, such as J.B. Phillips’ *The New Testament in Modern English* or Eugene Peterson’s *The Message*. I still remember when we read Phillips at the breakfast table. The Apostle Paul himself seemed to be right there with us. It was a treat.

But reading the Bible is not just dessert; it’s also entree and vegetables. Devotional reading can keep us going day by day. But we also need the tougher stuff — and that calls for a good translation.

**3. Muscle Building — the Intellectual.** Muscles are not just for fun and good looks; they’re for daily work and major crises. Serious Bible study is like that. Much of Scripture is “embarrassingly clear,” as one of my teachers used to say. But much of it isn’t. That’s why we need help.

If devotional reading meets us in the comfort of our home, serious Bible study takes us into the jungle. There we puzzle over strange customs, hard words, awkward comparisons. By guiding us through this difficult terrain, the Spirit builds a bridge from the biblical world to our world, helping us apply old biblical

# WE DON'T NEED TO ADD THE BIBLE TO THE LIST OF FRIGHTENING THINGS IN OUR WORLD.

» *The translators were simply trying to make a good translation better.* “We never thought from the beginning that we should need to make a new translation, or even to make a bad one into a good one ... but to make a good one better, or out of many good ones to make one principle good one.”<sup>4</sup>

» *Even the worst translation is still God’s Word.* The King’s speech, said the translators, in whatever language or however poorly translated, “it is still the King’s speech.”<sup>5</sup> Application? God’s Word is still God’s Word.

trove of promises, an anchor in trouble: “I have always been able to feel security in the Bible,” wrote one of my students. “When I was scared or frightened as a kid I would sleep with it. I always felt safe then.” But though it contains the precious phrasings many of us have committed to memory over the years, the KJV is also often hard to understand, tempting us to use it as a family heirloom on the shelf, admired but not read.

The familiar is precious and valuable for many of us. But some also struggle to connect it with real life today. The Bible is more than an heirloom or anchor. It cries

principles in new circumstances.

The task is serious and requires a good translation. But we shouldn't worry too much about getting the wrong one. As the KJV translators said, whether translated brilliantly or poorly, the King's speech is "still the King's speech."

## WHAT MAKES A GOOD TRANSLATION?

The history of serious Bible translation begins late in the Old Testament era when translations of the Hebrew Old Testament began to appear in Greek. Then the early Christians quickly multiplied Bible translations, especially of the New Testament. They too worked mostly with Greek, not Hebrew. Jerome (d. 420 A.D.), the great translator of the Latin Bible, was the first Christian to master Hebrew — also the last for many centuries. In his eagerness to learn Hebrew he moved into a cave in the Syrian desert for several years and persuaded a converted Jew to teach him.

As Latin came to dominate medieval Europe, Greek joined Hebrew in scholarly exile. The Renaissance Italian poet Petrarch (d. 1374 A.D.) desperately wanted to learn Greek but searched in vain for someone to teach him.

But Latin ruled only in high culture. By the time of the Reformation, it was no longer the people's language. Scholars were eager to go back to the original languages and forward to the everyday language of the people. The result was revolutionary. The Reformation fueled a passion for new translations, and new translations fueled the Reformation.

In the last half of the 19th century a surge of interest in new translations was sparked by exciting manuscript discoveries and by the desire to update the often archaic King James Version. As a result, we now have an amazing selection of good Bibles based on good manuscripts.

So how does one sort out such wealth and choose the right Bible? Start with two questions: 1) Is it accurate? 2) Is it readable? Most other questions fall under those two.

## IS THE TRANSLATION ACCURATE?

Though accuracy and readability interact, accuracy comes first in a study Bible. The questions below should help.

**1. Translation style: "formal," "dynamic equivalent" or "paraphrase"?**  
Though every translation is a paraphrase in a sense, it's a matter of degree. We have no trouble identifying the extremes: A "literal" translation stands out clearly from one that seeks to be "free," a "paraphrase."

In translation jargon, "formal" style means a literal, one-to-one equivalent with the original. "Dynamic equivalent"

# OUR DIALOGUE OVER ENGLISH LANGUAGE VERSIONS OF THE BIBLE MUST SEEM ODD TO MANY LANGUAGE GROUPS GRATEFUL FOR JUST ONE READABLE COPY OF THE SCRIPTURES.

moves closer to paraphrase by translating the culture as well as the words. In Matthew 6:17, for example, the New American Standard Bible (NASB) is formal: "When you fast, anoint your head and wash your face." The Contemporary English Version (CEV) is dynamic: "comb your hair and wash your face" (today's joyful ascetic uses a comb, not oil). A "paraphrase" (here, *The Message*) moves further from the original: "Shampoo and comb your hair, brush your teeth...."

Put bluntly, a study Bible should be a formal translation. In my opinion, NASB is the best, though not as readable as some. KJV, New King James Version (NKJV), Revised Standard Version (RSV), English Standard Version (ESV) and New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) are all formal.

The New International Version (NIV) moves toward dynamic equivalent.

**2. Single translator or a committee?** All good translations, including the KJV, have been produced by committees of 50–60 scholars. The result is standard, but not exciting. The one-author versions — Phillips and Eugene Peterson's *Message* — can be stimulating, but they're not study Bibles. In at least one case, however, a popular but sometimes erratic one-person translation — Kenneth Taylor's *Living Bible* — has been transformed into a well-done committee version, *The New Living Translation* (NLT).

**3. Translation of ambiguous passages?** Though clarity may seem preferable to ambiguity, working with ambiguity (and there's enough in Scripture to go around)





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+ +  
+ +  
+ +

# THE KING'S SPEECH

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alden Thompson is a professor of biblical studies at Walla Walla University.

builds spiritual muscle. Here the formal translation shines, preserving the ambiguity so that modern readers face the same God-given puzzles as the original readers did.

In Revelation 1:1, for example, “revelation of Jesus Christ” is ambiguous in both English and Greek. Is the revelation about Jesus, from Jesus, belonging to Jesus? Dynamic translations tend to resolve the ambiguity: CEV, “This is what God showed to Jesus Christ”; NLT, “This is a revelation from Jesus Christ”; *Message*, “A revealing of Jesus.” A good study Bible keeps the ambiguity.

**4. Gender inclusiveness?** “Gender inclusiveness” is an issue that won’t go away. It means using neutral words when the context suggests that both genders are intended. Philippians 4:8 in the KJV reads: “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true . . .” The NRSV is inclusive: “Finally,

beloved . . .” Many major committee translations are now inclusive: NRSV, CEV, NLT and NIV. Some are not: NASB, NKJV and ESV.

It’s worth noting the KJV was already selectively inclusive in 1611. I like to ask believers to complete Matthew 5:9: “Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called . . .” KJV people say “children of God” (inclusive). NASB, ESV and NKJV users say “sons of God” (noninclusive). The Greek word is the word for “sons.” But the KJV translators rightly sensed the inclusive purpose. They did the same in the Old Testament. “Children of Israel” is their inclusive version of the Hebrew “sons of Israel.” Gender-inclusive versions usually footnote their adaptations, thus preserving their usefulness as a study Bible.

## IS A TRANSLATION READABLE?

Finally, readability. Some simply call formal translations accurate and dynamic ones readable. That’s partly true. Certainly the paraphrases are more exciting and provocative. If one can treat them more like commentaries (and less like translations) they can be useful instead of dangerous.

In the end, however, I do want to stay close to what the inspired writers actually said. That means a formal translation. I use the NRSV. It’s formal, in the familiar KJV tradition, and inclusive — increasingly important in our gender-sensitive age.

What I really want, however, is the best of both worlds: formal and dynamic.

So I dream of a parallel Bible with the formal NASB — probably the best study Bible — alongside the dynamic CEV. The CEV was published in 1995, the first English Bible to be written for the ear, not the eye. It reads well out loud and is often good for memorization. Sometimes it’s too free. But that’s OK. I have other translations.

Truthfully, our dialogue over English language versions of the Bible must seem odd to many language groups grateful for just one readable copy of the Scriptures.

So even if no single Bible translation will ever be just right, none of us will likely take the time to make our own. I realize I haven’t touched on some of the more recent options available on mobile device apps, but nevertheless, my advice to you is the same I give myself. Pick a good Bible, pick several. And may God grant us the grace to say with Jeremiah that God’s Word is the “joy and rejoicing” of our hearts (Jeremiah 15:16, KJV).

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4. *Ibid.*, p. 81.
5. *Ibid.*, p. 78.
6. *Ibid.*, p. 79.

## A SELECT LIST OF BIBLE TRANSLATIONS

**KJV** — KING JAMES VERSION, FORMAL EQUIVALENT, SELECTIVELY GENDER-INCLUSIVE

**NKJV** — NEW KING JAMES VERSION, FORMAL EQUIVALENT, NOT GENDER-INCLUSIVE

**NASB** — NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE, FORMAL EQUIVALENT, NOT GENDER-INCLUSIVE

**RSV** — REVISED STANDARD VERSION, FORMAL EQUIVALENT, SELECTIVELY GENDER-INCLUSIVE

**ESV** — ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION, FORMAL EQUIVALENT, NOT GENDER-INCLUSIVE

**NRSV** — NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION, FORMAL EQUIVALENT, GENDER-INCLUSIVE

**NIV** — NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION, DYNAMIC EQUIVALENT, GENDER-INCLUSIVE (SINCE 2011)

**NLT** — NEW LIVING TRANSLATION, DYNAMIC EQUIVALENT, GENDER-INCLUSIVE, A WELL-DONE COMMITTEE REVISION OF KENNETH TAYLOR’S *LIVING BIBLE*

**TEV/GNB** — TODAY’S ENGLISH VERSION/GOOD NEWS

BIBLE, SIMPLE VOCABULARY, SELECTIVELY GENDER-INCLUSIVE

**CEV** — CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH VERSION, DYNAMIC EQUIVALENT, GENDER-INCLUSIVE

**MESSAGE** — (EUGENE PETERSON) DYNAMIC EQUIVALENT, GENDER-INCLUSIVE

**PHILLIPS** — DYNAMIC EQUIVALENT, NOT GENDER-INCLUSIVE

## TODO MIEMBRO INVOLUCRADO

**E**

l logo de TMI en la foto abajo significa “Todo Miembro Involucrado;” es un impulso

evangelístico de escala mundial que involucra a cada miembro, cada iglesia, cada entidad administrativa, cada tipo de ministerio de alcance público, alcance personal e institucional.

En el presente el departamento Hispano de Upper Columbia Conference está trabajando en colaboración con el Departamento de Escuela Sabática de la Conferencia General para entrenar y equipar a nuestra hermandad a fin de preparar al mundo para la segunda venida de Cristo en gloria y majestad. El Pastor Alejandro Bullón ha preparado un material de

apoyo que será entregado sin costo a todos los hermanos que deseen recibir el entrenamiento el día del campestre.

El entrenamiento de TMI se llevará a cabo en el campestre de invierno el sábado 13 de enero de 9 a.m. a 5 p.m. en Faith Assembly en Pasco, Wash., con los oradores invitados: Coordinador de TMI Doctor Pr. Ramón Canals y el presidente de la Unión del Pacífico Norte, Pastor John Freedman.

¿Qué puedes hacer?

¡Todo el mundo puede hacer algo para acelerar la venida de Jesús! “No tenemos tiempo que perder. Cada momento es dorado y demasiado precioso para dedicarse simplemente a servirse así mismo.”

Tu puedes:

Orar por el avance del

Evangelio en áreas de difícil acceso en el mundo.

Orar por la fortaleza en nombre de los trabajadores que actualmente están sirviendo.

Orar para que Dios nos muestre cómo trabajar en Su viña en forma efectiva.

Apoyar la Radio Mundial Adventista, Hope TV, la Voz de la Profecía u otras escuelas bíblicas, para que su trabajo pueda continuar por las ondas radiales o televisivas.

Apoyar y orar por la Misión Adventista y trabajadores indígenas en áreas no alcanzadas.

Participar en eventos locales e institucionales de divulgación del mensaje, tales como exposiciones de salud, o

eventos de Pathway to Health.

Involúcrate en una clase de escuela sabática, o hogar iglesia, evangelización en la iglesia.

Puedes ser voluntario en un evento local de Servicio Comunitario, Compassion o proyecto ADRA.

Organiza un seminario de salud, un grupo pequeño, un estudio bíblico o series evangelísticas en tu hogar usando el DVD *New Beginnings*.

Ayuda con proyectos de servicio comunitario de niños, jóvenes o de Pathfinder; etc.

“La obra de Dios en esta tierra nunca podrá ser terminada hasta que los hombres y mujeres que componen nuestra membresía en la iglesia se unan a la obra y unan su esfuerzo con los de los ministros y los oficiales de la iglesia” (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 9, pag. 116).

Traducido de [tmi.adventist.org/about-us](http://tmi.adventist.org/about-us).

Walter Pintos, Upper Columbia Conference Hispanic ministries coordinator



# ADVENTURES IN THE ROUTINE

Over the years, people often tell me they want to do something significant for God. They don't feel their lives have made an impact in the way they hear in mission stories or evangelism reports. They feel they have not done enough to advance the kingdom and would like the adventure of doing something great for Jesus.

I used to feel the same way. Until I came to Alaska — the land of adventure, the Last Frontier. When I first arrived, all I could think of was the adventure of living and ministering in this legendary place. But after I moved here, I realized the land of adventure was full of the same routines just like anywhere else. Even more amazing, the people who live here told me they wanted to do something great for God because they did not feel like they were making an impact in their lives.

It got me thinking about what Jesus really asks of us. He certainly wants us to do great things for His kingdom. After all, He instructs us to make disciples out of the whole world, but every minute of every day of every week is not filled with adventures. The minutes tick away in everyday living. I have come to understand it's in our daily



Kevin Miller is the Alaska Conference president.

lives where the adventures begin and the great things take shape. It's being faithful in these seemingly small and incidental chores that build the foundations to conquer the world.

When I do get away from my routines to go visit our pastors and mission volunteers in the bush of Alaska, this point is driven home to me again and again. Whether it's replacing heaters in the Gambell parsonage, replacing the septic system in Bethel or fixing a wrecked four-wheeler in Togiak, the mundane must get accomplished to support the efforts of taking the gospel to these remote places.

The pastors and mission volunteers who live and minister here know what it means to plug away in these routines while bringing Jesus to those who watch them live it out. Paul and Joan Marlow, in the midst of heater issues,

provided the families of their village handheld radios so their neighbors could hear the broadcasts of the little FM station in Gambell. Vecous and Loretta Waite in Bethel, in the midst of septic issues, organized a special concert for the village in preparation for prophecy seminars to their community. Tony and Airen Sherman spent seven years in Shungnak living, helping and growing friendships in that community. Living and working in rural Alaska is an adventure full of routines.

These are only a few of the examples of people I can share with you who live the adventure of Jesus in the midst of everyday life. We all have our routines, but we can faithfully do them and build the foundations of great adventures. Many people support the bush adventure, known more formally as the Arctic Mission Adventure, through their prayers, financial support and even taking part in a short adventure to help with projects. It takes all of us "routine people" to carry out something as extraordinary as the Arctic Mission Adventure. Ask Christ Jesus to help you faithfully carry out the routines and see what kind of adventures He will bring your way.

*Kevin Miller, Alaska Conference president*

## 2018 ALASKA CONFERENCE CALENDAR

### JAN. 25

K-12 Board of Education

### JAN. 26

Arctic Mission Training

### JAN. 27 AND 28

Elders Training

### JAN. 28

Alaska Executive Committee

### FEB. 1-4

Pastors and Teachers Meetings

### FEB. 23-25

Nome Camp Meeting

### MARCH 9-11

Bristol Bay Camp Meeting

### MARCH 23-25

Bethel Camp Meeting

### APRIL 20-22

Youth Prayer Conference (ages 13-18)

### MAY 25-27

Pathfinder Camporee at Pioneer Peak Camp (Palmer)

### MAY 31

K-12 Board of Education

### JUNE 3

Alaska Executive Committee

### JUNE 15-17

Interior Camp Meeting

### JUNE 24-JULY 1

Alaska Camps Polaris\*

\*Alaska Camps dates are subject to change

## NORTH CAROLINA STUDENTS SUPPORT ARCTIC MISSIONS

Recently the Alaska Conference received letter and a \$1,500 donation from the Five Oaks Adventist Christian School in Durham, N.C., for the support of Arctic Missionary Volunteer Elouise Hawkes. The church school students, along with other children from the Five Oaks Church, participated in a bike-a-thon fundraiser, a part of which went to supporting Hawkes' work in Savoonga, Alaska. This small village of about 800 Native Alaskans lies close to the Arctic Circle, at the northeast tip of St. Lawrence Island, just off the coast of Siberia.

Bill and Elouise Hawkes left their family, children and home church in Durham in 2008 to be volunteer missionaries in a village that had little or no missionary presence for more than 20 years. Both were recently retired nurses who chose to minister to this village of Siberian Eskimos.

An integral part of their ministry to the village has been Elouise's work with the children. For example, at Christmas she brought the



Elouise Hawkes

community together with a program featuring pageantry with the local children. The program was a huge hit in the village; the church was packed with people waiting to get in. Savoonga Church's 25 members were excited to see such support for the church.

The Hawkeses had to return to North Carolina, where Bill had a surgical procedure. While recuperating nicely, Bill passed away unexpectedly in February 2016. Though left without her life companion, Elouise returned to her little parsonage and remains committed to ministering to and meeting the needs of the people in Savoonga

*Brenda Campbell Johnson, Alaska Conference communication director*

Five Oaks school and church children prepare to start the bike-a-thon fundraiser, a part of which supported the Arctic Mission.



The JunEAU Bears Pathfinders Club attend the 2017 NPUC Pathfinder Camporee in Twin Falls, Idaho.

## JUNEAU PATHFINDERS EXPERIENCE CAMPOREE BLESSINGS

They almost missed out. JunEAU Church members almost lost the chance for three young Pathfinders to publicly choose to follow Jesus, but, by God's grace, they experienced His blessings.

As the only Pathfinder club from Alaska at the 2017 North Pacific Union Conference Pathfinder Camporee in Twin Falls, Idaho, the JunEAU Black Bears were thrilled to represent the Alaska Conference. They received special greetings and attention from other Pathfinders around the Pacific Northwest.

Uncertain about the expenses and preparations of having nine Pathfinders and five adults travel from JunEAU to Twin Falls, the club forged ahead in prayer and perseverance and decided to attend the camporee. Despite having occasional misgivings, the Pathfinders and their leaders trusted that God would help in all things. As a result, God provided:

- » Support from the JunEAU Church;
- » Financial donations and Alaska Airlines companion passes;
- » Safe travel by airplane

- and minivans to and from Twin Falls;
- » Awesome host club in the Golden Eagle Pathfinders of Idaho;
- » Exuberant speaker in Bill Kilgore with his miraculous "BLOOP" (ask a Pathfinder who attended);
- » Examples in Daniel of his commitment to prayer and standing firm in his faith;
- » Honors such as Dutch oven cooking, blacksmithing and orienteering;
- » Natural beauty of Shoshone Falls;
- » Historical lessons at Minidoka Internment Camp;
- » Three young Pathfinders who publicly chose to follow Jesus;
- » Total of nine young Pathfinders who now hold treasured memories of God's love.

The JunEAU Pathfinder staff look forward to having more Pathfinders choose to follow Jesus and sharing more memories with other Pathfinders in the future, whether at a camporee or in heaven.

*Danny Kim, JunEAU Church Pathfinder director*

# MERIDIAN LAUNCHES GOD'S CLOSET, OVERWHELMED BY RESPONSE

**W**hen Meridian Church pastor Michael Pearson encouraged his church members to prayerfully consider developing acts of kindness projects to reach people in their community, church treasurer Beverly Logan had an idea: *Maybe we should organize a God's Closet.*

A local church community services initiative started by lay members in 2009 and supported by North American Division (NAD) Adventist Community Services (ACS), God's Closet is gaining momentum and being embraced by local churches divisionwide.

Logan heard about the program some years earlier.

When Pearson offered to provide \$100 from special church evangelism funds to jumpstart acts of kindness projects, Logan decided it was time to step out in faith.

"God's Closet seemed like something our 75-member church could handle," Logan says. "We could use the \$100 as seed money to cover expenses. It was the incentive to get started."

God's Closet is a "shopping" event held four times a year for those in need of children's clothing, shoes and bedding. Church members as well as people and organizations in the community donate children's clothes, which volunteers then gather and sort. On event days, families in the



Tables full of children's clothes are ready for customers.

community pay \$1 to shop for children's clothes. Logan promoted the event using Facebook.

"It just went like wildfire," she says. "I would wake up in the morning and have 20 or 30 messages posted during the night asking about the program and wanting to donate clothes. It was very effective."

Logan plus Meridian Church members Carolyn Curtis and Pat Britzius comprised the three-person core group that organized the first Meridian God's Closet, held at the church Sept. 22. They were assisted by God's Closet founder Merryl Moore. Although they admit the turnout exceeded their expectations and the amount of clothes available, they all deemed the event a success.

"People came from all over the Treasure Valley and were so appreciative of what we were doing," Curtis says. "We were filling a real need, and it was an honor to be able to share with them what other

people had donated and shared with us."

Britzius agrees and describes the event as a "fun way" to help the community.

"Being a mom myself I understand how difficult it is to keep kids in clothes, and many of the people who came are living below poverty level. I believe we were doing God's work," she shares.

Maitland DiPinto, NAD ACS director for community engagement, describes God's Closet as a ministry with a lot of potential. "It's simple, it's straightforward, it has a big impact on the community, it gets men and women from all age groups involved, and it doesn't cost very much to run," he says. "It has all the earmarks of something very meaningful that a lot of our churches could do."

Most importantly, DiPinto adds, God's Closet builds relationships.

*Sandra Blackmer, Meridian Church communication leader*



A woman and her children look through boys' jackets.

## MEA STUDENTS WORK FOR WARMTH

Several students and staff from Mount Ellis Academy (MEA) in Bozeman recently teamed up with church members from the community to reach out to the local homeless population. Being homeless in Montana is not the easiest. The winter months get bitterly cold, and one can often find homeless men, women and even children standing on a street corner with cardboard signs asking for help.

The Human Resource Development Council of Bozeman has worked to help meet the need of these families and individuals by providing a warming shelter for the homeless along with some other basic necessities. The warming center completely relies on donations to continue operation.

MEA students and other volunteers set out one sunny



Community member Shelly Nystrom and Eduarda Santos, sophomore, pose while collecting donations.

but chilly afternoon to stand on the street corners in teams and hold signs like “Keep our homeless warm,” “No one freezes in my backyard” and “Donate to the warming center today.” After two and a half hours, the teams gathered and took the donation buckets to the warming center for counting and to get a tour.



Cayden Frazier, freshman, and Rochelle Hold, senior, wave signs.

Last year, the warming center provided 4,891 stays and served 200 people. Students were delighted to be able to see where the money they raised was going and how it was going to help.

Tristyn, a freshman, enthusiastically shared how excited she was that she could help, saying, “That was amazing. I just kept thinking that it could be anyone standing out there. Me, my family, anyone. Praise God for helping us raise that money.”

When all was said and done, MEA students helped to raise an incredible \$12,007. Two Brazilian students, Maiara

and Eduarda, were shocked and surprised when one passer-by handed them a donation check for \$10,000. They could hardly contain their excitement as they shared their story.

The staff at the warming center were overwhelmed by and grateful for the positive response and success of the MEA students, who tangibly lived out the school’s mission “to serve in His kingdom.”

*Michael Lee, Mount Ellis Academy principal*



More photos online at [glnr.in/112-12-mt\\_mea](http://glnr.in/112-12-mt_mea)



The entire Mount Ellis Academy group along with community members celebrate the funds raised.

gnt+

Stay in touch with the latest news, video links, calendar events, photo galleries, past issues and more at [gleanernow.com](http://gleanernow.com)



## MILO ADDS FREE-RANGE EGGS TO AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

**A** generous friend of Milo Adventist Academy in Days Creek donated approximately 350 chicks to Milo's agriculture program. According to Jeff Birth, Milo's agriculture director, in addition to providing eggs for the cafeteria, the now-grown chickens provide assistance with pest management in the gardens and accelerate the compost operation.

Milo's all-organic and non-GMO agriculture program, now in its third year, benefits from the free-range chickens that live in the orchard, eating insects that could damage the fruit and providing fertilizer for the trees.

Birth reports, "Kids are enthralled with the process. They never knew that eggs come in different sizes or that sometimes they are deformed, like an egg with two yolks. They're learning to sort for size, clean and prepare the eggs, and work around feisty hens."

Junior Kat Brus has had a positive experience working



JEFF BIRTH

Cody Evans, KarrLee Miller, Dylan George and Angelina LaRiccia show the variety of colors of eggs.

with the chickens. "You just roll the hen to the side and take the egg," she says.

"They all have different personalities," freshman KarrLee Miller adds. "Some are kind of mean, and some are really friendly."

The students collect 200 or more eggs per day, which surpasses the needs of the cafeteria. Birth says, "We've exchanged the cheapest factory eggs for wholesome cage-free, soon-to-be-free-range eggs. Our goal is to sell to the community at our produce stand within the next six months."

"I don't have to buy eggs anymore, and you can't beat fresh eggs," says Janrry Telah, Milo's executive chef.

For more information about Milo's agriculture program, email [jeff.birth@miloacademy.org](mailto:jeff.birth@miloacademy.org).

*Kathy Hernandez, Milo Adventist Academy teacher and recruiter*



JEFF BIRTH

Students enjoy learning about and working with the hens.

+ More photos online at [glnr.in/112-12-or\\_milo](http://glnr.in/112-12-or_milo)

## CAA CHAPEL HIGHLIGHTS QUALITY STUDENTS

**C**olumbia Adventist Academy (CAA) in Battle Ground, Wash., is blessed to have an increase in the number of students this year but as we all know, "it's quality, not quantity." This truism is supported by biblical stories like Gideon and the small gathering in the upper room prior to Pentecost with the ensuing outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Recently, CAA's chapel highlighted two of many quality students. National Honor Society member Hayden Sherrill is a senior who enjoys academics, sports, videography, leadership and being actively involved in spiritual activities, especially drama. His recognition could have been in any one of those areas, but it was his PSAT scores that led to his receiving a National Merit Scholar commendation. Principal Gene Heinrich awarded him his certificate, recognizing his academic excellence.

Jazmine Shepard, known by her friends as Jazzy, is also

a senior and multitasking, enjoying academics, sports and leadership. She has held many class offices and spends much of her time practicing épée (fencing) and traveling to tournaments, often on the East Coast. In October, Shepard won the gold medal in the Women's Division I Tournament. "It was really fun as that's the best result I've had to this point," she says. Heinrich announced her accomplishment to the student body in chapel and showed a video of Shepard's final competition.

Heinrich concluded the awards by sharing that two other seniors, Nick Squires and Garret Cocklin, had been awarded soccer scholarships following the recent Walla Walla University Friendship Tournament.

*Larry Hiday, CAA Gleaner correspondent*

+ More photos online at [glnr.in/112-12-or\\_caa](http://glnr.in/112-12-or_caa)



CAA principal Gene Heinrich announces Jazmine Shepard's fencing accomplishment.

## RIVERSIDE HOSTS APPLE FESTIVAL

The 27th annual Riverside Christian School Apple Festival was held in Washougal, Wash., on Oct. 8. Church members and school families volunteered for weeks to prepare for the largest school fundraiser of the year.

The volunteers spent two Sundays in October making pies and dumplings. They

to kick off fall in a festive way. Crowds poured in, visiting the 36 vendors selling local goods. The apple pies and famous apple dumplings sold out by 2 p.m.

Young and old alike had fun trying out the apple slingshot and the Nerf gun shooting gallery. Kids enjoyed pony rides, face painting and balloon art, as well as sweet treats and a

festival. The entire school is so thankful to the community for their support. A local farm allowed volunteers to pick the apples off the ground for the apple slingshot game. Another local business donated 100 pumpkins as decorations.

In an interview with a local reporter about the event, Heidi Kruger, Riverside Christian School principal, said, “The Apple Festival is a wonderful thing for the students and community at Riverside. Everybody gets involved, whether they are helping sell the apples, organizing games for the kids, participating in the pie-eating contest or serving hot apple pie. It is such a good way to get everybody involved.”

When asked later in the interview what was her favorite thing about Riverside, Kruger smiled and said, “The kids. What we do here — everything — it’s all about the kids.”

Kruger also said that “75 percent of the funds go back into the classrooms to help the students and enrich their

opportunities with technology like iPads and SMART Boards. Some of the funds are going to our outdoor education area and summer camp. Twenty-five percent of it goes into financial aid to help enable more students to attend here and get a Christian education.”

After a few days off, Riverside staff and volunteers started preparing for the school’s other large event — the spring school auction, which will be in April.

For more information about Riverside Christian School, visit [riversidesch.com](http://riversidesch.com).

*Julie Natiuk, Riverside Christian School home and school leader*

+ More photos online at [glnr.in/112-12-or\\_riverside](http://glnr.in/112-12-or_riverside)



baked and froze more than 800 dumplings and 300 pies that were available for pick-up before and on the day of the festival.

On the day of, they served pies and dumplings hot out of the oven with ice cream. As in the past, all pies and dumplings sold out.

With gorgeous weather, more than 1,500 people came

to a jumpy castle.

Camas-Washougal Fire brought a firetruck for the kids to enjoy. The pie-eating contest is a favorite tradition, and this year’s contest did not disappoint.

As part of the community service outreach program, students visited local businesses and handed out posters advertising for the upcoming



## PAA UNPLUGS FROM MEDIA

**P**ortland Adventist Academy media and persuasion (MP) students are asking tough questions about how screens are shaping their generation and how they can be different.

As digital natives, most teenagers don't know a life without convenience and entertainment at their fingertips. But to examine their media habits, the MP students, all seniors, chose to fast from screen-media for four days. They called their project-based learning (PBL) "PAA Unplugged." More than 40 students and staff participated.

The PBL assignment began with researching on the pros and cons of media; they paid special attention on the



"I loved the fast," says Shaianne Willis-Brown. "I want to do it again, even by myself." Seniors Willis-Brown (left) and River Neil get their smartphones back after a four-day media fast.

problems of over-consuming media. Students conducted personal screen-media audits to assess their habits. Later, they collaboratively designed the guidelines and rules around PAA Unplugged.

Sean Kootsey, PAA MP teacher, was impressed by the students' careful and creative planning. "Our media fast had a far-reaching effect not only on these students, but on parents, on us as teachers and the entire PAA community," says Kootsey. Teachers supported the fast by accommodating students not able to use email or computers. Parents and siblings served as alarm clocks and messengers. Nonfasting friends and family agreed to keep their phones out of view.

"The hardest part for me was planning on how to get home after school," says senior Shaianne Willis-Brown.

"There are endless studies, documentaries and experts that discuss and analyze media exposure and usage and its effects on us," says Kootsey, who is proud of his students for taking the PBL to a deeper level. "They could have simply removed screens for the 'shock value.' But they focused on 'filling the void' by proactively planning positive things to replace screen time and by bringing awareness to the issue as leaders in our PAA community."

Kootsey believes Adven-



PAA seniors crowd around Sean Kootsey to reunite with their smartphones after a four-day media fast.

tist education has something unique to offer. "Our school exists to provide experiences that build Christ-centered and character-driven young people," he points out. PAA Unplugged is one of those experiences.

"I loved the fast, and I want to do it again, even by myself," says Willis-Brown. "I loved feeling free of distractions in my life."

"One of the greatest benefits I found was how much easier it was to fall asleep at night because my brain had already had time to process my day," says Steve Lemke, PAA Bible teacher. "I'll definitely be doing this again."

Even in a time without screens, Jesus showed us the value of unplugging. He retreated from the crowds and His work to refocus and recharge. "It is my hope," says Kootsey, "that the contrast of these four days helped each of us to assess what we are focused on."

For the full PAA story with photo gallery, go to [paasda.org](http://paasda.org).

*Liesl Vistaunet, PAA Gleaner correspondent*

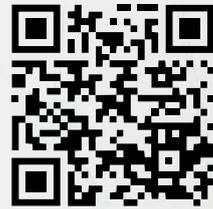
More photos online at [glnr.in/112-12-or\\_paa](http://glnr.in/112-12-or_paa)



Students and staff lined up to publicly place their phones in a box that was locked for the four-day media fast.



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## OREGON PATHFINDERS TAKE ON PATHFINDER CHALLENGE

**T**his fall some Oregon kids returned to school telling of their adventures at the Pathfinder Challenge, which was held the first weekend of August at an old timber farm in Sweet Home, Ore.

Rod Bardell, Willamette District coordinator and owner of the timber farm, allowed the Oregon Conference Pathfinders to camp there for an event that challenges Pathfinders to learn new skills in a way that benefits others. In this way they are learning service for Christ because they can use these practical and problem-solving skills to help others in their daily lives and open up new opportunities to



Team Meadow Glade builds a latch bridge.

share the gospel.

Bob and Connie Gaede, teen event coordinators for the Oregon Conference, started the Pathfinder Challenge 16 years ago as a way to reach kids who want that little extra challenge of their skills and abilities. Today Bob has a team of 11 Pathfinder leaders who come together every year to brainstorm a challenge for the kids who want to go above and beyond what they have learned in their Pathfinder honor classes.

With the offer of the timber farm, a logging theme became the idea for this year's Pathfinder Challenge. Pathfinders arrived Friday for evening worship and started their Sabbath with introductions and sharing stories of their own Christian walks. The next morning they started the day with worship thoughts of pioneers of faith from the Bible and the challenge to tell their teammates stories of pioneers of faith they remember.

Then came the long-awaited challenges. Through the "Timber!" challenge, teams learned the old ways of measuring a tree height using a stick and then checking their answers using a clinometer. With that measurement they found a safe place to have the tree fall.



The water log challenge required Pathfinders to move logs across a lake.

In another challenge, Pathfinders learned the da Vinci bridge model and proceeded to build bridges held together by leverage and gravity alone. During "Picture Perfect Pioneers" they dressed up as pioneer loggers and took pictures with a 12-foot, two-man saw.

By mid-Sabbath Pathfinders were instructed to push a log of their choice across a lake and to create a log jam in the middle of the lake for a devotional time together.

As Sabbath was coming to an end Taylor Kielman challenged everyone to be a pioneer for the gospel like Paul, who looked to Jesus' self-sacrificing life, death, resurrection and heavenly mission.

During Sunday morning's

"Trail Blazing Pathfinders!" challenge, Pathfinders were challenged to use what they had learned to make a path through the forest, including two log bridges to cross streams.

These Pathfinders were inspired by the life of Christ and by pioneers who came before them to face with courage everyday challenges and to make a path for others.

*Marion Pielaet, Whipple Creek Church member*



More photos online at [glnr.in/112-12-or\\_pathfinders](http://glnr.in/112-12-or_pathfinders)

Happiness is being at the camporee with the Kennewick group.



DANIEL JEFFREY

## PATHFINDERS REAP A HARVEST OF SOULS

**W**hat do kids miss if your church doesn't have a Pathfinder club? The answer came to Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) in a flood recently.

Every year a church (or five) struggles with whether or not they will offer club ministries to the young people in their congregation for the coming season. The reasons for the questions vary from losing key staff members to actually questioning whether they want to support the club model of ministry.

More and more UCC churches are realizing that Pathfinders is an evangelistic and discipling tool they don't want to be without. This year's prayers for more clubs have been answered with three new Adventurer clubs starting and six new Pathfinder clubs coming online.

The Pathfinder year had

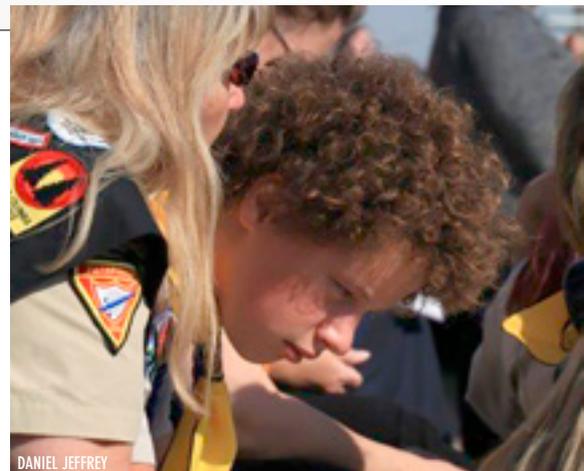
barely begun when it was time for the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) Camporee in Twin Falls, Idaho. Twenty-three clubs and 329 UCC Pathfinders plus their leaders made the drive to the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds. A rich spiritual feast awaited them, as well as exciting activities like blacksmithing, fun exploration of local history and trails, and meeting new friends from around the union.

Bill Kilgore, from Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Texas, held the Pathfinders spellbound as he led them through the stories of Daniel and his friends — encouraging the group with the words, “If you won't bow and you don't bend, then you won't burn.”

Saturday night Kilgore closed the weekend with an appeal to the Pathfinders to commit their lives to Jesus.

More than a thousand Pathfinders and staff poured out of the bleachers to accept Jesus as Savior, make decisions for baptism and renew the commitments they had already made. Groups of young people and staff bowed their heads together in prayer as heaven drew near to celebrate this moment of eternal significance.

This is what kids miss when they don't have access to a Pathfinder club. The mission of club ministries in Upper Columbia Conference is “The Salvation of His kids.” Adventurer and Pathfinder clubs partner with parents and churches to “mentor, model, equip and call” children and young people for the purpose



DANIEL JEFFREY

Pathfinders make decisions to be baptized and renew their commitment to Jesus.

of leading them to make personal decisions to follow Jesus. Then these energetic believers are invited to join Jesus in His mission to reach the world.

At this year's NPUC camporee, 173 Upper Columbia Pathfinders chose to follow Jesus, 41 made decisions to prepare for baptism, and, most importantly, 138 renewed their commitments to continue pursuing a relationship with Jesus.

Want information on starting a life-transforming club in your church? Contact the Upper Columbia Conference club ministries department at [pathfinders@uccsda.org](mailto:pathfinders@uccsda.org).

*Richie Brower, Upper Columbia Conference associate director of youth and family life*



DANIEL JEFFREY

Pathfinders present themselves for morning inspection.

## DISCUSSIONS, TEXTING INSPIRE UCA WEEK OF PRAYER TOPICS

Upper Columbia Academy (UCA) in Spangle, Wash., experienced week of prayer in October presented by Jason Calvert, youth pastor of the Kettering Church in Ohio. Eric Johnson, UCA principal, led staff in morning prayers asking God to bless the students and Calvert during these special opportunities to connect with Christ.

Students heard stories and watched Calvert illustrate spiritual lessons twice daily. Additionally, class conversations and anonymous texting allowed students to share. “I want to talk to you about the issues you’re struggling with or are interested in,” Calvert told the students. “I want you to know that I’m going through your questions and figuring out how best to address [them].” This approach brought up topics on relationships, the Second Coming, confusing Bible stories and what it means to give your life to God.

Heard repeatedly were comments similar to one made by a sophomore girl: “I really liked the speaker. He had a way of connecting with us and saying stuff that makes sense.”

During vespers, UCA Bible teacher Fred Riffel baptized a student who decided during Senior Survival to rededicate his life to Christ. This student

invited anyone interested in being baptized to stand up front with him as part of his baptism, echoing the theme of Calvert and UCA that being real with Jesus is vital in our walk with Christ.

The final message Calvert shared at the regular church service was envisioning heaven and why he imagined collapsing at the feet of Jesus. Prayers continue at UCA that students make decisions leading them closer to Christ and that they will claim the grace that makes heaven possible for all.

*Brisa Ramirez, Upper Columbia Academy communication taskforce worker*



Upper Columbia Academy experienced a week of prayer presented by Jason Calvert, youth pastor of Ohio's Kettering Church.

More photos online at [glnr.in/112-12-uc\\_uca](http://glnr.in/112-12-uc_uca)



Cast and crew from “Easy Street?” includes Mick Dunnewin, Konrad Szallows-Farkas, Cami Martin, Tanner Martin, Ken LeBrun, Shahbaz Bakhshnia and Simon Bakhshnia.

## KETTLE FALLS DEVELOPS VIDEO EVANGELISM

“I don’t do door to door cold turkey. There has to be other ways to reach people,” Mick Dunnewin of Kettle Falls, Wash., stated. “But what can I do?”

Realizing you can reach the world today through media and technology and in an effort to find other ways to witness using his skills and passion for doing videos, Dunnewin gathered a small team together, including Ken LeBrun and Shahbaz Bakhshnia, to make short evangelistic videos. Their first production is called “Into the Looking Glass.” Their video “Easy Street?” is nearing completion

Through his study of the Scriptures, Spirit of Prophecy

and other writings, Dunnewin is trying creative ways for reaching people with the gospel. So far the response has been very positive. Encouraged by this response, Dunnewin and his team are inspired to create more videos on subjects such as the state of the dead, the rapture, faith and works, the Sabbath, and other fundamental beliefs.

His goal is to make feature-length films that share the gospel using biblical truth. He is also looking into making a documentary with Bakhshnia on how to reach Muslims and another documentary with LeBrun on his Daniel and Revelation series.

The videos are available on YouTube.

*Nancy Dunnewin, Kettle Falls Church member*



Terry Martin plays the old man in “Easy Street?”

More photos online at [glnr.in/112-12-uc\\_video](http://glnr.in/112-12-uc_video)

## CCA MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN WENATCHEE

Cascade Christian Academy (CCA) in Wenatchee, Wash., participated in Make a Difference Day on Oct. 26 with projects for all students in kindergarten through 12th grade.

Some of the projects they were involved in included:

- » Volunteer chore services



CCA fourth- and fifth-graders visited Blossom Valley and enjoyed talking and singing with the residents.

with home and yard projects for disabled/senior adults;

- » Light house cleanup;
- » “Sleep Tight” project to make fleece blankets for foster/shelter children;
- » Singing for elderly people;
- » Making Christmas stockings for foster children through CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates);
- » Camp Zanika fall cleanup.

CCA was awarded a \$200 grant toward blankets and Christmas stocking materials for 2017 Make a Difference Day. This grant was made possible through *USA Weekend*



Cascade Christian Academy students spent the day helping with fall cleanup and getting Camp Zanika ready for the winter.

*Magazine* prizes from the Gannett Foundation, now managed by the Community Foundation of Northern Central Washington.

CCA is a kindergarten through 12th-grade Seventh-day Adventist school that focuses on educating their kids to love, do the right thing in

all circumstances, forgive and live in peace, and bring their best to everything they do.

*Tracy Ringering, Cascade Christian Academy vice principal*

## KETTLE FALLS OFFERS FREE LUNCH

When Kettle Falls (Wash.) Church members were asked by another local area church if they would be interested in taking over providing free community lunches each Thursday, Patty Marsh felt convicted to accept the challenge of what she knew was a calling from the Lord.

The previous free meals were usually some kind of soup

served to the community of Kettle Falls so people could meet for a social gathering. Marsh and her group of volunteers turned this weekly mealtime into a vegan cuisine outreach.

Each week the menu varies. One week it may be stroganoff, another haystacks, stir-fry, potato bake, or spaghetti and “meatballs.” As each plate is served, a blessing for the

food is offered by one of the volunteers.

The retired pastor of the church where the free meals had previously been served comes regularly to the Thursday meals, along with his wife and several of their members. Many of them have become really good friends. At least one has enrolled in the Discover Bible School and even attended church a few times. A few of the lunchtime guests attended an evangelistic series held in nearby Colville, Wash., in the fall of 2016.

Kettle Falls members pray

for a rich harvest of souls from this free meal outreach.

If you are in Kettle Falls on a Thursday between 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., stop by and join the Kettle Falls Church for lunch.

*Marilyn Morgan, Kettle Falls Church communication leader*

More photos online at [glnr.in/112-12-uc\\_lunch](http://glnr.in/112-12-uc_lunch)



## CASCADE EAGLES COMPLETE SEVENTH ANNUAL 'APPLE PIE MAKE' FUNDRAISER

Once a year, at 8 a.m., the Cascade Eagles Pathfinders of North Cascade Church in Burlington gather together to raise funds by making apple pies.

The apple pie fundraiser started in 2010 as a more efficient way to help raise funds to attend the International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis., which happens once every five years.

"Prior to this, we had been doing a variety of fundraisers that were bringing in some money but required a lot of days and time," says Kristie Schmidt, club co-leader.

Ingredients and supplies are mostly donated from families, though there are some overhead costs to purchase bins of apples and pay for transportation to pick up the apples.

"One Sunday a year we ask for a one-day commitment from our Pathfinders, staff, parents, family and friends to

come out and help us assemble high-quality apple pies that people can take home and bake right away or freeze for at least one year," Schmidt says.

The first year they had a goal of 150 pies and made more than 180. Since then the club has increased the amount of pies every year. This year they made 673 pies and raised about \$10,200.

Interested in finding out how you can start up a fundraiser like the Apple Pie Make? Cascade Eagles Pathfinders are willing to share the secrets. "These Pathfinders are getting so good and efficient," says Jeremy Schmidt, club co-leader, "who knows how many we can make next year."

*Katie Henderson*

More online at [glnr.in/112-12-wa\\_applepie](http://glnr.in/112-12-wa_applepie)

Cascade Eagles Pathfinders in Burlington made more than 670 pies for their seventh annual Apple Pie Make Fundraiser.



JEREMY SCHMIDT



KATIE HENDERSON

Students enjoy horse rides during Outdoor School.

## EDUCATION JOINS SUNSET LAKE CAMP FOR OUTDOOR SCHOOL

Washington Conference Office of Education joined with Sunset Lake Camp in Wilkeson to provide students with a different learning environment in early October.

"[Outdoor School] is great for the kids and gets them out of the classroom," says Leanna Decker, Poulsbo Adventist School teacher. "I wish we could do all education outdoors."

Fun and educational activities helped students grow in different aspects of their lives, whether it was being patient about catching a fish or learning to work together during team-building activities.

Zip lining and team building, fishing, salmon and native plants, weather and rain cycles, and horseback rides were all part of the fun activities that students got to experience again or for the first time.

"For the first time ... in awhile for a conferencewide outdoor school, there was a great turn out," says Becky Meharry, Washington Con-

ference associate education superintendent. Eleven schools participated.

Fishing was one activity the schools enjoyed during their stay at Sunset Lake Camp. Craig Mattson, Washington Conference vice president for education, noticed a young fifth-grade student who had been looking forward to fishing all week but had never caught a fish.

"I tried hard to help him catch a fish, but to no avail," Mattson says.

During the last few hours, this young student's school stayed behind to help clean up. Mattson pulled this boy and a couple other kids back to the lake for one last attempt. "After about 15 minutes, he had a fish on the hook and a huge smile on his face," says Mattson. "It was a really great moment to be a teacher."

*Katie Henderson, Washington Conference communication intern*

More online at [glnr.in/112-12-wa\\_outdoor](http://glnr.in/112-12-wa_outdoor)

## AUBURN COMMITTEE OF 100 COVERS SPECIAL PROJECTS

**M**ore than \$125,000 was donated to Auburn Adventist Academy's nonbudgeted projects during a business brunch on Sunday, Oct. 15, thanks to the Committee of 100.

The Committee of 100 began in 1993 to provide funding for special projects for Auburn Adventist Academy. Members pledge a minimum of \$500 per year and hold the right to vote on collective fund distribution. This year's attendance of more than 100 reached an all-time high for the committee's nearly 25 years of existence.



HEIDI BAUMGERTNER

Bob and Carol Paulsen, original visionaries of the Committee of 100, receive an honorary plaque commemorating their dedication to the committee and to Auburn Adventist Academy.

During its history, the Committee of 100 has contributed more than \$1 million in donations to Auburn Adventist Academy to help enhance student learning.

"There's a lot of support for Auburn Adventist Academy here," says Jay Coon, Auburn Adventist Academy's vice principal of growth and development. There were only eight members last year, and the active involvement of additional donors is reenergizing this fundraising group.

Committee chairman Jeff Keating guided donors through a list of teacher-requested projects that required funding above and beyond normal budget allowances. Members then formally voted on how they wished to delegate the collective pool of funds specifically set for special projects. Projects funded included industrial tools, educational devices, athletic gear, needed technology and more.

Among the educational needs of the academy were also scholarship updates on Hearts of Gold, Sponsor a Dream, SEEKToday and student aid.

"I appreciate the spirit of accommodation," says Keating.

*Mickey Demma, AAA media literacy student*



KATIE HENDERSON

Pastors, teachers, students and local communicators gathered to learn at the Local Communication Summit at Washington Conference.

## WASHINGTON CONFERENCE HOSTS LOCAL COMMUNICATION SUMMIT

**F**ifty-five pastors, teachers, students and local communicators gathered in October for a Local Communication Summit at the Washington Conference to learn how to use social media effectively for the church.

Keynote trainer Jamie Jean Schneider Domm, North American Division digital strategist, presented three topics: the best practices for social media; the use of tracking, Google Analytics and Facebook ads to reach the target audience; and the social media mission field.

"The average adult is exposed to over 3,000 marketing messages a day," says Domm. "We now have more resources to reach audiences how they want to be reached."

Young adults spend seven to 12 hours a day behind a screen and five hours on social media. Meeting people where they are and not where the church wants them to be is very important.

"I've been a faithful email user for a couple of decades, but nowadays I've noticed my church members share much of their information on Facebook and other social

media," says Maylan Schurch, Bellevue Church pastor. "This seminar — one of the most consistently, end-to-end practical I have ever attended — has impelled me to work toward making better use of our church's current Facebook page."

Among the attendees was a group of media literacy students from Auburn Adventist Academy, including two students who were sponsored to attend this year's Society of Adventist Communicators conference in Portland, Ore.

The need to equip churches with social media tools is an important way to reach more people with the gospel. "Knowing the right things and knowing your audience ... I didn't know there was a better time to post for audiences. It's an eye opener," says Ana Hernandez, Washington Conference administrative assistant.

*Katie Henderson, Washington Conference communication intern*

More online at  
[glnr.in/112-12-wa\\_commsummit](http://glnr.in/112-12-wa_commsummit)

## WASHINGTON CHURCHES JOIN GROWING YOUNG COHORT

“**Y**oung adult ministry isn’t about church hype, but church health.” This statement from Jake Mulder, director of strategic initiatives at Fuller Youth Institute (FYI) and co-author of the book *Growing Young*, served as the cornerstone of a yearlong learning adventure sponsored by FYI known as the Growing Young Cohort. Leaders from 11 churches across the North Pacific Union, including three Washington Conference congregations, met in Pasadena, Calif., Oct. 5–6 to reflect on the latest research, realign their ministry priorities and craft a plan to equip their congregations to love young adults better.

Over the course of the next year, these congregations

will assess their congregational health, meet with their leadership teams, dream and pray with other cohort churches, and create a strategy for change all under the guidance of some of the best ministry experts in the country. When the cohort is complete, these 11 churches will serve as anchor points for a fresh approach to young adult ministry across the Northwest.

The Growing Young Cohort is based on groundbreaking research by FYI that surveyed 259 churches from a wide variety of backgrounds that were actively engaging youth and young adults. After more than 10,000 hours of work and 1,300 interviews, the researchers identified six key commitments these churches had in common: key-chain leadership, empathy for youth and young adults, Jesus’ mes-

sage is taken seriously, warm relationships, prioritization of youth and families, and a commitment to be the best neighbor. These six commitments provide the framework for the healthy congregations that are impacting the lives of the emerging generation.

Already the Growing Young Cohort is bringing meaningful change to the churches of the Washington Conference. Dustin Serns, Port Orchard Church pastor, brought four of his leaders to the opening session of the cohort in Pasadena. “Getting to have my leaders with me and having them interact with other churches helped our next steps rise to the top,” says Serns. “We’ve added young adult ministry to our church budget and empowered new leadership. Best of all the

church is excited about what God is doing.”

Two Seattle churches — Emerald City, led by Eugene Lewis, and Volunteer Park, led by Andreas Beccai — have also begun to implement new strategies for change.

“The church can’t grow young unless we are willing to grow together,” Mulder told the group of cohort churches. “When we focus on young people, everyone rises.” The Growing Young Cohort is a first step in an exciting journey that will empower young adults and bring life and wholeness to the churches of the Washington Conference.

*David Yeagley, Washington Conference youth director*

Dustin Serns leads the Port Orchard Church team in a discussion on how to empathize with emerging adults.

DAVID YEAGLEY



# Celebrate our 125th birthday!



On Dec. 7, 1892, Walla Walla University opened the doors to our first students, a day made possible by support from our local and regional communities. Since then, WWU has expanded from a single building in College Place, Washington, to five vibrant campuses across the Pacific Northwest, educating more than 50,000 students over these 125 years.

## **Join us on Dec. 7, 2017, to celebrate our legacy!**

### **Celebration events Dec. 7**

#### ***Birthday Commemoration Service, 8:30 a.m.***

Gather in front of our Administration Building to begin the day in the same way our first students and staff did 125 years ago—with song, prayer, and ringing of the bell.

#### ***Bowers Hall Grand Reopening, noon***

Help us celebrate our beloved Bowers Hall and marvel over the newly transformed School of Business.

#### ***Havstad Alumni Center Open House, 4:30–7 p.m.***

Visit the Havstad Alumni Center for festive refreshments in a warm environment.

#### ***Parade, Tree Lighting, and Fireworks, 5 p.m.***

Join the City of College Place for a holiday parade down the new College Avenue with a special Christmas tree lighting to follow honoring our 125-year history. And don't miss the fireworks!

Learn more at [wallawalla.edu/125](http://wallawalla.edu/125).

## STUDENTS DISCOVER ANCIENT COINS ON BIBLE LANDS STUDY TOUR

In a modern society, people tend to assume all traces of the past have already been tucked away in museums. But when 41 Walla Walla University (WVU) students roamed the Middle East during the Bible Lands Study Tour this past summer, two participants uncovered a piece of history.

Toward the end of the group's nearly four-week trip, seniors Sara Bumgardner and Sarah Thompson found two



Amidst the ruins of ancient Laodicea, Sara Bumgardner (left) and Sarah Thompson hold the coins they found while on the WVU Bible Lands Study Tour last summer.

object, and I picked it up," explains Thompson, a health science major. "It just looked like a round gray pebble." The tour guide confirmed that both were authentic Byzantine coins.

The Denizli Museum revived archaeology efforts in Laodicea in 2002, removing several layers of dirt and unearthing new artifacts. Bumgardner's and Thompson's discoveries were added to the collection of items found on site, each offering insight into the lives of the ancient city dwellers. "I was a little bummed to have to part with [the coin] so soon after finding it," Thompson says, "but I knew that it would probably be of more use ... if it was in the hands of the archaeologists."

Carl Cosaert, WVU bib-

lical studies professor and tour coordinator, was satisfied with the way the trip wrapped up.

"We had talked about finding coins during the tour, but didn't think we would actually find anything," he says. "It was great to find them at the end."

"The trip felt like one huge amazing adventure," Bumgardner recalls. "However, finding a Byzantine coin was definitely one of my favorite parts."

The Bible Lands Study Tour occurs every two years and provides participants with eight religion credits. Students who are interested in history, travel and/or religion will begin signing up for the next tour in May 2018.

*Kyler Alvord, WVU university relations student writer*



Until close inspection, the two small coins look like ordinary pebbles.

fifth-century coins in the ancient town of Laodicea, part of present-day Turkey.

Bumgardner made the first discovery while examining a piece of pottery on the ground. "After I found the coin, I think a number of us spent more time looking down at the ground than up at the excavated ruins of Laodicea," says Bumgardner, a sociology major.

And that's when the second coin was spotted. "I saw a very small but very round

gwt+

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## ADVENTIST HEALTH HONORS PHYSICIANS' COMMITMENT TO HEALING

There are a lot of wonderful reasons to live in a small, rural community, but having access to great medical care whenever you need it is not usually one of them. Unless, that is, you choose to live in Welches, Ore., a quaint community located at the base of Mount Hood. In Welches, you are never too far from excellent care provided by Murlan Grise, who provides primary care and emergency medicine to patients at Adventist Health's Hoodland medical office.

Grise has been caring for residents in this area for more than 30 years, developing long-term relationships with multiple generations of families. Grise has demonstrated such enthusiastic commitment to this rural area that employees specifically choose to work at this medical office. All of the staff enjoy the welcoming environment Grise cultivates. And patients know they have a physician who cares for — and about — them.

Grise was one of 17 physicians honored with a Physician of the Year Mission Award given at the 11th annual Adventist Health Clinical Summit on Sept. 11. The Mission Awards are given to Adventist Health doctors who are examples of living God's love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope.

Also included in the group of honorees was John



ADVENTIST HEALTH

Bohlman, who provides internal medicine and emergency care at one of Adventist Health's more rural hospitals in Tillamook, Ore., near the rugged Oregon coast. Bohlman practiced internal medicine for 28 years in Lincoln City, Ore., where he also became board certified in emergency medicine. He has been with Tillamook Medical Group since 2011.

"I appreciate that Adventist Health is patient-focused," he says. Asked about highlights in his career, Bohlman recalls a patient he had treated for several years who was in an abusive relationship. Because they had built a trusting doctor-patient relationship, he was able to encourage her to pursue a safe, healthy lifestyle. "She eventually made changes she'd been putting off for years," he recalls. "She came to see me and said, 'Thank you. You helped me believe in myself,

and she gave me a big hug."

The Physician of the Year Mission Awards are just one aspect of Adventist Health's annual Clinical Summit, which brings physician leaders together from all around the

At the Adventist Health Clinical Summit, (from left) David Russell, Adventist Health Portland president and CEO; Murlan Grise, a physician at the Hoodland clinic; David Butler, Adventist Health Tillamook president and CEO; John Bohlman, a physician with Adventist Health Tillamook; and Joyce Newmyer, Adventist Health Pacific Northwest Region president and CEO, during this year's Physician of the Year Mission Awards ceremony.

health care system. The two days are focused on transforming patient care for the future.

*Sandra Meyers, Adventist Health physician services communication manager*

gnt+

Stay in touch with the latest news, video links, calendar events, photo galleries, past issues and more at [gleanernow.com](http://gleanernow.com).



### Ball 60th

Jim and Pat Ball recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with family and friends at a potluck reception held at the Brookings (Ore.) Church. It was an extra special time as all their children and grandchildren gathered the week prior to enjoy time together and fun trips to nearby beaches and rivers.

James Ball married Patricia Chase on March 23, 1957, in Elmira, N.Y. Thirty-five years of work with the Adventist Church took Jim and Pat to several states in the country and around the world as missionaries in Sierra Leone and Ghana. Jim served in various roles including singing evangelist, guidance counselor, teacher and pastor. Following in Jim and Pat's footsteps their family are all active members in the church which brings the couple great joy.

Formal retirement came in 1997 with the couple settling in Brookings. They have stayed involved in the local church post retirement and the congregation is blessed with their ministry in music and yearly holiday programs.

The Ball family includes Cheryl (Ball) Nelson of Bellingham, Wash.; Diana (Ball) Cefalo of Tracy, Calif.; James T. Ball of St. Paul, Minn.; Becky (Ball) Asbury of Abingdon, Va.; and 7 grandchildren.

### Beaulieu 60th

Lorene Jennings of Longview, Wash., and Dale Beaulieu of Bend, Ore., met at Columbia Adventist Academy, in Meadow Glade, Wash. They were married on June 4, 1957, in Longview and immediately moved to College Place, Wash., to continue their education.

Their son Richard was born in June 1960. Lorene continued to teach 28 piano students so she could stay home and care for the new arrival.

Dale completed his business degree from Walla Walla College in 1962 and was asked to join the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) as a business intern. He worked in the finance and auditing department until October when he was asked to help the Laurelwood Academy (Gaston, Ore.) finance department. They lived at Laurelwood until June 1964, when Dale took the call to be the business manager at Gem State Academy in Caldwell, Idaho.

They left Caldwell in June 1967, with six-week-old son Denis, 2-year-old Joanne (now Dixon) and 6-year-old Rick to travel to Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg, Pa., where Dale was the business manager. In the fall of 1968 he accepted a call to the Potomac Conference.

Dale became vice president for finance for the West Virginia Conference in 1974, working with Richard Fearing, the conference president. Lorene worked for five departments and continued teaching piano at the school in Parkersburg. When the pair moved to the Chesapeake Conference in Maryland, Lorene again covered five departments while Dale was vice president for finance.

In 1975 Dale joined the Columbia Union Conference (CUC) as vice president for finance. Lorene continued working at Chesapeake Conference and again taught piano.

Dale's call in 1977 to Southeastern California Conference as vice president for finance was accepted,



Lorene and Dale Beaulieu

and Lorene went to work for Jacqua and Koenig at the Loma Linda University education administration office. After two years she joined the General Conference (GC) *Adventist World* purchasing office as purchaser and then became office manager for the GC West Coast branch.

In 1982 they were in Singapore serving the Lord in Southeast Asia Union Mission. Having their work completed, they returned to the U.S., and Dale became vice president for finance at Upper Columbia Conference.

From there they were called back east: Dale as vice president for finance for Atlantic Union Conference, Lorene as administration assistant for the eight department ministries and the ministerial department and later to the same position for presidential and treasury.

They returned to the NPUC so Dale could serve in trust services while Lorene worked for North American Division's New Bible lessons and later the NPUC trust department.

Dale accepted a call for vice president for finance for Oregon Conference in 1992 and, with help from attorney Herald Follett and Carlyle and

Judy Mason, brought the Gladstone Campgrounds back into use. He had planned to bring the Oregon Conference office over to the Gladstone Park, but in 1996 he was called back to the CUC as vice president for finance before he could follow through with those plans.

Lorene spent the last seven years of her service at the CUC in the revolving fund office. Dale was vice president for finance at CUC for four years and then vice president for finance for Adventist World Radio the last three years before retiring.

After retiring, they returned to their home in Gladstone and spent another 13 years in the auditing department for the Oregon Conference. Because of health and age, they felt they would retire permanently.

### FAMILY BIRTHS

**FOWLER** — Annabelle Marie was born May 13, 2017, to Alexander Stephen and Allison Heather (Waters) Fowler, Wenatchee, Wash.

**KILMER** — Lydianna Hope was born Sept. 21, 2017, to John Paul and Jena (Karmisholt) Kilmer, Spokane, Wash.

### FAMILY AT REST

**BLACK** — Barbara Jean (VanGilder), 57; born Nov. 6, 1959, Danville, Pa.; died Aug. 7, 2017, Deer Park, Wash.; Surviving: husband, Mark; sons, M. Alan, Walla Walla, Wash.; Nathanael, Minot,

N.D.; daughters, Jennifer Erb, Hayden, Idaho; Katelyn Black and Sarah Black, both of Deer Park; and 3 grandchildren.

**BROWN** — Roger Todd, 81; born July 1, 1936, Colville, Wash.; died Aug. 1, 2017, Newberg, Ore. Surviving: sons, Randall Todd, Tigard, Ore.; Roger Jeffery, Newberg; daughters, Deborah J. Roofener, Forest Grove, Ore.; Kathleen E. Moore, Quincy, Wash.; brother, Clay Brown, McMinnville, Ore.; sister, Betty Oglesby, Forest Grove; 14 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

**CADWALLADER** — Jill (Johnson) Weaver, 68; born March 18, 1949, Brattleboro, Vt.; died Sept. 1, 2017, Roscommon, Mich. Surviving: husband, Doug Cadwallader, Selah, Wash.; son, Will Cadwallader, Glendale, Ariz.; daughter, Melody (Weaver) Knepp, Roscommon; and 4 grandchildren.

**DEALY** — Donald Marion, 90; born Sept. 20, 1926, Bozeman, Mont.; died Aug. 9, 2017, College Place, Wash. Surviving: wife, Orletta (Wilson); sons, Donald II, Aloha, Ore.; Howard “Tom,” Snohomish, Wash.; 4 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

**DIAZ** — Lourtina Marie (Ziegele Caldwell), 47; born Sept. 12, 1969, Walla Walla, Wash.; died Sept. 3, 2017, Auburn, Wash. Surviving: husband, Francisco; son, Brandon, Auburn; daughter, Nadia Diaz, Auburn; father and stepmother, Richard and Judy Ziegele, Walla Walla; mother and stepfather, Tricia and Roger Caldwell, Auburn.

**JONES** — Dorothy Ellen (Morehouse), 72; born July 14, 1945, Thurston County, Wash.; died

July 31, 2017, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: husband, Ernest Arthur; son, Donald Halder, Weslaco, Texas; daughter, Marjorie Ellen (Jones) Tidwell, Toronto, Canada; stepsons, Ernest “Skip” Arthur Jones Jr. and Keven Scott Jones, both of Olympia, Wash.; stepdaughter, Lisa Renee (Jones) Hensdell, Olympia; 4 grandchildren, 5 step-grandchildren and 6 step-great-grandchildren.

**MEHLING** — Gary L., 71; born March 1, 1946, Auburn, Wash.; died July 18, 2017, Richland, Wash. Surviving: wife, Cynthia Rene (Fields), College Place, Wash.; sons, Beau Lawrence Mehling, Walla Walla, Wash.; Adam Bruce Mehling, College Place; Eric Allan

Mehling, Richland; Grant Siltan Mehling, College Place; Brian Mehling Dalas, Auburn area, Wash.; daughter, Carrie Ann Mehling Dalas Biddle, Auburn area; sister, Cheryl Ann Giles-Christensen, College Place; and a grandchild.

**PREWITT** — Vern LeRoy, 85; born July 24, 1931, Wallula, Wash.; died June 26, 2017, Phoenix, Ariz. Surviving: son, Ed, Avondale, Minn.; daughters, Juanette Juhl, Drayton, N.D.; Shirley Wall, Scottsdale, Ariz.; Barbara Karge, Oregon City, Ore.; sister, Neva Phelps, Richland, Wash.; 17 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

**ROSE** — Betty Joy (Rigby), 88; born April 17, 1929, Glendive, Mont.; died April 26, 2017,

College Place, Wash. Surviving: husband, Grover Allen; sons, Kenneth Dale, Joseph, Ore.; Steven G., Walla Walla, Wash.; daughters, Barbara Joann Woodland, Walla Walla; Ronda Rae King, College Place; foster daughter, Lisa Tenorio, of Mexico; sister, Arline Finkbinder, College Place; 21 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

**WILSON** — Robert, 96; born Jan. 10, 1921, Tomah, Wis.; died Aug. 3, 2017, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: son, Gary, Surprise, Ariz.; daughter, Barbara Jones, Everett, Wash.; 6 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and 7 great-great-grandchildren.

**WYMAN** — Edward James, 88; born Aug. 30, 1928, Portland, Ore.; died July 24, 2017, Chilliwack, British Columbia, Canada. Surviving: wife, Lois (Gay); son, David Wyman, Battle Ground, Wash.; daughter, Kathleen Tatro, Walla Walla, Wash.; brothers, Robert Wyman, Yuma, Ariz.; Douglas Wyman, Mirrormont, Wash.; and 4 grandchildren.

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

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

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

1923–2017

VERNITA FRANCIS MARRIOTT

Vernita (Brown) Marriott was born Oct. 6, 1923, in Clinton, Mo., and passed away peacefully on Oct. 13, 2017, surrounded by her loving family at the Adams House Assisted Living Facility in Myrtle Creek, Ore.

The oldest of four, Vernita took care of her siblings while her parents worked. She met Clyde Marriott, the love of her life, shortly after her family moved to Sacramento, Calif., when she was 14. They married on Nov. 30, 1941. Pearl Harbor was attacked one week later, and Clyde was drafted into the Armed Forces. Their marriage survived a long-distance relationship while Clyde led an aircraft repair squadron in England during World War II.

After the war, they established businesses in Glendale, Calif., and later in Canyonville, Ore., running a service station, McCullough Chain Saw shop and the Dixie Dog Drive-In. Over the years, Vernita and Clyde dedicated their life to serving others through Maranatha Volunteers International. They quit counting after 85 mission trips.

Vernita and Clyde recently celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary.

Vernita is survived by her husband, Clyde; children, Ron Marriott of Canyonville, Ore.; Linda (Marriott) Lauren of Snoqualmie, Wash.; John Marriott of Mulino, Ore.; 8 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren and 13 great-great-grandchildren.



## NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

### Offering

- Dec. 2** — Local Church Budget;  
**Dec. 9** — World Budget: Adventist Community Services;  
**Dec. 16** — Local Church Budget;  
**Dec. 23** — Local Conference Advance;  
**Dec. 30** — Union-Designated.

## WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

**Dec. 8** — The WWU Christmas concert will take place Friday, with performances at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Visit in person or watch via livestream at [wallawalla.edu/concert](http://wallawalla.edu/concert).

## OREGON CONFERENCE

### Disaster Preparedness: ‘Coping with Disaster’ Seminar

**Dec. 5** — Disaster Preparedness: “Coping with Disaster,” presented by a Cowlitz County chaplain, at 6:30 p.m., at the Castle Rock Church Fellowship Hall, 7531 Old Pacific Hwy. N., Castle Rock, Wash. Any questions, call 360-967-2165.

### Plant-Based Cooking Class

**Dec. 7** — Plant-based cooking class featuring vegan cook Deana Snyder. Come join us for evenings of cooking demonstrations, fellowship and great food. We will also have bite-sized health tidbits to keep us informed. See you there! Bring a friend and join us at 6:30 p.m., Abundant Living Center, Castle Rock Church, 7531 Old Pacific Hwy. N., Castle Rock, Wash. Call Wanda to RSVP, 360-967-2165.

### Fountainview Academy Christmas Tour

**Dec. 9** — Fountainview Academy Orchestra and Choir are returning to Bend to enrich, inspire and remind us all that the greatest Gift of the season, of life, is our Redeemer and King. Join us for an unforgettable evening of hope and glory as this prominent young group of musicians present “Come Let Us Adore Him” during their annual Christmas tour. Fountainview will host the 11 a.m. service at Cascade Church in Bend, Ore. All are welcome, and early arrival is highly recommended as seating will be limited. The main event will be that evening at 7 p.m. at the Bend First Presbyterian Church. This is a complementary and nonticketed event. A freewill offering will be accepted in lieu of admission. For more information, visit [fountainviewacademy.ca/music/](http://fountainviewacademy.ca/music/) or email [jonathanandjanelle@hotmail.com](mailto:jonathanandjanelle@hotmail.com).

### Health Video and Potluck

**Dec. 12** — Come out and enjoy a health video and fellowship on Tuesday, at 6:30 p.m. Bring a plant-based dish to share at the potluck before the video in the Castle Rock Church Fellowship Hall, 7531 Old Pacific Hwy. N., Castle Rock, Wash. For questions, call 360-967-2165. See you there!

## Christmas Musical Program

**Dec. 22** — Lloyd Wescott and the Sunnyside Church will present the 36th annual Christmas musical program Friday evening at 7 p.m. Invite your friends and enjoy an evening of Christmas music presented by some of Portland’s finest musicians. Bring your musical score and participate in the finale — Handel’s “Hallelujah Chorus” from *Messiah*. An offering will be received to support feeding Portland’s homeless each Sunday morning in O’Bryant Square in downtown Portland. Refreshments will be served after the program.

## UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

### Beacon Christian School 100th Anniversary

**April 20–22** — Beacon Christian School in Lewiston, Idaho, is turning 100. Calling all alumni and supporters of Beacon to a celebration. The reunion will take place at 615 Stewart Ave., Lewiston, Idaho. There will be a vesper service Friday night at 6 p.m., Sabbath School and church on Saturday at 9:30 a.m., and a golf tournament on Sunday. Call 208-743-8361 for more information.

## WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

### Edmonds Church Celebration

**Dec. 2** — 45th anniversary celebration of the Edmonds Church’s sanctuary completion. Doug Bing, Washington Conference president, will speak for the 11 a.m. worship service. After a fellowship potluck, enjoy an afternoon program of music, interviews, and sharing/recalling stories and anecdotes. The day will end with an old-fashioned Saturday night church social. Come enjoy the festivities and meet former members and pastors on this special occasion.

## WORLD CHURCH

### La Sierra Academy Alumni Weekend 2018

**April 27–28** — Honor classes are those ending in 3 and 8. Welcome reception, Friday at 7 p.m., at the La Sierra Academy (LSA) library. Sabbath services: registration 9 a.m. and homecoming service 10 a.m., at the LSA gym. Potluck, campus tours, reunions, varsity basketball. Please update contact information: email [JNelson@lsak12.com](mailto:JNelson@lsak12.com), visit [lsak12.com](http://lsak12.com) or call the alumni office at 951-351-1445 ext. 244.

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

**Classes**

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OFFERS MASTER'S DEGREES** in business, computer science, counseling, education, global community development, 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/graduatestudies](http://southern.edu/graduatestudies).

**Employment**

**SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** is seeking an online adjunct professor(s) to teach part-time courses in newly organized senior living management certificate program through the department of business. Submit cover letter and current CV/resume to denise.rivera@swau.edu. Candidates must have industry-specific (independent living, assisted

living, memory care) knowledge and/or experience and a minimum of a master's degree in a related field. Preference given with prior teaching experience.

**SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** is looking for a full-time English professor with a Ph.D. Candidates with a degree in any literature or writing specialty will be considered. Send a CV to Dr. Judy Myers Laue, Chair, Department of English, Southwestern Adventist University, 100 W. Hillcrest Street, Keene, TX 76059, or lauej@swau.edu.

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**ANDREWS UNIVERSITY** seeks an assistant professor of pastoral care and psychology. The assistant professor of pastoral care and psychology will teach a full load of courses in pastoral care, counseling; advise and provide mentorship to Seminary students; provide spiritual and therapeutic counseling services to seminarians; direct the psychological screening of applicants to Seminary; provide

advocacy and leadership in the area of pastoral care and counseling to the Seminary community; participate in Seminary and University life; and carry regular faculty responsibilities related to teaching, service, research, publication and administration. [andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty](http://andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty).

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**Events**

**ROSARIO SINGLES RETREAT**, April 5–8, 2018, in Anacortes, Wash., with keynote speaker Marvin Wray. Experience a spiritual, social and fun time. Registration opens March 1, 2018. Join the retreat email list, WashingtonASAM@gmail.com.

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**Sunset Schedule**

December	1	8	15	22	29
<b>ALASKA CONFERENCE</b>					
Anchorage	3:52	3:44	3:40	3:42	3:48
Fairbanks	3:02	2:48	2:40	2:40	2:48
Juneau	3:14	3:08	3:06	3:07	3:13
Ketchikan	3:22	3:17	3:16	3:18	3:23
<b>IDAHO CONFERENCE</b>					
Boise	5:10	5:08	5:09	5:11	5:16
La Grande	4:11	4:10	4:10	4:12	4:17
Pocatello	4:57	4:55	4:56	4:59	5:03
<b>MONTANA CONFERENCE</b>					
Billings	4:32	4:30	4:30	4:33	4:37
Havre	4:26	4:24	4:23	4:26	4:31
Helena	4:43	4:41	4:41	4:43	4:48
Miles City	4:19	4:17	4:17	4:19	4:24
Missoula	4:50	4:48	4:48	4:50	4:55
<b>OREGON CONFERENCE</b>					
Coos Bay	4:42	4:41	4:41	4:44	4:49
Medford	4:40	4:39	4:39	4:42	4:47
Portland	4:29	4:27	4:27	4:30	4:34
<b>UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE</b>					
Pendleton	4:13	4:11	4:12	4:14	4:19
Spokane	4:00	3:58	3:58	4:00	4:05
Walla Walla	4:10	4:08	4:08	4:11	4:15
Wenatchee	4:13	4:11	4:11	4:13	4:18
Yakima	4:17	4:15	4:15	4:17	4:22
<b>WASHINGTON CONFERENCE</b>					
Bellingham	4:16	4:14	4:14	4:16	4:21
Seattle	4:20	4:18	4:18	4:20	4:25

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F . . . . . 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m.  
Sun . . . . . 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

# OUR TRANSCENDENT BRAINS

C

hange is a dirty word for a lot of people — until they get stuck. Sometimes when we get stuck along the way in life, the time we spend in that stuck place can make us wonder if anything can get better. Recently I came across something that gave me hope for those times when the structure of my life feels more like a prison than a playground.

In her book *Proust and the Squid: The Story and Science of the Reading Brain*, Maryanne Wolf observes that humans “were never born to read.” While that point may border on pure heresy to book lovers, she goes on to say, “Reading has no direct genetic program passing it on to future generations.” The brain uses three design principles to accomplish reading that include “the capacity to make new connections among older structures; the capacity to form areas of exquisitely precise specialization for recognizing patterns in information; and the ability to learn to recruit and connect information from these areas automatically.”

Eventually, “merely imagining letters results in activation of particular neurons in our visual cortex.” Expert readers find their information is automatically fed deeper into other visual processing areas.

Wolf then elaborates on what she describes as the human brain’s amazingly “open architecture.” She chronicles the staggering way the brain applies “highly automatic rules about the sounds of the letters in the English writing system” and how it uses “a great



many linguistic processes to do so.” She marvels over how “the brain doesn’t find just one simple meaning for a word; instead it stimulates a veritable trove of knowledge about that word and the many words related to it.” All this is done in nanoseconds — which is so cool it should make you want to read ... wait, I guess you are already.

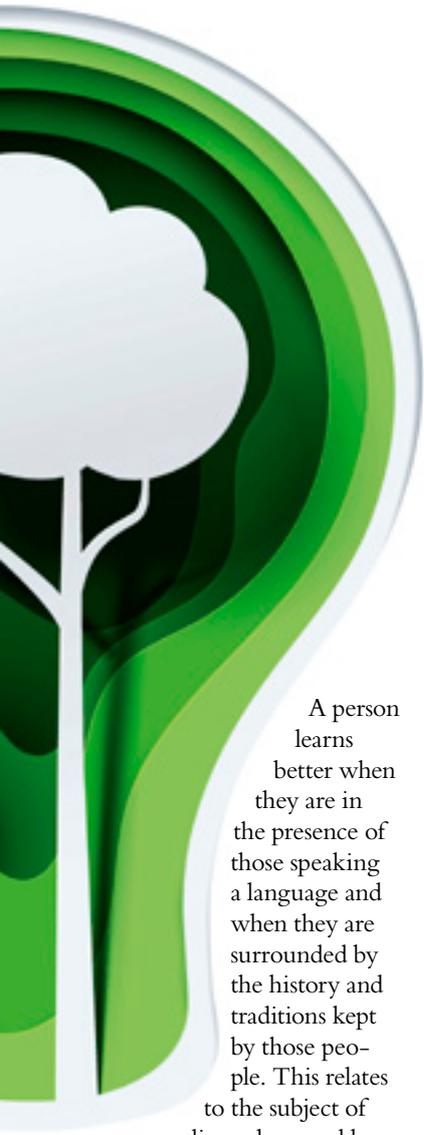
Furthermore, Wolf describes how the brain is able to “go beyond the original design of its structures.” While she approaches this amazing topic from an evolutionary perspective, believers can contemplate what purpose God may have had in giving the human brain such a capacity.

Wolf comments that a structured environment is especially helpful in learning how to read.



AUTHOR

Seth Pierce



A person learns better when they are in the presence of those speaking a language and when they are surrounded by the history and traditions kept by those people. This relates to the subject of

media ecology and how media environments shape our humanity. Marshall McLuhan, in his classic treatise on media and humanity, *Understanding Media: The Extensions of Man*, observes how the human mind and behavior are intrinsically connected to the continual expansion of technology within our environment.

And here lies the challenge for us all. Our minds can expand to embrace great good or great evil. The technology that grows all around us by leaps and bounds is a conduit

to worlds that can help or hinder our spiritual journey. Our God-given freedom to choose means our brains will expand to embrace whatever we feed them.

If we determine to incline our minds toward positive things, there is much to learn from Scripture. So many texts come to mind when I reflect on the adaptability of our brains. One text says, “And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit” (2 Cor 3:18). Another classic exhorts, “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect” (Rom. 12:2).

Without veering into the realm of perfectionism, these texts, combined with what we know about the mind, give me hope that wherever our characters may be today — they can change. Whatever our knowledge base is today, it can increase. We aren’t static beings, which means our families, workplaces and maybe even our churches can change to things that, at least from our current vantage point, may not seem natural or possible. The fact you can read this column demonstrates the fact.

You are capable of thinking new thoughts, living a new life and transcending old structures by God’s grace.

Wolf’s comment that our brain goes beyond the original design of its structures provides an amazing object lesson for other areas of our life. The group dynamic structures to which we currently adhere don’t have to determine how our family grows in the future. The ways of thinking passed down to us can shift — it’s in our nature. We may be the unfortunate recipients of a sinful nature, selfishness and a tendency to disturb the peace, but we can grow to make positive changes. Paul reminds us, “We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life” (Rom. 6:4).

You are capable of thinking new thoughts, living a new life and transcending old structures by God’s grace. May Jesus give us the empowering grace to try, to trust, adapt and walk in the fullness of new life.

*Seth Pierce, Puyallup Church  
lead pastor*

# FOUR UNLIKELY MOTHERS AT CHRISTMAS

T

he unlikely cast of supporting characters surrounding the birth of Jesus is beyond belief, from this world's perspective. Sleepless shepherds, pagans on a quest following a star through the desert, a homicidal king threatened by heaven's baby. At the heart of the Christmas story is a young woman, the virgin mother. Equally unlikely are the four mothers God chose to showcase in the family tree of Jesus.

Let's open the first chapter of the New Testament and meet these unlikely ladies. Amid the patriarchy of Jewish culture, four women are singled out for special notice. What's their claim to fame? Is there a lesson for the Adventist Church today?

First we meet Tamar in the third verse of Matthew 1. Who is she? A mistreated woman, having been married to one man described as "wicked in the sight of the Lord, and the Lord put him to death" (Gen. 38:7). So Tamar was given in marriage to her husband's brother, who took sexual advantage of her. This disturbed God so deeply that husband number two also got terminated (verse 10).

Poor Tamar, twice a loser. What now? "Don't worry," said Judah, her father-in-law, promising to take care of her by supplying her with another

husband. But he broke his promise.

Desperate now with time passing her by, Tamar succumbed to the temptation to take matters into her own hand to produce a child who could take care of her in old age. Posing as a prostitute, she seduced her unsuspecting father-in-law and got pregnant.

Not the type of story you might read your grandchildren on Christmas Eve!

So let's move quickly along to the next mother in Christ's family tree. It's Rahab, from the ancient city of Jericho. She was another prostitute who became a woman of faith.

Perhaps not surprisingly, mother number three in Matthew 1 is also an outsider. Ruth was a loyal and lovely young woman with a great work ethic. But being a Moabite, she was an illegal alien disqualified from marrying any Jewish man — much less to become the progenitor of Messiah in her generation.

Well, there must be some woman in Matthew 1 who your church nominating committee could approve with pride. Only one woman is left in the whole list of Christ's ancestors. Certainly she must be worthy!

Oh no — Bathsheba! David had no business copulating with her, another man's wife, and then



AUTHOR

Martin Weber



killing her husband to marry her. Yet this much-shamed victim of the king's abusive behavior was chosen by God to become a mother in Christ's family tree. Not just among Joseph's ancestors in Matthew 1 but also Mary's in Luke 3.

What is going on here? In a word, grace. God will reign

supreme, reserving for Himself to deal with His people according to His good pleasure. He delights taking those we set aside and make something beautiful out of their ministry. As it is written: "God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to

We are laborers together with God, but only to the extent that we are willing to submit to Christ's authority as the one and only head of the church.

shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God" (1 Cor. 1:27–29).

No wonder Jesus was born in the little town of Bethlehem. Jerusalem, the holy city, had no shortage of rich-robed religious officials, all of them duly appointed and anointed for temple service. They thought they owned and operated God's covenant franchise and could determine the role of everyone within their hierarchy. There even was an executive committee, known as the Sanhedrin, that considered itself the voice of God to the world.

But churchmen everywhere, beware! God works in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform. He works not only

through us but beyond us and, when necessary, despite us to fulfill His purposes. We are laborers together with God, but only to the extent that we are willing to submit to Christ's authority as the one and only head of the church.

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



**EDITOR'S NOTE:** As space allows, the *Gleaner* provides the You Said It section for Northwest Adventist members to share their personal testimonies or inspirational thoughts. The views expressed are those of the writer and may not fully reflect those of the North Pacific Union Conference or its leadership. We welcome submissions of 500–900 words for You Said It.

KAREN PEARSON

# #BUTNOW

WHERE #METOO  
GAVE ME PERMISSION  
TO ACKNOWLEDGE  
MY BROKENNESS,  
#BUTNOW  
EMPOWERS ME TO  
WALK IN JOY!





## SOCIAL MEDIA FEEDS ACROSS THE COUNTRY RECENTLY BLEW UP WITH COUNTLESS #METOO POSTINGS. WHILE MANY CAME FROM A-LIST CELEBRITIES, DID YOU NOTICE HOW MANY SEEMED TO BE POSTED BY FRIENDS, COLLEAGUES AND FAMILY MEMBERS?

I've thought a lot about how to respond. Or whether I should even join the conversation. Like too many others my life has been ravaged by sexual abuse, but it's not something I enjoy talking about. I'm not an activist by nature. In the past I'd managed to avoid the issue for decades, knowing that, once I acknowledged it, I'd have to deal with the shattering impact it'd had on my life. Back in those days it was hard enough to just get through the day. As a pastor's wife, raising two young children, I didn't have time for a crisis. Besides, nothing would change the fact that it had happened — so why reopen old wounds, right?

Funny thing about crises. If you keep ignoring their knock on your door they will eventually break the door down. The day my door caved in I fell to my knees sobbing beside my bed. When I turned to my Bible it literally opened to 2 Kings 20:5. God spoke directly to me: "Thus says the

Lord, the God of your father David, 'I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; behold, I will heal you.'" I came undone. And for the first time I was able to whisper, "Me too, Lord."

It was a hard-won victory. Not a fist-pumping celebration. Rather, a brokenhearted recognition I'd survived unspeakable things. After being in denial for so long, just being able to say #metoo was incredibly healing. I felt empowered and no longer bound by the power of the Secret.

If you are that person today please know I celebrate your victory with you! You've taken an important step. Acknowledging the trauma you endured and celebrating the fact that you're still here to declare #metoo is a vital part of your story. But I want you to know that your journey toward healing will continue as long as you live. Don't be overwhelmed by the thought.

**KAREN J. PEARSON** worked as director of publicity at Pacific Press for nine years. She now freelances as a writer and enjoys nothing more than sharing stories of how God's kindness transforms the broken places within each of us. Follow her on Facebook @KarenJPearson and on Instagram @KarenJPearson.

It's a wonderful thing even though it is not without pain.

The courage to take a stand with #metoo can be an important turning point from victim to victor. As I've followed the #metoo threads and read so many of your stories, an old hymn keeps weaving its way through my mind. I've tried to silence it, afraid I will be thought of as insensitive or, heaven forbid, politically incorrect. But I can't be quiet. I have to respond. The song keeps playing, and I feel compelled to share it in the hope that you might hear it too.

"I once was lost, *but now* I'm found;

"Was blind, *but now* I see."

And herein lies my hope. You see, I once was so badly wounded I felt certain I would die under the weight of my pain. *But now* I wake up every morning and am so grateful to be alive. I watch the sunrise on my way to work and I feel the power of the promise that the Son of Righteousness will rise with healing in His wings.

With the sharp edges of my broken heart I once hurt the people I loved the most. *But now* I'm no longer afraid of loving, and I'm learning how to receive love.

I once saw myself as a victim, deserving of the rejection and abuse life so readily dished out, *but now* I can look in the mirror and see who I really am: a miracle of God's kindness and grace.

*But now!* Oh, the power of those two simple words! Where #metoo gave me permission to acknowledge my

brokenness, #butnow empowers me to walk in joy!

No one says it better than Job. In the final chapter of the book, after his friends had no more cold comfort to share, after his wife had told him to curse God and die, after Job himself had quit railing against God, in the silence Job finally gets it. "I had heard rumors about You," he whispers, "*but now* my eyes have seen You" (Job 42:5).

Like Job we have to come to the end of ourselves. In the brokenhearted, openhearted mess of our barely audible "me too's," we acknowledge more than just our pain. We recognize the goodness, faithfulness and tenderness of the One who witnessed it all and who wept with us.

I recognize our experiences are all different. My journey is not yours. We cannot rush the stages of grief, anger or recovery. But please allow me to speak this powerful truth into your life: There is a brave new world beyond #metoo. There is so much more to God than mere rumors. I pray that someday, maybe even today, you will not only acknowledge the critical step of #metoo but learn the joyful journey of #butnow. May that be the moment the song soars within you: I once was lost, #butnow I'm found, was blind, #butnow I see!



# JUST LIKE JESUS

## A TUNNEL IN THE MOON

S

omeone told me NASA has an entire city of American astronauts who have been living deep in a tunnel in the moon since 1973. Funded by the Trilateral Commission and protected from radiation and meteors, their computers are far superior to anything on Earth. They've created a special

In fact, it extended more than 30 miles from the originally discovered hole.

And the stories began. When a thread of truth gets woven into something beyond the facts, we get fake news and wild theories. That's nothing new.

In the 1800s, when photographers began capturing images on glass and film, many church people decried these "graven images" as a grievous sin.

When President Kennedy promised to put a man on the moon, others preached, "If we touch the moon, we will desecrate it. God will have to destroy us before we destroy space."

While some believed God would punish us for replacing horses with autos, others declared that translating the Bible into the vernacular would confound our ability to hear God's true voice.

"Latin only! English would bring the Tower of Babel again!"

Have Islamic extremists really found a way to turn unsuspecting trick-or-treating children into sleeper agents? Every month brings great new conspiracy theories, amazing inventions, worse films, greater sexual deviance, genocides and other evils that "prove" the devil is winning and God is going to have to wipe us all out. Maybe it will be on Christmas — after all, some say it's really just a pagan holiday.

"Jesuits are everywhere!"

"We will be conquered from within!"

"Get off the grid."

"Have you heard about the Moon Tunnel Colony?"

Wait! The prophet Daniel says that none of this is worth your personal distress.

"At that time," the great statesman wrote in Dan. 12:1, "Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people — everyone whose name is found written in the book — *will be delivered*" (emphasis added).

Yes, the end of the world is coming. Rather than being upset or fearful about it, be aware and get excited! God's deliverance is about to break through! He has won! Michael is on His way! Victory is ours!

Troubles? Worried? Afraid of the Moon Dudes?

Make sure your name is in the Book! Then, sing the "Hallelujah Chorus"!

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

### Some believed God would punish us for replacing horses with autos.

electronic language so they can talk with beings on other planets. Their entire food supply comes from a special green moss that tastes like manna.

I smiled when I heard that. But, like so many other rumors, it contains a smidgen of fact.

According to a recent edition of the *Washington Post*, there truly IS a tunnel in the moon, 300 feet below the moon's surface and more than 30 miles long.

The Japanese discovered it in 2008, using their Kaguya Orbiter. One night, while cruising along 60 miles above the Marius Hills, the orbiter photographed a giant hole in the moon's surface.

Then Dick Duerksen NASA got involved with GRAIL (the Gravity Recovery and Interior Laboratory), which surveyed the moon. When it flew over the Marius Hills, the GRAIL detected something long and hollow beneath the surface.



AUTHOR

Dick Duerksen

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