

EDITORIAL
MAKING WAY FOR
MINISTRY

PERSPECTIVES
CHANGE OR
SELF-DESTRUCT

LET'S TALK
FIDELITY

gleaner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

**INTRO
TO
CHURCH
IAR**



JAN.
2015

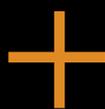
VOL. 110, No. 1



**The heavens and the earth were
completed in all their vast array.
Gen. 2:1**

*“Epic”
by Christina Angquico,
of Vancouver, Wash.*





MAKING WAY FOR

MINISTRY

F

FRIDAY AFTERNOONS CAN SEEM SLOW AT WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY. AFTER A WEEK OF RIGOROUS CLASSWORK, IT SEEMS REASONABLE OUR STUDENTS WOULD EASE UP IN ANTICIPATION OF SABBATH REST.

However, for a good number of our students, Friday afternoons signal the start of an active engagement in worship ministry.

Some 36 students strong, our Campus Ministries team plans and presents Friday night worships for our campus. In roles like sound and media technicians, stage managers, musicians and speakers, we depend on these students to close out the week and lead our campus into Sabbath worship.

Most Friday nights after vespers, those who wish to continue their worship take a short walk to our campus Prayer House, where prayer warriors lead in singing and prayer to welcome the Sabbath.

On Sabbath mornings, you'll find more students facilitating worship at Circle Church, Berean Fellowship or Renew. Here they study God's

Word, share testimonies and lift their voices in song together in Sabbath celebration.

What drives already busy students to take on these added responsibilities?

First, this generation is particularly energized by service. Researchers explain that this group is compelled to do for others.

Second, researchers tell us this generation appreciates having a service-focused job, to know that they are needed. They long to be an important part of something bigger than themselves.

Finally, our students appreciate a welcoming space to practice and polish their talents. Whether it's on Sabbath or throughout the week, here our students feel empowered to learn and lead.

Our students are the future of our church, and making way for them in ministry will impact the future of Adventism in our region. Consider these recently released statistics.¹

Graduates of Adventist colleges and universities are:

7 times more likely to develop a deeper personal relationship with Jesus while in college than their Adventist

peers who graduated from public colleges/universities;

5 times more likely to develop a strong commitment to their church while in college than their Adventist peers who graduated from public colleges/universities;

3 times more likely to develop a deeper desire to be a church leader while in college than their Adventist peers who graduated from public colleges/universities.

Our students are serious about participating in ministry. In partnership with the Walla Walla University Church, Walla Walla University is serious about providing opportunities for our students to learn and lead. Together, let us welcome their talents and commitments into our churches and encourage lifelong service to others.

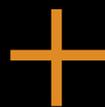
1. "College Impact Research Report," a study of college experiences in North America, sponsored by the Association of Adventist Colleges and Universities.

John McVay, Walla Walla University president



AUTHOR

John McVay



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WANG REPLACES DUNCAN AS NPUC LEGAL COUNSEL

Andre Wang has been elected by the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) executive committee as the NPUC in-house legal counsel. Although the final date for a transition is not yet determined, he will replace David Duncan who was scheduled to retire on Dec. 31, 2014.

Wang has a rich history of legal experience. For the past 14 years, he has been established as a general practice attorney focused on U.S. immigration law, estate planning, and general business and employment law matters. Since June 2012, Wang has also taught business law at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham, Ore.

A product of Adventist undergraduate schools, Wang attended Portland Adventist Elementary School and Auburn Adventist Academy and graduated from Pacific Union College with a bachelor's degree in communication. He holds a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from the School of Law at Golden Gate University in San Francisco, Calif. He is a church elder at the Sunnyside Church in Portland, Ore., and has actively served on various governing boards for church and civic organizations, including the Oregon Conference, NPUC, Adventist Medical Center in Portland, Northwest Religious

Liberty Association and Gresham Chamber of Commerce. He and his wife, Lisa, have two children.

Duncan, who is delighted with Wang's acceptance of this



Andre Wang



David Duncan

new role, has served the legal needs of NPUC-area members and churches since 1984. Before that, he provided similar services for the Washington Conference and spent four years in private practice. During his 30 years at the NPUC, he has given immeasurable aid to Northwest conferences, churches and members in the areas of estate planning and trust services, education/school law, and property sales and acquisition — areas in which Wang will now provide counsel. In retirement Duncan will continue to be available for estate planning work and on-call needs for the NPUC and local conferences. He and his wife, Janet, hope as well to have additional time for personal projects, their nine adult children and eight grandchildren.

Oregon Adventist
Men's Chorus
Sings in Romania.

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RALPH STATHAM



Why are these
Portland students
smiling?

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2014 Adventist
Health Physician of
the Year Awards.

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What does
CROP-walking have
to do with anything?

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PICTURE THIS



 **ADOPT
A ROAD
LITTER PROGRAM**
**KITSAP ADVENTIST
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**



Signs of the times for Kitsap.

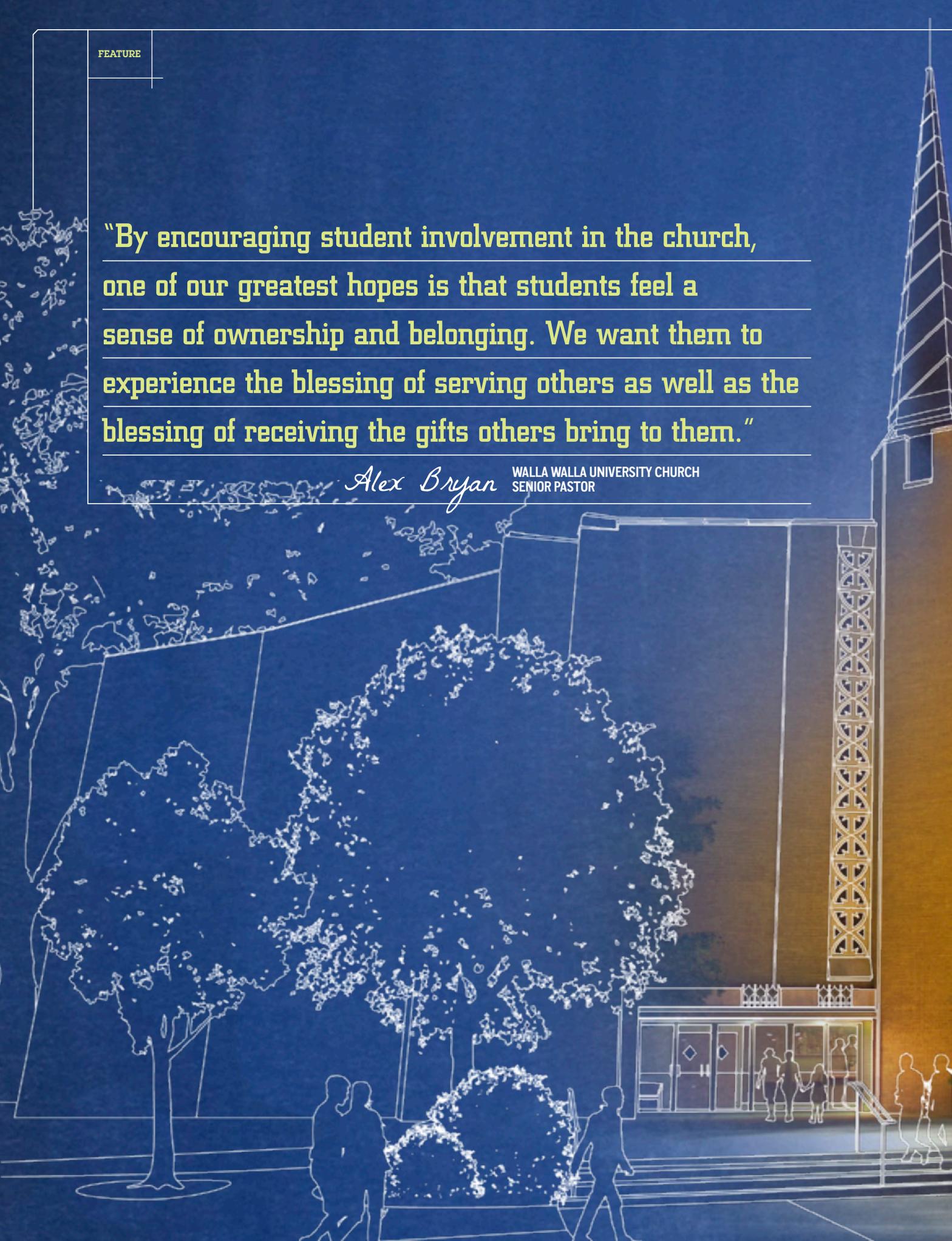
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“By encouraging student involvement in the church, one of our greatest hopes is that students feel a sense of ownership and belonging. We want them to experience the blessing of serving others as well as the blessing of receiving the gifts others bring to them.”

Alex Bryan

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY CHURCH
SENIOR PASTOR



INTRO TO CHURCH LAB

Real World Experience in What It Means to Be a Church Member

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY (WVU) AND THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH ARE PARTNERING TO EQUIP, INSPIRE, PREPARE AND SEND OUT STUDENTS WHO HAVE NOT ONLY STUDIED AND LEARNED IN CLASSROOMS, BUT WHO HAVE PRACTICED THE SKILLS THEY WILL USE AS THEY LEAVE CAMPUS AND JOIN CHURCHES IN THE NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE AND BEYOND.



The more engaged students while they are in college, the involved in their local church when they graduate.

HIGH FIVE

"IT'S A WIN-WIN," SAYS KRIS LOEWEN ABOUT WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY STUDENT INVOLVEMENT WITH HIGH FIVE. LOEWEN, UNIVERSITY CHURCH PASTOR FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES, OVERSEES A SMALL ARMY OF COLLEGE STUDENTS WHO EACH VOLUNTEER THREE TO FIVE HOURS A WEEK WITH HIGH FIVE, A MIDWEEK AND SABBATH GATHERING OF JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS.

Zach Parks, senior theology and music major, works with Loewen as a High Five director. Parks meets regularly with other students to plan events. He also manages activities at weekly gatherings and spends several hours each week just being available to the kids.

The goal of High Five is for junior high students to get to know Jesus better and to be inspired to do life with Him. "The exciting thing about involving college students," says Loewen, "is that they are cool people who love Jesus, and the junior high students want to be like them."

Parks says he has been surprised to learn how much time and effort it takes to implement even simple events. "I have also learned that it is entirely worth it," he adds. "Investing time and effort in the lives of people is never, ever a waste."

We often hear people bemoan that young adults are not part of the church anymore, says Loewen. "This collaboration between the University Church and WWU may be one small part of making that right," he says. "My sense is that the more engaged students are in the life of the church, the more likely they are to be involved in their local church when they graduate and end up in a different city."

I AM CASEY BARTLETT

CASEY BARTLETT WAS A HIGH FIVE STAFF MEMBER AND THEN DIRECTOR DURING THREE YEARS WORKING WITH THE PROGRAM.

"I spent six to eight hours per week planning and attending Tuesday night meetings, coordinating staff meetings, and motivating student staff members to stay involved in the lives of the junior high kids," says Bartlett. He also attended sports games and visited local Adventist elementary schools each week to spend time with the kids.

Bartlett says he learned that "investing in a person rather than a program changes lives and has unbelievable impact. Programs come and go, but people will always be with us."

Bartlett is now a pastor in South Dakota and says, "My experience with High Five, coupled with my phenomenal education at WWU, taught me that the people, not my ideas, are what can truly transform the church."



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nes



I AM CAROL ZHU MIN

AS A CHILDREN'S SABBATH SCHOOL ASSISTANT, CAROL ZHU MIN SERVES AS A GREETER AND HELPS IN THE BEGINNER CLASSROOM. "WHEN I CAME TO WWU IN 2011, EVERYTHING WAS NEW TO ME," SHE SAYS. "HELPING IN THE CHURCH HELPED ME ADJUST TO THIS NEW COMMUNITY AND FEEL LIKE A PART OF THIS CHURCH FAMILY. IT ALSO HELPED ME MEET NEW PEOPLE AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS."

SABBATH SCHOOLS

A TYPICAL DAY IN CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULT SABBATH SCHOOLS AT THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH LOOKS SOMETHING LIKE THIS:

Lauren Heinrich, sophomore business administration major, makes waffles while youth listen to Tyler Martin, senior theology major and business minor, share a message about moving Jesus to the first and foremost place in your day. The junior high room is filled with university students leading music for teens. Down the hall, other university students play the piano, tell stories, and cut and color arts and crafts with children.

These students and many more like them have chosen to carve time out of their Sabbath to help the University Church cultivate an atmosphere of grace and growth for children.

"The goal of student involvement in the University Church is to develop young leaders and encourage them to take their experience with them after they graduate," says Troy Fitzgerald, University Church youth and collegiate pastor.

"I have been receiving help, care and love from this community since I moved here," says Carol Zhu Min, senior elementary education major. "Helping in the church gives me the opportunity to serve the church family in return."

Min says she enjoys seeing the children's happy faces when they walk into Sabbath School. She has learned that even the smallest things make a big difference. "I learned that you don't need to do something big or significant to serve others," she explains. "If everybody can do one small thing, like playing the piano in Sabbath School class once in a while, it will make a big impact on the little ones."

"I don't think I'm doing a lot for the church," she adds, "but I was really touched when one of my teachers told me that the children in Sabbath School will always remember what I did for them when they were little."

Min says, "All these things make me wonder what else I can do for this church."



LEADOUT MINISTRIES

HUNDREDS OF WWU STUDENTS HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN LEADOUT MINISTRIES SINCE IT WAS LAUNCHED BY TROY FITZGERALD TO PROVIDE INSPIRATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES FOR CHURCHES, SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES.

Under the direction of Fitzgerald, University Church youth and collegiate pastor, LeadOut has provided authors and editors to create materials for the General Conference. The most recent project is five devotional books for young adults. Alex Lemnah, senior English major, is a lead editor for the project. Lemnah is developing skills in editing, communication, blogging and teamwork.

A LeadOut book about the 28 fundamental beliefs was created in Fitzgerald's Christian Beliefs class at WWU. Another resource was developed when students in his Ministry of Jesus class studied the character qualities of Jesus.

LeadOut also provides training for students in tutoring, mentoring and community service. Lauren Heinrich, sophomore business administration major, works with high school students doing deliberate acts of kindness in the community. Last December, LeadOut hosted leadership camps for public schools.

"All this is done to employ and deploy students to work for the cause of Christ while they are in school," says Fitzgerald. The University Church has always integrated students in the ministry of the church in one way or another. "It's just what we do," he says. "We have work to do, and the students are good at it."



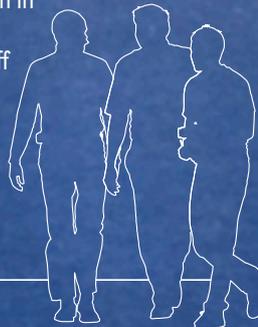
SOUND, CAMERA, LIGHTING, TV PRODUCTION

"I NEVER THOUGHT PEOPLE WOULD THANK ME PERSONALLY FOR RUNNING A CAMERA," SAYS RYAN LIGMAN, FRESHMAN BIOCHEMISTRY MAJOR, "BUT IT'S GREAT WHEN YOU GET FEEDBACK FROM PEOPLE SAYING HOW MUCH THEY APPRECIATE THE WORK YOU DO."

As a camera operator for the University Church, Ligman records video for live streaming and television production. He says his experience at the church has helped him develop an understanding of how a church can expand globally. "I enjoy the opportunity to share God not only with those around me, but with our live-stream audience around the world," he says.

An average of more than 500 viewers across the country and around the world watch the University Church service streamed live each Sabbath. Ligman is part of a larger team that works behind the scenes to make it all happen. The team includes students who work on television production and who manage sound and lighting.

As lighting assistant, Cory Sutton, senior graphic design major, aims and adjusts lights to create the best mixture of lighting and spotlighting. "I've gained a lot of insight into what goes on in the background to ensure that something as seemingly simple as a church service goes off without a hitch," says Sutton. "I've learned to think quickly and adjust when unexpected things arise. It's nice to be more than just a passive observer of the service and actually help make sure everything happens."



I AM LINDSAY ARMSTRONG

“THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH JUST BEGS TO BE SUNG IN,” SAYS LINDSAY ARMSTRONG, JUNIOR VOCAL PERFORMANCE MAJOR. “BUT THE ECHOES WE HEAR WHILE WE’RE SINGING IN THAT ACOUSTICALLY AMAZING SPACE WOULDN’T BE NEARLY AS SATISFYING IF WE WEREN’T ABLE TO FREELY SING ABOUT WHAT IS LITERALLY THE GREATEST PHENOMENON IN THIS WORLD: THAT AN UNCONTAINABLE GOD WANTS A RELATIONSHIP WITH EACH OF US.”

Armstrong is in her third year as a member of both the University Singers and the select choir, I Cantori. She is learning musical techniques such as sight-reading, intervals, using her voice to blend with a group rather than stand out, reading other languages, and analyzing the meanings of text. More than that, she says, she is learning life skills such as how to get along with different types of people, how to admit when you’re wrong and how to listen to other people.

“The most important thing I’ve learned, however, is that vulnerability is what marks a great performer or performance. People respond to authenticity in performances. You have to do the hard work,” she says. “You have to know your pieces so well that you can then go and perform and focus on the personal meaning to you. That’s when the magic happens. That’s when people are drawn closer to God because we are simply showing them what God means to us.”



MUSIC MINISTRY

EACH WEEK, MORE THAN 230 STUDENTS SPEND A COMBINED TOTAL OF 672 HOURS PRACTICING AS PART OF THE WWU ORCHESTRA, WIND SYMPHONY, STEEL BAND, UNIVERSITY SINGERS AND I CANTORI. (AND THESE HOURS DON’T INCLUDE INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE TIME AND LESSONS.)

This collaboration between the WWU music department and the University Church results in regular ensemble performances at the church that are no less than sublime and that draw an entire congregation of believers closer to God.

The University Church also enjoys accomplished student pianists and organists, soloists, and student-led bands that bring contemporary praise music alive.

“I want to develop lifelong musicians who will take their talents to whatever community of believers they may join after college,” says Brandon Beck, associate professor of music and director of the Orchestra, Wind Symphony and Steel Band.

Kraig Scott, professor of music and director of University Singers and I Cantori, says he seeks to instill in students a lifelong love of music and a desire to use their talents to bring praise to God in worship.



RETIRO DE JOVENES REVIVE 2014

El evento de Revive 2014 Youth Retreat fue toda una experiencia. La expresión de WOW!!! Fue general de entre los más de quinientos jóvenes provenientes de cada rincón de nuestra Unión del Pacífico Norte. Los jóvenes se dieron cita en el ya conocido lugar de “Washington Family Ranch” el pasado mes de agosto. Cada uno de los jóvenes, voluntarios y staff que asistieron fueron inspirados por la poderosa exposición de la palabra por medio del pastor Carlos Patrick y las inspiradoras alabanzas presentadas por el grupo de adoración “Evidence”.

El liderazgo del campamento se propuso tomarse de la mano de Dios, para poder conectar los corazones y las mentes de nuestros jóvenes con Cristo. Líderes de jóvenes de toda la Unión del Pacífico Norte estuvieron unidos y la bendición de Dios cayó sobre cada una de las personas que llegaron.

Como líderes, pudimos ver el enorme potencial que tienen nuestras conferencias en el impacto presente hacia nuestra juventud. La

unión del Espíritu Santo fue notablemente derramada en cada servicio durante todo el fin de semana. Los lazos de amistad con Cristo fueron reforzados y más de quince almas se entregaron en las aguas del bautismo, mientras que muchos otros jóvenes re-confirmaron su decisión y su pacto de amor con Jesús. Uno de nuestros voluntarios fue un padre que fue con



planes de llevar a su hija y a sus amigas al campamento y luego regresar a casa. Al llegar, Marcelo fue cautivado por el ambiente que permeaba entre los jóvenes, voluntarios, y líderes. Fue entonces, cuando hablo con algunos líderes del campamento y pidió quedarse como voluntario junto con su esposa. El sábado por la tarde, mientras el P. Ramón Canals realizaba el llamado al bautismo, Marcelo decidió entregar su vida a Cristo para sorpresa y alegría de su hija,



Agostina, la cual había bajado a las aguas del bautismo el año anterior en el mismo campamento.

“Si Dios nos amó cuando éramos sus enemigos, cuanto más nos amará ahora que somos sus amigos.” (Joven Anónimo, WFR) Este pensamiento revela la obra que el Espíritu Santo está realizando en nuestros jóvenes a través del campamento de jóvenes.

¡Que se repita pronto! era el eco que se escuchaba por todo el campamento mientras los jóvenes se despedían para volver a sus hogares. En los próximos dos años tenemos el

desafío de apoyar a nuestros jóvenes en las iglesias locales. Debemos darles la oportunidad para que puedan desarrollar sus talentos y liderazgo. Hay un ejército de jóvenes dispuestos a servir. ¡Este es su momento!

Queremos agradecer a cada padre y madre de nuestra Unión del Pacífico Norte por comprometerse en la misión que la unión tiene con sus hijos. Sin el apoyo de cada familia, voluntario y líder local de nuestra unión esto, no hubiera sido posible.

Reporte por el pastor Claudio Diaz, líder juvenil Conferencia de Upper Columbia



HILLSIDE CHURCH HOLDS ALASKA- STYLE CAMPOUT

For more than a decade, the Hillside Church in Anchorage has held weekend campouts in both summer and winter so members, families and friends can gather in a relaxed, outdoor setting. “Sabbath clothes” are traded for casual camping attire, worship songs are accompanied by guitars and harmonicas, and traditional church services give way to informal meetings around a fire pit.

The venue for 2014’s summer event could not be secured until the weekend after Labor Day, making weather and nighttime temperatures a concern. Organizers promised there would be plenty of firewood on hand to help keep everyone warm.



Steve Vicaro, Hillside Church pastor, leads out in worship.

As the day approached, rain was predicted for the weekend. Worse than camping in the cold is being cold and wet for three days.

Despite the bleak predictions, more than 70 hardy campers ranging from toddlers to octogenarians, and almost as many pet dogs, attended.



Clarence and Margret Merritt traveled from Tennessee for a third time for this campout.

Their presence was rewarded by clear, warm weather during the entire spirit-renewing weekend of adventures.

Celebrating their 59th wedding anniversary, Clarence and Margret Merritt traveled from Tennessee for a third time to camp with this group. A young man named Aaron, who had been released the previous day from a local correctional facility after serving a two-year sentence, gave a powerful testimony about his contact with the church members while he was in prison.

Whether afternoon Sabbath hikes or full weekend getaways, the addition of a nontraditional setting for members to meet outside a conventional system of worship is all but guaranteed to provide occasions for memories that will never be forgotten.

Doug Becker, Hillside O’Malley Church member

More photos online at glnr.in/110-01-alaska_style

MIDNIGHT SON OPENS NEW WORSHIP CENTER

Sept. 20, 2014, was a day of celebration for the Midnight Son Church in Kenai as members opened their new worship center. Mayor Pat Porter assisted the children with the ribbon-cutting ceremony, stating that “our children are the future of our community and our churches.” Quentin Purvis, Alaska Conference vice president secretariat, traveled from Anchorage for the occasion and officiated in the inauguration service with the local pastor, Rick Cabero.

During the service, those who attended enjoyed a variety of Christian music complemented by sign language. The children performed two special songs, including one in Spanish.

The new worship center features a grand piano as well as state-of-the-art audio-visual systems, enhancing

the already astounding acoustics. Contemporary lighting, comfortable seating and overhead windows that frame birch trees set a peaceful and worshipful atmosphere. Downstairs the facility reveals a modern kitchen with tables suitable for meetings, social functions and food service.

Along with Sabbath services, the center hosts Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered 12-step group that meets every Thursday at 6 p.m. The church family is excited about the new church growth they observe and the capabilities of reaching more physical and spiritual needs of people in the community with their new facilities. The new worship center will also be available for private use.

Charlayne O’Brien, Midnight Son Church member

Mayor Pat Porter assisted the children with the ribbon-cutting ceremony for Midnight Son Church’s new worship center.



PRESENT AND PRAYING IN 2015

Jeremy Bentham died on June 6, 1832. The utilitarian philosopher became a famous thinker in economics and law and founded the University College of London.



Bentham instructed that, upon his death, he was to be embalmed and seated in a wooden box with large windows so he could be easily seen. When he died at the age of 85, he was embalmed as he had instructed. This type of embalmed person is called an “auto-icon.”

At times Bentham’s auto-icon would be wheeled into various board meetings of the university he founded. Someone would always begin the meetings with the strange but accurate statement, “Jeremy Bentham, present, but not voting.”

One wonders how many “auto-icons” fill the pews of our churches — Christians who look alive but have died spiritually for lack of an intimate relationship with Jesus. They are “present, but not praying” — present in body but not engaged in spiritual life. Don’t follow Jeremy Bentham’s example.

In this new year of 2015, I challenge you to engage in your walk with God with new passion, purpose and prayer. Pray not just for yourself and your trials, but pray for a revival of true godliness in the church and in the world.

Join the Pray One Million movement — covenanting to pray one minute a day for one person God wants you to influence for Christ. (Visit prayonemillion.org for more information.)

And pray for God to bring all of us “auto-icons” to life through His Spirit, so that we are present to serve and prepared for His coming.

Randy Maxwell, Idaho Conference prayer coordinator and Kuna Church pastor

CAMP MEETING IS JUST FIVE MONTHS AWAY!

Put June 9–13 on your calendar. Mike Tucker, Faith for Today director/speaker, is our evening and Sabbath morning speaker. We will again have an evangelistic focus for the evening meetings. The King’s Heralds are coming for a Sabbath afternoon concert. Come for a blessing, come to BE a blessing. Bring a guest — share the blessing of God’s gift of salvation.

WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE FOR ME

He loved me before the first angel was brought forth.

He created me to be the only one of my kind.

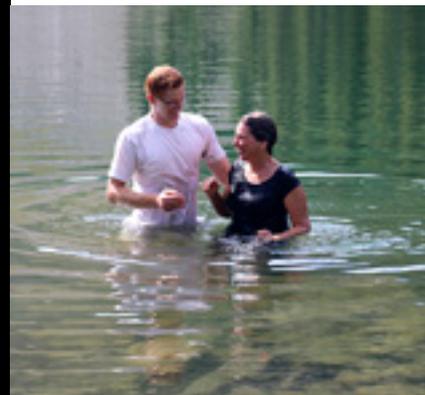
He carefully put into me each small piece that makes me, me.

And to Him I am special!

He colored my eyes green and threw in a splash of gold flecks, then He stood back and smiled.

He smiled right into my eyes and from that second forward He has been longing to look into my eyes again.

Read the rest of Dealia’s testimony at glnr.in/110-01-id_doneforme.



NAMPA CHURCH MEMBERS DO THE CROP WALK

October was CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Walk time once again. This time, about 150 walkers from Treasure Valley businesses and churches, including the Nampa Church, gathered on Sunday, Oct. 19, 2014, as they have for the past 20 years, to draw attention to ending world hunger.

When participants arrived, Joann Burnsed was busy helping everyone into “Ending Hunger” T-shirts. Soon, more Nampa Church members joined in until there was an even bigger group than last year.

At noon it was cold and windy, but by 2 p.m. the wind had died completely, leaving the sun to warm those who gathered around the tables to register. By 2:30 it was time to begin. Layers of coats and shirts had come off, and after a prayer the walkers started north up

Holly Street. Signs with arrows duct-taped to the sidewalks pointed out the route around and back toward the Northwest Nazarene University campus on 12th Avenue.

Two water stations along the route provided a break and more energy. The walkers took the 3-mile walk and gladly bit into juicy apples offered to the triumphant finishers.

Twenty-five percent of the money raised stays in Canyon County, and several times Nampa Adventist Community Services has been the recipient. Burnsed received an initial report from the chairperson that so far they had counted \$11,204, and more was expected to arrive.

Next year when you hear about CROP Walk, sign up, and Nampa Church members will see you there.

Tim Larson, Nampa Church member

Nampa Church members participate in the annual CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Walk.



BAKER CITY CHURCH WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

October 4, 2014, was a high Sabbath for the Baker City (Ore.) Church as it welcomed five new members by baptism and profession of faith.

Raised a Seventh-day Adventist, Steve Story had left the church in his teens. He later married Karen, and they remained unchurched while they searched for a place to belong. When they found the Baker City Adventist Church, they said they felt “at home.” When Eleanor Brandon discovered they were interested in Bible studies, she arranged for George and Jeanne Peacock to study with them. Later, they continued their studies with Toni and Jerry Nickell. Convinced that this was the church for them, the Storys requested baptism.

Ron Frasier, a Baker City resident, attended several of the evangelistic meetings held at the church over the years, including two Revelation series with Tony Brandon, Baker City Church pastor. During his childhood, Frasier’s next door neighbors were Adventists, and he remembers asking his moth-

er why they went to church on Saturday instead of Sunday. Over the years, his interest deepened, culminating in his decision to become an Adventist through profession of faith.

Sue Draper had been convicted of Adventist beliefs through Bible studies with church member Muriel Gray but was unable to attend church while caring for her ailing husband. After her husband passed away, her daughter, Karen Ledbetter, moved in with her. The two began studying together and both decided to be baptized.

Frasier and the Storys were welcomed into the church during the morning worship service. Draper and her daughter were baptized that afternoon.

The Baker City Church family is happy to welcome these five new members.

Pam Sundeau, Baker City Church communication leader

BILLINGS MEMBERS TAKE GLOW ON WHEELS

Each Fourth of July, thousands of visitors gather with local residents to watch the Independence Day Parade in Laurel, Mont. For several years a group of unicycle riders from the Billings Church have joined the celebration by riding in the parade. This year they hoped to give GLOW (Giving Light to Our World) tracts to people lining the streets. Kayla was able to give a GLOW to a bystander before the parade started; however, soon she, Kindra, Hana, Kaleb, and John Bryson, Billings Church pastor, realized it was difficult to distribute GLOWs while maintaining their balance on

unicycles and keeping up with the parade.

Thankfully a stand-and-ride Segway scooter had been loaned to be ridden in the parade, so Joan Bryson, while riding the Segway, was able to give out 100 “A Gift for You” GLOW tracts. Afterward, she shared that she ran out of GLOW tracts and could have easily shared many more.

These church members pray many people will read the wonderful message of God’s love and receive the gift of a new heart and changed life that He offers to all who will receive it.

Neta Bare, Billings Church member

One hundred “A Gift for You” GLOW tracts were given out via a Segway during the Fourth of July parade in Laurel, Mont.



MONTANA HOLDS ANNUAL MEN’S SUMMIT

The 2014 Men’s Summit took place the weekend of Sept. 26–28, 2014, at Mount Ellis Academy in Bozeman. Even though a light rain fell most of the day on Sabbath, it did not dampen the spirits of those who attended. Several attendees were delayed on the drive up Bear Canyon to the ski lodge Sabbath morning by a flock of wild turkeys that decided to take up residency in the road for a time.

Charles Burkeen, Oregon Conference member ministries director and author of *A Place for Us Guys*, inspired the men with new insights into why “Men Do Crazy Things.” Men are made in the image of a God who is the ultimate risk-taker, shepherd, builder and mentor. He challenged the men to honor the God who created them by embracing who they are as God’s sons, enjoying an adventurous life while maintaining a shepherd’s heart and understanding they have an obligation to mentor others.

Dan Clark was back this year and enhanced the programs with his original musical compositions. Clark, Eric Beavon and Leo Beardsley led the music assisted by Merlin Knowles, Montana Conference president, on his saw. Clark also



Charles Burkeen, Oregon Conference member ministries director, inspired the men with new insights into why “Men Do Crazy Things.”

taught the group to sing the theme song, “Have You Heard About Grace?” Josh Holloway led the Montana Men’s Chorus in a special number on Sabbath evening.

Attendees also enjoyed food prepared by the Mount Ellis cafeteria staff.

Those who attended were extremely blessed. Hopefully those who did not attend will put September 2015 on their calendars and plan on attending then.

Leo Beardsley, Havre Church communication leader

GASTON, LAURELWOOD CHURCHES HOLD LIFE-CHANGING MEETINGS

Starting on Sept. 26, 2014, about 75 people packed into the upper room at the Pythias Center in Gaston, Ore., as Amazing Facts speaker Carlo Muñoz stood up and said, “I’m so excited! Tonight I’m going to be sharing my favorite topic.” But as night after night he began the same way, it became clear that Muñoz was personally thrilled with every topic he preached about. His talks revolved around “Unveiling Revelation,” yet Jesus was his theme. After a week the group moved to the Gaston Church and continued drawing 15 to 20 visitors plus church members for the next two weeks of the seminar.

Those who had heard the amazing prophecies of Daniel and Revelation said they found Muñoz’s thorough and enthusiastic presentation the best they had ever heard and grasped



LORETA MIX

(From left) Vicki Doyle, Louella Sterling, Zakari Newton-Douglas, Shekina Nougaisse, evangelist Carlos Muñoz (in the back), Gary Kreutzer, Lisa Alvarado, with Bob Mix, Gaston/Laurelwood/Forest Grove district pastor.

these truths more fully. Another added that it strengthened and expanded his knowledge “with cohesive arguments incorporated from many books of the Bible making a concrete foundation” that would always stay with him.

The ones hearing these truths for the first time described the experience as awesome, fabulous, powerful

and a blessing. More than one proclaimed it changed their lives. They loved Muñoz’s enthusiasm, saying it was contagious. One said, “I never heard truth like this before. It touched me in a way no other church has.”

Another said, “Every day I got something out of it, and it brought me to the Lord much quicker. Carlos just let the Bible

explain the Bible.” Someone said she learned more than she had ever learned in all her life.

Lisa Alvarado, who lives in Cornelius, Ore., miraculously received a brochure for the meetings, even though her town was not included in the bulk mailings. Local church members do not know how she got the flyer, but they do know that God wanted her there. Alvarado made the commitment to marry Christ and be baptized along with five others: Vicki Doyle, Gary Kreutzer, Zakari Newton-Douglas, Shekina Nougaisse and Louella Sterling. Others are still studying and seeking to follow God all the way. The full results will be seen in the kingdom for how God spoke to hearts bringing conviction and revival.

Linda Seeber, Gaston Church communication leader



WOODLAND CELEBRATES 289 YEARS

The Woodland Community Center in Woodland, Wash., was filled with celebration as birthdays totaling 289 years came together.

Lavina Bliss (left) is 99. Marian Crozier, a Woodland Church member, is 101. Mar-

tha Ferguson, Lavina’s sister, is the youngest of the group at age 90. And Charles Ferguson, brother-in-law to Martha, will be 99 soon.

Martha’s children — Arlene Wing, Flora Campbell, Marilyn Sutton, Carolyn

Piekarek and Lyle Ferguson — were all on hand to help celebrate their mother’s 90th birthday.

Norma Brunson, Woodland Church member

LEBANON CHURCH GIFTED UNIQUE ART

Members of the Lebanon Church in Sweet Home, Ore., were in for a real treat when they entered the narthex on Sabbath, Sept. 13, 2014.

Bonnie Edgerly, Lebanon Church member, worked for three years and more than 3,000 hours to create a picture of Jesus and children from small pieces of wood in a form of wood inlay called intarsia. The method uses varied shapes, sizes and species of wood hand-fitted together and glued into place to create an illusion of depth.

Rather than using stain or

paint to create the colors in the piece, Edgerly used the colors from 15 different wood species. The finished picture measures 6 feet by 8 feet in size.

Edgerly started doing intarsia woodworking in about 1990 but stopped when she began working as a nurse around 1993. She hadn't done any since then until the church decorating committee asked her if she would be willing to take on this project in 2011.

Judy Blackwood, Lebanon Church communication leader

It took more than 3,000 hours to create this beautiful composition constructed of small pieces of wood in the method of intarsia. This image of Jesus is above the doors leading into the sanctuary of the Lebanon Church.



A Heart for Thanksgiving attendees enjoyed the evening and socializing.

DYSFUNCTIONAL 'FAMILY' HELPS RAISE \$200,000

With the prospect of winter storms and high winds, the morning of Nov. 13, 2014, dawned with uncertainty: To what extent would a dysfunctional "family" be able to help raise the needed funds by late that evening? In answer to many prayers, the evening of the annual fundraising event for Columbia Adventist Academy (CAA) in Battle Ground, Wash., saw only a dusting of snow and light winds.

The event, themed "A Heart for Thanksgiving" and benefitting the worthy student fund, began with a devotional by David Smith, Meadow Glade Church youth pastor, and music by Cierra Saur, a CAA junior. A complete Thanksgiving dinner was enjoyed by those who came no matter the weather.

Immediately following dinner, the Stratton Half Brothers took the stage. This dysfunctional "family" of three soon had everyone laughing, tapping toes, humming along as familiar songs were sung, and enjoying the group's antics.

Keynote speaker Whitaker Gladden, CAA alumnus, quickly moved the audience from laughter to tears as he shared his story of how someone had paid

for him to attend CAA. He told of teachers and students who impacted his life in a positive way, including one student in particular, Janessa Rogers, who is now his wife.



CAA seniors prepare for a night of service for others.

One attendee said, "You would have to have a very hard heart not to sacrifice to give something after that testimony to Christian education." There were no hard hearts there though, as everyone — even one dysfunctional family — pulled together to raise a record \$200,000 so no child is deprived of the gift of Christian education at CAA. God is always good, but sometimes He surprises us in big ways.

Larry Hiday, CAA Gleaner correspondent

More photos online at glnr.in/110-01-or_dysfunctional



Read more online at
glnr.in/110-01-or_paa_spanish

PAA STUDENTS EXCEL IN SPANISH

Portland Adventist Academy students were recently recognized for achievement in the Spanish language by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP).

Jack Blashishin, Charli Jo Davis, Caleb DeJesus, Andreea Hutuleac and Eric Wong were inducted into PAA's newly formed chapter of the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica (SHH), a national honor society for Spanish students.

Spanish teacher Rita Barrett sees the required two years of high school Spanish as an opportunity to inspire

PAA Spanish teacher Rita Barrett (left) talks with one of her most proficient Spanish students, Jack Blashishin, about an upcoming event to teach students how to make "pupusas," an ethnic dish.



(From left) Andreea Hutuleac, Charli Jo Davis, Caleb DeJesus, Jack Blashishin and Eric Wong were the first PAA Spanish students to charter and be inducted into the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica, a national honor society for Spanish students. Several more PAA students are expected to be inducted into the SHH early in 2015.

lifelong language learners and to ultimately bridge cultural differences in our world.

To reach those goals, Barrett began offering a third-year Spanish class several years ago. "I realized that if students enroll in Spanish as freshmen I could have them for four full years," says Barrett. "They could potentially be fluent when they graduate."

This year she was able to achieve her next goals of offering Spanish IV and chartering a chapter of the SHH.

Senior Blashishin, SHH president and one of Barrett's most proficient Spanish-speaking students, wasn't originally interested in Spanish. "I was intimidated," says Blashishin, "but I was still

curious. Then after a couple of weeks, I realized I was making progress. I just hadn't anticipated it would be so learnable."

Blashishin credits Barrett's teaching style for his success. "There are no textbooks in her class," says Blashishin. "It's a storytelling way of teaching, and it's an organic way of learning a language."

"My classroom goals are to achieve a conversational level of proficiency," says Barrett. "That means we don't get caught up in letter grades and tests. We speak to each other."

For proof of her effectiveness, look no further than PAA young alumni.

Carmella Rosu, a young PAA alumna, and two other former students recently passed

the difficult College Level Examination Program (CLEP), allowing them to skip college-level Spanish courses.

"She incorporates music, stories and cultural experiences," says Rosu, who graduated from PAA nearly fluent in Spanish. "She helped me form a solid foundation in the language."

Barrett continues to set goals for her department. "This year we are going to apply to become a CLEP testing center," she says. "I am going to try to generate more interest in it by boosting student confidence. I know all of the SHH students could pass it."

Barrett's Spanish program goals are a reflection of her passion to inspire lifelong language learners and, ultimately, to help them love others cross-culturally.

"I believe that learning another language gives one the amazing power to break down cultural walls and bring people together," Barrett wrote in a "This I Believe" essay.

"Speaking another's language shows interest and respect for that person and his country. It says, 'I value your culture, and I don't expect you to do all the work in this relationship.' If we want world peace, I believe a good place to start is to learn to speak the world's languages."

Liesl Vistaumet, PAA Gleaner correspondent

FRIENDS GATHER TO WRITE ON WALLS

Tawny Sportsman, an Oregon Prayer Conference team member, recently put out an invitation to meet her at her new home, which was under construction. On a sunny, warm Sabbath afternoon, friends of all ages gathered at the construction site to write their favorite Bible verses on the bare studs.

A rich diversity of Scripture promises were penned on nearly every board of the house. Something far stronger than 2-by-4s will be holding up that roof. God's protecting hand will be a covering shield, for the promises of God are a permanent part of that structure.

Neighbors watched people come and go that Sabbath af-

ternoon. Word passed through the neighborhood of Scriptures written on walls and of a blessing prayed over that home and its future guests. During the afternoon, several neighbors came and contributed their own verses.

The Scriptures written on the walls of Sportsman's home are now covered with wall-board and paint. No one can see them now, but those who visit that home in the future will surely hear the story of how the Word of God, prayer and praise were built into the very structure of Sportsman's home.

Next spring's Oregon Prayer Conference (OPC) will be an opportunity to learn how to be bold in prayer and to hear how others are using prayer to come boldly before the throne of grace on a daily basis. Whether you already have a robust prayer life or you need to develop a regular prayer routine, you will be blessed and challenged.

Learn more at glnr.in/110-01-or_walls.

Greg Middlestetter, Eugene Church pastor



Tawny Sportsman watches Blanca Geno add a Bible verse to the walls of Sportsman's new home.



PETER HERNANDEZ

Stevan Crary dodges the girls attempting to steal his flags as he dashes toward the goal line at the flag football station.

MILO'S THIRD ANNUAL SPORTS CAMP DRAWS MORE THAN 100

Eighty-four middle school students and 18 chaperones participated in Sports Camp at Milo Adventist Academy over Sept. 28–30, 2014.

This was the best-attended of Milo's sports camps, which began three years ago as a way to give small, Adventist schools in the area opportunities they may not otherwise have. "Sports camp was awesome," says Holly Dysart, West Valley Christian School teacher. "The kids loved being able to play different sports with an actual P.E. teacher and with other kids their age. My students come from a school with seven students, so it was fun for them to be part of a bigger student body for a few days."

Coach Burney Culpepper and his team of 28 academy volunteers taught their young guests to play volleyball, soccer, lacrosse, football, baseball and basketball while showing them how much fun exercise can be.

Facility manager Jeff Miller and his team set up the water slide on the hill at the campus entrance and built a splash pool at the bottom for the students



PETER HERNANDEZ

Eager Sports Camp participants anxiously await their turn as Allen Foster, an eighth-grader at Madrone Adventist Elementary School in Cave Junction, speeds down the legendary Milo slip and slide.

to enjoy during a break. In case the water was too chilly, they created two "hillbilly hot tubs" in the back of pickup trucks where the kids could warm up before running up the hill to slide again.

Home-schooling families are welcome to join in the fun too. Just drop a note to sportscamp@miloacademy.org to receive future information.

Kathy Hernandez, Milo Adventist Academy teacher and recruiter

More photos online at glnr.in/110-01-or_milo_sports

OREGON ADVENTIST MEN'S CHORUS SHARES GOSPEL WITH ROMANIA

The Oregon Adventist Men's Chorus and Corul Barbatesc din Romania completed an 11-city concert tour in central and western Romania Sept. 24–Oct. 4, 2014. Singers from Spain, South Africa and Ukraine also joined their voices in this international choral mission.

The project had originally been scheduled to take place in Ukraine this past May. Because of the tense political situation there, those plans were canceled. Instead, thanks to relations established during a joint project in 2009 in eastern Romania, leaders from the two main partner groups were able to create a project in Romania in less than five months.

During the final concert in Bucharest, nearly 100 singers performed sacred music ranging from the great composers to native music from each country represented. Four conductors represented their nations: David Wyman from the U.S., Alin Apostol from Romania, Mokale Koapeng from South Africa and Lev Vertylo from Ukraine.

A daily devotional plan developed by the chorus prayer team allowed supporters in each country to join the group in

focused study and prayer each day. While the buses rolled through the Romanian countryside, prayer team members on each bus led out in worship in song and word.

As the buses drove past serious traffic accidents, one bus driver said he believed the prayers kept them safe. He was so moved by the devotionals, he threw out his cigarettes on the second night of travel



RALPH STATHEM

and was tobacco-free for the remainder of the trip.

In one concert hall, as the prayer team began its pre-concert prayer, they invited one of the ushers to join their prayer circle. They learned her sister was dying of cancer and things were challenging in her life.



RALPH STATHEM

Oregon Adventist Men's Chorus in Timisoara.

They immediately surrounded her in prayer and set up contacts to keep in touch.

Among the most poignant moments was when Ukrainian pastors Lev Vertylo and Viktor Bega told of their experiences in war-torn eastern Ukraine. Vertylo expressed hope that his country would find the unity he witnessed during his time singing with the combined choruses from different nations.

God's presence was manifested at each step along the way. At the end of the program in Alba Iulia, three Orthodox sisters thanked one of the singers for the messages. They said, "The world is in need of an awakening."

Sharing hope, grace and

salvation through music reaches people who might otherwise turn a deaf ear to the gospel. The world is definitely in need of an awakening, and the voices of nearly 100 men from five countries, united in prayer and song, proclaimed the good news of God's love throughout Romania.

Louise Craig, Oregon Adventist Men's Chorus executive director



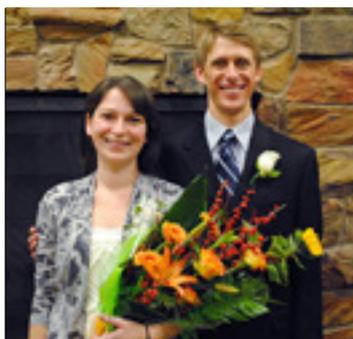
Surrounded by family, mentors and colleagues, Mario DeLise was ordained to ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

CHAPLAIN'S MINISTRY AFFIRMED

Surrounded by family, mentors and colleagues, Mario DeLise was ordained to ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist Church on Nov. 12, 2014, at Walla Walla (Wash.) General Hospital. The ceremony highlighted DeLise's journey into ministry and the sacred calling of being a hospital chaplain.

"People do not always understand what a chaplain's ministry entails," says Paul Crampton, Adventist Health assistant vice president of mission and spiritual care. "This service was a wonderful chance to highlight both the ministry God has given Mario, as well as the ministry of chaplains in general."

DeLise grew up as the youngest of three children in Deptford, N.J. He attended a local Baptist high school for



Mario and Melissa DeLise.

two years before graduating from Shenandoah Valley Academy in Virginia. During a 1994 Christmas Eve program in Brunswick, Maine, DeLise's childhood faith became personal and transformational. "As we stood for the closing song, I could see and feel something moving amidst the people singing," says DeLise. "It was a very low point in my life, but suddenly I found

myself overwhelmed by a sense of peace and fulfillment. That moment was the beginning of a new life for me."

DeLise attended colleges in New Jersey and Tennessee before graduating from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich., with a bachelor's degree in religion in 2000 and a Master of Divinity in 2004. While at Andrews University, DeLise met Melissa, who was working toward a master's degree in physical therapy. The couple married in 2002. Two years later they moved to Seattle, Wash., where DeLise completed his first unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at Swedish Medical Center. Soon after, they moved to Oahu, Hawaii, where he completed six more units of CPE at Pacific Health Ministries in Honolulu.

In 2006, DeLise accepted

a call to Howard Memorial Hospital and Phoenix Hospice in Willits, Calif., serving as chaplain and spiritual care director for three years. While there, DeLise and his wife delighted in the birth of their daughter, Rachel, in 2007. DeLise came to Walla Walla General Hospital in 2009, where he has since served as the chaplain and spiritual care director. The DeLises welcomed their son, Alexander, in 2010.

"All along our journey, we have seen the grace and faithfulness of God," says DeLise. "It amazes me how God rejoices over us despite our frailty and that He draws us in to do His work. It is beautiful and humbling, and it leaves us grateful."

Amy Alderman, Adventist Health corporate marketing and communication

SUNNYSIDE WELCOMES NEW PASTOR

Sunnyside Church members were happy to welcome Vioral Negoi as their new pastor on Nov. 22, 2014. After almost 19 years with their previous pastor, Larry Mays, the church family is looking forward to another era of working together with Negoi to do the will of God in the Sunnyside, Wash., area.

Cherelyn Strickland, Sunnyside (Wash.) Church communication leader





Cascade Christian Academy students make a difference on Make a Difference Day.

CASCADE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY MAKES A DIFFERENCE

The students at Cascade Christian Academy (CCA) in Wenatchee, Wash., took time out on Oct. 24, 2014, to participate in the annual Make a Difference Day.

The day's activities began with a combined K–12 chapel featuring a skit entitled “Mission Possible” and acted out by high school students Hannah, Jamie and Ally Stonas and Samantha and Zach Molander. The message challenged students to consider what it may be like to walk in other people's shoes and find ways to reach out to them like Jesus would.

While the high school students were winterizing and cleaning up around nearby Camp Zanika, the junior high students split up into four groups to serve in such activities as reading to and painting fingernails of the residents of Blossom Creek Memory Care Facility, assembling cat toys for the Humane Society, cleaning up around the Lighthouse Ministries' soup kitchen, and delivering clothing and canned goods collected during “Socktober.” Fifth- and first-grade brothers Justin and Samuel Wagner initiated a sock, winter apparel and food drive

during the month of October at CCA. What was collected was donated to the Gospel House, a homeless shelter established through Lighthouse Ministries.

The fourth- and fifth-grade students made cheery placemats for River West Assisted Living facility. Kindergarten through second-grade students joined the fourth-graders by delivering the placemats and singing to the residents. Fifth-graders stayed on campus to move gravel on the playground to its rightful place. Third-graders took time to create cards and sing for the residents at Blossom Valley, another assisted living facility in Wenatchee.

Make a Difference Day turned out to be a most productive day for the CCA students and the recipients of their labor, and the staff is planning to provide more service opportunities for their students.

Julie Savino, Cascade Christian Academy chaplain

More photos online at glnr.in/110-01-ucc_cca_diff

MOSCOW VETS HONORED WITH QUILTS OF VALOR

Eleven United States military veterans of the Moscow (Idaho) Church were presented Quilts of Valor on Nov. 8, 2014.

Quilts of Valor Foundation was begun by Catherine Roberts of Delaware after her son Nathanael's deployment to Iraq. Her desire was to see returning warriors welcomed home with the love and gratitude they deserved.

Thankfully, between 1953 and 2007, the Moscow Church veterans had come home. But two years ago church member Patrice Jacobson came up with the idea of making each Moscow veteran an honor quilt, and, with Nancy Matthews' help, the quilts were made. “Our veterans may have been

home for years, but we still wanted them to know how much they were appreciated by their church family,” explains Jacobson.

Each veteran was presented a quilt during the church service by a youth member of the congregation. Two of the veterans were presented quilts by their grandchildren, and one veteran received his quilt from his oldest son.

Stan Hudson, Moscow Church pastor, says, “We are truly blessed to have these heroes in our church.”

Cindy Hudson, Moscow Church member

Army, Navy and Air Force veterans from the Moscow Church were presented with Quilts of Valor.



UCA FOUNDATION GETS NEW NAME



- One dream – enhancing UCA
- One focus – UCA students
- One school – Upper Columbia Academy
- One goal – grants/scholarships
- One method – endowment

The Upper Columbia Academy (UCA) Foundation board recently voted for a new name and logo. This change comes following a yearlong discussion regarding how to make it clear that the foundation is not UCA, but a supporting organization for the Spangle, Wash., school.

The new name, FoundationONE, sets the foundation apart. The old name (Upper Columbia Academy Foundation) put the name of the school first, so the foundation was often mistaken for UCA. The new name and logo clearly communicate the organization's identity (a foundation) and mission (UCA students).

When UCA Foundation was established, the dream was to forever secure the opportunity of an Adventist education at Upper Columbia Academy for every student who wished to attend. The foundation has made progress toward that goal but has not yet achieved it.

The cost of private educa-

tion continues to escalate, so the foundation's vision must also expand. The foundation board is setting strategies to grow the endowment from \$1.7 million to \$5 million. Then it will re-grow and go for \$10 million.

As the foundation's assets grow, the board will be able to award more and larger scholarships and grants, permitting more students to engage in UCA's life-transforming education.

The foundation's DNA has not changed. Its new name and logo simply set the course for growth and signal a rekindled passion and determination to accomplish the original, essential and far-reaching mission.

Linda Klinger, FoundationONE executive director

SHERIDAN MEADOWS ADDS BUILDING

Thanks to 26 people, 10 days, about \$40,000 and the Lord's blessing, the new building at the Sheridan Meadows campground in Republic, Wash., stands ready for electrical and plumbing installation, wallboard and kitchen cupboards. Measuring 33 feet by 74 feet, the building includes a kitchen and dining area. Leon Anderson, crew foreman, supervised the work, and he marveled at the willingness and cooperation of the volunteers who came from local churches as well as from Pendleton, Ore., and Brewster and Tonasket, Wash.

Numerous miracles occurred during the building's construction, such as getting the

trusses early. Before Anderson even asked, he received a call from the company saying the trusses were ready just when needed. A volunteer hauled a needed tractor to the site, and another helper donated all the metal trim for the building. For the first week Marjorie and Dick Smith provided lunch for the workers, and in the second week Marie Anderson did.

Robin Marsh chairs the campground committee, Darlene Clark from Republic, Wash., is the secretary, and Michelle Kinnel from Chewelah, Wash., serves as treasurer.

Marilyn Morgan, Kettle Falls Church communication leader

Numerous miracles occurred during the construction of a new building at the Sheridan Meadows campground.



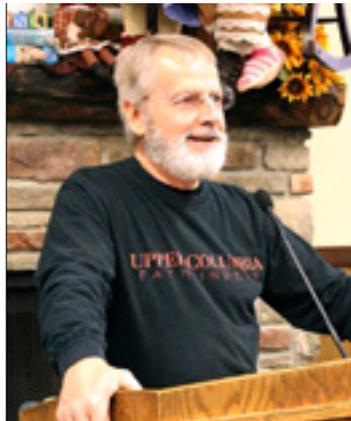
PATHFINDER, ADVENTURER LEADERS ENJOY RETREAT

On the weekend of Oct. 31–Nov. 2, 2014, Pathfinder and Adventurer staff numbering 217 gathered from all over the Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) amid the autumn beauty of Camp MiVoden in Hayden Lake, Idaho, for the annual Pathfinder and Adventurer Leadership Retreat.

Friday's arrival included unloading gear and signing up for classes, followed by a hearty meal cooked by former Pathfinder and Pathfinder staff Cheri Bullock, whose outstanding meals earned for her a standing ovation by the weekend's end.

District coordinator elections followed, with coordinators either invited to return for another term or asked to step into leadership. Arlita Parr was elected as the North District coordinator.

Each leadership retreat has continued its mainstays, such as the Sabbath vespers candlelight service. Each has also left a sense of the weekend's highlights, including the Saturday evening banquet, during which lots of clowning around happened this year — because the theme was “Discipling ... more than clowning around.” Three service dogs and about 90 percent of the staff showed up dressed as clowns.



Wayne Hicks welcomes everyone to the Pathfinder and Adventurer Leadership retreat.

Perhaps the most rewarding benefit was this year's speaker, Dan Solis, associate pastor of Village Church in College Place, Wash. His theme of discipleship pointed directly toward caring for and leading God's kids. Solis focused his messages on the importance of listening to and mentoring Pathfinders and Adventurers, showing them truth in love, as Jesus did.

The feedback from attendees was positive. “One of the things my staff and I particularly appreciated about Pastor Dan was how very spiritually oriented his talks were. They helped focus us all in a more spiritual direction with our kids,” says Cindy Williams, the Wheatland Coyotes Pathfinder director from Spangle, Wash.

The attendees at this year's leadership retreat also took advantage of working together in seminars, worshipping during song services and sharing ideas over cafeteria tables. Great fellowship and rejuvenation were the weekend results.

Seminar topics ranged from leadership development for staff working on their master guide awards or UCC certification as counselors and directors to the been-there-done-that options for staff who already accomplished these pursuits. One seminar offered for the first time by Williams dealt with how to understand why bullies are bullies. Williams went over how a child might

combat bullying at school and in Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs by using such tactics as responding with off-the-wall, distracting reactions to take the “fun” out of bullying.

By the weekend's end, Pathfinder and Adventurer staff found themselves the givers and receivers of encouragement and instruction that enabled them to return to their clubs with more of Christ's kindness and compassion for His kids. They also left MiVoden with a sense of God's autumn beauty and the privilege to disciple God's kids.

*Jeremy Vetter, Palouse Hill
Pathfinders director*

Wendy Eberhardt presented a Lifetime Achievement Award from the North American Division for distinguished service and faithfulness to vision to Wayne Hicks. In accepting this, Hicks acknowledged the award should go to his amazing leadership team.



More photos online at glnr.in/110-01-wa_brotherhood

BIG PICTURE OF MINISTRY

Ordained and commissioned pastors, along with local church leaders, surround Gayle Lasher in prayer. Lasher's gifts in pastoral ministry were recognized during a commissioning service in early October 2014. She serves as the pastor and church planter of New Life Adventist Ministry in Fife.



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

Washington Conference administrators welcome Paul and Tanya Vivier to ordained gospel ministry. Paul Vivier, one of four Native American pastors in the Pacific Northwest, was ordained in late October 2014. He pastors the Volunteer Park district in Seattle.



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

Robin Song (right) shares his ministry story with a bilingual audience with assistance from translator Dennis Kim. Song, a pastor who excels in integrating youth into small groups, was ordained in mid-November 2014. He is the youth pastor at Living Vine Fellowship, which is part of Seattle Central Korean Adventist Church in Auburn.



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

PUSHING THE LIMITS FOR BROTHERHOOD

Continually throughout Sunset Lake's three-day fall Father Son Campout, a thought kept crossing my mind — "What am I doing?"

When you're rappelling for the first time in your life at 43 years old and doing it with your 11- and 7-year-old sons attached by separate ropes to your waist — no kidding — such questioning never ceases.

The same could be said of hiking down a very steep — at times treacherous — trail to reach a river and later that Sabbath starting a fire without matches.

Topping off the breaking-out-of-your-comfort-zone weekend was a strenuous three-hour canoe trip down the Green River as my oldest son continually wanted to challenge my leadership by often refusing to follow my directions for which way to paddle. As a result, the three of us flipped our boat into the cold water at least four times, bumped into several fallen shoreline trees and bottomed-out in shallow waters countless times.

But it was during those times of emotional, mental and physical exhaustion that new bonds were forged between me and my boys as they reached unexpected triumphs. One of those memorable milestones came as my oldest boy, Kincade, rejoiced when he successfully rappelled down the approximately 30-foot rock face. Another came each time Braden proudly showed off the two rainbow trout he caught in nearby Lake Kepka.

However, the three-day campout led by Bob Gaede wasn't all about taxing our muscles. It also featured Gaede leading the group of four



ETHAN FOWLER

Ethan Fowler and his sons, Kincade and Braden, formed new bonds as they pushed mental and physical strength boundaries at the Father Son Campout.

fathers and their sons in thought-provoking Bible studies around a campfire, plus incredibly good food, gorgeous outdoor beauty and new friendships.

When asked what they liked about the weekend, neither of my boys struggled to respond.

"I loved cliff-rappelling," Kincade said.

"I also learned that my dad is trying to help me get through life. This will help me feel more comfortable taking chances."

Braden added, "I loved the fishing and the food."

Although my body was sore for three days after the campout weekend, I do hope to attend next year's Father Son Campout when it rolls around again — only this time, I plan on being in better shape beforehand.

Ethan Fowler, Kitsap Adventist Christian School board member and parent



ETHAN FOWLER

More photos online at
glnr.in/110-01-wa_tacoma



FAMILY OF GOD EXPANDS AT TACOMA CENTRAL

When Valgene Tiller looked in the recycling bin, he found a mailer about Bible prophecy made simple. It looked interesting to him, so he picked it up and decided to attend the seminar series. Tiller had previously received similar mailers before but had never taken action.

"It was right on top and easy to pick up," Tiller remembers.



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

A dozen new members joined Tacoma Central Church after learning more about Bible prophecy and finding hope for the future.

"I felt lost on Tuesdays and Thursdays when we didn't have meetings," he says. "They were very good, and I learned a lot."

While Tiller came because of a handbill, other people baptized the same day came because of established friendships.

Dennis McGarty attended his third round of Bible prophecy meetings. "This time, it affected me a whole lot more, and I realized that the Bible is the truth," McGarty says. With the aid and support of his Adventist friends, he was five days free from "the old cigarettes" at the time of his baptism.

"This morning a friend of mine offered me a cigarette,"

McGarty says, "and I refused it. I had tried for a number of years to stop smoking. I'm done now."

Dennis McGarty celebrates five days of being tobacco-free on the day of his baptism.



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

Valgene Tiller shares his testimony about receiving Bible prophecy invitations in the mail and discarding them. Tiller decided to attend the seminar series after God had him find another invitation in a recycling bin.

This time, Tiller faithfully attended the prophecy seminar with evangelist Tyler Long at Tacoma Central Church.

More photos online at glnr.in/110-01-wa_min_evan

NEW + MINISTERIAL AND EVANGELISM TEAM INTRODUCED

Washington Conference is pleased to introduce a new ministerial and evangelism team. Tyler Long will serve as evangelism coordinator, and Bill Roberts will serve as ministerial director.

Long joined the Washington Conference team in March 2014

as an evangelism coach. He partnered with Port Orchard Church members six weeks before their evangelism series with Dan Bentzinger so the church could develop a database of friends. The relational coaching helped energize the congregation.

With the departure of Bill McClendon to

pastor in Baltimore, Md., Long provided interim leadership for Reach Washington coordinated evangelism this last fall. Long will now continue full-time as he plans and coordinates a relational style of public evangelism. Long and his wife, LaVonne, have two small children.

Roberts will be drawing from his 25 years of ministry experience to support, mentor and encourage pastors in western Washington. Roberts first came to the Auburn community in 1998 to teach Bible for three years at Auburn Adventist Academy and then served as senior pastor



Bill Roberts will serve the Washington Conference as ministerial director.



Tyler Long will serve the Washington Conference as evangelism coordinator.

for 14 years at Auburn Adventist Academy Church. Most recently, in addition to his pastoral duties, Roberts also served as one of three ministerial department field representatives. Roberts and his wife, Dorena, have two teenage children.

"I wasn't looking for this job, but God made it clear in my heart that this is something He wants me to do," says Roberts, who spent two weeks fasting and praying before giving his response to this job offer.

"Bill and Tyler will be a good addition to our dedicated team of ministry leaders as we seek to follow God's mission," says Doug Bing, Washington Conference vice president for administration.

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director

Nearly 700 people attended the Auburn Adventist Academy (AAA) production of the *Annie* musical. The musical involved AAA students and Buena Vista Elementary School students who learned music, practiced voice inflection, practiced their acting skills, integrated their academic curriculum and refined their performance confidence. The academy is in its third annual year of producing a musical starring academy students.



ARTGEN CLEMENCIA

AAA students are highly regarded by college staff, parents, pastors and leaders for being spiritually grounded. Their spiritual maturity is a key feature as they lead campus ministry activities in fresh, joyous and practical ways.



HOLLIE MACOMBER

AAA students are leading the way in requesting donations to the school's scholarship fund for next year. Together with faculty and staff, they wrote letters to their friends, family and community and asked people in their lives to "Get Connected" with the school.



HOLLIE MACOMBER



Adult volunteers gather before the school's new sign before starting the October trash collection along Chico Way.

CLEANING UP ROADSIDE HELPS KITSAP SCHOOL GET SIGN

Kitsap Adventist Christian School in Bremerton, Wash., received the first of its two roadside signs recently after it successfully completed two Kitsap County Adopt-a-Road trash collections.

The first sign was placed at 2022 Chico Way, with the second planned for 3153 Northlake Way.

The school's Adopt-a-Road group of about 10 adult volunteers collected 25 trash bags during the first cleanup in February 2014, eight bags in June and 14 in October.

"What I liked best was when grateful neighbors came out and thanked us for cleaning up their road," says Becky Rae, Kitsap Adventist Christian School principal.

Although the group is required to do a minimum of two cleanups a year, Ethan Fowler, the group's coordinator, decided to do three to keep the two assigned roads nicer and the cleanups more manageable.

The school signed up for the Kitsap County Adopt-a-Road program last fall as a way

to get around the county not allowing them to get a road sign on Northlake Way since the post was already at capacity with four signs.

"I would recommend other Adventist schools and churches participate in their community's Adopt-a-Road program," says Paula Dietrich, school board chairwoman. "Kitsap County made it easy by providing all the equipment, and the volunteer turnout from the Bremerton and Port Orchard churches was great. Participating in the program has helped Kitsap Adventist Christian School increase its visibility and connection with the community it serves."

Ethan Fowler, Kitsap Adventist Christian School board member and parent

More photos online at glnr.in/110-01-wa_kitsap

NORTH CASCADE MEMBERS GET SWABBED TO SAVE LIVES

On national Make a Difference Day, Oct. 25, 2014, members of the North Cascade Church in Burlington learned how they could make a difference by taking a cheek swab and registering to be bone marrow donors. Alexandra Brandt shared her success story during the ministry feature of the worship service.

Diagnosed with cancer at 18 months of age, Brandt received several rounds of chemotherapy. Her leukemia went into remission but then relapsed when she was 3. Unable to find a donor match within the



Organizers Dick Tolf and Lynn Fiedler assist at the sign-up table.

came to my wedding." Brandt encouraged participation in the donor program and emphasized that "donating ... to save somebody's life is not just about changing their life; it also will change yours."

Information about the Delete Blood Cancer (DBC) donor program as well as sign-up sheets for participation in the upcoming cheek-swabbing drive were available in the church lobby. On Nov. 8, eligible donors completed information forms, swabbed inside both cheeks and sealed their swabs in envelopes to be returned to the DBC organization for testing and database entry.

The DBC organization provides the procedure free of charge to both donors and recipients. Information on hosting a donor drive is available on the website DeleteBloodCancer.org.

Sharon Wilson, North Cascade Church communication leader

More photos online at glnr.in/110-01-wa_swabbed



Alexandra Brandt (right) shares her story of being a bone marrow recipient. Cindy Hartley (left) explained how church members can become donors.

family, Brandt was one of the first to receive a transplant from a nonrelative. She and her donor became lifelong friends.

"He was my buddy, my big brother," Brandt explains. "He would come to my birthday parties, and not too long ago he

REBOK RETIRES AS SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF ADVENTIST HEALTH

Doug Rebok retired as senior vice president and chief administrative officer (CAO) of Adventist Health effective Dec. 31, 2014, ending his nearly 40-year career with the health system.

Since April 2014, Rebok has served in the CAO role overseeing various Roseville-based (Calif.) support services shared across Adventist Health's four-state service area. However, for most of his lengthy career he was senior vice president and chief financial officer.

"Doug has been a dedicated and skillful leader in our system for nearly four decades," states Scott Reiner, president and CEO. "I have personally appreciated his deep commitment to furthering the faith-based mission of Adventist Health, something for which he is well-respected throughout our organization."

"It has been an honor to serve within Adventist Health for so many years," says Rebok. "I have met and worked with many dedicated people, all who have inspired me. I will miss working for this organization and with the people who serve within it. It is a privilege to work with people who are committed to a mission statement that does not just hang on the wall."



Doug Rebok

ADVENTIST HEALTH HOSPITALS RECEIVE QUALITY AND SAFETY AWARDS

Patient safety and quality efforts are an ongoing process as a part of the Adventist Health mission to provide physical, mental and spiritual healing. Adventist Medical Center (AMC) in Portland, Ore., Tillamook Regional Medical Center in Tillamook, Ore., and Walla Walla General Hospital (WWGH) in Walla Walla, Wash., have been

recognized in these areas.

The Joint Commission 2013 Top Performer on Key Quality Measures program recognizes accredited hospitals that attain excellence in accountability measure performance. All three hospitals achieved this recognition.

Collaborative Alliance for Nursing Outcomes (CALNOC), the nation's first nurse quality indicators database, announced its annual Performance Excellence Awards. WWGH was recognized for Performance Excellence in the Reduction of Hospital Acquired Pressure Ulcers and Performance Excellence in the Reduction of Injury Falls.

The LeapFrog Group announced AMC was awarded an "A" grade for excelling in protecting patients from

accidents, errors, injuries and infections. "Doing the right thing for every patient every time helps create that culture of safety," says Cindy Nutter, AMC chief nursing officer. "Every team member, from the person cleaning rooms to the physician delivering lifesaving care, owns our quality outcomes. Our commitment to delivering clinical best practices, implementing innovative technology and listening to patient needs means patients will be safer and heal faster."

PHYSICIAN LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM

Each October at the annual Physician Leadership Symposium, Adventist Health presents Physician of the Year Mission Awards. The two-day symposium brings together more than 200 attendees including physician leaders as well as other key hospital and corporate administrators and staff from across Hawaii, California, Oregon and Washington.

The physicians honored with the Physician of the Year Mission Awards 2014 are:

- Theodore "Ted" Mackett, Adventist Medical Center;
- Gerald Gibbs, Tillamook Regional Medical Center;
- Arthur Giebel, Walla Walla General Hospital.

(From left) Monty Knittel, Walla Walla General Hospital president and CEO; Arthur Giebel, 2014 Physician of the Year Mission Award recipient; Joyce Newmyer, Adventist Health Northwest Region president and CEO; and Keith Doram, Adventist Health vice president and CMO.



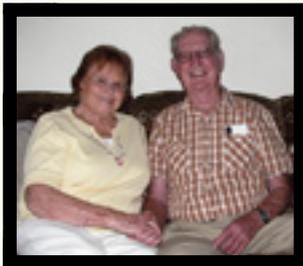
Jenni Glass, Adventist Health communications coordinator

Andersen 50th

Gordon Andersen and Gladys Denny were married Nov. 5, 1964, in Portland, Ore. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 8, 2014, in Salem, Ore., at a dinner event with family and close friends.

Gordon and Gladys have enjoyed their 50 years as a married couple, attending the Tabernacle Church in Portland for a few years and the Salem Central Church for more than 40 years.

The Andersen family includes Bruce and Susan Andersen of Corvallis, Mont.; Carla Andersen of Salem, Ore.; and 5 grandchildren.



Elwood and Doris Boyd

Boyd 65th

Elwood and Doris Boyd celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on Aug. 28, 2014. They met at Campion Academy in Loveland, Colo., in 1944. Elwood represented Campion at weekend seminars, while Doris played the piano for the quartet.

Both went on to Union College and graduated in 1951. They were called to ministry by the Nebraska Conference. Their average district was four churches.

They accepted an invitation from the Upper Columbia Conference in 1962 and pastored in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana. After pastoring for 43 years, they retired in 1995 and now live in College Place, Wash.

Their children include:

Bruce, Canadian Union College University theology department chairman and assistant professor; Kim, a food process representative in Japan, China and Australia; Lynn, director of ADRA in Mozambique, Africa; Gail, a university voice instructor in San Antonio, Texas; Julie, Southern Adventist University voice instructor; and Kenny, Loma Linda (Calif.) University associate professor of psychology.



Ed and Allegra Gienger

Gienger 60th

Ed and Allegra (Lang) Gienger's 60 years of marriage was honored by their children and grandchildren during an open house reception at the Village Church in College Place, Wash., on June 14, 2014. The many friends and other family members attending enjoyed the narration of their married life accompanied by dramatization by their grandchildren. They were most blessed to have all of their four children and children's spouses present, along with all but three of their 20 grandchildren and grandchildren's spouses, plus three of five great-grandchildren.

Ed and Allegra were married in their hometown of Gackle, N.D., and both graduated from State Teachers College in Valley City. Ed taught in public schools

for five years before going to seminary in 1959 at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich. By that time they had three children, and the Lord blessed them mightily so they were debt-free when Ed finished his master's in theology.

After serving in the Max, Dickinson and Bismarck churches for five years and adding a son, the family moved to Spokane, Wash., to pastor. Allegra went to Whitworth College to get her master's degree and resumed her teaching career, which she continued until she retired two years ago.

They served in Washington's Yakima, Pasco, Walla Walla and Vancouver churches and Gresham Church in Oregon until Ed retired in 1999. Ed continued to serve as interim pastor in various churches until he retired for the seventh time after 42 years in ministry.

The Gienger family includes Dean and Carol (Norton) Gienger; Lynae and Jim Moor of Battle Ground, Wash.; LoAnn and Kevin Ayers of Pasco, Wash.; Lonnie and Shelley (Meyer) Gienger of Yakima, Wash.; Brad and Kristin Gienger of Bismarck, N.D.; 20 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

Harris 50th

Philip and Arlene Harris of Fairfield, Mont., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Philip Richard Harris and Arlene Joyce Ausmus were married in Burns, Ore., on Sept. 6, 1964. They settled on the Harris family ranch west of Fairfield and lived out happy years raising sheep, cattle, kids and a bountiful garden. Their time on the ranch was interrupted only for Philip's service in the Army

from 1966 to 1968, when they lived in Texas and then Munich, Germany, for one year.



Philip and Arlene Harris

Their greatest joys have included watching their boys and grandchildren grow close to the Lord, as well as birding and gardening together.

Their family includes Derik Harris of Auburn, Wash.; Darin and Shelly (Beardsley) Harris of Kalispell, Mont.; Dallas and Melisa (Schimke) Harris of Fairfield, Mont.; Denver and Liz (Morrison) Harris of Fairfield; and 6 grandchildren.

House 65th

To celebrate their 50th anniversary, Lonnie and Lillie House renewed their vows in the Valley View Church in East Wenatchee, Wash., in front of family and friends. For their 65th wedding anniversary the whole family went out for dinner and later had a reception at home.

Lillie Lela Harlen-Taylor married Lonnie Leroy House on April 21, 1948, in Bentinville, Ark.

Lonnie and Lillie House lived in Webb City, Mo., until their first child, Leroy Edward, was born. Then they moved to Kansas City, Mo., where they welcomed Lois Ellen in 1952. Two months later they moved to Washing-

FAMILY MILESTONES

ton State, where Lonnie Leroy Jr. was born at the old Deaconess Hospital in Wenatchee. Then they moved to Peshastin in 1966, where they owned a 30-acre orchard for 20 years. The House family moved to East Wenatchee in 1968, and all three of their children graduated from local schools and made their homes in the Wenatchee Valley.

They were baptized in the Cashmere (Wash.) Adventist Church in 1973 and are still members to this day.

The House family includes Lee Edward House Sr. of Entiat, Wash.; Lois Ellen (House) Edwards of East Wenatchee; Lonnie Leroy House Jr. of Cashmere; 5 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, and a great-great-grandchild.



Grace Alice Mentzel

Mentzel 100th

How often do you attend a birthday party for a 100-year-old? On July 10, 2014, the family and friends of Grace Alice Mentzel filled the fellowship hall of the Canyonville Church for a birthday luncheon celebrating her century of life. Inamae Henderson, Grace Alice's niece, planned the event, which included a noon luncheon organized by Mabel Van Cleave.

The luncheon program included singing "Happy Birthday" and a tribute to Grace Alice given by Ches-

ter Schurch, pastor, entitled "Amazing Grace Alice," in which he referenced the culture existing 100 years ago. For example, when Grace Alice was born, Woodrow Wilson was the president of the United States, the Panama Canal had just opened, Babe Ruth had played his first professional game of baseball and A. G. Daniels was General Conference president.

Schurch and his wife, Cindy, sang a duet written by Grace Alice, "I Want the Love of Jesus in My Heart." Henderson gave a tribute to her aunt, which was followed by a poem written for the special occasion by a friend, Ann Ingermanson. The birthday celebration concluded with Grace Alice's favorite song, "The Holy City," sung by a friend, Bob Bright, with his wife, Arlene, playing the violin, and accompanied by Mary Calvert on the piano. Those in attendance agreed there never was a nicer person honored on her 100th birthday.

Olson 50th

Alton and Doris (Haney) Olson celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Aug. 23, 2014, at a reception hosted by their children.

They met while attending the same church and junior academy in Pendleton, Ore. Their first date was in September 1963 to the Pendleton Round-Up Dress-Up Parade. They became engaged in February and were married Aug. 23, 1964, in the Pendleton Church.

After the wedding, they moved to Salem, Ore., where Doris attended Merritt Davis School of Commerce and received an associate degree in secretarial science while Alton worked various jobs.

Upon Doris' gradua-

tion in the summer of 1965, they moved to Corvallis, Ore., where she worked as office secretary in the campus photography shop and Alton attended Oregon State University to pursue a teaching degree in industrial education.

In the summer of 1966, they moved to College Place, Wash., for Alton to continue his degree in industrial education at Walla Walla College (now Walla Walla University). During their stay in College Place, Doris worked as secretary for an attorney and spent her spare time typing term papers for Alton until he graduated in 1968.

After Alton's graduation, the pair moved to Woodburn, Ore. Alton got his first teaching position at Woodburn Middle School and later transferred to Woodburn High School, where he continued to teach for 11 years.

During these years, they added two children to their family. Alton began working



Alton and Doris Olson

on his master's degree, and Doris became a stay-at-home mom, again occupying her spare time typing term papers. She later utilized her skills as head secretary at Woodburn High School. Alton and Doris moved their family to Pendleton in 1979 to take over the family farm after Alton's father was killed in a farm accident.

For the next 29 years, Alton was employed by Echo School District teaching indus-

trial technology (IT) and career education. During that time, he and his IT class started a car club that focused on providing community service. The club started a car show (consisting of five cars), which has become an annual Echo event and has grown to nearly 200 cars from around the Northwest.

Alton retired from teaching in 2009 and immediately began coordinating the construction of an industrial technology building on the campus of the local Harris Junior Academy, where he has volunteered for the last five years teaching IT classes and has headed up the maintenance of the school building.

For Doris, the past 35 years has consisted of working four years for the City of Pendleton and 19 years at Umatilla-Morrow Education Service District as career education department secretary, retiring in 2003. After a brief retirement, she purchased Whitey's Caramel Corn and Sweet Shop to hone her candy-making skills. After selling the shop in 2008, she began volunteering at Harris Junior Academy as the school secretary.

In addition to their fulfilling careers, Alton and Doris have spent the past 35 years supporting various church ministries, such as youth department leaders, adult Sabbath School coordinators, elder, and music and worship coordinator, to name a few. As they have grown in their love of the Lord, the Pendleton Church has become a treasured extension of their family as members have shown their love and support on a daily basis.

Their pride and joy is their family, which includes Tracy and Jennifer Olson of Pendleton, Ore.; Dinn and Melanie (Olson) Lawson of Meridian, Idaho; 8 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

FAMILY BIRTHS

CURRIER — Alaric Braden was born June 28, 2014, to Brandon and Mandy (Shallenberger) Currier, Lacey, Wash.

DAVIS — Jacob Luke Marvin was born Oct. 17, 2014, to Dustin and Holly (Knox) Davis, Springfield, Ore.

DINWIDDIE — Abigail Noelle was born June 24, 2014, to Scott and Nicole (Turner) Dinwiddie, Woodland, Wash.

FETRICK — Elizabeth Brooke was born Nov. 9, 2014, to Jonathan and Michelle (Boothby) Fetrick, Port Angeles, Wash.

FLECK — Blake Michael was born Aug. 28, 2014, to Richard Glen and Kelly Rae (Savage) Fleck, Vancouver, Wash.

WHITE — Hudson William was born April 26, 2014, to Brandon and Sarah (Dinkel) White, Dover, Del.

FAMILY WEDDINGS

BECKER-THOMPSON Heather Marie Becker and Allen Jay Thompson were married Oct. 5, 2014, in Chehalis, Wash. They plan to make their home in Ontario, Ore. Heather is the daughter of Philip and Virginia (Martin) Becker. Allen is the son of Melvin and Lillian (Clark) Thompson.

DIETER-ROBISON Sarah Patricia Dieter and Scott Gerald Robison were married July 26, 2014, in Elk, Wash. They are making their home in Mead, Wash. Sarah is the daughter of Patrick and Wanda Dieter. Scott is the son of Blaine and Rachel (Hedlund) Robison.

FAMILY WEDDINGS

UREN-KIELMAN Crystal Leigh Uren and Taylor Michael Kielman were married March 9, 2014, in Battle Ground, Wash. They are making their home in Vancouver, Wash. Crystal is the daughter of Ted and Miki (Pester) Uren. Taylor is the son of Stan and Cindy (Valentine) Kielman.

WOOLEVER-GULDHAMMER

Katie Woolever and Adam Guldhammer were married June 14, 2014, in Weston, Ore. They are making their home in Sammamish, Wash. Katie is the daughter of David and Sherri (Roberts) Woolever. Adam is the son of Henning and Kristy (Daub) Guldhammer.

FAMILY AT REST

ABEL — Anne Maria (Oei) Khoe, 66; born Jan. 5, 1948, Malong, Indonesia; died Aug. 20, 2014, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: husband, Gary M., Battle Ground, Wash.; son, Donald D. Khoe, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada; stepson, Glenn James Schworak, Salem, Ore.; stepdaughters, Kelly (Schworak) Smith and Victoria L. (Schworak) Hensly, both of Salem; 2 grandchildren, 10 step-grandchildren and 15 step-great-grandchildren.

ANDRUS — Dorothea June (Coyle), 93; born June 21, 1921, Hewitt, Minn.; died Aug. 26, 2014, Oregon City, Ore. Surviving: daughters, Carol Elliott, West Linn, Ore.; Connie Myers, Lake Tapps, Wash.; 2 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

BLAIR — Alma Margaretta (Lemley), 87; born Feb. 8, 1927, Harrah, Wash.; died July 7, 2014, Olympia, Wash. Sur-

FAMILY AT REST

ving: husband, Richard L.; 4 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

BLANCK — Cheryl D. (Stuart), 60; born Sept. 12, 1954, Pendleton, Ore.; died Sept. 15, 2014, Seattle, Wash. Surviving: husband, Warren, Vancouver, Wash.; son, Jason, La Grande, Ore.; daughter, Dianne Fisk, Morgan Hill, Calif.; and brother, Dean Stuart, Hermiston, Ore.

BLUE — Jeanette Elaine (Schaffer), 65; born April 28, 1949, Grand Junction, Colo.; died Aug. 14, 2014, Milton-Freewater, Ore. Surviving: husband, Larry W., Adams, Ore.; son, Jerald W., Adams, Ore.; and mother, Madalynn (Skeels) Schaffer, Adams.

BULLIS — Helen L. (Martin), 95; born Dec. 2, 1918, Calgary, Alberta, Canada; died July 22, 2014, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: son, Donald Dykema, Sequim, Wash.; daughter, Darlene Bisson, Battle Ground, Wash.; 5 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

CAMPBELL — Daniel Scott, 55; born Jan. 5, 1959, Sacramento, Calif.; died July 24, 2014, Middleton, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Sheila (Anderson); son, Jason, Middleton; daughter, Jessica Porter, Canby, Ore.; mother, Lil (Beltz) Campbell Beaty, Rockaway Beach, Ore.; brother, Carrol, Willows, Calif.; sister, Monica Knapp, Vancouver, Wash.; and 2 grandchildren.

CLAUSEN — Daniel, 63; born July 30, 1951, Spokane, Wash.; died July 30, 2014, Portland, Ore. Surviving: sons, Christopher, Sandy, Ore.; Shawn, Portland; father, Ted, Gresham, Ore.; and 4 grandchildren.

CODER — Sara June (Johnson), 79; born June 3, 1934, Crawford, Neb.; died April 6, 2014, Zillah, Wash. Surviving: husband, Richard; daughters, Rickie Reimer, Zillah; Vonda Riggs, Aberdeen, Wash.; 5 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

COYLE — Dorothea J. (Andrus), 93; born June 1, 1921, Hewitt, Minn.; died Aug. 26, 2014, Oregon City, Ore. Surviving: daughters, Carol Elliott, West Linn, Ore.; Connie Myers, Lake Tapps, Wash.; brother, Dean Andrus, Nevis, Minn.; 2 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

EPPELRY — Rose Irene (Alcantar), 62; born Feb. 24, 1952, Albuquerque, N.M.; died Aug. 11, 2014, Boise, Idaho. Surviving: son, Scott, Loma Linda, Calif.; daughter, Lisa Reynoso, Estacada, Ore.; and 3 grandchildren.

EVANS — Judy (Rowell), 55; born May 22, 1959, Portland, Ore.; died Sept. 14, 2014, Pleasant Hill, Ore. Surviving: sons, Michel and Jason, both of Pleasant Hill; Jeremy, Bellevue, Wash.; David, Springfield, Ore.; daughters, Michele Benton, Stephanie Evans and Kylie Evans, all of Pleasant Hill; and 8 grandchildren.

FRY — Louise (Brooks), 85; born April 14, 1929, Colville, Wash.; died Sept. 3, 2014, Colville. Surviving: husband, Orah; sons, Zerrol, Ventura, Calif.; Keith, Lismore, New South Wales, Australia; 6 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

HEDLUND — Grace Marie (Miller), 89; born Nov. 18, 1924, Lewistown, Mont.; died June 28, 2014, Newport, Wash. Surviving: son,

Ben, Puyallup, Wash.; daughters, Lenora Warren, Prineville, Ore.; Rachel Robison, Newport; 15 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

KENLINE — Robert Donald Sr., 85; born May 10, 1929, San Jose, Calif.; died Aug. 27, 2014, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: son, Robert Jr., Detroit, Mich.; daughter, Jennifer Leifer, Edmonds, Wash.; and a grandchild.

LAMBERTON — Verna Marie (Freeman), 88; born Nov. 30, 1925, Eden, Idaho; died Sept. 5, 2014, Brewster, Wash. Surviving: sons, James W., Brewster; Thomas G., Yakima, Wash.; daughter, Ruth M. Corson, College Place, Wash.; 8 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

LIBBY — Lorene Medelle (Qualley), 95; born Dec. 12, 1918, Seattle, Wash.; died Aug. 16, 2014, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Surviving: sons, Ralph, Burlington, Wash.; Wayne, Palm Springs, Calif.; daughter, Verdene Meyer, Hayden, Idaho; 4 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

LINDSAY — Gene Wesley, 88; born Feb. 16, 1926, Wahkon, Minn.; died Aug. 14, 2014, Spokane, Wash. Surviving: son, Ronald, Cheney, Wash.; daughters, Cher Harris, Charlene Lindsay and Donna Rae, all of Spokane; brother, Curtis Lindsay, College Place, Wash.; sister, Ardys Tanaka, Port Hardy, British Columbia, Canada; 8 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

LOWRIE — Leroy, 81; born Feb. 21, 1933, Amarillo, Texas; died Aug. 17, 2014, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving:

wife, Donna (White); sons, Douglas Lowrie, James Bingman, Donald Bingman and William Bingman; daughters, Deborah Pavitt, Karen Brito and Kimberley Sultan; and 2 grandchildren.

MAKI — Carolyn Sue (Anderson), 69; born Oct. 20, 1944, Missoula, Mont.; died Feb. 27, 2014, Libby, Mont. Surviving: husband, Kirby; son, Shawn, Kalispell, Mont.; daughters, Michelle Maki, of California; Kimberly Maki, Libby; and a step-grandchild.

MOHR — Joelle Denise, 42; born April 27, 1972, Loma Linda, Calif.; died Aug. 21, 2014, Tillamook, Ore. Surviving: father, Lyle Mohr, Tillamook; mother, Judy (Mathiesen) Mohr, Damascus, Ore.; brothers, Lance Mohr and Ryan Mohr, both of Loma Linda, Calif.

MOORE — Viola "Daisy" Ruth (Decker) Lee, 85; born July 30, 1929, Granger, Wash.; died Aug. 16, 2014, Yakima, Wash. Surviving: son, Ken Lee, Selah, Wash.; daughter, Karen Campbell, Shoreline, Wash.; brother, Dave Decker, Walla Walla, Wash.; sister, Myke Funner, Yakima; 6 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

OVE — Doreen E. (Wylie) Mechling, 92; born Feb. 22, 1922, Peace River, Alberta, Canada; died Sept. 1, 2014, Sagle, Idaho. Surviving: sons, Fred C. Mechling, Sagle; Charles Mechling, Lewiston, Idaho; stepson, Leif Ove, Kitwanga, British Columbia, Canada; daughters, Carol (Mechling) Bryan, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; Jan (Mechling) Rydalch, St. Anthony,

Idaho; stepdaughters, Thora (Ove) Buck, Sandpoint, Idaho; Sharon (Ove) Packwood, Columbia Falls, Mont.; Loretta (Ove) Zipsie, Orofino, Idaho; Laurel (Ove) Colby, Kalispell, Mont.; 15 grandchildren, 20 step-grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, 32 step-great-grandchildren; 2 great-great-grandchildren and 2 step-great-great-grandchildren.

PAYNE — Clarissa Ione (Syphers) May Brown, 98; born April 22, 1916, Blachly, Ore.; died July 16, 2014, McMinnville, Ore. Surviving: sons, Lester May, McMinnville; Raymond May, Willamina, Ore.; daughter, Delores (May) Ringerling, McMinnville; 15 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

ROBERTS — Gregg H., 52; born Feb. 7, 1962, Tacoma, Wash.; died June 6, 2014, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: wife, Gail (Petersen), Battle Ground, Wash.; sons, Landen, Walla Walla, Wash.; Cade, Battle Ground; and daughter, Olivia Roberts, Battle Ground; parents, Fay Roberts, College Place, Wash.; Patricia Wolcott, Palm Desert, Calif.; brothers, Daniel, Deer Park, Wash.; Ken, Palm Desert; sisters, Raneé Dearing, Damascus, Ore.; and Gwen Ingram, Portland, Ore.

SHEARER — Bernice Alfreda (Nickel), 92; born Feb. 25, 1922, Waldeim, Saskatchewan, Canada; died July 17, 2014, Portland, Ore. Surviving: husband, Howard; sons, Rod Shearer, Brush Prairie, Wash.; Tom Shearer, Battle Ground, Wash.; sister, Leona Neuman, Placerville, Calif.; and 4 grandchildren.

SIMS — Lois C. (Andrus), 75; born May 9, 1939, Seattle, Wash.; died Aug. 27, 2014, Tacoma, Wash. Surviving: husband, Edsel, Olalla, Wash.; brothers, Richard Andrus, Graham, Wash.; and Fred Andrus, Creston, Calif.

STEPHENS — Helen A. (Carr), 92; born Oct. 11, 1921, Miller, S.D.; died March 9, 2014, Springfield, Ore. Surviving: sons, Larry Webb, Springfield; Phil Stephens, Grants Pass, Ore.; Nick Stephens, North Bend, Ore.; stepdaughter, Carolyn (Stephens) Morse, Kenai, Alaska; daughter, Cheryl (Stephens) Moreno, Springfield; brothers, Clifford Carr, Aurora, Ore.; Kenneth Carr, Woodburn, Ore.; sister, Carol Young, of Arizona; 11 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

STOWE — Donald R., 84; born Nov. 2, 1929, Hobart, Okla.; died June 29, 2014, Fort Worth, Texas. Surviving: wife, Marjorie (Yates), Keene, Texas; sons, Jonathan, Bealeton, Va.; Nathan, Battle Ground, Wash.; brother, William, El Paso, Texas; 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Go to GleanerNow.com/contribute to submit family announcements.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

North Pacific Union Conference

Offering

Jan. 3 — Local Church Budget;

Jan. 10 — Local Conference Advance;

Jan. 17 — Local Church Budget;

Jan. 24 — Religious Liberty;

Jan. 31 — Union Designated.

More events listed at GleanerNow.com/events.

Walla Walla University

Jan. 17 — Walla Walla University alumni will gather at the Kirkland Church, 6400 108th Ave., Kirkland, Wash. John McVay, WWU president, will speak for church beginning at 10:45 a.m. After church enjoy a WWU update and a potluck with a dessert buffet provided by WWU. All WWU alumni, friends and parents are welcome.

Jan. 17 — A complimentary Walla Walla University alumni dinner with John McVay will take place Saturday, Jan. 17, at 6 p.m. at The Old Spaghetti Factory, 17100 Southcenter Pkwy. #160, Tukwila, Wash. Seating is limited. RSVP no later than Thursday, Jan. 15, to alumni@wallawalla.edu or 800-377-2586.

April 23–26 — Save the date for WWU Homecoming 2015, “Welcome Home.” To view a schedule of events, visit wallawalla.edu/homecoming.

Oregon

Center for Bible, Faith and Mission Seminar

Jan. 30–31 — “Gifted Women, Reluctant Church: Where to From Here?” will be presented by the Center for Bible, Faith and Mission seminar, sponsored by Walla Walla University School of Theology. Presenters include David Thomas, Walla Walla University School of Theology dean, and Carl Cosaert, Theology of Ordination Study Committee (TOSC) participant and Annual Council presenter. Friday night at 7 p.m., Sabbath morning at 8:45 and 11:15, and Sabbath afternoon at 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. at Sunnyside Church, 10501 SE Market St., Portland, Ore.

Oregon Prayer Conference 2015

March 27–29 — Soul Talk with keynote speaker Jeffrey Rosario. Meeting at Twin Rocks Friends Camp at Rockaway Beach, Ore. For more information, call 503-850-3500 or 541-367-4913 or go online to glnr.in/or-2015-prayer.

Missing Members

The following members are missing from the Astoria Church: Margarite Angiano and daughters (Itzel, Elizabeth, Jeannette and Adrianna Camacho), Joel Kemboi Chesimet, Angel Chesimet, Jeffrey Engleman, Darcy Force, and Evans Jewell. If you have any information on these members, please contact Margaret “Becky” Colvin at 503-791-3346.



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BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT, SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY is seeking a qualified applicant (Ph.D. preferred). Primary emphasis in paleontology and zoology; ability to teach introductory geology, microbiology and/or bioinformatics desirable. The successful candidate will be supportive of literal creationism. Send cover letter and CV to Schwarz.arthur@swau.edu. Position open until filled.

THE KINESIOLOGY DEPARTMENT at Southwestern Adventist University seeks full-time physical education professor to begin July 1, 2015. Master's degree required; doctoral degree preferred. Submit curriculum vitae and cover letter to Human Resources office. Must have some teaching experience. Contact Mr. Vesa Naukkarinen at 817-202-6684 or vnaukkar@swau.edu.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY education and psychology department seeks full-time qualified psychology professor beginning July 1, 2015. Doctorate degree is required. Please submit CV and cover letter to Dr. Marcel Sargeant at

sargeant@swau.edu. Position is open until filled.

LEAD PROGRAMMER/ANALYST Pacific Press Publishing Association seeks Seventh-day Adventist for the full-time position of lead programmer/analyst to support all information technology (IT) software support functions, including problem analysis, design, programming, testing, implementation and training. Applicants should have bachelor's degree in computer science or related field and knowledge and experience in industry standard programming language including Web development tools, and the ability to lead a team of programmer/analysts. Contact

Ms. Alix Mansker, HR Director, PO Box 5353, Nampa ID 83653; call 208-465-2567; fax 208-465-2531; email alix.mansker@pacificpress.com.

HEALTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR Adventist Whole Health Network (AWHN), a ministry of the Pennsylvania Conference, is accepting applications for executive director. AWHN is open to new and innovative ideas for developing the vision for developing medical missionary work. The incumbent will possess a clear understanding of the Adventist message and medical methodology. Qualifications: master's (MSN, MSW, CRNP, MHA, etc) with healthcare managerial experience,

Sunset Schedule

January	2	9	16	23	30
ALASKA CONFERENCE					
Anchorage	3:55	4:08	4:24	4:42	5:02
Fairbanks	2:57	3:16	3:38	4:02	4:26
Juneau	3:19	3:30	3:44	3:59	4:16
Ketchikan	4:28	4:38	4:50	5:04	5:18
IDAHO CONFERENCE					
Boise	5:20	5:27	5:35	5:44	5:53
La Grande	4:20	4:27	4:36	4:45	4:55
Pocatello	5:07	5:14	5:22	5:34	5:40
MONTANA CONFERENCE					
Billings	4:41	4:49	4:57	5:07	5:17
Havre	4:34	4:42	4:51	5:01	5:12
Helena	4:52	5:00	5:09	5:18	5:29
Miles City	4:27	4:35	4:43	4:53	5:03
Missoula	4:58	5:05	5:14	5:24	5:34
OREGON CONFERENCE					
Coos Bay	4:52	4:58	5:06	5:15	5:24
Medford	4:51	4:57	5:05	5:14	5:23
Portland	4:39	4:46	4:55	5:04	5:14
UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE					
Pendleton	4:22	4:29	4:38	4:47	4:57
Spokane	4:09	4:16	4:25	4:35	4:46
Walla Walla	4:18	4:26	4:34	4:44	4:54
Wenatchee	4:21	4:29	4:38	4:48	4:58
Yakima	4:25	4:33	4:41	4:51	5:01
WASHINGTON CONFERENCE					
Bellingham	4:24	4:32	4:41	4:52	5:03
Seattle	4:28	4:36	4:45	4:55	5:06

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ANNOUNCING: Executive director opening for Adventist Heritage Ministry. Full-time salaried position, including benefits; located at Ellen White Estate office, Silver Spring, Md. For information, job description, or to submit résumé, contact James Nix, Ellen White Estate: nixj@gc.adventist.org. Application deadline: March 31, 2015.

HOPE CHANNEL in Silver Spring, Md., seeks a director of fundraising to develop and execute direct-response and event fundraising strategies to gain from viewers and other supporters the voluntary financial support necessary to fund current operations and desired expansion of broadcast services. More information and required qualifications at hopetv.org/about/employment. Email cover letter and résumé to stavenhagenr@gc.adventist.org.

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MORE THAN MONEY

T

his past November I attended a Dave Ramsey conference in Nashville, Tenn., that really messed up my theology. For the uninitiated: Dave Ramsey is a bestselling author, world-renowned speaker and teacher on the subject of stewardship. I know, boring right?

Most of us would rather hear sermons on the book of Chronicles than be tortured by an annual stewardship sermon series in January — reminding us all of how our greedy materialism got the better of us during the holiday shopping spree that never should have happened.

Part of the problem lies in our definition of stewardship and the abysmal ways we have tried to cram it down the throats of the faithful during the offering call or annual business meeting. Many of our materials and presentations have been myopic — making stewardship all about money. It is so much more than that — stewardship is everything.

From the outset of our meetings, Dave made it clear that stewardship is *not* fundraising. It may include that at times, but the equation of biblical stewardship with a call for financing various projects is theologically anemic — and annoying. Going further, the idea that stewardship is only about money and church budgets, and even personal budgets, also falls abysmally short of the biblical concept.

Restricting stewardship to financial matters is like saying *The Count of Monte Cristo* is about a rich guy — the themes and nuances are so much more complex than money.

Jesus gives the foundational

teaching on stewardship when He says, “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money” (Matt. 6:24). Wait ... I thought you said this wasn't about money!

Lies!

Calm down — what most translations render as money actually involves so much more. Other Bible versions use the word “mammon.” While I am sure a few people reading this might include mammon in their daily vocabulary at school, the grocery store or gas station — most of us don't.

Seriously, can you imagine the following?

“Would you like any mammon back?”

“We accept mammon or check.”

“Show me the mammon!”



AUTHOR

Seth Pierce





Many of our materials and presentations have been myopic — making stewardship all about money. It is so much more than that — stewardship is everything.

Not to mention mammon trees and mammon burning holes in people's pockets.

Within ancient Jewish writings “mammon,” from the Greek *mamonas*, denotes resources or dishonest gain. However the word is older than that — possibly coming from an Aramaic noun that means “that in which one trusts.”¹ Well, that's different.

So in this passage Jesus tell us we cannot trust in Him *and* other stuff. We can't ultimately trust in our money, our good works, our status, our education, our addictions — or we will end up hating God. This isn't about money; this is about what we look to in life to function. Stewardship is learning to dedicate ourselves, and everything that makes up ourselves, to Jesus.

As I have been wrestling

with stewardship theology in recent sermons at church, I have wondered if the purpose of stewardship goes even beyond managing my life and is really about protecting the image of God.

We are made in God's image in order to reflect God's glory² — but when my heart is seduced by other stuff, suddenly my priorities rearrange and my life becomes dedicated to acquiring whatever it is I feel I need to function.³ With Jesus out of view, I no longer care about the purpose of His creation — creation becomes a means to achieve my own skewed purposes.

Suddenly, I am a servant to whatever “mammon” (wealth, status, beauty, cookies) I feel I need to live — willing to do whatever it takes to acquire what I feel I need. Instead of

my heart finding rest and value as a child of God, it becomes an insatiable beast willing to devour whatever stands in the way of success — even people.

If I become willing to devour people on the way to my own warped definition of success, then not only do I lose the image of a loving God in my life but I strip it from others by using them as “things” instead of recognizing them as created beings bearing the same image. Failing stewardship leads to a loss of humanity.

From here stewardship expands to so many potential theological avenues. We can explore stewardship and social justice — how we use our resources affects those who don't have any. Stewardship and Sabbath fit well together — reminding us we are worth more than we make, not to mention that we did not make the world and therefore don't own it. The theme of

freedom matches stewardship as it can speak to releasing people from the consequences of debt, poor decision-making and oppressive cultures.

As we seek to reclaim and explore biblical stewardship with all its practical implications and theological themes, may God help us leave a legacy that inspires others to put their trust in Who matters most — not what matters least.

1. Gerhard Kittel and Gerhard Friedrich, eds., *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1985), 552.

2. Gen. 1:26.

3. Matt. 6:21.

Seth Pierce, Puyallup Church lead pastor



CHANGE OR SELF-DESTRUCT

If the rate of change inside an organization is less than the rate of change outside, the end is in sight. The only question is when.¹

"**F**

riday Night Chill," they called it. Young adults crowded into someone's home each week to welcome the Sabbath. Smartphones equipped their living room Bible study. In the kitchen, half a dozen snacked on popcorn and fruit while sharing joys and frustrations of the past week. A discussion video drew an audience into the family room. The basement rec room hosted an impromptu praise jam with guitars and keyboard mingling with the mellow rhythm of a conga.

The house reverberated with music, laughter and Christian conversation as young adult members and their non-Adventist guests moved from room to room, participating everywhere. There were Sabbath-friendly activities for everyone.

Except the pastor. He didn't like Friday Night Chill and put a stop to it.

Conscientiously and kindly, he quenched the Spirit that inspired his young adult congregants. Morale melted, and some of them left the church — including the young theology student whose leadership the pastor had so tactfully trashed. Perceiving that the church didn't want his innovative ministry, he connected with an evangelical congregation where young adults are encouraged to express their own faith — not merely reflect their elders' expectations or experiences.

That young man and his friends who abandoned the Seventh-day Adventist Church didn't leave by themselves. Adventists in

North America are losing most of our young adults. That's the bad news. The good news is we don't have to watch them go. They can be persuaded to stay with the church.

If we want to change, that is.

Change can be scary, I'm finding (increasingly as I get older). But the alternative is worse. "Change or die" is the stark choice we all make, individually and collectively as a church.

The God we claim to obey believes in change. "Behold, I am doing a new thing," He says, "now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" (Is. 43:19, ESV).

Pseudo-conservatism refuses growth with the same mindset of the old-wineskin Pharisees, whose reaction to every new concept was, "The old is better" (Luke 5:39, NKJV).

Do you belong to a church that thinks the old way of doing things is automatically better than fresh and creative expressions of congregational life and outreach?

Many Adventist churches with a century of rich spiritual heritage cling to the past so fervently that they become hospices instead of maternity wards. Such congregations are incapable of connecting with their communities.

Ironically their heroes, the Adventist pioneers, were not stale in their faith. They were arguably the most radical change-agents since the Reformation. Adventists of the 21st century must recapture their willingness to change. Or we will die.

Seventh-day Adventist



AUTHOR

Martin Weber



fundamental beliefs are biblically defensible. Our message and mission must stand firm forever — but how we interpret and communicate the truth must be increasingly updated. Our vision and our methods must change with the times, or we become increasingly irrelevant — not only to our neighbors but to our own young people and their creative ideas like the erstwhile Friday Night Chill.

When I began sharing in this *Gleaner* column last March, I expressed my conviction that, of all faith groups in North America, Seventh-day Adventists are best positioned to connect to contemporary society. This is continually obvious where I work, Logos Bible Software (renamed Faithlife).

In November, Jon Paulien of Loma Linda University returned to our organizational headquarters in Bellingham, Wash., to record another seminary-level Mobile Ed course on the book of Revelation (including chapters 12 and 13). Not only did he win respect for his thoroughly Adventist presentations, he is now arranging to get other Adventist professors to share our unique and attractive truth through this uniquely powerful online resource. Instead of diluting our Adventist witness, these efforts contextualize our message for anyone willing to respect the gospel of Jesus Christ.

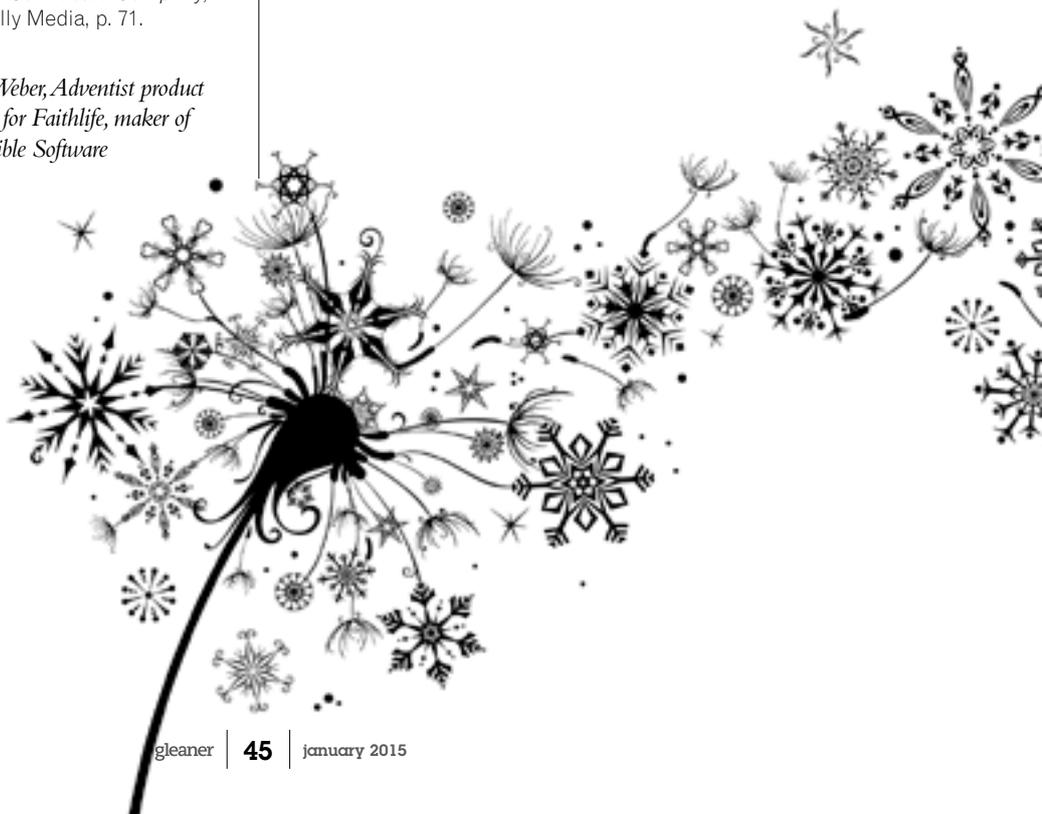
In summary, let's be clear: Adventist young adults don't usually reject our doctrine but rather a time-worn narrow-mindedness that tells them what to think instead of mentoring them in how to think. They hate it when we care more about what people are eating than whether they have enough to eat or worry about what adornment people are wearing rather making sure they have a warm winter coat.

Jon Paulien shows the friendly face of true Seventh-day Adventism, and so can the rest of us in our own witness.

1. Jack Welch, business leadership trainer, quoted in *The Connected Company*, O'Reilly Media, p. 71.

Martin Weber, Adventist product manager for Faithlife, maker of Logos Bible Software

Adventists in North America are losing most of our young adults. That's the bad news. The good news is that we don't have to watch them go.





LET'S TALK

FIDELITY

“Religion operates on the principle that ‘I obey, therefore God accepts me.’ But the gospel is ‘I’m accepted through what Jesus Christ has done, therefore I obey.’”

TIMOTHY KELLER

I once tried navigating the length of a balance beam. To my uninitiated eyes, it looked deceptively easy — until I climbed aboard. That 4-inch-wide plank was just 4 feet off the ground, but I might as well have been suspended over the Grand Canyon. To match the Olympic

were followed, if the receiver had control of the ball before stepping out of bounds, if the runner beat the throw, or if the basketball player’s foot was touching the three-point arc when he released the ball.

We support such efforts because we know these events, to mean anything at all, must be kept within consistent boundaries. So this begs the question: Do our relationships or our religion deserve the same intensity, the same fidelity, the same fervor that we give to other vicarious experiences?

Country singer Johnny Cash, backstage one evening, reflected on the contrast between the pull of the entertainment world and the safe haven of his new marriage. It took him just 20 minutes to write out the lyrics to a song with a lesson.

Each stanza ends with the iconic words, “Because you’re mine, I walk the line.” Cash was no angel. He knew the challenges of addiction, drugs and alcohol. Perhaps he should’ve walked farther away from that line, that edge. Yet the lesson remains. Committing an infraction in sports may reap a temporary 15-yard penalty, but crossing the line in a relationship risks an irreparable breach of trust, a permanently broken heart.

Why should we permit ourselves to be less passionate about our walk with God than with sports or other human relationships? A relationship with God is all or nothing. Choice is God’s gift of freedom, the power to answer “yes” or “no” to the divine Knocker at the door. Choice can cause hearts to soften or harden, spiritual bonds to strengthen or shatter. Spiritual fidelity or infidelity, like any other relationship, is always a choice.

Therein lies the intriguing relationship of fidelity and grace woven through the stanzas of the faithful down through the centuries to us and our children. Fidelity is not an Olympic sport, graded by performance perfection. It’s our active choice, our response of gratitude to the only perfect One who has already paid the ultimate and eternal price.

How could we be satisfied with anything less? Because we’re His, we walk the line.

Steve Vistaunet, Gleaner editor

Grace never negates the need for growth. It never minimizes the importance of personal choice.

feats of unaided somersaults or flips on such a slender surface will be forever beyond me.

Judging a competition in such an event must indeed be a challenge. Eagle eyes seek out the slightest slip or bobble. Were the feet properly aligned? Did the performer rotate completely? Did she stick the landing?

From that vantage point, it seems clear that religion has no exclusive corner on legalism. Aside from the regrettable example of some athletes, the sports world has us all beat. Multiple “instant replay” videos of football and basketball plays are run backward and forward in slow motion to determine if rules



AUTHOR

Steve Vistaunet

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