

EDITORIAL
LOVE MATTERS, PART 1

PERSPECTIVE
WATCHING OUR WORDS

JUST LIKE JESUS
LONELINESS DEFEATED

gleaner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION



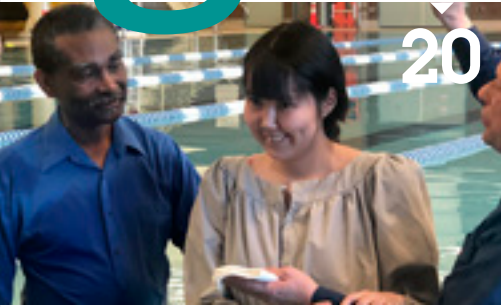
**A VISION FOR
YOUNG DISCIPLES**

MAY/JUN
2019
VOL. 114, N°3



Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION



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LOVE MATTERS, PART 1

W

e have quoted a most startling passage of Scripture so often it sometimes ceases to amaze us.

“God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). Revealing the love of the Heavenly Father for His lost creation was not an option for Jesus. The Father loved the Son, and the Son loved the Father. And they both loved humanity. Love compelled Jesus to act. Love matters!

And so, on a mission that love compelled, Jesus showed us how God would act in this world. By revealing the love of God in everyday interactions, Jesus gave us a glimpse of His character.

But next time you quote John 3:16, don't just stop there. Because just as Jesus had a heaven-sent mission, so do you and so do I. Jesus said, “As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you” (John 20:21). Our special mission is woven through the Three Angels’

AUTHOR

John Freedman

Messages of Revelation 14. The

world needs it because it is the everlasting gospel, the good news empowered through the Spirit of God for the salvation of humanity.

That's what we have pastors and evangelists for, right? Well, yes, but they're only part of the team. Mission

should be at the core of who we are as a community of believers. We cannot outsource it, hand it off to our pastors or expect some new technology to do it for us. And, why would we want to miss out on the joy of connecting people with Jesus?

Yes, of course, mission in America today is different than in past generations. Our current tribal environment means many people are hostile to anyone who does not agree with them. And, yet, the core mission of John 3:16 provides what so many miss deep down in their core — the love of God. Love still matters today, perhaps more than ever.

Love matters because it impacts real life, like in this story from our own North Pacific Union territory. A family member was tragically killed. The family was naturally very angry and did not want anything to do with God. However, one distant relative began to reach out with small acts of kindness and love. Through loving persistence, he eventually earned the right to speak to the family about a God who also hurt after He lost a Son, a God who hurts with every death of the human family. Hardened hearts began to soften. Today several members of the family have given their hearts to Jesus and are baptized members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Love matters.

Charles Spurgeon said Christians who do not engage the world with the gospel are like those who have a treasure but hold on to it: “The world is starving, and they hoard the bread of life.” Spurgeon believed that neglecting our mission is on par with the vilest heresies in the history of the church. Hearts that do not bring Christ to the world prove they do not actually love Christ: “If they loved Christ they must love sinners; if they loved Jesus they must seek to extend His kingdom and to let Him see the travail of His soul!”

So, why has our NPUC executive committee voted to explore new ways to reach young people, encouraging our churches to experience the Growing Young cohort? Why are we eager to see our churches and members revitalized, connecting their communities with Jesus through the Vision 2020 concept and other efforts? Because God so loved us. He has placed that love in our hearts and set us on a mission to love others for Him. Love moves us to action. Love moves us forward together on this common mission. Love matters!

John Freedman, North Pacific Union Conference president

Respond to any *Gleaner* topic by emailing talk@gleanernow.com.



NORTHWEST PATHFINDERS REVEL IN BIBLE KNOWLEDGE



Pathfinders from around the Northwest gathered for the annual union-level Pathfinder Bible Experience (PBE) testing on March 9. This year's gathering — held at the Sunnyside Adventist Church in Portland, Ore., and hosted by the Oregon Conference youth department — included 14 teams.

The event tested the Pathfinders' knowledge of Luke's gospel along with the corresponding section of the *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*.

Of the 14 teams, 10 placed first, one placed second and three placed third. The 10 first-place teams received the option to advance to the North American Division final level, held April 26–27 at Rock Valley College in Rockford, Ill.

About PBE

Pathfinder Bible Experience is the official Pathfinder Bible study program of the North American Division, affectionately referred to as the Bible Bowl.

At the start of each Pathfinder year, which typically coincides with the start of the school year, clubs are encouraged to form into teams of six Pathfinders to study a book of the Bible and its *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary* introduction.

The teams then participate in four levels of testing in the winter and spring. These include the local, conference, union and, finally, division levels. The testing involves 90 questions in which teams scoring 90 percent or higher at each testing level receive first place and are invited to go on to the next level.

The goal of the program is to encourage young people to dig deeply and experience the Word of God for themselves.



Photos of all teams who placed in the event can be viewed in this article at gleanernow.com/nwbiblebowl2019.

NPUC Placements

IDAHO CONFERENCE

Boise Ponderosa, **Third Place**

Boise Ponderosa Pathfinders

Nampa Zephyrs, **Third Place**

Nampa Zephyrs Pathfinders

MONTANA CONFERENCE

Fishes, **Second Place**

Glacier Chasers Pathfinders

Loaves, **Third Place**

Glacier Chasers Pathfinders

OREGON CONFERENCE

Great Physician Assistants, **First Place**

Pleasant Valley Pathfinders

Tax Collectors, **First Place**

Pleasant Valley Pathfinders

Theophilites, **First Place**

Pleasant Valley Pathfinders

UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

Deer Park Mountaineers, **First Place**

Deer Park Mountaineers Pathfinders

Goldendale Pioneers, **First Place**

Goldendale Pioneers Pathfinders

Hayden Lake Ponderosa, **First Place**

Hayden Lake Ponderosa Pathfinders

Walla Walla Sunrise, **First Place**

Walla Walla Sunrise Pathfinders

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

Cascade Eagles, **First Place**

Cascade Eagles Pathfinders

Mustard Seeds, **First Place**

Sojourners Pathfinders

Pentateuch, **First Place**

Sojourners Pathfinders

Anthony White, North Pacific Union digital media coordinator



Care for Cuba.

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The Bible Bowl.

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Evangelism paradigm shift.

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PICTURE THIS



Teens on fire.

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A creative professor.

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A VISION FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

AN INTERVIEW WITH ROB LANG

THE HOPES OF ADVENTIST PARENTS throughout the Northwest and beyond are bound up in the success of their children, youth and young adults.

Yet the training of young people in a spiritual journey of faith covers an even greater dimension far beyond conventional measures of temporal success. It is a divine calling, not just for parents or educators, but for every member of God's family.

It's why Rob Lang is so passionate about discipleship. Lang, recently installed director for children, youth and young adult ministries for the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC), knows the choices of young people provide a crossroads of sorts. If coupled with mature encouragement, mentorship and guidance, God can shape their youthful energy, their passion and spark, to bring glory to Him.

"My passion is to help young people see Jesus for who He is, find their saving relationship in Him and then strengthen intentional discipleship in their teen years," says Lang. "We need to intentionally help our young people come to terms with their faith — what a spiritual journey of growth looks like on a day-by-day basis."

Recently the *Gleaner* interviewed Lang about his vision for children, youth and young adults within the Northwest. You can listen to the GleanerTalk audio podcast of that interview online at gleanertalk.gleanernow.com.

GLEANER: You have worked extensively in the Oregon Conference and then most recently in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. What drew you back to the Pacific Northwest?

LANG: We have come to realize the Lord is doing something special here with church administrators throughout the NPUC. With God's help and for His glory, my wife, Velvet, and I believe God is calling us to encourage and strengthen the ministries to our most prized possession, our young people. We want to partner with the Holy Spirit to better empower our young people for the times we are living in. We're excited, blessed and humbled by the task. We pray for Holy Spirit-driven change in our church culture.

HOLY SPIRIT-LED CULTURE CHANGE

GLEANER: What do you mean by Holy Spirit-driven change?

LANG: As they are understanding the gospel, our young people need to discover the joy of using their gifts in partnership with God and to engage in the life of His family. How can we change our current culture to allow that to happen, more intentionally, more decisively, more effectively? I pray that we can help each young person — children, youth and young adults — see clearly the stepping stones they can take now (not some day in the future) to become a positive, functioning part of the body of Christ. I hope to expand a process we've already piloted called DiscipleTrek, which is a three-week camp experience where young adults

WE NEED TO
OUR YOUNG
TERMS WITH
JOURNEY OF
LIKE ON

help campers develop their own faith and celebrate Scripture truth in attractive and creative ways.

GLEANER: Has youth ministry always been a focus of yours?

LES

LANG: Once I started in ministry out of college, I realized that my heart always had a beat for young people. I began to see that this was my calling, this was my passion. Velvet and

I have had a wonderful journey, sensing the deepest fulfillment in doing this work.

GLEANER: As you move forward in your ministry here, what do you see as the vision ahead?

LANG: Well, first off, we want to listen to our existing youth ministry leaders and help support, enhance and strengthen them in what is already working well. We also want to bring that 30,000-foot level overview to collaborate together on how we can all become more intentional about youth discipleship. How can we harness children's ministries, Pathfinders, Adventurers, youth ministry, camp ministry, public campus ministry, young adult ministry? How can we as a team be more intentional and effective for the Lord in this process of discipleship? And, ultimately, what that means to me is to better empower and mentor young people in using their gifts in partnership with the Lord. There is nothing more fulfilling in this life than being a part of making an eternal difference with your life. As we support current programs, evaluate, talk and pray, I believe we will see the Holy Spirit help us become even more effective.

GLEANER: How do you evaluate and determine whether discipleship is actually happening?

LANG: Our metrics as an organization are currently tithe and baptisms — and we need to continuously be measuring those. But when someone is baptized, is that the end of the vision that Christ has for them? Our focus

ROB LANG
NEW DIRECTOR OF
CHILDREN, YOUTH
AND YOUNG ADULT
MINISTRIES FOR THE
NORTH PACIFIC UNION
CONFERENCE



ANTHONY WHITE/ANPIC GLEANER/GLEANERNOW.COM

**TO INTENTIONALLY HELP
YOUNG PEOPLE COME TO
US WITH WHAT A SPIRITUAL
OF GROWTH LOOKS
LIKE ON A DAY-BY-DAY BASIS.**

needs to shift to helping our young people move onward to using their gifts in a consistent manner for God. How do you measure that? Could we measure that? Would it be God-honoring for us to measure that? Can we help youth use their gifts effectively, to flourish in the biblical plan called church? As we are doing youth ministry, we certainly need to know the end goals of discipleship and work together to that end. Are our programs just occupying time, or are they truly leading young people along this path of fulfillment?

BEYOND SILOS TO PARTNERSHIP

GLEANER: Any organization, including our church, can become a set of silos — departments working hard on good things but not collaborating for the good of a collective mission. How do you intend to approach that for the variety of youth ministries?

LANG: I think one area we can help with, coming from the union office, is to help identify and encourage some “best practices” throughout the Northwest by collaborative conversations with our conference networks. You watch the intentionality at a corporation like Nike, you observe the culture they develop to bring about desired outcomes — and they’re doing all that for shoes! How much more should we be intentional about developing a culture for youth discipleship? What we’re doing has eternal implications. To be our best means conversations beyond just the silo you or I are in. That is what will build partnerships together and allow the Holy Spirit to get us in one accord.

GLEANER: Up to this point, it seems the Growing Young Cohort projects around the NPUC, led by Ben Lundquist, have sort of led the charge in culture change.

LANG: Yes! Ben is such an effective leader. I’ve been involved with the Growing Young effort as a presenter and trainer, and my continuing role will be to support what Ben and other conference directors are doing so effectively in the Growing Young initiative. This is important work as it is helping our churches be more effective at connecting with their young people and the fulfilling future of discipleship — providing a way for young people to use their gifts. This is a process of education, of prayer, of Holy Spirit-driven change. I’m excited when I see adults of all ages in these congregations who want to learn to engage better with our young people and want to believe in them more than question them.

THERE IS POWER
TAP A YOUNG PERSON
AND SAY, “I SEE S

YOUTH MINISTRY MYTHS

GLEANER: Any myths out there about how youth and young adult relate to church?

LANG: One myth is that young people are not that interested in the Bible. But they are. Truth is so compelling that, when they have a chance to immerse themselves in it, they want more. And the belief that you have to entertain youth to attract them to the church is a myth that has to go away. You don’t have to have a certain type of music or technology or budget. God is so much bigger than our toys. And, one of the worst things we can do is set up youth ministry as its own separate silo within our church, without integrating it as part of a multigenerational effort. Let’s do away with these misconceptions. The essentials are Bible study, prayer and spiritual growth. If they’re not central to our youth ministry, there’s nothing else of real value. Even the essentials can be rather sterile, unless they are carried out within an affirmative sense of community — a body of believers who authentically believe in God and also believe in their young people.

GLEANER: What sort of things in a local church are toxic to the spiritual development of young people?

LANG: It’s toxic when a local church essentially says to its young people, “Wait, you’re not yet ready,” with the implication that at some unspecified future time it might be appropriate. When young people feel like they’re in some sort of a holding pattern, with no growth or mentorship opportunities in sight, they lose focus. If the most creative thing we can think of offering them is “well, we think you’re ready to pass the offering plate,” then we are not prepared to help them grow. This causes an unintended regression in the faith life of our youth and with their connection to our church.



DISCIPLETREK
A THREE-WEEK
CAMP EXPERIENCE
WHERE YOUNG
ADULTS HELP
CAMPERS DEVELOP
THEIR OWN FAITH
AND CELEBRATE
SCRIPTURE TRUTH
IN ATTRACTIVE AND
CREATIVE WAYS.



Mentoring young people in the principles of Scripture, as in this Pathfinder Bible Experience event, is an important part of discipling.

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GIVE THEM THE KEYS

GLEANER: One of the main exhortations of the Growing Young Cohort project is the phrase “Give them the keys.”

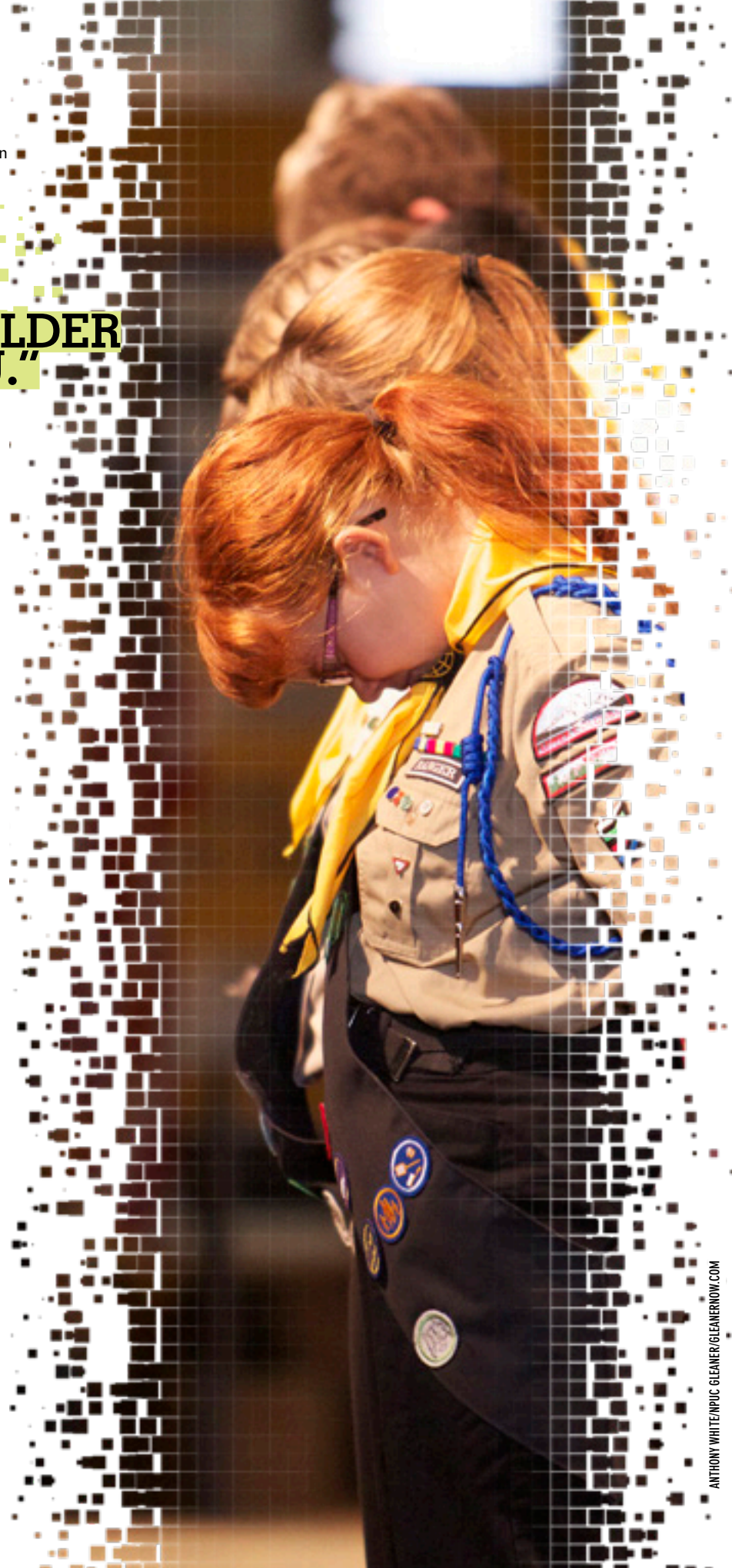
LANG: Yes, you give them real responsibility, where you give them real trust and a chance to step up and contribute. Without a step of faith on our part and their part, the power of God is absent from reality and no one grows. Most times young people don’t even see potential in themselves — we adults and young adults need to be looking for ways to tap them on the shoulder and invite them to grow.

GLEANER: We’re good as a church at planning what to do and how to do it. Sometimes in the flurry of planning, we forget the why of youth ministry. Describe the “why?”

LANG: To me it’s the gospel commission. It’s Jesus’ parting words to “go ye therefore and make disciples.” And that’s why we do it. We’re inviting our young people to become a disciple, to become an authentic follower of Jesus, to be a partner with God in using their gifts for the advancement of His kingdom and the fulfilment of our Adventist calling. If that’s not the “why” then we don’t have a movement ... we just have a club.

GLEANER: Collegiate graduates or other young adults often struggle to connect with their local church. How or when do we approach that challenge?

LANG: I think it starts well before that. My dad, living in an agrarian community, was working at what we might consider adult-type jobs when he was 12. It was expected then. Now, we struggle with this “holding





The Growing Young Cohort project is part of the continuing emphasis on the discipleship of young people for a lifestyle of mission.

pattern” that seems to just get longer and longer. Even at our camps, now our policies make it difficult for anyone to drive a camp vehicle of any kind until they’re 21. I understand the reasons and liabilities for that. But regarding our church mission, I think we need a culture that accepts young people as full partners when they are ready — not at some unspecified time in the future. Having those stepping stones available to them is critical.

GLEANER: Were you given some of those opportunities as a young person?

LANG: Well, I mentioned my dad. One day as we went out to our orchard, he said to me, “Today, you’re going to learn to drive the tractor.”

And I said, “Dad, I can’t even reach the pedals.” He said, “I’ll show you how.”

And sure enough, when we got there, he showed me how to stand on the platform in front of the seat and put my weight on the pedals and use both arms to pull the shift lever.

And I began cultivating the orange grove when I was just a third- or fourth-grader. Why? Because my dad did it when he was that age and knew I could too. That sense of real-time value, real-time belief, real-time responsibility, that real-time empowerment — how is our church doing with that? How willing are we to stand there and teach our young people how to do it? And then allow them to do it? That’s a real core conversation we must have.

TRUSTING OUR YOUTH

GLEANER: You had people who believed in you.

LANG: Yes, and they believed in me when I certainly didn’t deserve it. My dad did. A young pastor did. He asked me when I was just 11 to preach a sermon at my local church. Was I ready? No, I was scared to death. Did somebody believe I could make a difference? Yes. Would I have ever done it in a million years without someone tapping me on the shoulder and asking me? Not a chance. There is power when we tap a young person on the shoulder and say, “I see something in you.” I’ve been blessed throughout my entire career with people who have done that.

GLEANER: What is one of those examples that stands out to you?

LANG: I was graduating from high school, and a bunch of us decided that a good way to celebrate would be to spend the night following the ceremonies out at the beach with our friends and girlfriends. We were 18, feeling free and able to do whatever we wanted. I’m sure my parents were greatly concerned about this. After all the graduation hugs and handshakes were done, my mom came up to me — all 5 feet of her — and put her hands up on my shoulders. She looked up at me and said, “I just want you to know, I believe in you. I trust you.” And she kissed me on the cheek. So, on the beach later that night, no matter where teenage hormones led others, I could not betray the trust of my mom. Why? She believed in me. I wish the church was more like my mom, more like that young pastor, more like my dad. More like the youth director who, while I was at camp tapped me on the shoulder and said, “Rob, have you ever thought about ministry?” It’s those kinds of things that shape a life toward positive things. Whatever I am, whatever I have become, I am the sum total of people who have believed in me. When Ellen White described an army of youth, rightly trained, I believe she was describing

Rob and Velvet Lang



ANTHONY WHITE/APIC GLEANER/GLEANERNOW.COM

LISTEN TO THE FULL INTERVIEW WITH ROB LANG IN THE GLEANERTALK PODCAST AT

gleaner
“talk”

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PRAYERS FOR OUR CONFERENCE YOUTH TEAMS

W

this process of young and old integrated and growing together for God's glory.

GLEANER: In your opinion, that integration of youthful energy and mature experience is critical to our growth.

LANG: Absolutely. Both are needed, but with great respect for the unique gifts that each brings to this equation. When older adults come alongside children, youth and younger adults with the purpose of supporting them, encouraging them, mentoring them, there will be growth in our mission and our movement. When young people are growing, they are likely not going. And, discipleship means moving beyond the milk of the simple gospel to the meat of real-life Christian experience that builds trust in God. It's not something we sample from time to time, but something we begin to consume regularly. That's what all of us need, both young and old.

GLEANER: If a donor presented you with a check today for \$1 million, how would you use it for youth ministry?

LANG: To strengthen discipleship, provide leadership training and ultimately empower young adults with real responsibilities including resources. Young adults started our church, and young adults will finish the fulfillment of our churches calling. The sooner we empower them, the sooner we all go home!

We invite every member within the North Pacific Union to be in frequent prayer for those who lead our local conference ministries for children, youth and young adults. They are freighted with the challenge and opportunity to work with local church volunteers who connect with young people making eternal choices.

Rob and Velvet Lang kicked off an important conversation on youth discipleship at a retreat in Vancouver, Washington, in December 2018 with several conference youth leaders. Pictured here are (from left): Ranae Young, Rob and Velvet Lang, Liesl Schnibbe, Richie Brower, Ben Lundquist, Jeff Wines,



Les Zollbrecht, David Yeagley, David Salazar and Randy Hill. While not every conference leader could attend this gathering, more conversations have followed. A partial list of conference youth leaders is shared here, although space does not allow the mention of all, many of them volunteers, who continue to dedicate their lives to the discipleship of children and young people within the Pacific Northwest.

■ ALASKA

- » **Tobin Dodge**, youth ministries director

■ IDAHO

- » **Patrick Frey**, youth ministries director
- » **Dan Gilbert**, Pathfinder director
- » **Doug and Darla Roe**, Camp Ida-Haven directors

■ MONTANA

- » **Ranae Young**, youth ministries director

■ OREGON

- » **Shirley Allen**, children's ministries director
- » **Gloria Beerman**, children's ministries assistant director/Adventurers
- » **Randy Hill**, youth ministries associate director/Pathfinders
- » **Ben Lundquist**, young adult ministries director
- » **Wendy Witas**, children's ministries associate director
- » **Les Zollbrecht**, youth ministries director/Big Lake Youth Camp director

■ UPPER COLUMBIA

- » **Richie Brower**, Pathfinders/Adventurers director
- » **Patty Marsh**, children's ministries director
- » **Jeff Wines**, youth ministries director/Camp MiVoden director

■ WASHINGTON

- » **Nitza Salazar**, children's ministries director
- » **David Salazar**, youth ministries director/Pathfinders/Adventurers
- » **David Yeagley**, young adult ministries director/Sunset Lake Camp executive director

AN EVANGELISTIC PARADIGM SHIFT *in Idaho*

Nampa Church, one of the livestream sites, rejoiced with baptisms, rebaptisms and professions of faith.

The Idaho Conference recently finished a series of evangelistic meetings with Brian McMahon. We praise God for the dozens of people who made eternal choices during those meetings. But what happened in the months leading up to these meetings also signaled the beginning of a paradigm shift for many Idaho members. Some, even of our most dedicated and long-term members, realized for the first time that effective evangelism is not just a short-term series of meetings but an ongoing emphasis on spiritual connections, making friends for Jesus in our community.

We embarked on the plan two years ago with much prayer plus the support of the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) and our local churches and pastors. The plan was simple:

STEP 1

We arranged for McMahon, a seasoned NPUC evangelist, to present a Prophecies Unsealed series early in 2019. The meetings would be conducted live at the Cloverdale Church in Boise, Idaho, with a couple other local churches joining together there. Several other churches would participate via livestream technology, with the meeting content seen on screen.

STEP 2

With the meeting dates set, we hired Michael Gee, an experienced Bible worker, to be a Bible worker trainer

throughout 2018. Gee focused on several important areas, including:

- » Lay Bible worker training of more than 150 members in the eight churches participating in Prophecy Unsealed;
- » Mentoring of members who initiated Bible studies with friends or neighbors;
- » Seminars at participating churches on biblical hospitality to create a culture of welcoming friendship to new guests and eventually newly baptized members.

There were at least 11 baptisms that resulted from studies given by church members — many giving Bible studies for the first time. Most of these baptisms took place even before the Prophecy Unsealed meetings.

STEP 3

Advertising was designed to coordinate in multiple venues during the months before the meetings. Many who came to the Prophecies Unsealed presentations were influenced by a card they had received at the September 2018 AMEN (Adventist Medical Evangelism Network) free medical clinic in Boise. Some also received brochures distributed during Meridian Church's "Journey to Bethlehem."

Brochures were also mailed in a radius around the host church and the livestreaming churches. Facebook ads were strategically pointed to people in the communities where meetings were scheduled. And several billboards were placed in prominent locations in west Boise and in the Nampa area.

Watch a brief video summary of the
Treasure Valley

Experience



gleanernow.com/2019treasurevalley



appreciative of the decision to make these meetings a priority.

The Prophecy Unsealed meetings were held at the Cloverdale Church in Boise, with the Meridian and Kuna churches assisting at and supporting the host site. In addition, five churches joined the meetings by livestream: Eagle, Elgin, Heyburn, Middleton and Nampa.

Each congregation learned in its own way the power of being intentional about a lifestyle of evangelism. The meetings may have been an important focal point to draw people to a decision, but in many cases those people wouldn't

STEP 4

During the meetings, the main host site and many of the livestream locations provided a meal each evening before the meeting. This also helped members to get acquainted with guests and make them feel more connected and welcome. We cannot underestimate the significance of a powerful prayer ministry that continued throughout each week of the meetings.

RESULTS

The Cloverdale Church host site had strong attendance throughout, closing with nearly 180 people present, including 37 guests. Nampa Church, one of the livestream locations, had 120 people present with 17 guests. As results continue to add up, we believe there will more more than 40 new believers attending our Idaho congregations as an immediate response to these steps God has blessed.

A FEW STORIES

An interesting story developed in the small Heyburn Church. This little congregation has had between six to eight members attending on an average Sabbath. As a result of the Bible study efforts and meetings, they may soon double that attendance, with five or

six interested people studying toward baptism.

One church member who served as an Uber driver prayed people would notice the outdoor billboards and be motivated to come. She saw a couple at the meetings as a result of her prayer. They are continuing to study.

An 85-year-old church member gave studies for the first time. She didn't think she could give studies because of her age and shaky voice, but her study resulted in one of the baptisms at Nampa.

FOLLOW-UP

The Cloverdale Church's Disciples Making Disciples initiative brings new/prospective members together each Sabbath morning during Sabbath School and once more each week. This continues for four months of spiritual mentoring and Bible study following the meetings. The Nampa Church is following up with a pastor's Bible class for new members and guests. Michael Gee is helping members to continue studies with new members and those who are interested.

We praise the Lord for each decision. We ask ourselves: What if we hadn't taken the time and effort to have these meetings? They are inconvenient and costly and take lots of time and energy. But the people who came and responded are extremely happy and



The Cloverdale Church highlighted a number of baptisms during Sabbath services on February 16.

have been ready without the personal connections and ongoing Bible studies. "We are excited that a new culture is emerging in the Treasure Valley," says Gee, "one that is helping us see the mission field in our own communities."

Where will this paradigm shift take Idaho and the Adventist mission in the months ahead? Stay tuned.

Don Klinger, Idaho Conference assistant to the president

CUMPLIENDO LA MISIÓN

La obra de Dios continúa avanzando en las iglesias Hispánicas de la Conferencia de Washington. Esta vez queremos compartir lo que el Señor está haciendo en el Distrito Sur, que comprenden las iglesias de Olympia y de Chehalis.

Un gran despertar se ha levantado entre nuestros hermanos y hermanas quienes están tomando muy en serio la obra del evangelio (Mat. 24:14), y la urgencia de pasar la llama a otros para que puedan ser llenos del Espíritu de Dios (Hechos 2:38). De acuerdo con las palabras de Cristo a los discípulos, la iglesia está en la tierra con objetivos específicos: la formación de nuevos

para cumplir la obra de la predicación (Marcos 3:13–14). Esta misma idea es transmitida por Elena G. White, cuando explica la misión de la iglesia como la evangelización y salvación de las almas:

“La iglesia de Cristo es la intermediaria elegida por Dios para salvar a los hombres. Su misión es llevar el Evangelio al mundo” (*Camino a Cristo*, p. 81).

“La iglesia de Cristo sobre la tierra fue organizada con propósitos misioneros, y el Señor desea ver a la iglesia entera ideando formas y medios por los cuales los encumbrados y los humildes, los ricos y los pobres, puedan escuchar el mensaje de la verdad” (*Testimonios para la Iglesia* 6:29; *Servicio Cristiano*, p. 92).

Sin embargo, la manera como hemos de avanzar la obra de Dios puede ser diferente o variada, dependiendo del lugar, y las circunstancias que se nos presenten. El mensaje puede ser el mismo, aunque la forma o método puede cambiar; pero, todos hemos sido llamados a tomar parte activa en la proclamación del mensaje de salvación.

Las Iglesias de Olympia y Chehalis han entendido esto, y el Señor está reavivando sus miembros a través de varios ministerios y la predicación ferviente. Muchos están regresando al primer amor y comprometiéndose con la misión de la Iglesia. Ambas Iglesias están participando en



Iglesia Hispánica de Olympia celebra el Día del Ministerio de Damas.

Olympia Hispanic Church celebrating Women's Ministry Day.

la formación de los grupos pequeños para discipular y evangelizar; así mismo como recibiendo instrucción y respondiendo al llamado para impartir estudios Bíblicos a los interesados de la comunidad.

Se ha formado el primer Club de Conquistadores y Aventureros, anhelado por varios años para ministrar a nuestros niños y jóvenes; se realizó la primera Escuela Bíblica de Verano, con la participación y apoyo de los hermanos; y además hemos tenido el resurgimiento del Ministerio de Damas, quienes se preparan a través de estudio de la Biblia, Seminarios y parejas de oración. También tenemos un gran apoyo a la Educación Cristiana en cooperación con nuestras escuelas Adventistas locales (Olympia Christian School y Lewis County Adventist).

Un fervor creciente se nota entre todos nuestros

miembros, adultos, jóvenes y niños, quienes están alistándose con la disposición de servir a la iglesia, a la comunidad y dar el mensaje de salvación a todos a su alrededor.

Pastor Víctor Rodríguez, Olympia y Chehalis pastor



La primera Escuela Bíblica de Verano en la iglesia de Olympia dirigida por Ynocencia Rodríguez.



El último bautismo en la iglesia hispana de Chehalis, Wash.

The latest baptism at Chehalis (Wash.) Hispanic Church.

discípulos y la predicación del evangelio (Mat. 28:18–20). El nos escogió, tal como a los primeros discípulos, no solo para estar con Él, sino también

FULFILLING THE MISSION

God's mission continues moving forward in the

Washington Conference Hispanic churches. I will be sharing what God is doing in the South District at the Olympia and Chehalis Hispanic churches.

A grand spiritual awakening is taking place with our brothers and sisters who are taking the gospel commission seriously (Matt. 24:14) and with a sense of urgency are passing forward the torch to others, so they too can be filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38). According to the words of Christ to His disciples, His earthly church was given specific objectives: the formation of new disciples and the preaching of the gospel (Matt. 28:18–20). He has chosen us, just as He did



Escuela Bíblica de Verano en la iglesia de Olympia, dirigida por Ynocencia Rodriguez.

Vacation Bible School at Olympia Hispanic Church, led by Ynocencia Rodriguez.

His first disciples, not only to accompany Him, but also to fulfill His commission to preach the gospel (Mark 3:13–14).

Ellen G. White echoes this concept as she shares that the mission of the church is the evangelization and salvation of souls:

“The church of Christ is God’s appointed agency for the salvation of men. Its mission is to carry the gospel to the world” (*Steps to Christ*, p. 88).

“The church of Christ on earth was organized for missionary purposes, and the Lord desires to see the entire church devising ways and means whereby high and low, rich and poor, may hear the message of truth” (*Christian Service*, p. 72).

This having been said, the methods we use to advance God’s work can be different or varied, depending on the location and the circumstances. The message may be the same,

though the form or method may change; however, we are all called to take an active part in the proclamation of our salvific method.

The Olympia and Chehalis Hispanic churches have understood this and the Lord is reviving His members through the various ministries and fervent preaching.

Many are returning to their first love and are committing to the mission of the church. Both churches are participating in the formation of discipling, evangelistic small groups as well as receiving training and responding to the call to give Bible studies to their community interests.

We have just started our first Adventurer and Pathfinder clubs after dreaming of being able to minister to our children and youth. We also held our first Vacation Bible School with the support and participation of our members; additionally, our women’s

ministry has been revived and these members continue growing through the study of the Word, seminars and prayer partners. We are blessed to receive support for the Christian education of our children through our local churches and schools (Olympia Christian School and Lewis County Adventist School).

We are praising God for the growing fervor among our adult members, youth and children who are glad



Grupo pequeño de Shelton, Wash. Small group meeting in Shelton, Wash.

and ready to serve their local churches and communities and share the good news of salvation to everyone in their circle of influence.

Victor Rodriguez, Olympia and Chehalis Hispanic churches pastor



The first VBS held at the Olympia Hispanic Church in 2018, led by Ynocencia Rodriguez.

Alaska Conference Advance Arctic Mission Adventure June 29, 2019

RE: THINK MISSIONS

Imagine yourself part of a small village located on the Arctic tundra with a few dozen wooden homes, a small store and governed by elders.

Extreme weather. No hospitals. No police. No streets. The only access is by a small, single-engine plane.

Now imagine being taught that so much of your culture is “wrong” — the food you eat, the clothes you wear, the way your village hunts and fishes, the stories the elders tell, the songs they sing, and the very words spoken are inferior.



The parking lot is full Sabbath morning at the Savoonga Church.

Few of us truly understand the difficulty of life in Alaska villages. Arctic Mission Adventure (AMA) was born from a desire to share the love of Christ in practical ways throughout bush Alaska. AMA volunteers live in villages with the goal of integrating into village life and building relationships through ministries that meet the needs

of both old and young. They feed the hungry, clothe the needy, provide day camps and Vacation Bible Schools, and pray for those in need.

The North Pacific Union offering on June 29 is designated for AMA outreach. AMA is solely donor-supported, and this offering goes to keeping lights and heat on in the village church and parsonage, building maintenance, and keeping food banks open. **Please prayerfully support the mission work in Alaska by giving of your offerings on June 29.**

Kevin Miller, Alaska Conference president

GOD PLANS AHEAD

Arctic Mission Adventure (AMA) volunteers serve in villages where the cost for basic food items is double, sometimes triple, what one pays in the Lower 48 because bush Alaska is not tied to any road system; all supplies must be flown or barged into the villages. In Selawik, a family can purchase a dozen eggs, a loaf of plain white bread and a half a gallon of orange juice for the low price of \$25!

To help offset these costs,



Selawik residents enjoy a delicious meal prepared by church members.

AMA volunteers obtained permission from the village elders to run a food bank. Each month, they serve between 10–15 families consistently because of the donations of so many friends.

Last Thanksgiving, the Eagle River Church youth shipped 750 pounds of food they had collected from their neighbors. Stunned, the volunteers prayed God would

direct them how to use this food for His honor and glory.

Two days after the food arrived, Alaska was hit with a 7.0 magnitude earthquake. Although Selawik was not directly impacted, it was cut off from food and supplies coming in from Anchorage as the city scrambled to recover. The 750 pounds of food served more than 30 families, with food to spare.

But God was not finished. The government shutdown in February offered a second opportunity. Eighty percent of Selawik residents depend on government benefits such as food stamps to meet their needs. Many families with children were affected when these benefits were delayed.

But God had planned for this. With the leftover food, 35 households received food for their families. God in His mercy used His children to send food way before they knew it was needed.

Edna Estrella, AMA worker in Selawik



JOHN GOUDE

The village of Togiak, Alaska, has many challenges in its remote location.

TOGIK CHURCH PROVIDES SHELTER IN TIMES OF STORM

I was invited to come to Togiak to conduct a week of prayer; focusing on the sufferings of Jesus and His desire to carry away our pain and find a new identity in Him. My first thought as I stepped off the small six-person plane onto the Togiak runway was, “What have I gotten myself into?”

I had expected a small village that felt more or less like home, but what I

abuse are common. There appeared to be little access to quality, affordable food and few opportunities for work or advancement.

The volunteer workers in Togiak are engaged in the most essential kind of ministry by living the example of Jesus. They provide food, a safe place and the love of God for the teens and adults. The church has become a refuge where people who want to escape the negative influences of alcohol, drugs and abuse can come and just be safe. The church truly is a shelter in a time of storm.

I was moved by my brief time in Togiak, and that small village will always have a special place in my heart. My hope is that the transforming power of Jesus can work in the lives of the young people I met and help them to rise above the challenges before them.

Tyler Bower, Bismarck Church pastor

Togiak residents harvest a whale.

experienced was a front-line mission outpost. There are no paved roads. Run-down homes, rusted vehicles and trash are everywhere. Even though the village is supposed to be “dry,” alcohol and drug



JOHN GOUDE

5160 PROVES UNFORGETTABLE

The phone rang in the church office one cold February afternoon. I picked up the receiver on the third ring to hear a frantic voice of a teen on the other end: “Ms. Lynette, I need your help. I’ve lost my cell phone, and I need to use your phone to handle a situation at home.” I told her to come on over and use the phone.

No sooner had I hung up when the phone rang again. This time, the caller was a young lady who chose to change her life and go into rehab for drugs. She calls the church periodically excited to share her progress with me. She’s out of rehab and in a foster home, employed and doing well in school. Prayers do get answered. She attended Alaska Camps a couple of years and then fell in with the wrong crowd, eventually getting on drugs. She personally made the choice last fall to stop using. A second young lady followed her example and is still in rehab. We keep praying for them.

As I hung up from the second call, I pondered the fact so many kids here remember the church phone number — 5160 — even though they lose their phones



Lynette Goude answers a “5160” call.

or move away. I am humbled that kids connect with this number and this church and that we are viewed as a stable, reliable and positive influence in this village.

Lynette Goude, Arctic Mission Adventure volunteer in Togiak



Arctic Mission Adventure volunteers Lynette and John Goude spend time with Togiak children.

THREE ORANGES SAVE \$100 FOR VBS



"Baby Girl" from the community was all smiles after the VBS program.

As the camp meeting team loaded eight totes of Vacation Bible School (VBS) crafts, fresh fruit and warm clothes onto the baggage scales at the Anchorage International Airport, one of the totes was 3 pounds over the 50-pound limit. "You'll need to pay \$100 for that tote," exclaimed the attendant. After quickly opening the tote and transferring three oranges to their carry-on bags, the relieved team avoided paying the \$100 and boarded the plane for Bethel.

The community of Bethel

is located in southwestern Alaska and has been the traditional place of Yup'ik people and their ancestors for thousands of years. Today Bethel is the largest community (population 6,080) in western Alaska and is located approximately 50 miles inland on the Kuskokwim River and only accessible by plane. The March 22–24 camp meeting revealed the depth of the work being done in Bethel as the small church was packed into the foyer and kitchen with sincere and joyful worshippers of all ages.

The camp meeting team included a rich and vibrant VBS program for the many smiling children of this close-knit community. The word quickly spread as more and more children, and their parents, came to hear about God's love and share in the deliciously prepared dishes garnished with fresh fruit — a rare and expensive treat that caused one young girl to joyously exclaim, "Look at the fruit!"

The work in Bethel is led by Arctic Mission Adventure volunteers Vecous and Loretta Waite, who are



The daughter of Philip and Darlene Tulik expressed her love for Jesus through baptism.

daily demonstrating the love of God through their hands-on, selfless, efficient outreach to precious souls who live in difficult circumstances. The results of caring for the physical and spiritual needs of remote communities like Bethel

was not only apparent in the large attendance at this brief camp meeting but also in the celebration of six baptisms on Sabbath morning.

Jim John, Anchorage Northside Church pastor



MERIDIAN CONTINUES TO HELP COMMUNITY WITH GOD'S CLOSET

When Meridian Church members held their first God's Closet in September 2017, the community response was so overwhelmingly positive, program organizers knew they had hit a need. Building on that initial platform, they have now held their fifth God's Closet — and the number of people who come to find clothes for their children is growing.

God's Closet is a local church community services initiative started by lay members in 2009 and supported by North American Division (NAD) Adventist Community Services (ACS). It could be described as a “shopping” event held periodically for those in need of children's clothing, shoes and bedding. Church members as well as people and organizations in the community donate children's clothes, which volunteers gather and sort according to size and gender.

On event days, families in the community pay \$1 per family to shop for children's clothes. The reason for the small fee, Logan explains, is that people feel like they are contributing something. It also helps defray expenses since the program is entirely donation-based. However, no one is



Meridian Church members sort the clothes by size and gender so God's Closet shoppers can easily find the clothes they need for their children.

turned away if they are unable to pay the \$1 entry fee.

“Every time we open our doors for God's Closet we are surprised at the expressed need for basics like clothing and safety,” says Beverly Logan, who has headed the program since the beginning. “Anything we can do to fulfill those needs — even in a small way — is a real blessing.”

Families in the community learn about the God's Closet events via Facebook. More than 100 families from 12 cities and towns — Boise, Nampa, Meridian, Weiser, Emmett, Kuna, Middleton, Caldwell, Eagle, Wilder, Garden City and Melba — showed up for the most recent shopping day, held in the Meridian Church fellowship hall on Feb. 15.

“This is great!” one

shopper said. “My daughter thought she was finished having children and gave all her children's clothing away. Then — surprise! — she's pregnant again. Being able to get baby clothes for her here is a real blessing.”

“Thank you so much for doing this,” another shopper told a volunteer worker. “This is wonderful.”

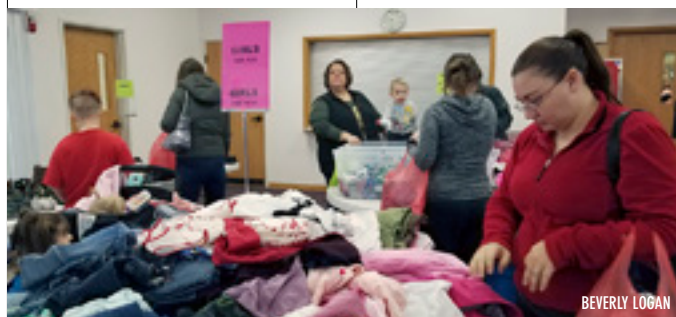
Meridian Church members Carolyn Curtis and Pat Britzius, together with Logan, comprise the core organizers, but numerous other members also help prepare for and run the God's Closet on event days.

“The support from our church for this program is very encouraging,” Logan says.

Together with providing clothes, shoppers' spiritual needs are also addressed. At the most recent event, 12 people expressed interest in Bible studies, 15 asked for prayer and 32 families said they would be interested in attending upcoming children's programs.

For more information about God's Closet, go to godscloset.com. To find out more about the program, email the Meridian Church at meridian@godscloset.com.

Sandra Blackmer, Meridian Church communication leader



More than 100 families from 12 cities and towns in Idaho showed up for the February God's Closet event.

INTERFAITH RELATIONSHIP BRINGS ORGAN MUSIC BACK TO POCATELLO CHURCH

Pocatello Church has been challenged by the lack of pianists and organists within their congregation. Pocatello is quite a transitional town, with residents moving in or leaving at an ongoing rate and older residents passing away. About a year ago, the local church had only one pianist and no organists. In years past, the quantity was much higher.

The Pocatello Church community outreach leader has been attending the public affairs council (PAC) meetings of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for almost two years. This has been a source of information about

communitywide multidenominational projects. In addition the support of this team in serving the local community has been greatly appreciated in many aspects. Due to the openness of this team, the relationship has been very healthy.

During one of these meetings over a year ago, the question was asked of how the local Adventist church could be supported. Instantaneously, the request for organists was mentioned.

Later that week, one of the PAC members, a leader



Pocatello Church is being uplifted in music by Idaho State University students.

of the Idaho State University (ISU) students of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, texted the Adventist member with an idea that a team of ISU students could assist. The idea was warmly received, and a meeting was setup with eight ISU students, as well as their leaders. Introductions were made, schedules were organized, and the team of ISU students have been practicing and performing, adding their talents to those of the local Adventist pianist.

Their service has been greatly appreciated. The dedication of talent and time has supported this Adventist church worship service. Where there was the absence of organ

music, the worship service is filled with beautiful music.

It is so imperative to recognize that God's church is represented by all people. In this Pocatello example it is and has been a beautiful experience for two different faiths working together — God's servants dedicated to serving our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Recently, one of the local pianists suffering from a seizure could relax, knowing the music would continue by an ISU student on the organ. Pocatello Church members are praising God for those who seek to serve in Him.

Michael Dingman, Pocatello Church communication leader

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GEM STATE ADVENTIST ACADEMY REVIEWS STATE OF THE SCHOOL

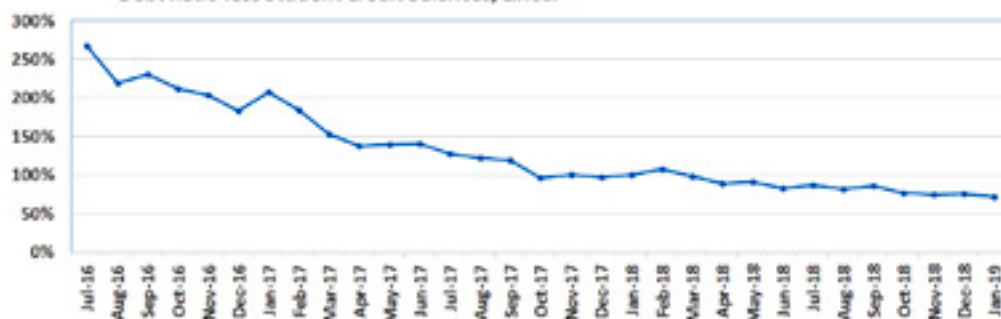
I am often asked how Gem State Adventist Academy is doing, and I am proud to say GSAA is thriving. We have made huge strides in financial stability in the past four years. It has truly been a walk in faith, but God is so good. He knows our young people need this school. Here are just a few of the ways GSAA is more financially stable than it was four years ago:

- » Four consecutive years of operating in the black;
- » \$400,000 ahead, with cash on hand;
- » \$300,000 reduced debt to Idaho Conference;
- » \$200,000 funded capital improvements;
- » Student debt ratio dropped by almost 200 percent;
- » Philanthropic giving to GSAA more than doubled;
- » The average student receives 35 percent in tuition assistance.

And we have done all of this without raising tuition during the past four years. What a miracle!

We remain dedicated to providing the best faith-based education possible. A recent survey from Walla Walla University shows our students perform well against other North Pacific

Debt Ratio less Student Credit Balances, Linear



Union Conference academy graduates, grabbing the top spot in math among freshman and sophomore college students.

A recent survey of our alumni revealed 85 percent of Gem State students go on to college (the national average among high school graduates is 66 percent). The same survey also showed that 30 percent of our graduates go on to receive a master's or doctorate degree. In addition, the survey showed a significant portion of our alumni go into the fields of health care and education, which resonates with our core mission statement: "Training for Leadership. Engaging in Service. Preparing for Eternity."

Challenges remain of course, and there are many opportunities for growth, including the need to update

infrastructure and campus beautification, more recruiting to grow enrollment, and keeping tuition affordable for families. I am excited to report, though, that the GSAA operating board recently voted to hire a half-time marketing and recruiting staff person to help address the challenge of growing enrollment at GSAA.

However, we can't achieve our mission without the support of our alumni and constituent community. We need your prayers and financial support. We are doing our part to keep this school strong. God is doing His part to sustain our ministry. And we need you to do your part. It takes all of us working together to ensure the future of Gem State Adventist Academy and provide for the young people who attend school here.

We need Adventist

education now more than ever before. The devil is waging war for the hearts and minds of our youth. Help us provide a safe place in today's world for our youth to learn and grow. They are worth the investment of our time and resources.

Marvin Thorman, GSAA principal

More
GSAA
survey results:

glnr.in/114-03-id_gsaa

GLACIER VIEW HOSTS TENTH SOUPER BOWL

This was the 10th year the Glacier View (previously named Ronan) Church has held the Souper Bowl fundraiser for their local food pantries, the Ronan Bread Basket and Polson Loaves and Fishes. This year, the church received a letter from the Ronan Bread Basket Emergency Food Pantry:

Billee Collins, Glacier View Church communication leader

Dear Russ Jenkins and the Adventist Congregation,
Blessings by the case! And three times in a year!

We at the Ronan Bread Basket are so grateful to your congregation for providing many, many cases of soup to our food pantry so that we may help our neighbors and clients who are not always food secure.

What better meal can we give than a hot bowl of soup? Each time a client comes to our facility, he/she receives a can or two of soup that you have so generously donated. Every person who receives soup from us is pleased and appreciative.

The Bread Basket serves 150 to 200 families each month so the blessing from you is spread throughout our community. Since we have not had to purchase soup from our Bread Basket money supply, we are able to provide other nutritious items for our clients. ...

Your church is a wonderful, giving group that we have come to count on. Please accept a bushel basket full of thanks from all of us on the Bread Basket Board and from the families we serve.

Most sincerely,

Marilynn Tanner, Ronan Bread Basket secretary

gleanernow.com

Send your stories
in for quick online
publication.



Stay in touch with breaking news, intriguing video links and updated calendar events with *GleanerWeekly*, our award-winning news summary, sent once a week or as breaking news happens.



POPLAR MEMBERS THANK GOD FOR GIFT OF VOLUNTEERS

Poplar Church members are thanking God for every volunteer who has given of themselves and their resources for supporting the building project in Poplar. The new multiuse facility, named the Living Hope Center, will serve as a local church in addition to providing a place for continued outreach to the people in and around the Fort Peck Reservation in eastern Montana.

First volunteers constructed a basement and poured footings. Plumbers came from Colville, Wash., and North Dakota to install plumbing in the basement floor and get the plumbing permit signed.

This prepared the way for a group of 15 volunteers from the Village Church in Berrien Springs, Mich., to spend a week making short work of the huge task at hand. They stacked the 11-inch-high foam blocks, tied all the rebar and poured the concrete in the walls. They also installed the moisture barrier on the outside of the foam blocks, installed all the foam insulation in the floor, installed the rebar and hydronic tubing in the floor, and poured and finished the cement floor.

Once the concrete was cured, the basement walls were

up and the concrete floor was completed a few weeks later, things were ready for a second group of 10 people from the Village Church area to complete the next phase: interior walls, steel beams, floor joists and floor. “We have no words to express our gratitude to the Stevensville, Mich., and Village Church of Berrien Springs for their support — not only their physical labor but also their generous financial contribution,” says Elden Ramirez, Montana Conference president.

The following week another contractor came from Colorado and helped install the drain tile and backfill the basement to prepare for winter, even as the temperature dropped to -10F. Another group will return in May to



stack the foam walls and pour the remaining concrete walls.

This building mission project is scheduled to proceed as far as possible subject to funds becoming available. “We pray that God will continue to provide so this mission project designed to minister to the community will be completed,” says Matthew Kirk, Montana Conference vice president of finance and administration.

Next summer the plan is to complete the framing of the interior walls, setting the trusses and drying in the building before winter in order to continue to work inside during the winter months.

For more information on this mission project, visit montanaadventist.org/ministries/native-ministries. Poplar Church members invite you to partner with them.

If you are interested in volunteering with any part of the project, please feel free to contact Merlin Knowles at 406-599-4314 or Leigh Van Asperen at 208-610-3004.

Leigh Van Asperen, Poplar Church project general contractor



More online at
glnr.in/114-03-mt_poplar

ROSEBURG JUNIOR ACADEMY GETS BLUE ZONE APPROVAL

On Thursday, Jan. 31, at 2:45 p.m., students at Roseburg Junior Academy (RJA) were joined by parents, church members and community members for an amazing blue ribbon-cutting and ceremony as the school celebrated its Blue Zone Approval. RJA is the fourth school in Douglas County to receive its Blue Zone approval and is the first Christian school to do so.

“This is very exciting for our school and our students,” says Jeff Jackson, RJA principal and upper-grades teacher. “Our

teachers and students have been involved in a variety of different projects including community service opportunities and new ways to eat healthy.”

Becoming Blue Zone-approved took a schoolwide effort to create a healthy community. Students planted garden boxes and learned about different vegetables. Kindergartners tracked how much water they drank, while first-through third-graders added more exercise to their days.

RJA had a fall walk-to-school day. Grades four through eight started an action



Students at Roseburg Junior Academy cut the official Blue Zone ribbon with their principal, Jeff Jackson.

committee to raise support to overhaul the school track. They also helped clean a community park.

All hot lunches served at RJA now include a variety of fruits and vegetables. There is always either a salad bar or fruit bar. The first time the salad bar option was served, a student commented they had never had a salad before, but it tasted really good.

Going through the process of becoming Blue Zone-approved has helped

strengthen the resolve of RJA students and teachers to eat healthfully, drink lots of water, incorporate movement into every day, be surrounded by a positive school community and derive purpose from helping others.

Andrea Jackson, Roseburg Junior Academy volunteer



More online at glnr.in/114-03-or_rja

Gladstone
Camprestre Hispano
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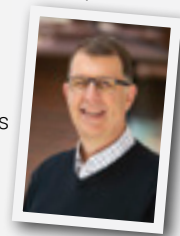


Orador Principal
Yaqueline Tello



Gladstone English
Camp Meeting
July 16-20, 2019

Partition Speaker
Mark Witas



Learn more & reserve your campsite at www.OregonAdventist.org!

PAA JOINS CARE FOR CUBA

More photos online at glnr.in/114-03-or_paa

Nobody in Cuba is rich, but this church was poor. I mean poor, poor. And that was the church that ended up stealing our hearts,” says Rita Barrett, or “Profe” as she is called by her Spanish language students at Portland Adventist Academy (PAA). She took six students to Cuba during Spring Break to partner with the Andrews University School of Divinity’s ongoing mission, Care for Cuba.

Barrett and her students were responsible for leading children’s ministry for evangelistic meetings supporting five churches. But an unplanned visit to a nearby church caught their attention.

The Chicharrones Church was nearly destroyed by Hurricane Sandy in 2012. In seven years not much has changed. “It didn’t have a great roof,” explains Morgan James, a PAA senior. “It had open walls, and it was kind of falling apart.”

“It was basically a makeshift building,” says Barrett. “But their community is so poor they haven’t been able to rebuild.”

Buildings are not the only challenges Cuban churches face.

Care for Cuba reports that 100 pastors and 300 Bible workers have little resources.

Most Cuban ministers don’t have access to computers, books or children’s ministries resources. Very few have cars. If they don’t have a bike it can take hours to reach the people they serve. Bicycles cost \$150, and the average Cuban earns just \$30 per month.

Bibles are also hard to come by. One Bible is often shared between families and can become so worn it can’t be read.

“With all that, it’s easy to see why it could take so long to rebuild a church,” says Barrett.

Rebuilding Chicharrones would cost \$30,000. So far, they’ve raised \$10,000.

Though the Chicharrones Church may be poor, its members are rich in spirit. “This tiny little church of about 100



ZECHARIAH LI

Portland Adventist Academy organized a Vacation Bible School for more than 200 Cuban children.

people was able to bring 100 more people to their evangelistic meetings,” says Barrett.

“It was standing room only. People were outside peeking through slats so they could see all the baptisms. And it was all so joyful.”

In countries like Cuba, it’s never certain how long religious speech will remain free. Care for Cuba is committed empowering church workers in Cuba to do all they can, while they can. For now, the Cuban church remains one of the fastest growing in the Adventist world church. Barrett and her students are blessed to be a part of this remarkable history.

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA Gleaner correspondent



RITA BARRETT

The Chicharrones Church may be poor, but its members are rich in spirit. “This tiny little church of about 100 people was able to bring 100 more people to their meetings,” says Barrett. “It was standing room only. People were outside peeking through slats so they could see all the baptisms. And it was all so joyful.”

MEALS OF HOPE SERVE MUCH MORE THAN DINNER

There were only eight at the first dinner. By the second week, 18 arrived. Week after week, a few more trickled in. Word began to spread, and the numbers jumped to 100. A year later, in 2016, more than 200 people were attending Meals of Hope, a dinner for the community put on by a few special people at the Riverside Church in Washougal, Wash.

Paul Ybarra, affectionately known by most as Yogi, is the organizer and creator of Meals of Hope. Yogi envisioned the outreach as a community meal to show God's love in a tangible way. And that is exactly what it is, for the people who attend regularly. Word of the homemade, delicious free dinner has spread. They come from nearby in Washougal and Camas, from around Clark County, and even from Portland, Ore.

After being diagnosed with stage 4 cancer, and with a 5 percent chance of recovery, Yogi experienced a miracle and beat the odds. He was cancer-free. One day he was sitting on the couch and said, "An angel hit me with a 2-by-4 and said, 'I did not cure you to sit around. Get with it.'"

With the support of his

wife, Dianna, Yogi began processing the idea. Soon other Riverside Church members began to see the vision. The dinner merged into a food and clothing bank. After getting it passed by the church board, Yogi and friends began to get to work. A recently vacated building got a face-lift thanks to a work bee and some volunteers. It soon began to take shape and became the food and clothing bank. Shelves were set up, as well as racks for clothes.

Fast-forward to 2019, and Meals of Hope consistently serves at least 150 people once a week. The menu changes each week, from spaghetti, stew or hot dogs to stroganoff or haystacks. Yogi credits his volunteers, individual sponsors and donors for much of the success of the dinner and the community center.

One of these sponsors, Dot Donuts, regularly gives whatever donuts are left at the end of the day. Everyday Deals has become a sponsor as well, donating cereal, peanut butter, cans of soup and nonperishables to the community center. Cash and Carry (Smart Foods) is another sponsor.

Columbia Sportswear came on as a sponsor in 2017. In February and March, they donated more than 120 boxes of coats. This created a significant outreach for the community center. Yogi and volunteers, like Merle Ettestad, go out to community and specifically invite the homeless to come the last two Sundays of the month. They are invited to take up to two coats per person. Word spread quickly about the coats, and by the second Sunday, more than 115 people came.

Other organizations have benefited from Columbia Sportswear's generosity as well. The Boy Scouts were welcomed to choose some of the coats. In January 2019, two dozen coats were sent to Paradise, Calif., to those experiencing homelessness as a result of the tragic Camp Fire.

One week, during one of



the Tuesday night meals, several scouts from the Washougal Eagles, and a local business in Washougal, walked in and gave a surprise presentation up front. They gifted Yogi \$500, saying, "This is because many of our patrons talk about what Meals of Hope has done for



Yogi Ybarra moves some of the coats donated by Columbia Sportswear.

us, I know that there is a Jesus who loves us.”

Each evening after the meal, a Bible study takes place. Many of the members stay for it. There are handouts, GLOW (Giving Light to Our World) packets and prayer requests that happen at the beginning. Tim Kruger and Merrill Caviness, Riverside Church pastor, usually run the Bible studies. Caviness says, “This is what Jesus said we would be doing as we wait for His coming: feeding, visiting and loving our community unconditionally. God’s love works in reaching hearts. It is amazing to watch God work as we create an environment that is safe and loving. The church is here to create time and space for loving relationships.”

Yogi’s favorite story is a modern-day miracle. One day, in the early days of Meals of Hope, he made 10 pans of lasagna, planning to feed around 140 people. More than 220 people came. Not sure how he was going to feed everyone, Yogi and Dianna, prayed, “Please let there be enough.” Each time they went to the oven, there seemed to be one more pan. There was miraculously more than

enough and even leftovers that evening. Yogi tears up when telling this story. “It gives me goose bumps to be able to experience God’s love like this. And the volunteers can see that this is a ministry that God has approved,” he says.

So far, there have been six baptisms as a result of these meetings. The dinners are meeting the immediate physical needs, but it’s the relationships that are keeping Meals of Hope going. Spreading the good news is central to the mission and the core of why it is successful.

Julie Natiuk, Riverside Church member

them. Thank you for what you do for our community.” The organization has given \$1,000 to Meals of Hope so far.

Meals of Hope has greatly impacted the community. It gives people a warm and safe place to come once a week. The meal is home-cooked,

hearty and free. Rose, a kind and friendly face often seen at the dinners, said, “I love coming here and finding happiness and peace of mind. Thank you for the warm meal and your much needed prayers of encouragement. No matter what is going on outside of

More photos online at
glnr.in/114-03-or_expo



HUNDREDS RECEIVE FREE BIBLES AT WOMEN'S EXPO

The Oregon Convention Center was filled with more than 400 vendors for the 2019 Portland Women's Expo on March 2. The event is hosted as part of the larger Portland Women's Expo Foundation, a nonprofit organization with the ultimate goal of helping women receive training and resources to successfully sustain themselves and their families. The campaign is called "Building Hope."

Women attending this year's Portland Women's Expo received a bit of hope and free Bibles thanks to Oregon Conference (OC) women's ministries. The fuchsia covers of the beautiful Bibles were imprinted with "For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength" (Phil 4:13).

When volunteer Jann Biegel gave a passerby the pretty Bible, the woman said, with tears in her eyes, "I have never had a Bible of my very own."

Angela Whitbeck, Gladstone Park Church women's ministries leader, said she loved to see ladies' eyes light up when they found out the beautiful Bibles were free.

For this event, women's ministries partnered with Laura Pascoe, OC's Adventist Community Services Disaster



Terrie Leen Griebel offers free Bibles during the Portland Women's Expo.

Relief (ACS DR) coordinator, who gave out LED flashlights and flyers on being prepared for a natural disaster. Combining the ministries turned out to be a great idea, as disaster relief was a topic of interest for many of the women attending.

God blessed these efforts to reach the women of Portland by meeting them where they gather. OC women's ministries leaders hope to meet these women again in heaven.

Terrie Leen-Griebel, Oregon Conference women's ministries field coordinator



Portland Adventist Community Services is opening a much-needed dental clinic for people in need.

PACS BEGINS RESTORING SMILES

The Lord has been doing great things in the Portland Adventist Community Services (PACS) dental clinic as staff geared up to see patients by the first of May. With the building phase finished in the middle of April, they turned their sights to installing dental equipment and hiring staff. The Lord has met them time and again along this bumpy road to the opening. They are reminded often this is the Lord's clinic and He is working it out His way and in His timing.

Several weeks before the clinic opened, a young woman knocked at the door hoping to be seen right away. She was missing a front tooth and expressed she was struggling to find work and came to the PACS food pantry to feed her family.

As they talked, staff discovered this woman had already been to a few low-income clinics, even the county clinics. None of the clinics were able to provide a new tooth. Very few clinics even

do crowns. Most low-income and nonprofit clinics deal with emergency issues like fillings or pulling a tooth but offer no crowns, root canals or dentures.

PACS's goal for its clinic is to be able to offer these services and much more to patients in need. Fixing teeth is important. It may mean landing that next job and giving hope to the future. It's about loving people to Jesus and giving them a hope and future beyond anything they could ever imagine (Jer. 29:11).

If you have questions, want to donate or help in any way, please reach out by email to Carol.James@pacsonline.org or by calling 503-758-1892.

Carol James, PACS dental clinic coordinator



More online at
glnr.in/114-03-or_pacs

NORTHWEST TEENS ANSWER PRAYER WITH CONCRETE AND IRON

The members of a small Adventist church in San Luis, Guatemala, received an answer to two years of prayer when a group of Northwest teens and adults came to help build a new church in March.

Members from the small group of believers joined forces with a 37-member mission team, sponsored by Upper



JAY WINTERMEYER

as members told the story of how they had been praying for two years for a church of their own. Emotions overflowed as they talked and expressed their deep gratitude for helping make the new church a reality.

“It was exciting to be able to go on the trip and help out. This trip has changed me,” said one student. “We left knowing we made a difference.”

Jay Wintermeyer, Upper Columbia Conference assistant to the president for communication

The Upper Columbia Conference youth mission team served the town of San Luis, Guatemala, by building a new Adventist church and holding Vacation Bible Schools and a dental and vision clinic.

as the walls grew higher and the rafters were hoisted into place. Missionary bands of teens visited the surrounding homes in the community to help where possible, pray with people and invite them to visit the new church.

Each weekday afternoon the teens took turns putting on a Vacation Bible School program for area school children with a Bible story about Noah and fun crafts to take home.

In addition to building the church, the mission team was able to provide a dental and vision clinic as well. Scott Johnson and Jeremy Beam were able to provide dental and vision health care to many people from the local commu-

nity. Some days people showed up for care as early as 6 a.m.

The final Sabbath was a high day for the mission team

Photos and video online at glnr.in/114-03-uc_guatemala



SCOTT JOHNSON

Teens learned new skills as they helped build the walls of the new church.

Columbia Conference youth department, to build a new church at the base of a hill near the edge of San Luis.

Each day community members stopped by to watch



JAY WINTERMEYER

Community school children enjoyed the daily Vacation Bible School programs the mission team provided.

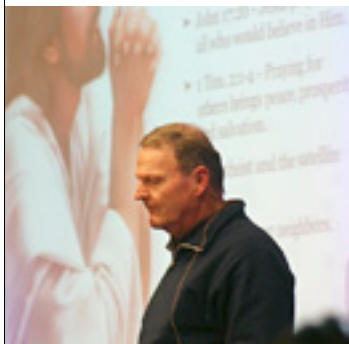
HOLY SPIRIT MOVES AT MEN'S SUMMIT

Saturday evening at Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) Men's Summit, the speaker was finished. Unable to spy the prayer team, despite their being in plain view, the event leader felt prompted to invite the men to break into small groups and pray together.

A short time later, a father thanked the leader for the impromptu prayer time. During that time, his teenage son, who was praying with his grandpa, had given his life to Jesus.

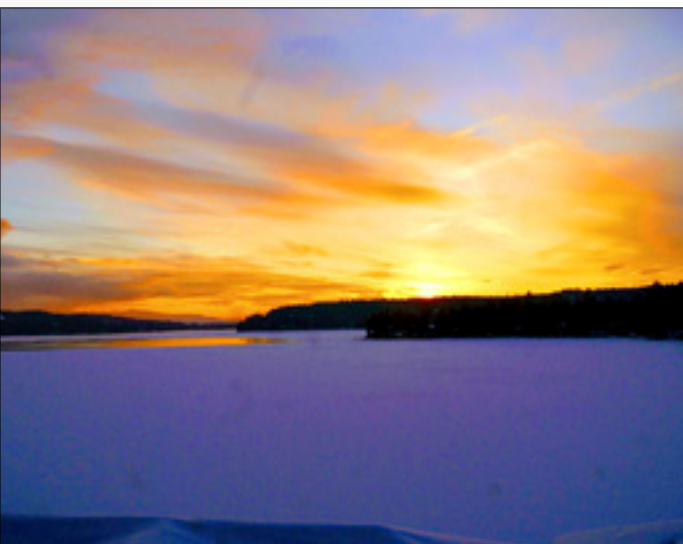
Event leaders knew God was up to something special before the event even began this year. The conference family life department was contacted by men saying that they felt "convicted they needed to attend Men's Summit." Clearly, God was on the move. A group of young men from Upper Columbia Academy in Spangle, Wash., heard one of their teachers talking about his plans to attend and asked if they could come too. Eleven students came and were actively engaged in an intergenerational experience of worship, play and compelling teaching from the speaker, Kevin Wilfley, Kirkland (Wash.) Church pastor.

Spontaneous prayer meetings broke out, men talked about deep issues of the heart, and faith journeys were shared.



One man emailed to say, "I would like to thank you for the wonderfully spiritual weekend. It has changed my life. Praise to the Lord."

Another man said, "Long story short is that I prayed for God to have all of me, and I am considering this my born-again experience. ... I am walking by faith now, the feelings might follow. This is



so new to me. But now I am considering myself justified, and in the sanctification (man of God) process."

The presence of the Spirit was so obvious at this year's Men's Summit. Many men agreed they were walking on holy ground.

Listen to the powerful messages shared during this year's Men's Summit at uccsda.org/Audio.

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



Building Up the Family of God

Upper Columbia Conference Camp Meeting

June 19-22, 2019

Upper Columbia Academy

Featuring:

Randy Roberts

Sung Kwon

Minner Labrador

Claudio & Pamela Consuegra

& music by Rob & Beth Folkenberg



uccsda.org/campmeeting

UPPER COLUMBIA

+ CONFERENCE // NEWS

More photos online at
glnr.in/114-03-uc_teens



TEENS ON FIRE

H

ave you ever seen a group of teens on fire — not physically, but spiritually? They can make a huge difference, as seen by many in the Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, area.

Teen Pathfinder Mission Adventure (TPMA) took place March 24–31. For anyone who is not aware of TPMA, it is a mission trip tailored to be less costly than an overseas mission trip. It's also a fantastic opportunity to make a difference in our own neighborhood, the Pacific Northwest.

This year TPMA leaders had the opportunity to work and grow alongside 87 teens

Conference; Caldwell, Idaho; Libby, Mont.; and across the Upper Columbia Conference, to participate in a week of serving, worshipping and fun.

sa Pathfinders, shared a memorable moment she experienced during TPMA. After washing windows at a nursing home, one of the residents came up

to her group and said, “Thank you guys so much! I didn't realize for one thing how dirty the windows were and, for another thing, how happy you guys could be washing windows of all things.”

Teen Pathfinder Mission Adventure is not just a mission to communities but to the youth who participate. They learn to work as a team, forge new friendships, learn more about God's purpose for them, and best of all ignite unquenchable, spiritual fires for God in each other and their community.

Daniel Jeffery, Pathfinder event coordinator



For some, this was an environment unlike anything they had ever experienced. For others, this week was a chance to step into their God-given gifts of leadership

Carissa Torquato, from Hayden Lake (Idaho) Pondero-

doing things like building decks, railing and stairs; raking leaves; chopping wood; cleaning windows; and more. The best part of the week, as has become tradition, is that complete strangers learn to work as a team and by the end of the week become a family.

Teens traveled from Orcas Island in Washington

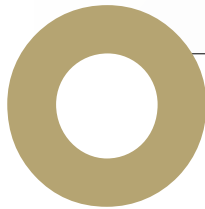


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UCA AND LCA FORM MUCH-NEEDED PARTNERSHIP



Over the past three years, Upper Columbia Academy (UCA), a 220-student boarding school south of Spokane, Wash., and Lake City Academy (LCA), a 150-student junior academy in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, have been in discussions regarding a concerning trend in Adventist education. A review of LCA's eighth-grade graduates since 2010 revealed that fewer than 20 percent of students graduated high school from UCA. Most students who attend LCA for eighth grade now decide to go to public high school.

Surveys and anecdotal evidence tell that families love LCA, and they think UCA is a great school. However, there are challenges such as the cost

of boarding academy, sending kids away from home and the desire for a four-year high school experience.

Due to this trend in education, UCA has decided to forge a partnership with LCA to reach these students who



A unique pilot program is forming with support from (from left) Eric Johnson, Upper Columbia Academy principal; Archie Harris, Upper Columbia Conference education associate superintendent; and Adam Weeks, Lake City Academy principal.

would otherwise go to public school. Bridging this gap with a satellite school model has the

potential to solve many challenges that smaller schools and junior academies face. Most importantly, and impossible to quantify, are the priceless, lost ministry opportunities with students who are no longer in Adventist education.

With the Upper Columbia Conference's blessing, both schools have agreed to a three-year pilot program. By expanding one year at a time, UCA will operate a high school on the campus of Lake City Academy. Satellite students at the LCA campus will be UCA students taught by



UCA teachers and graduating with a UCA diploma. These students will enjoy a small-school family experience, while getting many of the benefits a large boarding academy has to offer. The foundation will be a strong academic program centered in Christ and is an opportunity to meet the needs of the community and pioneer a new pathway for Adventist education.

Adam Weeks, Lake City Academy principal, with Katie Weeks

UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE CONSTITUENCY SESSION ANNOUNCED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the quadrennial session of the Upper Columbia Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is called to convene at the Upper Columbia Academy convocation center in Spangle, Wash., on Sunday, Sept. 15, 2019, at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is to receive from the officers and department directors of the Confer-

ence reports pertaining to the work carried on within its territory since the last quadrennial session; to elect for the ensuing term officers, department directors, and the Conference Executive Committee; and to transact any other business that may properly come before the delegates in session. Each church shall be represented at the sessions of the Conference

by two delegates for the church organization and one delegate for each 75 members, or major fraction thereof, each of whom shall be a Seventh-day Adventist member in good and regular standing of the local church which he or she represents.

*Minner Labrador Jr., president
Rodney Mills, vice president for administration*

GOD SOLVES BIG PROBLEM WITH BIG MIRACLE

The local pastor paced nervously up and down the small corridor of the little airport in Loreto, Baja California Sur, Mexico. It was 4 p.m. on Sunday afternoon in late January, and the flight bringing the Vision Team Ministries group with 2,000 pairs of used glasses was due anytime. But the problem was big. Airport customs officials had warned the pastor \$800 would be charged to the group to bring those glasses into the country.

Nobody had an extra \$800 — certainly not that tiny church, certainly not the

mission team that had already sacrificed to come on this trip. They had a big problem, and they needed a big miracle.

The pastor appeared, disappeared and then reappeared. The team paced, prayed and waited. At last the other members of the Loreto Mission Adventure Team made their way through customs, except the vision team.

The day before, the group spent all of church time asking God for a miracle. Airport officials had suggested the mission trip be rescheduled to allow time for more paperwork. But vacations had been

scheduled and notices placed in the dusty little town. The people were waiting for the team to arrive.

Prayer chains and churches back at home had been apprised of the situation. Folks were praying everywhere it seemed, but no vision team appeared out of the airport doors. The team gathered in the airport corridor and asked God for a big miracle.

They knew that impossibilities are God's opportunities. They knew when they could do no more, God could step in. They knew plenty of theory. They had faith but couldn't see

an answer.

Now it was time for a big miracle, and where was God? What could be taking Him so long? The team continued their prayers to our big God.

Finally they saw the group leader escorted across the airport corridor only to disappear into unknown depths of the tiny airport. Time dragged by as they prayed and waited for him to reappear with some sort of news. At this point, they just wanted him to be safe. So they prayed some more.

At last, he appeared with a smile on his face. Had God worked a big miracle? Yes! A \$40 courtesy payment had been negotiated. Everyone was happy. It had been a big problem for the group, but just a small problem for a big God who gave them a big miracle.

The group included members from Washington (Moses Lake, Warden, Kennewick, Port Angeles, Newport, Walla Walla, Sequim and Touchet) and Oregon (Weston and Milton-Freewater). The mission trip was sponsored by the Moses Lake Church.

Sandy Larsen, Moses Lake Church communication leader



UPPER COLUMBIA ACADEMY SHARES CHRIST IN CAMBODIA

On March 18, 42 students loaded onto the Upper Columbia Academy (UCA) bus to begin their long journey from Spangle, Wash., to Siem Reap, Cambodia. They were headed to an orphanage started and run by Tim and Wendy Maddocks, just outside the city.

The Maddocks are an Adventist family from Australia that dedicated the last 26 years of their lives to ministering to the children of Cambodia. They built the orphanage from the ground up at the height of the AIDS epidemic, and it is amazing to see how God has blessed their ministry. They now not only have an orphanage but also a 300-student K-12 school as well.

In addition to the students, the team included 20 adults. They were able to provide dental and vision clinics and tackled painting and remodeling the orphanage homes. Their days began at 7 a.m. with a wonderful Cambodian breakfast and concluded at 8 p.m. with an inspiring worship from Tim Maddocks. Each evening, he shared with the students how God has challenged him to live a life radically dependent on Him. On the final night of



the stay there, Tim issued a call for these students to rededicate their lives to Christ and commit to faithfully serving Him in all things.

On Sabbath, the group divided into nine different teams and headed out to area churches. Churches ranged from established city churches to small buildings on stilts in the rural countryside. UCA students were able to preach as well as give special music for the local members.

Abe Ellis, a UCA sophomore, was able to be one of the student preachers. He said afterward, “It was so awesome

to be able to worship together with my new friends from Cambodia. It made me realize that I really do belong to a global church.” Many students were also struck by the fact that, even though the people lived very simple and often difficult lives, they exhibited so much joy.

While the team endured extreme heat and humidity as well as an extra-large helping of mosquito bites, giant spiders and some scorpions, they all agreed at the end they would not trade this experience for anything. Some insisted this would not be the last time they

came to serve in Cambodia.

Many students were in tears as they had to say goodbye to the children of the orphanage with whom they had formed such bonds. As the group traveled home on the plane, conversations centered on the fact that they went over to Cambodia to be a blessing to the people there, but in reality they were the ones who received the biggest blessing.

Eric Johnson, Upper Columbia Academy principal

More photos online at glnr.in/114-03-uc_cambodia

WESTERN WASHINGTON CHURCHES CONTINUING TO GROW YOUNG

With the average age of an attending Seventh-day Adventist Church member growing older as the years go by, how do churches start to grow young? Last year three Washington Conference churches went on a journey with the Fuller Youth Institute by joining the Growing Young Cohort. This has been an ongoing mission to help churches grow young by changing the culture of how younger and older people interact within the church.

INTENTIONALLY GROWING YOUNG

Emerald City Community Seventh-day Adventist Church in Seattle was one participating church that decided to become more intentional about growing young.

“I sensed that more emphasis was needed to be focused to reach out to our younger generations,” says Eugene Lewis, Emerald City Church pastor. “I saw throughout the church the impact of not having young people there, so we wanted to step it up and look from the bottom up instead of from the top down.”

Lewis has always felt Emerald City Church was full of active young adults, but they hadn’t been completely intentional about growing young.

The church needed to address how to grow both young adult and adult members. Lewis aimed to fix this process by asking senior members to mentor



Ben Lundquist, Oregon Conference young adult director, leads the Growing Young Cohort at Sunset Lake Camp in Wilkeson.



JUSTIN KHOE

their new, young leaders.

“I first had meetings with key leadership and talked about where we wanted to be in two years and how Growing Young would help with that,” says Lewis. “At the end of the day, it was about growing together.”

During the process, some leaders were challenged to give a senior leadership position to a young adult, and the church remained committed to creating an intergenerational leadership.

“Everything goes through a cycle. Our churches are in the cycle of the ‘flat tire syndrome.’ The wheels are still on the church, but they’re flat. If you don’t fill that tire, you’ll lose a generation of people,” says Lewis.

Growing Young has energized Emerald City Church and given it the conduit to build a future for their church.

Volunteer Park Church in Seattle has always had many young adults in their area. Like Emerald City Church, their challenge was to focus on the whole church and not just the young adults. Andreas Beccai, former Volunteer Park Church pastor, started the Growing Young journey last year to change their church culture. Today they have a large group of active young adult members leading out in church worship, activities and more.

GROWING YOUNG, GROWING STRONG

“Pastor, if we don’t get more young people here, the

More photos online at
glnr.in/114-03-wa_growyoung



“Growing Young isn’t about changing youth ministry. It’s about changing church culture.” — *Brad Griffin, Fuller Youth Institute associate director*

church is going to die.” Those words from a church leader spurred Dustin Serns, Port Orchard Church pastor, to pray for the impossible: “God, give me 30 active young adults in my congregation by the end of 2018.”

As Serns and the church leaders began praying this prayer, they started to connect with every young adult that came to their church. Serns started opening his home for a weekly young adult Bible

join the first-ever Growing Young Cohort sponsored by the North Pacific Union Conference, Washington Conference and the Fuller Youth Institute (Pasadena, Calif.). The yearlong journey focused on six key traits of churches that effectively reach their youth and young adults.

“Through two in-person summits, monthly webinars, personal coaching and a churchwide assessment, Port Orchard Church chose to build



JUSTIN KHOE

director. “It was a turning point for the congregation. As they began to pray and focus intentionally on activating their young adults, God began to bless.”

“We committed everything we possibly could do to engage and activate every young adult we could for the kingdom of God, and God broke through and blessed that focus,” says Serns. “We went from having five young adults any given Sabbath to over 30.”

There are now five young adults who serve on the Port Orchard Church board and the young adults are continuing to actively engage with their church and community.

“Maybe you find yourself in a church with not many young adults as part of your congregation and say, ‘Well, what can I do to even see a change?’ Well, there’s a whole lot you can do,” says Serns. “Look around every Sabbath and make it your goal to connect personally with every young adult that ever enters into the doors of your church, and you’ll get to know who they are and what they’re passionate about and

God will change you and your community as a result of that decision.”

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

This year, eight Washington Conference churches have joined the Growing Young Cohort to commit to growing young in their ministry:

- » Chehalis
- » Bellingham
- » Federal Way Hispanic
- » Bellevue
- » Sequim
- » Highline
- » Transformation Life (Olympia)
- » North Cascade

The cohort experience lasts 12 months and features two face-to-face summits, webinars, a churchwide assessment tool and personalized coaching. Washington Conference is committed to making this experience available to all Washington Conference churches. Discover more about the Growing Young Cohort by visiting churchesgrowingyoung.com.

Katie Henderson, Washington Conference communication intern



JUSTIN KHOE

This year, eight Washington Conference churches joined the Growing Young Cohort for a year-long journey.

study, and soon they had built a contact list with 40 young adults.

During this time Serns received the invitation to

a vibrant young adult group and educate their membership on how to grow young,” says David Yeagley, Washington Conference young adult

ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES WAREHOUSE SPREADS LOVE TO COMMUNITY

In western Washington, there are many local nonprofit ministries committed to providing families and individuals in need with basic living supplies. One recent addition to this ministry is the new Washington Conference Essential Supplies Warehouse on the campus of Auburn Adventist Academy.

What once began as a volunteer opportunity at the World Vision Teacher's Resources Center in Fife, the service opportunity developed into an affiliation and partnership with Washington Conference and western Washington Adventist churches and schools.

In its first two months, the warehouse has already impacted multiple community members by providing them with the basic living supplies a family or individual needs to make a home.

The warehouse, working in affiliation with World Vision in Fife, collects supplies and distributes those supplies to the families, individuals and ministries in need. Many of these supplies rarely stay long in the warehouse before they are distributed.

The positive impact of this ministry is already wide.

SUPPORTING ADVENTIST SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES

"We have had 10 of our small schools, two of our medium-sized schools and two of our larger schools benefit from the paper products so generously provided," says Gayle Lasher, Washington Conference warehouse manager. "Auburn Adventist Academy has enough goods to last the year, and one of our small schools came back for more supplies after realizing the cost savings and opportunity to invest more deeply in the education of their students through this gift."

Auburn Adventist Academy has also benefited from new furniture for their dorms to replace aging and broken furniture.

AN INTERNATIONAL IMPACT

Each year, a group of students from Auburn Adventist Academy goes on a

GAYLE LASHER



The Auburn Adventist Academy Church ministry team helps fellow church members Scott and Karrin get new furniture for their home.

spring break mission trip to the Philippines. While there, they visit an orphanage the Auburn community has supported for nearly 20 years. This year, the academy needed supplies for activities. With the donations from the warehouse, they brought craft items, stickers, pompoms and more to teach 650 children the love of Jesus through Vacation Bible School activities. The warehouse was also able to supply the mission group with new luggage and other containers to transport the craft supplies.

SUNSET LAKE CAMP

The buildings and fur-

niture at Sunset Lake Camp in Wilkeson have aged with wear and tear over the years. Through the warehouse, the camp received new furniture and paper products that will supply them through the entire summer.

"The offset of costs these supplies provide will allow the camp to serve the 800 children in even more ways this summer," says Lasher.

THE COMMUNITY IMPACT

The partnering schools are extending the impact of this warehouse to families in their community.

"One of our small schools



GAYLE LASHER

The Washington Conference Essential Supplies Warehouse, located on the campus of Auburn Adventist Academy, is actively reaching out to meet the basic needs of the western Washington community.

had a family in need, and they were able to deliver a new sectional sofa to this family of seven,” says Lasher. “The children were so excited and helpful when the trailer showed up, and they all wanted to be part of the blessing. Watching the parents so humbly accept the gift was heartwarming.”

The Essential Supplies Warehouse is now currently working to provide heaters for all of the families in the local school community.

MUCKLESHOOT COMMUNITY

During February, the Auburn Adventist Academy Church worked with the housing director for the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe in Auburn to serve four families with much-needed furniture that will support them and their children to get started on a very positive future.

“The example they can be for others will have the opportunity to continue to bless in practical ways,” says Lasher.

ADVENTIST COMMUNITY SERVICES

In partnering with the Essential Supplies Warehouse, Bonney Lake Adventist Community Services served their community members with paper supplies, hygiene items, kitchen needs and cleaning supplies.

As of February, the warehouse has served 5,847 adults and 7,075 children.

“All of our partners are so very grateful for the gifts that have been given for the benefit of the families in their communities,” says Lasher. “We look forward to being able to continue to bless others,



More photos online at glnr.in/114-03-wa_community



GAYLE LASHER

Jay Coon collects his supplies for the trip to the Philippines.



GAYLE LASHER

Tara and Terry, Chehalis Church members, filled their car with supplies from the Essential Supplies Warehouse partner Lewis County Adventist School for a low-income retirement center in their area.

especially the children in our schools and communities, as donors are gracious to provide this opportunity.”

Is your church or ministry interested in partnering with this totally involved ministry to help impact your community? Please email Gayle Lasher at Gayle.Lasher@wc.npuc.org to learn more.

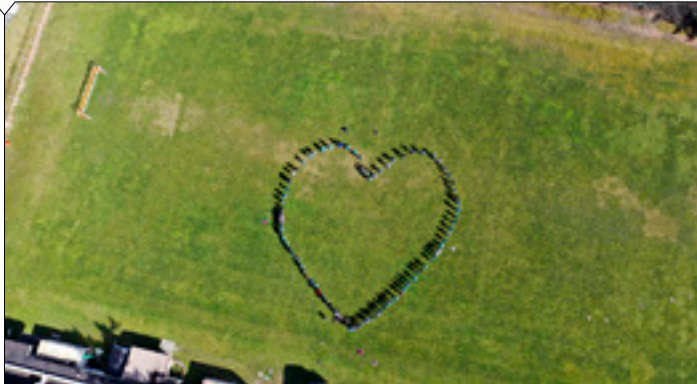
Katie Henderson, Washington Conference communication intern

150 WASHINGTON YOUTH GET TO 'BE THE SERMON'

Each year, the General Conference sets aside the third Sabbath in March as Global Youth Day, during which Adventist young people come together and impact their communities. Instead of going to church to listen to a sermon, they go outside to “be the sermon.”

On March 16 nearly 150 Adventist youth from western Washington came together to show love to the city of Kirkland, helping to make a cleaner, safer and more enjoyable experiences for people visiting parks or young people receiving help and training to achieve their potential.

Several groups assisted Green Kirkland Partnership, which works to engage the local community in the restoration and care of natural areas in Kirkland parks. Another team was sent to do restoration and cleaning projects for the Boys and Girls Club of King County as well.



Nearly 150 Washington youth commit to “be the sermon” on Global Youth Day in Kirkland.

“I didn’t know the extent of your community service, which is great. ... It’s so great to know that you guys are out there and this is your mission, and I look forward to fostering a lifelong relationship with you guys,” Lauren Calabro, Kirkland Boys and Girls Club teen director, told the groups.

Washington youth not only made an impact now but will leave a sweeter atmosphere after they’ve left. A child’s smile is wider, a person jogs with more peace and couples walking focus more on

each other because the trails and parks are clean and more



beautiful. These restoration and beautification projects leave footprints to show glimpses of God’s heart toward all His children. These youth replaced grass, plants and trees for concrete and buildings, and these parks provide remnants of God’s love and His artistic affection.

“It was a wonderful day of service ... full of smiles,

good company, sun and lots of terrific environmental stewardship,” says Jeremy Jones, Green Kirkland Partnership coordinator of Kirkland’s parks and community services. “All of our volunteer Green Kirkland stewards, parks and Green Kirkland staff were so grateful for your team’s positive energy and willingness to dive into any project. Our parks and communities are a better place today because of your teams.”

Youth don’t just want to be involved — they want to



make a difference. As a worldwide church family, Adventist youth have many opportunities to be the sermon to the world.

David Salazar, Washington Conference youth director



More photos online at glnr.in/114-03-wa_youth

ADVENTIST HEALTH PORTLAND RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

M

aria drove her son to Portland, Ore., so he could spend spring break with his grandparents. While seated at the dining room table reconnecting with family, she suddenly felt a loss of balance and weakness on one side of her leg.

Uncertain if it was the result of her long drive to the Northwest or something else, Maria decided to be evaluated at a hospital emergency room. Her mother advised her to seek care at Adventist Health Portland because of their skilled and compassionate staff. The emergency room team was able to quickly and accurately diagnose Maria and get her the advanced medical treatment she needed to prevent greater damage to her body.

Every day, hundreds of

people trust the clinical experts of Adventist Health Portland to save the lives of their loved ones. By demonstrating excellence in quality patient care, the hospital recently earned the 2018 HealthInsight Hospital Quality Award. This recognition is given to the highest-performing health care provider organizations in Oregon and other states for which HealthInsight serves as the Medicare program's Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO) contractor.

Adventist Health Portland was measured against other Oregon hospitals on publicly reported patient experience scores, health care-associated infection rates and readmission rates. The HealthInsight Hospital Quality Award is only given to hospitals that rank

in the top 25th percentile for their composite score in these measures.

"Providing good health care is expected of every hospital in the country, but we believe that providing extraordinary care is our sacred calling because love matters," says Joyce Newmyer, Adventist Health Pacific Northwest Region president. "While the hospital is humbled and grateful for this recognition, we believe awards simply validate the commitment our associates make to every patient. Living God's love inspires us to go above and beyond to reduce anxiety, improve outcomes and provide wholeness and hope."

The HealthInsight Quality Award program promotes transparency in health care. Through the program, HealthInsight aims to assist

providers, improve care and help consumers be more active and informed participants in that care.

Hospital eligibility is based on a composite ranking for performance on publicly reported data (from Hospital Compare) with weighted contributions:

- » Patient experience of care (HCAHPS): 35 percent
- » Health care-associated infections (HAIs): 45 percent
- » Readmissions: 20 percent

Maria is back in her hometown today with her son enjoying the quality of life she desires, thanks to the care she received at Adventist Health Portland.

Judy Leach, Adventist Health Pacific Northwest Region vice president of strategy activation and communication





Nancy Semotiuk finds creative ways to teach writing to WWU communication students.

EDUCATION PROFESSOR CONDUCTS RESEARCH ON SMALL SCHOOLS

Maria Bastien, Walla Walla University assistant professor of education, is conducting research in order to establish best practices for teaching in schools that have three or fewer teachers.

More than half of schools that cater to students in kindergarten through grade 12 within the North American Division are defined as small schools. By conducting interviews with participating teachers from these schools within the North Pacific Union Conference, Bastien hopes to create a teaching and

learning resource that blends stories and best practices. This material will be used at WWU to help prepare education majors for teaching in similar environments.

A grant from the WWU faculty development committee has provided funds for Bastien to travel to Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington to speak to teachers. The grant also funds a research assistant and materials needed to conduct interviews.

“I was blessed to have the opportunity to join the Alaska Conference teachers at their in-service meetings in Anchorage in February,” Bastien says. “In the coming weeks I will be continuing my visits throughout the NPUC.”

Bastien has taught at WWU since 2017.

WWU offers multiple bachelor’s and master’s degrees in education. To learn more about the options and possibilities, visit wallawalla.edu/ed-psych.

Makena Horton, WWU university relations student writer

Maria Bastien is conducting research on small schools in the North Pacific Union Conference.

SEMOTIUK DISSERTATION FOCUSES ON TIME AND SPACE FOR WOMEN TO WRITE

Nancy Semotiuk, Walla Walla University associate professor of communication, has successfully defended her doctoral dissertation, “Women Writers: Safekeeping Time and Space to Write.”

In her dissertation, Semotiuk examined the difficulties some women have in giving themselves time and permission to write.

“From my own experience, I knew that women writers struggle with the roles in their lives — wife, mother, employee and nurturer — and run out of time and energy to do their creative work,” says Semotiuk. “It’s not a matter of writer’s block or time management. Rather, the issues run deeper. They are social and cultural in nature.”

Semotiuk used practiced-based research to write a creative dissertation comprised of a mystery novel and contextualizing document that investigated what it means to fashion a time and space where writing can be done. Her research indicates traditional advice about making time to write assumes a woman should be able to control her daily schedule.

She explained how traditional advice does not adequately take into consideration the social and cultural dynamics that affect women writers.

“Women are reminded daily, in a million different little ways, that, unlike food and shelter, writing is not a basic human need,” says Semotiuk. “So, most of the time, a woman’s desire to write is superseded by her life circumstances.”

“I learned that circumstances — slow-to-change cultural traditions, critical attitudes, limited spheres of publishing opportunities, gender hierarchy that still affect the reception and evaluation of women’s work, even subject matter acceptance constraints — make writing success more difficult for women than it is for men,” says Semotiuk.

Semotiuk received a Doctor of Philosophy degree in interdisciplinary studies with a major in humanities and culture and a certificate in creative writing from Union Institute and University in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Malcolm Shaw, WWU university relations student writer



LAMBERTON RECOGNIZED FOR COMMITMENT TO SERVICE

Dan Lambertson, Walla Walla University professor of English and humanities program director, was awarded the 2018 WWU Community Service Award at the 136th annual Walla Walla Valley Chamber of Commerce awards banquet.

The annual award recognizes the outstanding character of WWU faculty for their generosity in service and is presented during a communitywide celebration of the commitment to service of individuals throughout the Walla Walla Valley.

Lamberton is known by many in the community for his activities that encourage reading and intellectual reflection. He is a published author and poet and a frequent presenter at academic conferences and workshops. He has served three times on the Washington state poet laureate selection committee and twice as a University of Idaho Master of Fine Arts defense panelist. Last year he received the WWU Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching.

He has served 11 years in various capacities with Humanities Washington, an organization devoted to sparking conversation and critical thinking in communities across the state. He has been a member of the advisory board for Poetry Northwest and is a faculty member with the Red

Badge Project at the Walla Walla Public Library, supporting their work to help veterans process their experiences by writing.

As a valued member of the WWU faculty since 1981, Lambertson has been instrumental in bringing several renowned writers to the Walla Walla Valley. He sponsors the WWU student writing publication *The Gadfly*, coordinates humanities events, is the Fulbright Program advisor and has served on a variety of committees.

“We are very fortunate that Dan invests so much of his time and energy in improving



Dan Lambertson was recognized for his work to encourage reading, writing and intellectual reflection.

our intellectual lives,” says John McVay, WWU president. “He is an enjoyable person and a good friend to many of us. For all that he is and does, we are proud to recognize him with this award.”

Kim Strobel, WWU university relations supervisor



The winning apparatus was designed and built by WWU engineering students on team R.I.P. Opportunity.

TEAM 'R.I.P. OPPORTUNITY' WINS ANNUAL ASME EGG DROP

The most-talked-about event of National Engineers Week at Walla Walla University, Feb. 17–23, was the 39th annual Egg Drop competition sponsored by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) club. The yearly event features contestants including WWU engineering students and students from Davis Elementary School. Competitors design devices to protect a single raw egg from destruction when it is dropped from the roof of Kretschmar Hall to a frying pan waiting on the ground below.

Entries are evaluated in two areas: survival of the egg and its final proximity to the target. Team “R.I.P. Opportunity” — comprised of WWU engineering students Ethan Dolph, Matthew Harter, Andrew Eoff and Ivan Wu — won first place and \$100, provided by Key Tech-

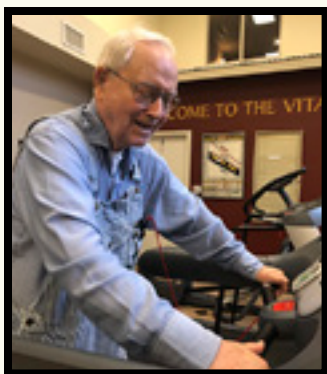
nology, in the college student category.

“Our apparatus is essentially a rocket-looking cushion for the egg. The approach to the design was to have the rocket land head first to extend the impact time of the device. In other words, we wanted there to be as much cushion as possible for the egg at the bottom,” Wu says.

Other awards given included Most Creative, Best Engineered and Humpty Dumpty — for the most spectacular or entertaining fail.

To learn more about how you can solve problems through engineering, visit wallawalla.edu/engineering.

Meghann Heinrich, WWU senior communication major



William Koenig

Koenig 100th

William Emil Koenig celebrated his 100th birthday on Feb. 28, 2019, with a reception at Wheatland Village in Walla Walla, Wash.

Bill Koenig was born on his family's farm in North Dakota on Feb. 28, 1919, one of 11 children. He graduated from Maplewood Academy in Hutchinson, Minn. Then he was drafted into the Army for World War II, where he served for four years. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture from Emmanuel Missionary College, now Andrews University.

Bill Koenig married Marjorie Livingston in 1945. Called to Peru as missionaries, Bill managed the dairy farm at Colegio Union from 1952 to 1962. He earned a master's degree in agriculture in 1963 from Michigan State University. He then managed the dairy herd and milk processing plant at Walla Walla College (WWC) until retirement in 1984. On Feb. 21, 1985, he was inducted into the Washington Purebred Dairy Cattle Association Hall of Fame. He taught college courses at both Colegio Union and WWC. Bill now resides at Wheatland Village, is in good health and enjoys visits from friends.

Bill's family includes Heidi (Koenig) and Wilton Hart of Mosier, Ore.; Sandra (Koenig) and David Jacobson of Williams Lake, British Columbia, Canada; Elizabeth (Koenig) and Steven Behrmann of Albany, Ore.; 5 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Reed 60th

Jim and Kay were married Dec. 25, 1958, in Happner, Ore., at the Adventist church, with Elder Huntington officiating.

Shortly after, Jim was drafted into the U.S. Army. They moved to San Antonio, Texas, where Jim was assigned to Brooks Army Medical Centers research unit for two years. Kay went to Durham's Business College and later worked for Pitney-Bowes.

Upon Jim's discharge from the service they moved to Juneau, Alaska, where Jim was



Jim and Kay Reed

in charge of the laboratory for Saint Ann's Hospital. Kay worked for the state of Alaska at the Department of Labor and the Employment Service. After five years they moved back to Oregon, with their 2-year-old daughter, Rohna.

They moved to Lafayette, Ore., and started attending the McMinnville Church.

Jim went into construction and later worked for HDR Engineering as a project representative. He retired in 2000, then worked for Clean Water Services as their project representative until 2006 when he retired again and finished their home that he was remodeling.

Kay worked for several insurance companies and ended up working for the state of Oregon as an auditor before retiring in 2002.

They spent their 60th anniversary with daughter and son-in-law, Rohna and Daryl Proctor, and grandson Brandon and his wife, Emily; and granddaughter Kaytie and her husband, Sean Logan of Frisco, Texas.

In January they celebrated their 60th with the McMinnville Church family and enjoyed cake and good wishes.

Schultz 106th

Hazel Mary Schultz celebrated her 106th birthday on Jan. 12, 2019, with family and friends. Hazel celebrated her special day beginning Saturday morning with her church family at Summit NorthWest Ministries in Post Falls, Idaho. Saturday afternoon, she continued the celebration with a lovely dinner with family and friends.

Hazel was born in Saskatchewan, Canada, on Jan. 12, 1913. Her family moved to the United States in 1922, living most of her younger years in Bellingham, Wash.

Hazel has three children. Their family includes Douglas and Sandra Schultz of Glendale, Calif.; Gary and Ali Schultz of Palm Springs, Calif.; Cheryl Pegel of Post Falls; 5 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

When asked what she attributes her longevity to, she says "positive living" and good Scandinavian genes. Hazel easily negotiates the stairs to her bedroom every day. She is a good conversationalist and can regale her listeners with stories



Hazel Mary Schultz

from her interesting past. All who know her say "she leaves a little sparkle wherever she goes."

Wellman 95th

Ellsworth Wellman celebrated his 95th birthday on Jan. 23, 2019, with his family at his home. Just a couple months before, on Nov. 19, 2018, he and his wife, Marilyn, celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary.

Ellsworth grew up in the Rainier Valley area of Seattle, Wash. He played football for Franklin High School and graduated in June 1943. Uncle Sam called him for World War II just a few days after graduation. He went into the Army as a conscientious objector (he didn't want to carry a gun to kill). They sent him to Camp Berkeley in Abilene, Texas, for medical training.

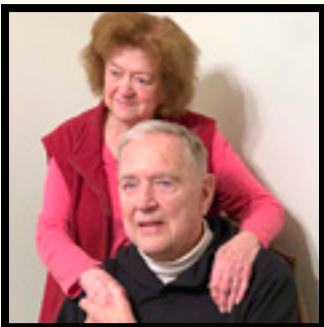
Ellsworth met Marilyn Cunning at Franklin High in 1941. Their real first date was Dec. 7, 1941, the day the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. Friends kidded them that they started the war, but that didn't hurt their romantic courtship.

In November 1943, when

the training at Camp Berkeley was over, Ellsworth went home and married Marilyn. He was home for only three days before he had to return to camp. He was on a troop ship by December. His ship joined a convoy with a sub-chaser protecting them all the way to Pearl Harbor.

While Marilyn finished high school, Ellsworth says he took his honeymoon in Hawaii under the palm trees, fully paid for by Uncle Sam. He was sent to Kauai for further training in landing craft infantry. The landing craft would circle out in the ocean and then charge the beach. Their camp was up on a mountain, known to be the wettest spot in the world. They had to dig trenches around their tents and their sleeping cots to keep their tents dry. They were young, and this was just another day in the Army.

Ellsworth met the young pastor of the Kapaa Church, Elden Chalmers, and became good friends with him and his wife. After a few weeks of association with the Chalmers, eating at their home, talking Bible and going on Bible



Marilyn and Ellsworth Wellman

studies with him, Ellsworth felt drawn to the ministry as a life profession. He wrote to Marilyn about his change of heart and wanting to study

ministry in college. After many days praying she wrote back accepting it.

After Kauai, Ellsworth was attached to a medical clearing company. This was the first medical hospital behind the front lines. They served in New Guinea and then followed General McArthur onto the island of Leyte in the Philippines. Some of the missionaries that were freed from other internment camps in the Philippines were brought to his clearing hospital.

Ellsworth had been overseas for about two years, so he was given a furlough. He traveled home in an old Indian freighter that had been converted into a troop ship. While Ellsworth was traveling home, the atomic bomb was dropped on Japan. The war was soon over. Because he was home, he was discharged from the Army in December 1945. He was accepted at La Sierra College (now University) and started college January 1946. His theology teachers were known as the 3H's: Edward Heppenthal, Cecil Haussler and Paul Heubach. Ellsworth graduated in June 1949.

After graduation Ellsworth was asked to be youth minister at Loma Linda Hill Church in California. After nine years in Southeastern California Conference, he was called to the Washington Conference. After pastoring for many years he was asked to be the assistant manager of the Washington Adventist Book and Bible Center. He accepted this call and enjoyed it, retiring in 1989 after 40 years of service.

The Wellmans had five children. Their family includes Claudia and Del Griebel, Cathie and Cliff Kruse, David

and Laura Wellman, Greg and Debbie Wellman, and Nancy and Steve Mack. Their daughter Claudia died in September 2008, leaving her family brokenhearted.

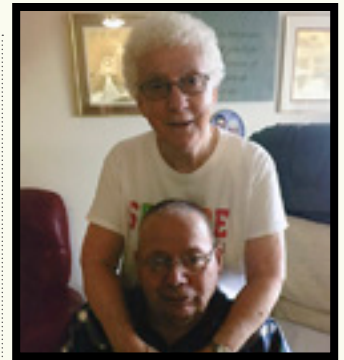
Ellsworth and Marilyn have had 75 happy married years. They have traveled together to the Caribbean, Europe, Mexico and several times to Hawaii. They are now living on an acre of ground, an acre away from their youngest daughter, Nancy. Ellsworth is taking care of a few fruit trees, some raspberries and grapes. He is active in the All Nations Center in Wapato, Wash.

Wright 50th

Lorn and Dolores were married in Lebanon, Ore., on July 28, 1968. They lived in Tillamook, Ore., until 1971, when they moved to Albany, Ore. They lived there for 42 years before moving to Somerset Lodge in Gladstone, Ore., in 2008.

Dolores was a public health nurse for Linn County for 25 years. She graduated from Walla Walla University with a degree in nursing in 1961. Lorn worked in the lumber industry holding a variety of jobs. In 1989 he decided to open up an adult foster care home, which they operated until 1993.

The Wrights raised three wonderful sons who have made them proud. They are all married and have families of their own now: Thomas and Julie Wright of Redding, Calif.; Robert and Denise Wright of Peoria, Ariz.; Larry and Tymi Wright of Ridgefield, Wash.; 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren, with



Dolores and Lorn Wright

another great-grandchild set to arrive in June.

They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at Somerset Lodge on July 28, 2018, with family and friends. And then on Oct. 7, 2018, Larry and Tymi planned a big celebration at Gladstone Park Church for them, with many friend and family attending. The Wrights feel very loved and blessed and have had a great life together. They look forward to our Lord's soon return to take them home with Him to live in a perfect world forever.

FAMILY BIRTHS

BAUMGARTNER — Noah James was born Jan. 14, 2019, to Jonathan and Heidi (Martella) Baumgartner, Puyallup, Wash.

FAMILY WEDDINGS

ST.CYR-GREEN

Amy St.Cyr and Henrique Green were married March 3, 2019 in Falmouth, Trelawney, Jamaica, where they are making their home. Amy is the daughter of Jerry St.Cyr Sr. and Casimire Champ. Henrique is the son of Michael Green and Jacqueline Wedderburn.

BAHR — Betty Sadie Myrilla (McEachern), 92; born May 28, 1926, Glendale, Calif.; died Feb. 3, 2019, Nampa, Idaho. Surviving: sons, Fredrick, Norman, Okla.; Edward, Nampa; daughter, Karyl Krieger, Montrose, Colo.; 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

BERGMAN — H.J. “Jack,” 92; born May 3, 1926, Akiak, Alaska; died Oct. 26, 2018, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: wife, Evelyn (Templeman), College Place, Wash.; sons, Stephen, Portland, Ore.; Robert, College Place; daughters, Kathleen Fost, Sisters, Ore.; Marsha Large, Wilsonville, Ore.; Kristin Fry, Mil-ton-Freewater, Ore.; 5 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

BOK — Earnestein (Huerta), 71; born Nov. 15, 1947, Glendale, Ariz.; died Jan. 20, 2019, Springfield, Ore. Surviving: husband, Robert, Eugene, Ore.; daughters, Jenny Galan, Del Mar, Calif.; Cherrie McGowan, San Anslemo, Calif.; brother, Abel Huerta, Riverside, Calif.; sisters, Flora Ferrales, Nusevo, Calif.; Josie Lopez, Glendale, Calif.; and 5 grandchildren.

CAFFERKY — Lois Jo (Vickery) Hixon Wilcott, 97; born Feb. 12, 1921, Marshalltown, Iowa; died Feb. 7, 2019, Clarkston, Wash. Surviving: sons, Michael, Walla Walla, Wash.; Allan; daughter, Gail Medrano, Palm Desert, Calif.; 8 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

CHRISTOPHERSON — Freeda Mae (Richardson), 107; born Jan. 2, 1912, Springfield, Ore.; died Feb. 12, 2019, Portland, Ore. Surviving: son, Clifford R., Carmel, Calif.; daughter, Eva Mae Terrill, Portland; 5 grandchildren and 3

great-grandchildren.

COOK — Bernard Lee, 98; born June 26, 1920, Sawyer, Kan.; died Jan. 29, 2019, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: wife, Margaret Trautwein-Cook; son, David, Arlington, Wash.; daughter, Judy Christopherson, College Place, Wash.; and 4 grandchildren.

CORN — Joseph Edward, 66; born April 11, 1952, Honolulu, Hawaii; died Oct. 11, 2018, Yacolt, Wash. Surviving: wife, Gail (Collier); daughters, Hannah Corn and Isabelle Corn, both of Yacolt.

CRAVEY — Audrey Bernice (Post) Botti, 83; born Dec. 30, 1934, Cincinnati, Iowa; died Dec. 29, 2018, Roseburg, Ore. Surviving: brothers, Paul Post, of Oregon; Henry Post, of Tennessee; and sister, Helen Green, of South Carolina.

DANIELSON — Evan Bruce, 86; born May 30, 1932, Brady, Neb.; died Jan. 1, 2019, McMinnville, Ore. Surviving: wife, Velma (Keightley); sons, Bruce, Bend, Ore.; Lee, McMinnville; daughters, Terry Johnson and Tammi Knobloch, both of McMinnville; 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

FERGUSON — Ruby Florence (Bankhead), 97; born June 15, 1921, Clovis, N.M.; died Nov. 15, 2018, Spokane, Wash. Surviving: son, Stanley Ray, Battle Ground, Wash.; daughter, Sandra Ferguson Johnson, Spokane; brothers, Melvin Bankhead, Clarksville, Ark.; Donald Bankhead, Hendersonville, N.C.; 4 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and 6 great-great-grandchildren.

FRIED — Irvin, 89; born Dec. 15, 1929, Turtle Lake, N.D.; died Jan. 6, 2019, Beaverton, Ore. Surviving: wife, Helen, of Oregon; 2 daughters;

8 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

GARCIA — Tony M., 66; born Jan. 5, 1952, Calexico, Calif.; died Dec. 10, 2018, Riverbank, Calif. Surviving: wife, Evonne (Merrill), Springfield, Ore.; sons, Stephen and Gabriel, both of Riverbank; Andrew, Boise, Idaho; daughter, Melissa Garcia, Riverbank; brothers, Joe, Frank, Freddy and Robert, all of Riverbank; and 10 grandchildren.

HAMILTON — Norris Arthur, 87; born Feb. 20, 1931, Lansing, Mich.; died Jan. 20, 2019, Auburn, Wash. Surviving: sons, Chris, Grass Valley, Calif.; Scott, Newcastle, New South Wales, Australia; daughter, Karen Nicola, Sacramento, Calif.; 8 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

HIEBERT — Elizabeth M. (Johnson) DeForrest, 93; born Nov. 23, 1925, Aberdeen, S.D.; died Jan. 24, 2019, Gresham, Ore. Surviving: sons, Al DeForrest, Santa Ynez, Calif.; Ken DeForrest, Tacoma, Wash.; Larry DeForrest, Union, Wash.; stepson, Merwyn Hiebert, Bonney Lake, Wash.; daughters, Cheryl Lindstrom, Portland, Ore.; Cindy DeForrest, Seattle, Wash.; 9 grandchildren, 9 step-grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and 9 step-great-grandchildren.

JACKMAN — Angelia Marie (Hicks), 55; born July 30, 1963, Boise, Idaho; died Oct. 15, 2018, Payette, Idaho. Surviving: son, Jerry; mother, Nora Ann Allgood, Payette; stepbrothers, Chris Allgood, Caldwell, Idaho; Jeri Allgood, Merced, Calif.; and stepsister, Jennifer Huddleston, Nampa, Idaho.

JOHNSON — LaGreta Esther (Bloom), 81; born Dec. 11, 1937, Union, Ore.; died Dec. 31, 2018, Hermiston, Ore.

Surviving: husband, Louis; sons, Mark, Hermiston; Mike, Yakima, Wash.; daughter, Pamela Johnson, Hermiston; 8 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

KRALL — Shari (Kromrei), 50; born May 5, 1968, Boise, Idaho; died Jan. 1, 2019, Kirkland, Wash. Surviving: husband, Darrell; sons, Sidney, Nampa, Idaho; Adrian Jeffery “A.J.,” Boise; mother, Dorothy (Ladd) Kromrei, Boise; brothers, Gary Kromrei, Lewiston, Idaho; Tim Kromrei and Joel Kromrei, both of Meridian, Idaho; and sister, Cindy (Kromrei) Schultz, Boise.

LARGE — Gregory Beckwith, 92; born April 25, 1926, Seattle, Wash.; died Dec. 28, 2018, College Place, Wash. Surviving: wife, Ramona (Carlson) Starr Large, Walla Walla, Wash.; sons, Donald Large, Florence, Ore.; Gerald Large, Seattle; daughter, Linda Vandehee, Banks, Ore.; stepdaughters, Monica Starr, Walla Walla; Rebecca Wilson and Kathy Brown, both of College Place; 7 grandchildren, 7 step-grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren and 5 step-great-grandchildren.

LINES — Steven Robert, 74; born Oct. 3, 1944, Superior, Neb.; died Dec. 18, 2018, Cornelius, Ore. Surviving: 7 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

LUNA — Theodore “Ted” J., 73; born March 13, 1945, Corvallis, Ore.; died Oct. 3, 2018, Albany, Ore. Surviving: wife, Pamela (Lytle); stepsons, Cooper Stevenson, Ocean Park, Wash.; Aaron Stevenson, Vancouver, Wash.; sisters, Bonnie Cox, Port Hadlock, Wash.; and Jane Owen, Mission Viejo, Calif.

LUND — Harold Dean, 80; born April 18, 1938, Spokane, Wash.; died Dec. 14, 2018, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviv-

ing: wife, Lora Lee (Long) Lund, College Place, Wash.; sons, Douglas, Weston, Ore.; Michael, Clackamas, Ore.; daughters, Jamie Widman, Milton, Wash.; Stacy Hermann, Genesee, Idaho; sister, Sharon O'Neil, Bend, Ore.; and a grandchild.

PATTON — Gracie Luellen (Derden) Hendricks, 95; born Jan. 31, 1923, Malokoss, Texas; died Dec. 23, 2018, College Place, Wash. Surviving: son, David Hendricks, Renton, Wash.; daughters, Judy Tyrrell, West Seattle, Wash.; Connie Goudy, College Place; Janice Cary, St. Helens, Ore.; sister, Genevieve Johnson, Walla Walla, Wash.; 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

PERSON — Parnell O., 85; born Jan. 8, 1933, Woodsock-et, S.D.; died Dec. 6, 2018, Bend, Ore. Surviving: sons, Kenneth, Prineville, Ore.; David, Lebanon, Ore.; Gerald, Ontario, Ore.; daughter, Jeanne Kimble, Albany, Ore.; 4 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

PETERS — Marolyn (Pond), 89; born Oct. 28, 1929, Inglewood, Calif.; died Dec. 31, 2018, Boise, Idaho. Surviving: husband, Donald, Loma Linda, Calif.; daughter, Jeanette Kattenhorn, Boise; 3 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

PILON — Raymond M., 44; born Sept. 27, 1974, Eugene, Ore.; died Jan. 16, 2019, Springfield, Ore. Surviving: son, Samuel, Springfield; daughters, Emily Moody, Eugene; Tiffany Pilon, Springfield; parents, Ted and Delores Pilon, Springfield; brother, James Girardina, Springfield; sisters, Joann Phillips, Medford, Ore.; Michelle Wilde, Springfield; and a grandchild.

REYNOLDS — Clarence Dale, 83; born July 11, 1935,

Philomath, Ore.; died Dec. 24, 2018, College Place, Wash. Surviving: wife, Georgia (Knudson); daughters, Debra Schmachtenberg, Aloha, Ore.; Taresa Reynolds-Reyburn, Bonnie Lake, Wash.; brother, Emil Reynolds, College Place; and 4 grandchildren.

RUEB — Holly, 95; born Jan. 22, 1923, Leola, S.D.; died Dec. 16, 2018, White City, Ore. Surviving: daughters, Sharon Lynch, White City; Karen Lupo, Yucaipa, Calif.; 4 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

SCHULD — Doris (Sheldon), 89; born Nov. 26, 1928, Glendale, Calif.; died Jan. 8, 2018, Milwaukie, Ore. Surviving: daughters, Suzanne Schuld, Vancouver, Wash.; and Jennifer Schuld, Edmonds, Wash.

SCOTT — Alice Millington (Rasor), 101; born April 19, 1917, Aberdeen, Wash.; died Dec. 12, 2018, Bellingham, Wash. Surviving: son, David E., Hansville, Wash.; daughters, Judy Thomsen, Apple Valley, Calif.; Jane Wareing, Bellingham; sister, Bonnie Morris, Fullerton, Calif.; 7 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

SEELEY — Wesley "Buz," 59; born Sept. 17, 1959, Hood River, Ore.; died Jan. 27, 2019, Gaston, Ore. Surviving: wife, Valerie (Tankersley); twin sons, Andrew and Trevor, both of Forest Grove, Ore.; stepdaughters, Lake (Tankersley) Cunningham, Hillsboro, Ore.; Shiloh (Tankersley) Chase, Bend, Ore.; mother, June (Jennings) Seeley Walter, Warrenton, Ore.; brother, Steven "Rick" Seeley, Warrenton; sisters, Sheri Seeley, Terrebonne, Ore.; and Beverly Stadick, Portland, Ore.

SINOR — Mary Louise (Whitworth), 83; born Feb. 9, 1935, Cincinnati, Ohio; died Jan. 9, 2019, Springfield, Ore. Sur-

viving: sister, Yvonne (Whitworth) Karatko, Springfield.

SMITH — Gayle (McClary) Brass, 63; born May 18, 1955, Snohomish, Wash.; died Jan. 6, 2019, Priest River, Idaho. Surviving: husband, Paul Smith; son, Mathew Brass, Sandpoint, Idaho; daughter, Leora (Brass) Hand, Priest River; stepsons, Jayson Smith, Nashville, Tenn.; Justin Smith, San Tan Valley, Ariz.; Jared Smith, Sandpoint; stepdaughter, Lyla (Smith) Groom, Hayden, Idaho; stepmother, Lois Conner, Harrison, Idaho; and 9 grandchildren.

WAGNER — Delmer Werden, 87; born Nov. 25, 1931, Glendale, Calif.; died Nov. 22, 2018, Grants Pass, Ore. Surviving: wife, Evelyn (Mitchell), Rogue River, Ore.; son, Edward, Rogue River; daughter, Judy Blair, Apopka, Fla.; 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

WEIJOHN — Mary Elizabeth (Sutton), 83; born April 13, 1935, Wenatchee, Wash.; died Dec. 15, 2018, Wapato, Wash. Surviving: husband, Bud; son, Jeff, Wapato; daughters, Vicky Gabel, of Guam; Mitzi Eichner, Portland, Ore.; brothers, Dick Sutton, George Sutton, Robert Sutton and Keith Sutton; 24 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

WEST — Julia Isabel (Huck-abone), 96; born Aug. 4, 1922, Pembroke, Ontario, Canada; died Dec. 31, 2018, Tahuya, Wash. Surviving: husband, Raymond; son, Dan, Tahuya; daughters, Raylene West, Sonoma, Calif.; Donna West, San Juan Capistrano, Calif.; Julie Carpenter, Bozeman, Mont.; 5 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

WHITTED — Leland "Lee" H., 83; born Aug. 30, 1935, Santa Paula, Calif.; died Dec.

6, 2018, Gresham, Ore. Surviving: wife, Gladys (Gonder); sons, Terry, Crooked River Ranch, Ore.; Dennis, Boring, Ore.; daughter, Carol Arnold, Gresham; 10 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

WIEBE — John Paul, 58; born Nov. 25, 1960, Dinuba, Calif.; died Dec. 13, 2018, College Place, Wash. Surviving: wife, Sandra (Castle); daughters, Rebekah Asaki and Jennica Showalter; stepson, James Hoover III, Lincoln City, Ore.; stepdaughter, Jessalyn Godwin, Raleigh, N.C.; mother, Faye Hughes, Mena, Ark.; brothers, David Wiebe, Mena; George Wiebe, Apopka, Fla.; sister, Joan Walker, Lake Havasu, Ariz.; and 2 grandchildren.

WITT — Harry Owen, 99; born March 2, 1919, Kennewick, Wash.; died Dec. 30, 2018, College Place, Wash. Surviving: son, Warren Witt, Kennewick; stepson, Zane Seely, Lake Steven, Wash.; stepdaughters, Sydney Mae Seely, College Place; Cathy Ann Kahn, Kennewick; 7 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

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

Go to [GleanerNow.com/](https://www.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

- May 4** — Local Church Budget;
May 11 — World Budget: Disaster and Famine Relief;
May 18 — Local Church Budget;
May 25 — Local Conference Advance;
June 1 — Local Church Budget;
June 8 — Local Church Budget;
June 15 — Local Church Budget;
June 22 — Local Conference Advance;
June 29 — Alaska Conference.

Deaf Christian Women's 17th Annual Retreat

Sept. 22–26 — We would love to have you join us for the 17th annual Deaf Christian Women's Retreat at Camp Tilikum, Newberg, Ore. For more information, email [Bunola Hovey at bumaho@gmail.com](mailto:BunolaHovey@bumaho@gmail.com).

OREGON CONFERENCE

Brookings Church Dedication

May 25 — Come for the Brookings Church dedication. Dan Linrud, Oregon Conference president, will be the speaker for this special occasion. For more information, email brookingsda@gmail.com.

Better Life Broadcasting Camp Meeting

June 7–8 — Better Life Broadcasting Camp Meeting will be held at Milo Adventist Academy in Days Creek, Ore. The keynote speaker will be Dick Duerksen. There will be special musical guests and more. For additional information or to register, visit BLBN.org or call 541-474-3089.

Sunnyside's 38th Annual Strawberry Vespers

June 15 — You are invited to Sunnyside's 38th annual Strawberry Vespers to be held at the Sunnyside Church, 10501 SE Market St., Portland, Ore., at 7 p.m. Bring a friend and enjoy gospel music performed by some of the Portland area's finest musicians. After vespers, strawberry shortcake will be served to all. Bon appetit!

Tribute to Ken Smith

June 29 — Tribute to Ken Smith, celebrating his inspiring life, which ended 40 years ago at age 36 while he was working as a missionary pilot in Papua, Indonesia. The disappearance of his plane is still a mystery to this day. Pictures and stories of his life will be presented at 4 p.m. at Hillsboro Church, 367 NE Grant St., Hillsboro, Ore.

Oregon Singles Upcoming Events

July 20 — Gladstone Camp Meeting singles potluck at 1 p.m. in Zull Hall. "This Is Us" Singles Conference on Sept. 6–7 at Holden Center with James and Risë Rafferty as keynote speakers and Gary and Shelly Parks as breakout speakers. Holden Center, Gladstone, Ore. To register and for cost information, follow us at facebook.com/singlesoregon/.

UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

UCC Town Hall Meetings

Plan to attend a Town Hall Meeting near you. Each begins at 7 p.m.

- May 1:** Wenatchee Church, 508 N. Western Ave., Wenatchee, WA 98801.
May 2: Yakima 35th Avenue Church, 507 N. 35th Ave., Yakima, WA 98902.
May 5: Lewiston Church, 1212 19th St., Lewiston, ID 83501.
May 13: Spokane Valley Church, 1601 S. Sullivan Rd., Spokane Valley, WA 99037.
May 15: Richland Church, 1807 McMurray Ave., Richland, WA 99354.
May 16: Walla Walla City Church, 2133 Howard St., Walla Walla, WA 99362.

AMEN Northwest Conference

May 9–11 — Discover God's master plan for forgiveness and healing and how to share these life principles with others. For all levels of health care providers, Bible workers, outreach coordinators, pastors and ministry leaders. Held at Upper Columbia Conference office. To register and for more information, go to uccsda.org/AMEN2019.

UCC Camp Meeting at Upper Columbia Academy

June 19–22 — The keynote speakers are Randy Roberts, Sung Kwon, and Claudio and Pamela Consuegra. To register for this four-day camp meeting and for more information, go to uccsda.org/campmeeting.

Constituency Session

Notice is hereby given that the quadrennial session of the Upper Columbia Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is called to convene at the Upper Columbia Academy convocation center in Spangle, Wash., on Sunday, Sept. 15, 2019, at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is to receive from the officers and department directors of the Conference reports pertaining to the work carried on within its territory since the last quadrennial session; to elect for the ensuing term officers, department directors and the Conference Executive Committee; and to transact any other business that may properly come before the delegates in session. Each church shall be represented at the sessions of the Conference by two delegates for the church organization and one delegate for each 75 members, or major fraction thereof, each of whom shall be a Seventh-day Adventist member in good and regular standing of the local church which he or she represents.

Minner Labrador Jr., president

Rodney Mills, vice president for administration

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

Enumclaw Church Homecoming

Aug. 10 — Welcome and fellowship on this special Sabbath with Bruce Koch (1999–2003) and musicians Earl Vanderhoof, Jody Harris and son Jim, Shirlee Newell Crain, and Teri Churchill.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Potluck with Enumclaw's wonderful cooks. Visit all afternoon. Come one and all. Enumclaw Church, 3333 Griffin Ave., Enumclaw, Wash.

Missing Members

The Federal Way Hispanic Church is looking for the following missing members: Joshua Alexander Portillo, Jorge Gaytán, Emy Ramos, Leticia Monroy, Jesús Altamirano, Marbella Reyes, Milagro Diaz, José Mario Domínguez, Juan Bautista, Margarita Jiménez, José Olea, Adriana Olea, Elsy Loeza Salazar, David Portillo, Alicia Nava, Rosario Meneses, Sandro Meneses, Vanessa Meneses, Natalia H. Martínez, Alex R. Vela, Mitzy Rodríguez, Cecilia R. Garibaldi, Fabian Landeros, Verence Villalobos, Olivia Melgoza, Víctor Melchor, Martin Castro, Luz De Luna, Corina Ávila, Denay Curry, April C. Barajas, Jeremías Garza, Adonai Jeremías Garza, Luke Barajas, Elizabeth Zepeda, Rosa Linda Barrera, Hilario Celedon García, Joel Figueroa, Fidel A. Villalobos, Guillermo Diaz, Ivonne I. Lemus, Esperanza Rodriguez, Alex B. Andrade, Lizbeth Morales, Lidice Valdez, Kimberly Leyva and Joseph Leyva. If you have any information, please email Mireya Lopez at mireyalopez72ml@gmail.com.

Missing Members

Tacoma Samoa-Tokelau Church is looking for the following missing members: Vaea Aiatia, Fou Aiatia, Faavaoa Aiatia, Lupe Amituanai, Keni Amituanai, Maau Amituanai, Seuga Amituanai, Divine Nguyen, Andrew Faalogo, Stephen P.J. Fanene, Kiamo Fetuao, Lagi Fetuao, Sherron Fetuao, Siasoi Fio, Pualau Fio, Samantha S. Fio, Motuvalu G. Fio, Siimoa Galoia, Sherill A. Hanshaw, Jonathan Hanshaw, Neru Hibbler, Juliana Mamai, Leslie Lagafuaina, Brandon A. Maae, Foisaga Mailo, Nedralani Mailo, Nathaniel Mailo, Rossieleen I. Mareko, Vaaiga, Alamoni S. Salevao, LaRyce T. Moaga-Toleafoa, Helen Pedro, Tony Ropati, Iva V. Aumavae-Ropati, Arieta Safiu, Leonard Lutu, Smitthy Samatua, Colleen Laupola, Ava Sasa, Raymond Sasa, Taualoa Sasa, Edwin V. Sauni, Peter E. Seguritan, Lovine Taifa'i Seiuli, Toafa Sione, Faitupe Siose, Luisa K. Siose, Keila Siose, Keith Siose, Beatrice Su'e, Nuu Tafeaga, Vila Tafeaga, Debra Tafeaga, Agaese Taito, Fatu Talitiga, Katalina Talitiga, Tapita Leao, Zakia K. Teleni, Faamatala Toleafoa, Danny Toomalatai, Fenunuivao Malu, Feleti Su'e, Tunu Tuafale, Eline Tuafale, Aseri Tupu and Daniel Velasquez. If you have any information, please contact Marie at 206-735-1963 or mariektoilolo@gmail.com.

WORLD CHURCH

Andrews Christian Academy Centennial Celebration

June 14-15 — Andrews Christian Academy, the Cedar Rapids Adventist Elementary School, is having its Centennial Celebration. Come celebrate 100 years of Adventist education in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, especially if you are alumni. More information at andrewsca.org or email centennial@andrewsca.org.

MORE EVENTS LISTED AT GLEANERNOW.COM/EVENTS.

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Thank You
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Classes

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

Employment

IT IS WRITTEN is seeking applications for a full-time planned giving field representative. The candidate must be a highly motivated individual, able to work from a home office, travel routinely to communicate with supporters and represent the ministry at assigned events. NAD trust services certification is preferred but not required to apply. If interested, please visit adventistmediacenter.com to download an application. Email application and resume to mmendoza@adventistmediacenter.com.

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for a new ministry? **URGENT!** We are looking for a woods and ground manager, cooks, and a social worker for our nursing home. For more details, please visit laurelbrook.org/positions/ or call 423-244-5430.

PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION is seeking a human resources director. The HR director develops and maintains programs for recruitment, retention, benefit administration, compensation, wellness and staff development. Candidates must possess effective communication skills and demonstrate experience in leadership. A bachelor's degree in human resources management or related field is required. SPHR or SHRM certification preferred. To apply contact Robert D. Hastings, vice president of finance at 208-465-2536 or Robert.Hastings@pacificpress.com.

PACIFIC PRESS is seeking a director of marketing for the trade book segment of operations. Candidates should have a strong record of collaboration and proven organization and communication skills. Experience in sales preferred.

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NOW HIRING A DAYCARE DIRECTOR for large well-established childcare facility, Cascade Christian Childcare in Wenatchee, Wash. If your passion is in the early education of children and you possess leadership skills and childcare experience, please prayerfully consider if this could be the new career move for you! For more information, please call Jackie Stonas at 509-293-1800.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks vice president for spiritual life who will oversee all areas of spirituality on campus. This leader will provide spiritual mentoring and programming for students, spiritual support for employees and spiritual guidance for campus decisions. This role involves collaboration with the university church and its pastoral staff, to foster Christian growth and fellowship between campus and church. VP will also direct

team members in the chaplain's office by motivating, developing and integrating skills for strategic goals and meeting departmental objectives. Qualifications: vibrant personal, growing relationship with Jesus Christ; ability to partner and collaborate across all campus disciplines; minimum five years' experience with student personnel, collegiate chaplaincy, pastoral ministry or comparable experience, with natural capacity to relate well with young adults; Master of Divinity or equivalent required. For full description of position, southern.edu/hr. Send resumes to presidentoffice@southern.edu.

UNION COLLEGE, Lincoln, Neb., seeks candidates for the position of assistant/associate dean of men. The individual in this position will work collaboratively with the deans in directing and coordinating residential hall life to create a comfortable, supporting environment for residents that is conducive to learning and personal growth. This is a full-time, exempt position with a start date of July 1, 2019. Please see the full job description and instructions for application at

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ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks chair for public health, nutrition and wellness. The chair is responsible for developing and upgrading department, student handbooks and department bulletin, establishes department policy in collaboration with program directors and faculty, reviews faculty and staff performance annually to aid in professional development, prepares and monitors annual budget in consultation with program directors and faculty, generates timely reports, schedules department course offerings and other program functions, monitors and adjusts academic standards and curriculum content, assigns faculty teaching loads as agreed upon with the dean,

monitors accreditation issues and accreditation standards for programs to assure compliance, encourages faculty and student research and publications, and works with marketing staff to develop annual marketing plan. See job posting at andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_9.

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WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY is hiring! To see the list of available positions, go to jobs.wallawalla.edu.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a director of institutional research and planning. The director coordinates a comprehensive, university-wide program of data evaluation and analytics to support the evaluation of success in achieving the institutional mission, vision, values and goals. A master's degree is required, doctorate preferred, with course work in higher education, research and statistics, educational research, data analytics, or related field. Applicants must evidence strong research, analytical, technical and evaluation skills; possess a solid grasp of issues and trends in higher education; and demonstrate competencies in oral and written communication and interpersonal relations. The successful candidate will be a member in good and regular

standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. For more information and to apply for the position, contact Robert Young, senior vice president for academic administration, Southern Adventist University, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks dean of graduate studies. Dean candidate will assume a leadership role in all aspects of graduate education and provides academic, administrative and strategic direction to graduate studies. For a complete list of responsibilities, requirements and qualifications, visit southern.edu/jobs.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks website development manager. The website development manager works closely with the director of marketing and university relations to create and implement the strategy and goals for the university website, digital advertising and social media efforts. As a full stack developer, this position requires a high level of website design and development proficiency. For a

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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks to fill a faculty position in the School of Journalism and Communication. Candidate will bring his or her creativity, energy, and academic and professional excellence to the SJC. For a complete list of responsibilities, requirements and qualifications, visit southern.edu/jobs.

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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY School of Nursing seeks full-time graduate faculty to join our mission-focused team. Teaching responsibilities will be primarily at the MSN and DNP levels. Candidate must hold current acute care NP certification. Doctorate strongly

preferred; MSN required. For a full job description and qualifications, please visit southern.edu/jobs.

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The King's Final Battle

Events

JOIN TOM AND ALANE WATERS and their guest speakers, Frank and Veda Barcello, for Restoration International's Northwest Family Retreat, July 3-7, 2019, Upper Columbia Academy, Spangle, Wash. This year's theme is "A Heart of Love." For information and to pre-register, visit restoration-international.org/nwfr or call NWFR hosts, Vernon and Karina Pettay, 406-890-1185.

UCHEE PINES INSTITUTE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY on June 23-29, 2019. Speakers include Mark Finley and John Bradshaw. More information at ucheepines.org or 877-UCHEEPINES.

CENTRAL OREGON CAMP MEETING June 20-22, 2019 at 60508 Old Lake Rd., Christmas Valley, OR 97641. Main speaker is Ryan Day from 3ABN. Other speakers include Stan Beerman and Jeff Coleman. Meals included and camping available. More information at COSDACAMP.com, [facebook.com/SDAChurch97641/](https://www.facebook.com/SDAChurch97641/) or call 541-306-0384.

FAITHCAMP WEST, June 26-30, 2019: Jesus for Asia invites you to come and have your faith encouraged by people who are trusting God's Word to the extreme. faithcamponline.org, 423-413-7321.

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JOIN US FOR WORSHIP at the Yellowstone National Park every Sabbath from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Services are led by the Rocky Mountain Conference pastors at 10 a.m. in the Old Faithful Lodge.

NORTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES (NAISS) is recruiting Christian host families with children to host Chinese students for 30 days this summer (July 15-Aug. 12). Becoming a host family is culturally, financially and spiritually a great blessing. Host families earn \$1,700 for the summer program. If you're interested, contact us by phone 541-510-7787, email info@naiss-us.com or online at naiss-us.com.

ADVENTIST FAMILY SEEKING PRIVATE ADOPTION If you or someone you know are dealing with an unplanned pregnancy and need options, please visit our adoption page ourpagenow.wixsite.com/adoption or [facebook.com/WeHaveHugsAndLoveToShare](https://www.facebook.com/WeHaveHugsAndLoveToShare). We deeply desire to grow our family and share our love! Contact Michele, pinkpetunia05@hotmail.com; call or text 208-699-1004.

North Pacific Union Conference Directory

5709 N. 20th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642
360-857-7000 • fax 360-857-7001 • npuc.org
Monday-Thursday 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

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Local Conference Directory

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6100 O'Malley Rd.
Anchorage, AK 99507-7200
907-346-1004 • alaskaconference.org
Kevin Miller, president; Melvin Santos, v.p. secretary; James W. Jensen, v.p. finance

IDAHO CONFERENCE

7777 Fairview
Boise, ID 83704-8418
208-375-7524 • idahoadventist.org
David Prest Jr., president; John Rogers, v.p. finance

MONTANA CONFERENCE

175 Canyon View Rd.
Bozeman, MT 59715
406-587-3101 • montanaconference.org
Elden Ramirez, president; Matthew Kirk, v.p. administration and finance

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UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

3715 S. Grove Rd.
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509-838-2761 • uccsda.org
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WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

32229 Weyerhaeuser Way S.
Federal Way, WA 98001
253-681-6008 • washingtonconference.org
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204 S. College Ave.
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DST	MAY					JUNE			
	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28
ALASKA CONFERENCE									
Anchorage	10:06	10:25	10:43	11:00	11:16	11:29	11:38	11:42	11:42
Fairbanks	10:23	10:47	11:12	11:36	12:00	12:22	12:39	12:48	12:44
Juneau	8:49	9:05	9:20	9:34	9:46	9:56	10:04	10:08	10:07
Ketchikan	8:25	8:38	8:51	9:03	9:14	9:22	9:28	9:32	9:32
IDAHO CONFERENCE									
Boise	8:48	8:56	9:04	9:11	9:18	9:23	9:27	9:30	9:30
La Grande	8:00	8:08	8:17	8:24	8:31	8:37	8:41	8:44	8:45
Pocatello	8:31	8:39	8:47	8:54	9:00	9:05	9:09	9:12	9:13
MONTANA CONFERENCE									
Billings	8:23	8:31	8:40	8:48	8:55	9:01	9:05	9:07	9:08
Havre	8:34	8:44	8:54	9:03	9:10	9:17	9:21	9:24	9:25
Helena	8:39	8:48	8:56	9:05	9:12	9:18	9:22	9:25	9:26
Miles City	8:13	8:22	8:31	8:39	8:46	8:52	8:57	8:59	9:00
Missoula	8:47	8:57	9:05	9:14	9:21	9:27	9:31	9:34	9:35
OREGON CONFERENCE									
Coos Bay	8:20	8:28	8:35	8:42	8:49	8:54	8:58	9:01	9:02
Medford	8:12	8:20	8:27	8:34	8:40	8:45	8:49	8:51	8:52
Portland	8:18	8:27	8:36	8:43	8:50	8:56	9:00	9:03	9:04
UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE									
Pendleton	8:03	8:12	8:21	8:28	8:35	8:41	8:45	8:48	8:49
Spokane	8:03	8:13	8:22	8:30	8:38	8:44	8:48	8:51	8:52
Walla Walla	8:03	8:11	8:20	8:28	8:35	8:41	8:45	8:48	8:49
Wenatchee	8:14	8:23	8:32	8:41	8:48	8:54	8:59	9:02	9:02
Yakima	8:13	8:22	8:30	8:39	8:46	8:52	8:56	8:59	9:00
WASHINGTON CONFERENCE									
Bellingham	8:26	8:36	8:46	8:55	9:02	9:09	9:14	9:16	9:17
Seattle	8:23	8:32	8:41	8:50	8:57	9:03	9:08	9:10	9:11

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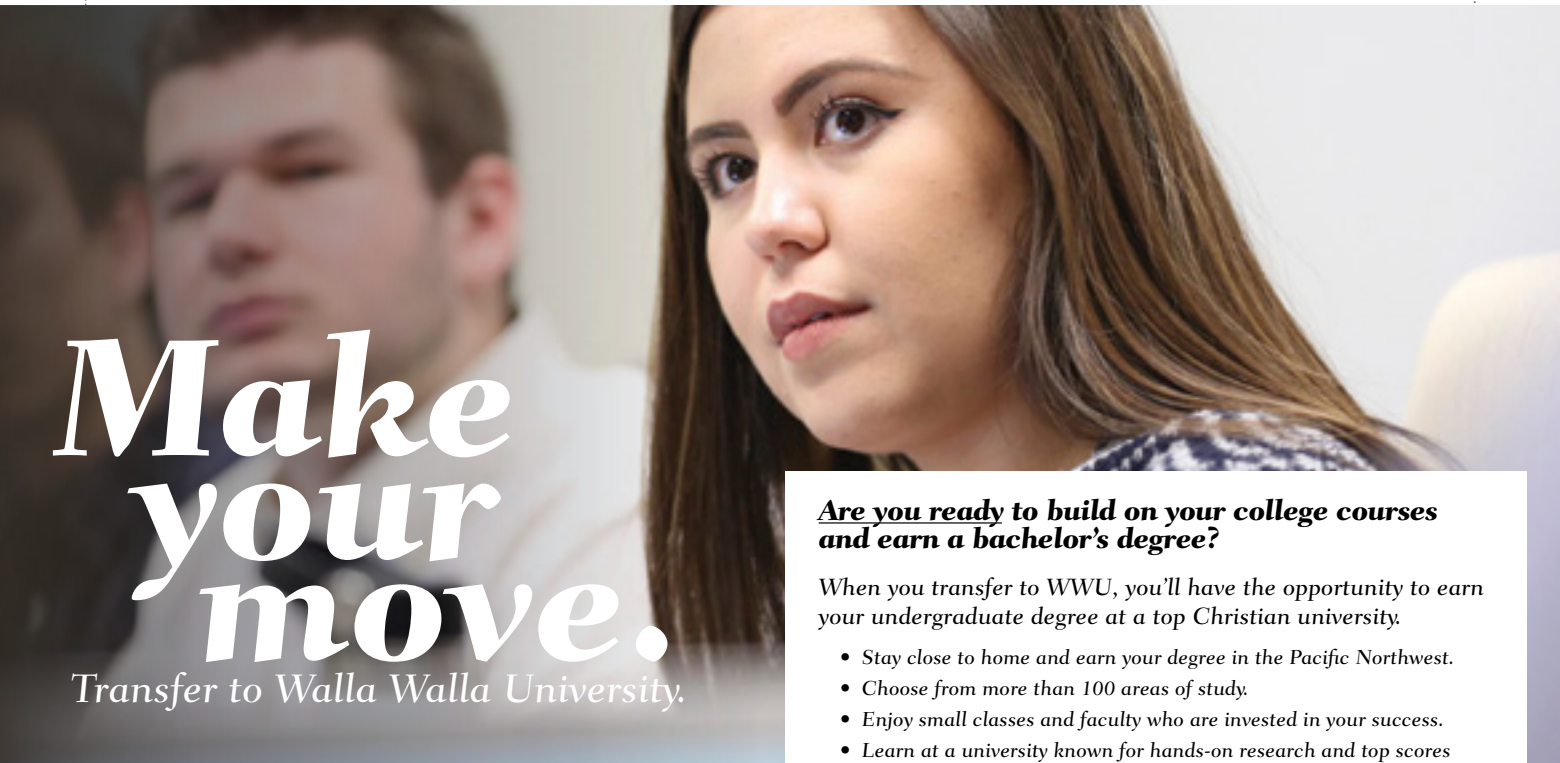
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WATCHING OUR WORDS

“ I

f it was not the Lord’s will, it would not have taken place.”

That was the statement recently made on a heated Facebook thread by an Adventist pastor when someone questioned a decision made by the pastor’s organization. While it is true we are not always at our best in an argument, especially online, the statement still troubles me. First, the implications of this rationale are frightening. It equates any and all human tragedies with the Lord’s will. I believe it runs counter to clear Scripture: “Let no one say when he is tempted, ‘I am being tempted by God,’ for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one” (James 1:13).

Second, Adventists, despite our Arminian heritage, have a tendency to turn Calvinist from time to time. Part of how we attempt to make sense of the complexity of the world’s experience is telling stories with concrete cause and effect. Christians, with the best intentions, can take this so far as to ascribe everything to the direct intervention of a micromanaging deity even when they have no real knowledge of what caused a particular incident. Theological cliches like “everything happens for a reason” creep into our vocabulary in moments of confusion. Yet, God doesn’t always deliver or even promise a neat explanation.



AUTHOR

Seth Pierce



In the book of Job, we, the readers, get to see all the cosmic workings behind Job’s misfortune. However, even after God restores Job, he is never told why he went through what he did. When Jesus addressed the subject of tragedies, such as the Tower of Siloam falling on people, He didn’t explain the why. Instead, He encouraged the people to have a right relationship with God because no one knows when their life will end (see Luke 13:4).

But what struck me the most about the pastor’s recent online stance was this: Those same thoughts are often also systemic within patterns of abuse. Now, let me be clear — I am not implying that the pastor who made this



Those entrusted with the good news of Jesus should communicate just that — good news, not flippant theological untruths that can lead to more pain and abuse.

statement is abusive. But I am concerned about the general nature of these kinds of statements.

To state emphatically that if a thing happens then it must be God's will is dangerous. When those in power use a phrase like "if it was not the Lord's will, it would not have taken place," it can lead to a type of spiritual gaslighting where someone is hurt. Gaslighting is a form of psychological manipulation that allows someone in control to cause another person to question their own perceptions of truth. When hurtful things are attributed to the will of God, it begins to change a person's

concept of God Himself. Even when there is no overt abuse, the normalization or validation of a phrase like this by clergy has the potential to do serious damage in the hands of those who aren't ethical.

What's more, statements like this make us look guilty. "Even though you are not treated as you think you should be, do not allow the root of bitterness to spring up; for thereby many will be defiled. By your words you may cause others to become suspicious."^[1] As wisdom says, the gentle answer turns away wrath ... not to mention paranoia (Prov. 15:1).

Nobody, including pas-

tors, likes to have their power threatened. It is easy to become defensive instead of vulnerably answering a hard question. In one of the classic power struggles between Jesus and the religious elite of His day, the Pharisees falsely accused Him of having a devil. People were finding healing and freedom not found within the context of the Pharisees' ministry. So, the religious leaders made a theologically bankrupt statement about what Christ was doing. Jesus corrected them, reminding them (and us) that the devil can't cast out the devil and a house divided cannot stand.

He also gave a warning we all need to remember in the heat of our debates. "For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned" (Matt. 12:37). Jesus warns us to pay attention to our words. What we say can not only wound others, but us as well. Ancient wisdom says, "Do you see a

man who is hasty in his words? There is more hope for a fool than for him" (Prov. 29:20). And, when our modern communication tools value speed over things like grace, love and truth, it may be time for us to take an extra pause before we hit "send."

All of us need greater accountability for the aphorisms, children's stories and clichés we carry around with us. Our words matter. So, consider this pastoral reflection a reminder to slow down and think before you speak — or post, as the case may be. Those entrusted with the good news of Jesus should communicate just that — good news, not flippant theological untruths that can lead to more pain and abuse.

1. Ellen White, "Make Straight Paths for Your Feet," *The Review and Herald*, August 24, 1897.

Seth Pierce, Puyallup Church lead pastor

WHEN MEN'S MINISTRIES DON'T WORK

W

hy do women's ministries flourish while men's ministries often flounder? As I write this, I'm preparing to present at a men's fellowship event across the country. I've been pondering what might inspire and energize these men to make it worth their time and expense to come together. Several concepts I'm sharing here for your consideration.

First, secular society is robbing men of their God-given identity. Since the 1970s, laudable attempts to reverse centuries of chauvinism are empowering women while leaving men confused about their own place in the family, church and workplace. Many traditional male roles are now gender-neutral — police officers, firefighters, even soldiers. In principle it's wonderful to imagine there's nothing a man

does that a woman can't do — but some

radical viewpoints insist a man isn't particularly needed for anything. Gloria Steinem popularized the boast "a woman needs a man like a fish needs a bicycle."

So what are men good for? Not fatherhood, apparently — women who get inseminated outside traditional marriage are assured they can proceed to raise kids without a dad around. (Rising

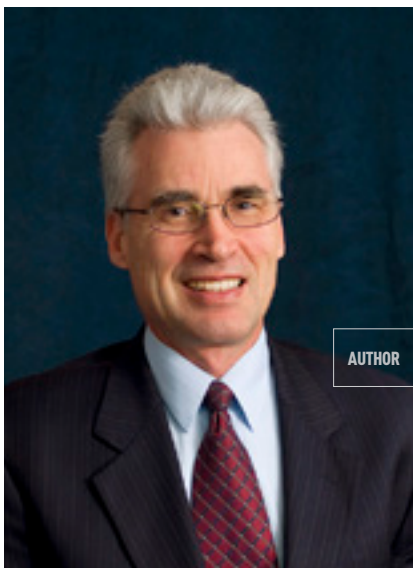
crime among fatherless youth argues otherwise.)

Female students comprise the majority at many colleges where secularism defines campus life. Acts of old-fashioned male chivalry, such as opening a door for a woman, are denounced as paternalism. Many young men, lacking identity and purpose, have given up relating to real women and waste their evenings immersed in the virtual world.

Where is the church in all this? Some denominations (like ours) overreact to secular feminism by forbidding women top leadership spots, local or global. Selected Scriptures that may reflect realities in ancient culture are not interpreted in the context of Christ's liberating gospel. To do so would eliminate male vs. female rivalry since we are all one in Christ Jesus (see Gal. 3:28).

But is there any unique usefulness left for men? While the debate rages, women in most congregations are doing most of the actual ministry, quietly and faithfully. A glance around most churches shows women are also often more present in the pews.

I suggest more attention is needed in understanding and inspiring men to fulfill their role in the church, family and society. This takes me back to the original



AUTHOR

Martin Weber



Transformation follows when we realize and embrace who we are in Christ.

question: Why are many men's ministries failing?

First, I suggest most men's ministries are fixated on recovering sexual integrity rather than focusing on discovering identity — who men are in Christ. Instead of fearing the internet, we can “overcome evil with good” (Rom. 12:21). High tech can facilitate high touch in a good way by teaching how to use social media to connect with each other rather

than to defile ourselves. Let's not just denounce the darkness — let's also light a candle!

Specifically, this involves helping men discover their identity. Transformation follows when we realize and embrace who we are in Christ. We can scold ourselves and moralize all we want, but at the end of the day we will live out our perceived identity.

Sadly, most men (and women) live their entire lives

without knowing specifically why they are here on the face of the Earth. Yes, we know we should be loving, faithful and chaste — but what's our unique spiritual DNA?

One clue beyond our existing interests and obvious skills is what makes us mad. That's right! Holy anger (what makes other Christians sad but makes you mad) about some type of abuse or other evil is a sign that God may be calling you into action. Like Abraham Lincoln, who as a young man witnessed a slave auction. His response: “If I ever get a chance to hit that thing, I'll hit it hard.” He sure did! His righteous outrage was an indication of God's purpose for his life.

Once we get a clue about specifically *who* we are, we can devote attention to *why* we are here on Earth by crafting a personal purpose (mission) statement. Then each attendee can develop a vision statement that describes *what* he should be doing with his available time and talents. Finally, the men can discern their life goals

(measurable and attainable) and plan incremental steps to attain those goals.

My strategy for the men's retreat is first to establish an identity in Christ with those in attendance, then gather them into breakout groups around tables to develop their personal mission and vision statements and, finally, help them establish specific goals and actionable plans.

Many men's groups fail because we expect them to confide their deepest feelings and aspirations, which ladies seem to do more easily. But when men and women are energized by discovering their identity and purpose, then gaining a vision of how to specifically move forward, good things can happen in their lives, families and churches.

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





JUST LIKE JESUS

LONELINESS DEFEATED



'm lonely, I thought, not at all sure what the word meant or what to do with the feeling that was gnawing at my innards.

The Creator and I were lying in some lush green grass watching the sun begin to dip near the horizon. We had just finished with the naming of the animals and something bothered me.

“I’m lonely,” I told Him, “and I don’t even know what that means. As we’ve been naming animals, I noticed there are always at least two of them. Two lions — a he and a she. Two whales, a he and a she. Two picas, a he and a she. No matter if they were four-legged, feathery or finny, there were two of them — a he and a she.”

He smiled over at me. “Somewhere in the naming, which by the way I enjoyed very much and during which I made many new friends, I began wondering where my ‘she’ was. That’s when I began feeling the ‘lonely’ thing. Do you know what I mean?”

He stood and started walking toward the silver stream that came from the great tree.

“Come along and let’s see if we can do something about lonely,” He invited.

I followed, chased by a pair of bounding kangaroos, two

giant dogs and a dozen rabbits.

He stopped near the base of the tree.

“Where did you say you’re lonely?”

I put my hand over my heart, and He placed His hand over mine.

“Lie down beside the tree, and I’ll see what I can do.”

I lay down and felt Him reach in beside my heart and pull one of my ribs — twisted it right out of its socket like maybe it was an extra He had placed there for this very moment. I slept then.

“Adam,” He called me. I continued to dream.

“Adam,” He called again, and I began to see colors and hear sounds like before. Then I saw His face and relaxed.

“Adam.”

This time I woke full up, and there, standing beside Him all tall and graceful and shining golden brown in the evening sunlight, was the most wonderful sight I had ever hoped to see. I still cannot describe her. Her face was magical and dreamy and misty and strong and glowing with a love deeper than anything I had been seeing things. And . . .

“Adam.” I tore my eyes from her and looked at Him. “She is flesh of your flesh, bone of your bone, the love of your life. What will you call her?”

“Her name is Eve,” I mumbled in awe. She is beauti-

ful, the mother of all mankind.

I was sublimely captivated by the creature at the Creator’s side.

“Adam and Eve,” He laughed so joyfully that the stream rippled. “Always remember I used a bone from beside your heart — so you will walk side by side as equals.”

Adam and Eve. Today, together, we have defeated loneliness.

If you ever feel lonely, here’s a way for you and the Creator to care for the ache. Think of someone you know who may be sad, hurting or even lonely. Say a prayer for that person and then send a text letting them know you care. When you reach out to another, your own loneliness slips away.

Dick Duerksen, Oregon Conference storycatcher and storyteller



AUTHOR

Dick Duerksen



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