

EDITORIAL
PUBLIC EVANGELISM
IS ALIVE AND WELL

PERSPECTIVE
DYSFUNCTIONAL
SELF-SUFFICIENCY

JUST LIKE JESUS
THE LAW

gleaner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION



**TO
RUSSIA
WITH A
BEARHUG**

How Lives Were Changed

**SEP
2018**

VOL. 113, N° 7



You have made known to me
the paths of life; you will fill me
with joy in your presence.
Acts 2:28

CONTENTS

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION



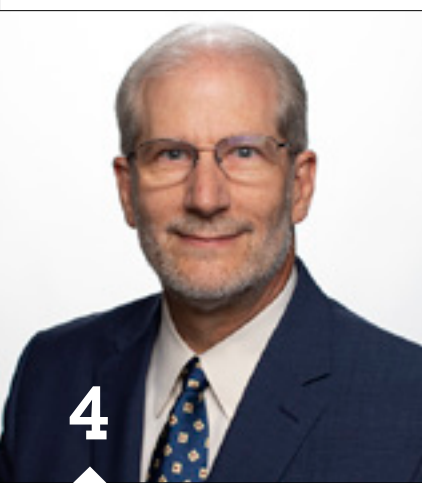
18



20



29



4

FEATURE

8 To Russia With a Bearhug

14 'I Didn't Want To Go'

PERSPECTIVE

42 Dysfunctional Self-Sufficiency

44 Reading Ellen White Isn't Bible Study

JUST LIKE JESUS

46 The Law

CONFERENCE NEWS

16 Acción

17 Alaska

18 Idaho

19 Montana

20 Oregon

24 Upper Columbia

27 Washington

30 WWU

32 Adventist Health

4 EDITORIAL

5 INTERSECTIONS

33 FAMILY

35 ANNOUNCEMENTS

BILL MCCLENDON

gleaner

Copyright © 2018
September 2018
Vol. 113, No. 7

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

OUR MISSION: Connecting Northwest Adventists with an expanding hub of news and inspiration.

POSTMASTER: send all address changes to: North Pacific Union Conference *Gleaner*, 5709 N. 20th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642
Phone: 360-857-7000
info@gleanernow.com
gleanernow.com

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

PLEASE NOTE: Every reasonable effort is made to screen all editorial material to avoid error in this publication. The *Gleaner* does not accept responsibility for advertisers' claims.

ADVENTIST® and SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST® are the registered trademarks of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®.

LITHO U.S.A.

Gleaner STAFF

Editor: Steve Vistaunet

Copy Editor: Laurel Rogers

Advertising and Project Manager:

Desiree Lockwood

Digital Media Coordinator: Anthony White

Digital Media Assistant: Nina Vallado

Design: GUILDHOUSE Group

IMAGE CREDITS:

p. 26: iStock.com/monkeybusinessimages

p. 42: iStock.com/lisafx

p. 44: iStock.com/artisteer

"Black Bear Cresting a Ridge" in Turnagain Arm, Alaska, by Gary Lackie, of Anchorage, Alaska.



PUBLIC EVANGELISM IS ALIVE AND WELL

S

everal years ago, my wife and I had the privilege to plant a new church in Tulsa, Okla. I freely admit we had no idea what we were doing. We didn't just want to plant another church, but a church like we read about in the book of Acts. God had put it in our hearts to start a church that would be relentlessly

who truly loved the Lord. These were dedicated people working very hard to just keep the church going. But it was painfully obvious that, in their efforts to "survive," they had lost sight of their mission to reach out to others with the gospel.

I still remember during our very first meeting together the surprised looks on many when I suggested conducting an evangelistic meeting in the next 90 days. To their credit, they agreed. That one decision began the rebirth of a dying church. When we left four years and seven evangelistic meetings later, the church was full. Nearly 100 people were baptized and many more had returned to the church. Evangelism not only changes lives, it changes churches.

I know a lot of people who have given up on traditional public evangelism. The reason given is usually because some time back their church held an evangelistic meeting, spent thousands of dollars and only a few people were baptized. And, even worse, after a few weeks all the new folks left the church. Indeed, that sometimes happens. But sometimes it doesn't. I know — I am one of those who stayed.

It's not just me. The church is full of people just like me — the ones who stayed. I had never heard of Seventh-day Adventists, and I certainly did

not know any. The only chance the church had to reach me in the crucial moment of my life, when I was open and searching, was an evangelistic handbill. There were 100 of us that cold Sabbath morning in October when they took us out to a freezing pond to be baptized. For some of us, that was the moment our life changed forever.

I am a realist. I will admit that public evangelism doesn't work as well as I would like. There isn't a meeting I have been a part of when I didn't wish that there had been more people attending and certainly more baptized. But, instead of getting discouraged and giving up, I have chosen to work with the church leaders and congregations to find ways to do it better.

Public evangelism is hard work. It is expensive. It takes a lot of time and effort. It is exciting, thrilling, disappointing and heartbreaking all at once. But after making public evangelism a top priority in my ministry for the last 25 years, I believe it is still a very effective way to grow God's kingdom.

Bill McClendon, North Pacific Union Conference vice president for administration

Evangelism not only changes lives, it changes churches.

focused on reaching people with the gospel. We decided if we were going to live that out, evangelism would have to be the primary activity of our church. Over the next 10 years, we did a lot of traditional public evangelism — somewhere around 50 evangelistic meetings. Can you guess what happened? God used that church and its evangelistic commitment to bring hundreds and hundreds of people into His kingdom.

Most recently, my wife and I had the opportunity to become the pastors of a declining church on the East Coast. We had often wondered if the same focus on evangelism would also work in a church that was in decline. Upon arriving at the church, we found a group of loving, committed Christians

AUTHOR

Bill McClendon



REVIEW:

END-TIME EVENTS AND THE LAST GENERATION

One of the marks of a healthy organization is its ability to identify and address different viewpoints within its ranks. Author George Knight has made a career of documenting our denomination's differing thoughts on theological matters and God's leading as we process those diverse lines of thinking. His latest work, *End-Time Events and The Last Generation: The Explosive 1950s*, explores a topic that came to the forefront in the 1950s and is still a point of discussion and disagreement into the 21st century.

Although elements of Last Generation Theology (LGT) are found throughout Adventist history, Knight shows how it became more pronounced with the publication of the book *Questions on Doctrine* in 1957. He outlines the roles of two key players in that debate: M.L. Andreasen and Le Roy Froom. The book also looks at the part that independent ministries such as Hartland Institute, the 1888 Study Committee and the Historic Adventism movement play in the discussion.

At a readable 118 pages, the book is packed with information on the subject of how the lives of God's last generation people impact end-time events. Knight acknowledges that this is a brief overview of the topic rather than an in-depth "systematic, far-reaching

discussion of last-day events." His main focus is on how the debate of the 1950s is still affecting our church today.

The book is more, however, than just an historical overview of events. Knight reveals some of the implications of LGT that may be new revelations to some readers. Andreasen argued Satan was not completely defeated at the cross — his demise ultimately comes at the hands of a perfect last generation of believers. In other words, it is up to humanity (albeit empowered by Christ) to bring about Satan's defeat. The

implication of that view is that, if we do not accomplish that task, Satan can still conceivably win the Great Controversy battle (see p. 31).

Since the book is so concise, it is well suited for those with some understanding of Adventist history. An appendix with brief introductions to many of the names and institutions referred to in the book would make a great addition in future

printings. This book is a seamless lead-in to the new work produced by several professors from the Adventist Theological Seminary, *God's Character and the Last Generation*, which gives a deeper study into the theological issues involved with LGT.

Chuck Burkeen, Oregon Conference member ministries director



OOPS!

The July/August *Gleaner* school listing mistakenly listed Angela Binder as Mount Ellis Elementary School principal. She is, however, the seventh/eighth-grade teacher, whereas Kaila Johnson is the principal. In addition, the Regional Convocation report identified Jack Barrow as a lay member of the Renton, Wash., Church. He and his wife are active members of the Emerald City Church in Seattle.

+ PICTURE THIS



Big step for WWU grad.

SEE PAGE

30



Big Lake rest stop for hikers.

SEE PAGE

23

Tacoma youth take a stand.

SEE PAGE

28





Full of energy in Gladstone.

SEE PAGE

20

Adventist Health trains spiritual caregivers.

SEE PAGE

32



TO RUSSIA WITH A BEARHUG

How Lives Were Changed

EDITOR'S NOTE: Operation Bearhug, an evangelistic initiative of the North Pacific Union Conference in the early 1990s, left a legacy of global mission that continues to bear fruit in Russia to this day. Recently, several who were involved from the start returned to Russia to see how the Bearhug story has evolved. Read more in the following pages.

When two former Northwest Adventist administrators revisited Russia this year, they found old and new friends anxious to see them. Phil White, former Washington Conference pastor and administrator, and Dave Weigley, former Washington Conference ministerial director and president, experienced a spiritual family reunion of sorts, all because of an unprecedented North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) mission initiative nearly three decades ago.

COVER

Slava Tishin, former Soviet army officer, had his life changed by family members converted during Operation Bearhug.

Operation Bearhug galvanized the missionary fervor of Northwest Adventists during an opportunistic time of dramatic global change. The long-standing Cold War between the Soviet Union and the West was in a state of thaw. Challenges and opportunities once presumed unthinkable became possible.

In communist Russia, religious freedom had been scarce. Leaders exercised their power by making religious materials impossible to get. Christians were forced to smuggle or hide their Bibles. Public evangelism was out of the question.

But as the Soviet Union began to collapse, new hope emerged. And as rules and regulations began to lift and more religious freedoms were granted, the time was ripe for Operation Bearhug.





More photos and more in-depth reading including past *Gleaner* articles about **Operation Bearhug** at GleanerNow.com/russiabearhug

OPENING DOORS

But in announcing the Operation Bearhug initiative in 1991, Bruce Johnston, NPUC president, acknowledged in the *Gleaner* that timely action was critical. “There are many opportunities, but how long they will be available we don’t know,” he said. “The news tells of turmoil and chaos in Europe and Russia. This is a critical time because we may have only a short time frame in which to work.”

In long distance telephone conversations, M. Murga, Russian Union president, urged Johnston to help them share the gospel throughout Russia and equip every church member as a missionary.

“Murga was calling for a missionary vision, coupled with missionary action, that

Dave Weigley visits Saratov and the neighboring cities along the Volga River in 1991, shortly after the fall of the Iron Curtain.

would result in a missionary movement,” said Ted N.C. Wilson, then Euro-Asia Division president.

In response, Johnston and the NPUC created a global mission strategy committee to explore ways to reach the people of Russia. Operation Bearhug grew out of this committee as a program to mobilize Northwest members toward the new evangelistic opportunities. Preliminary plans called for the sending of three evangelists to Russia in the spring of 1991.

But after word of the project spread throughout the NPUC, Northwest members sprang into action, dedicating funds, time and prayer. Some chose to lead groups of their own to help spread the gospel. It was soon evident that God was going to use Operation Bearhug in ways greater than ever imagined — and that this was just the beginning.

FIRST STEPS

In May 1991, the first Operation Bearhug group traveled to Saratov, Russia, led by Weigley.

Since Saratov had initially been off-limits to foreigners, the group had to navigate several restrictions. They could not enter it by air, so embarked on a 22-hour train ride to the city.

Once in Saratov, the team received permission from the local government to hold public meetings. During the next four weeks, they visited seven cities along the Volga River, and the response was overwhelming.

“There was electricity in the air,” says Weigley. “It was such a novel experience to be preaching the gospel openly in the Soviet Union.”

With fewer than 50 Adventist members, and with only one small in-home church in the Saratov area, nearly all who attended the meetings had never heard the Adventist message. In fact, in Saratov, no one from outside the Soviet Union had preached there during the past 70 years.

“We were the first of any Protestant or Catholic organization to go in and preach the gospel,” Weigley explains.

In all, more than 12,000 people in the cities along the Volga River heard their presentations, with 1,200 signing up for Bible studies with Russian pastors.

On the last night of the meetings in Saratov, a former general in the Soviet Army approached Weigley. “All my life I’ve been taught that God was dead,” he said. “However, I’ve heard you preach fervently about a living God.” Then, holding up the Bible he had received, he added, “I want to study this Bible. I want to know about the God with

whom you speak of.”

Weigley’s trip in 1991 opened doors for future evangelistic efforts in the region. By April 1993, another NPUC group returned to Saratov.

This team was led by Phil and Jan White, pastoral team from the church then in Sedro-Woolley, Washington; Stan Beerman, church pastor in Mount Vernon, Washington; Beerman’s daughter, Sherisa; and Sedro-Woolley Church members Dean and Lois Dietrich and Helmut and Lillian Stutz.

They spent the next six weeks giving health seminars and presentations and preaching sermons to build lasting relationships with the Russian people. The nearly 1,000 people who attended each night heard amazing stories of God’s power and love for His children.

As a result, 155 people were baptized at the end of the meetings, with dozens more involved in baptismal studies. Through these efforts, the team helped plant the new Saratov Two Church on May 15, 1993.

The Operation Bearhug initiative ignited a spark in people’s lives — not just in Saratov, but throughout all of Russia — leaving a lasting impact on those who had never experienced the gospel.

Here are some of their stories.

SARATOV was designated as a “closed city” by the Soviet government until its dissolution. The city had factories that manufactured important sensitive components, for military aircraft. This meant it was strictly off-limits to all foreigners.





Following the Operation Bearhug meetings, Luba Tishin (second from right) won her family to Christ, including her father, Slava (right), former Soviet army officer.



A FAMILY FOREVER CHANGED

In 1993, word spread throughout Saratov of the evangelistic meetings. Alexandra Gordon, a recent convert to the Adventist Church, heard of the meetings and took her 11-year-old granddaughter, Luba Tishin, along with her. Luba's father, Slava, a first retaliation missile officer in the Soviet Army, was fearful his daughter's mind would be filled with lies. But Luba was insistent on continuing to attend and convinced her mother, Galya, to go with her. Galya was reluctant at first, but decided to attend some of the meetings. Slava, resistant, feared his family's involvement would reflect badly on his career or possibly get him fired.

Desperate to disprove Christianity and his family's interest in religion, he challenged Galya to read the Bible herself. He was convinced she would come to realize it was just a book full of fairy tales.

So she began to read the Bible. And she noticed the way the meetings were impacting her daughter's behavior.

"I saw how my daughter was living and how she behaved, and I was convinced that she became a different girl," says Galya. "As I was

reading the Bible, I found that my husband and I were living totally different lives from the Bible."

Galya and Luba continued to attend the meetings. At the series' conclusion, Luba decided to be baptized — much to Slava's dismay. Luba recounts, "Aware of the challenges I faced with my family, when Pastor Phil baptized me, he said, 'Now Luba, go win your family to Jesus.'"

After further Bible study with the Saratov Church pastor, Galya became convinced of the truth of the gospel message and was baptized in 1994.

Soon, Slava started to notice the change in Luba. His daughter's faith began to seep into his life as well. Reluctantly, he began transporting Luba and Galya to church and interacting with the members, who he noticed were different from most people he knew.

"I knew from my previous life in the army, everyone looked out for themselves," Slava says. "But the way the people interacted at the church, they were mindful of each other — they cared for each other."

In 1995, the Whites returned to the Saratov Church

to hold a revival series and saw the Tishin family, including Slava. Although uninterested in accepting the gospel, he still attended the meetings with his family. There, Phil asked Slava, "When are you going to accept Jesus?"

Brushing it aside, Slava responded, "I'll never be a church member here. I'm not ready."

While a kind man, Slava, also a former KGB informant, was hard in many ways. "He told us there was a time in his Soviet military career that he was stationed at the Berlin Wall in East Berlin," White recounts. "He was trained and ready to shoot anyone who tried to escape to the West."

With limited communication, White had not connected with believers in Saratov for several years. In July 2008, White returned to speak for the 15th anniversary of the Saratov Two Church. After the service, a young lady approached White. "Pastor Phil, do you remember me?" she asked. "I'm Luba Tishin! You baptized me in 1993, and as you challenged, I have won my family to Jesus."

Luba, now a physician, had brought her entire family to Christ, including her father,

Slava, and brother, Sasha, now an Adventist lay leader in Moscow.

Two years later, White was astonished to run into Slava at the 2010 General Conference Session in Atlanta, Georgia. Now a local church elder and publishing ministry director for the Volga Conference, Slava was representing his newfound faith as an official delegate.



Slava Tishin and Phil White at the General Conference Session in Atlanta, Georgia.

The Lord had brought the story full circle. Once a soldier in the Soviet Army, now a lay pastor, Slava's life and course of his family was changed when God used his daughter, Luba.

"And now," Slava says, "I'm a lay soldier in the Lord's army."





REVISITING SARATOV

In May 2018, the Whites, now pastors in Simi Valley, California, were invited to go back to Saratov to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the evangelistic meetings and planting of the Saratov Two Church. The Whites were joined by one of their church members, Becky Stroub, as well as Weigley, now Columbia Union Conference president, and his wife, Becky. The team went not only to celebrate what had happened nearly three decades before, but also to encourage members, as the doors for evangelism in Russia seem to be closing again.

several Jehovah's Witnesses have been jailed for spreading what the government classified as "propaganda."

In light of this, the West Russian Union was hesitant to have the group host large meetings in local churches. Instead, the team decided to focus on encouraging the Adventist brothers and sisters through personal in-home visits and small gatherings.

The Weigley-White team members were able to encourage believers in Saratov and the neighboring cities of Engels, Marks, Zaumor'ye, Petrovsk and Yagodnaya Polyana — a

rural community about an hour out of Saratov. Adventist believers in Yagodnaya Polyana, many of whom were converts through the Operation Bearhug effort, have started a lifestyle center and sanitari-

um to meet the needs of their community.

Through Whites' efforts ahead of the trip, the team was also able to present more than \$22,000 to the Volga Conference to help the area churches

RUSSIAN RECIPES

RUSSIAN CARROT SALAD

INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups of carrots, grated
- 1 can of kidney beans, drained
- 1–2 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1/4–1/2 cup of mayonnaise or substitute
- 1/2 cup of croutons

DIRECTIONS

Mix items together and serve chilled.

No matter where the team went during their 2018 trip, the Russian people were constantly feeding them. Here is a small taste of the Russian cuisine we thought will tickle your taste buds and make you want to take it to potluck.

in need. These funds were made possible by the generosity of the North Pacific Union Conference; the Columbia Union Conference; the Southern California Conference; the North Cascade Adventist Church in Burlington, Washington; Georgia's Calhoun Church; and the Simi Valley Church.

The Adventist church in Petrovsk needed \$3,000 to help cover serious repairs to endure another winter — a huge amount for a small, struggling church. With tears in his eyes, Nicholi Deryabkin, Saratov One and Petrovsk churches pastor, accepted a voucher from the Volga Conference for \$3,500.

On Sabbath May 26, 2018, just 25 years after the 1993 meetings, the Saratov Two Church held a large celebration commemorating their origin and the work the Lord has done since.

The celebration included greetings from most of the former church pastors — including a video greeting from one who lives in Portland, Oregon. Additional video greetings came from the entire team of the 1993 meetings: Beerman, Stutz and Lois Dietrich Grifone, widow of Dean Dietrich. John Freedman, NPUC president, also sent his greetings to the Russian members.

God continues to use the fruits of Operation Bearhug

to change lives. During the 2018 in-home meetings, Yura Seryy — a young man who had wandered away from the Adventist Church — decided to bring his wife, Luba, who was not a believer, to the meetings.

They attended each meeting faithfully and chose to start Bible studies with Sasha Kuznetsov, Saratov Two Church pastor. On July 15, just weeks after the team left Russia, Yura and Luba were baptized in a sunrise ceremony on the Volga River.

Reflecting on her experience, Luba shares, "I don't have words to express how grateful I am to God for that day I first entered the Saratov Church in May. This played a very important role in my life. When my husband brought me to the church the Holy Spirit spoke to me, and I accepted Jesus. I am very grateful and send my hugs back to all of you."

Today, there are more than 950 Adventist members in more than 10 churches within the Saratov region of the Volga Conference — many of these are a direct result of Operation Bearhug and the empowerment of the Russian people to be missionaries in their own communities.

It is clear the fruits of the labor of Northwest Adventists, through Operation Bearhug, are still visible today.



Russian members gather in homes for revival during the return 2018 trip.

The team's initial goal was to host a 1993-style revival series within Saratov and the neighboring cities. However, restrictions on public evangelism have increased tensions throughout Russia. Recently,





A BIBLE TRANSFORMS A FAMILY

Leading up to the 1993 evangelistic meetings in Saratov, the NPUC group advertised that free Bibles would be given to those who attended each night.

Bibles were still extremely hard to come by in Russia, and the advertisements caught the eye of another Luba — Luba Volkov.

“My mother really wanted to know the Bible,” explains Tanya Prisyazhnyuk, Luba’s daughter. “She desperately wanted a Bible of her own.”

So when they saw the large posters throughout the city promoting the meetings, they were excited and made plans to go.

“My mother said, ‘If we go to the meetings every night, then we can get a Bible.’ So that’s what we did,” Tanya says. “And then she invited all of her friends, so they could get Bibles too.”

At the conclusion of the meetings several weeks later, many were baptized, but Luba and Tanya weren’t sure yet if they were ready to make the same decision. The two wanted to dive in deeper and chose to do Bible studies with the church pastor. After nearly a year of studying, both mother and daughter were baptized in March 1994.

But this was just the beginning of their family’s story.

Through the years, Luba faithfully prayed that her husband, Anatoliy, a devout Orthodox, and her son Alexey, who had been miraculously released from prison, would also

come to have a relationship with Jesus. Alexey continued to make troubling decisions, which led to run-ins with the law. But Luba and Tanya continued to pray that God would work a miracle in their loved ones’ lives.



Because of a free Bible through Operation Bearhug, the entire Volkov family is now actively involved in the church.

Over time, Anatoliy grew interested in knowing more about their faith. He started reading books that Luba had brought home from church and soon indicated that he wanted to attend church with the family.

Within two years, Anatoliy gave his life to Jesus. Not long after, Alexey felt the Lord calling him to give up his old life and become baptized.

Today, both Alexey and Tanya continue to be active leaders in their church and will never forget the impact the free Bible had on their family.

“Thanks to the Operation Bearhug meetings and the support of Northwest members, we are here,” says Alexey. “You brought our mother into the church, and through her we are all a part of the church.”

A LASTING LEGACY

At the start of Operation Bearhug in 1991, there were fewer than 8,700 members in all of Russia, in only 139 churches. Northwest “bearhuggers,” seizing a divine opportunity to reach the Russian people, dedicated countless hours of their time and invested more than \$2 million for training seminars, evangelistic campaigns, health education, Bibles, Sabbath school supplies and church buildings.

As a result of Operation Bearhug, 6,332 were baptized by 1995 — nearly doubling the membership throughout all of Russia.

This was all because someone in the NPUC wrote a check, planned an itinerary, got on a plane, preached a sermon, used outdoor plumbing, went hungry and interceded in prayer. During the extended time of the Bearhug projects, more than 700 Northwest members went on an evangelistic effort to Russia.

And today, there are now more than 35,700 members in 514 churches.

“It was exciting to see how the church had grown over the years,” Weigley says, reflecting on his visit. “It was great to see the people who are still so faithful, even 27 years later.”

God used Operation Bearhug to reach a community of people who were grasping for hope in the midst of persecution, and the impact of this

initiative continues to permeate the lives of thousands of people today.

Duane McKey, then NPUC church ministries and Operation Bearhug coordinator, summed up the impact of the initiative perfectly in a 1994 *Gleaner* article. “As we have touched lives in Russia, our own lives have been touched too — our lives have been changed forever,” he said.



The Engles Church is a result of the growth and empowerment of the Russian people through Operation Bearhug.

So how then can we draw inspiration from this global initiative and identify the needs of those in our own backyards or in a country that is grappling with the very same issues? Take a look around you and ask yourself: Is there someone within your reach who you can extend a bearhug of God’s grace, love and mercy to today?

Anthony and Carrie White accompanied the team’s recent return to Russia and provided this report.

'I DIDN'T WANT TO GO'

While growing up during the height of the Cold War, I came to view Russia and Russians as the enemy.

When the Iron Curtain finally fell in 1991, I was serving as a pastor in the Washington Conference. The following year, a delegation of Russian Adventists came to the Northwest, and I was asked to host them at my church. Furthermore, the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) had launched Operation Bearhug, and I had been invited to lead a six-week campaign.

I was skeptical. Go to Russia? Minister to those people I had grown to detest? I felt like Jonah being called to Nineveh!

My first reaction was to say

no. Yet with some reticence, in April 1993 I took a team of eight to Saratov, Russia, 500 miles southeast of Moscow on the Volga River. Despite assurance we would have professional translators, I was given a young translator, Svetlana "Sveta" Gavelo, who had no experience and was herself a new Adventist. My angst grew.

During the 1993 Operation Bearhug meetings, Sveta Gavelo was the translator for Phil White.





SVETA'S STORY

Sveta grew up in an atheistic Communist home. Her mother, Valentina, was active in the Communist party. As a teenager, Sveta was a member of Komsomol, the Communist youth organization designed to proliferate Soviet propaganda. While attending the local university Sveta even became a Komsomol leader.

"I believed in communism and was convinced it was the way to go," Sveta said. "In my mind, it was the answer to the world's problems and was going to change the world."

In the late 1980s, while attending university, she met a fellow student, Volodya Gavelo, who was an Adventist member of the little church in Saratov that had for many years held its meetings in secret. Volodya and Jesus began to work on Sveta. Though she was not a Christian, they married in early 1990. Occasionally she would attend church with Volodya but was skeptical of Chris-

tianity.

That November, Sveta gave premature birth to their first child, Anna. A few months later, Anna was hospitalized with a serious intestinal infection. The doctors told Sveta that Anna's condition was serious and that survival was doubtful. Sveta walked home from the hospital and had a heart-to-heart talk with a God she didn't know and wasn't sure existed.

As she arrived home, a strange peace came over her. She felt assured everything would be fine. When she returned to the hospital, the doctors told her while they couldn't explain it medically, Anna was well.

That day God healed Anna physically and Sveta spiritually. She decided to take Bible studies, and on September 5, 1992, Sveta was baptized into the Adventist family. Seven months later she became my translator.

While she had studied English and could speak it, she was concerned about her ability to translate. She told me that some words she didn't know. But later, when she would check the dictionary, she found that she had translated accurately. God was speaking through her. In the years since, God has used Sveta to translate for numerous other evangelistic meetings in Russia and Ukraine. In her work as an English teacher, God has used her to communicate the good news of Jesus to countless students.

SO MANY OTHERS

Sveta was one of many. There's Dima Koganov, who lost everything due to a gambling addiction but, because of his mother's entreaties, attended and was baptized at the Operation Bearhug meetings.

Several months later he became a literature evangelist actively involved in organizing other evangelistic meetings in the region. Dima now makes his living as a plumber and is widely known for his integrity and quality work. He is an active soul-winner and serves as a Sabbath School teacher.

Taking our cue from Hebrews 11, we could modify verses 32 and following just a bit: "And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Valentina who gave her life to Christ through Operation Bearhug and is now a literature evangelist, leading others to Jesus. Or what about Tanya who was demon-possessed but was freed from the chains of sin and now too is a literature evangelist in Saratov? Or what about Natasha and Raisa, Sergey and Olga, Sasha and Katya?" And what about you?

The justifying, sanctifying power of Jesus changed the lives of many people through Operation Bearhug. But perhaps the biggest life change happened to me. It stripped away the prejudice and

bitterness I had for the Russian people and has become the most defining experience in my entire ministry.

What if NPUC leaders had said no to the possibility and opportunity of Operation Bearhug? What if Northwest Adventists hadn't invested in

Go to Russia? I felt like Jonah being called to Nineveh!

Operation Bearhug? What if my personal prejudice would have won and I had said no to Operation Bearhug? I asked these questions of Tanya Prisyazhnyuk, one of my recent Russian translators, who at the age of 14 was an Operation Bearhug convert along with her mother and eventually her entire family.

"It's scary even to think what my life could have been without God," Tanya said. "I'm very thankful! I'm happy God brought Operation Bearhug to Russia and we found out about Jesus and His love."

Our willing hearts, placed within the power of His Spirit, can help make eternal connections. Who is Jesus calling you to hug for Him?

Phil White, currently senior pastor of Simi Valley Church in California

ENTRENAMIENTO DEL DISCIPULADO EN ALASKA

El Campamento Pionero, en Palmer, Alaska, proporcionó el fondo perfecto para la más reciente sesión de entrenamiento para el discipulado de la Iglesia Hispánica de Anchorage. En contraste a campamentos previos, el clima de Alaska se prestó casi perfecto el sábado 21 de julio. A pesar de las barreras del idioma y la falta de traducción al español en la programación regular para la reunión del campamento, la mayoría de la iglesia hispana ha asistido fielmente a las reuniones anuales, y testifican que las reuniones son de gran bendición.

Este año, en particular, los miembros de la iglesia tuvieron motivo especial para regocijarse de las reuniones. Entre la asistencia del grupo había una pareja de habla hispana que trabaja por el Señor en las comunidades rurales de Alaska. José y Edna Estrella, misioneros en Selawik, Alaska, con mucho gusto consintieron dar la lección de la escuela sabática en español. Los miembros se sintieron felices de poder estudiar su lección en su propio idioma y no tener que descifrar lo que se estaba diciendo en inglés.

Meses antes del campamento, los miembros de la iglesia participaron de una serie de sesiones del discipulado dedicadas a equiparles con

recursos para efectivamente ganar más almas para el reino de Dios. Se reconoció la necesidad de comprender los principios claves de la fe adventista. Se concluyó que, sin esta fundación, los esfuerzos de comunicar el evangelio a nuestra comunidad se verían seriamente obstaculizados. De luego, los pastores y ancianos han tenido discusiones vibrantes sobre temas como las doctrinas fundamentales del adventismo, la profecía y la comunicación evangelística.

La última sesión del



Edna y José Estrella, misioneros en Selawik, Alaska.

campamento 2018 se centró apropiadamente en el comienzo del movimiento del advenimiento. La discusión se centró en el décimo capítulo de Apocalipsis y lo que esto significa para la misión de la iglesia en nuestras circunstancias actuales. El escenario de la reunión del campamento también



Miembros de la iglesia de Anchorage en el campamento 2018.

proporcionó un contexto ideal. Esperamos que estas sesiones de estudio y entrenamiento resulten en alistar más ganadores de almas en el ejército de Dios en Alaska, especialmente porque el número de hispanos en el estado ha crecido gradualmente

cada año. ¡Como siempre, la colaboración y las oraciones de los lectores a través del noroeste son siempre agradecidas!

Pastor Don West, coordinador de la obra hispana en Alaska



Latest Gleaner newsletter free to your email inbox each week. Sign up at gleanerweekly.com

YOUTH LEAD SABBATH AT EAGLE RIVER CHURCH

Youth led worship their way on May 5 at the Eagle River Church. Every aspect of the Sabbath was directed by a young person, and they eagerly embraced the task of taking charge of each role within the liturgy.

The idea behind the special Sabbath was spearheaded by Carl Butler Jr., Eagle River Church pastor, and readily executed with the assistance of the youth leader and elders.

The most important goal of the event was to show young people they had the ability to take a more active role in worship than to simply be benchwarmers each Sabbath. Butler recognized the church accomplishes nothing when members say they need to get young people involved but only do this through simple activities and games that probably won't challenge them spiritually.

Seeing ahead of time the clear goal of such a blessed Sabbath, Butler enlisted the aid of several youth speakers. Each Sabbath, he challenged youth participants to preach a



Tobin Dodge (left), Alaska Conference youth ministries director, plays guitar while youth lead the Eagle River congregation in singing.

three- to five-minute sermon prior to his morning message. As each Sabbath passed, cycling through one young person each service, they were strengthened and encouraged to not only take a small portion of the worship, but to lead out in the youth-themed Sabbath.

Carl Butler Jr., Eagle River and Wasilla churches pastor

Healed Enough

SUSAN AGLUKARK - LIVE

Inuk Singer/Songwriter

October 14, 2018

Wendy Williams Auditorium

To purchase tickets & support Alaska missions, visit www.arcticmissionadventure.org



Sponsored by



in partnership with



DO YOU KNOW there is a mission field within the North Pacific Union Conference?

Arctic Mission Adventure is a ministry of the Alaska Conference designed to reach the native people of Alaska. YOU can be a part of this 100% donor-funded ministry. To learn more, visit our NEW website—www.arcticmissionadventure.org—or find us on Facebook at @ArcticMissionAdventure!



More photos online at glnr.in/113-07-id_bvas

PROJECT IMPACT EXPANDS AT BOISE VALLEY ADVENTIST SCHOOL

For several years, Project Impact has been synonymous with Idaho's Boise Valley Adventist School (BVAS). It is comprised of two words — *project*, a collaborative effort to achieve a goal, and *impact*, having a strong effect on someone. Project Impact is an activity started as a way to serve people and organizations right in the community and is an excellent opportunity to honor what God has called His people to do in the Great Commission of Matt. 28:16–20.

Students of BVAS revere Project Impact as one of the greatest memories and experiences of the school year. In addition, volunteers that are enlisted to chaperone note that Project Impact not only benefits the local community but impacts the students as they witness the fruits of their actions and the joy they bring to so many.

This year BVAS increased its outreach efforts following the request of students. More service activities were incorporated and spread throughout the year in an effort to impact the community year-round, in

addition to the weeklong event that is already scheduled in the spring.

The staff were faced with difficulty to find service activities that suited all age groups (pre-K through eighth grade), as some organizations had age or skill limits that exclude younger students. Therefore, monthly activities were planned that could be implemented on campus for all age groups during an all-school assembly and then distributed to the community.

Activities this year included making dog treats for the

BVAS students make baked goods at the Rescue Mission.



Boise Valley Adventist School students tie blankets for local shelters.

animal shelter, making bookmarks for the local library, supporting military troops, tying fleece blankets for local shelters and providing water bottles for a local fun run. However, Project Impact didn't stop there. When the school was asked to help a local church family, food baskets were assembled, gifts were purchased and money was collected for the family in need. To go one step further, the students were challenged to think outside themselves during the spring week of prayer and raised money to provide stuffed animals for sick children at the local hospital.

The staff of BVAS didn't realize the influence Project Impact was having on their own student body until com-

ments were heard from the students such as:

- » "Helping others feels good, and people are thankful for the things you give them."
- » "I feel like a good person when I help others, and we are being more like Jesus."
- » "It is important to help others because it spreads love and appreciation to those around us."

This has reinforced to the staff of BVAS the importance of scheduling outreach activities, continuing the program and letting their light shine before others, so they may see good works and give glory to God.

Melanie Lawson, Boise Valley Adventist School head teacher

ROUNDUP CHURCH SPREADS MISSION THROUGHOUT COMMUNITY

More online at glnr.in/113-07-mt_roundup 

Spring and summer months brought a flurry of active ministry opportunities to the Roundup Church.

On May 24, the church sponsored a Better Vision Better Hope free mobile vision clinic spearheaded by Kay Dickerson and Deanna Harris. The Better Vision Better Hope foundation provided free clinical services while the Roundup Church added 12 more volunteer church members. It was a joy to help people “see”

On May 24, the church sponsored a Better Vision Better Hope free mobile vision clinic.



their way to better sight and, in turn, a joy to the patients to receive expert eye care for no cost.

During June, 14 church volunteers took a small step in making Montana even more beautiful by cleaning a small portion of God’s creation on the road south of town. They eliminated many trash bags of refuse, including bottles, cans, papers and even the skeletal remains of a long-dead animal. A road sign announcing the church’s participation in the Adopt a Highway program is seen by anyone traveling to or from Roundup on the way to Billings or Lewistown. Just think of the people your church may be able to impact by volunteering just a few hours each year.

At the height of the summer’s activities, the church entered a float in the Roundup



Fourteen Roundup Church volunteers helped make Roundup even more beautiful.

Independence Day Extravaganza parade. The 2018 parade theme was “Roundup — Miracle on the Musselshell” (a nearby river). So, with a little creative license, members decided their theme was “God’s Miracle on the Musselshell” to highlight their Christian radio station, KQLJ, which broadcasts at 105.5 FM. This station features 3ABN (Three Angels Broadcasting Network) programming, as well as emergency broadcasts for the local area.

Thanks to modern technology, they also stream the show on the radio’s Facebook Live page.

The Roundup Church hopes these efforts toward practical community connections will bring more and more people into contact with our wonderful God and His love for them.

Norma Trent, Roundup Church member

FIRST PROJECT COMPLETED AT MEA WITH MATCHING GRANT

On April 20, the Adventist Education Foundation (AEF) board voted to pledge up to \$100,000 for maintenance projects and campus improvements at Mount Ellis Academy (MEA) in Bozeman if the academy raised matching funds up to \$100,000 by May 1, 2019.

The first project under

this matching grant has been completed, with Academy Drive being repaired, sealed and striped on July 1 under the direction of Brent Tunesvik, MEA maintenance director.

AEF was set up in 2008 when Larry Shideler (MEA class of 1962) and his wife, Sharon, sold their business and set up the foundation to benefit

MEA for campus improvements, improved safety, campus upkeep and maintenance.

If you’re interested in participating in the grant program or want more information, contact Brian Schaffner, MEA director of development, at 406-587-5178, ext. 105.



MOUNT ELLIS ACADEMY

WHAT CAMP MEETING IS ALL ABOUT

CAMP MEETING. IT WAS NEVER REALLY ABOUT CAMPING.

Through the years, thousands of God's children have *Come to Meeting* with pup-tents, family tents, funny little bicycle tents, trailers, campers, motor homes and even an occasional sleeping bag rolled out on an ancient army blanket.



Dan Jackson, North American Division president, spoke with power, passion and humility each evening in the Plaza Pavilion.

a thousand customers. Riding in a golf cart with LeRoy. Buying books at the ABC. Finding the love of your life.

There's a rumor going around that the first time our pastor and his wife held hands was after the evening program in the youth tent at camp meeting!

Camp meeting. No, it has never really been about camping.

Although, because we were camping, we got to eat "camp food" for a whole week. You know, haystacks on top of haystacks. What a wild way to get kids to eat salads — just pile the green onto Fritos!

Luckily we have Michelin-quality culinary experts in our cafeteria. Awesome food at affordable

prices. Wonder if they've ever thought of starting a chain of vegetarian restaurants . . .

Then there are Mom's baked beans, Gram's potato salad and many family potlucks under the trees.

Let's go back to the haystacks for a minute. Did you know there's a right way — and a hundred wrong ways — to make the stack?

Camp meeting is Tillamook ice cream in the morning, Mexican sweet corn at noon, flavored ice a couple times during the heat of the day and handmade veggieburgers for dinner.

And mountain huckleberry ice cream — with Pronto Pups — after the meeting.

All this incredible cuisine is made possible by an army of volunteer cooks, bakers,



stirrers, dippers, slingers, stabbers, money-takers and table-cleaners.

Camp meeting. It was never really about eating.

Hearing the words . . . *camp meeting* . . . fills my mind with memories of long lines for the showers, steamy hot afternoons, stinky mosquito repellent and nights with a squillion blinking stars.

It takes work, lots of work, by an army of more than 400 volunteers, investing their skills — and time — to pull camp meeting together for us.

Security officers, leaders for the kids' departments, nurses in the clinic, cooks in the cafeteria, shelf-stockers in the ABC, audio and video and

You never know where you'll find friends at camp meeting.



Friends are made and reconnected with at camp meeting.

But it's never really been about camping.

This is where many of us make our finest lifelong friends.

Where we eat Pronto Pups and laugh with new friends.

It's where primary and junior campers watch the Bird Man, or the Reptile Man, or wait for the Mad Scientist to blow up the tent.

It's about playing Rook in the RV. Dipping ice cream for



More photos online at
glnr.in/113-07-or_campmeeting

Rapt attention is always given to the Reptile Man.

lighting people in every tent around the grounds. Why, there must be a volunteer for everything except making sure I remember to get up in time for the morning meetings.

You know what gets me up in the morning? The singing!

Maybe camp meeting is really about the singing. Jaime Jorge brought his violin last year.

a vocalist who could win any night on *America's Got Talent*.

One evening the juniors sang about 400 verses of "We Are One in the Spirit," just so they could keep holding hands

Remember the year the power went out and no one could remember the third verse of "Redeemed"?

Camp meeting. It was never really about camping.

Maybe camp meeting's about preaching.

I sure have heard some awesome sermons. One pastor talked about how Grandma will one day water ski on the Sea of Glass. Another made the Second Coming so real I could feel my feet rising.

Dan Jackson reminded me of why I am an Adventist.

José Rojas made me smile, cry, laugh and dedicate my life to God. And that was just in his first sermon.

Don Schneider's stories of faith made me cry — tears of love for the God who cares about ME!

Dad Linrud made me proud to be in the Oregon Conference.

Camp meeting includes



The 5K Fun Run/Walk started with a bang and ended with breakfast and showers for most of the participants.

a variety of preaching: Bible stories for the kids and expository sermons for the aged. Sometimes, Bible stories for the adults too. Or, dramas of Martin Luther!

For many of us, camp meeting is where we hear grace so clearly that we ask God to forgive — and write our names in His book.

No, camp meeting isn't really about camping, or eating, or singing, or even holding hands.

Camp meeting is all about Jesus.

Making friends with Him.

Learning to know Him

better.

Discovering new ways of serving Him.

And better ways of sharing His love with others.

Camp meeting. It's all about loving being loved ... by God.

Watch this year's camp meeting wrap-up video on Vimeo at vimeo.com/282346895.

Dick Duerksen, Oregon Conference storycatcher and storyteller



The earlitesens learned about peace.

Another year I heard Del Delker sing with the King's Heralds. The Heritage Singers another year. And, once again, the Oregon Men's Chorus was a hit.

This year's music included Pastor Randy with his guitar. Pastor Wilson with his harmonica. The Big Lake Camp staff on the platform in "The Big Tent," a school choir and

MILO LAUNCHES FARM STAND

There is a new landmark on the Milo Academy campus in Days Creek. When you cross the school's iconic covered bridge, you will see the new Milo Market farm stand sitting in the corner of the market gardens and orchard.

Summer 2018 marks the third growing season of the new Milo agriculture program. The last three years have been filled with building infrastructure — clearing blackberries, building a deer fence, renovating greenhouses and installing drip irrigation. Last summer, Milo began marketing produce at the Canyonville Farmers' Market.

This year, the program has been building the Milo Market farm stand. The stand is a 200-square-foot old-fashioned “store front” style shop with a cool room to keep the produce fresh and a dry goods area. The

vision is that various programs on campus have the opportunity to share the space to sell items created by students in their department, which will benefit the respective departments. Staff also hope the availability of fresh, naturally grown produce will meet some needs of the local community, as it is a long drive for quality food. The stand will open as soon as trenches are complete for power and water lines.

This fall and winter the agriculture team would like to complete a new strawberry project and add some caterpillar tunnels in the gardens for season extension. If you would like to know more about this exciting program or be a part of it, contact the Milo farm manager, Jeff Birth, at jeff.birth@miloacademy.org.

Jeff Birth, Milo Adventist Academy agriculture director



The Sandy Church entered a mission float in the Sandy Mountain Parade.

SANDY CHURCH JOINS THE SANDY MOUNTAIN PARADE, FESTIVAL

The Sandy Church continued its tradition of participating in the Sandy Mountain Parade by entering the parade on July 12 with a float portraying the church's mission project to help the people of Haiti by constructing homes for families displaced by a massive earthquake in 2010 and Hurricane Matthew in 2016. The float constructed on a flatbed trailer showed church members building with cement blocks to replace a homemade lean-to. The members look forward each year to being a part of this parade that is an important part of their community.

The church family also provided a booth at the Sandy Mountain Festival, July 14 and 15. The church's “Pee Wee Pit Stop” provides a rocking chair for nursing moms and two stations for parents to comfortably change a child's

diapers, with all supplies provided for them.

Sandy Church is continually looking for ways they can engage with their community to share Jesus' love. The busy summer of 2018 also included Vacation Bible School Aug. 6–10 for children of all ages. Members are also planning a free dental clinic at the church on Oct. 28, in partnership with Caring Hands Worldwide.

In addition, Sandy Church members host quarterly Northwest Veg potlucks and presentations that bring people from their community to their church. They are looking forward to other opportunities the Lord brings their way to engage with their community and ultimately showing them Jesus' love.

Tami Beaty, Sandy Church communication leader

BIG LAKE OPENS PCT WELCOME CENTER

It began with a simple request: “Could I have a drink of water?”

That progressed to, “Is there a chance I can wash my clothes here?” ... “Any chance for a shower?” ... “May I get a real camp meal here?” ... and, “Any coffee?”

The “askers” spoke many different languages, were dressed like vagabonds and carried backpacks sized for sasquatch. The one thing they all had in common was that they were hiking the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT). Some had begun hiking in Mexico, others had started in Canada, and some were doing the 2,659-mile trail in segments.

For all of the hikers, Big Lake Youth Camp in Sisters had become a safe haven for

PCT hikers. Realizing the needs, Big Lake rangers began offering water, laundry, meals, clean toilets, showers, a mail drop and coffee.

The news spread, and soon hundreds of PCT hikers were including Big Lake Youth Camp in their hiking itinerary. FedEx, UPS and even the postal service added Big Lake on their list for drop-offs and pick-ups, regularly bringing mountains of resupply packages the hikers had forwarded to Big Lake.

“We charged something for showers, more for meals and a little for laundry,” says Les Zollbrecht, Big Lake director. “But it was a lot of trouble to collect. So we made everything free but left out donation boxes. Our income skyrocketed!”

Then Bob Johnson turned onto the road to Big Lake, exhausted, hiking with a friend who was beyond thirsty. Their expected water sources had dried up, and they had run out of drinking water. Big Lake Youth Camp was their next best hope.

Ross Von Pohle, now camp ranger, saw Johnson and his companion, invited them into his truck and carried them to camp. Water, food, showers, clean toilets and the packages they had forwarded to Big Lake awaited them.

“It was like arriving in heaven,” Johnson remembers.

That visit turned into something special. With Johnson’s generous donation, Big Lake began constructing a new building specially designed for PCT hikers

to rest and rejuvenate. The building includes a welcome room, internet service, battery charging, kitchen, laundry, showers and toilets. It’s a place to dry clothes, pick up packages and send letters home — and drink all the cool, fresh water hikers need.

Monday, June 18, at 11 a.m., the new Pacific Crest Trail Welcome Center was dedicated with free kettle corn and speeches from PCT Association members, hikers, U.S. Forest Service rangers, Chamber of Commerce leaders, and representatives from several of the 28-plus financial sponsors who have made the building a reality, including sponsor Dutch Bros. Coffee.

“Our first two hikers arrived right after the ceremony, Paul and Million, from Florida and Germany,” says Vineta, the camp staff member who is also the PCT Welcome Center concierge. “There will be hundreds more before the first snow.”

“This is ministry,” says Dan Linrud, Oregon Conference president, “trail evangelism done well.”

Dick Duerksen, Oregon Conference storyteller and storyteller

The Pacific Crest Trail Welcome Center was specially designed for PCT hikers to rest and rejuvenate.



UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE WELCOMES NEW PRESIDENT

M

inner
Labrador
Jr. joined
the Upper
Columbia

Conference (UCC) team as president in June 2018. His road to the Northwest began years ago in New Jersey.

“Soon after I was married, I had a trucking company based in New Jersey,” says Labrador. “That was where the Lord called me to ministry.”

His path to ministry led him from the Eastern Seaboard to Tennessee, where he graduated from Southern University in Collegedale, Tenn. From Tennessee the young couple and their newborn son went to Andrews University in Michigan. Labrador has pastored in Florida and North Carolina and served the Adventist Church in North America working in men’s ministries and most recently at the regional level working as a vice president for ministries and ministerial director in Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico and Texas.

“I believe God prepares each one of us for different chapters, different places, different seasons in our lives,” says

Labrador. “I believe He has brought Evelyn and me to this place in time not because we’re fully equipped but because He’s able to equip us. The experiences God has blessed me with through my ministry

have created in me a desire to see that ministry replicated. The joy that comes when one person comes to the Lord is absolutely indescribable.”

“I believe that God has prepared me for this season to

encourage UCC members to reach out to every individual as though they were the only one that Christ is pursuing,” he continues. “We all matter to God and when we touch the life of another person, we glorify His name.”

Labrador believes Christ has called each member to participate in sharing God’s love with others. Recently, he shared his vision for ministry with the UCC executive committee. He began by telling a story.

“I was at Andrews University preparing for a class. My oldest son was about 5 years old. He was riding his bike outside our apartment. Time went by and when I looked out the window, I couldn’t see my son. He was gone. As you might imagine, I immediately panicked.

“I called for help. Campus security came out and neighbors came out and everyone was looking for him for several hours. I eventually did find him, but those few hours that he was missing were most difficult.

“If someone had said to me, ‘Labrador don’t worry about it. You still have your

Minner Labrador Jr., Upper Columbia Conference president, shares his vision for ministry.



"We want to invite people to come into the family of God, and we also want to retain our current members."

younger son, you don't need two,' I would have had a difficult time accepting that statement."

God used that incident to plant a deep longing in Labrador's heart for lost people. Here in the Inland Northwest we're faced with a challenge within the church. Statistics from 2017 research tell us that only four out of 10 members attend church. That means 60 percent of our members are missing from the church. Where are they? Why are they missing?

"My vision for Upper Columbia Conference is two-fold," says Labrador, "First, we need to bring back those we've lost. If we've hurt them, if we've discouraged them, if we haven't met their needs or if we've dishonored the name of the Lord through some action, we need to apologize and welcome them back. I believe Christ is coming soon, and I don't want anyone to be lost. Four don't replace six. Each one needs to be home."

The second part of the Labrador's vision for the

conference is to reach those not part of a church family. The goal is to plant seeds and invite lost people to healthy congregations and announce to the world that Jesus is coming soon.

"We want to win more souls for Christ," says Labrador. "We want to invite people to come into the family of God, and we also want to retain our current members. In order to do that, we have to be ready to receive them. We have to love people, provide ministries that meet their needs and find ways

to assimilate them into our church family."

"I long to see a vibrant, mission-focused church family here in Upper Columbia Conference," says Labrador. "Evelyn and I are so thankful and blessed to be part of the church family here in the Inland Northwest. It's our prayer that each of us will let Jesus use us fully for His kingdom."

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

Beautiful

"He has made everything beautiful in its time."

**Women's and
Young Women's Retreat**

October 26-28, 2018
Camp MiVoden



Upper Columbia Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists | WOMEN'S MINISTRIES



ISTOCK.COM/MONKEYBUSINESSIMAGES

SPOKANE CENTRAL HOSTS SUMMER CAMPS AT DISCOVERY JUNCTION

Neighborhood children around the Spokane (Wash.) Central Church were offered a choice this summer to skip watching TV and playing video games and instead do some fun STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) activities at the little house called Discovery Junction, located between the church and the fellowship hall. They could sign up for one week each of camp: Lego Robotics, Microscopy4Kids, Mini Maker Mania and Junior Chef Training, all held from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Monday through Friday.

A former librarian with Lego robotics experience, Chris Koppel, taught the children to make “Tracker,” “Reptar” and other fun robots. Gayle Haeger, Upper Columbia Conference urban ministries coordinator and biology teacher, taught kids a week of microscopic fun looking at tiny

Kids discover new worlds under the microscope.



Campers try out a Lego robot called “Reptar” at Discovery Junction.

things such as living critters in water; animal hairs from themselves, deer and skunk; and flower parts.

Charmaine Vierra, outreach coordinator, led out in Mini Maker Mania, which included making “slime,” bird feeders, origami and frozen fruit pops, as well as the Junior Chef Training — culinary arts for kids — based on Charmaine’s Eat More Rainbows program.

Four of the children participating were refugees from Nepal whose families were first contacted through God’s Closet, another ministry of the Spokane Central Church. Members never know the results of sharing with these children, but many people’s first contact with Jesus was through a Vacation Bible School or some other ministry for children. Pray this outreach continues to bring Jesus into the Spokane community.

Gayle Haeger, Upper Columbia Conference urban ministries coordinator



UCA BEGINS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Upper Columbia Academy (UCA) in Spangle, Wash., will be adding a required internship for all juniors beginning with the 2018–2019 school year. Students will be released from regular schoolwork to get a taste of their future occupation for two weeks in March. They will be able to choose to either stay on campus and do their internship locally in Spokane or return to their hometown for their internship experience.

During these two weeks, their only focus will be on their “job.” Once the internship has been completed, the students will build a portfolio of their experience.

“UCA’s internship program provides an avenue for students to take a step into the adult world and experience their career choice in the safety of the high school environment,” says science teacher Judy Castrejon. “This opportunity then opens their eyes

to the possibilities available to them and provides direction to their future decisions.”

Students are excited about this new experience. Luke Mirasol, a junior student from Boring, Ore., says, “I’m looking forward to the internship because it will give me an opportunity to get a closer look and exposure to careers I’ve been interested in as well as give me some experience.”

“We feel this internship is a vital component of our transition to a project-based learning model of education,” says Eric Johnson, UCA principal.

For more information, contact UCA at info@uca.org.

Shelley Bacon, Upper Columbia Academy recruiting and communication director

SUNSET LAKE IS A SUMMER HIGHLIGHT FOR BLIND CAMPERS



KATIE HENDERSON

What if camp was the only place you could really reconnect with your friends? What if you made lifelong friends with your fellow campers during that one week of camp? This is what it's like for 13 campers during a special week of blind camp at Sunset Lake Camp in Wilkeson.

A week of camp is one of the highlights of Alan Bridgeford's summer. The Bothell native has been blind since he was very young, but that doesn't stop him from

participating in some of his favorite activities with his friends, such as zip lining and playing the accordion during the talent show.

"My favorite things to do at camp are zip lining, horses and banana boating," says Bridgeford, who sat excitedly on the bench after coming down the zip line. "I also love coming back to camp because I get to reconnect with my friends every year."

"This is the only place they (Michael, Alan and Andy) can have time together," says Carrie Bridgeford, chaperone

Being blind doesn't stop Alan Bridgeford from having a blast down the zip line at camp.

and mother to Alan. "They get to form relationships and grow in their friendships."

Caleb, blind camp volunteer counselor, has been a counselor at Sunset Lake

blind camper named Tanner, who wanted to sleep outside because it was too hot inside. With permission, Caleb and Tanner have continued their tradition of sleeping outside

every year at blind camp.

"I also remember in the past years, I had one camper named Devin, who struggled with loud noises and going up to the top of the zip line," says Caleb as he watches the blind campers zip



KATIE HENDERSON

Tanner enjoys his time down the zip line at camp.

Camp for a few years. This year he returned as a volunteer counselor for blind camp.

"It's cool to see everyone become friends over the years," says Caleb. "I was nervous when I started a few years ago, but they become your friends so easily, and I was able to relax and have fun. It's a chance to interact and see the importance of different perspectives."

During his first year as a counselor, Caleb remembers a

down the zip line in excitement. "He was able to do it this year!"

At camp, these campers get to do just about everything, from boating to horseback riding and zip lining. Going to Sunset Lake Camp is a highlight of their summer.

Katie Henderson, Washington Conference communication intern



Latest Gleaner newsletter free to your email inbox each week. Sign up at gleanerweekly.com



More online at
glnr.in/113-07-wa_samoan

THREE SAMOAN CHURCHES HOST YOUTH REVIVAL

Tacoma Samoa-Tokelau, Tacoma Southside (Tacoma) and Des Moines Samoan church members gathered together for a two-week Youth Revival series in May under the direction and leadership of Fred Toailoa, Tacoma Samoa-Tokelau Church pastor.

The series, entitled “The Time Is Now,” was organized by the youth department under the leadership of Tafao Siaoosi, Tacoma Samoa-Tokelau Church member, and focused specifically on youth and young adults to draw them closer to God for spiritual growth, to begin or enhance their personal relationship with God, and to proclaim the Word.

“We face many challenges daily by the outside world, be it health, financial situation, relationships or otherwise,” says Mustard Sinapi Pa’o, pastor

of the Samoa-Tokelau Church in Honolulu, Hawaii. “It is time to stay on God’s path of faith, hope and love.”

Each night, Pa’o blessed the congregation with powerful messages and Scripture that were collectively illuminating. On the final Sabbath, 25 youth and young adults gave their lives to the Lord and accepted the call for baptism.

“It is always a joy to see young people give their lives to the Lord at a young age when they have so much to give,” says Toailoa.

Pa’o encouraged the young people to commit their lives and serve Jesus Christ. Let’s continue to invite Him in today, commune with Him every day for all eternity and pray for all our young people.

Marie Koreti Toilolo, Tacoma Samoa-Tokelau Church member

Twenty-five youth and young adults accept the call for baptism during the Tacoma Samoa-Tokelau Youth Revival.



Western Washington pastors and Washington Conference leaders surround Ryan Rogers and his wife, Alyssa, in prayer during his ordination.

POULSBO PASTOR ORDAINED

Family, friends, western Washington pastors and Washington Conference leaders filled the pews of the Poulsbo Church to support and celebrate the ordination of Ryan Rogers, Poulsbo Church pastor, on June 3.

Rogers was blessed to grow up in a Christian home in Kelso. He attended Southern Adventist University (SAU) in Collegedale, Tenn., where he

was a youth pastor at Standifer Gap Church in Chattanooga, Tenn. They welcomed two more daughters, Mabel and Evra, while Rogers pastored the Wood River Valley and Salmon churches in Idaho Conference.

The family moved in August 2015 to Vader where Rogers worked as a counselor doing functional family therapy throughout southwestern Washington.

When Rogers received a call to interview for a pastor position in Washington Conference, he and Alyssa had just put a payment down on a property in Idaho. “It was like God was telling me, ‘I have a flock that needs a shepherd, go and be a shepherd to them,’” says Rogers.

Rogers and his family accepted the call to Washington Conference, and he began working as a pastor for the Belfair and Poulsbo churches in July 2016.

Katie Henderson, Washington Conference communication intern



Ryan Rogers interacts with his church members after his ordination.

earned a Bachelor of Arts in theology. He also spent time in camp ministry at Sunset Lake Camp in Wilkeson and student mission service at Nile Union Academy in Egypt.

Rogers married Alyssa Minear on Feb. 27, 2010. Their first daughter, Rue, was born in early February 2011 while Rogers served as a part-time

More online at
glnr.in/113-07-wa_poulsbo

NURTURING THE CAMP MEETING EXPERIENCE

Many more photos online at glnr.in/113-07-wa_campmeeting



T

he guest services phone line rang consistently before and during Washington Adventist

Camp Meeting with requests for lodging and general camp meeting information. Days before camp meeting started, all but 85 reservation sites were claimed out of 668 possible sites — and those sites were going fast.

“The level of interest was incredible this year,” reports Gayle Lasher, whose team handles lodging reservations.



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

“We asked people why they were coming, and the response we kept hearing was: ‘We’re coming to experience camp meeting.’ We had just as many returning attendees as newcomers this year.”

Experience carries many levels of meaning to each person, so we asked camp meeting attendees what they

liked best about camp meeting. “We like ice cream and our meetings,” say two young siblings who came with their grandmother.

The brother added, “I like swimming, and I just learned how to swim.”

“My favorite things about camp meeting are the friends, the food, the games,” says Vinny, a preteen from Bonney Lake.

Best friends Maia and Madeline, age 10, from Puyallup assisted with the beginners 2 program. “I like hanging out with my friends, walking around campus, hearing stories at my meetings, and this is my first year actually tenting,” says Madeline.

“It’s really nice to hang out with new kids every single day,” adds Maia.

Brennan, a teenager from Sumner, helped with camp



JONATHAN BAUMGARTNER

meeting security and parking and says, “I like helping people here at camp meeting and



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

giving them hope about Jesus’ return.”

“My best memory was going to the prayer tent with my grandson, praying for our family and having God answer our prayers,” says a 30-year camp meeting attendee from the Greater Seattle area.

“I love the fellowship with like believers,” says Cheryl Burke, a day attendee from Sumner. “The different meetings available — like relationship topics, the grieving class and the Bible classes — are just amazing.”

“Interacting with people, seeing kids’ face when they make something in Pathfinders and singing songs about Jesus — that’s what’s special about camp meeting,” says Donna Meador, a teacher from the Chehalis area.

“I’ve seen lots of people that, if I didn’t come to camp meeting, I wouldn’t see them at all,” says Rich Roberts, from the Kirkland area. “It’s fun to

visit with people and see where they’ve been.”

“Camp meeting is like family reunion, it’s like alumni homecoming, it’s a spiritual retreat, and it’s all of the best of those rolled into one,” says David Candler, a longtime children’s ministry leader from Graham. “I heard a child say, ‘Mommy, camp meeting is like a little bit of heaven.’”

“My favorite thing about camp meeting is being together with God’s people,” says Craig Carr, Washington Conference vice president for administration and camp meeting coordinator. “The camp meeting experience will live on through remembering the ‘By Our Love’ theme song, the seminar materials, underlined Bible texts heard during messages and realizing that God’s love is revealed by our actions.”

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director

2018 BUSINESS GRADUATE GIVES BACK TO FIELD THAT GAVE HER SO MUCH

Y

ara Fernandez has her eyes set on giving back to the field of health care. After having three major surgeries as a child, she is determined to help people in need of health care as she once was. “I hope to make a difference in someone’s life like the hospital staff once did for me,” she says. “I want to help others. It is my passion, and it will continue to be as I take on this journey in health care.”

In June, Fernandez received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Walla Walla University (WWU) with a concentration in finance. In August, she began an exclusive finance residency program in Tampa, Fla., where she is rotating through different finance and accounting departments in the Adventist Health System while working on a master’s degree. Fernandez believes every piece of the health care puzzle matters and, through her work in hospital finance, she can make a difference in the lives of patients.

Fernandez says the School of Business, among other departments at WWU, did a great job of teaching her skills

in a variety of areas including accounting, finance, ethics and psychology, which have made her a valuable candidate in the eyes of employers. “My professors have prepared me with real-life examples that I will be able to apply in the work that I will be doing,” she says. “I know I may not know everything about business, but I feel prepared enough to start in health care. I know I will quickly pick up the new tactics and aspects of the organization thanks to the skills my professors helped me develop.”

During her time at WWU, Fernandez completed internships at Upper Columbia Conference (UCC) and at Centura Health in Colorado. During her internship with the UCC, Fernandez worked with treasury databases to ensure confidential workflow while collecting and recording more than \$200,000 per day. At Centura Health, she analyzed cosmetic surgery data and discovered a way to improve the hospital’s revenue by 7 percent on a specific surgical procedure. Using the Lean Six Sigma method, she also identified a way to save the hospital more than \$300,000



Yara Fernandez

on surgical tools.

Fernandez credits the School of Business and the WWU Student Development Center with helping her obtain her two internships. With the assistance of Lana Van Dorn, School of Business administrative assistant, she was able to see all of the available internship opportunities and to choose the ones that were most appealing to her. Fernandez also says David Lindstrom, Student Development Center

Classes start at WWU Monday, Sept. 24.

To learn how you can be a part of the WWU family, visit wallawalla.edu/admissions/steps-to-enrollment or talk to an admissions counselor at 800-541-8900.

FRESHMEN GET JUMP-START ON COLLEGE SUCCESS



To get college life started off on the right foot, WWU freshmen have the opportunity to be a part of JumpStart the week of Sept. 16–22. JumpStart is a week full of events and programs designed to help students learn about how WWU works and where they can find the resources to help them be successful in college.

During the week students settle into their room before returning students arrive on campus, learn their way around campus, meet their academic advisor, choose a mentor, get help with registration, attend workshops to help them navigate and succeed in college, and meet new friends for life.

To learn more about how you can join JumpStart, visit wallawalla.edu/jumpstart.



The majority of WWU students fund their education through work, family support, scholarships, student loans or a combination of those. The university provides many opportunities for students to work on campus and has a robust scholarship program. When planning to pay for college, Cassie Ragenovich, WWU student financial services director, advises students to plan ahead and start saving money sooner rather than later. She also recommends finding a summer job or an internship, while at the same time actively applying for scholarships.

Fernandez is enjoying her new finance resident position. “My ultimate goal was to work in the health care industry where I too could get to a place in my life where I would be able to give to others like my scholarship donors gave to me,” she says. “I am excited to be working in health care and pursuing my goal of giving back to the field that has given me so much.”

Malcolm Shaw, WWU university relations student writer

director, was very supportive in helping her search for internships and career opportunities, update her resume, and improve her interviewing skills.

Dream. Plan. Believe.

Fernandez also credits the support she received from the WWU student financial services team and from church members throughout the North Pacific Union Conference. Like many students at WWU, Fernandez earned scholarships to help fund her

college education. She was awarded the 2018 Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs School of Business Leadership Award and the Helen Wineberg Kendall Scholarship from the WWU School of Business for her academic performance, integrity and exceptional leadership skills. Fernandez also received the Class of 1978 Scholarship and the Thais Thrasher Sadoyama Scholarship, as well as financial support from her home church, which WWU matched dollar

for dollar. Overall, she earned nearly \$70,000 in scholarships and grants.

Fernandez comes from a hardworking family that has taught her to trust God and never give up on her dreams. “My family is my biggest motivation to be successful in life,” she says. “I work hard to make my family proud and to be able to give back to them in the future. I also strive to be a positive influence in my younger sister’s life. My family members are my greatest supporters in life.”

SOUL MATTERS



Leo Zakhariya, CPE program supervisor, leads a prayer of dedication for participants during their graduation ceremony.

Most people experience pain, stress, anxiety and confusion when entering a hospital. Let's face it: No one really wants to be in a hospital. We would much rather experience health and vitality in the comfort of our homes surrounded by the familiarity of family.

Hospital chaplains understand why patients and their families have a yearning for compassion, hope and peace when they're celebrating life, processing complex situations or dealing with unbearable grief. Their clinical sacred calling provides a soul connection to patients.

Members of Adventist

Health Portland's clinical pastoral education (CPE) program recently completed their latest unit of education. In a special ceremony, participants and their families were honored by the spiritual care team and Adventist Health leadership.

CPE is an individualized

group-training model for professional chaplains. Adventist Health Portland has offered CPE training for local clergy members since 2015.

"Our community is blessed to have caring and compassionate spiritual leaders

understanding of self by reflecting on personal perceptions, actions and reactions. These tools allow them to become a more effective and therapeutically fit sojourner to the afflicted in their pastoral functioning.

The focus of CPE is to help the trainees embrace and cultivate self in light of personal successes and failures, strengths and brokenness, hope and despair, as a work in progress, allowing them to become the "primary tool" in pastoral functioning. The trainee becomes their own book to read, study and master, which in the lexicon of CPE is called the "living human document." It is a wonderful opportunity to have an encounter with personal self.

Adventist Health Portland now offers CPE in 20-week and 40-week curriculums. Participants complete training units on their way to earning Associate Clinical Chaplain or Clinical Chaplain certifications. To learn more about CPE, contact Adventist Health Portland's spiritual care team at 503-251-6105 or email Leonid.Zakhariya@ah.org.

C.J. Anderson, Adventist Health-Portland marketing manager



(From left) Andrei Caminschi; Leo Zakhariya, program supervisor; Ron Hart; Anna Westermeyer; and Steve Madsen celebrate the completion of their latest unit of CPE training.

who are committed to meeting the complex needs they encounter," says Terry Johnson, Adventist Health's vice president for mission integration. "By working together, we are creating a stronger and more effective spiritual care network."

Trainees develop a better



Latest *Gleaner* newsletter free to your email inbox each week. Sign up at gleanerweekly.com





Bill Brown

Brown 90th

The church members of The Village Church in Gresham, Ore., gave a surprise birthday party for Bill Brown on April 18, 2018, commemorating his 90th birthday. Although the refreshments were delicious, the best part for Bill was the camaraderie of friends in Christ.

Bill was born on April 18, 1928. His early years were in Pendleton, Ore. During his teen years, he attended Pendleton High School, then Walla Walla College for two years. He built homes in Pendleton for about eight years and then spent two years at Union College in Lincoln, Neb.

He met his lovely wife, Reba, in Pendleton in 1946, and they were married March 20, 1947. They recently celebrated their 71st wedding anniversary. The two of them walk daily, with Bill walking a mile or so while Reba walks 2 miles. Golfing has been one of Bill's hobbies.

Bill is an ordained minister although he never worked as a pastor, working most of his life in administration for various conferences. He retired as the Alaska Conference treasurer. His ministry included that of business manager for four different academies.

They have a son in San Diego and a daughter in Placerville, Calif., with a total of three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

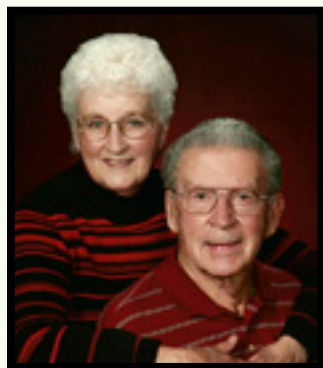
Mondor 70th

Bill and Tillie Mondor celebrated their 70th and 71st wedding anniversaries with a reception at their home with family. In 2017, Bill fell down the basement step and broke his neck, preventing celebration of their 70th wedding anniversary that year. After a long year of prayer, patience, doctors and God blessing, Bill has recovered, and there was much to celebrate.

Tillie Will married William "Bill" Mondor on Feb. 7, 1947, at small ceremony held in his parents' home in Yakima, Wash. After a honeymoon in California the couple returned to Tampico, Wash., where they lived and worked for many years together on the family farm, "The Old Homestead." During their time on the farm they were blessed with four wonderful daughters.

William worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 1960 until he retired in 1985. Tillie worked in the hospitality industry for 27 years and retired in 1990.

Over the years they have



Tillie and Bill Mondor

enjoyed camping with their family and friends. More recently they look forward to an annual beach vacation with family. Bill enjoyed fishing and metal detecting. Tillie is well-known for her cooking and baking talents, especially her German recipes handed down from her mother.

Bill and Tillie continue to live in their own home in Yakima, where they have resided for the past 46 years.

The Mondor family includes Kathy Valenzuela of Yakima; Kristie and Mark Mann of Union Gap, Wash.; Paulie Kennedy and John Button of Selah, Wash.; Pam and Norm Holmberg of Yakima; 8 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-grandchildren.



Lucille Sperle

Sperle 100th

Lucille Shelly Sperle celebrated her 100th birthday on March 25, 2017, with a family celebration at Woodstone Assisted Living and a potluck at Twin Falls Church in Idaho. She was born March 28, 1917, in Leedey, Okla., to Oscar and Bertha Jones.

Lucille loves people, and her life shows it. She was a literature evangelist and continued that spirit with a

literature rack near her door at home so she never missed any opportunity to hand out tracts to visitors. She was also an aide/house mother at several assisted living facilities including Skyview, Heritage and Woodstone.

At church, Lucille taught kindergarten and has been an active greeter. To this day, Lucille still loves to greet and talk to people at church. Her warm and friendly smile makes them feel at ease and welcome. Lucille is a beautiful example as she shines for Jesus in her everyday life. Her family and friends have now had a special celebration for her 99th, 100th and 101st birthdays.

Her family includes her children, Gene of Twin Falls, Idaho; Ladonna, who has passed away; her husband, Gideon, who has also passed away; 6 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and 11 great-great-grandchildren.

FAMILY BIRTHS

LENZ — Johnathan Robert was born May 15, 2018, to Bob and Kari (Gren) Lenz, Spokane, Wash.

MOSS — Charles Edward IV was born July 11, 2018, to Charles Edward Moss and Jessica Mann, Tillamook, Ore.

VANGRUNSVEN — Colton Dwight was born June 23, 2018, to David and Evelyn (Moor) VanGrunsven, Redmond, Ore.

FAMILY AT REST

AHLBERG — Clifford J., 89; born Dec. 7, 1927, Minneapolis, Minn.; died Oct. 7, 2017, Celina, Tenn. Surviving: son, Joel, Bonney Lake, Wash.; daughter, Brenda Mitchell, Celina; 5 grandchildren, a step-grandchild and 6 great-grandchildren.

BUSBY — Ronald Wallace, 84; born Dec. 28, 1933, Jordan, Mont.; died April 8, 2018, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: sons, Dan, Umapine, Ore.; Dave, Marysville, Wash.; daughters, Rhonda Busby, Seattle, Wash.; Amy Martin, College Place, Wash.; brothers, Don, Nampa, Idaho; Neil, College Place; sisters, Rhoda Wills, Berrien Springs, Mich.; Jeannette Johnson, Sitka, Alaska; 9 grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

CHRISTY — Kendall Bryce, 85; born July 10, 1932, Las Animas, Colo.; died April 1, 2018, Medford, Ore. Surviving: wife, Ruth (Gedeon); sons, Carl, Medford; Owen Sr., Bend, Ore.; daughter, Jana Patten, Eagle Point, Ore.; 11 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

FISCHER — Junior Max, 84; born Feb. 3, 1933, Vernon Center, Minn.; died July 17, 2017, Salem, Ore. Surviving: wife, Mary (Woodruff), Falls City, Ore.; sons, J. Arnold, Elk City, Idaho; Vernon, of Japan; daughters, Rosita Rice, Falls City; Cynthia Ostrander, Keizer, Ore.; Trudell Pritchard, Lyle, Wash.; 9 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

GREGORY — Jenna, 72; born Sept. 2, 1946; died March 24, 2018, Sequim, Wash.

GROTH — Robert L., 81; born 1936, Everett, Wash.; died Jan. 29, 2018, Killeen, Texas. Surviving: son, William

Groth; daughters, Adrianna Wells and Aleida Vangeli; sister, Dorothy Gayle; and 5 grandchildren.

HACK — Betty Lou (Mead) Rodriguez, 86; born Aug. 9, 1931, Vader, Wash.; died April 6, 2018, Olympia, Wash. Surviving: sons, David Rodriguez, Battle Ground, Wash.; Tom Rodriguez, Winlock, Wash.; daughters, Irene (Rodriguez) Richey, Chehalis, Wash.; Cindie (Rodriguez) Jackson, Winlock; Colleen Hack, Battle Ground; Carol (Hack) Holtz, Vancouver, Wash.; 9 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

HARRIS — Ida Nola (Eley), 99; born June 13, 1918, Auburn, Wash.; died March 26, 2018, West Richland, Wash. Surviv-

ing: son, James, Imbler, Ore.; daughters, Maxine Moore, West Richland; Patricia Whitmore, Santa Rosa, Calif.; Marian Schultz, Chicago, Ill.; sister, Mildred Thompson, St. Helens, Ore.; 12 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren and 5 great-great-grandchildren.

JEPSON — Clayton Robert, 94; born May 4, 1923, Brainerd, Minn.; died April 10, 2018, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: sons, Trent, Colton, Calif.; Gary, Huntsville, Ark.; daughter, Gail Szana, Walla Walla; 4 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

KNOPP — Velva (Vietz), 96; born Aug. 18, 1921, Denhoff, N.D.; died March 16, 2018, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving:

daughters, Vicki DeLeon, Medford, Ore.; Nancy Godman, Milton-Freewater, Ore.; Kathy Fetter, of Portugal; sister, Elaine Johnson, Cathedral City, Calif.; 5 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

SIMMONS — Darlene Mae, 74; born Jan. 22, 1944, West Plains, Mo.; died April 5, 2018, Walla Walla, Wash.

SMITH — Kenneth A., 79; born Nov. 9, 1937, Memphis, Texas; died Nov. 2, 2017, Central Point, Ore. Surviving: wife, Lola May (Clayton); son, Clayton, Medford, Ore.; daughter, Roxanna Jenkins, White City, Ore.; brothers, Dan and Rex, both of Walla Walla, Wash.; Larry, Coos Bay, Ore.; 8 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

WALKER — Christine Marie (Phillips), 94; born Dec. 25, 1923, Garland, Kan.; died March 13, 2018, Boring, Ore. Surviving: son, Keith L., Beaverton, Ore.; daughter, Carol A. Walker, Arcadia, Calif.; 4 grandchildren and 9 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/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.

1955-2018

FLORENCE MARIE (HALL) LACEY

Florence Marie Hall was born April 21, 1955, in Longview, Wash., to Darrel and Loraine Hall. She attended Kelso-Longview (Wash.) Adventist School for eight years before graduating with the class of 1973 from Columbia Adventist Academy in Battle Ground, Wash. In 1977 she graduated from Walla Walla College, married Stephen Lacey and started teaching at Central Valley Junior Academy in Wapato, Wash. She taught a further five years at Fairview Junior Academy in Highland, Calif., and earned a master's degree in counseling and guidance from Loma Linda University. Florence also taught music at Three Sisters Adventist School in Bend, Ore.

Her last 26 years were spent at Upper Columbia Academy in Spangle, Wash., where she taught science, math, biology and English and was school counselor, registrar and vice principal for academics — but she remained a teacher at heart.

Florence enjoyed gardening and being out and about in nature — birding, hiking and canoeing with her family. She also enjoyed running, completing Spokane's (Wash.) 12K Bloomsday Run 15 times. She delighted in small blessings and loved to sing. Her trust in God was unflinching.

Florence past away March 27, 2018, and is survived by her husband, Stephen; daughter, Megan of Woodland, Wash.; son, Peter of Portland, Ore.; sister, Helen Smith of Milwaukie, Ore.; and brother and sister-in-law Brad and Jana of Castle Rock, Wash.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

Offering

- Sept. 1** — Local Church Budget;
Sept. 8 — World Budget: Fall Mission Appeal;
Sept. 15 — Local Church Budget;
Sept. 22 — Local Conference Advance;
Sept. 29 — Union Designated.

North Pacific Union Conference Association Official Notice

Official notice is hereby given that a Regular Membership Meeting of the North Pacific Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists is called for 2 p.m., on Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018, at Walla Walla University in College Place, Wash. The membership is comprised of the members of the North Pacific Union Conference Executive Committee. The purpose of the Regular Membership Meeting is to hear reports and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

John C. Freedman, President

Charles B. Simpson, Secretary

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

Oct. 26–28 — Families of current Walla Walla University students are invited to the WWU main campus for Family Weekend. Come join us for class visits, an ice cream social, student missions vespers, Sabbath services and a talent program. Families are also invited to join WWU administrators for a complimentary Sabbath lunch with John and Pam McVay. Parent Sabbath on the Portland nursing campus is scheduled for Sabbath, Nov. 10, in connection with the nurses' dedication. A complete schedule of both weekend events is available at wallawalla.edu/family-weekend, or call alumni and advancement services at 800-377-2586.

WWU Alumni Event, Post Falls, Idaho

Sept. 8 — On Sabbath gather with fellow WWU alumni at Summit Northwest Ministries, 1486 W. Seltice Way, Post Falls. WWU president John McVay will speak for church services at 9:45 a.m. and 11:45 a.m., which will include a special feature about WWU.

WWU Alumni Event, Yakima, Wash.

Oct. 20 — On Sabbath at 10:45 a.m., WWU president John McVay will speak for church at the Yakima Church, 507 N. 35th Ave. Following the church potluck, WWU will provide dessert and an update about news on campus.

OREGON CONFERENCE

Disaster Preparedness Class

Sept. 6 — You're invited to a Disaster Preparedness Class that is practical and has clever ideas. Rob Norris will present the topic "Go Bags." Be prepared for quake, fire or flood. Castle Rock Church, Abundant Living Center, 7531 Old Pacific Hwy N., Castle Rock, Wash., at 6:30 p.m. Questions? Call Wanda at 360-967-2165.

Dinner and Movie

Sept. 27 — Join us for fellowship, a plant-based meal and the movie *Hungry for Change*. Castle Rock Church, Abundant Living Center, 7531 Old Pacific Hwy N., Castle Rock, Wash., at 6:30 p.m. Questions? Call Wanda at 360-967-2165.

Timeless Truths and Prophecy From the Bible

Sept. 28–Oct. 27 — Timeless Truths and Prophecy from the Bible discusses how Scripture reveals where we are in Earth's history and gives ancient words of comfort and hope. Thursday thru Sunday at 7 p.m. Castle Rock Church, Abundant Living Center, 7531 Old Pacific Hwy N., Castle Rock, Wash. Questions? Call Wanda at 360-967-2165.

32nd Annual Oregon Christian Women's Retreat

Oct. 12–14 — Women's retreat at Eagle Crest Resort, Redmond, Ore. Keynote speaker is Jean Boonstra, Voice of Prophecy associate speaker, with a special program for the teens by Erica Jones, North American Division women's ministries associate director. Registration deadline Sept. 25. Register now at orgcwomen.netadvent.org/ or call AdventSource at 800-732-7537.

Stan Hudson at Albany Church

Oct. 13 — Come learn about creation from Stan Hudson, of the Creation Study Center, as he presents "In the Beginning ... There Was Water" at 9:30 a.m.; "A Call to Worship the God of Genesis" at 10:45 a.m.; "In the Beginning ... Dragons and Dinosaurs" 2 p.m.; "In the Beginning ... When Was That?" at 3 p.m. A noon fellowship meal will be provided at no cost. Albany Church, 3085 Grand Prairie Road SE, Albany, Ore.

Missing Members

The Tualatin (Ore.) Church is looking for the following missing members: Karincita Alcala, Clark Carvell, Tina Collins, Marilee Cowan, Steven Dalton, LiAne Dalton, Donald Downard, Janice Fonseca, Jan Guidos, Tina Hart, Sally Herigstad, Randall Hall, Lona Husk, Rena Jones, Samuelle Koster, Arturo Lezama, Marcuse Mangiban, Susie McMullen, Bertha Mitchell, Craig Pierce, Teri Price, Karol Rengifo, Judy Richmond, Helen Rogers, Ara Roland, Ilo Roys, John Schmidt, Deborah Schmidt, Cecil Shippentower, Alexa Shippentower, David Keith Stathem, Thomas Stathem, Gabrielle Thompson, Raul Valera and Jose Villasenor. If you have any information about these missing members, please contact Terry Zull at tzull60@gmail.com or 503-684-1472.

UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

Egypt Bible Tour

Dec. 12–22, 2019 — with Carl Cosaert of Walla Walla University. Discover the land of the pyramids, the pharaohs, Moses and the Exodus, including a Nile cruise and much more. Wonderful weather, meals and accommodations for one low rate plus airfare. For more information, contact Sharon Searson at Sharons@uccsda.org.

Oberammergau Passion Play With Optional Extension

If you've always wanted to attend the world renowned Passion play that takes place just once a decade in Oberammergau, Germany, this is your opportunity. One group will be traveling in June 2020 with an optional extension in Berlin. The second group will be traveling in July 2020 with an optional extension to Frankfurt, Wurzburg, Rothenberg and Berlin. The main part of the tour includes tickets to the Passion play with time to explore Berlin, Dresden, Nuremberg and Munich. For more information, contact Sharon Searson at sharons@uccsda.org.

WORLD CHURCH

Alumni Weekend for Spanish-American Seminary and Sandia View Academy

Oct. 11–13 — Theme this year is "Almost Home." Our speaker will be David Martinez, class of 1981. Honor classes are years that end in 3 or 8. Festivities begin Thursday evening with dinner and karaoke in the SVCS gym at 6 p.m. in Corrales, N.M. Go to sandiaviewacademyalumni.org for information about lodging, Balloon Fiesta and weekend activities. Email us at SVArocks@gmail.com if you have questions.

MORE EVENTS LISTED AT GLEANERNOW.COM/EVENTS.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Classes

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

Employment

ADVENTIST TEACHERS NEEDED IN TAIWAN Taipei Adventist American School is an elementary school serving students in grades one to eight. If you are interested in teaching overseas at a mission school and have a four-year degree, please send your resume and 3 references to secretary@taas-taiwan.com. For more information on current openings and benefits, please see [taas-](http://taas-taiwan.com)

taiwan.com. You may also see our postings on the NAD Education website under K-12 world.

UNION COLLEGE seeks full-time professor of communication with strong experience in emerging media and public relations beginning July 2019. Doctorate is preferred. Please submit a curriculum vitae to Dr. Mark Robison, humanities division chair, at mark.robison@ucollege.edu.

SEEKING CPA PARTNER for small public accounting firm in Moscow, Idaho. Minimum five years of experience in public accounting required. Contact Scott Miner at 208-882-4702 or smcpa@moscow.com.

UNION COLLEGE invites applicants for an accounting faculty position. Qualified applicants will have a MBA or master's in accounting, a

certification and should be a committed member of the Adventist Church. A doctorate is preferred. Find more information at ucollege.edu/faculty-openings or contact Barry Forbes at barry.forbes@ucollege.edu.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks staff counselor and prevention coordinator. In consultation with the director, provide leadership in mental health prevention initiatives for the student population, with the vision of assisting students in achieving more effective personal, social, educational, and vocational development and adjustment. As member of the Counseling and Testing Center clinical team, provide individual, couple and group counseling; available for after-office hours, clinical consultations and student crisis interventions; maintain an assigned case load; and provide consultations on issues

related to mental health. Report to the director of Counseling and Testing Center. andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/staff_salary#job_3.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks vice president for enrollment management to be responsible for meeting the enrollment goals of the university. The vice president oversees the functions of undergraduate and graduate recruitment, admissions, financial aid counseling for prospective students, and the Assist/PFE programs. Full job description, southern.edu/jobs.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks dean for the School of Education and Psychology (SEP) and responsible for planning, organization, staffing, direction and evaluation of the academic disciplines of the SEP. The SEP dean is also responsible for

25 Adventist Channels
Plus more than 70 other FREE Christian Channels and News Channels on Adventist Satellite Dish

High Definition and DVR
Connect to any TV • Record your favorite shows • IPTV Ready*
* You must have internet at home to watch non-satellite channels

Official Distribution Partner for all Adventist Broadcasters

Please ask us about **INTERNET Channels**
Watch Available IPTV Channels via Internet

Complete satellite system only \$199 Plus shipping
No Monthly Fees
No Subscriptions
Includes 36in Dish
FREE Install Kit

Two Room System \$349 Plus shipping

866-552-6882 toll free www.adventistsat.com

GOSPEL OUTREACH PRESENTS

Destination Eternity

Commissioned by the Lord.
Powered by the Spirit.

Pavel Goia
Guest Speaker

The Melashenko Four
Music With a Mission

MISSION REPORTS, MUSIC, FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

Gospel Outreach Mission Rally

Walla Walla University Church
October 20 @ 3:30 p.m.

[f](https://www.facebook.com/gospel1040) [i](https://www.instagram.com/gospel1040) /gospel1040 GOAIM.ORG 509.525.2951



Rejoice

2018
Boise



Come for an evening of inspiration with Jere Webb as he shares his personal story of how God brings JOY and HEALING POWER to carry us through tough times.

Together Again

After all these years:

The Heritage Singers and Jere Webb

Saturday September 29, 2018
7:00 PM

Free tickets are available at:

The Morrison Center Box Office

Deer Flat Free Methodist Church

Nampa First Church of the Nazarene

Pacific Press Publishing Association

Cloverdale Seventh-day
Adventists Church

tickets@rejoice2018.com



The Morrison Center
2201 Cesar Chavez Lane
Boise, ID 83706

One Night Only

Admission is FREE,
but tickets are required.
Seating is limited. First
come, first served!

 **MORRISON CENTER**
IDAHO'S PREMIER PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



Adventist World Radio's
broadcasts are introducing
millions of listeners to
Christ around the world,
in 100+ languages.

AWR360° is helping to
connect these listeners
with their nearest church
family...changing lives
for eternity.



 800-337-4297  awr.org  awrweb  [@awrweb](https://twitter.com/awrweb)

SHORTWAVE

AM/FM

PODCASTS

ON DEMAND

Invest in your future.

**Earn your master's degree
at Walla Walla University.**

- ✓ **Learn from faculty** with a rich breadth of knowledge, diverse backgrounds, extensive professional experience, and doctoral education.
- ✓ **Enjoy a low student-to-teacher ratio** that facilitates individual attention and meaningful relationships.
- ✓ **Save time and money** by earning your degree quickly. Most programs are completed in two years or less.



12%

of Americans hold advanced degrees.

Individuals with master's degrees earn, on average,

\$11,860

MORE PER YEAR.



Degrees offered:

- Biology (M.S.).
- Cinema, Religion, and Worldview (M.A.).
- Education (M.Ed., M.I.T., M.A. in Teaching).
 - Master's in Curriculum and Instruction (M.Ed. or M.A.T.).
 - Master's in Educational Leadership (M.Ed. or M.A.T.).
 - Master's in Literacy Instruction (M.Ed. or M.A.T.).
 - **NEW!** Master's in Special Education (M.Ed. or M.A.T.) **45% discounted tuition.**
 - Master of Initial Teaching—Instruction with certification (M.I.T.).
- Social Work (M.S.W.).

► **Get ready to advance your career.**

Learn more and apply today at wallawalla.edu/gradstudies.

continuous development of the SEP's strategic plan. An earned doctorate in the field of education or psychology is required. Full job description, southern.edu/jobs.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks CIRC lead programmer/analyst in the School of Computing. This position oversees/coordinates work of students/staff engaged in software development/analysis. B.S. in computer science or similar and five years of programming experience. Graduate education in computer science preferred. Full job description, southern.edu/jobs.

ADVENTIST WORLD RADIO seeks IT project manager. Key roles include development and support of CRM resources for AWR's Center for Digital Evangelism. It is the policy of the GC to hire only SDA Church members. Send resume to Kent Sharpe, sharpek@gc.adventist.org.

SONBRIDGE DENTAL CLINIC in College Place, Wash., is looking to fill the paid position of a dentist at 3 days/week. Call Mel Lang at 509-301-3460 if interested.

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

Events

40TH WEIMAR INSTITUTE ANNIVERSARY We're celebrating 40 years of God's blessings at Weimar Institute! If you're an alumni or attendee, please join us on Nov. 2-4, 2018.

STANDIFER GAP SDA SCHOOL, Chattanooga, Tenn., is celebrating its 70th anniversary (1948-2018) on Sept. 28 and 29, 2018. All former students and former staff are invited to attend our celebration. Festivities will begin on Friday thru Saturday evening. Contact 423-892-6013 or for further details visit sgsdaschool.org.

MISSION: MARANATHA! You're invited to Maranatha Volunteers International's mission weekend, Sept. 21-22, in Sacramento, Calif. Featuring inspiring testimonies, mission stories and music by Wintley Phipps. Event is free. Register at maranatha.org/convention or call 916-774-7700.

For Sale

WORTHINGTON, LOMA LINDA, CEDAR LAKE, AZURE PRODUCT, ETC. Low prices. Auburn Enterprises, Bill and Judy Hoard, 4192 Auburn Rd. NE; PO Box 13757, Salem, OR 97309-1757; 503-585-9311; fax 503-585-1805; auburnent@hotmail.com.

TOY WOODEN TRAINS Tumbleweed Toy Trains are made of the finest cherry or walnut. Solidly made. Carefully and handsomely crafted. A perfect gift. More information at tumbleweedtoytrains.com.

FOR SALE: Cemetery plot in beautiful Riverside Memorial Park, Spokane, Wash. Includes double depth vault (2 caskets same grave), 24x16 granite marker, grave opening and closing. Call 509-270-1806.

DENTAL LABORATORY north of Seattle, Wash., for sale. 3Shape Crown & Bridge, lab with great potential for growth. I need to retire, but willing to work through transition. Contact nwlab4sale@gmail.com.

Miscellaneous

BUYING U.S. GOLD/SILVER COINS, proof and mint sets, silver dollars, rolls and bags. PCGS/NGC certified coins, estates, accumulations, large collections, bullion, platinum. Will travel. All transactions confidential. Please call 208-859-7168.

Real Estate

ADVENTIST REAL ESTATE BROKER 35+ years experience, residential and commercial.

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.

President John Freedman	Information Technology Loren Bordeau
Executive Secretary, Evangelism Daniel Cates	Associate Daniel Cates
. Bill McClendon	Legal Counsel André Wang
Treasurer Mark Remboldt	Ministerial, Global Mission, Men's and Family Ministries César De León
Undertreasurer Robert Sundin	Evangelist Brian McMahon
Communication Steve Vistaunet	Native Ministries Northwest Steve Huey
Creation Study Center Stan Hudson	Public Affairs, Religious Liberty Greg Hamilton
Education Dennis Plubell	Regional Affairs, Multicultural and Outreach Ministries Byron Dulan
Elementary Becky Meharry	Trust Chuck Simpson
Secondary Keith Waters	Treasurer Allee Currier
Certification Registrar Deborah Hendrickson	Women's Ministries Sue Patzer
Early Childhood Coordinator Golda Pflugrad	Hispanic Ministries César De León
Hispanic Ministries César De León	

Local Conference Directory

ALASKA CONFERENCE

6100 O'Malley Rd.
Anchorage, AK 99507-7200
208-375-7524 • 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

OREGON CONFERENCE

19800 Oatfield Rd.
Gladstone, OR 97027-2546
503-850-3500 • oregonconference.org
Dan Linrud, president; David Schwinghammer, v.p. administration; Brian Gosney, v.p. finance

UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

3715 S. Grove Rd.
Spokane, WA 99224
509-838-2761 • uccsda.org
Minner Labrador Jr., president; Doug R. Johnson, v.p. administration; David Freedman, v.p. finance

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

32229 Weyerhaeuser Way S.
Federal Way, WA 98001
253-681-6008 • washingtonconference.org
Doug Bing, president; Craig Carr, v.p. administration; Jerry S. Russell, v.p. finance

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

204 S. College Ave.
College Place, WA 99324-1198
509-527-2656 • wallawalla.edu
John McVay, president; Volker R. Henning, v.p. for academic administration; Steven G. Rose, v.p. for financial administration; Doug Tilstra, v.p. for student life; Jodeene Wagner, v.p. for university relations and advancement

Adventist Book Centers

800-765-6955 • adventistbookcenter.com

NAMPA ABC

1350 N. Kings Rd., Nampa, ID 83687-3193
208-465-2532
M-Th 8:30 a.m.-5:45 p.m.

OREGON ABC

19700 Oatfield Rd., Gladstone, OR 97027
503-850-3300
M-Th 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
F 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Sun 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

UPPER COLUMBIA ABC

3715 S. Grove Rd., Spokane, WA 99224
509-838-3168
M-Th 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Sun 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

COLLEGE PLACE ABC

505 S. College Ave., College Place, WA 99324
509-529-0723
M-Th 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
F 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Sun 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

AUBURN ABC

5100 32nd St., Auburn, WA 98092-7024
253-833-6707
M-Th 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
F 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Sun 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Serving King, Pierce counties and greater Puget Sound. Mike Van Steenwyk, owner, 5 Star Real Estate Investments, LLC: 253-887-1355; mlvansteenwyk@comcast.net; 5starinvestllc.com.

SECLUDED COUNTRY HOME

in park like setting for rent. 1,387-sq.-ft. home on creek, .39 acre in foothills of western Oregon Cascade Mountains. Two bedroom, two bath, den, large master suite, large kitchen with pantry, inside utility, garage, shop. Must share with wildlife! Work 7 hours a week. More information at sciohome.com and 541-981-0015.

LOVELY COUNTRY 10-acre estate in southern Missouri. Well-kept 3,300-sq.-ft. home, open floor plan, large shelved office with fireplace, master bedroom

and living areas on main level, wood/propane heat. 40x80 shop building. Barn. Fully solar/grid. Fenced garden. Landscaping and flowers. Time of trouble ready. Call 417-948-2287 or 417-926-8663.

Services

LOOKING FOR A PEACEFUL RETIREMENT VILLAGE? Why wait for heaven? We offer homes, duplexes and apartments in a peaceful, safe Adventist environment in the country. You will be able to develop lasting friendships. Call Bill Norman in Harrah, Okla., at 405-454-6538.

MOVING? RELAX! Your move with Apex Moving & Storage will be great! As the single point of accountability, we offer peace of mind for the relocating family or individual. Give us a call and take advantage of a volume-rated



We **LIVE** to Care

Careers in the Seventh-day Adventist Tradition.

We all search for meaning in our work and aspire to a career where organizational values align with our own. If you are a healthcare professional seeking a faith-based employment experience where spirituality is put into practice, we invite you to connect with Loma Linda University Health.

As a Seventh-day Adventist organization, with six hospitals and eight schools on our expansive Southern California campus, we offer a multitude of career paths and opportunities. Discover our mission of healing and join us.

Learn more about us and explore our careers at: careers.llu.edu.

**MANY STRENGTHS.
ONE MISSION.**



LOMA LINDA
UNIVERSITY
HEALTH

EOE/AA/M/F/V/D

Sunset Schedule // DST

September 7 14 21 28

ALASKA CONFERENCE

Anchorage	8:50	8:28	8:06	7:43
Fairbanks	8:50	8:25	7:59	7:33
Juneau	7:48	7:23	7:03	6:42
Ketchikan	7:27	7:09	6:50	6:32

IDAHO CONFERENCE

Boise	8:11	7:59	7:46	7:33
La Grande	7:20	7:07	6:54	6:40
Pocatello	7:56	7:43	7:31	7:18

MONTANA CONFERENCE

Billings	7:43	7:29	7:16	7:02
Havre	7:50	7:35	7:21	7:06
Helena	7:57	7:44	7:30	7:16
Miles City	7:32	7:19	7:05	6:51
Missoula	8:06	7:52	7:38	7:24

OREGON CONFERENCE

Coos Bay	7:43	7:31	7:18	7:05
Medford	7:37	7:25	7:12	7:00
Portland	7:39	7:25	7:12	6:58

UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

Pendleton	7:24	7:10	6:57	6:43
Spokane	7:20	7:06	6:51	6:37
Walla Walla	7:22	7:09	6:55	6:41
Wenatchee	7:31	7:17	7:03	6:49
Yakima	7:31	7:18	7:04	6:50

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

Bellingham	7:41	7:27	7:12	6:57
Seattle	7:40	7:25	7:11	6:57

GleanerNow.com/sunset

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

NOVEMBER SEPT. 20
DECEMBER OCT. 25

discount for Adventists. Call Marcy Danté at 800-766-1902 or visit us at apexmoving.com/adventist.

EXPERIENCED ADVENTIST ATTORNEY serves greater Seattle area. Practice includes auto accident/other injury claims; wills, trusts, probate/other estate-planning; real estate; contracts/other business matters; and more. John Darrow: 310 Third Ave. NE, Suite 116, Issaquah, WA 98027; 425-369-2064; darroglawfirm.com.

HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING SPECIALISTS Clawson Heating and Air Conditioning features quality service and installation. We are an Adventist company meeting all of your heating and cooling needs, including maintenance programs for your homes. 503-618-9646. License #: Oregon, 173219; Washington, CLAWSHA931BW.

WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE CENTER for 75 years we have taught people to live healthy, avoid disease and maintain youthful energy or helped healing diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, arthritis, fibromyalgia, lupus, chronic fatigue, cancer, depression, anxiety and many more. Invest in health, call 800-634-9355 or visit wildwoodhealth.com.

THE CLERGY MOVE CENTER at Stevens Worldwide Van Lines is The Way To Move from one state to another! Through our national contract with the General Conference, we extend our industry-leading moving services to all Adventist families. Throughout our history of over 110 years, our dedication to

quality has never wavered. Let us show you today! Contact one of our dedicated Move Counselors today for a no-cost/no-obligation estimate at 800-248-8313. Or learn more about us at stevensworldwide.com/sda.

KLONDIKE MOUNTAIN HEALTH RETREAT, 3-day Health Seminars, and 10- and 17-day Health Retreats. Offering hydrotherapy, hyperbaric oxygen, cooking classes, nutrition, spiritual encouragement and more at the Wellness Clinic to help patients recover from health problems. Comfortable, homelike environment in a beautiful mountain location, Republic, Wash. Scheduling and pricing at KMHR.org or call 509-775-2949.

PRE-PAID PHONE CARDS: Primary Card for continental USA or international. Under 3¢/per minute. No connection or other fees. Benefits: ASI Projects/Christian Education. Call L J PLUS at 770-441-6022 or 888-441-7688.

SINGLE? WIDOWED? DIVORCED? Meet compatible SDAs from USA, ages 18–98. Each provides birthday, marital status, race, occupation, interests, goals, year baptized and more! Safe, confidential, effective, fun! For additional information, application and current catalog, send \$25 to: SDA Pen Pals, PO Box 734, Blue Ridge, GA 30513.

ADVENTIST ATTORNEY serving greater Portland area. Practice focuses on estate planning and general business: wills, trusts, probate and trust administration, gifting, business formation. Stephanie Carter, Attorney at Law: 503-496-5500; stephanie@draneaslaw.com.

TEACH SERVICES Helping AUTHORS make their book a reality. Call 800-367-1844 for your free manuscript evaluation. We publish all book

formats and provide worldwide distribution. View NEW BOOKS at TEACHServices.com or ask your local ABC. Used SDA books at LNFbooks.com.

WEB DESIGN! Skyrocket your business profits with an exceptional modern website. Our Adventist agency specializes in making businesses look amazing online. View our before/after portfolio, visit discoverpeppermint.com. Call 541-903-1180.

HUCKLEBERRY LETTERS is an innovative company where we remember and entertain people using the art of letter writing and storytelling. For more information please check out our website at huckleberryletters.com.

Vacations

SPEND A FANTASTIC FALL WEEKEND IN BEAUTIFUL SUNRIVER Sunny days, crisp nights and gorgeous fall colors make for a relaxing getaway. Visit sunriverunlimited.com for more information or call 503-253-3936.

MAUI Fully equipped condo, unobstructed ocean and sunset view, sleeps seven. Tennis, pool, across street from surf and beautiful sandy beaches. Hawaii GE-TA tax # 073-408-1024-01. Call Ron at 425-232-5768.

ISRAEL TOUR WITH PASTOR JIM GILLEY, 3ABN'S PASTOR C.A. MURRAY AND FRIENDS Two trips this fall: Nov. 11–19, \$3,095; Nov. 18–27, \$3,395. Includes all tips, taxes, air, and breakfast and dinner buffets daily. From New York, Chicago or Los Angeles; other departure cities available. Call Jennifer at 602-788-8864.

CHARMING CEDAR SHORES – just north of the border. Two bedroom, 4-season vacation home on beautiful Slocan Lake, B.C. Perfect for nature loving couples or family. Sleeps 2–4,

caretaker on premises. For more information, call 509-638-2268.

OREGON COAST, Lincoln City, 2-bedroom (one queen, two twin beds), fireplace, kayaks, quiet, in warm belt. To view photos, Google "Lakeside Retreat Home Lincoln City, OR." To reserve, call 503-313-0236.

PORT TOWNSEND Peaceful country home. 1, 2 or 3 bedrooms. Queen beds, private bathroom, hot tub and vegan breakfast bar. Airbnb Superhost. veggiemakeovers.com/airbnb or call Heather at 360-385-0150.

SUNRIVER, CENTRAL OREGON 4-bedroom vacation home on the North Woodlands golf course. Two master king suites, two queens, one bunk set, hot tub, loft, Jacuzzi bath, gas log fireplace, BBQ, W/D, bikes, all "lodge amenities," sleeps 10, no smoking, no pets. For rates, photos and reservations: 541-279-9553 or schultz@crestviewcable.com.

SUN VALLEY IDAHO Motel-style rooms available in a four-season vacation destination. Each room sleeps four adults. Visit woodrivervalley22.adventistchurchconnect.org and click Guest Rooms or call 208-788-9448 for more information.

TWO-BEDROOM IN HONOLULU, HAWAII, minutes to beaches, Chinatown and hiking! Sleeps six comfortably. Furnished, kitchen, washer/dryer and more. Free parking. Visit honcentralsda.org and/or call 808-989-4910.

DYSFUNCTIONAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY

R

ecently I watched a TED Talk during which organizational consultant Yves Morieux discusses the lack of positive change in organizations. In my estimation that includes churches. He suggests the root of our issues relate to “complicatedness.”

He states, “When people cooperate, they use less resources.” Conversely, when we don’t cooperate, we need more complexity and resources. Instead of building cooperation we are more likely to create more departments, positions, policies, rules, etc. The organization grows in complexity, but not efficiency or emotional health. In order to navigate the increasing complexity individuals have to operate by superhuman effort, and they burn out. This process leads to what Morieux calls “dysfunctional self-sufficiency.”

The classical biblical example is Moses trying to manage all of Israel’s issues by himself without any clear organization. Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, sees this and has a heart-to-heart chat with Moses. Jethro says, “What you are doing is not good. You and the people with you will certainly wear yourselves out, for the thing is too heavy for you. You are not able to do it alone.” When Moses follows through and sets a better structure

in place, his “dysfunctional self-sufficiency” comes to an end.

Contemporary life, especially when rooted in the individualism of social media and a Protestant tradition such as Adventism, lends itself to dysfunctional self-sufficiency. We have a hard time asking for help. We may even feel guilty about it.

In *Rethinking Narcissism* Craig Malkin reviews the Greek story of Narcissus who fell in love with his own reflection and died — giving us the term “narcissist.” In popular use this term refers to obnoxious self-centered people and is considered a pejorative. However, Malkin suggests narcissism is a spectrum, and it isn’t all bad.

In the story of Narcissus we have a nymph named Echo who



AUTHOR

Seth Pierce

The classical biblical example





Instead of building cooperation we are more likely to create more departments, positions, policies, rules, etc.

loves Narcissus, but, alas, she has no voice of her own — she can only echo. Therefore, she never gives or receives the love she desires. Cheery story, isn't it? Anyway, on the low end of the narcissism scale are “echoists” — those unable to speak for themselves or acquire

what they need. In some ways echosim appears as arrogant as narcissism — the person who never asks for or needs help, the one who does it all, and then rages at everyone when the frayed ends of their sanity unravel.

In Adventism, at least in the West, we have a theology that is suspicious against certain forms of organized religion and that has numerous independent ministries, a sense of needing no tradition or human interference in our private interpretations of Scripture, and an American culture of “pulling ourselves up by our own bootstraps.” These things aren't bad, but they can be a double-edged sword. Our fierce protesting Protestant spirit and our “work ethic” sometimes get in the way of asking for what we truly need and experiencing community. We are too often

dysfunctionally self-sufficient.

Throughout the Bible we are told to ask what we need (Matt. 7:7–8, James 4:2–3, etc.). Morieux offers a principle I am mulling over to help create healthier organizations be they business or churches. He says, “Reward those who cooperate and blame those who don't.” He then cites the CEO of Lego Group as stating, “Blame is not for failure; it is for failing to help or ask for help.” Blaming isn't always helpful (see Genesis 3), but creating a culture of open communication where people don't feel ashamed for asking for what they need is critical.

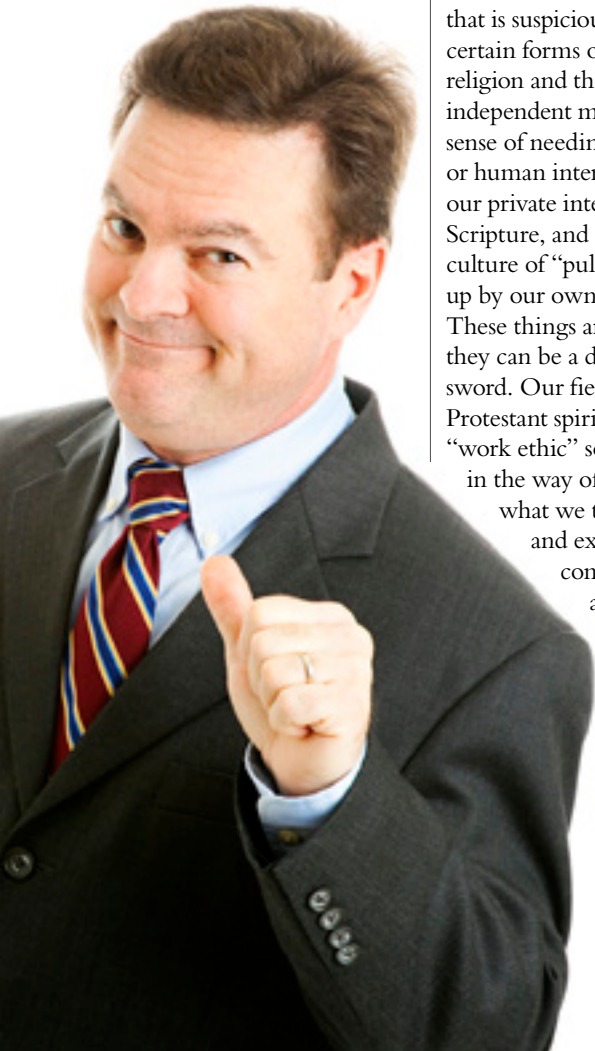
Going back to the idea of our organizations becoming so complex, with many individuals working in isolation, I wonder if the lack of simplicity in our church structures and communication practices facilitate a lack of volunteerism and ministry. Burnout is a perpetual problem in local congregations; but if people are already fiercely independent, and have no idea who to go to for help, then we create a perfect mix for dysfunctional self-sufficiency to occur. More nominating committees will need to occur and more victims ... I mean volunteers ... recruited to

perpetuate the cycle.

These are mostly pastoral musings, but I think there are tangible elements to begin implementing. First, making people aware of these patterns and tendencies wakes them up to self-destructive practices. Second, according to Malkin, is “increase the quantity of power to use intelligence.” Giving creative voice to leaders and teams reduces complexity, which is scary for churches entrenched in control and rules. However, this shift creates a “reciprocity” where people *must* go to one another for help. Finally, we “extend the shadow of the future” by creating “feedback loops” where people can actually see their efforts make a difference.

Organizational complexity places people in microcosms that are disconnected from the action — how do they see the results of what they do? How do they know that what they do matters? One of Adventism's traditional values is simplicity. Are we making church community too complex, and, if so, what might we do to empower more people to create a healthy interdependence?

*Seth Pierce, Puyallup
Church lead pastor*



READING ELLEN WHITE ISN'T BIBLE STUDY

A

newly baptized Adventist phoned our home, distraught about a Bible study promoted in her church's bulletin. She brought her Bible but discovered they were studying Ellen White's *Early Writings*.

"I love reading Ellen White," she protested, "but this is supposed to be a *Bible* study!"

"It is a Bible study," they insisted. "We focus on verses Sister White quotes — that ensures we are studying the most important Bible texts for Adventists."

Is that a good way to search the Scriptures — through the eyes of Ellen White in *Steps to Christ*, *Desire of Ages* or the *Testimonies*? Or should we study the Bible itself to know what it's saying?

Instead of consulting our personal opinions, let's do an actual test right here, using the biblical book of Philippians. We will simply tally up how many

times Ellen White quotes each of 18 well-known

verses in Paul's epistle. With that indisputable quantified data we can compare Ellen White's inspirational priorities with what we see in Scripture.

Our world church has made Ellen White's entire writings convenient and without cost on egwwritings.org. Selecting the setting "Lifetime Works" limits our results to what she actually



AUTHOR

Martin Weber



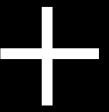
wrote, avoiding compilations put together by church committees during the century since her death.*

Now we are ready to paste into the search box each of the following 18 verses in the King James Version, Ellen White's lifelong standard. The number of times she quotes each one is shown after the text:

- » "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil. 1:6) = 9 times. (In 70 years of writing, Ellen White quotes this verse an average of once every eight years.)
- » "For to me to live is Christ" (1:21) = 2 times (once in 1898 and again in 1911).
- » "Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind" (2:2) = 22 times.
- » "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name. That at the name



PERSPECTIVE



If you want a balanced view of Scripture, consider going directly to God's Word and reading it for yourself.

- of Jesus every knee should bow" (2:9-10) = 31 times.
- » "Every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord" (2:10-11) = 36 times.
- » "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling" (2:12) = 249 times.
- » "Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord" (3:1) = 0 times.
- » We "worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh" (3:3) = 0 times.
- » "What things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ" (3:7) = 13 times.
- » "I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord" (3:8) = 45 times.
- » "That I may win Christ, and be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of

- the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ" (3:9) = 11 times.
- » "That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection" (3:10) = 22 times.
- » "This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (3:13-14) = 37 times.
- » "My brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord" (4:1) = 13 times.
- » "... whose names are in the book of life" (4:3) = 9 times.
- » "I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content" (4:11) = 0 times.
- » "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me"

- (4:13) = 26 times.
- » "My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (4:19) = 5 times.

The dominant theme in Philippians is joyous confidence for all believers through a relationship with Jesus on the basis of His death and resurrection. Yet some who read only Ellen White's writings may miss this important theme. While she quotes Phil. 2:12 nearly as much as all other 17 texts above combined, nearly half of those passages emphasize working out salvation with fear and trembling without including the qualifying promise in the rest of the passage: "for it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure."

When we read only what others have written about Scripture — even from Ellen White — we may end up with an incomplete understanding of God's great plan of redemption.

Before you prepare a letter to the editor, let me be clear on this point:

Ellen White's ministry with and for our church was a God-inspired gift with which we should gratefully engage for counsel. But the lesser light, as she described it, should never replace the greater light. If you want a balanced view of Scripture, consider going directly to God's Word and reading it for yourself — which, by the way, is exactly what Ellen White herself recommended.

*Underneath the upper left search box, you will see "Search All." Click the little arrow to change that setting to "Lifetime Works," which includes everything she wrote during her lifetime — books and pamphlets with all her released letters.

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



JUST LIKE JESUS

THE LAW

S

in is choosing to go my way rather than God's way.

Sin is living like I know better.

Sin is "me first."

Sin is separation from God and His will.

Sin is not "just" doing bad stuff; it's living like God doesn't matter.

Sin is a symptom of a broken relationship.

Sin is ignoring God's advice.

Get the idea?

Sin is not "just" doing bad stuff; it's living like God doesn't matter. Rather like running my car without engine oil, not because it's smart or because I'm stupid, but because I want to. Even though I know the owner's manual tells me the oil chamber must be full at all times and even suggests the oil be exchanged for new pure clean oil every 5,000 miles. I just power on, ignoring the red blinking engine light and assuming all will go well because I want it to.

The penalty of sin? In the case of my car, the result is a blown engine and a lot of expense and some very long walks.

"It's like this," my brother Jack used to say. "When the Creator was through making things on Day Six, He took

Adam and Eve out for a Friday evening stroll in the garden. As they walked He explained everything they saw — which trees had the tastiest fruit, what to do with the 'weedy' artichoke plants, how to talk with the dogs and cats and dolphins, all the good stuff they'd need to know if they were going to live happily in the garden.

"Then," Jack would say, "the Creator stopped on the edge of a place where the plants seemed shorter and the grass more yellow.

"Look out there,' the Creator said. 'See all the yellow tape strung around the sinkholes?'"

"Yes,' Adam and Eve answered. 'Has there been an accident out there? Why the yellow tape?'"

"There are 10 giant sinkholes in the garden,' the Creator explained. 'If you wander off on your own there's a good chance you'll lose your way and fall into one of them. There is no bottom in the holes, so if you fall in, it will be quite terrible. Yes, I'll be there to catch you if you call me, but you will still suffer from the fall. It's best to walk with me and let me keep you away from the sinkholes.'

"That's God's Law," Jack would say. "Ten sinkholes, surrounded by bright yellow tape imprinted with DANGER — DO NOT

CROSS. But, to get to the sinkholes you have to leave the trail!"

God's law, as recorded in Exodus 20, begins with the Creator explaining why we should listen to Him. "I am the One who delivered you from bondage, the One who has given you freedom. To enjoy the fullness of this freedom, you must . . ."

Then He lists the Ten Commands. Describes the Ten Sinkholes. Points to the most dangerous decisions you can make. Explains the danger of walking away from the path, of ambling along without Him, of "doing it my way."

The Law is one of the Creator's kindest gifts. In it He promises to always be our personal Deliverer. To protect us from the dangers of wandering off and falling into a sinkhole of selfishness. It is His guarantee that if we stay close to Him, walk with Him, let Him deliver us into freedom, we will experience the very best of life.

As Jesus explained it in John 10:10, "The thief has come to steal, kill, and destroy, but I have come so you can have Life as God lives it, full to overflowing, endless and free."

Pretty good offer, isn't it?

Dick Duerksen, Oregon Conference storycatcher and storyteller



AUTHOR

Dick Duerksen

Northwest Religious Liberty Association



Christian Nation by Law?

What were the Constitutional Founders' Intentions?
Why the Answer Matters to Our Church's Prophetic Mission



Keynote speakers include:

Derek H. Davis

of Baylor University and author of *Religion and the Continental Congress, 1774-1789: Contributions to Original Intent*.



Robert P. Ericksen

of Pacific Lutheran University and author of *Complicity in the Holocaust: Churches & Universities in Nazi Germany*.



Nicholas P. Miller

of Andrews University and author of *The Religious Roots of the First Amendment: Dissenting Protestants and the Separation of Church and State*.

and many more ...



A Seminar for Lovers of American History and Prophetic Understanding Oct. 1–3, 2018

Northwest Headquarters of the Seventh-day Adventist Church
5709 N 20th St • Ridgefield, WA 98642

Register: email rhonda.bolton@nw.npuc.org or call 360-857-7040

gleaner

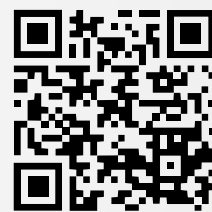
North Pacific Union Conference
5709 N. 20th St.
Ridgefield, WA 98642

gleanernow.com

PERIODICALS



Thousands
already know.
Why not you?



gleanerweekly

Latest *Gleaner*
newsletter free
to your email inbox
each week.



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

» **SIGN UP NOW AT**
gleanerweekly.com