INTERSECTIONS A CHANCE TO WIN

PERSPECTIVE SACRED RUTS

LET'S TALK MEMORIES

SICAINET ADVENTISTS IN COLUMN 1





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MAY 2014

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION









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gleaner

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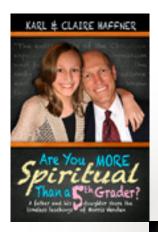


Sign up for a chance to win!

Each week during May, the *Gleaner* will give away two copies of the new book Are You More Spiritual Than a 5th Grader to readers of GleanerWeekly. If you don't already receive this weekly enewsletter, sign up at GleanerWeekly.com to enter the drawing, and we'll email you the first chapter of the book!

Enter the Drawing for This New Book

The father-daughter author duo of Karl and Claire Haffner, have teamed up to repackage Morris Venden's simple but classic message of righteousness by faith. In each chapter of this new Pacific Press book, you'll learn more of what it means to be connected to God with bonds that cannot be broken.





MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

The new GleanerNow.com website features a media section with inspirational videos worth sharing.





The Gift of Prophecy

One of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is prophecy, and it is also one of the our beliefs as Seventh-day Adventists. This short video, prepared by the North American Division, shares what Ellen White means to Cindy Tutsch, retired associate director of the Ellen White Estate.

LETTERS



About GleanerWeekly

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

Sign up now at GleanerWeekly.com



Animal Encounters

As part of the Adventist Church's 2014 emphasis on creation, the General Conference has produced an 11-episode TV series featuring some amazing animals. This episode features cats, from jaguars and cheetahs to rare white lions.

glnr.in/may-animals

Kudos for Prison Ministry

Thank you for taking the time to write and publish the story "In Prison ... and You Visited Me" [February 2014]. It was a beautiful article that highlighted the passion and vocation of Ms. Shultz. It also thoroughly highlighted the importance of prison ministry. At the Department of Corrections we know we cannot do this alone! We need volunteers to come inside and better prepare these adults in custody for the transition back to the community. It is so important for Oregonians to understand. Thank you for shedding light! — Collette Peters, Oregon Department of Corrections director

Not the Same Old Thing

I picked up the latest issue [March 2014] and expected to glance through it in just a moment. Instead I was drawn into reading it from cover to cover. Great job. The new layout was inviting. The conference articles were more than just the same old thing. I am very encouraged to read about the Montana campus ministry — long overdue. And I especially liked the columns by Seth Pierce and my friend Marty Weber. And [in Let's Talk], how you turned a cold into something interesting was a journalistic marvel. I will pass this issue along to others. Keep up the good work! — Jere Webb, Eagle, Idaho

Misery Loves Company

I always enjoy reading your commentaries in the *Gleaner*, but wanted to let you know how timely your latest one is for me [Let's Talk, March 2014]. As I am sitting here in the *Christian News Northwest* world headquarters perusing it, my box of tissues is well within reach. Today is the first day in a week that I have felt at all human. Misery indeed. Reading your commentary, it was so good to know someone understands. (Smile) — *John Fortmeyer*, Christian News Northwest *publisher*



Glad for the Adventist Advantage

Wow! It is with tremendous appreciation that I read Elder Weber's first article ["The Adventist Advantage," February 2014]. After many years of being ashamed for being an Adventist I can say that this article has made me intensely proud. — Jan Elkins, Molalla, Ore.

Seventh-day Adventurists

Regarding Martin Weber's article "The Adventist Advantage": My husband told me once that someone asked him if he was one of those "Seventh-day Advantages" or "Seventh-day Adventurists" (he couldn't recall which). I like both and think they both apply! Thank you to God, Martin Weber and the Gleaner for this article. — Evelyn Johnson, Fairfield, Mont.

Send your letters to talk@gleanernow.com.



Vancouver primary class has a heart for God's children.

GO TO

glnr.in/lhg9llix



Walla Walla students complete 72 hours of Bible reading.

SEE PAGE

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"With such an army of workers as our youth" Oregon grows teen leaders.

SEE PAGE

18



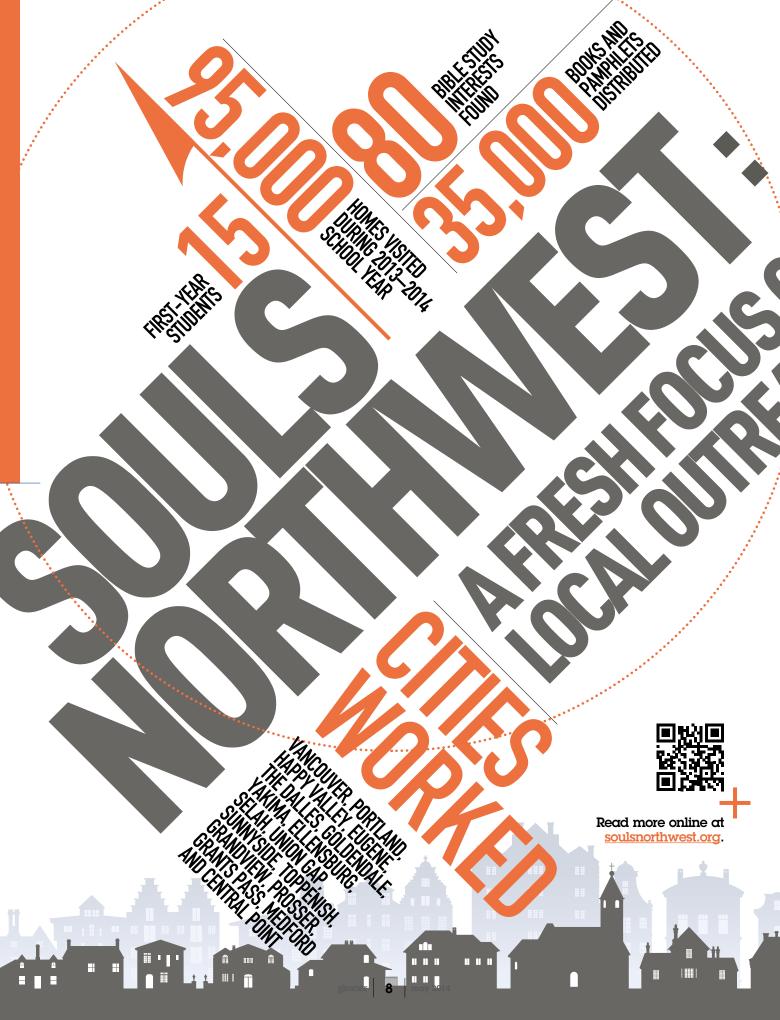
aranatha

Stuff



Tok and Delta Pathfinders find Alaskan snow caves a tight squeeze.





any of the thousands of people surrounding our churches will never hear the truth of Jesus' soon return unless we share with them personally. These are the "all the world" that Jesus told us to baptize and disciple. But how do we start? How do we overcome our fears and doubts and lack of experience?

We can't just hire someone to do the work for us — that's expensive and only deepens our individual lack of involvement in gospel work. There are just too many people who need to hear about Christ for paid church workers to reach them — all of us need to be reaching out to share the gospel. But to be effective we need training, motivation and someone to help organize and structure the work of outreach evangelism in our churches — we need outreach leaders.

Enter SOULS Northwest, the North Pacific Union's outreach leadership school. The goal is to develop capable, experienced and visionary lay leadership for the local church. The model is a practical, two-year training experience with academically rigorous classes and more than 2,000 hours of mentored ministry experience. Students learn practical skills like how to teach, motivate and organize church volunteers. They gain a sound footing in Bible doctrines as well as how to study the Bible with others. SOULS provides training for all forms of personal evangelism such as Bible instruction, literature evangelism, health ministries and helping the poor, with the expectation that our graduates will assist churches in connecting already-thriving church programs like CHIP (Complete Health Improvement Program) and Adventist Community Services with an inhome ministry model.

SOULS Northwest is intentional about training its students in the context of real-world ministry — not just designing the "model" that our staff members think will work best. Since every church is unique, our students must learn principles that can be applied to different settings and church cultures and will work in any context. For this reason much of the field experience our students receive happens with groups of two students working in churches here in the Northwest.



As Ellen White explains, "Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, 'Follow Me'" (Ministry of Healing, p. 143).

It's this personal contact, the one-on-one

It's this personal contact, the one-on-one mingling, sympathizing, ministering and calling to follow Jesus, that SOULS Northwest is training leaders to facilitate. Most students who graduate SOULS Northwest will enter the gospel ministry not as pastors or public evangelists but as Bible-worker trainers and outreach leaders hired by the local church.

SOULS Northwest is a self-funded ministry of the North Pacific Union that is totally funded by student tuition. Our goal is that students will be able to graduate debt-free. To enable this we use literature evangelism as both a training tool for personal work as well as a source of funding so students can pay their way as they go through school.

Jason Worf, SOULS Northwest director



SABRINA: LOVE WHAT I'M LEARNING SABRINA COTTRILL

AGE: 19

YEARS AN ADVENTIST: 12

FAVORITE THING ABOUT SOULS NORTHWEST:

I love all the things I've been learning and have appreciated how deep we've been going with the Bible.

FAVORITE BIBLE TEXT: Proverbs 3:5–6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths."

VISION FOR THE CHURCH: I want to see my church more engaged in personal ministry — visiting people in their homes — especially the youth.

Even though I've been in an Adventist church for much of my life, I didn't really understand what it was about until a new Bible class and a great teacher started

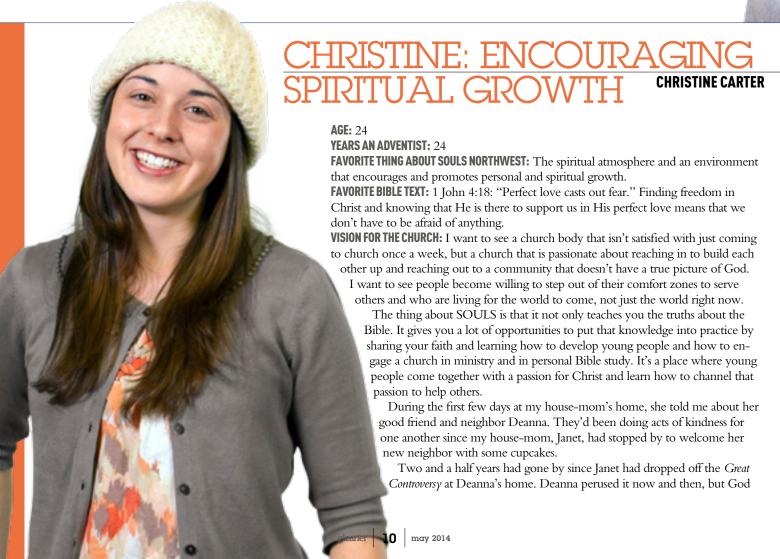
opening up the Bible to me. Now that I'm at SOULS and studying the Bible more in-depth, I really see how I'm growing both in my knowledge of God as well as my love for Him. During some challenging times this year, I've realized that God has used them to grow my faith and trust in Him and that He really does bring good out of even the most painful circumstances.

During one visit I showed a book called *Peace Above the Storm* to a woman who opened it to a chapter called "Freedom From Guilt" and began to skim through the page. Through her tears she turned to me and said, "I really need this book. When my grandchildren were abandoned I tried to take care of them, but they were so young that I just couldn't. I ended up giving them up for adoption." I can't judge

her situation, but it's clear that God was using me to bring His Word into her heart.

I shared the same book with Vincent after he had returned from a hard day working in the vineyards. He opened to a chapter called "Perfect Peace" and immediately decided this was the perfect book for him. As he pulled a bill out of his pocket he said, "When I finished work today there was an older man with white hair standing by my truck. I had never met him before, but he just handed me this \$10 bill and walked away. I think he wanted me to get this book."

Vincent kept calling me "an angel," and I guess he was right. "Angel" means "messenger," and I'm glad that I was able to bring the message of salvation to Vincent's home.





JAMES: GETTING
INSPIRED TO SERVE JAMES VALDEZ

AGE: 18

YEARS AN ADVENTIST: 18

FAVORITE THING ABOUT SOULS NORTHWEST: I really enjoy the classes because I'm always learning something new and getting more inspired to serve God.

FAVORITE BIBLE TEXT: 2 Corinthians 12:9: "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

VISION FOR THE CHURCH: Ever since my grandparents were baptized in a Los Angeles evangelistic series, my family has had a long history of bringing people closer to Jesus. I'm glad that I'm at SOULS Northwest where I can refine my skills and learn to continue our family's mission in sharing the gospel message.

Prayer is so central to what we do at SOULS. I have been praying a lot more here than I ever did before. When I wake up, when I go to sleep and definitely when I'm visiting people — I'm always

When you're relating to people all day who don't have a good picture of God, you realize how little you can do without His power. During one visit, I found a lady outside her house smoking and drinking a beer. In my mind I thought, "This is going to be a waste of time," but I went up to her and showed her my books with a prayer in my heart. She began to open up to me and told me how hard things have been in her life. She ended up getting one of my books and promising that she would read it. I know God will be with her as she starts to study the Bible.

The experiences we have every day as we go

out and search for Christ's "lost sheep" rival any missionary story from Africa or Asia or the South Sea islands. But probably more significant than any miraculous experiences are the hundreds of people who for no apparent reason at all say, "Sure, I'll get your book" or "Yes, I'd like to sign up for Bible studies" just because we were willing to come to their door and meet them in a

wasn't her primary interest. She believed that He existed, but her devotional life stopped short, right about there.

Janet told me that she wanted me to meet Deanna. She hoped and prayed that this would be the year Deanna would begin her personal walk with God. But one night we woke up to flashing red lights outside — the fire department and an ambulance had arrived. Deanna had been unresponsive and was taken to the emergency room. Janet went with her.

The next day we went to visit her together. After a good hour or so, Janet mustered up the courage to ask Deanna if we could pray for her. A little taken back but not repulsed, Deanna agreed. We prayed. She was so grateful.

Deanna didn't make it to the week of prayer, nor did she make it to either of the two cooking classes that came afterward. But when the Revelation seminars began — she was there. And she was there faithfully. After the meetings, Deanna, Janet and I studied twice a week together, and Deanna shared her desire to be baptized.

It's taken years — years of just being a friend with no strings attached, years of prayer and years of little seeds, here and there. Now that the seeds have sprouted, the plant is growing. And now these two friends have something greater than themselves in common — they have their love for God.

personal

way.



NORTHWEST // NEWS

EL NOMBRE DE ADVENTISTAS DEL SÉPTIMO DIA EN GRANITE FALLS

or tanto, id y haced discípulos en todas las naciones ..." (San Mateo 28:19). El imperativo dado por el Señor Jesús, sigue resonando en cada rincón del mundo, siendo escuchado y obedecido por hombres y mujeres fieles que responden a Su llamado. Es claro que la palabra "naciones" tiene un significado especial. Una definición cercana a la palabra original de naciones es "ethnos" (etnia). Por lo tanto, si él Señor Jesús se refería a "etnias," quiere decir que el cumplimiento de la "misión" es posible y alcanzable si cada iglesia adopta un nuevo territorio para evangelizar.

En diciembre del 2013, a la iglesia hispana del distrito en Marysville, Wash., se le presento un nuevo desafío por la Conferencia de Washington. Este desafio consistía en plantar una nueva congregación hispana en la ciudad de Granite Falls, Wash. Y aunque en dicha ciudad los hispanos son una minoría, el desafío fue tomado con gusto por el pastor Gregorio Toruño y la iglesia hispana. Para comenzar este proyecto, la Conferencia de Washington dispuso el uso del edificio de un templo



La iglesia de Marysville aceptando el compromiso de "id y predicad."

Adventista localizado en ese lugar y además fueron apoyados por el líder de la obra hispana, en la Unión del Pacifico Norte, el pastor Ramón Canals.

Así, llego el día esperado. El 8 de febrero del presente año, se dio por iniciado el gran proyecto y desde entonces, cada sábado, los hermanos de la iglesia de Marysville están visitando los hogares hispanos de Granite Falls, creando con esto, contactos misioneros y preparando a la comunidad para que en el mes de mayo se lleve a cabo la primera gran campaña de evangelismo en ese lugar.

Nuestros hermanos de Marysville, están muy entusiasmados y se han propuesto, con la ayuda de Dios, muy pronto ver hecho realidad el sueño de ver el nacimiento de una nueva iglesia hispana Adventista del Séptimo Día, ahora en Granite Falls, para que Su nombre brille en la comunidad hispana y sean atraídas cientos de personas a la luz del bendito mensaje de los tres ángeles.

Agradecemos a Dios por este movimiento y esfuerzo en su iglesia y todas las circunstancias que rodean a Granite Falls, ya que se está sembrando la palabra de Dios.

Gregorio Toruño, pastor del Distrito Norte de la Conferencia de Washington



MISSIONARY TEACHERS NEEDED

Why not combine your teaching skills with the high calling of being a missionary in Alaska?

Alaska has one of the finest education systems in the United States, and there are lots of job openings in the public school sector throughout the state. Visit alaskaconference.org, where you will see openings for missionary/pastoral couples. Take a look at such villages in Alaska as Gambell, Savoonga, Selawik, Bethel, Barrow, Katzebue, Togiak and Aleknagik.

Or go to alaskateacher.org and find the job that suits you. We would love to have you in Alaska.



n first grade, the GoMath text says 1 + 2 = 3; in second grade, 18 - 7 = 11; in fifth grade, 9.435 - 2.903 is rounded to 6; in seventh grade, ab = c. But at the beginning of the 2013-14 school year in Juneau, no one expected "Jesus math."

The Juneau Adventist Christian School was excited in May 2013 by the prospect of 10 to 13 new students the coming school year. But as the summer flew by, two prospective families didn't come to Juneau, and other prospects chose public schools within walking distance.

By the July board meeting, the school faced the possibility of only three students and therefore closure. Despite a budget that showed thousands

of dollars in deep red ink, board members chose to operate the school another year.

The church family's faith was rewarded, and five students answered roll call on opening day in August. In midwinter, even as budget realities and bills showed up, school treasurer Lynne Jackson reported she had no idea why but the school was more than \$15,000 in the black; it had to be "Jesus math."

For a projected budget so deep in the hole, this was God's miracle for a congregation of faith, a congregation continuing the school year in hope of teaching students more Jesus math.

Nickie Romine, Juneau Adventist Christian School head teacher



Juneau students Reggie Younker, Matthew Plang, Austin Springob and Holly Larson, plus Cye O'Neal (not pictured), are living factors in the school's "Jesus math."



n late September 2013, Chad Angasan, Togiak Church pastor, started the Native New Day Bible studies with Carmen and Corina Williams, who were happy to get to know Jesus on such an intimate level. During these studies, Jesus was becoming a community of friends, a circle of trust and companionship to them.

Meanwhile, another thirsty soul was desiring this experience with Jesus. Cindy Jo Sutton had been digging in the Word a couple of months this winter, and her hunger for the Word of God was like a hungry mamma bear after hibernation. Also like a caring mother, she thought of her cubs; Sutton has five kids. Her three older kids, Rhemus, Kalena and Aeris, followed in the footsteps of their mother to be baptized, and her toddler twins were dedicated. Carmen Williams, a mother of three, had her babies dedicated as well.

In all, seven people were baptized and five babies were dedicated on March 8 at the Togiak Church. It was a proud day for Alvaro, Sutton's husband and father of their five beautiful kids. The father



of Carmen's kids had a special glow of his face knowing that their little ones were dedicated to the Lord.

Togiak is a village of 800 people, so through this event more than 1 percent of that population was committed and dedicated to Jesus. While Bible studies continue with these baptized candidates, their pastor gives "thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever" (Psalms 136:1, ESV). He looks forward to seeing what else God will do in the near future.

Chad Angasan, Togiak Church pastor



The choir turns to watch Tom Teague (left) as Chris Evenson, Nampa Church pastor, shares Teague's story with the church family.

NAMPA MAN IS **FINALLY HOME**

om Teague's baptism on March 1 by Chris Evenson, Nampa Church pastor, marked the end of a long spiritual search and the beginning of a new life in Christ. Raised a Catholic, Teague left that fellowship after graduating from high school. For 12 years he chose not to embrace any other religious body then was a baptized member of Christ's Church for six years.



Tom Teague and Chris Evenson take a moment just before Teague's baptism.

Sometime later, he became a member of another church, only to leave once again. He and others who also left that congregation attempted to hold worship services in various homes; however, their numbers dwindled until no one was left. Unfulfilled in his own personal study, Teague was once again spiritually adrift.

Teague says, "Being a tech enthusiast, I began regularly

listening to various podcasts on subjects that interested me." He stumbled onto Amazing Facts with Doug Batchelor and eventually discovered 3ABN (Three Angels Broadcasting Network) and other Adventist preachers. He watched these sermons for several years and began reading the Bible and praying regularly.

Each media pastor stressed the importance of attending a church to fellowship with like-minded Christians. Teague resisted this idea but eventually decided that he needed to become more active. He parked across the street from the Nampa Church in May 2012 and observed the people coming and going and the greeters outside shaking hands and generally being friendly with all who entered. Almost a year later, in March 2013, he finally decided to attend and is now a baptized member of that fellowship.

There's so much more to that story, but Teague gives all the credit to the Holy Spirit and how He has guided and worked with him over the years, never losing patience with him. Welcome home,

Shirley Maxwell, Nampa Church communication leader

acific Press has appointed Larry Johnson as the new vice president of production. He replaces Chuck Bobst, who recently retired after serving in that role for 12 years.

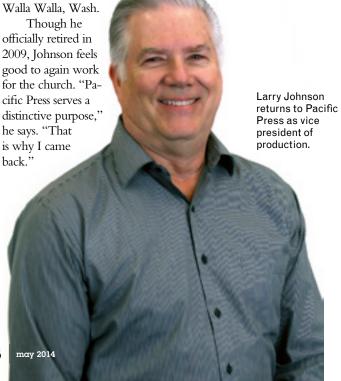
Johnson first joined Pacific Press in 1984, just as it moved from Mountain View, Calif., to Nampa, Idaho. Eight years later, he relocated to Russia to help establish the publishing work there.

Johnson's experience includes serving as associate publishing director for the Far Eastern Division and at the General Conference in Silver Spring, Md. After a brief return to Pacific Press, Johnson spent nine years as president of Color Press, located in

Dale Galusha, Pacific Press president, says, "With his keen sense of mission and his vast experience, we look forward to the invaluable contribution [Johnson] will make to the ministry of Pacific Press."

Regarding the challenges currently facing the publishing work, Johnson says, "Books will continue to be an important vehicle for sharing the truth, for those in the church and especially for those who long to know the truth."

Karen Pearson, Pacific Press publicity and public relations director





REFLECTION NTERACTION

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 6-8 **Ed Fest**

MAY 30-JUNE 1 **Mount Ellis Academy** Graduation

You are invited to join the 112th graduating class of Mount Ellis Academy.

2014-2015 MEA **Enrollment Is Now Open**

More information is available online at mtellis.org, along with details on financial aid options and enrollment forms. We're looking forward to another great year of helping students "Discover, Develop and Serve."

> JUNE 18-21 **Camp Meeting**

> > JUNE 22-29

Summer Camp

AUG. 13-17 **Montana Youth** Conference (ages 18-29)

Worship, camping, water skiing, hiking and socializing at Log Gulch Campground, Holter Lake. For more information, contact Katie Harris at 406-750-1370 or katielynn014@gmail.com.

he Gospel Commission is to "go into all the world" and "make disciples of all the nations" (see Mark 16:15, Matt. 28:18). The word "commission" is "co-mission." It is God's invitation to be involved in the mission with Him. A pastor friend shared what he considers to be both the aim and motto of Jesus: "to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). The motto of His life could be summed up this way: "The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve" (Mark 10:45). It is reaching out to our communities in selfless service of the Master that follows the example of Christ.

Shortly after praying for opportunities to interact with our community, I attended a recital by a group of string players. I discovered the father of one performer was also the director of the university music program. During our conversation, I told him how much I missed playing my trumpet after leaving Colorado, where I played in our school's band.

By the end of the week I received an email from the music professor inviting me to join the university's concert band. I consider each practice session to be a divine appointment as I learn about those around me and have opportunity to share. Notice these words of instruction: "Our words, our actions, our deportment, our dress, everything, should preach. Not only with our words should we speak to the people, but everything pertaining to our person should be a sermon to them ... that the truth

spoken may be taken by them to their homes. Thus our faith

will stand in a better light before the community" (Testimonies, vol. 2, p. 618).

What an opportunity to serve and glorify God by impacting the lives of others through community interaction!

What would happen if more became involved in reaching our communities? What impact could be made if individuals collectively worked for the benefit of

During this summer's Montana Camp Meeting, we can make a difference in the lives of others as we come "not merely to receive, but to impart" (Christian Service, p. 196). Community service projects throughout the week will allow those who choose, both old and young, to interact with the community.

Where are you ministering for God? How are you plugging into the mission of Christ? If you are not, where is God calling you to become involved?

Barry Taylor, Montana Conference ministerial, church ministries and planned giving director



NEW PRINCIPAL NAMED FOR MOUNT **ELLIS ACADEMY**

he Montana Conference Board of Education has named Michael Lee the next principal of Mount Ellis Academy (MEA) in Bozeman, effective July 2014. He replaces Bruce Lane, who will return to retirement after a year as interim principal.

Lee graduated from MEA in 2001. He will be the second graduate to serve as principal and is a third-generation alumnus. Lee comes to MEA from Hawaiian Mission Academy (HMA), where he teaches choir and religion and serves as the campus chaplain. Before joining HMA, Lee taught English in Thailand and received a

Master of Art in Teaching and Bachelor of Arts in religion and biblical languages from Walla Walla University.

"We are excited to welcome Michael back home to Mount Ellis," says Merlin Knowles, MEA operating board chairman. "He brings a youthful energy to the position, and most important he has a deep love of God."

Current MEA principal Bruce Lane taught Lee at MEA and in subsequent years was an educational colleague of Lee's in Hawaii. "He brings the love and passion for MEA that is so needed in an environment like this," says Lane.

"A smaller school needs that passion to continue going the way it is, and his experience as an educator as well as his years at MEA perfectly [suit] him for this transition."

Knowles adds, "We believe that he is the right person for Mount Ellis at this time as the school moves on to the next level."

Lee says this opportunity has extra import because he is an MEA alumnus. "To be back in Montana gets me really excited. MEA is my home - my alma mater. I know the people, and I know the school," says Lee. "The school not only gave me the opportunity to



Michael Lee is the next principal of Mount Ellis Academy.

serve in a world I hadn't known before, but it gave me the encouragement to keep going and keep trying — to keep pushing. Not just staff members but the local community and church members were instrumental to my development through the years there. I'm excited to give back to a place that has meant so much."

Kevin Emmerson, MEA development director



OREGON

CONFERENCE // NEWS

OREGON PATHFINDERS HOLD 'CALLING ON JESUS' TLT CONVENTION

een Pathfinders in grades 9–12 attended the Oregon Conference Teen Leadership Training (TLT) Convention Jan. 31–Feb. 2 at Camp Adams in Molalla, Ore. It was expected to be a wet weekend throughout, but on Sabbath morning the rain stopped. Following Sabbath morning worship everyone went outside for a hike in the forest. The sun shone through

the trees as the teens participated in a spiritual leadership scavenger hunt activity written and facilitated by Rachel Scribner, a mentor from the Riverside Pathfinders in Washougal, Wash.

The weekend was filled with leadership training workshops for TLTs and mentors alike. There were 46 TLTs learning, 31 mentors modeling, 16 clubs attending, 20 instruc-



There were 46 TLTs learning, 31 mentors modeling, 16 clubs attending, 20 instructors teaching and 18 convention staff helping.



On Sabbath afternoon, the teens participated in a spiritual leadership scavenger hunt.

tors teaching, 18 convention staff participating and our threein-one God guiding.

TLTs from throughout the Oregon Conference attended, along with three clubs from the Washington Conference and one club from the Nevada-Utah Conference. Angie Gardner, TLT coordinator for Lake Region Conference in the upper Midwest, and Marcia John, TLT coordinator from the South England Conference in the United Kingdom, came to observe and learn concepts of TLT ministry to take back with them to their conferences.

Some of the concepts piloted at the convention will be included in the revised *TLT Manual*, which is scheduled for release by the North American Division Pathfinder ministries this summer.



New TLTs are inducted at each convention.

Plans are already developing for next year's TLT Convention, scheduled for Jan. 30–Feb. 1, 2015. TLTs and mentors, along with conference TLT coordinators and directors, are already planning to attend. Jesus is using the TLT ministry to create a powerful impact in the lives of teen Pathfinders.

Tracy Wood, Oregon Conference youth ministries director

SANDY CHURCH PROVIDES TRAINING AND TREATS



Seminar attendees receive cookbooks and tastings of plant-based foods.

unchtime on March
1 found almost 60
hungry participants enjoying a
special afternoon presentation
focused on "Plant-Based
Comfort Foods." Dick and
Carol Hanson led out, providing
lectures, videos and personal
experiences. Attendees from
two area churches and the
community enjoyed grilled
"cheese" sandwiches, chips and

dips, candy, cobbler and ice cream, and other delicious and healthful samples.

A free cookbook was provided for each person, and everyone received an invitation to the April 4 Creation Seminar with Doug Newton. Several guests from the community stayed after to talk with the Hansons and get more helpful hints. Those that attended

learned things that will benefit them and their families. Following the example of Jesus, who ministered to people's physical needs first, was a blessing to both the presenters and the attendees. All are looking forward to next quarter's class.

Veronica Crockett, Sandy Church communication leader



IID-COLUMBIA STUDENTS TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON D.C.

special event takes place every year at Mid-Columbia Adventist Christian School (MCACS) in Hood River. Peter Hardy, MCACS principal, plans a field trip for his ninth- and 10th-graders to one of two locations, either San Diego, Calif., or Washington, D.C. This year they went to Washington D.C.

The trip was Jan. 9 to 16, during severe winter weather. But they felt very fortunate and blessed. Even though storms were quite severe this year, especially in the Northeast, there was enough of a break from the falling snow and ice to complete visits to the places planned without difficulty.

Geneses Quezada states that on their first day they went to Gettysburg, Penn., where the students "saw the fields where the Confederate and Union soldiers fought."

After that they went to George Washington's home at Mount Vernon, the Smithsonian, the Capitol and the White House.

"It was very fun but educational as well," says Austin Chapman. "We got to learn about the wars ... at Williamsburg and Gettysburg." As a non-Adventist, he states how he also "especially enjoyed visiting the Seventh-day Adventist church there."

Expenses were minimized because the entire group was invited to stay at Hardy's brother's house.

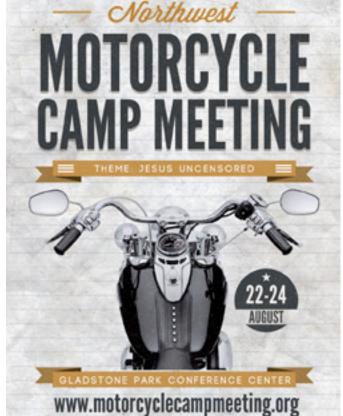
All agreed with Halee Chapman that, if given the opportunity, they would absolutely love to go back to visit again.

nication leader

Joyce Gallentine, Mid-Columbia Adventist Christian School commu-



Four ninth- and 10th-grade Mid-Columbia Adventist Christian School students went on a Washington D.C. field trip with their principal, Peter Hardy.



Mid-Columbia Adventist Christian School students pay their respects at the grave of President John F. Kennedy.



OREGON

CONFERENCE // NEWS



PAA student missionaries gathered on stage during a special assembly for a prayer of dedication before they traveled around the globe to be the "hands and feet of Christ."

PAA EMPHASIZES SERVICE AND MISSION

mphasis on service at Portland Adventist Academy (PAA) was demonstrated during a dedication chapel for the many staff and students participating in five different missions during spring

"Your PAA staff and teachers have a goal," said Stephen Lundquist, head of PAA's religion department, during the assembly. "It is our goal to see every student, during their time at PAA, experience at least one mission trip before they graduate. We want you to know what it's like to be the 'hands and feet of Christ."

That goal is the reason the school takes a two-week spring break that accommodates the time needed for the many students and staff to take the time to travel the globe.

This year students and staff joined five different missions. One group traveled to Peru with the North Pacific Union Conference to do evangelism

work. Another joined the Jabez Humanitarian Foundation for a third year of bringing health service and education to the people of Fiji. Others journeyed to the Bahamas, where students sailed from one island to another to help communities maintain homes, schools and other infrastructures. Two different groups stayed in the Portland area — one to serve at nonprofits and churches actively involved with homeless ministries and the other to volunteer with International Children's Care.

"I think this generation really recognizes that following Christ is more than just talking about Him or studying about Him," says Lundquist, "but actually doing the things He did to make an impact in our community, in our city and in our world. These students are ambassadors."

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA Gleaner correspondent

PAA STUDENT RECEIVES PRESIDENTIAL SERVICE AWARD

ortland Adventist
Academy (PAA) senior
Elizabeth McDonald is involved.
That's why she was recently
honored with a President's
Volunteer Service Award.

The award recognizes those who have volunteered a significant amount of their time to serve their communities and country. It is granted by the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program on behalf of President Barack Obama.

McDonald serves as a leader on PAA's campus ministry team, is president of

the student association, is a member of the publications team, stays active in her home church and has impacted our world on several mission trips

mission trips. She also is involved in nearly every

music group at PAA and has participated in many service activities. Staff and students alike admire her enthusiasm, leadership and love for serving others.

"PAA offers so many opportunities to get involved," says McDonald. "These opportunities have inspired me to get out there. I've always had the will and motivation to serve, but PAA has encouraged me and given me opportunities to do it more."

Liesl Vistaunet





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BATTLE GROUND CLINIC SERVES NORTH CLARK COUNTY RESIDENTS

here are 61,000 people without health care insurance in northern Clark County, Wash.

This staggering statistic inspired the creation of Battle Ground Health Care, a free chronic care clinic that opened in May 2011 as an outreach of the local

Meadow Glade Church.

The clinic was presented a grant of \$184,561 from Dave Horn, Washington State deputy attorney general, in December 2013. When asked about the future of this outreach as the Affordable Care Act is rolled out, Horn stated, "I don't think this clinic is going to run out of work any time soon."

Kristen Turek, senior philanthropic advisor for the Community Foundation in Vancouver, Wash., also presented a check for \$5,000 from the Jane



A \$5,000 grant is presented to Bill Pritchard, orthodontist and BGHC dental clinic advisor, by Kristen Turek, Community Foundation senior philanthropic advisor.



Battle Ground Health Care's supporters include (from left) Anne Lamberton, clinic dietitian; Lynn Crowford, clinic educator and pain clinic project coordinator; Ruthie Gohl, executive director; David Horn, Washington State deputy attorney general; Jens Metzger, clinic medical director and Vancouver Clinic physician; and Jim Bowline, pastor and clinic board chair.

Onsdorff Malmquist Charitable Fund to help provide dental services through the clinic, which relies on donations and grants.

Battle Ground Health Care clinic recently added limited dental care such as cleaning, extractions and fillings to its services. Staff members believe that dental care is a major component in overall health, especially when 72 percent of those living in north Clark County have not seen a dentist in the past year.

Vancouver Clinic donated a large amount of furniture. Adventist Medical Center in Portland, Ore., donated computers and a telephone system, while also providing free technical support. Legacy Health System has offered free laboratory and X-ray services, and Clark College donated a significant amount of dental equipment. Hays Cabinets in Woodland, Wash., supplied the cabinets, and Patterson Dental provided dental supplies.

These gifts are all part of the divine blessings that have helped this volunteer-run organization reach out to its community. "Everything was given to Battle Ground Health Care by God," says Ruthie Gohl, executive director. "All these people working together are what makes this clinic work and run."

In order to receive services at Battle Ground Health Care, patients must meet certain requirements. They must be between the ages of 18 and 65, live in northern Clark County, and be at 200 percent or less of poverty level. The clinic treats patients with chronic illness such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol and diabetes with about 80 volunteer staff.

The recent grants make it possible for Battle Ground Health Care to expand its work with patients in making lifestyle changes. Using occupational and physical therapy, the clinic wants to encourage patients to become more active through education, exercise and diet changes. Anxiety and depression sometimes afflict chronic illness patients; now Battle Ground Health Care clinic can address these issues even more.



For more information about Battle Ground Health Care clinic, go to battlegroundhealthcare.org.



Watch the clinic's story at glnr. in/lhfnk71j and the grant presentation at glnr.in/llpum6r.

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UPPER COLUMBIA









Dan JacksonPresident of the Seventh-day
Adventist Church in North
America



John McVay President of Walla Walla University



Paul Hoover
President of Upper Columbia
Conference of Seventh-day
Adventists

Upper Columbia Conference Camp Meeting June 18–21, 2014 | Upper Columbia Academy

Do you ever find yourself feeling farther from Christ than you'd like? It stands to reason we can't grow to be like someone we don't know. The deeper our knowledge of Christ, the deeper our understanding of Him and the more like Him we become. Make plans now to attend the Upper Columbia Conference camp meeting, June 18–21, 2014, at Upper Columbia Academy. Come learn practical ways to become more like Jesus. We're planning for your entire family.

Get all the details at uccsda.org/campmeeting.

ine Northwest Pathfinder teams gathered at the Upper Columbia Conference office in Spokane, Wash., on March 8 for the North Pacific Union Pathfinder Bible Experience (PBE).

Teams of four to six young people were asked 90 questions to test just how well the Pathfinders had studied the book of 2 Samuel.

To prepare, many Pathfinders study up to 13 months, and most memorize four to six chapters. "These Pathfinders inspire me," says Wayne Hicks, Upper Columbia Conference Pathfinder director, "and God blesses them by hiding His Word in their hearts."

This year's book was a particularly difficult book to memorize, but the Pathfinders rose to the challenge. One young participant said, "My favorite part about studying 2 Samuel was how God forgave David, even when he messed up so many times."

Seven of the nine teams that participated in the North

Pacific Union event became eligible for the division event held in Maryland on April 12.

"I was so incredibly impressed by each Pathfinder," says Paul Hoover, Upper Columbia Conference president. "They've worked so hard studying a challenging book of the Bible, and everyone did so well."

The results from the regional North Pacific Union PBE event included:

Idaho Conference

3 - Baker Valley Mountaineers

Oregon Conference

- 1 Fort Vancouver
- 1 Castle Rock
- 1 Pleasant Valley **Panthers**

Upper Columbia Conference

- 2 Pend Oreille Valley Wildcats
- 1 Ponderosa Pathfinders
- 1 Walla Walla City Church Sunrise
- 1 Wind Valley Arrows

Washington Conference

1 - Cascade Eagles

Jay Wintermeyer, Upper Columbia Conference communication director

Wayne Hicks, UCC Pathfinder director, asks the guiz guestions for Pathfinder Bible Experience.





he Blue Mountain Valley Mission Church outreach team from Athena, Ore., believes God will do a mighty work on the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

As members distributed invitations to a health seminar, they met Kathleen. She was new to the area and had been looking for a church. She now adds to the swelling attendance each Sabbath.

There are more Bible studies too. "I met a young man named Shane last fall," says Mitch Hayes, Mission Church outreach coordinator. "He was interested in studies, and when we dropped off studies to him, he would take them and go back inside very quickly. One day he came out and had a big smile on his face so I asked him how he was doing."

"I'm doing a lot better," Shane answered. "First I quit smoking cigarettes, then I quit drinking alcohol, and then I quit smoking marijuana, and it's all thanks to God." Shane and his brother plan to visit the Mission Church soon and are continuing to study the Bible.

Hayes, along with Monte Church and Paul Vivier, held a Native New Day seminar in April. They have been praying for the people from Mission and the surrounding areas, that God will continue to do a mighty work in Mission.

Kathy Marson, Upper Columbia Conference communication administrative assistant

Upper Columbia

+ CONFERENCE // I

TRI-CITY JUNIOR ACADEMY CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

undreds of former students and faculty came back home to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Tri-City Junior Academy (TCJA) Sept. 27–28, 2013, with a Friday night reception and a Sabbath full of worship and fellowship.

Anthony Oucharek, TCJA principal, gave a history of how the Pasco (Wash.) Church triumphed in building the school, from a small group of students meeting in the church basement in 1945 and building a three-

Bill Dickerson, former principal and teacher, and his wife, Beth, also a former teacher, returned for the 50th anniversary celebration.

room schoolhouse after the war to building today's school building in 1963.

In six sermonettes, entitled "My Life's Journey," former students from each of TCJA's decades told how God had led them, through TCJA, into their life's work.

Walla Walla University Alumnus of the Year Doug Thomsen was honored, and a poem of dedication, "Shifting Sands," was presented by its author, Clayton Patchett.

After lunch provided by



David Gouge, former principal and teacher, enjoys the reunion with his son, Victor, and his wife, Jodie.

Pasco Church and served by TCJA staff, guests visited with each other and toured the newly opened Children's Daycare Center and preschool. An afternoon concert by Sam Derting led into sundown worship by former principal David Gouge.

The Pasco Cherokee Pathfinder Club served the evening meal, and the event concluded with a video reviewing 50 years of TCJA history.

The reunion celebrated well Tri-City Junior Academy's long, rich history of excellence.

Suzanne Swisher, Pasco Riverview Church member

MULTIMEDIA CLASS MULTITASKS AT MSAS

ights! Camera! Action!
Multimedia students
at Milton-Stateline Adventist
School (MSAS) in Milton-Freewater, Ore., are learning these
words as a part of a new elective
class being taken by 10 students
in grades five through eight.

This class teaches the basic skills of broadcasting in front of and behind the camera, in addition to print media.

The class will participate in the 3ABN (Three Angels Broadcasting Network) local broadcast of sermons at the Stateline Church. Each student will be cross-trained in the different jobs and assigned to a role based on their skills and abilities.

Another project will be creating commercials that will be featured on 3ABN, local television and the school website. Students will also make brochures and explore the field of multimedia.

Milton-Stateline Adventist School parents Mike and

Misti Bruns volunteered to act as mentors and teachers to the students, training them in the various jobs involved in a live broadcast. Students have worked two Sabbaths to date, filming the sermon live at the Stateline Church.

The class gives students ownership of creating marketable materials for sharing their school and skills to serve them later.

Student enthusiasm for the class, which meets twice weekly, is high. Students commit to one night a week and two Sabbaths a quarter to meet the extra training and filming commitments. Students and parents must sign letters of commitment to the program. The students are doing a great job, and response from church members has been positive.

Look for MSAS online at miltonstateline.org.

Leslie Briggs, Milton-Stateline Adventist School principal

Students (from left) Brandin Grabner, Emily Fry, Jordan Huenergardt, Caleb Gastin, Anthony Coronado, Samuel Mitsourov and Makinna Bruns are part of the MSAS multimedia class.



+

PATHFINDERS PAY IT FORWARD IN MOSES LAKE

uch can be accomplished with volunteer labor.
Just ask the teens who volunteered to join a local mission trip, the Teen Pathfinder Mission Adventure. This local outreach to Moses Lake, Wash., began the first Sunday of spring break.

On the group's plate was a long list of adventures: painting the Moses Lake Adventist School; helping a blind lady organize and clean her home; visiting the residents of a nursing home; baking cookies and delivering them to the people they met during the week; and building a bus garage for Moses Lake Crestline Christian School



Teen Pathfinders head out to their heavy-hauling jobs.

Bright Beginnings Daycare.

Last year the organizers were Frosty and June Cross and Steve Meharry. Since last year's event, June Cross and Meharry have both lost very important parts of their lives; June's husband, Frosty, passed away, and Steve Meharry lost one leg. In spite of this, the behind-the scenes organization for this mis-



Framing begins for the new bus garage at the Bright Beginnings Daycare center.

sion trip was still accomplished.

Meharry was the organizer and planner, and June Cross was on board with her energy, writing and photo skills.

"God is good to us and has provided us the energy and the strength that we need," says Meharry.

While Pathfinders organized and cleaned the inside and outside of a blind lady's house, Wayne Hicks, Upper Columbia Conference Pathfinder director, called the city garbage office to find out how to get rid of brush, garbage and unneeded household items. They were too late, explained the lady at the office. But miracles still happen, and the truck came down the street. They were able to put all the trash in the truck, and there was no extra charge for all the extra bags and yard waste.

This trip gives young teens an opportunity to be a part of a mission trip for only \$100. They stay within Upper Columbia Conference and still have the satisfaction and camaraderie of working together just like those who go halfway around the world. The cost allows many to participate who



Teens shovel new bark at the Crestline Christian School Bright Beginnings Daycare.

otherwise could not.

The bus barn will be framed, walled in with trusses and roofed. The Pathfinders worked side by side with other adult volunteers to make this much-needed building possible. The school needed this for their van storage because of vandalism and siphoning of gas on a regular basis. The approximate completed value of the new garage for the Bright Beginnings Daycare vans is \$29,000. The anticipated labor donation value of the Pathfinder Teen Mission Adventure members was \$8,600.

Kathy Marson, Upper Columbia Conference communication administrative assistant

WASHINGTON

+ CONFERENCE // NEW

ADVENTIST BOOK CENTER IN AUBURN BEGINS NEW MANAGEMENT

onversations at the end of 2013 were a bit nervous: Would Washington Conference have an Adventist Book Center (ABC)?

This topic at four year-end town hall meetings began a few months earlier when Pacific Press Publishing Association announced they planned to cease their management of Adventist Book Centers.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in western Washington entered into an agreement with Pacific Press in 2005 to manage the western Washington ABC store (in transition from Bothell to Auburn). In this arrangement, Pacific Press owned the contents of the store and Washington Conference owned the building.

With Pacific Press' decision to exit ABC contracts (glnr. in/lhsh3PV) by the end of 2013,

Washington Conference and 16 other Pacific Press-owned stores had to make a decision.

Washington Conference administrators talked with local church representatives and the conference executive committee about three basic options: close the store, keep the store as-is or keep the store with a new management model.

The executive committee, the governing body of the conference between constituency sessions, voted in December 2013 to pursue favorable negotiations with Pacific Press to obtain full ownership of the ABC in Auburn. The negotiations and transfer of ownership was completed on Feb. 14, 2014. The new ownership arrangements allow the Auburn ABC to seek innovative ways to increase its customer base and introduce new product lines.



Mike Schwartz manages the Auburn Adventist Book Center as it transitions to full ownership by Washington Conference.

"The transition from Pacific Press to the Washington Conference is going very smoothly and quickly," says Mike Schwartz, Auburn ABC manager. "We are looking at a number of ways we can meet our customers' spiritual and nutritional needs and do our best to anticipate future needs and interests. Thank you for your continued support, and your feedback and input is always welcome at your local Adventist Book Center."

"Since 1869 the Adventist Book Center (known by various names) has serviced the members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church with the best in Christian literature and more

recently added vegetarian foods," says Dennis Carlson, chair of the newly formed Auburn ABC management committee. "There is a strong heritage in the past, and the Auburn store is transforming its operation to reflect the realities of the 21st century. Washington Conference believes in the ministry of the Adventist Book Center and has now invested in the Adventist Book Center to keep the Auburn store open for serving Adventist members, the community and friends of the church."

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director





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WASHINGTON

CONFERENCE // NEWS

DWIGHT NELSON SPEAKS AT SUNSET LAKE RE-FRESH RETREAT

The state of the s

Dwight Nelson drives home his point during the sermon.

ore than 400 people from across the Washington Conference and beyond gathered at Sunset Lake Camp in Wilkeson for the first-ever Re-Fresh Retreat on Sabbath, March 15, featuring Dwight Nelson and the music of For His Glory.

The idea for the retreat was born more than a year ago during a meeting of the Sunset Lake Camp board. Camp had always been a place for young people to come and meet Jesus. Staffers wanted to find a way to reconnect adults to the camp and give them that same experience of spiritual renewal.

The plan for the day was simple: Biblical preaching, inspiring music, and time for prayer and fellowship. Nelson's preaching focused on God's promise in Isaiah 43:18–20 that He "will

Dwight Nelson regales his young audience with a story of golden treasure.

do a new thing." During three presentations, Nelson talked about the forgetfulness of God, persistent prayer and God's passion to save lost humanity. A special kids' program on creation made the day accessible to young families.

The response from those in attendance was overwhelming. "You couldn't have named the event better," one participant

commented. "I could feel my stress slipping away. I am leaving here refreshed." At the close of the day people clustered in groups around the gym to talk or strolled around the lake, enjoying the last few moments of a memorable Sabbath.

Re-Fresh will be an annual event. Plans have already been

made for next year's retreat featuring Bill Knott, *Adventist Review* editor.

David Yeagley, Washington Conference youth director



For His Glory leads the congregation in worship.





DEREK MORRIS
First Weekend

TIM MADDING

TIM MADDING Early Mornings



ED REID



JERRY PAGE



AGE RON C. SMITH

WASHINGTON ADVENTIST CAMP MEETING

Auburn, Washington

June 19-28, 2014

Learn how live God's mission in your life by sharing your faith and inviting people to become Jesus' disciples. *Programming for all ages*. Details & Registration: washingtonconference.org/cm

WASHINGTON

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CONFERENCE // NEWS

CHEHALIS CHILDREN HELP PREPARE FOR MISSION

t was something like playing musical chairs, except the junior-age children were going around a big table instead of chairs, and no one got eliminated.



In a musical chairs fashion, junior-age children move around a large table, filling gift bags with personal hygiene items to distribute during the church's mission trip to Panama.

The 10- to 12-year-olds at Chehalis Church packed plastic baggies with small personal items for the church's Maranatha mission group, which was heading to Panama this year.

Each of the past 23 years, Chehalis Church members have participated in a Maranatha mission trip. No matter the age, the Chehalis Church community works together to prepare for this trip. This year children filled the practical gift bags with wash-cloths, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, fingernail clippers, combs, razors and other small items. They added hair bands for girls and toy cars for boys.

One child, Alex, has a personal interest in these small gift bags because he will help distribute them in Santa Marta de Boquerón. He isn't quite sure how he will fit into the big scheme of things, but he and his family are looking forward to building a small church and maybe even painting a school.

As each bag was completed, the kids dropped it into one of many large suitcases to be distributed among the 26 people who will be traveling. In all, the junior-age children completed 86 gift bags and helped keep the Maranatha tradition alive in Chehalis.

Earlene Wohlers, Chehalis Church member

Chehalis Church children work together to fill personal hygiene gift bags to distribute in Panama.





Lewis County Adventist School in Chehalis, Wash., hosts a Valentine's Day Luncheon to teach etiquette and hospitality to students.

VALENTINE LUNCHEON UNITES SCHOOL COMMUNITY

ewis County Adventist School (LCAS) in Chehalis, Wash., has maintained a wonderful tradition for the past six years. Doylene Cook, sixth- through eighth-grade teacher, started a Valentine's Day Luncheon that has become a schoolwide phenomenon.

When Cook started the luncheon, it began as just a proper etiquette class for her students. The students of her class would invite one person of their choice to come and join the event. It was a great experience for everyone who participated and attended. Many laughs and smiles were shared over a fantastic meal.

As this celebration became a tradition, the other classes of the school began to join in on the fun. Dan Baker, ninth- and 10th-grade teacher, asked his class to act as servers and present warm smiles as the guests arrived. Many of the students invited parents and grandparents to come dine with them on those annual afternoons.

Now this luncheon has become a spectacular and educational tradition for everyone. All the faculty, students and volunteers work hard to provide delicious food and fun entertainment. In turn, they and their guests enjoy the event each year even as they look forward to more people attending next year.

Michaela Hansen, LCAS ninthgrade student

THE ROAD HERE

New Humanitarian Engineering Program Offered

Engineering students can now complete a certificate program in global humanitarian engineering.



Jason Birkenstock, a 2013 business graduate, has written a guide for students considering serving as student missionaries.

Commencement Weekend Held in June

Neils-Erik Andreason, Andrews University president and former president of Walla Walla University, is this year's commencement speaker.



See for Yourself

Visiting Walla Walla University is the best way to know if it's the right college for you. Schedule a visit with food and lodging provided. Go to wallawalla.edu/visit or call 509-527-2091.



Look for these stories and more on the Walla Walla University home page at wallawalla.edu.

hree years ago, I was a senior at McLoughlin High School in Milton-Freewater, Ore. Like many of my classmates, I was looking to the future and wondering what I was going to do.

Looking back now I can see how being the first in my family to go to college made the road to where I am more challenging.

My parents had always encouraged me to go to college since I was young. They knew from personal experience how hard it can be to find a good job when you don't have a degree. They helped in whatever way they could, but we really didn't know where to start with the process.

I visited my high school's counseling office often to learn how to be on track for college. There was also the federal TRIO program available, and the advisor gave us advice and resources for looking for scholarships and colleges. But it was up to me to figure it all out. Words like credits, FAFSA, generals, undergraduate, humanities and interdisciplinary were a mystery to me.

After considering many options, I decided to stay close to home. I wanted to be there for my younger siblings, so I looked at Walla Walla University (WWU). I knew no one connected to the school, but since I could live at home, that was the choice for me.

From filling out all the paperwork to visiting the WWU campus, I was on my own. My parents couldn't help me financially, but between the

scholarship package, working a lot and living at home, I have managed to make it without taking out too

many loans. Choosing and applying to college was just the first hurdle. Then I had to choose a major. I'd heard about careers in nursing, business, medicine and education, but I didn't know communications was an option. I took classes that helped me realize that communications was the right fit for me, even though I had to reassure my parents because the field was unfamiliar to them.

Even now, I know I'm not done with making decisions. (I'm trying to decide now what area in communications I want to pursue.) Overall, I consider myself lucky. Even though my parents couldn't help me choose a college or a major — or help me financially — their biggest gift was their encouragement.

Glenda Lamas, Walla Walla University communications student



gleaner

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

+ UNIVERSI

PROFESSOR'S EXPERTISE BENEFITS ONLINE MATHEMATICS PLATFORM

tudents often take grading for granted. Professors sometimes must sift through hundreds of assignments per week. On top of their lectures and open office hours, they must take time to grade each assignment quickly and fairly. Jonathan Duncan, a mathematics professor, is making homework easier for teachers and fair for students through WeBWorK, a software platform for homework. For the past seven years he has been part of its software development and contributing to the coursework library.

WeBWorK is a homework platform for creating and distributing personalized assignments on the Web. In the past, students waited weeks to receive grades, but now their results are immediate. WeB-WorK keeps students accountable by generating different homework problems for each student; there is no temptation to cheat when students' assignments are unique.

Professors can access grade books and course statistics in Moodle, an open-source course management system. It also provides discussion forums where students and teachers can post properly formatted math equations. Moodle allows teachers and students to check grades and organize classes, while WeBWorK provides the link between homework and grades. By automating the tedium of paperwork, teach-

ers focus more on the student learning experience.

Walla Walla University's Mathematics Department started using WeBWorK in 2007. Today, WWU hosts WeBWorK for institutions like La Sierra University and many high schools in the western United States.

Duncan, a WWU mathematics graduate and now Mathematics Department chair, has been the primary source of development for the Moodle-WeBWorK bridge. Though he began contributing problems during his graduate studies at Indiana University in 2000, it wasn't until 2007 that he began the software development. Duncan now provides



Walla Walla University math professor Jonathan Duncan is helping teachers and students by developing a software platform for homework.

ongoing service to keep up with the frequent updates to the learning platforms. For more than a decade, he has been contributing hundreds of free math and computer science problems to WeBWorK. These assignments are useful complements to the Mathematical Association of America's official library of coursework.

For more information about this service, send an email to Duncan at jonathan. duncan@wallawalla.edu.

Taylor Sarrafian, Walla Walla University relations writer

STUDENTS COMPLETE

MARATHON



or 72 hours, starting Feb. 25, Walla Walla University students, staff and faculty took turns reading the entire Bible, one chapter at a time.

The event, Ancient Words, enlisted 78 people who sat at a desk at the campus Prayer House and read aloud to themselves or to anyone who stopped by.

Organized by Campus Ministries and Win A City Ministries, the event concluded with the reading of the last chapter of the Bible in front of the congregation gathered for the university's Friday evening vespers program.

Participants were encouraged to write their reflections in a journal kept at the Prayer House. Chelsea Bond, a history student, wrote, "God is here in the 72-hour reading. He is inspiring

readers and listeners alike, keeping us all strong. Even though I am sick and was afraid I would lose my voice, He didn't let it falter once. I am humbled and blessed to have been a part of this."

Organizers plan to make the Bible reading an annual event.

Rachel Wood, Walla Walla University relations writer

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TILLAMOOK REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER HOSTS ART SHOW TO RAISE HEART AWARENESS

pproximately 60 people gathered on a blustery winter day in the historic North County Recreation District art gallery in Nehalem, Ore., to enjoy good conversation, the company of fellow art lovers and art based upon the theme of the heart. The original art show was sponsored by Tillamook Regional Medical Center (TRMC) to spread heart health awareness.

The artwork itself was as diverse as the citizens of Tillamook County. There were beautiful watercolor florals and bold oil paintings, detailed illustrations of the human heart, and charming art by children. There were smiles and a lot of toe-tapping to the music of Tico Marimba, a talented group of local musicians who made their own marimbas.

The collective artwork, called Art for the Heart, was on display for a month. An open call went out to artists and creative people from Tillamook County, and results

were gratifying. The event featured beautiful painted valentines by children, while professional artists exhibited oil paintings, photography and blown glass. Developing artists contributed textile art, mosaics, paintings, drawings and kiln-glass. Attendees voted on their favorite artwork, and the most popular artwork received awards. Ten pieces of art were sold.

The event, called Community Celebration of the Heart, was well-received by the community. "It was a beautiful The Art for the Heart show hung in the North County Recreation District art gallery in Nehalem, Ore., throughout the month of February.



show drawing attention to cardiovascular health in Tillamook County and engaging the community in a new and creative way," said Mary Faith Bell, creator of the event and TRMC communications and marketing director.



Sierra Morrow Littlefield, a high school junior, won the youth award for her painting, *The Beat of Life*, and the People's Choice award.

"Heart health is of high concern in Tillamook County, where 32.2 percent of adults have high blood pressure," says Bell, "8.3 percent have diabetes, 4.8 percent have had heart attacks, and 3.9 percent have angina — all higher than the state average. That is why it is important for TRMC to help promote heart health awareness."

In addition to the art and the music, the event featured plant-based healthy foods such as vegan cookies and hummus. "Everyone was delighted by the music, the food and the general environment," Bell says. "It was great to see children dancing and adults smiling."

Attendees of the event were encouraged to take a free online screening for vascular health sponsored by Northwest Regional Heart and Vascular and were given literature about heart health.

Bell anticipates that this will become an annual event for Tillamook Regional Medical Center and the communities it serves.

Divya Joseph, Adventist Health Gleaner correspondent, with Mary Faith Bell, TRMC communications and marketing director FAMILYMILESTONES FAMILYBIRTHS



Ken Money

Money 90th

A 90th birthday celebration was hosted for Ken Money on Sept. 23, 2013, at the Cascade Gardens in Yakima, Wash. Ken was pleased so many new and old friends and family members from around the region were able to join him for an afternoon of laughter, reminiscing and delicious homemade ice cream.

Ken was born in North Dakota but spent the majority of his life in Yakima, where he married Thelma Worthington and raised three children: Larry, Shirley and Karen. He has been a member of the Yakima Church since he was young and is a founding member of the Yakima Fairview Church, where he has held numerous offices. Ken proudly maintains many friendships from his years as a youth and Pathfinder leader and even now accepts many requests to preach in surrounding churches as needed.

Ken continues to enjoy life, including many interests of his youth: gardening, camping at the beach, following sports and taking short trips with friends on his dirt bike. Although Ken and his wife, Joan, reside in Yakima, they frequently travel around the Northwest visiting friends and family, including his children who live in western Washington.

Van Hees 50th

Larry Van Hees met Carolyn Merrill on Christmas Eve in 1961 in Boise, Idaho. Larry was working at a gas station next door to Carolyn's house. On Christmas Eve, Carolyn rode her horse past the station, saw Larry, rode up to him and jokingly asked if he had any antifreeze for her horse. That was the beginning of their relationship. At the time, Carolyn was attending Walla Walla College (WWC, now Walla Walla University) and was home for the holidays. Larry later ended up following her to Walla Walla and attended also.

They became engaged in June 1962, and married on June 16, 1963, in Boise, Idaho. Carolyn graduated from WWC in 1964 with a Bachelor of Science in secretarial. Larry graduated in 1967 with a Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering. Their first daughter, Tonja, was born the same month. They then moved to Richland, Wash.



Carolyn and Larry Van Hees

While Larry was working for Battelle Northwest, he earned his Master of Science in electrical engineering from Washington State University. He worked five years at the Hanford Atomic Works Project. Their second daughter, Tricia, was born in Kennewick, Wash., in December 1969. They were charter members of the Richland Church.

Larry then worked two years for Measurex Corpora-

tion, based out of Cupertino, Calif. His job moved the family to Valliant, Okla., and then to Concord, Calif. In 1974, Larry decided to join his father building homes in the Treasure Valley in Boise, Idaho. He was a builder for more than 30 years and was very active in local, state and national home builders' associations.

Larry and Carolyn enjoyed traveling the Northwest and Midwest for approximately 10 years showing horses with their daughters. After their daughters left home for college, they took up riding Harley Davidson motorcycles and have traveled all over the United States as well as Australia on their motorcycles.

Larry is semi-retired and works as a commercial realtor. Carolyn is busy keeping up with her 11-year-old grandson and his various activities. She is also on the board of directors of Crime Stoppers of Southwest Idaho.

They celebrated their 50th anniversary on June 16, 2013. The celebration actually began on the eve prior to their big day with a surprise dinner at one of their favorite restaurants. Immediate family members and close friends, many who were in the wedding party, joined them. Then the next day, a limousine arrived at their home to take them on a mysterious ride around town, which included a drive-by of the church where they were married, before taking them to the Red Lion Hotel in downtown Boise for a surprise open-house reception attended by many friends and members of their family.

Their family includes Joel and Tonja Kromrei of Meridian, Idaho; Tricia Henderson of Meridian; and three grandchildren. **HAYWOOD** — Anna Marie was born Dec. 22, 2013, to Joel P. and Nicole M. (Morgan) Haywood, Spokane, Wash.

HOLLIS — Ella Christine was born Dec. 15, 2013, to Denman W. and Angela C. (Waymire) Hollis, Yakima, Wash.

WENTZ — Cadence Lynn was born March 15, 2014, to Joshua R. and Katrina L. (Klein) Wentz, Baltimore, Md.

FAMILYATREST

ABRAMS — Edna Mary (Johnson), 93; born Oct. 22, 1920, Woodworth, N.D.; died Feb. 9, 2014, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: husband, Paul Abrams.

BLAKENEY — Sanders Sidney, 72; born Oct. 24, 1941, Valdosta, Ga.; died Nov. 8, 2013, Tacoma, Wash. Surviving: wife, Bettye (Manier); daughters, Krista Mitchell, Laurel, Md.; Kelli Robinson, Tacoma; brother, Lawrence, Valdosta; and 5 grandchildren.

BUNKER — Dean, 91; born July 28, 1922, Jackson, Mich.; died Feb. 14, 2014, Longview, Wash. Surviving: wife, Mazie (Rogers); sons, Terry, Willow, Alaska; Robert, Wasilla, Alaska; daughters, Diana Walker, Trapper Creek, Alaska; Gloria Lee, Willow; Phyllis Symmonds, Longview; sister, Barbara Redman, Webberville, Mich.; 15 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

COON — Stella Elizabeth (Smith), 76; born May 23, 1937, Opportunity, Wash.; died Jan. 13, 2014, Selah, Wash. Surviving:



sons, Douglas, Selah; Jay Jr., Auburn, Wash.; Ricci, Enumclaw, Wash.; Roger, Bellingham, Wash.; daughters, Debbie Freeman, Loveland, Colo.; Sherilyn Johnson, Spokane, Wash.; stepdaughter, Jayne Didario, Walla Walla, Wash.; 18 grandchildren, a step-grandchild, 2 great-grandchildren and 2 step-great-grandchildren.

COX-BOWCUT — Reta P. 86; born Dec. 18, 1925, Enterprise, Ore.; died Nov. 6, 2013, Ontario, Ore. Surviving: daughter, Vicky Cox, Fruitland, Idaho; 4 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

HICKETHIER — Charles (Chuck) E., 85; born June 11, 1927, Portland, Ore.; died May 23, 2013, Cedar Mill, Ore. Surviving: wife, Shirley (Collins); sons, Cliff, Aloha, Ore.; Michael, of Ohio; Mark, Beaverton, Ore.; daughter, Vickie McPike, Cedar Mill; brother, Lloyd, Cedar Mill; 7 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

HICKETHIER — Lloyd Eugene, 83; born Jan. 18, 1930, Portland, Ore.; died Dec. 20, 2013, Cedar Mill, Ore. Surviving: wife, Louise (Reinholtz); son, Dennis E., Damascus, Ore.; daughters, Jeannie L. Miller and Cheryl B. Hickethier, both of Cedar Mill; 6 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

HUMPHREY — Lois Lydia (Franklin), 97; born April 22, 1916, Henry, Neb.; died Feb. 18, 2014, Federal Way, Wash. Surviving: son, Lawrence, Seattle, Wash.; daughters, Saundra Ruth, Renton, Wash.; Faith Schaafsma, Auburn, Wash.; Deborah Sutphin, Wilkeson, Wash.; Jayne Severyns, Maple Valley, Wash.; Judy Pulley, Buckley, Wash.; 14 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and 6 great-great-grandchildren.

KEENE — Annette, 52; born Dec. 29, 1961, Fort Hueneme, Calif.; died Jan. 13, 2014, Amboy, Wash. Surviving: mother, Mereta (Kuhnke) Keene, Amboy; and brother, Thomas M. Keene, Shelton, Wash.

KOELSCH SCHULTZ —

Alice Elizabeth (McCormick), 91; born Aug. 15, 1922, Salem, Ore.; died Feb. 20, 2014, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: son, Aaron Koelsch, Olympia, Wash.; stepson, Ernie Schultz, Pasadena, Calif.; daughters, Nancy Munro, Olympia; Peggy Wagner and Kathy Erwin, both of Vancouver; Sally Ziprick, Spokane, Wash.; stepdaughter, Lorraine Schultz, Portland, Ore.; sister, Elaine Snyder, Ryderwood, Wash.; 14 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren.

KOONOOKA — Gerard Angaaya, 72; born Nov. 4, 1940, Gambell, Alaska; died Sept. 18, 2013, Gambell. Surviving: wife, Esther Aakawen; sons, Gerry Ataayaghhaq, Jared Kunuka and Jeremy Aghniilu, all of Gambell; daughter, Mae Silook, Gambell; brothers, Merlin Paapi and Job Nayghwaaghmii, both of Gambell; Ben Nuugnan; Al Wayne Tallimak; sisters, Rhoda Boolowon, Gambell; Judy Atenga; Betsy Saywenga; Donna Anaghateki; Rachael Wista; Dorene Emgangaawen; 8 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

MATTSON — George E., 88; born April 10, 1925, Lamoure,

N.D.; died Dec. 28, 2013, Seattle, Wash. Surviving: wife, Zoe (Hiner), Renton, Wash.; sons, Eddie, Eric and David, all of Renton; daughter, Carol Walsh, Chehalis, Wash.; 2 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

MCCLOSKEY — Ralph, 92; born Sept. 21, 1921, Oakland, Calif.; died Nov. 19, 2013, Meridian, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Karen (Bursell); sons, Jonathan, New Milford, N.J.; Bruce, Bakersfield, Calif.; Craig, Santa Rosa, Calif.; and a grandchild.

MCNALLY — John L., 81; born Oct. 19, 1932, Lewiston, Maine; died Feb. 16, 2014, Henderson, Nev. Surviving: son, Leon, Vancouver, Wash.; daughters, Belinda McNally, Henderson; Jane Robbins, Lewiston, Idaho; foster sons, Cameron Scott, Havlock, Nev.; Cary Scott, Boring, Ore.; and several grandchildren.

OWEN — Donald Keith, 81; born Aug. 20, 1931, Myrtle Point, Ore.; died March 3, 2013, Bend, Ore. Surviving: wife, LaVonne (Van Tasse), Redmond, Ore.; sons, Keith, Salem, Ore.; Kimdel, Redmond; Keryl, Kent, Wash.; brother, Bill, Lenore, Idaho; sister, Lois Hileman, Walterville, Ore.; 7 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

REID — Susan Carrol, 55; born June 1, 1958, Powell, Wyo.; died Feb. 12, 2014, Klamath Falls, Ore. Surviving: sons, Aaron and Ethan, both of Klamath Falls; daughters, Amber Reid, Nichol Reid, Larisa Reid and Ame Reid, all of Klamath Falls; and a grandchild. SMITH — Lu Jean L. (Schmidt), 80; born March 29, 1933, Wenatchee, Wash.; died Feb. 17, 2014, McMinnville, Ore. Surviving: sons, Leland, Pasco, Wash.; Louis, Independence, Ore.; Lloyd, McMinnville; Larry, Amity, Ore.; daughter, Lu Jean Phonnathong, Exton, Pa.; brother, Darrel Schmidt, of Texas; 11 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

VISTAUNET — Sigurd, 96; born June 25, 1917, Minneapolis, Minn.; died Feb. 27, 2014, Portland, Ore. Surviving: sons, Loren, Ormond Beach, Fla.; John, Florence, Ariz.; Steve, Damascus, Ore.; 2 grandchildren, 5 step-grandchildren, a great-grandchild and 7 step-great-grandchildren.

WALKER — Evelyn (Ludington), 92; born Nov. 6, 1921, Meadow, S.D.; died Dec. 31, 2013, Boise, Idaho. Surviving: sons, Charlie, Bakersfield, Calif.; Mark, Spokane, Wash.; Brent, Boise; daughters, Carol White, Woodland, Wash.; Gloria Botimer, College Place, Wash.; 18 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

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.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

Offering

May 3 — Local Church Budget;

May 10 — Disaster and Famine Relief;

May 17— Local Church Budget;

May 24 — Local Conference Advance;

May 31 — North American Division Evangelism.

More upcoming events listed at gleanernow.com/events.

Save the Date!

July 1-5 — Planning your summer activities? You've heard of old-fashioned camp meetings that are held outdoors, in a meadow, under a big tent? There's nothing better than meeting with other Christians in a setting that God designed. This year the Adventist Horseman's Association Camp Meeting is at Mount Adams Horse Camp. Come camp for the whole time, or come just for Sabbath services and potluck. You don't need to bring a horse to enjoy the fun and fellowship. This association includes northern California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Alaska and southwest Canada, but anyone is invited. Just bring a lawn chair. Go to adventisthorsemansassociation.com for information and directions to Mount Adams Horse Camp, and check us out on Facebook.

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

May 5–10 — InTents, students in the public evangelism class presents this evening meeting series. Kretschmar Hall lawn at 7 p.m.;

May 9–10 — AGA Weekend. AGA Vespers, University Church at 8 p.m.;

May 17 — Spring Choral Concert, University Church at 5 p.m.;

May 31 — Orchestra Concert, University Church at 5 p.m.

IDAHO

Missing Members

The Payette Church is looking for the following missing members: Andrea Banks, Mark Gross, Judith Hankins, Felicity Johnson, Charles Kimball, Pamela Kretschmer, Donna McSweeney, Nathan Parker, Lila Perez, Lisa Sharrai, Gayla Skeen, Brian and Jill Sprinkle, Desiree Stucker, Debbie Tafoya, Sylvia Thorton, Gena Wells, John Wells, John Wells (yes, there are two), Linda Wells, and Shawn Willis. If you have any information about these missing members, please contact Marianne Daugharthy, Payette Church clerk at daugharthymarianne@gmail.com, 208-880-5982 or P.O. Box 119, Payette, ID 83661.

OREGON

Paul — The Play Performance

May 16 — The Stone Tower Church, with John 12:32 Productions and TotallyINSPIREDmedia.com, presents Paul — The Play, Sunday at 6:30 p.m. This one-man performance by Alaskan Steven Steenmeyer is about the life and ministerial adventures of the apostle Paul. A love offering will be taken at 3010 NE Holladay St., Portland, OR 97232.

Better Life Broadcasting Camp Meeting

June 13-14 — Better Life Broadcasting Camp Meeting at Milo Adventist Academy in Days Creek, Ore., will feature keynote speaker

Ken Cox. Several musical guests will also be featured. Registration begins April 1. For more information, visit **BetterLife TV.tv** or call 541-474-3089.

UPPER COLUMBIA

Missing Members

The Spokane Valley Church is looking for information regarding the following missing members: David Bond, Janice Bowman, Janna Brandt, Beverly Buckley, Raymond Collins, Rodney Collins, Michael Dennis, Scott Dingman, Mark Ellis, April Engh, Lois Fairbanks, Tiffany Feldheger, Eta Franz, Christopher Francis, Richard Green, Elizabeth Gutbrod, Tammera Hankins, Henry Harkins, Cassondra Harris, Neal Harris, Nathan Hoffman, David Hudson, Tina Jones, Mina Knox, Con'E Kozell-Sooter, Patrick Mandigo, William and Jennie Marshall, Darrell and Cheryl Martin, Wendy Miller, Lori Lea Mork, Jolie Neustel, Myra Ozuna, Billy Peavey, Eleanor Rathbone, Albert Rhodes, Erin Riley, Roy Riley, Kimberly Ross, Katy Sansovich, William Schappert, Tami Schreck, Adam Stewart, Michael Stinson, Helen Tong, Mami Vitkauskas, Sam Vrbeta, Claudia Weigel, Sandra Williams, and Randall Womack. Please contact the Spokane Valley Church clerk at 509-926-5866 or office@valleyadventist.org.

WASHINGTON

Skagit Adventist Academy 50th Anniversary Celebration

July 12 — Whether you were a student, teacher or staff at Burlington School, North Puget Adventist Junior Academy, Skagit Adventist School or Skagit Adventist Academy, you are invited to our 50th Anniversary Celebration. The day will include Sabbath School and church, a potluck, and a Saturday night talent show. If you are a golfer, please join us for the Dennis Carman Memorial Golf Tournament on Sunday, July 13. This tournament benefits the SAA worthy student fund. For further information on the tournament, contact Sheryl Carman, sherylcarman1@gmail.com. If you have contact information for former students and faculty, please contact Lynn Fiedler at 360-755-9261 or Ifiedler@skagitadventist.com.

WORLD CHURCH

Madison College Alumni Homecoming

June 27-20 — The Madison College Alumni Association Homecoming will honor classes 1944, 1949, 1954, 1959 and 1964. Also invited are those who attended Madison College, Madison College Academy or Anesthesia School. We will have activities and meals beginning Friday evening at 5 p.m. through Sunday morning at the Madison Academy campus. This year we are commemorating 110 years since founding in 1904 and the last graduating class in 1964, plus the rolling out of a DVD on the history of Madison College, prepared by Center for Adventist Research at Andrews University. Contact Harry Mayden, president, 240-645-2305; or Jim Culpepper, secretary/treasurer, 615-415-1925.

Oak Park Academy Alumni Weekend

Sept. 12-13 — All alumni and former faculty and staff are invited to this special reunion weekend. The 2014 honor classes are 1939, 1944, 1949, 1954, 1959, 1964, 1969, 1974 and 1979. Location: Gates Hall, 825 15th St., Nevada, Iowa. Make plans to attend. For more information, contact Mary Dassenko Schwantes, 636-527-0955 or mary-schwantes@sbcglobal.net.

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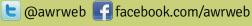


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A FESTIVAL OF INCONSISTENCY

everal years ago I was at a local community college's International Fair where

diverse groups manned booths in order to inform, convert, sell to or - in the case of the booth where I spent the most time — feed people. I had just finished an ice cream bar when I was asked to hand out flyers promoting upcoming revival meetings at our church to those running the booths.

As I made my way around the circle of booths on the college lawn reactions were mixed. Some gladly took the flyers and listened while others avoided them and sent me body language resembling a threatened porcupine. But the most interesting person I encountered was a stout gentleman with a

Seth Pierce

long white beard who could have resembled Santa

Claus had he not worn a scowl that would have frightened Medusa. Snatching the flyer he listened momentarily before speaking.

"I only believe in the Bible," he said. Thinking he had warded me off, he made his way back around his booth.

"So do we," I replied. He turned and looked at me sharply.

"That's what they all say. You know I went to Catholic school for years — I am a bit of a theologian."

"I'm a seminary student."

This intrigued him, and what followed were theological arguments as easy to understand as upside-down algorithms in Acadian.

"Have you ever read the story of Jeryy ... uh ... Jerca ... um ...?" "Jericho?"



"Yeah, that one. You know Hitler only wanted Jews dead, but God wanted everyone destroyed — makes Hitler look good doesn't it?" Before I could respond he continued, "I'm an agnostic."

"And you believe in the Bible?"

"Ever heard of the Thomas Jefferson Bible? Well, he read the Old Testament and didn't like the God he found there — and neither do I. I only read the New Testament." Once again he saw I was going to comment and kept talking. "You know those words in red? The words of Jesus?"

"Yeah."

"Well, those are the only words I live by." He smiled, proud of himself, and allowed me time to respond. I thought carefully.

First he claimed the Bible — a book demonstrating God is active and knowable through Jesus Christ. Then he claimed agnosticism — a





PERSPECTIVE **ELE**



belief stating it's impossible to know God. Finally, he claimed the words of Jesus and denied half the Bible. And it is in the words of Jesus that I confronted his inconsistencies.

"What happens when the words in red quote the Old Testament?"

His face contorted with anger. "To heck with the Old Testament!" And he stormed off — a man whose claims were destroyed by his inconsistency. He was no theologian. And while it would have felt good to do a victory dance full of self-righteous spinning and pirouettes of piety, I wondered if people who profess Christianity fall into the same trap.

We tell each other "I'll pray for you," but how many of us actually do? We claim to follow a loving God, and yet how do we respond to those

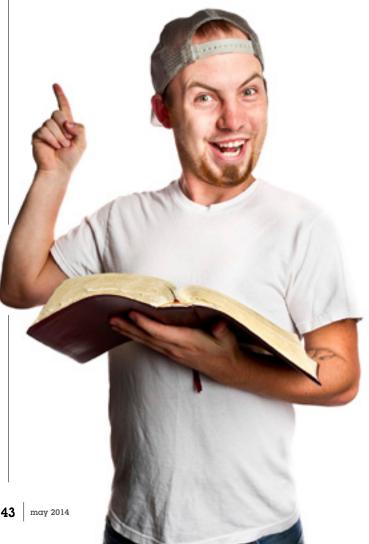
around us - including telemarketers, Republicans, Democrats and anyone else with whom we might disagree? We bask in the forgiveness that Christ promises, but do we extend that same forgiveness to those who cut us off, flip us off, tick us off and write us off?

Jesus says (quoting the Old Testament nonetheless) that people who were professing faith while He was on Earth "honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me" (Matt. 15:8, NIV). There was no consistency, resulting in the professed spiritual leaders destroying their ability to reveal the love of God.

One text that offers help in eliminating our inconsistencies says, "Study to show thyself approved unto God ..." (2 Tim. 3:16, KJV). This study needs to happen in two ways. First make a list of all the claims you make in life and study them to see if they match your behavior. Second, study your claims. If someone were to ask about your beliefs, could you defend them? When you do find discrepancies, and you will, remember, God loves you and has promised forgiveness (1 John 1:9). Trust in Him, study what you claim — and by His grace you'll be a consistent light in a dark world.

Seth Pierce, Puyallup Church lead pastor

"You know Hitler only wanted Jews dead, but God wanted everyone destroyed," he said. "Makes Hitler look good doesn't it?"



SACRED RUTS

uring the good old days of the American pioneers, the Oregon Trail was the best route to the great Northwest.

But not for long. Better roads and vehicles provided new ways and means of transportation, ultimately resulting in travel on Interstate 86 and Interstate 84.

The mission never changed: "Westward ho!" But methods of achieving it needed constant updating and upgrading. Last year when moving to North Pacific Union from Mid-America Union in Nebraska, Darlene and I didn't rent a covered wagon. We cruised across the Cascades in our Camry.

History buffs identify places where the old wagon trail once existed. These ruts of our pioneers are profoundly special. But not sacred. Because what used to be the best way to go can become, over time, a hindrance rather than a passage.

Martin Weber

When it comes to fulfilling God's purpose for

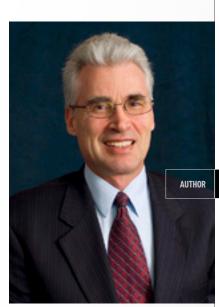
Adventists today, blindly following the methods of our pioneers causes the church to be stuck in ruts. And when we imagine those ruts to be sacred, we entrap ourselves ever deeper in them.

STEWARDSHIP DEMANDS PROGRESS

Our divine mission never changes, but methods of fulfilling it must continually be challenged and improved. Acknowledging this reality does not disrespect our pioneers. It's just good sense and responsible stewardship. Paradoxically, to maintain the spirit of our pioneers we must continually transcend their methods by pioneering new ways of fulfilling God's unwavering mission.

ogy in the history of the church. Spirit-filled apostles of the first century traversed Mediterranea and beyond on roads constructed by Roman engineers, planting churches in places otherwise unreachable. Adventist pioneers likewise exploited the limits of technology in their day, publishing Present Truth. Whenever I visit Pacific Press, I wonder what James and Ellen White would say if they saw what God has wrought there. They would be proud of the press, I'm sure. I'm involved with this transition daily in my retirement ministry, seeking collaborative relationships with Pacific Press and other Adventist publishers to serve

Consider the role of technol-



PERSPECTIVE



These ruts of our pioneers are profoundly special. But not sacred. Because what used to be the best way to go can become, over time, a hindrance rather than a passage.



pastors, elders and churches with the latest mission-centered technology.

The purpose of high tech is to facilitate high touch, sharing our digitized message on cutting-edge websites and via social media such as Facebook or Faithlife. Harnessing technology is a practical way to love God with all our minds. Clinging to past methods makes us faithful unto death — the death of our mission — secure (and smug) in our sacred ruts. Meanwhile, God says, "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:19, NIV).

Long ago I graduated from a beautiful rural academy, since shuttered due to shifting demographics. They closed the school not to destroy Christian education but to preserve it. Other academies could better serve our young people — for whom educational institutions exist, to prepare them to take their place of ministry within local churches, here and abroad. This is the grand purpose for which our now-departed pioneers established Adventist Christian education.

Everything in this world has a shelf life: "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven. A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck what is planted" (Eccl. 3:1-2, NKJ).

PAST ANCHORS THE **FUTURE**

Yestervear's hot technology gathers dust in 2014. Even beloved saints come and go, and the church must move forward without them. "David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, fell asleep and was laid with his fathers" (Acts 13:36, ESV). His former subjects mourned their loss even as they laid their beloved king to rest. It was time for transition, preserving fond memories of the past as they fulfilled God's purpose for the present. Only thus could they have a future.

The alternative is cowardly paralysis, blind sentimentalism stuck in the ruts of our past. Godly leaders put purpose above politics. They empathize with the inevitable suffering that comes with necessary change, but they cannot pander to the pain.

Sometimes you must lose your life to save it — personally and institutionally, not only in Adventist schools but in our churches. Some congregations with a century of history have shrunk to the place where their favorite Bible promise is "where two or three are gathered" Amen, Jesus is there, but the challenge remains. Can trained local elders represent Him rather than a salaried pastor? Should conference executive committees assign professional pastors to lead mission-focused congregations?

Tough questions. No easy solutions, even when the answers are self-evident.

Remember the ruts of the old Oregon Trail. We respect their heritage while realizing that we cannot ride them into God's kingdom.

Martin Weber, Logos Bible Software Adventist product manager

LETS TALK

MEMORIES

open the door to his room and look in. It's now empty, featureless, except for the telltale pinholes and shadowed outlines where framed memories once hung.

For him, it had been a palette of history. Old friends and family visited him each day

Memories cannot be forged in the past or future. They must be created now. There is no room for "should've."



in two-dimensional stasis in photos on the wall. Some were sepia, others black and white, but his memories were in living color. Recollections of warm experiences, forgotten treasures, tender moments, became his daily bread.

This was a man with hands bearing witness to hard summers of Alaskan fishing. This was a father who worked long hours into the evening, and again on Sundays, to count the cost of Christian education. This was a

Steve Vistaunet

husband with eves for only one woman

in the world.

His will to go on a daily stroll had long since got up and left. No matter. He rocked gently throughout each day,

walking through time with fond reminiscence tied to each face on the wall. They were gone but not forgotten. At four-score and sixteen, he was the only one left — the last of his tribe.

But the memories sustained him. As his outer façade faded and physical health ebbed, the past became his present. He was like so many of his generation, the Greatest Generation someone once observed, who fought for a future, our future - my future. He was my father.

The one who instilled so many blessings in my life is now still. Our last lucid hours together were spent listening to music, including one of his favorites - Scandinavian sweetheart Sissel, singing "Climb Every Mountain" in her native Norwegian. We didn't know then that he'd be gone two days later.

He now rests for a transformative moment in which all things will be made new — with fresh memories to be forged and fostered. He is one of countless others, your father or mother, husband or wife, son or daughter, whose portraits remind us that we all await the ultimate promise of

In the meantime, I realize more than ever the value of the present. Memories cannot be forged in the past or

future. They must be created now. There is no room for "should've." Gloria Gaither aptly expressed it in lyrics: "We have this moment to hold in our hands and to touch as it slips through our fingers like sand. Yesterday's gone and tomorrow may never come, but we have this moment today."

A benevolent Father who holds the past and present and future in His hands looks down upon this aging planet — waxing old like a garment, Scripture

Does He have a wall somewhere with portraits of His family? Is there a special section for those grown weary, fainthearted and faithless? Does He wait at the gates of Orion, counting the hours until the reunion?

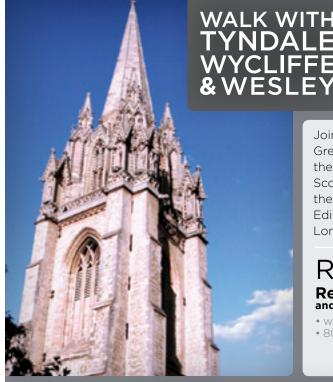
After all, these children are more than just memories. He chose them before the foundations of the world and knit them together in their mothers' wombs.

Their names are still graven indelibly upon His palms.

Steve Vistaunet, Gleaner editor

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