

Church Plants:

Carrying the Message into New Territories

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4 Church Plants: Carrying the Message into New Territories

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7 Adventist Educators—People with a Passion

It was early in the spring of 1995, and I was actively involved in the process of drafting résumés and cover letters in an attempt to get my first job as a teacher.





8 Nine Pathfinder Clubs Place First at the Union-level PBE

A total of 19 Pathfinder teams participated in the 2018 Atlantic Union Conference Pathfinder Bible Experience on March 24.

20 The Blessing of Service

God's people are to place in his treasury all the means that they can spare. For this means, needy, unworked fields are calling.

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Church Planting, a Biblical Model for Church Growth

he Church Planting initiative that the North American Division has launched in this quinquennial (2015 -2020) has motivated many churches, members, and leaders to re-examine their true mission in the world. We are commissioned to "'Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.' Amen"-Matthew 28:19-20, NKJV. This command, if taken seriously, will empower the people of God not only to go and preach the gospel to the nations of the world, but to go and plant churches.

Church planting is one of the best ways to begin new congregations. Paul set a good example by going from place to place preaching and launching new churches. "From country to country and from city to city Paul went, preaching of Christ and establishing churches. Wherever he could find a hearing, he labored to counteract error and to turn the feet of men and women into the path of right. Those who by his labors in any place were led to accept Christ, he organized into a church. No matter how few in number they might be, this was done. And Paul did not forget the churches thus established. However small a church might be, it was the object of his care and interest"-THE STORY OF REDEMPTION, p. 310.

Paul did more than organize new churches: he went back and visited them to determine their well-being and encourage them in the Lord. Over the past three years, church planting has been given greater emphasis in the North American Division, and we join in this effort. It is important for us not only to plant churches but also to ensure that they are being nurtured.

The Atlantic Union church-planting effort is currently being led by the

Greater New York Conference followed by the Northeastern and Southern New England Conferences. It is projected that by the year 2020 there will be more than 150 new churches planted in the Atlantic Union. This will give us even more reasons to celebrate how God has moved through the combined effort of our pastors and laypeople.

Ellen G. White stated "Upon all who believe, God has placed the burden of raising up churches"—MEDICAL MINISTRY, p. 315. This effort must be given priority if we are going to accomplish the mission that God has entrusted to His church. White also said, "I saw jets of light shining from cities and villages, and from the high places and the low places of the earth. God's word was obeyed, and as a result there were memorials for Him in every city and village. His truth was proclaimed throughout the world"-TESTIMONIES, vol. 9, p. 28.

The North American Division is joining with the rest of the world church in planting churches and companies. This method of proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ is fundamental to church growth. If we are going to impact the world and finish the work of God on this earth, we need to go back to the methods of the early church and establish churches everywhere.

The Lord is coming soon and we need to be diligent and intentional in how we fulfill His mission. We are to follow the Master's plan in multiplying churches and in helping to populate the kingdom of heaven. Church planting is at the heart of the mission in these last days. Let us put every effort into this work, and we will see the results. 0

G. Earl Knight is president of the Atlantic Union Conference and chairman of the Atlantic Union College Board of Trustees.



"It is important for us not only to plant churches but also to ensure that they are being nurtured."



Church Plants:

Carrying the Message into New Territories By Debra Banks Cuadro

f you look in the Bible for the terms "church plant" or "church planting," you won't find them. But, while the words may not be there, the principles surrounding the concept are certainly mentioned. In Matthew 28:18-20, Christ is giving His final marching orders to the disciples gathered with Him. Often referred to as "The Great

approach. Within the Atlantic Union Conference, we will focus on three conferences that are approaching the idea and ultimate goal of church planting—winning souls—in three ways; each unique to the territory and people group they serve.

New church plants serve a variety of purposes, including revitalizing the

report indicated that a possible reason for this trend was that smaller churches enjoy a certain intimacy level that is difficult to achieve when a church is larger.

Another study showed that more than 60 percent of members joining a new church come from people outside of the church who are not currently attending a church. On the flip side, most of the gains for longerestablished churches come from membership transfers from other churches, not new baptisms.

While longer-established congregations still serve a vital purpose to the gospel work and can be a solid anchorpoint in a community, they also tend to be more settled into a "rhythm" in worship length, style, and atmosphere. New congregations often incorporate new members more quickly into the leadership and framework of a church, they tend to be multiethnic, and are usually more likely to embrace and make space for those who are coming in with a different culture, and often better serve communities with distinct language groups as they minister in that same language.



Commission," His words embody the fundamental truths essential to the very nature of church planting: making disciples and baptizing them into a body of believers. None of this could be done efficiently and effectively without the empowerment which accompanies the commission (verse 18).

The concept of church planting is not new, nor is it a one-size-fits-all

parent church that actively starts new plants. A 2006 study of more than 100,000 North American churches showed that church growth rates are higher in smaller churches 10 years old and less with a weekly attendance of 1-49 people. In fact, the findings showed that churches with attendance of 50-999 had difficulty with growth, and membership often declined. The

Northern New England Conference's Mission-based **Approach**

The Northern New England Conference (NNEC) is approaching their territory like an "extreme mission field," and with good reason. A 2016 Pew study of the top 10 most secular, or post-Christian cities in the United States showed that three such cities are located squarely in the NNEC territory. With this challenge in mind, NNEC is partnering with Adventist Frontier Missions (AFM), with the goal of planting more than 20 churches over the next decade—a 40 percent increase over the current number of churches in the conference.

To meet that goal, NNEC is actively recruiting young adults, or "planters," who will relocate to the conference's territory of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, to become part of a three- to five-member team with the goal of engaging in "friendship and service ministry." The missionaries will be trained in partnership with AFM, to form ad-hoc spiritual discovery groups that, in time, will mature into churches. NNEC's approach will be relationship-based, utilizing newly-formed friendships to introduce "seekers" to Christ slowly and intentionally. Home groups will also be the first meeting point for the developing church plants with the goal of creating a mutually supportive environment and identity as they grow together in their walk with Christ.

Greater New York Conference's Battle Cry

Greater New York Conference (GNYC) is taking a different approach that is already proving to be quite successful. With a population of more than 14 million people in their territory, GNYC needs a small army to accomplish this monumental taskand through a targeted strategy involving intensive training for every pastor, elder, and lay member, they are forming exactly that.

In 2015, the conference launched its initiative "The Battle Cry" in an effort to plant 100 new churches by 2020. To date, they are almost halfway there. With 42 new active church plants, GNYC has had the most church plants in the North American

Division for the past two years. Each plant starts with a core group of about 15 members from a mother church. Through continued training, coaching, and mentorship programs, and persistent promotion at camp meetings, workers meetings, and annual church-planting rallies, GNYC seeks to "ingrain church planting in the DNA" of their members with the plan that each one will reach one.

Southern New England Conference's Steady Cultivation

Taking a slightly different approach, the Southern New England Conference (SNEC) currently has six active church plants-four in Massachusetts, and one in Connecticut. Of the six church plants, two are closely connected with a supporting church, and the other four have started organically with the help of trained Bible workers or half-time church pastors overseeing the plants.

Four of the church plants are mostly comprised of members who do not have a connection with existing SNEC churches. Cultivating discipleship among these members is an essential element in the SNEC church-planting vision. "New members of church plants are trained to be disciples who will, in turn, lead others to Christ," says John Amoah, SNEC Personal Ministries department director. The leader of each church plant works diligently to get each new plant into the mode of planting new churches, even as they grow—developing and encouraging home-based missions or groups, and actively utilizing small groups as a tool to grow the churches.

Determining the Location for a Church Plant

Differences exist even with determining where a church plant should be located. Two of the SNEC groups are located within close proximity to their supporting church.

Greater New York Conference pinpointed the locations of existing Adventist churches in color-coded pins on maps of the five boroughs of New York City, Long Island, and upstate New York. "This gave a visual reference to the locations and clustering of our churches to identify new locations for plants," says Manuel Rosario, Sabbath School and Personal Ministries department director. In addition, GNYC is tapping into the cultural diversity of their area as a means of identifying ethnic groups who have not been reached.

Northern New England simply overlaid a map of Walmart stores in their territory with existing churches in the conference. "Where there was a Walmart with no church within 10 miles, that area became a priority for the church-plant project," says Scott Christensen, NNEC communication director.

Same End-goal in Mind: Saving Souls

"Any church-planting effort-whether using traditional strategies or using novel strategies—takes a long time to come to fruition," Christensen says.

The end result may also be a bit different than the church model that we are used to seeing. "New church plants may not look the same as old or existing churches and therefore, criticism may abound," Amoah says. "However, leaders and [other] members of new church plants should remain focused on outreach, making disciples, and leading others to Christ."

"We shall not hover over the churches but press into new territory and raise the standard in places where the message has not been proclaimed"-Ellen G. White, MANUSCRIPT RELEASES, vol. 17, p. 124. 0

Debra Banks Cuadro is the Atlantic Union Conference communication assistant director.



"As churches are established. it should be set before them that it is even from among them that men must be taken to carry the truth to others. and raise new churches: therefore they must all work, and cultivate to the utmost the talents that God has given them, and be training their minds to engage in the service of their Master."

—Testimonies, vol. 3, p. 205

"In every church the members should be so trained that they will devote time to the winning of souls to Christ. How can it be said of the church, 'Ye are the light of the world,' unless the members of the church are actually imparting light? Let those who have charge of the flock of Christ awake to their duty, and set many souls to work."

—Testimonies, vol. 6, p. 436

"The largest and smallest churches are growing, while the midsized churches are declining. Middle-sized churches, 100-400 in attendance, are experiencing extreme pressure. They are too large for intimacy and too small for excellence."

—The American Church Research Project (2008)

"And Jesus came and spoke to them saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." "

—Matthew 28:18-20, NKIV

"Established churches are declining in attendance by two percent each year. Once churches enter their third decade of life (20+ years old), on average they consistently decline."

—The American Church Research Project (2008)

"The current [2000-2008] increase in the number of churches is only about onequarter of what is needed to keep up with the population growth. The net gain in churches is about one-sixth of what would have been needed to keep up with population growth. Two thousand five hundred additional new churches are needed per year to keep up with population growth."

—The American Church Research Project (2008)

"Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.' "

—Matthew 9:38-39, NKIV

"The sight of the souls perishing in sin should arouse us to give the light of present truth to those now in darkness. God's messengers must be clothed with power. They must have for the truth a reverence that they do not now possess. The Lord's solemn, sacred message of warning must be proclaimed not merely in our churches, but in the most difficult fields and in the most sinful cities—in every place where the light of the third angel's message has not yet dawned. Every one is to hear the last call to the marriage supper of the Lamb."

-Letter 128, July 6, 1902



By Jere Clayburn

Adventist Educators—People with a Passion

t was early in the spring of 1995, and I was actively involved in the process of drafting résumés and cover letters in an attempt to get my first job as a teacher. It was exciting. Where would I end up, and what would my first classroom in my first school be like? As I think about it, those are pretty much the same kind of questions that many parents ask when considering where to send their children to school. And in the nearly 23 years since I entered the profession of being an Adventist educator, I have come to know many teachers and have seen firsthand who they are and the kinds of classrooms they have.

and shared on a daily basis, and then celebrated for the masterpieces they truly are. These are classrooms where the dreams for a new generation are first formed, fostered, and encouraged to grow.

The kind of teachers that nurture the development of these classrooms are as unique and varied as the classrooms they inhabit. And yet, each of these educators possess the same kind of characteristics. These traits may blend together in different ways, and each individual will add to them specific nuances that make their version one of a kind, but the basics will invariably be found.

"Adventist educators are people with a passion for their students."

Adventist educators are people with a passion for their students. This passion reveals itself in classrooms that are full of unique, innovative, and creative learning that draws in both students and their families. I see classrooms filled with real plants and animals that students interact with on a daily basis. I see teachers who turn their classrooms into model towns where students become productive members of society and learn what it means to be a citizen. I see tremendously creative places where stories are written, illustrated,

The first trait can be seen in how a teacher will spend time ensuring that each student receives what they need. They will be carefully observed, and plans will be made so that by the end of a learning cycle that child will have been given the opportunity to truly learn. This may mean that more time has been given, real encouragement has been carefully applied, or that parents have been involved. More time will be spent examining student work, and adjustments will be made so that as new learning takes place, that child will continue to grow. This process

takes patience, and that is one thing our teachers have.

The second characteristic we see in our teachers is revealed when they wake early to spend time in their classrooms and leave late when all the grading has been done, and the last stray article has been put back into its place. It can also be seen by that same teacher attending and being an active part in church activities. Many Adventist teachers can be seen filling active roles as Sabbath School teachers, Pathfinder directors, choir members, pianists and choristers, greeters, and volunteers at the local community service center. This comes from an inner drive to make a positive difference in the world they live in, and a love for service. And we call this characteristic selflessness.

The final trait is one that encompasses all the other traits. It is one that empowers every word, action, and thought that makes up the educator's person. This can be seen in the way they reach out to pupils in need. It can be felt in the kindly looks and heard in the tone of voice. This trait is love, and it, above all, describes who we are as Adventist educators. ①



Jere Clayburn is principal of Union Springs Academy in Union Springs, New York.

Nine Pathfinder Clubs Place First at Union-level PBE

total of 19 Pathfinder teams participated in the 2018 Atlantic Union Conference Pathfinder Bible Experience (PBE) on March 24. The teams were supported by Pathfinder leaders, staff, parents, and church members who watched from the sidelines at the W.G. Nelson Recreation Center on the campus of Atlantic Union College.

The clubs answered 90 questions covering the books of Esther and Daniel. Nine Pathfinder clubs scored 90 percent or above, which earned them a first-place standing and qualified them to participate in the North American Division (NAD) PBE finals in Hawthorne, Florida, April 20-21.

Pathfinder clubs in first place and the conferences they represent are:

Amazon #1 (Southern New England) Braintree Flames (Southern New England) Brockton Eagles (Southern New England) Centinelas De Dios (Greater New York) Doves of Peace (Southern New England) Meriden Missionaries (Southern New England) Mt. Blue Moccasins (Northern New England) Orion-Bridgeport (Southern New England) Sequoias (Greater New York)



Pathfinder clubs answer questions on the books of Esther and Daniel during the Atlantic Union Conference Pathfinder Bible Experience.



Parents and other supporters look on while Pathfinder clubs participate in the union-level Pathfinder Bible Experience.



Runners present their team's challenge of a question to the judges during the Atlantic Union Conference Pathfinder Bible Experience.



Scorekeepers, runners, and judges get their instructions before the Atlantic Union Conference Pathfinder Bible Experience begins.

Pathfinder clubs in second place and the conferences they represent are:

Amazon #2 (Southern New England) Brooklawn Eagles (Southern New England) Cougars (Southern New England)

Pathfinder clubs in third place and the conferences they represent are:

Berea Orion (Northeastern) Flatbush Stars (Northeastern) Golden Eagles (Northeastern) Macedonia Pioneers (New York) Maranatha Light Bearers (Greater New York) Rams for Christ (Greater New York) Rising Sun (Northeastern)

To view more photos of the event and group shots of all the teams that participated, visit the photo albums on the Atlantic Union Conference Youth Ministries Facebook page at goo.gl/f2iDWX and goo.gl/2DuJe5.

Congratulations to all of the Atlantic Union Conference Pathfinder clubs for their hard work and determination.

-GLEANER staff



Training Conducted for Church Department Leaders

 $\sqrt{\lambda}$ 7 arwick church in Warwick, Bermuda, held a training event for church department leaders on the first weekend in March. The leaders received training on how to make their church and ministries more welcoming, warm, and inviting, and also how to use media platforms in positive ways to reach younger audiences.

The guest presenter, Dave Gemmell, North American Division Ministerial Department associate director, facilitated a series of seminars using the theme "The 21st-Century Church. Topics presented included, "Lethal Leadership," "Worship Renewal," "Secret NAD Resources Revealed." "Living in Bermuda," and "Sticky Adventist Churches."

The culminating seminar on Sabbath afternoon focused on four "ships" leadership, worship, scholarship, and discipleship. Gemmell's seminar style included illustrative stories, which provided useful and proven applications to ministry that allow for flexibility, not rigid and rote prescriptions, and encouraged individual initiative and experimentation.

"Each one of us has been called to leadership," Gemmell told the group. He indicated that leaders operate on GRACE, in this case an acronym for goals, recruitment, accountability, conflict resolution, and equipping the team for mission. "Good leaders recruit people who are smarter and better-qualified than they are to carry out the mission," Gemmell said

Using inflated balloons and a dart to pop them, Gemmell directed his experience to the act of worship. "The balloons," he shared, "represent God's presence in worship." Popping the balloons shows the devil's act of deflating the worship experience and raises the question of how to devil-proof worship, an age-old quest.

Sharing a brief history of Adventist worship from the mid-nineteenth century to the early twenty-first century, Gemmell demonstrated the different styles adopted over that time, concluding with the modern contextualized format operating on the ADORE acronym for appeal to change, doctrine, oneness, responsibility, and exaltation.

Gemmell presented a trio of analytical questions drawn from photography as he spoke about scholarship: "Can you see the picture?", "Can you feel the picture?" and "Can you see yourself in the picture?" Taken from the book of Isaiah, Gemmell used the wolf and lamb (11:6, 13, 16), the feast (25:6, 4), and the shroud (25:7, 8) as examples of these applications. He offered that, in the marathon of life "the cheering crowds are the prophets." What they wrote from God is to encourage and move members toward heaven.

Finally, Gemmell spoke on discipleship using the rubric Velcro Adventist Churches that use various methods to connect, or attach to individuals in a way in which personal relationships are born and thrive. Utilizing a strong interest in people at the root, the process involved capturing their personal attendance



Dave Gemmell, North American Division Ministerial Department associate director, presents a seminar to church departmental leaders.

at church, increasing their interest and participation; and ultimately, gaining their membership. Where these methods are used and finessed, the church becomes "sticky," as membership expands and people come to a saving knowledge of Jesus. "Discipleship is the goal," he said.

—Information supplied by Coggie Gibbons, Warwick church communication director, and Hector Quinones, Warwick church pastor

camp**meeting** 2018

Bermuda Conference Bermuda Institute/Southampton Church Complex

"God First"

June 29-July 7, 2018

Speakers

Furman F. Fordham II - Adult (June 29-July 3) James Doggette - Adult (July 4-7) John Coaxum - Youth and Young Adult

Workshop Presenter Suna Kwon

Guest Musician

Gale Jones Murphy

For more information, visit www.adventistbermuda.org or call (441) 292-4110.

Baptisms Spark Water Usage Concerns

n Sabbath, January 27, eight people publicly expressed their love for Christ through baptism; and on the following Sabbath one more individual was baptized into the fellowship of the Newburgh church in Newburgh, New York. A couple of weeks after the baptisms, the City of Newburgh Water Department called the Greater New York Conference Corporation secretary, alerting him that there may be a possible leak at the church because of the unusually high water usage. Upon further inquiry, the corporation secretary discovered that the additional water usage was not due to some unfortunate circumstance, but to something glorious—baptisms.

Five of the nine people received Bible studies from Ezekiel Williams, church elder, and his wife, Natasha. Their faithful witness result-



Ezekiel Williams, the Newburgh church elder who conducted Bible studies, center back, stands with newly-baptized members, from left, Leonardo Suquilanda, Gioconda Solorzano, Meverely Wright, Kaylin Suquilanda, Citrie Codling, David Stalter, Donna Buckley and Christopher Suquilanda. Not pictured is Kimone Campbell.

ed in the baptism of the Suquilanda family.

Conrad White, pastor of the Newburgh church, is pleased to begin 2018 with baptisms. He hopes that in the near future, Newburgh church will not only be known to the water department for its excessive water usage, but that the church will be distinguished in the entire City of Newburgh for its work in the community.

-Judith White, assistant church clerk, Newburgh church

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Greater New York Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the third regular quadrennial and fifty-sixth regular meeting of the Greater New York Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in conjunction with the fifty-sixth regular Constituency Session (third regular quadrennial) convening at 9:00 a.m., on Sunday, June 10, 2018, (registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.) at Camp Berkshire, 680-1 Berkshire Road, Wingdale, New York, 12594. The delegates to the third regular quadrennial session of the Conference are also delegates to the third regular quadrennial session of the Greater New York Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists.

The purpose of the meeting is to elect a board of trustees for the coming quadrennial period, to receive reports, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

> Henry Beras, President Lloyd Scharffenberg, Secretary

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Greater New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the third regular quadrennial and fiftysixth regular Constituency Session of the Greater New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at 9:00 a.m. (registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.) on Sunday, June 10, 2018, at Camp Berkshire, 680-1 Berkshire Road, Wingdale, New York, 12594.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect officers and departmental directors and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

Each church is entitled to one delegate for the organization, and one for every 75 members. Each church is entitled to elect alternate delegates who may be seated at the Conference Session in place of any regular delegate not present. (Article III, Section 2:1, 2)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the Organizing Committee is being called for Saturday evening, May 26, 2018, at 8:30 p.m., at North Bronx Seventh-day Adventist Church, 3743 Bronxwood Avenue, Bronx, New York 10469. All members of the Organizing Committee should plan to be present.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the Nominating Committee is being called for Sunday morning, June 3, 2018, at 10:00 a.m., at the Greater New York Conference Office, 7 Shelter Rock Road, Manhasset, NY 11030.

> Henry Beras, President Alanzo H. Smith, Secretary

OFFICIAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the regular quadrennial meeting of the Adventist Home Inc. will be held in conjunction with the fifty-sixth regular Constituency Session (third regular quadrennial) of Greater New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists convening at 9:00 a.m., on Sunday, June 10, 2018, (registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.) at Camp Berkshire, 680-1 Berkshire Road, Wingdale, New York, 12594. The delegates to the third regular quadrennial session of the Conference are also delegates to the third regular quadrennial session of the Adventist Home Inc.

The purpose of the meeting is to receive reports and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

> Henry Beras, President Paul Fitts, Secretary

God's Heroes Emerge at GNYC Church Planting Festival 2018

bout 700 people About 100 people participated in the 2018 Greater New York Conference (GNYC) Church Planting Festival on March 3 at the Saunders Trade and Technical High School in Yonkers, New York. The Church Planting Festival highlights the work of the Holy Spirit, resulting in 42 new church plants since 2015 in a quest to plant a total of 100 churches by 2020.

"The Battle Cry Continues" was the theme of a day filled with celebration, inspiration, and preparation of gospel heroes in planting churches. Event organizers Manuel Rosario, **GNYC** Personal Ministries and Sabbath School director, and Steve Leddy, GNYC church-planting coach, welcomed the group. Stories emerged throughout the day of men and women who pressed forth with ingenuity, strength, bravery, and firm commitment to the cause of God in bringing the gospel to all people.

Recent church plant additions include the Manantial de Vida in Queens, which started with 12 members and now has 60. Bethany started in January with four people and grew to 26 members with the aim: "Each One Reach One." Bethany church members declared that, "Christ did not say they should come to us; He said we should go to them." Mount Sinai in Central Park in Spanish Harlem started with eight people, and now, 46 people gather. The 138th Street Spanish church in South Bronx started in a beauty salon with one family and now 25 people are worshiping and giving free cook-

ing classes to the community, with South American chaplains helping in the ministry. MyGen, a youth gathering of young adults, ministers to the needs of the New York natives in a unique café setting with a focus on the health of the community. New York Punjabi, a group of East Indians, started with 15 and are now 25 persons reaching people from Pakistan and other countries. Ambassadors. in Far Rockaway, Queens, started after Hurricane Sandy with single moms who were not Adventists and now have a thriving autism and health ministry.

José Cortés, Jr., North American Division associate ministerial director for evangelism, shared that a church that does not reach beyond the four walls is not a church but a club. He encouraged them to embrace the different approaches that will meet different groups.

In attendance at the celebration were G. Earl Knight, Atlantic Union Conference president; his wife, Yvonne Knight, Atlantic Union Conference Women's and Prayer ministries director and Ministerial Spouses Association coordinator; the entire leadership team of the GNYC, corporation leaders, and departmental directors.

Henry Beras, GNYC president, presented a message based on Joshua 6, and Joshua's mission to Jericho to illustrate that the victory belonged to God. "It was not about them, it was about God," he said. In paraphrasing the story of Joshua taking Jericho, he assured the listeners that God has given GNYC New York City, the



Members of the Greater New York Conference attend the Church Planting Festival, celebrating the establishment of 42 new church plants since 2015.

Bronx, Queens, Brooklyn, Staten Island, Long Island, and upstate New York. Alanzo Smith, GNYC executive secretary, offered a prayer of consecration.

At the conclusion of the event. Leddy called for more people to step forward to

be trained in the Church Planting Intensive, a program of the Greater New York Conference Church Planting Institute.

—Information supplied by the Greater New Conference Personal Ministries Department.

camp**meeting** 2018

Greater New York Conference Camp Berkshire 680-1 Berkshire Road, Wingdale, New York

"Preparing for the Harvest"

Luso-Brazilian: May 26-29 English: June 30 and July 7

Hispanic: July 14-21 Haitian: July 22-28

United (All Ministries): September 15

Speakers

Valdecir Lima - Luso Brazilian Sam Leonor - III Urban Mission Conference (June 30) Doug Venn - III Urban Mission Conference (June 30) Clifford Jones - English (July 7) Roger Alvarez - Hispanic Pete Gabriel Dormeus - Haitian Abraham Henry - Haitian Youth Artur Stele - United

For more information, visit gnyc.org or call (516) 627-9350.

Amsterdam Church Baptizes Eight Young People

The Amsterdam church in Amsterdam, New York, celebrated the baptism of eight of its youth on February 10, following a series of Bible study discussions. "These are some of the most intelligent and gifted youth that I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. It is a joy to [see them] succeed in academics, sports, and music," said Roy Weeden, the church's pastor.

The Amsterdam church is working on the expansion of its youth activities through the future startup of a Pathfinder club. as well as continuing with an active Vacation Bible School program this summer. The church is very proud to have these youth make a decision for Jesus Christ.

The baptismal service held personal meaning for Weeden, as more than 60 years ago, in the same church and baptismal tank, his father was baptized with his mother, father, and five siblings. These eight people started the Weeden family on their Adventist journey. How could they know that more than six decades later their son and grandson would become an ordained minister and baptize eight individuals in the same church and baptistery?

But there's more! If it wasn't for one man, Albert Whitaker, who studied with the Weeden family, their decision to follow Christ



Roy Weeden, Amsterdam church pastor, left, stands with baptismal candidates Jasmine Corley, Leah Moorman, Calvin Moorman, Jr., Daniel Reyes, Joshua Hyacinthe, Isaiah Hyacinthe, Jonathan Corley, and Rizilano Reyes III.

might not have happened. Albert Whitaker is Roy Weeden's great-grandfather from Canajoharie, on his mother's side of the family. Weeden says, "If it wasn't for their decision so many years ago, it is highly unlikely that I would be here today as a Seventh-day Adventist, let

alone becoming an Adventist minister. This serves as a reminder to all of us that the decisions we make today make ripples through time to our descendants and even our associates."

—Communication staff. Amsterdam church

Workers Participate in Active Shooter Response Training

his world is quickly I growing increasingly unsafe, even for worshipers in Seventh-day Adventist churches and children in Seventh-day Adventist schools. In response to the growing number of school shootings in America and the increasing incidents of violence on faith-based properties, the New York Conference has adopted the A.L.I.C.E. Active Shooter Response Program and has begun providing training.

Between March 6 and March 10, members of the New York Conference Safety Team conducted active shooter response training at three separate locations. On March 6, Miguel Crespo, New York Conference president; Jeremy Garlock, New York

Conference superintendent of schools and communication director; and Josh Crespo and Ray Cruz, members of the New York state training team, conducted a training session for the Greater New York Conference teachers and pastors at the North Bronx church in Bronx, New York. Also present at the training were representatives from the New York Police Counter Terrorism Department, the New York Community Police, and the FBI.

On March 6, Garlock conducted a training session for Union Springs Academy and Frontenac elementary school, with guests from the local public school. On March 10, Miguel Crespo and Jeremy Garlock conducted a training session at the



Greater New York Conference workers participate in an hour-long active shooter response training session.

Joy of Troy church in Troy, New York. Each training session includes an hour-long, classroom-style training followed by live simulations.

It is the prayer of the New York Conference leadership that there will never be a need to put this training into practice, but that Adventist

institutions will continue to be havens of peace. However, in the current world climate, it is better to prepare for disaster while praying for peace.

—Communication staff, New York Conference

Elmira Church Participates in Community Expo

Flmira church participated in the second annual Twin Tier Ties Community Expo on March 8, at the First Arena in Elmira, New York. Organized by Elmira College, this event allowed business and community organizations of the Southern Tier of New York to network together in reaching out to the public.

Elmira church members distributed books including Path to Peace (Steps to CHRIST,) RADIANT HEALTH, and THE DESIRE OF AGES. Other literature, including tracts, cookbooks, THE GREAT HOPE, and SIGNS

magazines were also available. 3ABN was streamed to an on-site computer for participants to view. Oranges and grapefruits were handed out to emphasize a healthy lifestyle.

Surveys were taken and some individuals signed up for the cooking school held on April 22. Several members had the opportunity to help with the church's booth and to meet with those who visited the booth.

—James Reynolds, communication secretary, Elmira church



Available at the Elmira church booth to assist passersby are Mac Dwyer, Personal Ministries leader; Waren Muir, the church's pastor; and Kevin Wahl, Bible worker.



Union Springs Academy joyfully announces the Rededication Ceremony of



NEWMYER HALL Saturday, May 12, 2018 3:00 p.m. Union Springs Academy Administration Building Union Springs, New York

For more information, visit unionspringsacademy.org

camp**meeting** 2018

New York Conference Union Springs Academy, 40 Spring Street, Union Springs, New York

"Why Jesus?" Certainty in an Uncertain World!

June 22-30, 2018

Speakers

Mike Tucker - June 22-23 John Bradshaw - June 29-30 Brian Burgess - Weekdays Leon Brown, Sr. - Weekdays

For more information, visit www.nyconf.org/ camp-meeting or call (315) 469-6921.

School Supports Students in Hurricane-devastated Areas

In August and September 2017, some of the deadliest and costliest hurricanes hit the United States. Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and many other islands. The hurricanes left tremendous damage to these islands and many people lost their lives.

In the North Caribbean Conference (NCC), the Seventh-day Adventist Church had to come to grips with the fact that the entire conference was affected by hurricanes Irma and Maria. Church schools were partially destroyed in St. Thomas, Tortola, and St. Maarten.

The principal, Laurene Richards-Usher, staff, and students at the Linden school in Laurelton. New York, were saddened by the



Students in the Caribbean hold care packages received from the students at the Linden school

devastation that occurred as a result of the hurricanesespecially the destruction of the church schools. Collectively they decided that they were going to do what they could to relieve some of the stress that the

students of these schools had to endure.

Gillian Ioseph, one of the teachers and the assistant principal at Linden school, reached out to her former college classmate, Sanida Mc Kenzie, who is now the

treasurer of NCC, to inquire as to the immediate needs of the students at these schools. Through networking with the education director of NCC, a list of needs was sent to the school.

The students, parents, and staff were immediately informed of these needs and supplies were collected to create care packages for the students in St. Thomas, Tortola, and St. Maarten. Four barrels were packed with toiletries, school supplies, and clothing and were mailed to NCC on November 27, 2017. The barrels arrived at NCC on January 3. 2018, to be distributed to the students devastated by these hurricanes.

-Staff, Linden school

15 Students Request Baptism After Week of Prayer

dventist schools are Adventist schools are notorious for Week of Prayer. They are held twice a year, every year, so if you attended an Adventist elementary school from grade 1 to grade 8, you would have experienced 16 Week of Prayer programs, which adds up to 80 sermonettes. Think of the impact 80 sermonettes have had on students who are on the verge of independence as they progress to the pressures, distractions, and demands of high school.

To ensure that the students at Linden school make a connection with Jesus Christ in one of the 80 sermonettes, Laurene Richards-Usher, principal, prays for, then commissions a speaker especially tailored to inspire the junior high school students. The theme for the year and for the Week of Prayer is "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." This is not a new or contemporary theme; it is of timeless fashion—it never

ents' expression of the gospel. The theme song set the tone for the speaker, Duddley Francois, North Bronx church associate pastor, to deliver an old, gospel message that an authentic friendship with Jesus is a two-way street.

"15 of the junior-high students requested baptism, eight of which are in the eighth grade."

goes out of style, if you know how to refresh it!

The school's choir director, Martine-Erica Bermingham, refreshed the theme song by presenting her arrangement of the hymn "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." This appealed to the students because they felt as if the hymn is now their own and not their par-

François delivered God's Word in an invigorating way. He was authentic, knowledgeable, serious about salvation, and used relevant examples and today's vernacular to present the Word to the students. The Holy Spirit moved in a tremendous way and 15 of the junior high school students requested

baptism, eight of which are in the eighth grade. A few of the students are not from Adventist homes. They also expressed interest in continuing their education in one of the academies.

It is true that students can become desensitized by, or worse, indifferent to weeks of prayer. Nevertheless, if the school is intentional in delivering the message in a refreshing manner, yet maintains the urgency of placing their students in the hands of their Savior, they will continue to respond to the call of the Holy Spirit. Remember, it only takes one message for a life to change.

---Mirlande Pierre, eighth-grade teacher, Linden school

Youth Participate in Global Youth Day

The General Conference Global Youth Day (GYD) initiative was celebrated across the length and breadth of the Northeastern Conference (NEC) on Sabbath, March 17. This year's theme was "Food and Water Drive." Youth were commissioned to "be the sermon, be the hands and feet of Jesus."

The NEC Youth Ministries department marshaled youth from around the conference to participate in more than 35 projects across the English, Spanish, and French communities.

One of the highlights of the day was the "Stop the Hunger" project, hosted at the NEC headquarters. Youth, pastors, and conference officers converged at the office early in the morning to take part in a project together. The lobby was quickly converted into a disaster-response, mealpackaging production line of energetic servants of Christ.

The vision and exhilaration of this project even impacted passersby. "This is a high and holy day of community services," said one elder. "We cannot afford to stay in the walls of the church like an elite group. I was on my way to church, but when I saw all of this

amazing activity, [I thought that | Sabbath School can wait for a few"

Accordingly, with all hands in action, the team of 50-plus participants exploded in cheers and hallelujahs as the celebratory gong was sounded, with the accompanying announcement: "We have reached our goal! We have packed 10,123 meals!" Within the allotted time-frame, they successfully realized the goal to pack 10,000 meals that would feed 60 000 individuals in the disaster-hit areas of Haiti, Dominican Republic, and Western Africa.

With pastors as the last participants to lay hands on the final packing of the boxes, prayers ascended to God to prepare the way for the safe delivery of the meals

From Buffalo, to New York City, to Boston, and beyond, other varied projects included providing food and water to the homeless, outreach ministries, prayers, worship services, gospel tract distribution, water stations, flowers, food, sandwich distribution, pop-up markets, soup kitchens, and blessing/care packages, to churches, nursing homes, shelters, police precincts, fire stations, bus stops, train stations, and



This group is part of Northeastern Conference's New England North team.



These youth and young adults are a part of the Stop the Hunger team that packed meals at the Northeastern Conference office.

Laundromats on street corners, highways, and byways.

NEC eagerly anticipates Global Youth Day 2019. In the interim, all youth are empowered and equipped to serve in ongoing compassion activities across the

Northeastern Conference. Thus, they will continue to align with the NEC Youth Ministries theme: "ARISE: Rescue, Revive, Redeem."

—David McKenzie, Youth Ministries director, Northeastern Conference

camp**meeting** 2018

Northeastern Conference Camp Victory Lake 227 Crum Elbow Road, Hyde Park, New York

"Awaiting the Promise of His Coming"

Hispanic: May 24-27

English: June 29-30 and July 6-7

Haitian: August 15-19

Speakers

Kenneth Manders - Adult (June 30) John Lomacang - Adult (July 7)

For camp meeting information, visit northeastern.org or call (718) 291-8006.

Life-long Impressions, Friendships, and Life-long Support

The memory is very clear: The predawn morning is very cool, so cool that your nose is cold where it peeps out of the sleeping bag. You wake, then silently rise from your bunk bed and slip past the counselor and out of the simple cabin, leaving the sleeping forms of your cabin-mates behind. You walk through the grass, dew drenching your feet while grass and bits of leaves hitch a ride. Reaching the

water, then you sit at the edge of the dock, your legs folded under you and the lake spread before you. As the sun rises over the low mountains and the mist over the lake turns golden, you inhale the smell of the lake and, purposing in your heart to never forget this moment, you enter into a prayer of praise to God.

Northern New England Conference's Camp Lawroweld is a special place.

group dedicated to sustaining and improving the camp eventually arose. It happened in 2004, at a camp reunion, where by acclamation a group named Friends of Camp Lawroweld was born. The man who agreed to lead the group was Gary Blanchard, and he leads it still. "I guess I didn't know any better than to volunteer, so I did," says Blanchard, "but the truth is that I love the camp and



Gary Blanchard leads the group Friends of Camp Lawroweld

This is the view of sunrise from the dock at Camp Lawroweld in Weld, Maine.

dirt path, you walk toward the lake, each step leaving a damp but very clear footprint behind. The path steepens as the lake comes into view. A mist is rising from the dead, calm surface of the lake and silence envelops you.

As you step onto the dock, a gentle creaking breaks the silence, and small ripples glide outward from the dock. A school of bass start from the shallow water. leaving their own ripples in their wake. You take step after careful step, trying to maintain the silence of the air and the stillness of the

For generations, campers and staff there have fallen in love with nature, fallen in love with Christ, and, occasionally, have fallen in love with each other. So strong is the impression made on some hearts that people return there as often as possible, first as campers, then as teen and college-age staff, then as adult volunteers. But even among those who are not able to return to the camp regularly, a strong love for the camp abides.

Perhaps it is not surprising, then, that among the legion of fans for the camp, a support

love what it does for our youth, so doing everything I can to support the camp is a privilege, because it results in an even greater blessing for our youth."

"What Friends of Camp Lawroweld does is raise money for camp scholarships. There are a lot of kids in Northern New England who just can't go to camp without some assistance. But, praise God, there are many like me who feel that every kid who wants to go to camp should go to camp, and each year we manage to raise enough to sponsor the kids who want to go."

"But," says Blanchard, "our main focus is in maintaining the camp and taking on large projects. For instance, right now we're having to replace the large walk-in refrigerator in the kitchen. That is a huge project that is going to require lots of support. And on the heels of that, we need to replace two of the aging girls' cabins. We'll replace them with simple clapboard frames like what is there now, but it will still require workers and materials. Then there is a real need to build an alternate spur road and loading dock for supply deliveries so that tractor trailers don't go through the campus where kids are. This is how it is with a camp—there is an unending list of improvements or maintenance that needs to be done, and this is what Friends of Camp Lawroweld exists for."

Blanchard is a retired educator who has seen not only his own kids grow up at Lawroweld, but has seen hundreds of kids over the years have life-changing experiences there. "The thing that strikes me most is how many kids have found Christ here. When it comes to meeting the needs of our kids, we have two great ministries—our schools and our camp—and the Lord uses both of them to reach our kids. For me, the fact that the Lord is using this camp makes it priceless." You can reach Gary Blanchard at youthyes@hotmail.com.

-Scott Christiansen, communication director, Northern New England Conference

Recruiting Gears up for NNEC's Church Planting Project

The Northern New $oldsymbol{oldsymbol{L}}$ England Conference is in the recruiting phase for its unique church-planting project. The project plans to plant more than 20 churches over the next decade—an increase of some 40 percent over the current number of churches.

If successful, the project will increase growth and create a new church-planting model. When asked if the project will succeed, conference executive secretary Ted Huskins did not hedge his answer. "We're in uncharted territory, trying a very new approach. Cold start church plants have a less than 50 percent survival rate, so planting a church is always a difficult undertaking. But, here is what we do know: if we don't radically change how we're going about witnessing and discipling, then we will absolutely fail."

"See," said Huskins, "we have two problems: first, we've lost the fire of mission. We, the sisterhood

of Adventist churches in Northern New England, have lost our passion for proclaiming Christ. We are still dutiful, mind you, but over the last three generations or so we've become less and less on fire for Christ, meaning that witnessing and Christian service are not a significant part of our lifestyle. Given the importance of the message we carry, that's a big problem.

"The second problem is that while we've lost our fire, the population of Northern New England has become dramatically more secular. In fact, we are now hands down the most post-Christian population in all of North America. Almost 60 percent of the people in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine don't have a relationship with God and don't feel they need one. God, the Bible, and church are not a part of their lives, probably wasn't part of their parents' lives, and may not have been part of their grandparents'

lives." The question, according to Huskins, is how do members bring the message of salvation to people who want nothing to do with church? And also, can members of the sisterhood of churches simultaneously reignite their fire and passion for Christ?"

"The project plans to plant more than 20 churches over the next decade—an increase of some 40 percent over the current number of churches."

Huskins says the churchplanting project gives the conference the greatest chance of affecting change, and similar models have proven effective in Western Europe. "This project, which is meant to span a decade, focuses on recruiting young adults from around the division, assisting them in moving to the conference on a tent-making basis, then assisting them in forming teams that raise up spiritual discovery groups that eventually grow into churches. This vision really excites young adults, who are passionate about Christ and who are looking for something different and effective. It is our prayer that having more passionate young adult missionaries in Northern New England will help the entire conference reignite its fire for personal evangelism.

Recruitment and team building for the project have begun. To find out more, please go to www. plantNNEC.com.

-Scott Christiansen, communication director, Northern New England Conference

LEGAL NOTICE

Northern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the sixth quadrennial session of the Northern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc., will be held at Pine Tree Academy, Freeport, Maine, on Sunday, October 28, 2018. The first meeting of the session is called for 10:00 a.m. The purposes of this meeting are to elect officers, an executive committee, and the departmental/ service directors for the ensuing quadrennial term; to consider proposed amendments to the Articles and Bylaws; and to receive reports. Each church is entitled to one delegate for the organization and one additional delegate for each fifteen members (Article V, Section 1a) to represent them at the session. The Organizing Committee shall meet on Sunday, July 8, 2018, at 10:00 a.m., at the Freeport church, 67 Pownal Rd., Freeport, Maine. The purpose of this meeting is to elect the Nominating Committee to serve the constituency, to nominate an Articles and Bylaws Committee, and any other committees as may be necessary (Article VI, Section 1c). The Nominating Committee shall meet on Sunday, August 12, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. at the Northern New England Conference office headquarters, 479 Main St., Westbrook, Maine, (Article VI, Section 2a).

> Robert Cundiff, President Theodore Huskins, Secretary

camp**meeting** 2018

Northern New England Conference Pine Tree Academy, Freeport, Maine

"Renewing the Inner Man Day By Day"

July 6-14, 2018

Speakers

Mike Ortel - First Weekend (Friday-Sunday) Bob Cundiff - Monday Ted Huskins - Tuesday Scott Ritsema - Wednesday-Saturday

For more information, visit nnec.org and click on "Camp Meeting" or call (207) 797-3760.

SNEC Youth Federation Rallies Make a Difference

The Southern New L England Conference (SNEC) held four regional youth federation rallies on March 31 and one on April 7, drawing hundreds of youth and young adults from Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island The ral-

lies serve as an opportunity to fellowship, participate in community projects, as well as provide valuable training and development. The theme for the rallies was "Live the Life."

SNEC has a total of five federations: BAYYA



The MAAYA group in Lowell shares information in English and Spanish about the importance of exercise, and distributes literature, fruit, and water, as well as collects demographic information about those who might be interested in vegetarian/vegan cooking classes that the church will be offering.

(Boston Adventist Youth and Young Adults), CAYYA (Connecticut Adventist Youth and Young Adults), MAYYA (Massachusetts Adventist Youth and Young Adults), SCAYYA (Southern Connecticut Adventist Youth and Young Adults), and RAYYA (Rhode Island Adventist Youth and Young Adults).

Guadalupe Montour, SNEC Youth Ministries administrative assistant, was the speaker for the BAYYA rally at the Dedham Temple church in Dedham, Massachusetts. Art Preuss, pastor of the First Springfield, Florence, and Warren churches, presented for the CAYYA rally at the First Springfield church in

Springfield, Massachusetts. Edsel Cadet, Cambridge church pastor; Karol Prado, Bridgeport Spanish church youth director, and Andrew Innocent, Stride president/director, were the featured speakers for the MAYYA rally at Lowell Spanish church in Lowell, Massachusetts. Ionathan Coicou, member of the Mid-Hudson French church, was the speaker at the Lincoln church in Lincoln, Rhode Island, for the RAYYA rally. Danny Velez, SNEC associate youth director, spoke at the fifth rally for SCAYYA at the Bridgeport church in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

-Youth Ministries department, Southern New England Conference

camp**meeting** 2018

Southern New England Conference 150th Annual Camp Meeting Southern New England Campground 34 Sawyer Street, South Lancaster, Massachusetts

"Prepare for Action"

Hispanic: June 2-9

Portuguese/Cape Verdean: June 8-9

Haitian: June 16-23 English: June 22-23

Speakers

Alejandro Bullon - Spanish/Portuguese/Cape Verdean Johnson Cesar - Haitian Dan Jackson - English John McVay - English David Trim - English

For more information, visit sneconline.org and click on "Camp Meeting" or call (978) 365-4551.



150TH ANNUAL CAMP MEETING SOUTH LANCASTER, MASSACHUSETTS







Hispanic — June 2-9, 2018
Portuguese/Cape Verdean — June 8-9, 2018
English — June 22-30, 2018
Haitian — June 16-23, 2018



Dan Jackson



Alejandro Bullon



Johnson Cesar



John McVay



David Trim

The Blessing of Service

od's people are to place in his treasury all the means that they can spare. For this means, needy, unworked fields are calling. From many lands is sounding the cry, "Come over and help us." Our church-members should feel a deep interest in home and foreign missions. Great blessing will come to them as they make self-sacrificing efforts to plant the standard of truth in new territory. The money invested in this work will bring rich returns.

neighbors who have not yet received full evidence of the truth for this time.

Let those who take up this work make the life of Christ their constant study. Let them be intensely in earnest, using every capability in the Lord's service. Precious results will follow sincere, unselfish efforts. From the Great Teacher the workers will receive the highest of all education. But those who do not impart the light they have received will one day realize that they have sustained a fearful loss.

the instruction that Christ gave his disciples when he sent them out on their first missionary tour. By songs of praise, humble, heartfelt, prayers, and a simple presentation of truth in the family circle, many will be reached. The divine Worker will be present to send conviction to hearts. "I am with you alway," is his promise. With the assurance of the abiding presence of such a helper, we may labor with faith and hope and courage.

The monotony of our service for God needs to be broken up. Every church-member should be engaged in some special service for the Master. Let those who are well established in the truth go into neighboring places, and hold meetings. Let God's Word be read, and let the ideas expressed be such that they will be readily comprehended by all.

There are others who can visit the people in their homes, and speak to them of the love of Christ. By such labor souls will be convicted and converted. Those who do this work should be able to speak and read with clearness and feeling.

There are those who, because of pressing home duties, may not be able to do house-to-house work. But let them not think that they can do nothing to help. They can encourage and pray for those who have opportunity to do this work, and they can give of their means for its advancement.

Excerpt by Ellen White, author and co-founder of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, THE REVIEW AND HERALD, May 5, 1904. Reprinted with permission.



New converts, rejoicing in the light received from the Word, will in their turn give of their means to carry the light to others.

The Lord is calling upon his people to take up different lines of missionary service. Those in the highways and byways of life are to hear the gospel message. Church-members are to do evangelistic work in the homes of their

Many of God's people are to go forth with our publications into places where the third angel's message has never been proclaimed. The work of the canvasser-evangelist whose heart is imbued with the Holy Spirit is fraught with wonderful possibilities for good. The presentation of the truth, in love and simplicity, from house to house, is in harmony with



Sunset Table					Daylight Saving Time	
June 2018	1	8	15	22	29	
Bangor, ME	8:14	8:19	8:23	8:24	8:2	
Portland, ME	8:16	8:21	8:24	8:26	8:2	
Boston, MA	8:15	8:19	8:23	8:24	8:2	
South Lancaster, MA	8:18	8:22	8:25	8:27	8:2	
Pittsfield, MA	8:24	8:28	8:32	8:34	8:3	
Hartford, CT	8:19	8:24	8:27	8:29	8:2	
Providence, RI	8:14	8:19	8:22	8:24	8:2	
New York, NY	8:21	8:26	8:29	8:30	8:3	
Albany, NY	8:25	8:30	8:33	8:35	8:3	
Utica, NY	8:34	8:39	8:42	8:44	8:4	
Syracuse, NY	8:38	8:42	8:46	8:47	8:4	
Rochester, NY	8:44	8:48	8:52	8:54	8:5	
Buffalo, NY	8:48	8:52	8:56	8:57	8:5	
Keene, NH	8:21	8:26	8:29	8:31	8:3	
Manchester, NH	8:18	8:23	8:26	8:28	8:2	
Portsmouth, NH	8:16	8:20	8:24	8:26	8:2	
Brattleboro, VT	8:22	8:27	8:30	8:32	8:3	
Burlington, VT	8:30	8:35	8:39	8:41	8:4	
Rutland, VT	8:26	8:31	8:35	8:37	8:3	
Hamilton, Bda	8:20	8:23	8:26	8:27	8:2	

ANNOUNCEMENT

ATLANTIC UNION

Compassion Sabbaths: Every second Sabbath of the month is designated Compassion Sabbath in the Atlantic Union: May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10, and December 8. Find more information at auyouth.com or compassion-now.org.

SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND You are invited to join Mount Zion church.

64 Marlboro St., Hamden, CT 06517, on Sabbath, June 9 for Education Day/ Youth Day with guest speaker Carlton Byrd, Oakwood University church pastor and speaker/director for Breath of Life. Inspirational music will be provided by Angela Joseph and the New Ensemble Mass Chorale under the dictatorship of Lola Nathan and Harriett Alfred, accompanied by Jonathan Q. Berryman. For more information, contact, Craig Brandon,

youth leader, at (203) 988-9645 or Tamara Nathan-Oputa, education leader, at (203) 361-5426.

OUT-OF-UNION

Standifer Gap Adventist School,

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







CLASSIFIEDS

All advertisements should be sent, together with payment, to your local conference office for approval by the communication director. For advertisements originating within the Atlantic Union the rate is \$35 for each insertion of 40 words or less, and 50 cents for each additional word. For all other advertisements the rate is \$40 for each insertion of 40 words or less and 50 cents for each word over the 40. There is an 80-word maximum. Check or money order should be made payable to Atlantic Union GLEANER or Atlantic Union Conference.

The Atlantic Union GLEANER reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. The rejection of any advertisement should not be construed to constitute disapproval of the product or service involved.

Classified and display ads appearing in the Atlantic Union GLEANER are printed without endorsement or recommendation of the Atlantic Union Conference. The Atlantic Union GLEANER makes every reasonable effort to screen all advertisements, but in no case can the periodical assume responsibility for advertisements appearing in its columns or for typographical or categorical errors.

EMPLOYMENT

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks a director of human resources. The director of human resources is the chief human resources officer of the university and serves as an advocate regarding benefits, policies, and practices that would have a positive impact on employees, and as an advisor and strategic partner to university administration. Provides leadership through the management of a comprehensive human resources department, ensuring that all HR programs and initiatives are integrated and effective in supporting the overall mission, goals, and objectives of the institution. https:// www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/ show/staff_salary#job_6

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks curriculum and learning design specialist.



This full-time staff position has halftime teaching responsibilities in the Department of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum. The curriculum and instructional design specialist for the Department of Digital Learning and Instructional Technology (DLiT) provides highly skilled professional service to meet the instructional design needs of online faculty. The curriculum and instructional design specialist will report to the online course manager in DLiT and the chair in the Department of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum. www.andrews.edu/ admres/jobs/show/staff_salary

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks School of Visual Art and Design productions/equipment and facilities manager. Full-time position combines two operational roles that impact the use/scheduling of production equipment. Prefer two years experience or college degree in video, film, audio, lighting, and maintenance. To apply and see full visit: www.southern.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

seeks professor for History/Political Studies teaching American history. Must be able to teach Atlantic history, African/African-American/Latin American history. Ph.D. in History preferred. Two openings available (one part-time and one full-time). When applying, please indicate preference. Contact Dr. Mark Peach, peach@southern.edu and Dr. Robert Young, ryoung@southern.edu. www. southern.edu/jobs.

THE OFFICE OF THE PROVOST at La Sierra University invites applications for a half-time position as the dean of the Division of General Education to begin in July 2018. For more information, please see goo.gl/JmSuQX.

OB-GYN. PEDIATRICIAN. PSYCHIATRIST. AND PSYCHOLOGIST needed for Adventist owned/operated rural health clinic on the campus of Weimar Institute in Weimar, California. Competitive pay. Call Dr. Randall Steffens at: (615) 604-0142.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S

Nursing Department seeks a full-time nurse educator. Doctorate desired; MSN considered. Experience in medical/surgical or critical care nursing required. Must enjoy working with young people who are excited about service. Must have, or be able to obtain, an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Send CV and cover letter to Dr. Amy Rosenthal, arosenthal@ swau.edu.

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

TRAVEL

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ADDRESS CHANGE

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If you have moved recently, be sure to submit your new address information to your church clerk or conference.

Contact information for conferences is in the shaded box on the bottom right of page 23.

Help us keep your address information up to date!

Remembering . . .

Administrators, Pastors, Educators, and Workers who served in the Atlantic Union



BROOKS, Erma Rosamond Parchment—81; b. Jan. 29, 1937, in Southfield, St. Elizabeth, Jamaica, West Indies; d. Mar. 9, 2018, in Orlando, Fla. She is a graduate of West Indies College (now Northern Caribbean University). She worked for 41 years in two departments, Youth and Education at the Northeastern Conference. She also spent many summers organizing the scheduling, registration, and events at the Victory Lake campground for junior camp in Hyde Park, N.Y. Her husband, Stennett Brooks, retired Northeastern Conference treasurer and president, preceded her in death on April 4, 2008. Survivors include: two daughters and

sons-in-law, Audra (Ivan) Brooks Allston of Orlando, Fla., and Amalia (Dwayne) Brooks-Peterkin of Land O'Lakes, Fla.; her grandchildren: Bryce, Drew, and Colleen; Andrea Reddick, and Xavier Fitzgerald Peterkin of Land O'Lakes, Fla.; a brother, Russell Parchment of England; five sisters-in-law: Omia Parchment of Bronx, N.Y., Joyce Parchment of England, Redella Hodge of Winter Garden, Fla.; Oriel Lee Brooks of Jacksonville, Fla.; and Maritza Brooks of Lafayette, Tenn.; one brother in-law, Oriel Brooks of Nicaragua; and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins.



EARLE, George Roland—100; b. Feb. 14, 1918, in Mill Spring, N.C.; d. Mar. 25, 2018, in Huntsville, Ala. He graduated in 1948 from Oakwood College (now Oakwood University). He served in the United States Army. He served as a pastor in Fayetteville, N.C. for about six months before being called to the Northeastern Conference. He served for 38 years in ministry in the Northeastern Conference as pastor (1948-1967 and 1985-1987) and conference president (1967-1985) before moving to Huntsville, Ala. Churches he pastored included New Rochelle, Linden Boulevard, Bethel, City Tabernacle, and Mt. of Olives

(interim). After moving to Huntsville, he also served as field secretary for the South Central Conference. He served in ministry with his wife, Vernelle (see obituary below). He died 46 hours after his wife died. The Earles were married for 75 years. Survivors include a son, Reginald Bertrand Earle; a daughter, Chrissa Janel (Dion) Earle Farrell; two grandchildren, Danel Duvai Roland and Aidan Veronica Lael; a great- nephew Alphonso (Ozzie) Mitchell; a nephew, Marvin (Diane) Earle; four nieces Fay Hobbs, Paula (Eddie) Wright, Dorothy Burnette, and Caddie Howell, and a host of great-nieces and nephews.



EARLE, Vernelle Elaine Rogers—95; b. Aug. 2, 1922, in Morton, Miss.; d. Mar. 23, 2018, Huntsville, Ala. She served in the Northeastern Conference for 36 years as a colporteur, principal of the Bethel elementary school, cashier in the conference's treasury department, and secretary at the Northeastern Conference and at City Tabernacle church. She also served with the ministerial spouses in various activities, including senior citizens programs. She served in ministry with her husband, George R. Earle (see obituary above). The Earles were married for 75 years. Survivors include a son, Reginald Bertrand Earle; a daughter, Chrissa Janel (Dion) Earle Farrell; two grandchildren, Danel

Duvai Roland and Aidan Veronica Lael; a great-nephew Alphonso (Ozzie) Mitchell; a nephew, Marvin (Diane) Earle; four nieces Fay Hobbs, Paula (Eddie) Wright, Dorothy Burnette, and Caddie Howell, and a host of great-nieces and nephews.



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