

VISITOR

CONNECTING COLUMBIA UNION SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

NOVEMBER 2016 • VOLUME 121 • ISSUE 9

Adventists in the Military



70 years after
Desmond Doss,
how are Adventists
faring in today's
military?

Plus: Is the
Seventh day
still a day
of rest and
gladness?

Contents



4 | Newsline

6 | Noticias

8 | Underscore

10 | Feature

Adventists in the Military

Edwin Manuel Garcia

How has life in the military changed for Seventh-day Adventists since the World War II experience of Desmond Doss, the conscientious objector and combat medic, who saved many lives on the battlefield with little more than courage and conviction?

15 | Newsletters

44 | Bulletin Board

Above: President Truman presents the congressional medal of honor in 1945 to Cpl. Desmond Doss. All Desmond Doss photos provided by the Desmond Doss Council.

ON THE WEB



THE CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR

Want to use the buzz around the movie “Hacksaw Ridge” as a way to share more about Desmond Doss’ life and faith with your friends? Adventist Book Centers are selling several shareable resources—Doss’ biography, “Desmond Doss: Conscientious Objector” and “Conscientious Objector,” a documentary DVD about his life. Get more information at columbiaunionvisitor.com/dossresources.

ADVENTISTS IN THE MILITARY

Meet more Adventists from the Columbia Union who are currently serving or served in the military by visiting our album at facebook.com/columbiaunionvisitor.

HEALTHY HOLIDAY RECIPES

Thanksgiving and Christmas meals don’t have to be full of fat and sugar. Visit columbiaunionvisitor.com/healthyholiday for healthy, hearty vegetarian recipe options.



PHOTO BY JOEL SPRINGER

REACHING OUT

In this month’s feature, Craig Johnson, a Pennsylvania Conference member, shares a little about his experience with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Visit columbiaunionvisitor.com/ptsdtips to find tips on how you can help those experiencing PTSD after serving our country.

FEARLESS CAMPOREE

You don’t have to wait for the December *Visitor* issue to see our coverage of the 2016 Columbia Union Conference Pathfinder Camporee, themed “Fearless.” Visit columbiaunionvisitor.com/cufearless to see photos and videos from the camporee. Search #cufearless on Twitter for more photos (and tweet your own, using #cufearless!).



VISITOR

Celeste Ryan Blyden ■ Editor and Publisher
V. Michelle Bernard ■ News, Features and Online Editor
Kelly Butler Coe ■ Art Director and Designer
Sandra Jones ■ Advertising and Circulation Manager

The *Visitor* is a monthly publication of the Columbia Union Conference reaching approximately 61,900 Seventh-day Adventist homes in the mid-Atlantic area. The *Visitor* provides news and information, inspiration for effective ministry, and insight on issues with a spiritual focus to help engage members in experiencing the mission.

CONTACT ■ (410) 997-3414 ■ columbiaunionvisitor.com
visitor@columbiaunion.net ■ To subscribe, change address or discontinue *Visitor* mailings, call your local conference as listed below. Ask for the membership clerk. Free to members.
All others, \$20 annually. Email sjones@columbiaunion.net.

PUBLISHING BOARD

Dave Weigley (chair), Celeste Ryan Blyden (secretary),
Seth Bardu, Larry Boggess, José H. Cortés, William T. Cox,
Henry Fordham, Ron Halverson Jr., Ray Hartwell, Bill Miller,
Rick Remmers, Rob Vandeman

The *Visitor* is printed at Pacific Press
Publishing Association in Nampa, Idaho.

COLUMBIA UNION CONFERENCE

5427 Twin Knolls Road, Columbia, MD 21045
(410) 997-3414 ■ columbiaunion.org

Dave Weigley ■ President
Rob Vandeman ■ Executive Secretary
Seth Bardu ■ Treasurer
Celeste Ryan Blyden ■ Vice President, Communication and PR
Frank Bondurant ■ Vice President, Ministries Development
Walter Carson ■ Vice President, General Counsel, PARL
Rubén Ramos ■ Vice President, Multilingual Ministries
Donovan Ross ■ Vice President, Education
Emmanuel Asiedu ■ Secretary/Treasurer, Revolving Fund
Curtis Boore ■ Director, Plant Services
Harold Greene ■ Director, Information Technology
Carol Wright ■ Undersecretary

CONFERENCES

ALLEGHENY EAST: Henry J. Fordham, President; LaTasha Hewitt,
Visitor Correspondent ■ Tel. (610) 326-4610 ■ visitaec.com

ALLEGHENY WEST: William T. Cox Sr., President; Bryant Smith,
Visitor Correspondent ■ Tel. (614) 252-5271 ■ awconf.org

CHESAPEAKE: Rick Remmers, President; Samantha Young,
Visitor Correspondent ■ Tel. (410) 995-1910 ■ ccosda.org

MOUNTAIN VIEW: Larry Boggess, President; Valerie Morikone,
Visitor Correspondent ■ Tel. (304) 422-4581 ■ mtviewconf.org

NEW JERSEY: José H. Cortés, President; Paulo Macena,
Visitor Correspondent ■ Tel. (609) 392-7131 ■ njcsda.org

OHIO: Ron Halverson Jr., President; Heidi Shoemaker, *Visitor*
Correspondent ■ Tel. (740) 397-4665 ■ ohioadventist.org

PENNSYLVANIA: Ray Hartwell, President; Tamara Horst, *Visitor*
Correspondent ■ Tel. (610) 374-8331 ■ paconference.org

POTOMAC: Bill Miller, President; Tiffany Doss, *Visitor*
Correspondent ■ Tel. (540) 886-0771 ■ pcscda.org

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

KETTERING COLLEGE: Nate Brandstater, President; Jessica
Beans, *Visitor* Correspondent ■ Tel. (937) 395-8601 ■ kc.edu

WASHINGTON ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY: Weymouth Spence,
President; Angie Crews, *Visitor* Correspondent
Tel. (301) 891-4000 ■ wau.edu

HEALTHCARE NETWORKS

ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE: Terry Forde, President & CEO;
Thomas Grant, *Visitor* Correspondent
Tel. (301) 315-3030 ■ adventisthealthcare.com

KETTERING ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE: Fred Manchur, CEO;
Christina Keresoma, *Visitor* Correspondent
Tel. (937) 395-8167 ■ khnetwork.org

Adventist® and Seventh-day Adventist® are the registered trademarks of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®.

Volume 121 ■ Issue 9

Paul and Plymouth's Rock

Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing.
In everything give thanks: for this is the
will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you"
(1 Thess. 5:17, 18).

Thanksgiving is coming, and once again our nation will mention, at least briefly, the pilgrims of Plymouth. History records that in 1621 the pilgrims gave thanks. But for what? Was it for the unfriendly country they now called home? The religious persecution they had suffered that caused them to make such a dangerous trip and seek a new beginning? Was it for the sickness that swept through the colony or the large graveyard filled with their sons, daughters, husbands, wives, fathers and mothers? Was it for the shacks they called homes that the winter winds had blown through or the scraps of food on their tables? I ask again: For what did they have to give thanks?



WHO ARE WE THANKING?

It does not surprise me that society cannot get a handle on Thanksgiving. It is too big for many to comprehend. We try to put a better face on it with pictures of a nice little village—a clean village with plenty on the table and everyone smiling and healthy—because we know how to give thanks in prosperity. What we cannot grasp is Thanksgiving in tough times, in times of severe trial and difficulty. So we paint smiles and leave out the sickness. We paint bountiful cornucopia, but do not show the cemetery.

We speak of the brave pilgrims, the adventurous pilgrims, the spirited pilgrims. But it was another Spirit that brought thanks from the lips of Plymouth's pilgrims. It was the Holy Spirit. And the Rock



that served as the anchor for that little band of believers in Plymouth wasn't the large commemorative stone with 1621 etched on it. It was Christ Jesus, *the Rock*. He was, and still is, Plymouth's Rock.

In 1621 the Pilgrims gave thanks to God because they were people of faith. They believed, trusted, and, much like the apostle Paul admonished the church of Thessalonica, put their hope in Jesus.

This Thanksgiving let's focus on more than the pretty pictures of Plymouth. Let's remember a people of faith who loved God and trusted Him in all things, as is written in Hebrews 11:1: "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (KJV).

My fellow pilgrim, this Thanksgiving let us follow the example of the apostle Paul and Plymouth's pilgrims. Whether in good times or trial, by faith let us stand firmly on the Rock on which our forerunners stood: Jesus Christ. And standing there, let us give thanks from Whom all blessings flow.

Ron Halverson Jr. is president of the Ohio Conference.



REACH LAUNCHES SECOND YEAR

REACH Columbia Union Urban Evangelism School in Philadelphia launched their second school year at the end of August with a cohort of eight students. The students come from various places across the Columbia Union, as well as from Indiana and Northern California. "I am thrilled to see the spiritual growth and journey of these students that God has so clearly led to REACH CU Evangelism School," says Tiffany Brown, director. "Their quest for learning, their willingness to be vulnerable and their desire to serve God with all their hearts minds and souls inspires me."—Jason Vanderlaan

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO PROCESS PRIORITIES

Columbia Union Conference Executive Committee members (Mountain View Conference members pictured) gathered recently for their first meeting after the 27th Constituency Session in May. In her devotional, Ella Simmons, the first female vice president at the General Conference and a Columbia Union member, asked what was important to the church at this point and reminded them that, "ordinary people can have extraordinary results."

Celeste Ryan Blyden, vice president for Strategic Communication and Public Relations, announced



that the committee will begin a three-part process to create the union's mission, values and priorities for the next five years. Leaders will soon send the group a survey to evaluate challenges and opportunities and seek input about what the union should prioritize over the next five years.

In his president's report, Dave Weigley announced that the Columbia Union is home to 10 of the largest cities in the United States, and he would like to host a special summit to discuss the unique issues prevalent in cities today. Members will evaluate a proposal and plan further at the next meeting this month.

Members also voted to approve Milton Brown as a lay representative from Allegheny East Conference, and approved a slate of names for the 2016-2021 Columbia Union Board of Education.

UNION WELCOMES NEW ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

During their September meeting, the Columbia Union Conference



Executive Committee affirmed the appointments of two new associate directors to fill vacancies. Jacqueline Messenger (above), who has served as Chesapeake Conference's education superintendent for the last three years, will serve as associate director for secondary education. Pastor Tiffany Brown (below), who most recently served as director of the Pennsylvania Youth Challenge, will serve as director of the REACH



Columbia Union Urban Evangelism School and associate director of the Ministries Development department.

COLUMBIA UNION EMPLOYEES RE-APPOINTED

Columbia Union Executive Committee members also voted to re-appoint eight Columbia Union staff members to their current positions. Columbia Union Conference employees (back row) Emmanuel Asiedu, associate treasurer and Columbia Union Revolving Fund secretary/treasurer; Greg Iverson, associate director, Information Technology; Harold Greene, director,

Information Technology; (front row) Carol Wright, undertreasurer; Tabita Martinez, associate treasurer; Ileana Espinosa, associate director for elementary education; and Evelyn Sullivan, associate director for early childhood education, were re-appointed to their positions during the September Executive Committee meeting.

They also appointed Tabita Martinez as undertreasurer beginning February 1, 2017, when Carol Wright retires. Following the death of *Visitor* editor, Beth Michaels in



June, Celeste Ryan Blyden was voted to reassume *Visitor* editor responsibilities.

"These individuals are uniquely qualified, extremely committed and highly competent servant-leaders that bring their expertise to bear in numerous ways to enable the organizations within the union to function at a high level," says Rob Vandeman, executive secretary.

DAVE WEIGLEY HONORED BY WAU

Washington Adventist University (WAU) honored Dave Weigley (pictured), Columbia Union president, at their recent fourth annual



FORUM PHOTO BY DAVID F. TURNER

5.3% The increase in Columbia Union Conference tithe dollars over the past year as of July 2016.

Visionaries Gala. Weigley, who recently completed his Doctor of Philosophy in Leadership at Andrews University (Mich.), has been president since 2006 and is the chair of the Washington Adventist University Board of Trustees. Read more about Weigley and the other honorees in the Washington Adventist University newsletter in this issue of the *Visitor*.—WAU Staff

FORMER COLUMBIA UNION PUBLISHING DIRECTOR PASSES

Sherwood (Woody) D. Pangborn, Columbia Union Conference publishing director from 1978 to 1991, passed away August 4 in Lansing, Mich. Pangborn attended Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md., and was then drafted into the U.S. Army in 1956. He started his denominational career canvassing for the Potomac Conference, and in 1962 became assistant publishing director. From



1964 to 1978 he worked in several publishing positions across Asia and the United States, including one with the Pennsylvania Conference. In 1978 he accepted a call to the Columbia Union, where he served as associate publishing director. In 1979 he became publishing director. After retiring in 1991, he served as a pastor at the Chesapeake Conference's Providence (Md.) church for seven years.

FORUM DISCUSSES SOCIAL JUSTICE IN THE CHURCH

"We are here because talking saves lives," said Pastor José Rojas at the opening of *We Stand For All*, a forum at Potomac Conference's Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md., designed to discuss if the church should have a role in social justice.

Rojas shared the injustices he witnessed growing up and how people of different races and walks of life saved his family. "These folks left the safety of the residential area to do justice. I am the product of the work of justice. This is not a political thing. It's a people thing."

Rick Remmers, Henry Fordham and Bill Miller, conference presidents of the Chesapeake, Allegheny East and Potomac conferences, shared their experiences with racism and discrimination and their journeys through their own prejudices, anger and hurt. They also comprised a panel of which attendees could ask questions or share their opinions by stepping up to an open mic or submitting questions on a comment card.

"It is easier for us to calculate 10 percent than to take the time to build relationship, to understand what it is to be just," said Miller. "Let's go deeper and take the time and the energy because we care enough for one another to do justice. That is why we're here."

—Tiffany Doss



Noticias

JUNTA EJECUTIVA INICIARÁ EL PROCESO DE SELECCIÓN DE PRIORIDADES

La Junta Ejecutiva de la Unión de Columbia recientemente se reunió por primera vez luego de la vigésima séptima Sesión Electoral realizada en el mes de mayo. En su devocional, Ella Simmons, la primera vicepresidenta de la Asociación General y miembro de la Unión de Columbia, preguntó qué es lo más importante para la iglesia en este momento y les recordó a los miembros que, “las personas ordinarias pueden tener resultados extraordinarios”.

Celeste Ryan Blyden, vice presidenta de Comunicación Estratégica y Relaciones Públicas, anunció que el comité comenzará un proceso de tres partes para crear la misión, los valores y las prioridades de la unión para los próximos cinco años. Pronto los líderes le enviarán al grupo una encuesta para evaluar los desafíos y oportunidades y pedir ideas sobre las áreas que se deberán priorizar durante los próximos cinco años.

En su informe el presidente, Dave Weigley (en la foto) comunicó que la Unión de Columbia abarca las 10 ciudades más grandes de los Estados Unidos y que a él le gustaría realizar una conferencia especial para abordar los asuntos actualmente prevalentes y únicos en estas ciudades. Los miembros evaluarán una propuesta y realizarán planes durante la próxima reunión en noviembre.

Los miembros votaron a Milton Brown, un representante laico de

la Asociación Allegheny East, para formar parte de la junta y también aprobaron una lista de nombres para la Junta de Educación de la Unión de Columbia para el término 2016-2021.

LA UNIÓN DA LA BIENVENIDA A NUEVOS DIRECTORES ASOCIADOS

Durante la reunión de septiembre, la Junta Ejecutiva de la Unión de Columbia ratificó la asignación de dos nuevos directores asociados. Jacqueline Messenger (en la



foto), quien sirvió en la Asociación de Chesapeake como superintendente escolar durante los últimos tres años, será la directora asociada de la educación secundaria. La Pastora Tiffany Brown (en la



foto) quien recientemente sirvió como directora del Pennsylvania Youth Challenge, será la directora de REACH Columbia Union Urban Evangelism School (escuela de evangelismo) y la directora asociada del departamento de ministerios.



EMPLEADOS DE LA UNIÓN DE COLUMBIA VUELVEN A SER NOMBRADOS

La Junta Ejecutiva de la Unión de Columbia ratificó a ocho empleados de la unión en sus cargos actuales. Los empleados de la Unión de Columbia (en la foto, atrás) Emmanuel Asiedu, tesorero asociado y secretario/tesorero de Columbia Union Revolving Fund; Greg Iverson, director asociado de Informática; Harold Green, director de Informática, (adelante) Carol Wright, subtesorera; Tabita Martínez, tesorera asociada; Ileana Espinosa, directora asociada de educación primaria y Evelyn Sullivan, directora asociada de educación del nivel inicial volvieron a ser nombrados durante la reunión de la Junta Ejecutiva en septiembre.

También nombraron a Tabita Martínez como subtesorera a partir del 1 de febrero 2017 cuando se jubile Carol Wright. Tras el fallecimiento de la editora de la revista *Visitor*, Beth Michaels en junio, Celeste Ryan Blyden continuará siendo la editora de la revista.

“Estos individuos poseen cualidades únicas, están extremadamente comprometidos y son líderes servidores altamente competentes, que, con su experiencia, facilitan un alto funcionamiento de las organizaciones de la unión”, dice Rob Vandeman, secretario ejecutivo.

FORO PARA DIALOGAR SOBRE LA INJUSTICIA SOCIAL EN LA IGLESIA

“Estamos aquí porque hablando salvamos vidas”, dijo el Pastor José



Rojas durante la apertura de *We Stand For All* (*Estamos a favor de todos*), un foro realizado en la iglesia de la Asociación de Potomac, Sligo, en Takoma Park, Maryland, planificado con la intención de fomentar el diálogo sobre la Iglesia y su rol en la justicia social.

Rojas (en el medio junto a dos de los organizadores del evento, Denise Crable Crarey y Debora Crable Anderson) compartió las injusticias que él enfrentó durante su niñez y cómo las personas de diferentes razas y ámbitos de la sociedad salvaron a su familia. “Estas personas salieron de sus zonas de confort para hacer justicia. Yo soy el producto de ese esfuerzo. No es una cuestión política. Es una cuestión social”.

Rick Remmers, Henry Fordham y Bill Miller, presidentes de las asociaciones Chesapeake, Allegheny East y Potomac compartieron sus experiencias sobre el racismo y la discriminación, como también las vivencias de sus propios prejuicios, enojos y dolores. Formaron parte de un panel donde los participantes realizaron preguntas y compartieron sus opiniones acercándose al micrófono o escribiendo sus preguntas en una tarjeta.

“Es más fácil para nosotros calcular el diez por ciento en vez de tomarnos el tiempo que requiere construir una relación, de llegar a entender lo que significa ser justo”, comenta Miller. “Hagamos el esfuerzo e invirtamos el tiempo y la energía necesaria porque nos queremos lo suficiente para hacer justicia. Este es el motivo por el cual estamos aquí”.—*Tiffany Doss*

CREDITO: DAVID F. TURNER



APUNTE ESTA FECHA

Haga planes de asistir a la Caravana de Entrenamiento, sesiones de capacitación con el evangelista Alejandro Bullón el 2-16 de diciembre. Visite columbiaunionvisitor.com/caravanontraining para obtener más información.

DAVE WEIGLEY ES GALARDONADO POR LA UNIVERSIDAD ADVENTISTA DE WASHINGTON

La Universidad Adventista de Washington (WAW, en inglés) homenajeó a Dave Weigley, presidente de la Unión de Columbia, en su cuarta Gala Visionaria. Weigley (en la foto con Weymouth Spence, presidente de WAW), quien recientemente finalizó su doctorado en filosofía en la Universidad Andrews (Michigan), ha sido el presidente de la Unión desde el 2006 y el presidente del Consejo de Administración de



la universidad. Lea más sobre Weigley y los demás homenajeados en el boletín informativo de la Universidad Adventista de Washington en la revista *Visitor* de noviembre.—*Personal WAW*

REACH INICIA SU SEGUNDO AÑO

La Escuela de Evangelismo de la Unión de Columbia REACH en Filadelfia inició su segundo año escolar a fines de agosto con un grupo de ocho estudiantes. Los estudiantes provienen de varios lugares dentro de la Unión de Columbia, como también de Indiana y el norte de California.



“Me entusiasma ver el crecimiento y el trayecto espiritual de estos estudiantes que Dios claramente ha guiado a esta escuela de evangelismo”, comparte Tiffany Brown, directora.—*Jason Vanderlaan*

FALLECE EX DIRECTOR DE PUBLICACIONES DE LA UNIÓN DE COLUMBIA

Sherwood (Woody) D. Pangborn, director de publicaciones de la Unión de Columbia desde 1979 hasta 1991, falleció el 4 de agosto en Lansing, Michigan. Pangborn asistió a la Universidad Adventista de Washington en Takoma Park, Maryland, y luego sirvió en las Fuerzas Armadas de los Estados Unidos en 1956. Comenzó su carrera religiosa colportando para la Asociación Potomac, y en 1962 se convirtió en el asistente de publicaciones. Desde 1964 a 1978 trabajó en varias posiciones en el área de publicaciones en Asia y los Estados Unidos. En 1978 aceptó un llamado a la Unión de Columbia, donde sirvió como director asociado de publicaciones y en 1979 se convirtió en el director del departamento. Después de jubilarse en 1991, fue el pastor de la iglesia Providence (Maryland) de la Asociación Chesapeake por siete años.

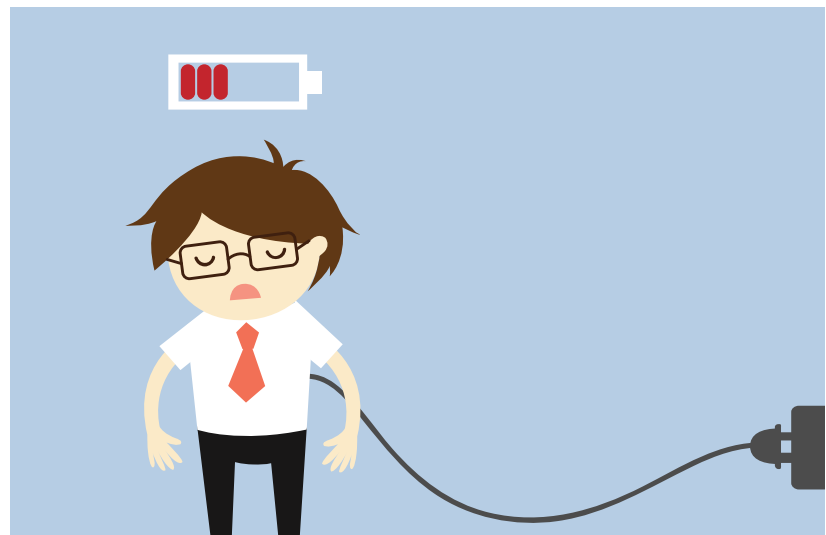
Too Busy on Sabbath: Is the Seventh Day Still a Day of Rest and Gladness?

The words “rest” and “busy” are often used when speaking with Seventh-day Adventists about the Sabbath. Many recite from memory the Fourth Commandment and point to creation as our injunction to cease from regular “worldly” activity and rest from our labors (see Gen. 2:2; Ex. 20:8). But for many pastors, teachers and lay persons who work or volunteer at their local church, Sabbath is hardly a day of rest. And, for a few, it is another dreaded work day where they end up exhausted, wondering: *Where was the blessing in that?*

“For a pastor, Sabbath is the busiest day of the week,” explains Marilyn Scott, associate pastor for Family Ministries at Chesapeake Conference’s New Hope church in Fulton, Md. “We prepare all week for service and Sabbath is the culminating point.” Multiple hours are spent in sermon preparation, attending various meetings and conducting visitations during the week with some of these tasks spilling over into the Sabbath hours. And, this isn’t just an issue for pastors.

Church life often depends on a faithful few who work diligently to keep the round of activity churning each week to engage members and help the church run smoothly. The work of these programs and ministries meet the needs of the congregation and the community as well.

Many hard-working men and women wear multiple church hats—taking on extra volunteer duties as Sabbath School teachers, clerks, secretaries, deacons, treasurers and musicians, to name



a few—while holding down full-time jobs and balancing family commitments. It is no wonder that when the nominating committee calls to inquire who will serve for the upcoming term, many decline the invitation citing burnout.

Chris Daley, a marketing consultant and active member of Potomac Conference’s Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md., understands the dilemma. “People have gone to work all week and Sabbath morning is that one time when you get to sit down and have breakfast with your children. Inevitably you get a call from someone from the church to work,” he says, “and you go.”

Celeste Ryan Blyden, *Visitor* editor and publisher, grew up in a small church where Sabbath was just as busy as the weekdays, if not busier. “We spent all day at church; no less than 12 hours each Sabbath,” she recalls. “My father was an elder who taught Sabbath School and sometimes played

the piano, sang special music or preached. My mother also taught a Sabbath School class, brought a dish for potluck, served in the kitchen, helped the treasurer count the offering, led community services, served on the church board and regularly joined a group who slipped out of the service early to head over to the local prison to conduct a worship service. She would return in time for the afternoon youth program, called AYS, and we’d get home after sunset, later if there were a church social, board meeting or youth outing. It was busy, yet it was our happiest day of the week.”

JOY IN SERVICE

Indeed, some say that the work they do on Sabbath is a joy because it provides a change of pace. During the week, Lance Moncrieffe works full-time as an executive creative director. During his “off hours” he serves as a

lay pastor for the Pennsylvania Conference, and also leads the conference's lay pastor training program. He sees his extra duties on Sabbath as a blessing. "I wouldn't feel rested if I weren't this busy," he says. "On Sabbath I receive a mental rest from the normal daily worry and rigor of the world. Leadership in church brings for me a joy in service and provides a refreshing feel to my mind."

Scott also sees service on Sabbath as a form of worship. "Sabbath is so much more than going to church and then resting," she says. "The Sabbath is really about Jesus and spending time worshipping God. Worship also means to serve. God made it a day where we can truly serve Christ. And when we serve others, we feel good."

FINDING BALANCE

Finding balance in service and rest is necessary. "I counsel the pastors I train to take one Sabbath each month where they are completely off; not on any agenda, or participating in platform duties," says Moncrieffe. "This is applicable to families as well. Often in churches you have a husband and wife who are both busy. I tell them to get revived physically; go out in

we experiencing the richness of the Sabbath?" he asks.

Josh Voigt, a pastor of the Catoclin View and Middletown Valley churches (Md.) in the Chesapeake Conference, is also "very deliberate" in guarding his time on Sabbath. "I hate the idea that Sunday is a day of rest for Adventist pastors because we work so much on Sabbath," he explains. He makes sure his sermon preparation is done before the Sabbath and avoids crowding too much activity on Saturdays, such as programs and weekly church dinners, so his members can enjoy time with their families and one-on-one fellowship.

Taking a break is necessary, but Voigt cautions, "Don't nap! Some people think the great Advent movement is to lie down and take a nap on Sabbath." The action of resting—experiencing mental, physical and spiritual rejuvenation—does not necessarily mean inactivity. To that end, he says, "I encourage my church members to get out in nature and spend time with each other," he says.

He and Pastor Scott also admonish that ministry isn't just for Sabbath. "Programs and activities can be scheduled for different days of the week, or

"We often defend the rightness of the Sabbath, but are we experiencing the richness of the Sabbath?"

nature. There is legitimacy to the notion in taking a rest."

Daley has learned to be more intentional about engaging in ministry and guarding what he calls "sacred time," allowing himself to say "no" at times so he can balance Sabbath duties and family time. He says he has also had to learn how to "turn the brain off" and be enveloped by the effervescence of the Sabbath. "We often defend the rightness of the Sabbath, but are

pared down," Scott says.

It might also help—and stave off burnout—if more members were *and remained* involved. "God gives everyone gifts and abilities," Scott adds. "Many come to church and they take and take, and do nothing. Part of our responsibility when we come together is to serve. To just come and give nothing in return not only leaves more work for others to do, but we also miss out on a blessing."

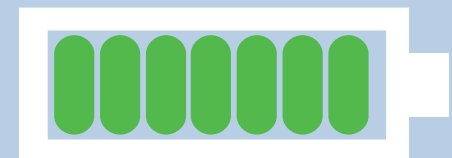
5 Ways to Make the Sabbath a Delight

God intended for the Sabbath to be a delight and a benefit to humankind. Here are five ways to reclaim the blessings of the best day of the week:

1 Refresh and recharge. Make space in your day, and in your mind, to be spiritually recharged by reflecting on God's goodness. Intentionally block out burdens and business issues from the week so nothing will disrupt your communion time with God.

2 Bless others and be blessed. Service to others allows us to share the blessings we have received. Jesus showed us that it's good to show kindness while caring for others on the Sabbath, and we, in turn, reap an unexplainable joy.

3 Worship. Celebrate His love, power and goodness as you sing, pray, study the Word of God and glorify Him. Be sure to incorporate time outdoors during the day to behold the "tangible proofs of God's infinite wisdom," allowing your heart to "be filled with love and reverence for [your] Maker" (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 2, p. 582).



4 Unplug. Take a break from the gadgets, apps, buzzes and bells. Sabbath is a great time for face-to-face connections with family and fellow believers.

5 Heal. Allow the healing from the Balm in Gilead to soothe the bumps and bruises from the past week. Feast on His Word, dwell on His promises and bask in the glow of His love.

ADVENTISTS ★ IN THE ★ MILITARY

By Edwin Manuel Garcia

Before he saved dozens of wounded soldiers on the front lines during World War II, which earned him a Medal of Honor, Seventh-day Adventist combat medic Desmond Doss was called a misfit for refusing to carry a weapon, and commanders ostracized him for observing the Sabbath.

Life wasn't easy for Doss and other Adventists in the U.S. armed forces.

But 70 years later, the military has become a more welcoming institution for Adventists, according to active and retired military personnel within the Columbia Union. This is a marked change from when Doss enlisted as a noncombatant with conscientious objector status.

Several servicemen and servicewomen recently spoke in detail about their experiences serving God and country, and how they personally dealt with any tug of wars between the two.

RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE

"The military today is much more tolerant toward religion," observes Major Andre Ascalon, a chaplain for the New Jersey National Guard, and pastor of New Jersey Conference's Newark and Elizabeth Seventh-day Adventist churches. "There's no reason for any soldier today to be able to say, 'I cannot go to church, or worship my God.'"

As a young soldier in the 1980s, in Washington, D.C., Europe and Asia, Ascalon knew that keeping the faith in a secular environment would be a challenge, but he vowed to remain true to his religious beliefs.

That meant waking up at 3 a.m. for his daily devotional and disassociating from the rowdy crowd. "When I'm in a barracks as a single soldier and Friday comes, it's party time; they're blaring their music and I'm listening to my Christian music," he said. "It took an enormous amount of discipline for me to [stay focused]."

A vegetarian, Ascalon didn't always find healthy food choices in the mess hall. The military provided him extra money so he could purchase sources of protein elsewhere.

Ascalon stood out from the rest, even before becoming a chaplain.

"I remember one particular day: I was working in an office and somebody said, 'Ascalon, you don't drink, you don't smoke, you don't chase women, you don't go to clubs—what *do* you do?'"

His response: "I'm a Seventh-day Adventist."

Soldiers respected him. They trusted him with their problems. "People were drawn to me," said Ascalon.

"The person who is faithful to their religious beliefs and convictions, makes a better soldier in the long run. If a person is authentic, and espouses moral values, and is true to those values, then quite naturally that person is going to be a better soldier and better employee because they have core principles that they live by," Ascalon said. "They believe in something, they stand for something."

A TEST OF FAITH

Janet Lomax, an active duty Naval officer currently stationed in Virginia, joined the military 27 years ago, motivated to save money for college.

Her first test of faith occurred on her second tour while assigned to the Naval Consolidated Brig in Miramar, Calif., when she had to tell her supervisor that her duty got in the way of Sabbath.

"One of the responsibilities we had as duty officers was to do inspections of the cells and ensure that we did random checks. I saw one time that my name was on for the Sabbath," Lomax recalled. "I asked to not have that duty and my boss said it was something we had to do in the military. He said that he could not give

ENLISTED
MEMBERS AND
VETS SHARE
WHAT IT'S LIKE
TO SERVE GOD
AND COUNTRY.

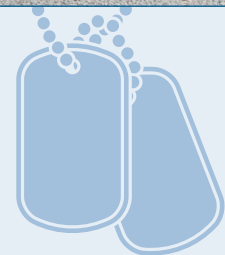


6,000

THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS SERVING IN THE U.S. MILITARY.



Columbia Union Members in the Service: These are a few of the Seventh-day Adventist members who were led to serve God and country (clockwise from top). ★ **Washington Johnson** (far right), assistant director of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries, poses with United States Navy Sailors following a Change of Command ceremony at Naval Air Facility, Washington D.C., where he gave the invocation and benediction. ★ **Patrick Reynolds** and his son, Christopher, both have a passion for ministering to others in the military. ★ **Desmond Doss** a native of Lynchburg, Va., was called a misfit for refusing to carry a weapon, but later received the Medal of Honor for saving more than 70 lives during battle. ★ **Major Andre Ascalon** (right) prays with members of the New Jersey National Guard. ★ **Janet Lomax** pictured with her husband, Brian, has had a positive experience in keeping her faith while serving in the Navy.



me special treatment, and that I should ask God or my priest for leniency.”

Instead, however, Lomax asked colleagues to trade shifts with her.

“Most people are supportive because they will either swap duty with someone else, or make up the work sometime; there are other times when that’s not possible because you’re the only person who has specific requirements or because the supervisor may not agree with how Sabbath is kept,” she explained. In one instance she explained her Sabbath situation to a chaplain and the chaplain told her boss about the importance of keeping the day holy.

Lomax, a captain who was born and raised Seventh-day Adventist, has had a positive experience in keeping her faith.

“What I love about being Adventist is that no matter where you go in the world, Sabbath School is the same. You get together with like-minded people, and it doesn’t make a difference what language or what area you’re in,” she said. “Within the body of Christ, you’ll always find someone willing to invite you home as a visitor for a meal or another activity.”

MAKESHIFT CHAPEL

Patrick Reynolds, who enjoyed a fulfilling career in Navy submarines, grew up Southern Baptist but converted to Adventism seven years after getting married, thanks to the patient and faithful dedication of his wife to the Adventist message, and evangelistic meetings in Chesapeake, Va.

As a new Adventist, Reynolds was excited to share the message of the gospel during three-month deployments. He approached his captain: “Would it be possible for me to start worship services on the submarine?”

“Sure,” the captain said, “As long as you can also hold services on Sundays for other churchgoers.”

Reynolds created a makeshift chapel in the officers’ wardroom. He decorated the room with a cross he obtained from the chaplain on the naval base. Reynolds printed out the Sabbath School study guide and delivered a mini sermonette on weekends.

Attendance fluctuated between eight and 12 on the average. The entire submarine crew included 135 sailors.

After 20 years in the military, and three years on the last submarine, Reynolds decided he wanted to retire and attend the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in Berrien Springs, Mich. But he encountered resistance from his superiors. “We can’t let you go,” they said. “The Cold War is still around; can you stay 30 years?”

Reynolds then put his retirement request in God’s hands. He prayed, “OK, Lord, if you really want me to retire, you’ll let me out.” A dozen other submarine chiefs also put in their retirement papers, but only Reynolds’ was approved.

Now a district pastor on Maryland’s Eastern Shore, Reynolds is grateful for his military experience. “Working with multiple churches, you have to be very organized

and very disciplined because you have to train your elders to do things when you’re not around, so the organizational skills I developed in the military are very helpful in running a multiple church district.”

Meanwhile, Reynolds’ son, Christopher, has joined the U.S. Air Force and is planning to start worship services where he is stationed.

DEALING WITH PTSD

Craig Johnson, who spent 26 years in the U.S. Army, including three tours in Iraq, sometimes finds himself combatting myths about the military, especially in relation to how much friendlier it has become to Adventists.

By the time he retired five years ago, from an assignment in logistics, the military had made significant strides in improving its menu in the mess halls by promoting healthful meals. “They are investing in you, so the longer they have you healthy, that’s part of their investment.” Nowadays, he said, soldiers can take to the field with MREs, or Meals Ready to Eat, which include vegetarian and kosher options.

The issue of Sabbath duty, and bearing arms, he said, is not as anti-Adventist as some people make them out to be.

Throughout his entire career, Johnson recalls having to work on Sabbath duty fewer than 10 times. “When I’m on duty, I’m with someone, and there’s fellowship,” Johnson said, recalling how he witnessed to a Mormon soldier.

“I don’t know where some get the idea that having duty on the Sabbath is a bad thing—it’s like having a dean on duty at the academy, having someone on duty there that’s accountable.”

Despite a satisfying career, Johnson, who works at Pennsylvania Conference’s Blue Mountain Academy and volunteers at nearby Blue Mountain Elementary School, also experienced a dark side of the military—he suffers from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

The academy job, he says, is good therapy because he’s involved with a program that takes students to sing at nursing homes. “This has really, really helped me because I get to be with people that are lonely. Part of PTSD is that you can have 20 people around you but you’re lonely.” He says he can relate to the convalescent home residents, where his goal is to get them to smile by singing gospel songs such as, “Peace in the Valley.”

INFLUENCE FOR GOOD

Fleurette “Flo” Etienne, a reserve officer in the U.S. Navy who is active at Potomac Conference’s Cornerstone church in Aldie, Va., said keeping the faith in the military is similar to keeping the faith in civilian workplaces; in both situations you get a chance to influence and be influenced. “You select your friends no matter where you are, and people accept you for who you are,” she says.

Etienne, a nurse, enjoys comforting her patients at her job at a Veterans Health Administration hospital by

offering to pray with them. “In uniform, or out of uniform, people have challenges.”

SERVING GOD AND COUNTRY

There are an estimated 6,000 Adventists serving in active and reserve components of the U.S. military.

“Adventists have an outstanding history of service to our nation in various capacities,” said Washington Johnson, assistant director at Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries (ACM) for the North American Division (NAD).

And, he said, the military is a “microcosm of society.” Some individuals, just as in civilian life, wrestle with personal decisions regarding faith, including Sabbath observance. “As a United States Navy Reserve Chaplain,” he explains, “I always share with Adventists encountering a Sabbath issue the importance of prayerfully going through the proper chain of command in requesting a Sabbath accommodation and not to act independently because their action, however sincere, can affect how Adventists are viewed in the military.”

Part of the ACM’s role is to assist and support Adventist military members and help prepare pastors’ transitions into chaplain roles in prisons, hospitals, educational campuses and the military.

Although most Adventists who were drafted in previous wars opted for the status of noncombatants, which is no longer allowed, the military continues to become more accommodating to more closely match the beliefs of church members, as well as worshippers of other faiths such as Islam and Judaism, said Paul Anderson, the NAD’s ACM director.

The military is becoming more accepting of Adventists, Anderson said, because “we have had leadership through the years that was better prepared to appreciate diversity,” not just in the complexions of soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines.

“As it relates to Sabbath observance, each of the military services have established policy allowing for ‘religious accommodation,’” Anderson said. Still, some service members will never be able to completely detach from their professional responsibilities for a full 24 hours, said Anderson, who served in the Navy for 20 years.

If the past is any indication, young Adventists will continue to enlist in the military, and some will turn to ACM for guidance.

The Adventist Church’s position on military service is reflected by a statement on noncombatancy that was voted in 1974. Yet, the church also recognizes the role of individual conscience, Anderson said. “ACM unflinchingly supports every Adventist who serves in the military.”

Anderson and his staff tell prospective recruits that if they are opposed to bearing arms they should not enlist or seek a commission in the military. If they do join, Anderson said, the Adventist member should dialogue with his or her supervisor at boot camp—and ensuing commands—to explain their faith.

“I think it’s incumbent upon the Adventists to be settled in their mind about what is good and acceptable service to the Lord and the church,” Anderson said.

Edwin Manuel Garcia writes from West Sacramento, California.



DESMOND DOSS: SERVING GOD AND COUNTRY

On April 1, 1942, Desmond Doss joined the United States Army. Three and a half years later, he stood on the White House lawn, receiving the nation’s highest award for his bravery and courage under fire. Of the 16 million men in uniform during World War II, only 431 received the Congressional Medal of Honor. Among these was a young Seventh-day Adventist Christian who refused to carry a gun and had not killed a single enemy soldier. His only weapons were his Bible and his faith in God.

When Pearl Harbor was attacked, Doss was working at the Newport News Naval shipyard and could have requested a deferment. But he was willing to risk his life on the front lines in order to preserve freedom. He wanted to be an Army combat medic and assumed his classification, as a conscientious objector would not require him to carry a weapon. When he was assigned to an infantry rifle company, his refusal to carry a gun caused his fellow soldiers to view him with disdain. They ostracized and bullied him. One man warned, “Doss, when we get into combat, I’ll make sure you don’t come back alive.”

The Army was exasperated when he asked for a pass to attend church every Saturday. His officers saw him as a liability, a soft-spoken skinny kid from the south and a Bible-reading misfit. They tried to intimidate him, gave him extra duties, falsely declared him mentally unfit and attempted to court martial him. He believed his duty was to obey God and serve his country—in that order, and he refused to leave.

To read the complete story of how Doss won the medal, visit columbiaunionvisitor.com/desmonddoss.—*Desmond Doss Council*




**ADVENTIST
WORLD RADIO**

800-337-4297
awrweb
@awrweb

**AWR IS
Mobile**



Hear our most popular
languages through the
AWR Mobile app.

More languages
to come
Listen online to
100+ languages
at awr.org/listen

Amharic
Arabic
French
Hindi
Korean
Maasai
Mandarin
Punjabi
Spanish
Swahili
Tagalog
Vietnamese



Get Prepared for the Holidays at



12004 Cherry Hill Rd, Silver Spring MD
www.livingwellabc.com
(301) 572-0700

BIG SAVINGS you won't want to miss!
Get all your Thanksgiving meal ingredients,
and then pick up all your Christmas gifts!



10% OFF ALL VEGEMEATS

The week before Thanksgiving!

Limit 5 vegemeat items per customer; coupon valid November 20-23, 2016; excludes bulk items, grab-n-go items; must present coupon at time of purchase to redeem; cannot be combined with any other sales or promotions; limit 1 coupon per customer; valid on in-stock items only.

10% OFF YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE

Black Friday only!

Limit 1 coupon per customer; coupon valid November 25, 2016 only; must present coupon at time of purchase to redeem; cannot be combined with any other sales or promotions; limit 1 coupon per customer; valid on in-stock items only; valid on in-store purchases only.

President Preaches at Lansdowne Evangelistic Series

Henry J. Fordham, Allegheny East Conference president, recently conducted an evangelistic series at the Lansdowne (Pa.) church where his son, Shawn Fordham, serves as pastor. The three-week event, themed “Lift Him Up,” covered the fundamental beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Organizers hoped to connect with families in the church and in the immediate vicinity of the church. At the end of the series, eight people joined the church, leading to a 10 percent increase in the Lansdowne church membership. Three other attendees are taking Bible studies.

“We have now established a presence in the community that we did not have before,” says Shawn Fordham. “This crusade also helped us grow our church in many ways. In addition to the baptisms, we developed the talents of many of our members, which will help make us a better team.”



Henry Fordham, III, Allegheny East Conference president, conducts the “Lift Him Up” meetings at the Lansdowne (Pa.) church.

Pisgah Church Celebrates 50 Years

Pisgah church in Bryan’s Road, Md., recently marked their 50th anniversary with a three-day celebration that highlighted the church’s history and reunited their past and present pastors.

The celebration began with a Friday night consecration service. Sabbath started with a breakfast

where members shared memories of church life over the years, followed by a divine worship service that included an historical recount of Pisgah’s history. That evening organizers held an anniversary benefit concert and anniversary banquet where members were able to share more of their “remember when ...” memories. A gospel skating event followed.

Highlights of the event included the presentation of a citation from Maryland Governor Lawrence J. Hogan. Barack Obama, president of the United States, also sent a letter commending Pisgah members for “fostering a strong sense of community and for meeting life’s most sacred responsibility by giving ourselves in service to others.”

Pisgah started as a dream of Edna Bailey Criddle, a member of the Ephesus church in Washington, D.C., who conducted numerous Bible studies. Criddle realized the magnitude of the work and appealed to members of the Ephesus church to assist her in starting a company. They began meeting at the homes of members until they found a church in which they could worship. Several pastors and locations later, they settled in their current church in Bryans Road, Md., under the leadership of Joseph Hutchinson.

“Ours is the challenge of finishing the work so that Jesus can come and come quickly,” says Hutchinson.



Pisgah’s pastoral couples from the past and present celebrated the church’s 50th anniversary including Gloria and Henry Smith (front), Colin and Jeannie Braithwaite, Fay and Joseph M. Hutchinson, Denise and Melvyn E. Hayden, Jr., Catherine and Lawrence Saunders and Margaret and Stephen Richardson.

Southwest Philadelphia Church Cleans Up Neighborhood

Dressed in bright red shirts, members of the Southwest Philadelphia church converged on their neighborhood early one Sunday morning with trash pick-up sticks and bags. Approximately 52 members, divided into seven groups, took part in the church's "Good Neighbor Initiative." They picked up debris within an eight-block radius of their church with the goal of giving back to the community and sharing the love of Christ while interacting with neighborhood residents.

"I was overwhelmed at the turnout of members! This was a great start to building community relationships," says Earl Blackwell, pastor.

Some community members asked volunteers for prayer while others just needed a listening ear,



Dorothy Joint gathers debris during Southwest Philadelphia church's Good Neighbor Initiative.



PHOTOS BY EDVAL HUNTER

Southwest Philadelphia church members (bottom row) Eleno Grant, Jayson Murray, Olivia Hunter; (middle row) Althea Jackson, Tanya Riley, Shemar Simpson; (top row) Cristina Artis and Gweneth Diamond prepare to go out and beautify their neighbors' yards.

organizers say. Neighbors were very grateful and expressed thanks to the members. Volunteers say they were happy because they had provided a much-needed service and experienced the joy that comes from helping others. Afterwards the cleaners returned to the church for a healthy brunch prepared by the hospitality team.

First Church Gives Back to the Community

First church in Washington, D.C., recently organized their second Discipleship Community Outreach Day. After divine service, members reached out to their neighborhood by distributing 300 custom-made tote bags, more than 500 custom-made bottles of water, 96 large ice cream sandwiches and 72 fruit bars.

"While distributing tote bags, several neighbors commented that they didn't have anything to give us, and we replied, 'We are here just to bless you!'" says Leslie Clark, discipleship leader.

The next morning, members continued serving the community through a beautification project. They planted flowers, cut grass, trimmed bushes, pulled weeds, laid mulch, painted and decorated rocks for their neighbors in the community. One of the neighbors even joined them in their project.

The discipleship ministry does outreach in the community to make friends and bless those who are in the community, says Clark.

Online Ministry Leads to Baptism at Temple Emmanuel

Donald Tally was looking for “something more” in his spiritual journey when his co-worker invited him to the Temple Emmanuel church in Youngstown, Ohio. Tally was hesitant when the co-worker told him about Seventh-day Adventist Church beliefs, but he later chose to check out the church online for himself.

After a visit to the church website, Tally started watching Temple Emmanuel Pastor Bryant Smith’s archived sermons and tuned in for the live broadcast each week. He quickly found himself captivated by the messages and teachings he was hearing. “It was like food for my soul, just what I needed to hear,” Tally says.

After a few weeks of watching online, Tally visited the church.

“[It felt] like I was home,” he says.

Tally began to regularly attend and wanted to follow all the teachings of the Adventist Church including keeping the Sabbath, something that interfered with his well-paying job. After hearing the message one Sabbath, Tally responded to an alter call, made his decision and, along with three other gentlemen, chose to be baptized.



Donald Tally (right), pictured with Pastor Bryant Smith, attended Temple Emmanuel online before visiting the church in person.

Southeast Sensational Seniors Take Trip to See Samson



Members of the Southeast church gather outside the Sight and Sound Millennium Theatre in Lancaster, Pa.

The Southeast church in Cleveland sponsored a three-day trip for their seniors group to experience “Samson” at the Sight and Sound Millennium Theatre in Lancaster, Pa. The musical production tells the story of the biblical character through colorful portrayals and special effects. The story showed that in spite of Samson’s grave failures, God heard his plea and used him to destroy Israel’s enemy, says Audrey Severns, tour conductor.

As part of the trip, 24 participants toured nearby Amish and Mennonite farmlands. Stops included an Amish craft and animal farm where farmers milked camels and other animals, a local produce market and bake shop. Other trip highlights included family style dinners of authentic Amish meals.

“Everyone had an awesome time, and, yes, we are planning our next three-day, two-night trip to see “Jonah” in 2017,” reports Severns.—Rose Burts



Young Adults Host Fourth Retreat

Young adults from the Allegheny West Conference (AWC) recently enjoyed the conference's fourth annual Young Adult Retreat. Participants from around the conference territory gathered on the AWC campground in Thornville, Ohio, to fellowship and worship together. During the weekend Pastor Jason Bulgin used the story of Moses to connect biblical teachings

to everyday life while posing questions to the audience. Attendees split into small groups and discussed the topics.

Although each year has been a godly success, there was something different about this year, says Chardé Hollins, AWC Young Adult Ministries director. "Each year we gather on the campground and burdens are lifted, tears shed, lives changed and spirits renewed. Every year God has truly blessed, but we've never had a baptism. However, for some reason this year, God put strongly on my heart to make the opportunity to be baptized readily available."

As a result of Hollins listening to the voice of God, five attendees were baptized and dedicated their lives to Christ at the event. AWC Young adult pastors Regina Johnson and Jason Francis performed the baptisms.



Young Adult Ministries leaders like Carla Valles use Instagram and other social media platforms to promote its activities.



Pastor Regina Johnson baptizes DeMario Craig at the Allegheny West Conference Young Adult Ministries Retreat.



Pastor Jason Francis and Pastor Regina Johnson pray over baptismal candidates.

Save the Date

In 2017 AWC Young Adult Ministries will celebrate their five-year retreat anniversary with another retreat on August 11-13, 2017.

"We aim to address the whole person, spiritually, emotionally and socially," says Hollins. Organizers are already planning laser tag, comedy shows, great food, fellowship and worship. Email awcyam@gmail.com or visit [facebook.com/groups/AWCYoungAdults](https://www.facebook.com/groups/AWCYoungAdults), for more information.

Spirit is published in the Visitor by the Allegheny West Conference ■ 1339 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43205
Phone: (614) 252-5271 ■ awconf.org ■ President, William T. Cox ■ Communication Director, Bryant Smith

THE CHALLENGE

chesapeake conference newsletter

NOVEMBER 2016

United, Faithful in Mission

It would be almost impossible to measure the lifetime impact that you as a member of the Chesapeake Conference will make through your support of the ministry in the Chesapeake territory. You are vital to our mission to proclaim the good news of the kingdom—to teach, to baptize and nurture new believers and to respond to human needs through loving service and support. We consider ourselves honored that you stand with the mission, ministry and leadership of this conference so faithfully.

Today the goals of the Chesapeake Conference continue to be the same goals of the 70 appointed by Jesus to go out in pairs to share the gospel and heal the sick (Luke 10:1-9, AKJV). They had a goal and a mission and when they saw the mission field they knew what needed to be accomplished. They planned for success and God gave them success.

We at the Chesapeake Conference believe the story of the 70 can be replicated, but this great achievement in the life of a church does not come by accident. Instead, it is achieved by a total commitment to the mission of sharing the gospel. “And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord even the devils are subject unto us through thy name” (Luke 10:17, AKJV).

Our mission is unique. One way of knowing the Lord’s will is to look at how God has blessed this church with such a large pool of talented, committed and faithful Seventh-day Adventist members united by “One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and you all. But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ” (Eph. 4:5-7, AKJV).



Eduardo Muñoz
Treasurer

Pasadena Members Share Food, Faith in Community

About three years ago, members of the Pasadena (Md.) congregation felt impressed by the Lord to start a soup kitchen and food pantry at the church. They partnered with the nearby Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church to provide groceries and a weekly prepared meal to about 72 residents in their

community. The group works in conjunction with the Anne Arundel County Food Bank and accepts donations of nonperishable items regularly.

“This has become an interfaith endeavor that the Lord continues to bless,” says Ellen Morgan, a member at the Pasadena church. “About 60 bags of food are given out each month. Over 347 families, which is about 1,500 people, have been helped since we opened.”

Twelve volunteer staff from the partnering churches meet for worship on Monday mornings with Ignacio Goya, pastor at the Pasadena church, before getting down to the business of preparing food for those in need.

“It is our goal to continue this outreach ministry and share the love of Jesus with others in a very practical, caring way,” says Morgan.

Neighbors gather for a free meal provided at the Pasadena church’s soup kitchen.



PHOTO BY ELLEN MORGAN

THE CHALLENGE

Educators Dedicated, Commissioned at Spencerville

The Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Md., engaged the congregation in a special consecration service for educators on a recent Sabbath. During the eleven o'clock worship service, Chad Stuart, senior pastor, invited all of the Spencerville Adventist Academy (SAA) teachers to join him on the platform. Next, he invited all church elders, educators and students present to surround the SAA teachers for a prayer of dedication.

"Take a teacher's hand," Stuart suggested to the students who came forward. High school student Jeffrey Fennell and Stuart each prayed for God to bless, guide and protect the teachers.

In the day's sermon, Rick Remmers, conference president, said, "We set aside teachers, affirming the call that God has given to each of them ... it is a call by God to transform the lives of His young people for the kingdom."

Seven SAA teachers received the commissioned ministry of teaching credential during the service—Carrie Hess (high school English); Nathan Hess (high school science); Brian Kittleson, principal; Robert Martinez (choir and communication); Amber Mayer (grade 4); Amudha Mullikin (grade 5); and



Jerry Lutz, conference secretary, reads a charge to teachers receiving the commissioned ministry of teaching credential.

Darlene Thompson (middle school math).

"Commissioning affirms our belief that Christian educators are in sacred ministry," says Mark Walker, interim conference superintendent of schools. "It was very special to see the church embrace the teachers on this meaningful occasion."

PHOTO BY MARK NOBLE

Eastern Shore Gathering Draws Crowd for Worship

The annual Eastern Shore Gathering, themed "Latter Rain and the Holy Spirit," recently drew a crowd of believers to Cambridge, Md., for a Sabbath of worship



Kids aboard the Rebecca T. Ruark listen to Captain Wade Murphy, Jr., as he tells sailing stories.

and fellowship. José Rojas, a popular international speaker, shared personal experiences and encouraged attendees to follow the example of Jesus when reaching out to people. Rojas reminded the group that Jesus first met people's needs, then He shared the gospel with them.

Before the worship service, Gary Gibbs, conference ministries development director, reported on the soul-winning efforts in Cuba and locally, and cast a vision to inspire the group to get involved in evangelism in their communities.

Children met under a canopy tent for Sabbath School, and the youth met at the nearby Cambridge church. Young people had an opportunity to sail to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge on a skipjack following a potluck luncheon.

An afternoon meeting began with a concert featuring performances by talented individuals and families from churches on the Shore.

See more photos at facebook.com/chesapeakeconference.

MOUNTAIN VIEWPOINT

NOVEMBER 2016

Perspectives: Make Gratitude a Way of Life

Multiple studies have shown that practicing gratitude results in being more resilient, more relaxed and less materialistic. It is difficult to be depressed and full of gratitude at the same time. This should not be surprising for people of the Word. “And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God” (Col. 3:17). And “Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus” (1 Thess. 5:18).

My ninth-grade English and homeroom teacher was precious to me. I arrived early to school just to talk to her. She was encouraging, thoughtful and helped me to see some value in myself. About 20 years later, I was thinking of her and how thankful I was to have had her as a teacher. I wrote her a letter of gratitude detailing what she had done for me. She replied with the cryptic note, “Your letter arrived at just the right time.” I never discovered what she meant, but realized that gratitude can have a profound effect on the one who receives it.

Opportunities for gratitude can happen in the midst of adversity. Ten years ago, as I was cutting down a dead tree, a limb fell, breaking the two bones in my right forearm. The resulting surgery and splint left me



Art Calhoun, a member of Toll Gate church in Pennsboro, W.Va., is a family physician who prescribes and practices gratitude.



Art Calhoun, MD, presents a gratitude seminar and consults campers during the annual Mountain View Conference Wellness Camp.

unable to write with my right hand. Michael, a medical student who worked in my office, literally became my right hand, writing my notes. He went with me to 6 a.m. appointments at the nursing home and juvenile jail. Working to support my family is important to me, and he graciously enabled me to do that. By the time his internship was over, I was able to write again, unassisted. I wrote Michael a letter, sharing my joy that God had sent him to me and thanking him for his service.

Here is my prescription for practicing gratitude: keep a journal, and, several times a week, write specifically why you are thankful for someone in your life. Also, pick someone that has made a real difference in your life but whom you have not properly thanked. Write them a letter of gratitude. Send it to them or, better yet, deliver it in person. Gratitude as a way of life is one of the keys to having a productive, fulfilling and spiritually invigorating life.—Art Calhoun

Pastor Celebrates Ordination, Anniversary at Camp

Jaime Rodríguez Arjona and his wife, Jenny, celebrated two accomplishments at Mountain View Conference Camp Meeting at Valley Vista Adventist Center in Huttonsville, W.Va., this summer. Pastor Arjona was ordained to the gospel ministry and the couple also celebrated their tenth wedding anniversary that day.

The couple serves the Braxton, Summersville and Webster Springs (W.Va.) churches and recently welcomed Jaime Jr., into their family.

Some of Arjona's earliest memories include regular family worship and faithful church attendance every Wednesday, Friday and Sabbath. He recalls his mother waking the children up in the mornings singing, "Wake up! O Christian." Evangelism was a way of life in his home, he says.

In 1999 Arjona graduated from high school and enrolled in college, planning to study business administration. Feeling the call to become a minister, however, he changed course, graduating in 2004 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in pastoral theology from



Antillean Adventist University in Puerto Rico. Desiring further education, he enrolled in the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University (Mich.) and obtained his Master of Divinity. Later he completed five units in clinical pastoral education from Valley Baptist Medical Center (Texas).

Conference Appoints New Superintendent of Education

Cheryl Jacko, new superintendent of Education for the Mountain View Conference (MVC), never intended to be a teacher. She graduated from Loma Linda University (Calif.) with a BSN and worked as a nurse for several years. Through a series of events, she was drawn into helping a small Adventist school

for "just one year." That was 29 years ago. Since then, Jacko earned full professional certification, earning a master's degree in educational administration through Andrews University (Mich.)

During her educational ministry, Jacko served as the teacher at Buckhannon (W.Va.) Seventh-day Adventist School, principal and middle school teacher at Highland Adventist School (HAS) in Elkins, W.Va., and in the conference as classroom supervisor, educational associate and acting conference superintendent under the leadership of Larry Boggess, MVC president. With her new position, Jacko will now focus her time leading the educational work in MVC and continuing as HAS principal.

"My goal as superintendent is to provide MVC teachers with the support, training and resources they need to provide their students an outstanding Adventist education, preparing them for success in this life and the life to come," Jacko states. "Our teachers do an amazing job educating and ministering to the students in our schools each and every day. It is my privilege to be a part of the team."

Jacko, and husband, Don, live in Elkins, W.Va.



Don and Cheryl Jacko (far left) enjoy time with their family.

news

NEW JERSEY

NOVEMBER 2016

The Greatness of God

When King David decided to build the house of God, he prepared and planned for it. The Bible says that he bought all types of resources needed to build the temple. “Now for the house of my God I have prepared with all my might,” David said (1 Chr. 29:2).

David was so passionate about his mission that he used his own fortune to build the temple, and joyfully expressed the reason why: “Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and in Earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and You are exalted as head over all” (1 Chr. 29:11).

The greatness of God was the reason David was building the temple! He was not building a big temple for his own glory, but for the glory of God. We shouldn’t do things for our own greatness, or even for the greatness of organizations we serve, but only for the greatness of God.

How easy it is to forget about God? We keep building ministries, structures, systems, strategies and organizations. Instead of giving the glory to God, we want to receive it! We don’t verbalize this, but sometimes in our hearts we want our name to be glorified rather than His.

Let’s follow David’s example and work for the greatness of God.



Paulo Macena

Youth Ministries Director

61 Young People Minister on Mission to Cuba

Sixty-one youth and young adults from New Jersey (pictured right) traveled to Cuba for a 10-day mission trip this summer. It was the largest mission group from the New Jersey Conference ever to go to that country, says Pastor Ricardo Cala, one of the

pastors who traveled with the group.

The group stayed at the Adventist seminary in Havana. As Cuba is still closed to gospel preaching, the youth showed Jesus through acts of kindness and compassion. During their trip, the volunteers painted a church, cleared an area of the seminary property and



distributed hundreds of toys to children and hundreds of food baskets to people in need.

“Our youth were the ones blessed by this trip. They had the opportunity of seeing first hand how underprivileged people live, the opportunity of helping them and realizing how fortunate they are with all they have,” says Paulo Macena, group leader.

“I thought I would be changed [on this trip], but it wasn’t until I got back that it really hit me. Seeing everyone here with their grassy yards and fancy cars, and driving in an air-conditioned car on a street with no potholes is quite a contrast to how people live in Cuba,” says Noelle Millner, a 15-year-old missionary. “[In Cuba] people have to survive on food rations and they don’t even have yards around their houses. After this experience, I’m definitely more appreciative of the things we tend to take for granted!”



*Front to back:
Justice Victoriano,
Noelle Millner, Paula
Macena, and Larra
Millner help remodel
a church in Havana.*

Teens Take Local Mission Trip

Forty-one teens from 20 churches across New Jersey recently participated in a local mission trip to Newark and Jersey City called “My City My Passion.” Participants received leadership training, participated in fun events and showed compassion to the community.

My City My Passion is part of the Youth Ministries Department initiative designed to teach teens how to show compassion and serve through random acts of kindness in the community. They cleaned streets, played games and facilitated activities with children from low-income families.

Matheus Possidonio, 14, says, “Participating in the My City My Passion program was an amazing experience. It makes me happy to know how much I am making a difference just by picking up the trash or making a little kid that I don’t know, smile. We are so busy from day to day, we forget to give back after all the blessings we receive. My City My Passion showed me how it can be so fun and easy to show others the love of God. We were able to have lots of fun and make many friends,



New Jersey teens participate in the 2016 “My City My Passion” local mission trip.

memories I will never forget and personally helped me strengthen my relationship with God.”

Churches Minister Across State

Many New Jersey Conference youth, Adventurers and Pathfinders recently skipped church to minister in their community. The Filipino church in Jersey City, the Mount Holly church, and the Atlantic City Spanish church were among those that participated.

The Filipino church members started the day with a free breakfast for homeless people, and later distributed fliers for upcoming church events. Mount Holly youth visited a fire department and distributed water, goodies and hand-made thank you cards. Atlantic City Spanish church members donated free haircuts, clean



Lesly Cardona, a member of Atlantic City Spanish church, cuts the hair of a guest at the event.



PHOTOS BY JORGE PILLOO

Youth from the Atlantic City Spanish church and community surround Raquel Guevara (center) as they serve the community.

clothes, a care package containing personal care items and distributed hot meals to homeless people.

Some of the youth used their own cars to go out and pick up homeless people from the streets and bring them to the church where the event was happening. “This event was a success and we plan to continue providing help to the homeless on a regular basis. Our church wants to get involved and make a difference in the lives of those who are less fortunate,” says Raquel Guevara, Atlantic City Spanish youth leader.

Prayer Helps Open New School in Sheffield Lake

Members of seven churches in northeastern Ohio, along with the Ohio Conference, have been on a journey of faith this year. The July/August 2016 issue of the *Visitor* shared how educational evangelism grew a rural school in Clarksfield. In the last few months, they have outgrown their building. Thus, a united body—including students, parents, teachers, pastors, members and conference leaders—prayed earnestly for a new school.

School leaders encountered numerous challenges and resigned to the idea of a temporary building. Nonetheless, teacher Jeanne Sinka decided to search the Internet “one more time” for a permanent location. Her search turned up a recently closed, public school building in Sheffield Lake. The realtor commented this school had providentially not yet been entered into the market. They scheduled a showing with the owner, which led to emergency board meetings with the church and conference leadership. Prayer was a major component and emphasis in these meetings, says principal Leona Bange.

The owner accepted their first offer, which was less than half the asking price, despite receiving two higher offers. “[The owner] felt they were different than any other group he had ever worked with,” explained the realtor. Closing came quickly, and work began the same day Bange received her keys.

Sheffield Lake residents appear to be enthusiastic about Northern Ohio Adventist Academy (NOAA),



Rick A. Bianco, Ohio superintendent of education, speaks to Northern Ohio Adventist Academy students during their week of prayer.

a private school in their community. Visitors stop by regularly to inquire about what the school offers, and say they look forward to attending the school's upcoming Christmas program. Neighbors and officials from City Hall also helped clean and landscape the property during the school's work bee.

While Bange purchased carpet at Home Depot for her office, a friendly employee asked her, “Would your school have any need for us to do a project for you?” Bange soon learned she was speaking with the store's community team leader who was in search of projects in the surrounding school districts. A Home Depot team of 10-12 employees will soon clean and repair the school playground and complete two projects each year, with the store providing all of the supplies. “It's God pouring out the resources of heaven for these kids!” exclaimed Bange.

NOAA now has a 28,000-sq.-ft. home on a 3.5-acre campus. The school has large classrooms wired for Internet and projectors; a gymnasium containing folding lunch tables and wall pads; rooms suitable for a music room and a future science lab; and nearly \$10,000 in equipment, materials and supplies. Their first official day of school was September 6.

Learn more at northernohioadventistacademy.org.



Jeanne Sinka teaches music to elementary students in Northern Ohio Adventist Academy's new music room.

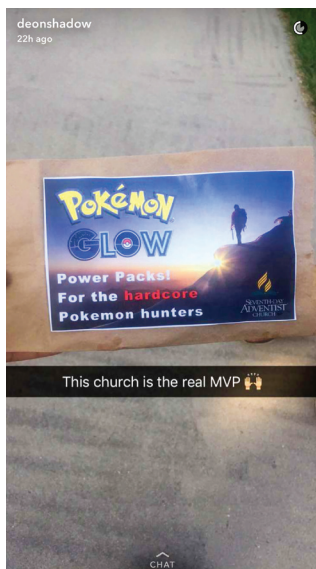
Centerville Church Shares Jesus via Pokémon “Glow”

The popularity of the app “Pokémon Go,” a location-based augmented reality game played on smartphone devices, has recently broken social norms. People are getting out of their homes again, walking, spending time in nature and communicating—in person—with one another. Where technology may have once estranged our culture, this game appears to be reversing that trend. It has even provided a new audience and opportunity to live out the Great Commission says Jeremy Wong, Centerville church youth pastor.

“Pokémon Go” players, called Pokémoners, are often tired, hungry, thirsty and battery-depleted from walking around cities and parks for hours. Wong and his interns recently set up a tent with a battery bank to meet the needs of gamers. They assembled bags filled with granola bars, Gatorade and “Glow” outreach tracts, starting their Pokémon “Glow” outreach to exhausted and starving “Pokémoners.”

On the first day of Pokémon “Glow,” temperatures were in the high 90s, thus the park was uncharacteristically empty. Team members started to feel discouraged because they hadn’t distributed any of the 18 bags they had prepared. Two interns decided to take a few bags to another area of the park. They encountered Pokémoners who gladly accepted the bags and allowed the interns to pray with them. As the park was closing, the team was able to pray with even more people. The team ended up distributing all 18 bags.

The subsequent time they ventured out, they prepared 45 bags. Unfortunately, storms erupted as the team arrived at the park, and gamers began to leave.



The crew was uncertain they’d be able to locate anyone, yet, in faith they prayed and set up their booth. The rain stopped, and within an hour, they distributed every bag and prayed with many people. Everyone responded positively, many asked for their church address

A “Pokémoner” posts on Snapchat about the Pokémon “Glow” bags they receive from the Centerville church interns.



Centerville church interns make new friends as they distribute Pokémon “Glow” bags.



Shane Mangroo, Victor Nyachieo and Niklas Steinbrunner share Pokémon “Glow” bags and battery banks with tired and hungry “Pokémoners.”

and worship schedule, and several promised to visit their church.

“Thanks to Pokémon Go, social and spiritual walls are being broken down in the surrounding area of Centerville church,” says Shane Mangroo, Centerville church Bible worker. “You or your church can also use this tool to introduce Pokémoners to Jesus. In fact, this method has a similar component to Jesus’ ministry—He met people’s needs wherever He went.”

Mangroo adds, “Whatever your opinion is about Pokémon Go, God has been using church members to “go into all the world” (or parks or neighborhoods) to bless people. Traditional evangelism still works, even in nontraditional ways.”

Pennsylvania Pen

NOVEMBER 2016

Carnegie Simple Church Hosts Back-to-School Bash

Everything about Jesus' ministry was crafted to create the best possible opportunity for the men, women and children of His day to respond to the gospel, says John Kent, Carnegie Adventist Simple church pastor.

Following the pattern of Jesus, Carnegie Adventist Simple church, based in Carnegie, recently hosted a Back-to-School Bash, which featured three Christian Hip Hop artists. The artists performed two hours of music and spoken word designed to speak to the hearts and minds of community youth and their families who do not know Jesus. Approximately 75 people attended the event in person, enjoying the music and food and beverages served by church members. About 60 more participated on the live stream app, Periscope.

Kent described the event as an incredible success. Church members actively involved members of the local community. Mayor Jack Kobistek sponsored the venue at the local park, Lowes Home Improvement Center donated a gas barbecue grill and two local supermarket chains provided much of the food and beverages served.

Most importantly, Jesus Christ was lifted up as the one and only way to escape the hopelessness and pain that many families experience in urban poverty, says Kent. Stephen "MadeSacred" Wilson, a nationally acclaimed Christian Hip Hop artist, shared a powerful and pointed testimony of God's grace in saving



Christian Hip Hop artists pose with several of the children attending the Carnegie Simple church's Back-to-School Bash.

him from a life of gangs, drugs and crime that riveted the attention of many who live in very similar circumstances, Kent said.

Closing the concert, Pastor Kent invited all the children and youth to come to the front where he prayed for God's blessing over their lives and studies as they launched into their new school year. Church leaders are planning to make this an annual outreach ministry.

Allentown Member Celebrates 100 Years



Allentown church member Catherine (Kitty) McKee recently celebrated her 100th birthday. She has served the church for more than 40 years, running the kitchen and the Adventist Community Services department.

When her son was young, McKee invited the neighborhood kids into her home and shared Jesus with them through games and stories. To supplement her income, McKee took in sewing projects, eventually retiring only because of arthritis in her hands. She only just quit driving herself to church at age 98, but still lives at home where she does her own cooking and cleaning.

McKee says she gives God all the praise for her longevity and is looking forward to spending eternity with Him and her church family.—Vickie Becan

Laurel Lake Camp Facilities Director Recognized

During the Pennsylvania Conference Fall Camp Meeting, President Ray Hartwell (pictured right) recognized Laurel Lake Camp (LLC) Facilities Director Gary Moran and his wife, Robin, for their years of ministry and service to the camp. Moran is retiring December 31 after serving the Pennsylvania Conference for 11 years. Moran also previously served as the assistant camp ranger for the Chesapeake Conference. "I have been blessed a thousand times over to manage LLC and plan to continue to volunteer since I will only live a mile down the road. God has blessed my ministry with six baptisms and the many great friends that I have made there! I am grateful for all the support I received over the years and cherish my wife for all the help she has been. Jesus is coming soon, and I believe our camps are going to play an integral part in the closing moments of Earth's history," Moran says.



President Ray Hartwell presents Gary and Robin Moran with a small gift in honor of Gary's retirement.

Pennsylvania Conference Fall Women's Retreat

Unfailing Love

**Learning to live loved and accepted by
a God who persistently pursues us**

November 18-20, 2016
Laurel Lake Camp
76 Lodge Rd, Rossiter, Pa.
featuring Denise Reinwald
Special Meetings for Teens and Young Adults

For more information or to register, go to www.paconference.org

Potomac People

NOVEMBER 2016

We're Committed to Investing in our Leadership

Throughout my time as an educator and now as the Potomac Conference vice president for Education, I have learned first-hand that a crucial component of an effective school is effective leadership.

This summer principals attended a three-day workshop led by Fred Lowenbach, an expert and consultant on effective school leadership. The workshop provided opportunities for growth through personal reflection, discussing questions and collaborating with colleagues. Each principal prepared a plan for academic development for the upcoming school year.

Throughout the 2016-17 school year, Lowenbach will conduct additional principal in-service meetings and visit our campuses to provide coaching for our principals. He will assist them as they assess their schools' academic culture and the effectiveness of current classroom instruction; create professional learning communities for healthy curriculum planning; provide professional development and improvement plans for all teachers; and help develop an observation program.

We praise God for our teachers and administrators,



This year principals from the Potomac Conference will attend more in-service meetings with Lowenbach to research personal coaching.

and for their selfless ministry to our students. We are committed to investing in them as we journey toward excellence in Adventist education. Our goal is to provide our students the best education for this world and eternity.—Keith Hallam

Olney Adventist Enrollment Reaches Decade High

Olney Adventist Preparatory School (OAPS) opened this year with 131 students. "We haven't had an enrollment this high in a decade," said Jami Walker, principal since 2012.

David Reile, board chair and parent of an eighth grader, adds, "God has blessed our school



Olney Adventist Preparatory School starts the new year with more than 130 students enrolled.

immeasurably since it first opened — and this past decade in particular. We ended the 2008 school year with 131 students, but we were hit hard in the economic crisis that followed. Our enrollment dropped precipitously over the next several years, bottoming out at just 97 students," Reile recalled.

Even in those difficult times, OAPS and its community did not lose hope. Stepping out in faith, they moved out of the Olney (Md.) church and modulars and into a new school facility, completed in 2014.

Walker and her staff persevered in staying true to the school motto: "Going above and beyond ... Treating children as individuals." That motto continues to prepare students for future successes, as recently indicated by graduates of Pine Forge Academy, Spencerville Adventist Academy and Takoma Academy. The Class of 2015 valedictorians in these three schools were all OAPS alumni.

"We look forward to God's continued blessings on our school and students," said Walker, "as we prepare for success on this Earth and an eternity with Christ."

—Chris Simons

Potomac People

Sligo Young Adults “GLOW”

Becoming the church does not mean to solely be consumers at church,” says Joseph Khabbaz, youth and young adult pastor at Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md., “but contributors to the body of Christ. GLOW (God Lighting Our World) is an interactive Bible study and Sabbath School for young adults that focuses on transformation and becoming part of a supportive community. We are persistently encouraging young adults to get involved in ministry and outreach. We provide opportunities for them to discover their spiritual gifts and connect their gifts with God’s calling.”

A few years ago, a group of young adults began looking for ways to live out their Christianity more faithfully. Khabbaz says they were seeking a faith that was not only taught, but could be seen—a faith that went beyond the four walls of the church, where young adults could “become” church.

Slowly, a new, interactive experience began to develop, designed to encourage people to transition from being listeners to engagers. “Something that has really shaped GLOW is having a roaming mic,” explains Khabbaz. “Comments and questions are welcome. Throughout the lesson, the discussion leader incorporates questions and we take several minutes for group discussion. Young adults reflect on what the lesson means in their lives and connect with each other.” In keeping with the casual format, the room has a comfortable set up and a light breakfast is offered.

The GLOW team has been intentional about identifying and reaching out to all of Sligo’s young



Every second Sabbath of the month, a group of young adults pack and distribute dozens of lunches to the homeless in Washington, D.C.



GLOW leaders encourage people to transition from being listeners to engagers.

adults, former attendees and students at Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md. On a weekly basis, volunteers create social media posts to advertise upcoming Sligo GLOW events, making it easy for young adults to share GLOW events and invitations with their friends. “We have noticed that word of mouth has spread, and we are seeing new faces every Sabbath,” says Khabbaz. “We have had to place signage around Sligo to direct newcomers to GLOW and have developed a follow-up process where we send them a hand-written card and a personal email.” Opportunities through GLOW make it easy for young adults to become involved with various outreach ministries.

Khabbaz concludes, “I believe the life of Jesus speaks loudly to young adults jaded by the silence of incarnational Christianity. Jesus showed us the character of God not only by words, but by deeds. Jesus had a faith that was not only heard but seen, not only defended but lived. We challenge young adults to a high expectation of Christianity—that the Word of God can only have power in the church when it becomes flesh in their own lives.”

Blue Mountain Academy COMMUNIQUE

NOVEMBER 2016

School Hosts Unity Sabbath

The summer of 2016 was a difficult one for Americans. "It seemed every way you turned there were messages that caused people to divide, separate and forget that the strength of America is its diversity," says Sang Hae Kim, Blue Mountain Academy (BMA) chaplain. Kim organized a "Unity Sabbath" that would welcome students back and focus on uniting as part of the body of Christ.

The day started with BMA staff randomly placing students into 10 groups, and rotating them through five stations manned by staff.

Music teacher Lawrence Galera facilitated an activity where participants were tasked with holding part of a rope attached to a plate holding a ball, they then had to steady the ball to drop it in a nearby bucket. Some groups struggled, but overall each person realized the importance of unity in completing the task, Galera says.

Ever Perez, religion teacher, hosted an activity in which each group had to work together to launch and catch a water balloon using a small tarp. "They discovered that good communication and teamwork are key elements to accomplishing the goal," Perez says.



Students participate in an exercise designed to teach the importance of equality in success.

Pastor Kim explains, "Unity in God never comes without action in our lives. We need to actually put our hands on the problems together and go through the times of difficulty together. We may disagree with each other sometimes, but as long as we acknowledge God in those moments, eventually the Holy Spirit will make us all unite in Him."

School Welcomes New Chaplain



Joohyun Kim, Joosong Kim, Soo Jin Lee and Sang Hae Kim recently joined the Blue Mountain Academy family.

Blue Mountain Academy staff recently welcomed new staff member Pastor Sang Hae Kim and his wife, Soo Jin Lee. Sang Hae and Soo Jin are originally from South Korea and came to the United States in 2010. Since middle school, Kim wanted to be a missionary. On his first short-term mission trip, he met his wife who had the same dream. "We both wanted to be missionaries, and now I believe God has called us to be missionaries to the students at Blue Mountain Academy," he says.

Kim gives thanks to God saying, "God has blessed my family greatly by bringing us here to BMA to be part of a family of wonderful servants of God." Kim says he prays God will bless every student and staff through his ministry at BMA to grow as one family of God, loving God and loving one another.

Campus Ministries Helps Students Grow “Rooted” in God

This school year, Highland View Academy (HVA) students, staff and church family are focused on a simple yet important theme: “Rooted.” The inspiration for this theme comes from Jeremiah 17:8, “They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit” (NIV). The Highland View church (HVC) and the academy have forged an intentional partnership with the goal of laying the foundation for students and staff alike to make this verse the foundation of their year and their lives.

Amanda Corea, campus ministries coordinator, says she enjoys facilitating a campus environment that helps students grow their roots in Christ. “We want [students] to see tangible examples of what living with Christ in your heart looks like,” Corea says. “The students are used to hearing adults talk about having a relationship with God, but we want them to fully understand how they can make that relationship a practical and real part of their daily lives.” Weekly chapel assemblies, Sabbath School classes and church services are being designed around the “Rooted” theme to do just that, Corea says.

This initiative to weave the “Rooted” theme through all aspects of campus life has been planted in the church community. Cesar Grassiotto, HVC pastor, is



Bree Hurst ('18), Jessie Lee ('19) and campus ministries coordinator, Amanda Corea, lead out in the daily prayer and praise time.

working with church members to help students be a part of church ministries. By assembling various ministry teams, members are training students to run media and sound for weekly worship services, help teach children’s Sabbath School classes and serve as greeters. “The academy church should be a training ground for students,” says Grassiotto. “My wife and I both learned to preach, sing and lead as students in academy. We want to give the HVA students the same opportunities to grow as church leaders.”

Students are also being trained through student-led Sabbaths. Once a month students completely organize, run and lead the church service. Under the guidance of Corea and Grassiotto, these Sabbaths have become one of the most popular and important aspects of campus ministries at the school.

Perhaps the most important element of campus ministries are the individual Bible and baptismal studies facilitated by Pastor Grassiotto, Corea says. Currently about 10 students participate in weekly studies to prepare for baptism. “As described by our overarching theme of ‘Rooted,’ helping the students grasp the message of the gospel and make it the foundation for their lives is our ultimate goal,” says Corea.—*Marci Corea*



This year’s campus ministry programs at Highland View Academy are “rooted” in Jeremiah 17:8.

Spotlight on Spencerville

NOVEMBER 2016
Highlights from Spencerville Adventist Academy

Academy Implements Bullying Prevention Program

Spencerville Adventist Academy (SAA) leadership is committed to maintaining a safe environment for all of its students and staff. Before school began this year, the entire staff gathered together to participate in an all-day training on bullying prevention. The first week of the school year, all students participated in kick-off events for the same new program: the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program (OBPP).

The goal of the OBPP is to reduce any existing bullying problems among students as well as prevent the development of new ones. Another important goal is to enhance the social and emotional learning of the students. SAA administrators are confident they can achieve these goals by fully implementing OBPP, the best-known bullying prevention program available with more than 35 years of research and successful implementation.

The OBPP offers a specific definition of bullying. "Bullying is when someone repeatedly and on purpose says or does mean or hurtful things to another person who has a hard time defending himself or herself." SAA has adopted the four core OBPP anti-bullying rules: 1. We will not bully others. 2. We will try to help students who are bullied. 3. We will try to include students who are left out. 4. If we know that someone is being bullied, we will tell an adult at school and an adult at home. OBPP is a program designed for all students: those who are bullied, those who bully others and those who are "bystanders."

The program's unique approach involves five important components: individual, classroom, school,



Staff and the bullying prevention coordinating committee members wear matching shirts on "Olweus" days, as modeled by principal Brian Kittleson, pictured with fifth-graders Maura Kline and Rose Crite.

community and parents. Kari Wangsness, chairperson of SAA's bullying prevention coordinating committee, expressed her enthusiasm and passion for the program. "We want SAA to be known as a place where bullying behavior is not allowed. When students know that, they have a tremendous opportunity to do what Jesus has called us to do—share the love and kindness that He has shown. We want SAA to be a place where students are excited to come to school to learn and be kind; where they are ready to spread Jesus' love to their friends, classrooms, families and communities."

October is National Bullying Prevention Month and SAA had several activities planned to raise awareness. During this month, students completed the Olweus Bullying Questionnaire to give an accurate picture of the bullying behavior that takes place at their school. A parent meeting is planned to inform parents about bullying prevention. "When students feel safe emotionally, it unlocks their brains for learning," says Brian Kittleson, principal. "Our entire school is built on a foundation of healthy relationships among all stakeholders. The Olweus program is about teaching students social emotional skills they need for life."



PHOTO BY G. NICOLE MATTOX

SPRING VALLEY ACADEMY^{ORG} CONNECTIONS

INSPIRING STUDENTS TO KNOW FOLLOW SHARE JESUS

NOVEMBER 2016

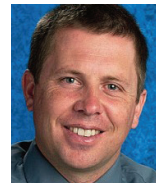
School Welcomes New Hispanic Students

Spring Valley Academy (SVA) is starting the school year with full classrooms, bustling hallways and a new energy. We have experienced incremental enrollment growth over the past few years, but no one would have predicted the student body to increase from 315 to 370 over the summer.

The increase is due to several factors. The most significant is a very successful effort to include three local Seventh-day Adventist Hispanic churches: Central Spanish, Hamilton Spanish and Springfield Spanish companies, in the SVA family. With inspired leadership from local Hispanic church pastor Julio Morales, and hard work from the SVA staff, 48 new students enrolled from those churches.

Many of the parents thought that attending a Seventh-day Adventist Christian school would never be a possibility for their children, but God provided financial help. The Ohio Education Choice voucher program provided needed tuition assistance and Kettering Adventist HealthCare (KAHC) and its partners provided generous scholarships. KAHC also donated five passenger vans to these churches to transport their students to school each day.

The Lord is leading at SVA. He is expanding our territory and pouring out blessings. I can't wait to see what he has in store for us next.



Darren Wilkins
Principal

School Hosts Convocation Weekend

Students, families and constituents of Spring Valley Academy (SVA) kicked off the school year with a Convocation Sabbath themed "Dreams + Vision." Hundreds of people from the four constituent churches enjoyed music from students and alumni, sermons and breaking bread together as students and parents shared their dreams and visions for the school year.



Darren Wilkins honors current and former teachers Charlie Cobb, Karen Caviness, Diann Ring, Vickie Budd, Stephanie Oberer and John and Joan Kihlstrom.

School leadership honored dreamers (longtime staff members) and dedicated the teachers with a special prayer service.

Two featured speakers delivered messages that were both inspirational and challenging, attendees said. Steve Ford, son of President Gerald Ford, spoke for Friday night Vespers. Ford was a teenager when his father unexpectedly became President of the United States following the Nixon resignation. His testimony about the godly leadership of his father in his family, even while leading the free world, was a powerful challenge to every parent and teacher, says Darren Wilkins, SVA principal.

Anil Kanda, an evangelist for Southeastern California Conference, shared the importance of Christian education in his journey from Hinduism to Christianity. Kanda reminded attendees that the purpose of Christian education is to equip missionaries.

The event ended with the "Longest Table" a continuous table where hundreds of people shared their picnic lunch with each other.

"They had a lot to chew on, figuratively and literally," says Darren Wilkins, SVA principal. "Many expressed their conviction that the Lord is truly leading and blessing this school. We are committed to seeking His will and following His lead."

Connections is published in the *Visitor* by Spring Valley Academy ■ 1461 Spring Valley Pike, Centerville, OH 45458
Phone: (937) 433-0790 ■ springvalleyacademy.org ■ Principal, Darren Wilkins ■ Editor, Vicki Swetnam

SHENANDOAH VALLEY ACADEMY HAPPENINGS

NOVEMBER 2016

www.shenandoahvalleyacademy.org



Renovation and Whole Food Focus Transform Cafeteria

This school year, Shenandoah Valley Academy (SVA) students returned to see the completed cafeteria renovation, made possible primarily by a generous alumni estate gift. The majority of the work was completed last summer, including much needed new restrooms, a fresh coat of paint, window and wall treatments, lighting enhancements, new tables, refurbished chairs (donated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church headquarters), shelving for student backpacks, tile entrance flooring, and a new sound system and television monitors for announcements and special presentations.

Quality high-grade carpet—capable of holding up to daily use by large numbers of active young people—was the remaining large-ticket item not completed or covered by donations. This summer an anonymous donor provided the final piece of the renovation—the carpet—as a surprise gift to returning students. When food service director Bob Ockenga returned to work in August, he says, “I opened the door and saw new carpet!”

The cafeteria has been transformed—and not only by the renovation. Ockenga and his hard-working team are going the extra mile to provide fresh local Shenandoah Valley produce and fresh-baked whole grain bread to students.

Each week Ockenga attends the Shenandoah Valley Produce Auction. “People ask why we’re purchasing so much produce. When I say it’s [for] high school kids, they can’t believe it and want to know more about our school and why we’re doing this,” he says. “It’s exciting to talk with the community about our school



Valerie Pichot ('18), parent Gilia Toma and Judson Watson ('17) celebrate after making whole grain rolls.

and students, and the health and wellness focus of our school and our church.”

The team cans, freezes, cooks and bakes to provide a variety of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, legumes and nuts to support a lacto-ovo vegetarian diet for students. The cafeteria also provides ample options for students choosing a vegan or gluten-free diet.

“The changes we’ve made in purchasing to offer students more fresh produce and whole foods, combined with the newly renovated dining room, have reinvigorated our food service program,” says Ockenga.

The nutritious food is making a difference in the overall health and wellness of students. School nurse Darlene Anderson reports, “The students have far fewer illnesses and medical concerns this year than in prior years.” Anderson says she attributes this to the healthy diet.

“A lot of work and planning goes into making this happen, and we couldn’t do it without faithful volunteers,” says Ockenga. Volunteers include staff spouses and local parents who have contributed significantly, supporting food service staff by making produce runs, baking and helping in the kitchen.

Positive student reviews have been unanimous. Junior Miranda Benton says, “I’ve always loved everything about SVA, but the local produce and healthy food options in the cafeteria have made it absolutely amazing here!”



The surprise carpet installation by an anonymous donor completes the cafeteria renovation.

Students Aid Victims of Apartment Building Explosion

Earlier this year an explosion rocked the Flower Branch Apartments in Silver Spring, Md. The tragedy displaced 50 families and seven people lost their lives. Takoma Academy (TA) is less than two miles from the Flower Branch Apartments.

Feeling that the school should aid victims of the explosion, Principal Carla Thrower approached the academy religion department. The team, consisting of Pastor Dunbar Henri, chair; Eustace Laurie, chaplain; and Jonathan Gantt, religion teacher, contacted Adventist Community Services of Greater Washington (ACSGW) in Takoma Park, Md., to ask how TA could help. The resulting request was not what Chaplain Laurie expected to hear.

"We need disposable razors! People have been donating everything but razors," said Sheila Schlisner, former executive director at ACSGW. "As in times of

need and crisis, it is amazing how something so seemingly insignificant can help one have a sense of normalcy."

Laurie shares, "I have to admit that a request for



Seniors Tarese Taylor, Jordan Marshall and Kyara Samuels display razors donated by Takoma Academy students.



Takoma Academy students and staff donated razors to the 50 families displaced in a Silver Spring, Md., apartment fire.

disposable razors caught me off guard. After hearing the news reports about the explosion, I thought there would be great need for clothing, back-to-school supplies for the kids, and maybe food and shelter needs. But, because of the overwhelming response from the community, one of the only significant needs was providing disposable razors."

Keith Beckett, TA administrator, suggested a fun competition between classes to motivate the students to donate more. Over the course of a week, students collected 770 individual disposable razors for the victims of the Flower Branch Apartments fire. "It's amazing how something so simple as giving razors could help so many people suffering from the tragedy of the apartment (explosion). It's truly a blessing to be part of a school that cares tremendously about helping their community," states Andrew Proctor ('18). Andrew's twin brother, Jordan ('18), shares, "When I heard about the tragedy, I wanted to help in any way possible."

"It touched my heart to receive emails and visits from students asking if they could still bring razors," says Laurie. "They didn't care about the competition between the classes. They just wanted to help someone in need. That speaks volumes. TA is a special place."



WASHINGTON
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

November 2016

The Mission

Washington Adventist University is a learning community committed to the Seventh-day Adventist Christian vision of excellence and service. This cosmopolitan institution challenges students to seize the opportunities



Weymouth Spence
President

for learning in the nation's capital in order to become moral leaders in communities throughout the world. Thanks to our dedicated faculty and staff for their commitment to the mission of welcoming

all students who have fulfilled the admissions requirements to a campus that is intentional in demonstrating the love of Jesus. It is amazing to observe how our students, all God's children, are experiencing the joy of learning on a Christian campus. Our students live, worship, play, study, and learn together with the clear understanding that this campus is a safe place for Christian fellowship and to intentionally build a relationship with Jesus Christ. I am inspired at our Friday evening vesper services when I see and hear young adults recognizing that their desired future must be in harmony with God the Father. The love of Jesus is what binds us together and it is this love that will transform all our students to become competent moral leaders who will change the world.

This is Washington Adventist University!

—Weymouth Spence

Annual Gala Honored Three Exceptional Leaders

Washington Adventist University's fourth annual Visionaries Gala on Sunday, September 18, at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda honored three individuals for providing exemplary leadership and inspiration to others, and successfully raised funds to support scholarships and other University priorities.

The event grossed more than \$100,000 in ticket sales and sponsorship, and a generous gift of \$350,000 was made by Colombia Union Conference President Dave Weigley, Ph.D., and friends to University President Weymouth Spence, Ed.D., in honor of Weigley's mother, Hazel E. Weigley. The gift will fund a laboratory in the new Gail S. and Bruce E. Boyer Health Professions and Wellness Center, which is currently under construction on campus. It is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2017.

"This annual event is part of our Vision 2020 — Growing with Excellence initiative to transform Washington Adventist University into one of the premier institutions of higher education in the mid-Atlantic region," said Spence. "The Gala is not only a successful fundraiser that helps support scholarships and other university priorities, but it also provides a wonderful opportunity to recognize individuals who have made a significant impact on the lives of others."

This year's Gala honorees were:

Clara Henderson Cobb, a Washington Adventist University alumna who was honored with the *Excellence in Health and Human Services* award. She holds the rank of Rear Admiral with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Liz Murray, whose personal journey from homeless to Harvard was honored with the *Excellence in Inspirational Academic Persistence* award.

Dave Weigley was honored with the *Excellence in Organizational Leadership* award. He has been President of the Columbia Union Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church since 2006 and is Chair of the Washington Adventist University Board of Trustees.

At the centerpiece of the Vision 2020 plan is the new Gail S. and Bruce E. Boyer Health Professions and Wellness Center, which will house the University's health professions departments. Individuals who missed the Gala but would still like to support Washington Adventist University may contribute online at wau.edu/advancement.



Prince George's County Executive, Rushern Baker; WAU President, Weymouth Spence; and Montgomery County Executive, Ike Leggett



Clara Henderson Cobb



Liz Murray



Dave Weigley

KETTERING COLLEGE



"Physician assistants are part of a team and are there to serve the patient's best interests. That's something the faculty taught us from day one, and as students, we learned how to help each other, too. It's the way learning should be." - Anisha Mathi

Kettering College alumna serves with a heart of compassion

Anisha Mathi, a 2015 Masters of Physician Assistant Studies graduate, knew she wanted to pursue a career in health care after a seventh grade biology lab when she held a frog heart in her hand for the first time. "I remember thinking, 'How miraculous that every creature God has created has a heart like this,'" recalls Anisha. "I knew right then that I needed to do something more with medicine."

As a healthcare provider, she spends her days sharing joy with her patients. Her career in Emergency Medicine provides her daily opportunities to not

only share joy, but also to walk through moments of pain with patients. A motivating factor for how she treats patients when they encounter trauma draws from one of her own painful childhood experience in the ER.

When Anisha was 13, Anisha's father died of a heart attack in an Emergency Room. His medical team, while competent, was unsympathetic and cold.

"Their attitude was, 'Well, this happens to people all the time, and it happened to him, too,'" recalls Anisha. "I thought, 'Wait, this is my

father. Maybe you see this sort of thing every day, but to me, this is not just another case.' I know I can't get my dad back, but I hope I can take what happened in my own life and bless someone else."

Today, in her role as a physician assistant at a local emergency department, Anisha says she strives to connect with patients on a personal level each day.

"It's an honor to be in those difficult moments with patients and their families, and I always pray that God gives me the wisdom to do it well," she says.



KC.EDU

YOUR HEALING MINISTRY

KETTERING ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE NEWSLETTER

Something Special

Have you ever felt as if you were a part of something really special—something right, true, and so compelling that it inspired you to strive to be your very best? For me, Grandview Medical Center's mission and service is that something special.

Growing up near the shores of beautiful Lake Tahoe in California, I didn't have to look far to see God in the beauty of nature. Drawn to health care as a way to serve, I have always sought to care for others as part of my life as a Christian. I double-majored in biochemistry and psychobiology at UCLA because I wanted to understand whole person care. After twenty more years in California, God led me to join Kettering Adventist HealthCare in Ohio. Now in my leadership role at Grandview, I witness that shared commitment to healing the whole person daily. Beyond the outstanding clinical work and compassionate service from every staff member, our faith-based mission motivates each of us to perform that work and that service as manifestations of Christ's love.

It is inspiring to be part of a hospital that shares my passion for health and wholeness. The investments we have made in parks and green spaces around our hospital have brought nature closer to our neighbors. Because we are part of a community that lacks any kind of grocery store to serve its mostly low-income residents, we host a farmer's market on our campus. As an organization we seek to do more for everyone in our community, even as each individual seeks to do more for each patient.

I have served at Grandview Medical Center for just over two of its 90 years. At the center of our celebration is a collective joy that comes from being part of a family focused on service to our community. I feel that energy and excitement throughout my entire being. Through my leadership role at Grandview, I try to enable others to experience the joy of doing their best. Like all good things, that joy is a true gift from God—one that I can't help but share.



Ronda Brandstater
Vice President, Nursing
Grandview Medical Center

Ronda Brandstater

*Member of the
Kettering Adventist Church*

*"It is inspiring to be part
of a hospital that shares
my passion for health and
wholeness."*



YOUR HEALING MINISTRY

KETTERING ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE NEWSLETTER

Celebrating 90 Years of Service

By Leigh Wilkins



Founded in 1926 in a home on West Second Street with a total of 10 beds.



New entrance revealed in 2013



City officials and representatives from the network helped dedicate the new gateway and garden.



Kettering Adventist Healthcare's orthopedics team worked with a local non profit to serve nearly 250 lunches to people in need.



In honor of their 90th, Grandview gifted their local neighborhoods with a gateway garden and monument inspired by the area's historic architecture.

Grandview Medical Center's history reveals a strong commitment to meeting the needs of the Dayton community through innovation and exceptional healthcare delivery. But no timeline or highlight reel can fully express Grandview's unique character and contributions to southwest Ohio over the past 90 years.

Grandview dates its origins to 1926, when three osteopathic doctors converted a private home on West Second Street in Dayton into a 10-bed hospital. From these early days, Grandview has grown into a 293-bed facility with more than 1,600 employees and physicians. It also serves as one of the largest osteopathic teaching hospitals in the nation, continuing the founders' osteopathic tradition of whole person care.

The hospital joined Kettering Adventist HealthCare in 1999, becoming part of an award-winning system recently named a Truven Health Analytics 15 Top Health System in the nation and #1 in Ohio for Orthopedics by CareChex. Since then, Grandview has continued to grow, expanding its services to include two free-standing emergency departments in Huber Heights and Eaton.

Grandview's dedication to serving as a partner for growth and advancement within the Dayton community has been evident for decades. In celebration of the 90th anniversary, Grandview gifted the surrounding neighborhoods with a new garden and entrance monument to serve as a gateway to the community. The hospital continues to partner with local residents by hosting a monthly farmers' market, offering fresh produce for community members in nearby neighborhoods.



Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley and other elected officials planted the first flowers in the garden.

Today, Grandview is on a path to becoming one of the largest and most respected osteopathic teaching hospitals in the United States began in 1950, when it was approved as an intern and residency teaching hospital.

The passion for innovation among physicians at Grandview has established the medical center as a pioneer in medical advancement.

Looking to the future, Grandview remains dedicated to educating world-class osteopathic physicians, as well as providing exceptional care within the community, now and for the next 90 years.

THE NEWS



Volunteers Help Heal Dayton

Kettering Adventist HealthCare hosted its first-ever free community clinic, Heal Dayton, on September 4 and 5 with the help from AMEN, Adventist Medical Evangelism Network.

Throughout that weekend, the Dayton Convention Center, located in downtown Dayton, Ohio, was transformed into a space where the uninsured could receive the care they needed, whether it was medical, dental, or optical. Community booths were also on-site, with massages, cooking demonstrations, and music performances available to attendees.

Nearly 600 volunteers made this event possible. Kettering Adventist HealthCare was able to serve almost 900 people in the community.



KETTERING
Adventist HealthCare



HopeChannel

Celebrate the Season of Giving

Share the gift of God's
good news for a better life

hopetv.org



WASHINGTON
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY



Annual Christmas Concert

Presented by the Department of Music
Conducted by James Bingham and Preston Hawes

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2 at 7:30 PM
at Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church
located on the university's campus

The evening will feature performances by the
university's orchestra and chorale.

The concert is free and will also be live streamed on sligochurch.org/media



NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

ADULT MINISTRIES

Presents



Festivalofthelaity.com

Online Resources for



Prison Ministries

Personal Ministries



Sabbath School Ministries

Questions? Call 301-860-6430

Bulletin Board

VISITOR ADVERTISING AND SERVICES

Advertising ■ The *Visitor* does not guarantee the integrity of any product or service advertised and does not accept responsibility for typographical or categorical errors. For advertising guidelines and rates: columbiaunionvisitor.com/advertising

Ad Submissions: sjones@columbiaunion.net

Obituary Submission ■ Obituaries are posted free of charge for members of the Columbia Union. To submit an obituary: columbiaunionvisitor.com/obituary

Subscriptions ■ Nonmembers of the Columbia Union may subscribe to the *Visitor* for a fee. For more information: columbiaunionvisitor.com/subscription

Contact Us
Columbia Union *Visitor*
5427 Twin Knolls Rd
Columbia, MD 21045
(410) 997-3414
visitor@columbiaunion.net

EMPLOYMENT

DENTAL ASSOCIATE WANTED! Looking for an individual of character and skill to join my practice. With a goal of transitioning out of full-time practice, I will mentor and assist a potential new owner of my dental practice. Our technology is up to date, our patient trust level is high and the potential income is great. We are a fee-for-service practice with five operatories and a great team located in South Central, Pa., near Gettysburg, Baltimore and Harrisburg. Contact me at drbillwaring@gmail.com.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks a nursing faculty. Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to: Teach and supervise skills/simulation lab for all student levels; participate in skills and simulation lab for clinical groups with assistance from course instructors; review clinical and didactic course syllabi for simulation and skills; complete students' lab evaluation, grade skills, care plans and concept maps where applicable; collaborate with department chair for lab budget and acquisition of lab supplies for students' use; evaluate lab use for continuous improvement; available to students for skills practice and tests; and teach assigned courses and/or clinical to make up for full-time position. For more information or to apply, visit andrews.edu/admres/jobs/1199.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks candidates with a doctoral degree (ABD will be considered) who are committed to maintaining both an active research program and high-quality teaching across the undergraduate

curriculum. Preference will be given to candidates with a math education specialty and to those with commitment to involving undergraduates in research. For more information, please visit andrews.edu/admres/jobs/1188.

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY has two faculty openings in the School of Education and Psychology. For details and to apply, please visit: jobs.wallawalla.edu. We invite you to share this announcement, as you deem appropriate. To learn more about Walla Walla University, please visit wallawalla.edu/.

MISCELLANEOUS

PREACHERS NEEDED! Come and join the General Conference Total Member Involvement (TMI) team for one of the most thrilling experiences of your life. Next February we will take a team of volunteer preachers—young and old alike, with or without experience—to five countries of Eastern Europe to preach a full evangelistic series. Sermons will be provided. 4,000 preaching sites expected! For more information and to register, visit tmi.adventist.org.

EARLITEEN AND YOUTH: ELLIOTDYLAN.COM for the *Undercover Angels* book series for Christian teens that builds on biblical principles and reinforces integrity. Great for Sabbath reading, church schools, home schools and gifts! Youth will enjoy these Christian novels filled with action, character-building lessons and Bible truths. Kindle and large print editions are available.

REMNANT PUBLICATIONS has

the perfect study Bible, which will enhance personal devotions for both adults and children. We can also provide you with sharing books, pocketbooks and DVD's to help you reach your community with the gospel. Visit your ABC, or remnantpublications.com, or call (800) 423-1319 for a free catalog.

THE WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE CENTER can help you naturally treat and reverse diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, arthritis, osteoporosis, fibromyalgia, lupus, multiple sclerosis, chronic fatigue, cancer, substance abuse, stress, anxiety, depression and many others. Invest in your health and call (800) 634-9355 for more information, or visit wildwoodhealth.com.

CITRUS FUNDRAISING for your church or school. Hand selected, citrus direct from the grove. *Indian River Fundraisers*. Please call: (800) 558-1998.

AGATHA THRASH, MD, *Nature's Healing Practices*, new book published in 2015, available in paperback and hardback editions. This 545-page, natural remedies encyclopedia includes a large section on Conditions and Diseases, followed by Home Emergencies, Natural Remedies, Herbal Remedies and Dietary Information. Call Uchee Pines, (877) 824-3374, or email natureshealingpractices@gmail.com.

REAL ESTATE

PERFECT END-TIME PROPERTY FOR SALE: 8 acres in West Virginia, 20 minutes to Bear Rocks and Dolly Sods National Wilderness Area. Faces southeast, plenty of sun; has 1,000-gal. cistern and septic; and cleared building site. Ready to go! \$40K, OBO, Melindaselufski@gmail.com.

BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY LOTS FOR SALE: 1 to 10 acres on the Cumberland Plateau, with end of the road privacy. *Prices drastically reduced* through the end of the year. These are the nicest lots for this price anywhere in Tennessee, Georgia or North Carolina. Pond, views, hardwoods and springs. Close to Adventist church and school. Call Jeff: (301) 992-7472.

CUSTOM SMOKEY MOUNTAIN STONE HOME on 13+ acres, 17 miles from Maryville, 100 miles from Collegedale. Year round spring-fed stream flows below great room under insulated 8 ft. x 16 ft. glass floor providing endless water for home, waterfall and 1.25 acre garden/orchard. 5BR,

4BA, cathedral ceiling, huge stone fireplace, walk-in cooler. Pictures: Google 6850 Happy Valley Rd. Call (251) 233-1331.

ENJOY WORRY-FREE RETIREMENT AT FLETCHER PARK INN on the Fletcher Academy campus near Hendersonville, N.C. Spacious villa homes and limited rental apartments available now. Enjoy a complimentary lunch at our vegetarian buffet on the day of your no-obligation tour. Call Loreta for details: (800) 249-2882, fletcherparkinn.com.

BUYING? SELLING? RESIDENTIAL HOMES IN MARYLAND

Call:
The MdSmartBuy Team

Phyllis Newman
(301) 922-5166
and
Janice Valois
(301) 502-2103

Re/max Realty Center, Inc.
(301) 774-5900
(800) 586-4669

mdsmartbuy.com

Email:
phyllisnewman@realtor.com
janice@janicevalois.com

SERVICES

MOVE WITH AN AWARD-WINNING AGENCY: Apex Moving & Storage partners with the General Conference to provide quality moves at a discounted rate. Call us for your relocation needs. Adventist beliefs uncompromised. Call Marcy Danté at (800) 766-1902 for a free estimate. Visit us at apexmoving.com/adventist.

MARYLAND ADVENTIST DENTIST, DAVID LEE, DDS, FAGD, AFAAID, FICOI, has practices located in Silver Spring and Columbia, Md. He is extensively trained in implant, cosmetic, TMD/TMJ, sleep apnea treatment, sedation and laser dentistry. Dr. Lee is an Associate Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry, as well as having many other certifications. For appointments, call (301) 649-5001 or (410) 461-6655. Mention this ad and receive a 10% discount on all services, excluding third-party payers. We welcome new patients!

MARYLAND ADVENTIST PODIATRIST: Dr. Scott Nutter, highly trained, experienced and

board certified, is available in several locations to help your foot/ankle problems, including arthritis, heel pain, spurs, diabetes, calluses, ingrown nails, sprains, fractures, warts, bunions, etc. Surgery, if it is needed, at Adventist hospitals. Offices located in Laurel, Greenbelt and Columbia. Call (301) 317-6800.

LOLO HARRIS: gospel music recording artist, "sharing the gospel through song." CDs and contact information: LoLoHarris.com, (937) 545-8227, or POB 492124, Atlanta, GA 30349. LoLo is currently accepting ministry requests for concerts, evangelism, AYS, retreats, conventions and more for 2016 and 2017.

ADVENTISTSINGLES.ORG: Free 14-day trial! Join thousands of active, Adventist singles online. Free chat, search, detailed profiles and match notifications! Two-way compatibility match, photos and confidential online mail. Witnessing opportunities to the world through articles, friendships, chat and forums. Adventist owners since 1993. Thousands of successful matches. Top ranked.

ADVENTIST BOOKS AND AUTHORS: Looking for new Adventist titles to encourage and grow your daily walk? Visit us at TEACHServices.com. For used Adventist books visit LNFBooks.com. *Authors*, if you're interested in having your book published, call (800) 367-1844 for a free evaluation.

PLANNING AN EVANGELISTIC SERIES OR HEALTH SEMINAR? Have questions? Need affordable, professionally prepared handbills, brochures, signs, banners and mailing services? Call free, (800) 274-0016, and ask for HOPE Customer Service or visit hopesource.com. You deserve the best with confidence and peace of mind. Your friends at HOPESOURCE deliver on time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAGERSTOWN MUSIC NOTES: The Hagerstown (Md.) church at 11507 Robinwood Dr., invites all to our upcoming music programs: Nov. 5 at 5:30 p.m., organ concert by Jermaine Cain; Nov. 12 at 11 a.m., The Kings Heralds quartet in concert; and Nov. 19 at 5 p.m., The New England Youth Ensemble from Washington Adventist University, directed by Preston Hawes.

"GREAT GRACE, GREAT MARRIAGE" MARRIAGE RETREAT, February 17-19, 2017, to be held at Dunes Manor Hotel

in Ocean City, Md. Mike and Lynn Ortel will be the presenters of the sessions, which run from Friday evening to Sunday morning. For more information, email MarriageEnrichment@comcast.net, or call (301) 801-2344 or (443) 864-6328.

TIDINGS FROM THE EAST, November 18-20, a supporting ministries convention hosted by Outpost Centers International, with Mark and Teenie Finley. Join us in Haymarket, Va., for inspiring messages and workshops that will refresh your soul and renew God's vision and calling for you! See outpostcenters.org/eastna2016 for registration/information.

Frederick Church Christmas Concert

Brass Mosaic and Friends
Blown Away!
Frederick Adventist Church
December 3 at 4 p.m.
6437 Jefferson Pike
Frederick, MD 21703

Brass Mosaic
Washington, D.C., area's
Iconic brass quintet for 22 years

The principle players of the Brass Band of the Potomac
North America's top
Championship-level brass band

Joy-Leilani Garbutt, organist
Washington Post
top-10 organist!

La Camerata Nove
Francisco Araujo, director
Acclaimed festival chorale

Concert features the works of Gabrieli, Bach, Shostakovich and more.

For more information:
ariseforgod.org/events
Phone: (301) 662-5254

OBITUARIES

ALLISON, Rosalie A., born October 14, 1938, in Lancaster, Ohio; died December 28, 2015, in Charleston, S.C. She was a member of the DeBary Orange City church in Orange City, Fla. Rosalie was a teacher and taught 29 years in Adventist schools in Wisconsin; Glendale, Calif.; J.N. Andrews Elementary School in Takoma Park, Md.; and Mount Vernon Church School, in Mount Vernon, Ohio. Survivors: her brother, Charles Bensonhaver of Seabrook Island, S.C.; her sister, Carol Upton of Lexington, S.C.; her step-daughter, Marlene Higgs

Sunset Calendar

	Nov 4	Nov 11	Nov 18	Nov 25
Baltimore	6:02	4:55	4:50	4:46
Cincinnati	6:34	5:27	5:22	5:18
Cleveland	6:19	5:11	5:05	5:00
Columbus	6:27	5:19	5:14	5:10
Jersey City	5:50	4:42	4:36	4:32
Norfolk	6:05	4:59	4:54	4:50
Parkersburg	6:22	5:15	5:10	5:06
Philadelphia	5:55	4:48	4:42	4:38
Pittsburgh	6:14	5:06	5:01	4:56
Reading	5:58	4:50	4:45	4:40
Richmond	6:09	5:02	4:57	4:54
Roanoke	6:19	5:13	5:08	5:04
Toledo	6:26	5:18	5:12	5:07
Trenton	5:53	4:46	4:40	4:36
Wash., D.C.	6:05	4:58	4:52	4:49

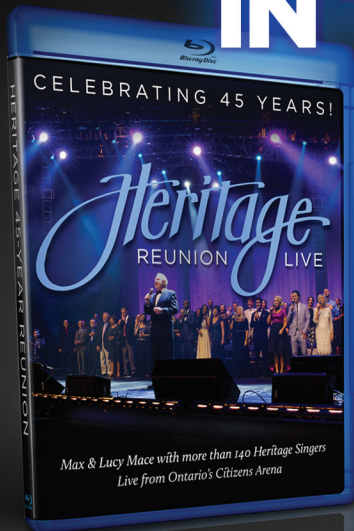
of Chattanooga, Tenn.; three step-grandchildren; and three step-great-grandchildren.

MATHERS, Melvin Earl, born October 5, 1920, in Fletcher, Ohio; died February 16, 2016, in Wellford, S.C. He was a member of the Spartanburg (S.C.) church. Melvin was an ordained minister and teacher in the Adventist church. He served in the U.S. Army as a medic with General Patton in North Africa, Sicily and Italy. He formerly served as elder and head elder at the Indiana (Pa.) church for many years. Survivors: his wife, Betty Jayne (Glew) Mathers of Wellford; his son, Arnet Mathers of Maine; his daughter, Sonja (Charles) Eberhart; his granddaughters Ellen and Sarajayne of South Carolina; his great-granddaughter Rosalina; and a brother, Nelson Mathers of Texas.

PROCTOR, Wendell Theodore, born March 30, 1925, in Logan, Ohio; died January 14, 2016, at the Selma Markowitz Care Center, operated by Hospice of Central Ohio. A veteran of the U.S. Navy, Wendell proudly served his country during World War II. He retired from Owens Corning Fiberglass in May of 1984. He was a member of the

Newark church in Heath, Ohio, where he had been a deacon and served as a volunteer at the church's community service center for many years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and writing poetry. He is survived by his wife of nearly 70 years, Helen J. (Williams) Proctor, whom he married April 30, 1946; a son, Kerry L. (Alice) Proctor of Newark; a daughter, Valerie Jean Harmon of Newark; grandchildren, Jodie (Butch) Grimm, April (Ben) Terrill, Angie (Jason) Treadway, Darin Rinker and Frank Rinker; nine great-grandchildren; step-grandchildren, Elizabeth (Rod) Acord of Newark, Charles (Jackie) Johnson, Jr., of Kendall Park, N.J., and James Johnson of Newark; 10 step-great-grandchildren; sisters, Carol Sue Jones of Columbus, Ohio, and Shirley (Tim) Bryan of Orlando, Fla.; a brother, Claude (Pat) Proctor, Jr., of Logan, Ohio; sisters-in-law, Josephine Proctor of Logan and Pauline Proctor of Casselberry, Fla.; brother-in-law, Russell Alexander of Florida; and many nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers, Charles, Harry and Waldo Proctor; and four sisters, Betty Alexander, Mona Alexander, Wanda Green and Linda Sellers.

A CONCERT 45 YEARS IN THE MAKING!



140 performers, 4 hours of music, and decades of memories!

Multi-disc collections available now on Blu-ray, DVD, and CD.

Order today! Visit HeritageSingers.com or call 530-622-9369.

**AND...
Set Sail with
Heritage for an
ALASKA CRUISE!**



June 24 - July 1, 2017

For reservations call **844-889-3313**
or visit InspirationCruises.com/HSA

System Includes Recorder & IPTV

Official Distribution
Partner for all
Adventist
Broadcasters



*He that soweth to the Spirit
shall of the Spirit
reap life everlasting
Gal 6:8*

High Definition and DVR

Connect to any TV • Record your favorite shows • IPTV

**Complete
Satellite System
Includes 36 inch
Satellite Dish**

Only \$199
Plus shipping



Watch available IPTV Channels via Internet - FREE

**Please ask us about
INTERNET Channels**

**No Monthly Fees
No Subscriptions
No Credit Checks
FREE Install Kit**

26 Adventist Channels

Plus more than 80 other FREE Christian Channels and News Channels



**Two Room System \$349
plus shipping**



866-552-6882

The #1 choice for Adventist satellite programming for more than 10 Years!

Adventist Satellite • 8801 Washington Blvd, Suite 101 • Roseville, CA 95678

www.adventistsat.com

COLUMBIA UNION REVOLVING FUND

MAKING MINISTRY POSSIBLE

With a CURF loan, Ohio Conference's Good Neighbor House purchased and renovated an 11,105-sq.-ft. facility in Dayton that houses a food pantry, a department of clothing and household items and a community healthcare center with dental, medical and eye care for underserved and underinsured people. In 2014 this Adventist Community Services center provided health and human services to more than 20,000 neighbors in need.

By providing loans for more than 2,000 projects to date, CURF is helping the Seventh-day Adventist Church to be the hands and feet of Jesus in South-west Ohio and all across the Columbia Union.

Learn more:

(866) 721-CURF | columbiaunion.org/CURF



Since 1968 the Columbia Union Revolving Fund (CURF) has been providing low-interest loans and financing for Seventh-day Adventist church and school building and renovating projects so as to facilitate growth. What started as a \$200,000 fund with investments from members has grown to a \$168 million resource that makes ministry possible.

CURF

Helping Finance the Gospel Mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church



This advertisement does not constitute an offer to sell nor a solicitation of an offer to buy securities. Any offer to sell securities issued by CURF is made only through its Offering Circular. No one should consider any investment in CURF Notes other than by careful reference to the Offering Circular. Neither FDIC, SIPC nor any other government agency guarantees or insures repayment of CURF Notes.



WASHINGTON
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

School of Graduate and Professional Studies



mind·ful of my needs

Cynthia Jeremiah, International Student
Professional Studies student

Ms. Jeremiah was initially nervous about coming to another country to pursue a BS in Healthcare Administration. However, with family living nearby and the university's welcoming and supportive environment, she quickly adjusted and is pleased with her decision. She plans to return to her home country to share her new knowledge and skills at a hospital there.

"As an international student from Malaysia and an Adventist, I appreciate that there are no classes on Saturday, which is our Sabbath. The professors are supportive, always willing to help, and relate the lessons to real life work experience. I feel that I have the guidance and encouragement that I need to be successful in my field."

At Washington Adventist University, we are *attentive to your needs... aware of the constraints* on your time and budget... and *careful to create real-world, collaborative classroom experiences* that will help you achieve your goals. Moreover, we are mindful of our Adventist roots and have infused a sense of service, spirituality and vitality into all that we do.

WASHINGTON ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

7600 Flower Avenue | Takoma Park, Maryland 20912 | 301-891-4092 | www.wau.edu