Word On Campus

“Beware of men...you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake to bear witness before them and the Gentiles.” (Matthew 10:17, 18). The kind of overt threats and persecution that the followers of Jesus had to face in the first century and as some believers face in other countries still on a daily basis - is not a real threat for us on college and university campuses here in North America. Still, the message here is stay alert, for you never know when you might be called on to share your testimony of what Christ has done for you. Two examples come to mind from my own experience. One time while serving as a chaplain at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, our ACF group had established a strong relationship with the International House on campus. On Wednesday evenings we helped host an International meal at the I-House and students would join us from many different countries to share a meal and talk about life and culture from their unique part of the world. In developing this ministry we became acquainted with the I-House director and learned that she was a Christian. One day because of our relationship she opened up and requested prayer about her husband who was facing some tough health issues. It was a great privilege to be able to minister that day not only to students but to university staff because of our presence on campus. On another occasion at the University of California, Berkeley campus On both of these occasions I was in a position of bearing witness to Christ in representing the concerns of others. Jesus reminds us - "Beware" or stay alert! Stay alert for opportunities to stand up for Christ and his kingdom. Standing before governors or, as in our case, college administration because of our relationship to Christ is the kind of thing that Paul actually prayed for. Be alert because we never know who is listening or watching and God can speak through us to bear witness for Him.

News & Events

1. ACF INSTITUTE 2012 Campus Ministry Training: Fifteen participants from across North America gathered in Riverside, CA for the first North American
Division-wide public campus ministry training, July 22 - August 3. Participants shared how helpful the training was and were overjoyed at the strong turnout for the campus outreach event at UC Riverside where up to 70 students signed up to learn more about ACF and expressed interest in joining an ACF group on their. To see a full report go to: [ACF I 2012](#). We are already planning for ACF INSTITUTE 2013. Plans are also in the making for an ACF INSTITUTE 2013 Australia. Watch for upcoming announcements and help us prepare more students and church leaders for an Adventist mission on today's college and university campus by signing up for ACF I 2013.

2. **The Next Chapter - Florida Conference Campus Ministry Retreat:** A fall campus ministry conference/retreat is scheduled for August - September 3 for students on public college campuses in the Florida Conference. For more information go to: [Next Chapter](#).

3. **Tallahassee Campus Ministry Conference:** September 14-15, Tallahassee, Florida. Elder James Black will be the featured speaker.

4. **180 CYE Symposium on Youth & Young Adult Ministry:** October 16-18 on the Andrews University campus is an annual gathering of scholars, practitioners and administrators to discuss important topics related to youth and young adult ministry. This year's topic will identify Adventist congregations that attract and retain youth and young adults. For more information visit [180](#).

5. **Ultimate Purpose Seminar October 10-13:** Southern Adventist University will be hosting Pastor Doug Batchelor from Amazing Facts ministry who will be speaking to students on topics like: *What Is Truth, How Did We Get Here, Why Is There evil and Where Am I Going?* For more information go to: [GYCSE](#).

6. **"Gear Up":** California Conference Youth Ministry Convention, October 18-20, Ontario Convention Center. A workshop in public campus ministry will be offered by Ron Pickell, ACF/NAD Volunteer Coordinator entitled "Loving God On Campus: Thriving Spiritually On Today's Secular Campus." For more information check out: [Gear Up](#).

7. **Campus Catalyst Campus Ministry Training:** Arizona Conference is sponsoring a campus ministry training weekend - November 9-11. This training will focus on launching new ACF campus ministry chapters and sustaining those already in existence. For more information email us at: [Campus Catalyst](#).

8. **E. L. Minchen Reason Symposium, November 13-15:** Andrews University Campus. This is a new symposium addressing contemporary issues challenging youth and young adults today. This year's topic is "Missional Youth" For more information contact chaplain Timothy Nixon at: [ELMR Symposium](#).

9. **Adventist "Mission To The Cities" NY13 Evangelism Project:** Church leaders in Spring mission planning meetings of the church selected 24 cities around the world to target with major evangelistic effort for sharing the gospel and outreach efforts of the Adventist church in 2012. What are the implications for this outreach effort for college and university campuses in this broad initiative of the church? How can we take seriously an outreach to these cities without a well-planned effort for reaching students gathered from all over the world on these campuses? To learn more about the churches Mission To The Cities go to: [NY13](#). To learn about the mission to New York go to: [Take Gift NY](#). To join the discussion on how to involve campus ministry in the Mission To The Cities Campaign go to: [ACF/NAD](#).

10. **Cruise With A Mission: (December 9-16, 2012):** Looking for a young-adult mission trip? Need some spiritual renewal? How about a one week vacation on a cruise ship? Try something different! Check out Cruise With A Mission, Dec. 9-16, 2012. Ports include Jamaica, Grand Cayman, Honduras and the Bahamas. To learn more about the 2012 CWM or to register go to: [CWM 2012](#).

11. **Urbanna 2012 Student Mission Conference (December 27-31):** The International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES) sponsors a student world missions conference every three years at St. Louis, MO bringing together the best in Christian speakers on campus and world missions encouraging students to reach out to their world in Jesus name. Urbanna brings together thousands of students from around the world and connects them to mission agencies for short and long term mission opportunities. Urbanna is a great event to inspire students to reach their campus for Christ. For more info go to: [Urbanna 2012](#).

12. **GYC 2012: (December 28 - January 1):** Go to [GYC](#) to learn more and register for the 2012 college and young adult GYC Conference in Seattle, WA.

13. **Lake Union Conferance Youth Congress Jesus - All Or Nothing for senior**
youth/young adults offering specialized training in Public Campus Ministry, Chicago, IL, (Feb 8-10 -2013). More information contact PastorRon@andrews.edu or register at Youth Congress.

14. the One project 2013: February 11 & 12, Chicago, IL. Celebrating the supremacy of Jesus in the Adventist church. Undergraduate student and group discounts are available. For more info contact Japhet De Oliveira or go to: the1project.org

15. InSpire 2013: (April 27, 28) InSpire is a web community where Seventh-day Adventist members gifted in and passionate about the creative arts can share their ideas and creations in a collaborative way. Songwriting, drawing, painting, photography, sculpture, poetry and more can be used in powerful ways to convey God's message of hope and healing to our churches and surrounding cultural environments. This website, by Pacific Union Conference Church Support Services, represents an intentional effort to stimulate dialog and creative engagement in mission among Adventist artists. Visit inSpire.

16. 2013 ECHO Conference: July 24-26, Dallas, TX. For those new to the Echo Conference - Echo is a three-day gathering of artists, geeks and storytellers serving the church. Join Echo participants for inspiration, education, connection and worship. More info: ECHO

17. Impact South Africa 2013: This event is sponsored by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventist's Youth/Young Adult Department as a world conference on youth and community services. Join us in South Africa bringing together world leaders of the Seventh-day Adventist church to focus on community service needs and harnessing the resources of our youth. For more information and additional news about GC world youth/young adult ministries go to: GC YOUTH

Resources

1. ACFLINK.ORG WEB SITE: ACFLINK.ORG is the best way for staying connected with Adventist ministry on non-Adventist college and university campuses. Another great connecting point is: ACF on Facebook at ACF North America.

2. ACF/NAD BLOG: Check out the new ACF/NAD Campus Ministry Blog for continuous campus ministry news and information. Check us out and follow us at: ACF BLOG

3. Campus Ministry Quick Start Guide: Check out the new Quick Start Guide for campus ministry at AdventSource. Quick Start guides are now downloadable from the ARC Campus Ministry Resources Web Site by going to: ARC

4. Revising and updating Campus Ministry Resources: We are in the process of revising and improving Adventist Christian Fellowship (ACF) materials and would love to have your input. If you have read, examined or used any of the following materials for teaching others, please click on ACF Resources and complete the survey. Resources being revised include: "Word On Campus: A Guide To Public College Ministry," "Word In Action Workbook Series," "Quick Start Guide To Public College Ministry." For any specific suggestions or additions to add to the curriculum please contact Kirk King @ Kirk

5. CRAVE Campus Outreach: CRAVE is a new approach to campus evangelism being pioneered by Jeff Tatarchuck (SECC Youth Conference Evangelist) and Marquis Johns (Youth Pastor, NY) utilizing very traditional evangelistic methods with a non-traditional message of setting up a tent on campus and preaching to students about their deepest cravings and our cravings can lead us to God, the only one who can fill our deepest needs. This traditional approach with a new relvent message has had huge success uniting campus ministry groups and introducing students to the message of Christ and his saving love. We are very excited about the prospects for CRAVE and are even now working on pre campus evangelism package and follow up materials that will introdue students to small group Bible studies and a Christian community on campus. To see more check out the CRAVE TOUR Video of Cal State San Marcos from fall of 2011: CRAVE

6. SSRC Guide: Religious Engagement Among American Undergraduates: Recent studies of college students' attitude toward religion suggest that the academy is no longer the bastion of secularism it was once assumed to be. These studies further reveal that the spiritual landscape on today's college campuses is virtually unrecognizable from what we have seen in the past.
To help make sense of these changes, the SSRC offers this online guide derived from a series of essays commissioned from leading authorities in the field of higher education. Go to SSRC GUIDE to read more.

7. **Creation/Evolution Debate in Public Schools**: Check out *The Revisiononaries* a new documentary on state standards of education concerning the creation/evolution debate in the Texas school system. Go to *The Revisiononaries* for a view of the movie trailer.

8. **Tools and Resources For College Student Bible Study**: If you're looking for some good resources on college student bible studies and topics for Friday night meetings - go to InterVarsity's *Ministry Exchange* where you can find loads of topics and bible study discussion ideas for student related questions and issues.

9. **Dream Church**: Looking for the dream church where you can belong and plug into? Check out Dr. Joe Kidder's great article on a Jesus Centered life that leads to a dream church community. To read more go to: *Dream Church*

10. **Attention College Age Young Adults**, if you are ready to take a break from the classroom, without interrupting the process of preparing for life as a responsible adult, join Traverse for a summer adventure or a full gap year experience. Warning: You will be exposed to ADVENTURE • TRAVEL • SERVICE • FAITH! Learn more at traverse

11. **"Living It" Public High School Ministry**: Check out the new web-based Discipleship Resource Center for public high school ministry at Living It. Here you can find resources for: visiting high school students in their world--including on campus, nurturing your personal spirituality, sharing devotional experiences, creating outreach ideas, along with resources for dealing with teenage at-risk behaviors. The site also features video testimonies from high school students and leaders about how they have been used by God to reach their world. You can also download the latest issue of the Living It bi-monthly newsletter by going to: LINL or join the group on Facebook at: "Living It FB"

12. **Are You Man Enough?**: August 2011 of Boundless Webzine published Joshua Rogers, "Are You Man Enough To Love A Woman?" where Rogers challeneges men on who to date and the myth of finding the "perfect" woman. Read more: Dating

13. **Why Jesus?** Check out Ravi Zacharias' recent book *Why Jesus: Rediscovering His Truth In An Age Of Mass Marked Spirituality*. In this new book Dr. Zacharias helps guide between fact and fiction about the more New Age Jesus of the Celestine Prophecies and Dan Brown's popularized Davinci Code. For more info go to: WHY JESUS?

14. **A Place For Christian Refugees**: In a recent issue of Neue Magazine, blogger Jared Byas talks about the new Christian wrestling with so many questions from a skeptical culture that a place is needed for people to air their doubts and talk about living their faith amid competing values. This raises the question if our churches and campus groups are safe places for students to raise questions about living for Jesus on or off campus? For more info check out Refugee

15. **Veritas Forum; The Veritas Rif Podcast** continues to provide relevant, insightful commentary on today’s most pressing issues. Check out one of the latest in the series of campus talks on "Why Health Care Reform Needs Spiritual Reform" by Dr. Ray Barfield of Duke University. Check it out at Veritas

16. **Does Our Faith Make A Difference?** For a great article on the influence we can have in life and over others check out this great article on Yes You Can Make A Difference by Reinder Bruinsma. The encouragement he shares will encourage us in living our faith on campus as in all of life. Check out: Difference

17. **Daniel Challenge**: Looking for a great campus outreach program on your campus? Do you long for your campus group to move beyond nurture and fellowship and into reaching their campus for Christ? The Daniel Challenge from the Be Hive is a program of ten lifestyle principles based on the Old Testament prophet Daniel who challenged his Babylonian overseer that he would be ten times stronger if he was allowed to not “defile himself from the kings table”. In the Daniel Challenge participants are challenged to adopt ten lifestyle principles of better health that will improve well being while potentially boosting their GPA over the semester. This could be a great way of involving students in communicating the gospel on campus through Adventist lifestyle. For more information go to: Daniel Challenge

18. **Christian University Classes On Line.** Check out classes and course work for Christian beliefs at Christian University GlobalNet is a fully
online Christian university, enabling to work at your own pace and from your own home, church, office or any other location equipped with internet access! Our courses are also fully available on Web-based smart phones and other mobile devices, making CUGN an educational institution with a curriculum that is fully mobile-compatible. We currently offer three on line academic programs: certificate in Bible (16 credits), Diploma in Biblical Studies (36 credits), Master Of Arts In Religion Degree (60 credits). Next term begins April 11. First on line class is free!

19. Can We Talk? is a helpful article on conversation ideas between Christian’s and Atheist’s. Check it out at: Talk

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**Cultural Trends**

1. **The Generation Gap and the 2012 Election:** According to PEW research group, in the last four national elections, generational differences have mattered more than they have in decades. To read more click on GAP

2. **49% - Hard Economic Times for Young Adults:** Many young adults have felt the impact of the recession and the economy's sluggish recovery in tangible ways. Just under half (49%) of adults ages 18 to 34 say that because of economic conditions over the past few years, they have taken a job they didn't want in order to pay the bills. More than a third (35%) say they have gone back to school because of the bad economy. And, one-in-four (24%) say they have taken an unpaid job to gain work experience. Read more

3. **One Voice About Our Whole Humanity:** Adventist consensus on what it means to be human by the Third International Bible Conference, Jerusalem, Israel, June 20, 2012. To read a synopsis of what the church has come to consensus on the meaning of being human go to: HUMAN

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**Transitions**

- **Montana Sate University:** The Montana SDA Conference recently created a new position for public campus ministry and hired Alan Newbold to serve as a campus chaplain at Montana State University in Bozeman. Welcome, Alan, to the new and wonderful world of secular campus ministry.

- **Campus Ministry In New York City:** The Greater New York Conference just created a new campus ministry position for campus ministry in New York City college and universities by hiring Ruben Sanchez a graduate student of NYU in Religious Studies and Journalism. This is an important step for what has become a growing Adventist ministry among students in the largest city of the U. S. Welcome, Ruben, and we pray for your efforts this year in helping establish campus ministry in New York.

- **Arizona Conference Young Adult and Campus Ministries:** The Arizona conference just created a
4. **Atheism On The Rise In The US**: According to a new poll taken by the *Global Index of Religiosity and Atheism*, religiosity is in decline in America while atheism is on the rise. Read more at: [Atheism](#)

5. **England's Atheists To Outnumber Christians In The Next 20 Years**: Christianity is waning in England and could be outnumbered by nonbelievers within 20 years, according to a new study. For more info go to: [Atheism](#)

6. **Pope Warns Against American Secularism**: Check out the article in the *Adventist Review* about a recent address given by Pope Benedict XVI to American bishops about the secularization of America and its negative affect on the Christian faith. Go to: [Secularization](#)

7. **Pope Warns Catholic Colleges On Fidelity To Church Doctrine**: Pope Benedict XVI on May 5 called on Catholic colleges and universities in the U.S. to do more to affirm their "Catholic identity," particularly by ensuring the doctrinal orthodoxy of their faculty and staff. To read more go to: [Doctrine](#)

8. **Recent Methodist Decision On Homosexuality and Christian Teaching**: Despite emotional protests and fierce lobbying from gay rights groups, United Methodists voted on May 2 to maintain their denomination's stance that homosexual acts are "incompatible with Christian teaching." To Read More Go To: [Methodist's](#)

9. **Changing Views of Gay Marriage: A Deeper Analysis**: President Obama's recent expression of support for same-sex marriage has highlighted long-term changes in opinion on the issue. Combining data from a number of surveys makes it possible to track changes in opinion among smaller groups in the population -- including younger and older people across racial, ethnic, partisan and religious groups. Read more

10. **Seventh-Gay-Adventist Documentary**: This film documents the life and struggle of three Seventh-day Adventist families in their life journey as gay Seventh-day Adventist. Form info: [GaySDA](#)

11. **Sorting Through The Gay SDA Issues**: Check out point and counterpoint discussion on the issue of gay's and the SDA church as first Andy Nash contributing editor for the Adventist Review discusses the Seventh-Gay Adventist Documentary: [Adventist Review](#) Then take a look at the Spectrum magazine blog by Steve Moran and their take on the same subject at: [Spectrum](#)

12. **Why American Churches Are Loosing The Less Educated**: A new study reports that white Americans without college degrees are dropping out of new position for young adult ministry in the Arizona conference by hiring Benjamin Lundquist to serve as the Young Adult and Campus Ministry Director for the Arizona Conference. Benjamin will have his hands full as Arizona State University at Tempe boasts the largest university campus in the US with close to a 90,000 student population. We welcome Benjamin who is wearing a couple hats in his new position as well as one of our new Volunteer Coordinators for Young Adult Ministry in the North American Division.

**Minnesota Campus Ministries**: The Minnesota Conference recently created a part time position for young adult and campus ministries by hiring Anna Romuald to serve in this capacity. Anna will be serving under the Minnesota Youth Ministry Director, Jeff Wines. We welcome Anna to her new position and look forward to the growth of young adult/campus ministries in Minnesota under her leadership.

**Florida Conference Campus Ministries**: The Florida Conference has committed to hire one new campus chaplain in 2013 and is now in the process of gathering names for a long list for this new position. We celebrate and congratulate the Florida Conference in the development of this new position. FOR inquires about Florida Campus Ministries please email Youth Director Pedro Perez at: [Florida Campus Ministries](#).
church faster than their higher educated counterparts has many possible explanations. To read more click here

13. **Boomerang Generation: Feeling OK about Living with Mom and Dad?** Most young adults living with their parents do not see a stigma in that arrangement. More than three-quarters of them say they are satisfied with their living situation and upbeat about their financial futures, in part, perhaps, because it has become such a widespread phenomenon. Read more

14. **College Viewed Positively, But Conservatives Express Doubts:** According to a recent survey conducted by Pew Research most Americans believe that college has a positive effect on the way things are going in the country. Still some Conservatives are in doubt. To read more go to College

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**Campus Ministry Training**

ACF Mission Year is a 10 month task force campus missions program where students learn how to practice and share their faith on a non-Adventist campus while helping others maintain their faith. Take a few classes, make friends, participate in Bible studies and engage in campus outreach through ACF Mission Year.

ACF Institute is a two week concentrated introduction to campus outreach. ACFI prepares students to win students for Christ, learn about friendship evangelism, on-campus witness and Christian apologetics. This year’s ACF-I was a huge success as participants learned helpful campus ministry tools and were instrumental in helping gather names for a new ACF group at UC Riverside campus. Watch for information about ACFI 2013. For more info about ACF Mission Year or ACF Institute go to ACF. You can also find us Face Book at: ACF-I.

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**Sharing ACF TODAY**

Please forward ACF TODAY to all who can benefit. If you would like to add someone to the ACF TODAY mailing list, please send their address to: info@acflink.org or add them yourself from the Mail Chimp link.

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*All For Christ and Campus*

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