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REACH THE WORLD

Total Member Involvement
Over the next five years, Adventist World will offer features related to three worldwide emphases of the Seventh-day Adventist Church: Christ Our Righteousness, Faithfulness, and Total Member Involvement. This logo, which will appear occasionally, indicates one emphasis in our desire to share our message and reach the world for Christ.
The Power of One


We are accustomed to thinking of our lives by our connections with so many larger groups, for this is how we are socialized in almost every culture. From birth we learn our identity as a citizen of a particular country, related to millions by our genetic heritage in a people group. We speak a language in common with many others. Sometimes we even “inherit” loyalties to political philosophies or sports teams.

This is by no means bad or wrong. Our connections with so many groups help us understand our place in the world, and provide us support when daily life feels overwhelming or we feel isolated. Certainly Jesus intended that we draw love and encouragement from the fellowship for which He gave His life—the gathered church that meets for worship, warmth, and witness.

But those group identities sometimes lead us to not hear the uniqueness of Jesus’ call to each of us as individuals to join in His great mission to reach those who still don’t know Him. When Jesus addressed His disciples with the Great Commission—“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations” (Matt. 28:19)—He wasn’t speaking only to the 12 or the 70 or the hundreds who saw Him after His resurrection. Nor was He speaking to them only as a group.

His call to make disciples is still the duty and the privilege of every believer who takes the name of Christ. Even 20 centuries later Jesus intended we hear it and respond in highly personal terms—where we work, in our play, with family and friends, when we mingle in crowds.

This special edition of Adventist World, the third of three introducing the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s major themes for this five-year span, invites you to find that arena of your life in which Jesus is calling you as an individual to be a servant, a witness, a helper, or a friend.

As you read, allow the Spirit unusual room to prompt and nudge and move you.

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WORLD REPORT

By Andrew McChesney

Vegan Diet Cuts Risk of Prostate Cancer

Loma Linda University Health releases new study.

Men who follow a vegan diet are a third less likely to develop prostate cancer, according to a new study by Loma Linda University Health. The study, published in the January 2016 issue of the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, saw a reduced risk in both White and possibly Black males who adhered to a vegan diet without meat, dairy, and eggs.

“If you are already a vegan male, be thankful that you will have a lower risk of prostate cancer,” said Dr. Gary Fraser, director of the study. “If you are not vegan, be aware that the lacto-ovo diet and the pesco-vegetarian diet did not give evidence of protection when compared to non-vegetarian Adventists.”

The study—a new analysis of 26,346 men who participated in the landmark Adventist Health Study-2—examined the association...
between prostate cancer and the diets of men who ate meat (nonvegetarians), some meat (semi-vegetarians), dairy and eggs but no meat (lacto-ovo vegetarians), only fish (pesco-vegetarians), and no animal products (vegans).

Vegans differ from other dietary groups by consuming more fruit, vegetables, nuts, and soy. The other major difference is their nonuse of dairy and eggs.

“It would be reasonable to consider minimizing use of dairy products and maximizing fruit, vegetables, nuts, and soy—particularly if there is a family history of prostate cancer,” Fraser said. But, he cautioned, “this message about dairy is at the present time a logical deduction rather than a tested result.”

He said his team planned to soon put this message to the test directly and report on it.

Prostate cancer is the second most common cancer among men, accounting for 27 percent of all cancer cases among men, according to the American Cancer Society.

But male subjects in the Adventist study experienced about one-third lower incidence of prostate cancer if they were vegan, said Loma Linda University Health, a Seventh-day Adventist institution located in southern California.

“In total, 1,079 incident prostate cancer cases were identified. Around 8 percent of the study population reported adherence to the vegan diet. Vegan diets showed a statistically significant protective association with prostate cancer risk,” said an abstract of the study in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition. The precise relation between diet and prostate cancer is unclear.

“But other recent studies have found a link between meat and cancer. An analysis from Adventist Health Study-2 published in the journal JAMA Internal Medicine in March 2015 showed that a vegetarian diet might reduce a person’s risk of colorectal cancer by 22 percent. Previous work from Adventist Health Study-1 linked meat consumption to a higher risk of colorectal cancer.

The World Health Organization made international headlines last fall when it declared red meat and processed meat to be a cancer hazard.

Dr. Peter N. Landless, director of the Health Ministries Department of the Adventist world church, said the outcome of the latest study was not surprising.

“There is robust evidence supporting the many benefits of a balanced plant-based/vegetarian diet,” Landless said in a statement. “It is interesting and exciting to see different protective properties of different diets, even among the various sub-named vegetarian diets (total vegetarian or vegan, lacto-ovo vegetarian, and pesco-vegetarian).

“We see statistically significant protection against prostate cancer in the white vegan group of the AHS-2, with a nonsignificant trend among Black vegans, and wrestle with the protective benefit of dairy consumption regarding colorectal cancer. The epidemiologists and statisticians are facing almost as many questions as answers that are generated by various studies. There is no doubt that a meat-free diet is healthier than one that includes meat. We have long recommended that dairy products should be used sparingly and as a condiment, as it were."

Landless even posed the logical question that many might expect: “Why would we not just recommend a total vegetarian diet for all?”

“Human beings are dependent on dietary sources of vitamin B12 in many parts of the world. Dairy is the only source of this essential vitamin for the vegetarian,” Landless said. “Where vitamin B12 is readily and affordably available, where adequate B12 fortification of dairy equivalents is practiced, the total vegetarian diet is very healthy. I strongly urge that all categories of vegetarian supplement their B12 intake, even more intentionally as they grow older, as B12 absorption processes slow down. The current study is a North American-based study; although the results are able to be extrapolated to a global population (White and Black males, as specified above), the socioeconomic circumstances cannot.

Landless summed up his response to Loma Linda University’s new report, saying: “As far as a general recommendation is concerned, we believe it safe and healthy to consume a balanced (supplemented), vegan diet; we urge those who consume dairy products to do so sparingly and use low- or no-fat preparations. We underscore that a balanced, plant-based diet is optimal. We strongly encourage supplementation of vitamin B12 as outlined above. These recommendations hold true for men and women. We keenly await more answers as the research unfolds.”
Leonardo R. Asoy, president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Southern Asia-Pacific Division (SSD), died after a months-long struggle with a rare bone marrow disease. He was 56.

Asoy was elected SSD president at the General Conference session in San Antonio, Texas, in July 2015, replacing the ailing Alberto C. Gulfan, Jr., who died of cancer on September 26, 2015.

Asoy, who was hospitalized about two months after the General Conference session, died on January 12, 2016, at the Adventist Medical Center Manila, Philippines, from complications resulting from myelodysplastic syndrome, a rare disease in which the bone marrow is unable to produce adequate healthy blood cells.

Ted N. C. Wilson, president of the Adventist world church, called Asoy “a dynamic promoter and supporter of evangelism.”

“He was a valiant guardian of the eternal truths of Scripture and the marvelous Advent movement: God has entrusted into the hands of Seventh-day Adventists,” Wilson said.

He offered condolences to Asoy’s wife, Elma, and two adult children, Elnardz and Shawnette.

SSD’s executive secretary, Saw Samuel, has been appointed acting president until a new president is elected, in accordance with the General Conference’s Working Policy.

Leonardo Remulta Asoy was born on November 18, 1959, in Mindanao in southern Philippines, and graduated from the Adventist-owned Mountain View College in 1983 with a degree in theology. He first worked as a district pastor in Ozamis City in the church’s Western Mindanao Conference and later as its youth director from 1988 to 1990.

In 1990 he earned a master’s degree in pastoral studies from the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIIAS) in Cavite, Philippines. Whatever knowledge Asoy gained from his Adventist education, he returned hundredfold, friends said.

Leonardo R. Asoy, president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Southern Asia-Pacific Division.

Felixian T. Felicitas, dean of the School of Theology at Mountain View College, recalled traveling with Asoy on numerous evangelism outings early in their 15-year friendship.

“On most of our trips, Pastor Asoy would turn our long travels into mentoring sessions,” Felicitas said.

“At times he would park his blue pickup truck and we would sit in the back, resting. He would simply share his ministry experiences with me. Little did I know that this was his own little way of teaching and mentoring me.”

Asoy served as president of the South Philippine Union Conference from 2011 until last year, turning it into one of the best-managed unions in the Adventist Church, said G. T. Ng, executive secretary of the Adventist world church and a friend of Asoy for more than two decades.

Ng said he would long remember the one day that Asoy briefly left the hospital to attend the opening of the Southern Asia-Pacific Division’s year-end meetings on November 6. Asoy had been confined to his hospital room for 47 days, but he made it a point to be discharged from the hospital in time to attend the morning worship of the opening session.

“He spoke with resounding gusto, saying how grateful he was to be present in the midst of fellow leaders from the unions,” Ng said. “He was fully committed to the Lord and to the full restoration of health.”

Ng described Asoy’s life as “a celebration of piety, humility, zeal, and unflinching courage.” “Like the apostle Paul, he could say, ‘This one thing I do,’ in his lifelong commitment to the mission of the church,” he said. “Here is a valiant soldier of Christ waiting to see his Master face to face soon.”
My Straight A’s Friend,  
Bob Folkenberg

By Jim Gilley, evangelist and former 3ABN president

It was a strange place to begin a friendship.

Bob Folkenberg and I were very nervous as we stood in line waiting for our final grades before graduation from Andrews University in 1962. Bob shared with me his reason for concern. “I’ve made straight As on every report card since the first grade. But I am concerned about this last report card, because I may have slipped to a B in Greek II with Blazen,” he said, referring to Ivan Blazen, the professor of Greek and New Testament.

I shook my head in mock sympathy. I also was worried, but my concern was whether or not I had passed Greek I. All I needed was a passing grade.

When Bob received his grade, he jumped, nearly hitting the ceiling, and shouted, “Whoopee, an A!” Then he ran down the hall.

Wow, well done! I thought. Straight A’s since first grade!

Bob was long gone when I received my grade and erupted in similar celebration, announcing “Whoopee, a D!” with even more exuberance.

We went on to graduate that weekend, Bob with honors, and I—just barely! Both of us were eagerly looking forward to embracing the work which the Lord had given us a love for: sharing Jesus with the lost.

A Heart for Evangelism

The next thing I knew, Bob was the singing evangelist for the Roger Holley evangelistic team in the Columbia Union. And because no one else would take the job, they made me the Southern New England Conference evangelist.

Bob learned evangelism from Roger Holley, a man who had studied at the feet of Fordyce Detamore, who knew more than anyone about the “science of soul winning,” as the pen of inspiration calls it. And Bob learned it well during his two years with the team from 1964 to 1966. When he left Pastor Holley to accept a call to the Inter-American Division, the practical knowledge God had blessed him with proved key to the unprecedented growth of that division.

“Thousands were baptized because Bob had the faith to hold big meetings for the Lord,” evangelist Kenneth Cox told me.

Cox, working with evangelist Benny Moore, held evangelistic meetings with Bob in Panama, Costa Rica, and Guatemala. “Anytime we had an opening, Bob would ask for our team to come,” recalled Moore.

Bob served as evangelist for the Panama Conference, then as president of the Honduras Mission and president of the Central American Union. Soon he was elected assistant to the president of the Inter-American Division, where his emphasis was on evangelism.

In 1985 Bob returned to the United States with his wife, Anita, and two children, Bob, Jr., and Kathi, to serve as president of the Carolina Conference.

The Carolina Conference soon led the Southern Union and North America in soul winning. Bob often called me, and we would discuss some new soul-winning idea that he had, always on the cutting edge of technology. I was amazed at his great personal energy and his total commitment to spreading the gospel.

A Miracle at the 1990 General Conference Session

In 1990 I was chosen as a delegate to the General Conference session in Indianapolis, Indiana. When I arrived at the airport, I saw Richard Barron, a great youth leader who had also served as a conference president, and he said to me, “Gilley, there’s change in the air.”

He was so correct. I soon saw what he meant.

Only three people were chosen
from the Southwestern Union Conference delegation to participate in the Nominating Committee, and miraculously I was one of them. Initially Bob was not chosen to represent the Southern Union Conference. But one of those selected to serve declined, and Bob was picked as the replacement—another miracle.

When the Nominating Committee was organized, Bob was quickly elected as chair, to the surprise of everyone. We immediately saw his strength with that committee, and it suddenly occurred to me that he could be nominated to the office of General Conference president.

I pointed this out to several people, and the next morning I told Bob that I thought that he would be asked to be president before the day was over. He looked at me as if stunned and said, "Jim, you're the second person to tell me that this morning."

But things didn't go that way. The Nominating Committee ended up choosing George Brown, president of the Inter-American Division, as General Conference president. However, Brown declined the position after a time of prayerful consideration and because of his concerns about his wife's health at the time.

When we reconvened, Charles Dudley arose and nominated Robert S. Folkenberg, Sr. Delegates on the floor elected Bob, and at the age of 49 he began his presidency at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Bob hit the ground running, putting Global Mission into action worldwide and adopting the suggestion of then-Lake Union Conference president Don Schneider and his committee to launch World Wide satellite evangelism in partnership with the Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN). The Seventh-day Adventist Church entered a time of great growth, with Bob leading the way in opening evangelism in the former Soviet Union and parts of the world known as the 10/40 window.

Problems arose during Bob's second term of office, and he decided to resign in 1999. It was a dark time of his life. But the Lord still had much work for him to do.

**Greatest Ministry Comes After GC**

Bob returned to the Carolina Conference, where Ken Coonley, who had served as executive secretary during Bob's presidency there, was now president. Bob began a project he called Global Evangelism but later changed to ShareHim, which organized lay members and youth to hold evangelistic meetings all over the world. ShareHim is owned and operated by the church as a department of the Carolina Conference, but is funded exclusively through direct donations.

The other day I contacted Benny Moore, who joined ShareHim after retiring from denominational work, to ask about the results of ShareHim under Bob's leadership for the past 10 years. Not all totals are known but ShareHim conducted almost 6,000 evangelistic series resulting in 300,000 baptisms in the 11 years from 2000 to 2011. An average of 50 people were baptized per series.

On December 24, 2015, Bob went to sleep in Jesus after a long struggle with cancer. When Bob, Jr., called to tell me, I was driving with my son, John, in my pickup. I stopped the truck and reflected on Bob's life. I thought back to Andrews University and standing in line for our grades. One day we will once again stand in line, and Bob will hear the words "Well done, thou good and faithful servant!" Bob may have worried that he had slipped to a B, but once again I believe he made an A.
In 1996 university professor Thomas J. Stanley and his former student, William D. Danko published a book entitled *The Millionaire Next Door*. Their research-based work has sold more than 3 million copies and has become a classic on finances.

In their book the authors explain that most truly wealthy people don’t live the way the rich are portrayed on television or in films: in big houses, driving fancy cars, dressed in expensive clothing. Instead, the truly rich live much more frugally, work hard, live in ordinary houses, and don’t continually give money to their adult children. It’s possible, they say, that people living next door to a millionaire may be unaware how wealthy their neighbor actually is.

**Spiritually Rich**

But what about those who are spiritually wealthy? What about those who are sons and daughters of the King of the universe, the one who owns “the cattle on a thousand hills” (Ps. 50:10)? What about those who “have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God and not of us” (2 Cor. 4:7)?

Could it be that those with whom we come in contact, those living beside us, are unaware of the spiritual treasures God has bestowed upon His people for these last days to share this eternal wealth with others?

**A Weighty Responsibility**

“We have a message from the Lord to bear to the world, a message that is to be borne in the rich fullness of the Spirit’s power,” wrote Ellen White.1 “Upon us rests the weighty responsibility of warning the world of its coming doom. From every direction, from far and near, are coming calls for help. God calls upon His church to arise and clothe herself with power. Immortal crowns are to be won; the kingdom of heaven is to be gained; the world, perishing in ignorance, is to be enlightened.”

Jesus challenged His disciples, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few” (Matt. 9:37). James admonishes believers to be “[doers] of the work” (James 1:25). Jesus Himself said, “I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work” (John 9:4).

**A Challenge**

I challenge you to become involved in the daily mission of the church far more than you ever have before. Pastors and lay members, young and old, are to work together in soul winning. We are counting on you! God is counting on you! Evangelism is the lifeblood of the church. All of us are to be involved in it—through personal witnessing, small group evangelism, or public evangelism in its various forms—even if you think it won’t work in your area. Adapt your methods, but reach out. Do something for Jesus! Every effort under God’s guidance to reach the hearts of people will bear fruit. Let the Holy Spirit revolutionize your thinking. Take the church’s mission of outreach into your hands on a daily basis, working closely with church leaders and pastors. Let it be total participation, no one left out, everyone a missionary.

**You Are God’s Messenger**

You don’t need to be a minister in order to win people to Christ. Ellen White wrote: “Every one who names the name of Christ is expected by God to engage in this work. The hands of ordination may not have been laid upon you, but you are none the less God’s messengers. If you have tasted that the Lord is gracious, if you know His saving power, you can no more keep from telling this to someone else than you can keep the wind from blowing. You will have a word in season for him that is weary. You will
guide the feet of the straying back to the fold. Your efforts to help others will be untiring, because God’s Spirit is working in you.”

Let’s do something for Jesus and for others. Rather than look inward and criticize the local church and its activities, reach out to others for Christ, and don’t let anyone tell you that you aren’t needed. Work closely with your pastor, local church, and conference. The Holy Spirit will empower you as heaven’s messenger to your neighborhood. As you work with Him revival and reformation will become something very personal and real.

That marvelous volume, Testimonies for the Church, volume 9, tells about our special work in Total Member Involvement. Note these urgent reminders:

“The most solemn truths ever entrusted to mortals have been given to us to proclaim to the world.”

“Let us remember that a Christlike life is the most powerful argument that can be advanced in favor of Christianity. . . . Men will believe, not what the minister preaches, but what the church lives.”

“Christ’s work is to be our example. . . . His life was one of unselfish service, and it is to be our lesson book.”

“If every church member were a living missionary, the gospel would speedily be proclaimed in all countries, to all peoples, nations, and tongues.”

“God’s people are to be so earnest and faithful in their work for Him that all selfishness will be separated from their lives. His workers will then see eye to eye, and the arm of the Lord, the power of which was seen in the life of Christ, will be revealed. Confidence will be restored, and there will be unity in the churches throughout our ranks.”

“It is not learned, eloquent speakers that are needed now, but humble, Christlike men and women, who have learned from Jesus of Nazareth to be meek and lowly, and who, trusting in His strength, will go forth into the highways and hedges to give the invitation: ‘Come; for all things are now ready.’”

A Mighty Example

Andressa became a mighty example of Total Member Involvement at the age of 13. Her first contact with the Adventist Church was through her grandmother and a small Bible study group. She enjoyed it so much she decided to start a small group herself. “But first,” she said, “I need to get baptized [and] give my life to Jesus so the children that I’ll teach will also follow my example.” Andressa was baptized, and the very next Thursday she started her small group. The number of children coming to her Bible study continued to grow rapidly, up to 45!

There were so many that Andressa encouraged the group to split into smaller groups. One young person said, “Andressa showed me I could create my own small group. . . . Everybody should create a small group; it’s an extension of the church. It’s an extension from God.”

In addition to her small group ministry, Andressa was involved in many more outreach activities. In a video interview she described her week:

“On Sundays I go to the radio station and start with a devotional. There’s a segment for children, where I tell Bible stories. On Mondays I go to school, and in the afternoon we do a lot of missionary work. On Tuesdays I visit the nursing home. We sing, play, and pray. Some of the people there are lonely, and sometimes they open up to us. On Wednesdays [a group] meets at my house to make crafts that we can sell, and that’s good, because the people in this group don’t have a lot of money. On Thursdays in the afternoon I preach to the children in my home. In the evening we go to homes of some of the church members and play music for them. On Fridays [I have] a small intercessory prayer group. Intercessory prayer is really interesting because a lot of prayer requests are answered. Prayer is powerful. On Sabbaths I wake up earlier and invite some children to go to the church with me. This is what my week is like!”

Andressa is certainly an example of Total Member Involvement! Her schedule might intimidate many adults. Despite her age, it would seem as if she’s done more than people who are older. “Jesus is coming,” Andressa said. “He is showing us the signs. The prophecies—they are being fulfilled. If we do not do our part now, maybe tomorrow time will run out.”

Time Is Running Out

Sadly, time did run out for Andressa. One Sabbath morning when she was going to preach at her church, the car she was riding in collided with a truck. Four women died, including Andressa, who was 14 years old. She accomplished a lot in her short life. More than 100 people were baptized because of her witness, and countless others continue to be inspired by her example. What about you? Are you willing to be totally involved for Jesus? Are you ready to share the treasure you have? As we see the end of time approaching, let’s renew our efforts to
be involved in all that God intends for His remnant church: every member involved in lifting up and sharing Christ, His Word, His righteousness, His sanctuary service, His saving power in the great controversy, His three angels’ messages, His health message, His last-day mission to the world, and His soon second coming.

Reach the World for Jesus

Soon we’ll look up and see Jesus appearing in the clouds of heaven, as He said he would. He will come to take us home. It will be the culmination of His redemptive work using every willing follower to reach the world for Him. I appeal to each of us, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to be part of Total Member Involvement. The latter rain of the Holy Spirit is approaching, and with it the great proclamation to every person on earth in anticipation of Christ’s soon return. By God's grace, let's be a part of it!

If you’d like to learn more, I encourage you to watch the five-minute video in which Mark Finley, Duane McKey, and I explain more about how you can be a part of Total Member Involvement. It’s available on Vimeo at: vimeo.com/144789637 or on YouTube at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=wxNfaJO-Hkg.

Ted N.C. Wilson is president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Ten years ago Moses Tolosi began a church plant in the village of Mukangu, Zambia.

Church growth didn’t come easy. From the outset, members from two other churches in town tried to disrupt their meetings with taunts and jeers. One man in particular, John,* displayed extreme anger toward Seventh-day Adventists. Things got even worse when the chief designated a plot of land for the church. After months of threats John brought an expensive barrel of petrol, doused the small church, and set it on fire.

The church was hand-hewn with the best wooden poles they could find and topped with a dried grass roof and mud plaster walls. It was perfect kindling. The building exploded in flames, disappearing completely into floating embers and ash.

“Why did this happen?” Moses wondered in discouragement. “Where will we worship now?”

They had nothing left, nothing! The chief could take the property away if they did not meet there. So for months they met on the charred site with no shade, no seats, no shelter of any kind. Many baptized members stopped coming, and guests refused invitations.

More than a year later Mukangu experienced something as exciting as the big fire. A Maranatha crew arrived to build a One-Day Church. The huge trucks were quite a sight, where most travel is done on foot or in dugout canoes. Moses and other church members felt immensely happy and blessed. John even came out to watch as the metal frame church was assembled in a single day. Unbelievable!

The Mukangu church is growing again. They continue to pray for John, who is in prison for burning a church member’s store to the ground. Maybe one day he’ll come to worship in the church that can’t be burned.

Volunteers International

Maranatha Volunteers International is a nonprofit organization that builds Seventh-day Adventist churches and schools in areas of urgent need.

*Not his real name.
By Dan Weber, NAD communication

North American Division Names New Health Ministries Director

Angeline David, speaking at January’s Emotional Wellness Summit, was recently elected director of the Health Ministries Department of the North American Division.

The North American Division executive committee recently elected Angeline David, Dr.P.H., M.H.S., R.D.N., as health ministries director for the North American Division. She previously worked as the wellness center director and registered dietitian at the Guam Seventh-day Adventist Clinic, a position she held since March 2014. She will assume her new responsibilities on April 1, 2016.

David graduated with a Doctor of Public Health degree from Loma Linda University in 2012, and a master’s in health science from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in 2003. She obtained her registration as a registered dietitian nutritionist in 2013.

Her role at the Guam Seventh-day Adventist Clinic saw her provide individual counseling for healthful nutrition and lifestyle choices and conducting health education classes for the local community. She also made presentations to local businesses and community organizations, teaching practical health tips and ways to battle the growing health epidemics of diabetes and cancer.

“The opportunity to engage our local churches and church members with a passion for embracing our health message, not only for ourselves, but as a tool to reach the local community, really excites me” said David. “On a professional level, I’ve seen how patients can make very simple lifestyle changes and quickly see their health improved. They gain a real excitement for healthful living. They have a real sense of hope and often open their minds to spiritual healing as well. I have a passion for making health and nutrition information understandable and practical.”

When she has time, David loves to cook, play piano, and crochet. Her two nephews are the “apple of her eye.” She grew up in Maryland and graduated from the University of Maryland with a degree in physiology and neurobiology. She was born in India and moved to the United States in 1982.

Business Students Excel on National Exit Exam

The 2015 graduating class of the Walla Walla University (WWU) School of Business scored in the ninety-sixth percentile on the Major Field Test in Business (MFT). Approximately 69,000 senior business students from 563 business schools across the nation took the test. A score in the ninety-sixth percentile means that 96 percent of business students taking the MFT scored lower than WWU business students.

“What these MFT scores show is that our business program is for students who are serious about their career and are ready to compete at a high level,” says Josefer Montes, professor of business and dean of the School of Business. “The boutique approach to our program—small class sizes, one-on-one interaction with professors, and real-life projects—all give our students a distinctive learning opportunity.”

The MFT is administered by the Educational Test Service, the same organization that administers the Graduate Record Exam and other exit exams for college seniors. The MFT exam takes two hours to complete and tests senior business students on how much they know about important business subjects, including accounting, economics, finance, management, marketing, business law, quantitative

Continued on next page
analysis, information systems, and international business.

Since 1992, senior business students at WWU have scored in the top twelfth percentile on the MFT. In 2013 they scored in the ninety-first percentile, in 2014 the ninety-second percentile, and this year the ninety-sixth percentile.

Since 2012 the WWU School of Business has seen a steady increase in the number of students enrolled in its program. From the 2014-2015 to the 2015-2016 school year alone, the school experienced a rise in business majors of 19 students.

Providing opportunities for students to learn how to work as part of a team is a particular area of focus for the school. “Business today is collaborative. If you can’t learn to work in a team, it’s extremely hard to be successful in business,” says Montes.

Amanda Eldevik, a 2015 graduate from the WWU School of Business, says, “The things I learned, I now apply in the workplace: how to communicate, how to work with others, and how to lay out ideas effectively while combining them with other ones. Without group projects my learning experience would have been completely different. What you learn in your group and with your group are as important as everything else being taught.”

Learn more about the WWU School of Business at wallawalla.edu/business.

—KIM STROBEL, Walla Walla University

Enactus Club Receives Community Support for Local Charity

After winning several grants, Southwestern Adventist University’s Enactus Club teamed up with a local charity, Community Opportunities, Inc. (COI), a nonprofit organization located in Keene, Texas, that provides training services, prevocational programming, and supported employment for adults and teens with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Enactus is helping COI with branding and creating new space for a project that provides skills education for its clients and additional revenue for the nonprofit.

The Enactus team reconnected with COI when Pam Masters, COI outreach director, participated in last year’s Cleburne Thrive project and won third place for her community radio program, JOCO Community Radio. Masters shared with the Enactus team about an enterprise project, an industry under the COI management for the purpose of revenue and skills education, which COI staff had recently started for their clients.

Enactus (then known as SIFE) first worked with COI in 2008, when they helped the organization develop a Web site and new marketing strategies, and update the Bumblebee logo, which COI still uses. “The use of the Bumblebee,” shares Masters, “came about as we told our clients that we would help them fly no matter the size of their wings. Bumblebees, with their relatively small wings, became the official mascot. Students from Southwestern helped us define that piece of our history into a logo and brand.”

As COI was looking for new ways to fulfill their mission of training, a local cabinetmaker dropped off a trailer full of scrap wood. The COI team started teaching their clients basic woodworking, creating a range of rustic art, including Christmas trees, crosses, and Texas-shaped wall art. All clients are paid for their time as they learn skills they can then use to work outside the program.

The enterprise project started to grow as COI and its clients sold the art at local fairs and through its Web site. This year COI made $15,000 from sales, which helps pay the clients for their work and grow the enterprise project.

While the project started in warehouse space at COI, the production has now
outgrown the space. The project also needed help developing a brand.

As the Enactus team took this enterprise project on as one of their grant projects, they helped CDI develop a name, BEE-yond Designs, a logo, and a marketing strategy. Seeing the need for an improved workspace, Enactus reached out to Cleburne resident John Burrus, who works for Warehouse Rack of Fort Worth, to see if he could help develop the work area into a more productive space. Burrus visited the site and was so impressed by the project that he arranged for Warehouse Rack to donate $3,500 worth of shelving, and a team to install it.

Enactus team members helped CDI clean up the space in preparation.

“I was so impressed with what they're doing to support people,” explains Burrus. “I wanted to help, and I feel blessed that our company can be a part of it. It's just a win-win for everybody when the community pulls together to make something like this happen.”

“IT's going to take our business to the next level,” says Masters. “It started as a side project to teach our clients a real skill and generate revenue. Enactus and John Burrus are just transforming the space, which will help us continue to grow. The more revenue we can bring in, the more classes and service we can offer our clients. We're just beyond excited, because service is what we're about.”

To partner with Enactus, contact Enactus sponsor Ana Patterson at pattersonam@swau.edu. To partner with Community Opportunities, Inc., and support its industry, visit communityopportunitiesinc.org.

—Darcy Force, Southwestern Adventist University

Faith for Today Celebrates 66 Years

Faith for Today was the first national religious television broadcast to hit the airwaves in 1950. Now, 66 years later, it continues to be one of the longest continuously running television broadcasts.

Today Mike and Gayle Tucker lead the mission of Faith for Today, extending grace and hope to viewers worldwide. This is accomplished through television programs and films designed to address the health, relationship, and social issues that people face every day. The responses received from viewers reveal Faith for Today is hitting the mark.

Faith for Today's flagship television program is Lifestyle Magazine, a weekly half-hour talk show that focuses on all aspects of health, to help viewers create their best life possible. In each episode, the ministry's team of experts is joined by notable guests who bring cutting-edge information for creating optimal health in every part of life: wellness, nutrition, fitness, attitudes, and relationships.

This award-winning show is broadcast weekly on networks such as Trinity Broadcasting Network, Sky Angel, Hope Channel, and the National Religious Broadcast Network, to name a few. According to Neilson, Lifestyle Magazine is seen by 4 million viewers each week. The show has the potential of reaching more than 90 percent of major markets and households nationwide. For local airings and times in your area, check your local TV Guide or go to www.lifestyle.org. Lifestyle Magazine has its own Roku channel, and is gaining a strong social media following.

Lifestyle Magazine has been named in the top 20 of influential brands in fitness and health on Twitter. This three-month in-depth analysis by Onalytica places Lifestyle Magazine's influence worldwide alongside such brands as the Vitamin Shoppe, Bodybuilding, Men's Health magazine, and more. To see the list, go to: www.onalytica.com/blog/posts/health-and-fitness-top-100-influencers-and-brands/

Today, perhaps more than ever, our world needs hope. Lifestyle Magazine is reaching out daily to millions with that very message.

See what all the fuss is about. Look for Lifestyle Magazine on Facebook, Twitter, or at www.lifestyle.org.

—Jennifer Lamountain, Faith for Today
Emotional Wellness Summit Convenes

Seeks to build ties of cooperation between congregations and communities.

Several hundred health professionals, lay members, and religious leaders from North and South America took part in the Emotional Wellness Summit held January 13-17, 2016, in Orlando, Florida. Plenary sessions focused on ways that health professionals can work to better the lives of those suffering from depression and mental illness.

Workshops focused on five main topics: Trauma and Resilience, Prevention and Recovery of Addictions, Enhancing Brain Health, Faith and Community Partnerships for Mental Health, and Comprehensive Health Ministry and Mental Health. Presenters represented the fields of church administration, counseling, education, psychotherapy, public health, and ministry.

The summit was launched with a keynote presentation by Vice Admiral Vivek Murthy, the nineteenth surgeon general of the United States. Murthy challenged attendees to work diligently to fight the diseases of depression, anxiety, and other mental health disorders that affect a large portion of our communities, many of which often go undiagnosed. As a lifelong vegetarian, he acknowledged the way the Adventist Church has embraced healthy living as part of its core message, and expressed a desire for Adventists to embrace emotional wellness as an integral part of their message of hope and wholeness.

The summit was organized by the Health Ministries Department of the North American Division in cooperation with the Health Ministries Departments of the General Conference and the South American Division. Katia Reinert, former Health Ministries Department director for the North American Division, recently appointed associate director of Health Ministries for the General Conference, served as the main event organizer and focused her efforts on identifying ways in which local congregations can help in making their communities emotionally healthy. “People are excited about the mental health, the ideas they are learning here, the stories, the infor-...
ation, and now they need to get back to their churches and start doing something in their communities,” she said. “God has blessed us with wonderful experts who are sharing great information that can be useful in ministry.”

Health-care leaders hope to see this summit serve as a launching point for new partnerships between church and health-care institutions. Kevin Young, president of Adventist Healthcare Behavioral Health and Wellness Services, said, “Getting involved in summits like this allows the church to recognize signs and symptoms of emotional wellness needs. It also helps it identify individuals in the community who can help them, who are the experts. They can then refer people when they need help.”

The Friday evening program was highlighted with a presentation by Daniel R. Jackson, president of the North American Division. He entitled his presentation “Brokenness and Trust,” and outlined the human emotions Jesus felt when living on this planet. “What gives us hope is that Jesus also felt the emotions of depression, betrayal, isolation, and rejection. We see Him dealing with His own pain, sorrow, and intense inner feelings, then offering His strength to help us deal with our inner feelings,” said Jackson. “When we begin to view His life from this perspective, we can begin to love and trust Him and make Him part of our lives.”

Young acknowledged the work that was put into the summit: “It’s been very well done, very well organized, incredible speakers that are using research to back up what they’re talking about, looking at ways that the church can interact with health-care providers to meet the needs of the church for its behavioral health and wellness needs.”
Experts share tools for living healthier, longer in new online health show

By Briana Pastorino

Loma Linda University Health’s online health show, “LIVE IT,” made its debut on YouTube Jan. 1, 2016. Based on Loma Linda University Health research and encouraging others to LIVE IT, each episode features simple tips to live healthier, longer. The health show originates from Loma Linda, the place where people live the longest in the nation.

“LIVE IT” is different from other online health shows that focus on longevity,” said Cosmin Cosma, director of advancement films. “Simply put, Loma Linda University Health is a leading organization on wellness and prevention that holds the treasured research findings on this popular subject. Through an easy-to-understand format with animations, the show inspires viewers to LIVE IT.”

The inaugural season of the show contains 14 episodes, each ranging from two to three minutes in length. The show will provide quick, fun-to-watch videos on hot health topics and research from Loma Linda University Health.

Each episode is presented by a physician and journalist, and includes sound bites from the main researcher on each topic as well as animation to visually exemplify the subject matter in an entertaining way. The show educates viewers on simple ways to incorporate the health tips into their own lives.

The first episode highlights research on nuts that ultimately reversed health advice that had been provided by the American Heart Association. Loma Linda University Health researchers discovered that eating a handful of nuts a day lowers cholesterol by 10 percent and cuts the risk of a heart attack in half. The second episode premiered Jan. 8, and subsequent episodes will be released every Friday through April 1.

For more information on “LIVE IT,” the online health show, visit the show’s website, liveitlomalinda.org.

LIVE IT: The Health Show topics include:

- Nuts: How to reduce your cholesterol
- Reusable grocery bags: Reduce bacteria levels
- Pomegranates: Prevent Alzheimer’s Disease
- Standing: Reduce the risk of chronic disease
- Laughter: Improve short-term memory
- Avocados and almonds: Lose weight
- Water — drink up!: Reduce the risk of heart disease
- Mediterranean diet: Reduce the risk of heart disease
- Spiritual health: Have better physical and mental quality
- Vegetarian diet: Decrease the risk chronic disease
- Greens, brown rice, legumes, dried fruit: Reduce the risk of colon cancer
- Aerobic exercise: Reduce the risk of Type 2 Diabetes and chronic disease
- Legumes: Reduce hip fractures
- Nutrition in pregnancy: Have healthier children
What Adventists Can Do After an Extremist Attack

A wave of violence hit southern California in December, leaving many of us numbed. Before that, it was Paris. “Why?” we asked ourselves. Why would a seemingly normal man, happily married and blessed with a 6-month-old child, take the lives of people indiscriminately? How could a young mother kiss her daughter one last time before stepping into a dark world of death willingly?

Two days after the married couple killed 14 people and injured 22 others in the San Bernardino shooting spree, I joined a small group of Seventh-day Adventists on a visit to a small mosque in the nearby city of Riverside. We wanted to hear from the Muslim community leader how this tragedy had affected his community.

At the time I was unaware that this mosque was the very place the male shooter regularly attended Friday services. I have to acknowledge that there was something somber about standing on the very same ground on which he had stood a few days earlier. Again, I wondered why.

Soon we were introduced to the local imam. Mustafa Kuko is a soft-spoken, gracious man, with a reputation for being a Muslim who loves God and people.

He was at a loss for answers, visibly disturbed. He also was asking “Why?” Why would the male shooter target people who had been kind to him? Why did he point his weapons directly at a Muslim coworker, a woman with whom he had worshipped at the mosque, and shoot her four times?

Evil defeats logic.

No matter what answers the next months may bring, we will still be asking “Why?” But perhaps this is not the most critical question that needs to be addressed.

The day after the mosque visit, on Sabbath, December 5, at the Loma Linda University church, someone asked me how we Adventists are supposed to relate to such carnage as that perpetrated at San Bernardino, and elsewhere.

There are no easy answers. But perhaps these incidents can be the beginning of a conversation we have to have as a community of faith.

Here’s what Adventists can do:

First: “Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good” (Rom. 12:21). Paul speaks of evil. The evil that regularly inhabits the news is based on coercion, death, and destruction. God wants to destroy evil—not just manage it, but destroy it. How? With a powerful weapon: love.

What if we sought out our Muslim neighbors and invited them to pray with us for God to bring healing after an attack? What if we refused to hate? Radicalized groups are the loudest voices speaking for Islam today. They claim to offer the most faithful interpretation of the real teachings of Islam. To support their claims, they use horribly violent portions of the Quran.

If we adopt their view as valid, we unwittingly accept their legitimacy to speak for all Muslims, 23 percent of the world’s population.

So how to defeat evil? Give our Muslim neighbors an opportunity to explain how they understand those very passages that radicals use to justify indiscriminate violence. By giving voice to moderate Muslims, we are telling extremists that we will not be swayed by their claims of authority and power.

Terrorism is a multilayered and complex phenomenon that I am not seeking to explain here. Instead, I wish to leave you with these practical suggestions that will set you in a direction that honors God and humanity.

May God help us as we learn to live as disciples in an age of terror and hatred.
NAD Letters

Christianity Made Practical
Wayne Culmore’s article “Washing Dirty Feet” (December 2015) is a classic example of practical Christianity.
We often think our religion is defined by orthodoxy, which is important. But the true measure of our Christian experience is how far we are willing to go in the service of our fellow humans.
As Culmore said: “It’s a whole lot easier to talk about service... than to actually get down to where the need is and do something about it.” I will remember this article for a long time.
Ruth Ellis
Albuquerque, New Mexico

We Serve an Awesome God
I was baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church last year. I now know that the love of God is unconditional, so I’m writing to tell all of you that every soul can be cleansed by Jesus. His heart melts for all the pain and suffering in the world. But God is love, and forgiveness from heaven is the key.
Thanks for all the prayers.
Caroline Caltrell
Coos Bay, Oregon

Looking for Legalism, Finding Hypocrisy
I felt moved and vindicated after reading Joseph Olstad’s article “Looking for Legalism, Finding Hypocrisy” (November 2015). For years I have felt confident that the way legalism has been hashed and bashed around within and outside our church (making people feel guilty for wanting to be a commandment-keeping people) was fundamentally wrong.
I thank Olstad for showing us from Scripture and Ellen White’s writings how God looks at this term, and how it looks in His eyes. This is one of the best articles on this topic I have ever read. It was clear, and cut to the very essence of what Jesus was trying to tell us about the subject of hypocrisy.
I especially like the closing paragraph. This summation of the issue between grace and legalism is what I have been carrying around with me for years. It’s really not about legalism as much as it is about hypocrisy.
Robin Pratt
Etowah, North Carolina

The Joseph Files
Hello and blessings for a great year ahead! I enjoyed Gerald Klingbeil’s article “The Joseph Files” (December 2015). Joseph is one of my four favorite Bible characters, along with Jeremiah, Esther, and our dear Lord and Savior, Jesus.
Keep up the good work you all do.
It’s wonderful!
Ian Salmon
via e-mail

I now know that the love of God is unconditional, so I’m writing to tell all of you that every soul can be cleansed by Jesus.

—Caroline Caltrell
Coos Bay, Oregon
Community Health Expos

We hear a great deal about church members being medical missionaries and working with the health needs of the community in which we live. How may we practically implement this approach?

Health is pursued and desired by all nations and peoples of the world. Some territories have very advanced health-care programs, and generally, health care is focused within systems that are designed to diagnose and cure diseases. Because health care is expensive, in many places its availability to all is a challenge.

Public health measures of clean water, sewage, and immunization programs have made a major impact on decreasing infectious diseases and increasing life expectancy. But even these measures are not equally available around the world. Additionally, while there has been much emphasis placed by governments on public health measures, the so-called non-communicable diseases (NCDs) have increased dramatically and are related largely to lifestyle factors. The NCDs include mainly heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes, and chronic respiratory diseases. These are diseases that affect all people and communities.

The main risk factors are well known and are similar globally:
- physical inactivity
- obesity
- NCDs have become such a challenge that the World Health Organization and the United Nations have held high-level global meetings to bring attention to these diseases and to try to eliminate them or at least decrease the number of incidences. Many of the NCDs are totally preventable. Individuals at risk can be readily identified. This is a golden opportunity for each church congregation to be a community health center and each church member a health promoter.

How do we go about making a difference in our communities and making friends? We can start by organizing walking and fun-run events; for example, the five-kilometer fun-walk/run event is very popular and a good place to start. In conjunction with the walk, a health expo, or health fair, can be organized. Such health events generally have various health stations that demonstrate different aspects of health and measurements of physical health and well-being. Blood pressure, blood sugar, and even cholesterol checks can be done cost effectively and efficiently.

Body weight and body mass index (BMI) measurements are very informative; between this and an awareness of the blood sugar level, many who have been through health fairs have been alerted to their being diabetic or pre-diabetic. Basic vision testing can be done without expensive equipment.

Such events are excellent opportunities for public education on healthful nutrition, quitting smoking, the reasons to avoid alcohol, the importance of exercise, use of water internally and externally, responsible exposure to sunshine, balance in life (temperature), breathing deeply, and the need to get outdoors. Because so much of the world's population is sleep-deprived and "hooked" on the almost-incessant use of electronic devices, the station emphasizing rest and sleep is always a needed and appreciated stop for most visitors.

Cooking demonstrations and vegetarian cooking classes may be advertised and conducted as a follow-up. We were deeply impressed by a station with a difference at Chitungwiza, Zimbabwe, which was a cooking school for deaf individuals! So thoughtful and wonderfully received!

This type of health endeavor is being done around the world and is making friends and sharing the grace-filled message of health and hope. It truly meets people's needs in a practical way and demonstrates God's love and compassion.

What will the outcome be? We're not sure. But we know that those whom we meet and serve will know we are Christians by our love!
The Bible includes the stories of a handful of people who met God face to face.

Perhaps the clearest record of such a life-changing encounter was recorded in Isaiah 6:1-8. Isaiah saw a heavenly worship scene. Angelic beings surrounded God, giving Him adoration and praise. These angels hovered by the throne of God, singing of His holiness and glory. Overwhelmed, Isaiah felt unworthy of this vision. He felt ashamed and ruined because of his sinfulness.

But this was not the end of the experience; one of the angels touched Isaiah’s mouth with a live coal from the altar, taking away his guilt and pronouncing forgiveness. God then offered Isaiah an opportunity to serve by asking, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?” (verse 8).

The prophet did not hesitate. This encounter with the glory of God prompted Isaiah to make himself available: “Here am I! Send me” (verse 8).

**Meeting Face to Face**

Like Isaiah, before we can be available to God, we must first catch a glimpse of God. God must minister to us; only then can we hear God’s voice telling us what He wants us to do. We are to respond with an attitude of gratitude, not obligation, because He has cleansed us through the blood of Jesus. There is a sense of healing in our lives. We want to serve God because of who He is and what He has done for us. The wonder of the sacrifice of Christ must be the driving factor in all we do. When we rediscover God’s grandeur, we are compelled to minister on behalf of the One who heals brokenness with love.

**Catching a Glimpse of God**

An experience with God affects how we see the world. Isaiah heard God’s heartbeat for a lost and dying people. We too must hear God’s summons to reach out to broken people in our community. God called; Isaiah answered. This unconditional response comes only from the heart of one who has seen the vision; one who has met with God. Once we’ve seen the Lord, we go where He sends us.

Isaiah did not say, “What’s in it for me?” He signed over his whole life. Because he had seen God’s nature and character, Isaiah reprioritized his life and put God’s mission first. He came to see service for God as worship.

**We See—Then We Serve**

Ellen White also connected worship and service. “True worship consists in working together with Christ. Prayer, exhortation, and talk are cheap fruits, which are frequently tied on, but fruits that are manifested in good works, in caring for the needy, the fatherless, and widows, are genuine fruits, and grow naturally upon a good tree.” Service is the result of becoming overwhelmed with appreciation for the One who heals brokenness with love.

The heart of worship is being available to God on a daily basis. It is not a one time act on Sabbath morning; it is a day-to-day experience. Therefore, for Christians there is no such thing as sacred and secular. Everything belongs to God. Whether we eat, drink, play, or work, we do it all in the presence of God and for His glory (1 Cor. 10:31). Worship is a lifestyle.

A life of worship makes us available to the Holy Spirit and eager to see His work done in us.

Once we come to understand the gospel, the sacrifice Christ has made for us, and the grace of His enduring love, then we will realize that renewal and cleansing come from above. We will be led to a response of service. Such was the case for Ann.

**Overwhelmed and Available**

One day I [Joseph] received a card in the mail from a woman asking for Bible studies. When I knocked on her...
door, she said that she was not interested in studying the Bible and had not sent the card. I asked if she would allow me to pray for her, and she consented.

She then told me about her neighbor across the street who might be interested in a Bible study. When I went across the street, a woman, 73 years old, drunk and smoking, opened the door. I asked her if she would like to study the Bible. She did not have anything to do, so she said “yes.” I started to study the Bible with Ann. After some time she accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior.

During a study on the greatness of the power of God, Ann became overwhelmed. She broke down crying and asked how she could experience that power to overcome her smoking and drinking. We arranged a time for the church elders to come for an anointing service. After that service God gave her victory over those bad habits. A few weeks later she was baptized. I visited her the next day. I wanted Ann to consider how she could incorporate worship and service into her life. How would she live out a response to the greatness of God and His forgiveness?

What mission was God giving to her?
“Ann, do you have a family?” I asked.
“1 have a huge family.”
“God has a mandate for you. He wants you to win your family to Him.”
“How am I going to do that?”
“Pray and make yourself available to be used by God.”

About three and a half years later the union communication director came to shoot a video of Ann on Sabbath morning. Picture the scene: Ann stood in the middle of the platform surrounded by 57 people that she had led to the Lord, including Jena, the woman who had refused to study the Bible with me.

The communication director went around asking the 57 people, “Why are you an Adventist today?” He always got the same answer: “We saw the change in Ann’s life, and we wanted it.”

Then he turned to Ann. “What did you do to win your family and friends to the Lord?”

“I prayed for them day and night. Then the Lord showed me many ways to strengthen my relationship with them and meet their needs. When the time was right, I invited them to church, a Bible study in my home, or an evangelistic meeting. Every time one of them became a Christian, that person joined me in praying for the rest. God has been so good to us.”

This is the power of prayer, relationship, and ministry, the power of an ongoing process. It is the power of personal spirituality and seeing God. When we have an experience with God, we are overcome with a desire to share Him with others.

Isaiah and Ann met with God and had a revelation of His greatness, and it changed their lives. The same living Lord is anxious to meet with us. In true worship we experience the presence of God, and it changes us and leads us to service.

Have you had a “throne room” experience? Have you heard God’s voice? Accepted His call to service? Open your heart to Him today. Worship Him through praise and service. Meet God face to face and allow yourself to be available to Him.

*Ellen G. White, in Review and Herald, Aug. 16, 1881.

S. Joseph Kidder serves as professor of Christian ministry at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University, Michigan, United States, where Kristy L. Hodson is studying for her Master of Divinity degree.
Jesus is talking to Nicodemus by lamplight one dark night. Jesus explains that the mark of citizenship in His kingdom is a new birth. This new birth is not a birth of the flesh, but a birth of the Spirit. This Spirit (or wind) blows those who are born of the Spirit wherever He chooses (John 3:3-8).

Later, toward the end of His earthly ministry, Jesus spends time with His disciples to prepare them for the next phase of their ministry, when they will no longer have His physical presence with them. He promises them that they will have another Comforter. This Comforter, the Holy Spirit, will teach them all things. He will remind Jesus’ followers of everything Jesus has said, and give them peace (John 14:15-27).

In 1 Corinthians 12 the apostle Paul shares his desire that the members of the body of Christ should not be ignorant of spiritual gifts. He emphasizes, “There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good” (verses 4-7, NIV).

Simply stated, the Holy Spirit is the administrator of the spiritual gifts in the body of Christ, and each gift is given for the good of that body.

Unwrap the Gifts
Now, what does this mean in practical, everyday life? First, we need to recognize that every Christian is given spiritual gifts. Each of us has a cluster of gifts, with one primary gift and one or two secondary gifts. But although the gifts are given to us as individuals, our spiritual gifts are really given for the church. The Holy Spirit is the administrator of the spiritual gifts, but the local church leadership has a responsibility to match the spiritual gifts of its members to the ministry plan of the church. Each church has the responsibility to depend on the leading of the Holy Spirit in the development of the ministry plan.

Second, regardless of whether our gift is faith, healing, proclamation, teaching, administration, reconciliation, compassion, communication, or self-sacrificing service; or whether we are called by God and recognized by the church for pastoral, evangelistic, or teaching ministries; our primary motivation for service must be tied to our commitment to Christ and the love that He seeks to pour out through us to others in ministry through our church. Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 13 that regardless of the gifts we are given by God, those gifts are useless if the execution of them is not rooted in love.

Third, part of our stewardship responsibility as members of the body of Christ is to cultivate a passion for the discovery and nurture of the spiritual gift granted to us. We should prayerfully reflect on what occupies our thinking most when it comes to the ministry of our church. What issues or needs do we perceive and feel most passionate about? When thinking about our passions for that particular issue or need, how might our spiritual gift(s) be used in the ministry of our church? Some pastors provide a spiritual gifts inventory that
God bestows upon all members of His church in every age spiritual gifts that each member is to employ in loving ministry for the common good of the church and of humanity. Given by the agency of the Holy Spirit, who apportions to each member as He wills, the gifts provide all abilities and ministries needed by the church to fulfill its divinely ordained functions. According to the Scriptures, these gifts include such ministries as faith, healing, prophecy, proclamation, teaching, administration, reconciliation, compassion, and self-sacrificing service and charity for the help and encouragement of people. Some members are called of God and endowed by the Spirit for functions recognized by the church in pastoral, evangelistic, and teaching ministries particularly needed to equip the members for service, to build up the church to spiritual maturity, and to foster unity of the faith and knowledge of God.

When members employ these spiritual gifts as faithful stewards of God's varied grace, the church is protected from the destructive influence of false doctrine, grows with a growth that is from God, and is built up in faith and love. (Acts 6:1-7; Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:7-11, 27, 28; Eph. 4:8, 11-16; 1 Tim. 3:1-13; 1 Peter 4:10, 11.)

you can use to narrow down your spiritual gifts. Fellow members of the church who know you best can share with you what spiritual gifts they perceive as they observe your involvement in the church.

Think back on the most memorable “ministry” experiences of your Christian life. What inspired and excited you most? What was happening in your walk with God at the time? What was happening in your church during the time? The result of these reflections will help you to understand better what motivates you and what kind of environment you shine best in.

Fourth, pastors or members of the leadership team of a church must focus on developing a ministry plan that is comprehensive enough to draw out and employ the spiritual gifts of the members of the church. This plan should take into consideration the community the church is called to serve. Assess your community to discover what is already happening. The leadership team needs to discover specific needs in the neighborhood that can focus the church in ministries that make a difference and help to reflect Christ's method of ministry. Ellen White's famous quote captures Christ's ministry method wonderfully: “Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, 'Follow Me.'”

Share the Gifts
Pastor Frank attended a spiritual gifts seminar early in his ministry. He got so excited about the concept and the process that he immediately went back to his church and preached a series of sermons on spiritual gifts. He followed this with an invitation to the members of his church to fill out a spiritual gifts inventory, and followed that up with small group sessions in which the members could verify and experiment with the gifts they had discovered. Members of Pastor Frank's church got so excited that they came to him, eager to put their spiritual gifts to work. Alas, Pastor Frank was at a loss to employ the gifts of his church members because he hadn't led his church in the development of a contextualized plan for ministry in the community around the church. Planning for ministry is also a spiritual gift.

Conclusion
Commitment to the Spirit through the Word of God will protect us from many a spiritual peril. It will produce results from God in us, our churches, and our communities. It will transform us into agents in this kingdom of grace used by God to change the world through faith and love. It will allow us to be part of a global effort, administered by the Holy Spirit, to prepare those around us for the kingdom of glory to be ushered in at the second coming of Christ.

Called to Care

General Conference president Ted Wilson summed up the concept of Total Member Involvement in a Facebook post not long ago. “Every follower of Christ is given the responsibility of reaching out to people—individually—with the hope that we ourselves have found in a soon-coming Savior.” That is indeed the crux of Total Member Involvement: the idea that all of us, no matter our calling in life, can do something to reach the world for Christ. Our efforts need not be grand to be effective, but with the Lord’s help, we can be His hands and feet in the world. The following stories offer a glimpse into the many ways ordinary Adventists in different parts of the world are doing exactly that.—Editors.

Fleur Duke

Though I hadn’t had any connection with the difficulties confronting girls in the sex industry, I felt the call to reach into my area on the New South Wales Central Coast with God’s love,” says Fleur Duke. “Lord,” I said, “I have little experience and minimal education to qualify me, but I am willing to answer Your call. Use me.” Duke’s first step to becoming involved in this ministry was to join those who were already ministering to the prostitutes in Kings Cross, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.

“We started Rahab Ministries Outreach in February 2012, partnering with Rahab South Australia (a non-denominational Christian organization). The team of about 30 meets together and prays before and during our visits,” Duke says. “Once a month each brothel is visited by a group of two or three of the girls on our team. We explain that we are Christians and there to offer support through prayer and conversation, building relationships, offering Bible studies and English classes, and leaving a contact card.”

“Each girl could be your sister, daughter, friend, aunty, or mother,” she adds. Many of the girls have shared their longing for their homes and families in China or Thailand. God’s Holy Spirit speaks through language barriers, and His love reaches each one in their darkness.

All visits are topped off with hugs and prayers showing that God has not forgotten them.

“At first I thought our aim was to take God into these places, but it was not long before I realized that He was already there. My part in this journey is to meet Him in the women who have struggles just as I do,” says Duke. —Adapted with permission of the South Pacific Division Record

Fleur Duke

AUSTRALIA

Image: Caleb George Morris
The Navales Family
PHILIPPINES

Two years ago 3-year-old Vincent befriended five children from his neighborhood and invited them to his home. Vince’s mother, Aireen, didn’t know what to do with them, but with prodding from her son, she offered what food they had, taught them a song, and told them a story.

Aireen saw how some of the kids treated each other roughly and realized they did not have the most positive home environment.

“I decided to set a few rules,” she recalls. These rules were simple: everyone would use gentle hands and soft voices. "Because these rules were easy to follow, the children obeyed, but it also created a big difference, because we were able to get rid of the grabbing, shouting, and all the unaccept­able street words and other behaviors.”

The following Sunday Aireen and Vincent found a larger group of children on their doorstep and realized God was giving their family a unique opportunity. From her little son’s desire to offer underprivileged children a safe place to be kids, Play, Learn, and Serve (PLS) was born.

After one month, the group had outgrown the family’s living room. Vincent’s father, Rey, transformed the sound and lights showroom on their property into a classroom.

A typical PLS Sunday gathering consists of singing, discussion of the week’s theme, prayer, a values lesson, an art activity, and snacktime.

Over time, PLS earned a reputation that has attracted schools and non-profit organizations whose leaders want to learn how to use the program in their own fields. As the number of children increased, the family had to register their program as a charitable organization.

While they may not know how God will continue to expand their involvement in the future, the Navales family trusts in how He has worked through one child’s dream to empower the dreams of the many children around them.

—Adapted from original written by Gay Deles

Paolo Giametta
ITALY

It began in 2008 in a Sabbath School Action Unit in Bergamo, Italy. A young elder named Paolo Giametta had a dream to start a family group, and submitted a list of people in the municipality of Merate for whom to pray.

After a few weeks Judith, a young woman from Merate, decided to open her house to the family group to study the Bible. The number of people attending Bible studies increased week after week. Soon, a second family group was formed in the nearby town of Olgiate. In 2012 Judith was baptized. The following year the group began Sabbath worship services in her home, and by 2013 the group was officially organized.

Each Sabbath morning, before the program begins at 9:00, church
members and guests have breakfast together. The worship service is followed by potluck and fellowship, with friends from the community also invited. On Sundays the group often hikes and picnics together in the countryside. Often close to 80 people gather, and it’s proved to be a great opportunity to make new friends.

Individuals studying the Bible are taught by six church members from the group, which is the result of person-to-person evangelism. Recently, because of the arrival of refugees from Syria to the region, church members have assisted local authorities by caring for about 40 refugees.

But Giametta hasn’t stopped there. He and a coworker named Savino became friends and started studying the Bible together after work. As a result, Savino decided to become an Adventist. Two months before his baptism he began studying the Bible with a friend.

New Jacob
ST. CROIX, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

ew Jacob was baptized as a result of an open-air meeting. From then on he has been stirred with a thirst to share God’s love. Beginning with his parents, Jacob invited his family to attend an evangelistic effort in their neighborhood. This resulted in the baptism of his stepfather and sister. “It was a thrilling moment for me; the experience was great. I felt joy knowing that God used me,” Jacob recalls.

He soon joined his church’s prayer band and for three decades saw God open doors of opportunity to reach others. To encourage the ailing, he joined his congregation’s hospital visitation team. “I am like any Christian who would like to do God’s will,” he said. Feeling the need to accomplish more, Jacob joined the church’s prison ministry. “Through the prison ministry I serve those often forgotten by society,” he reflected.

At first Jacob spent about four days each week doing missionary work while still managing his business. But he felt that God required more of him. “I was thrilled when I received an invitation to join ShareHim International and did not hesitate,” he said. This ministry is affiliated with the North American Division, and members travel internationally to share the message of life in Jesus.

Jacob remains involved in church ministries and serves as an ordained elder. He sacrifices to travel annually and share hope, using his own resources. With more than 300 persons baptized through his efforts, Jacob often places his life and his business at risk to meet people’s needs. At a time when many people are self-absorbed, he reflects Christ’s love around the world. “I encourage any member, if they are going to make any choices, to err on the side of the Lord. It’s so rewarding serving the Lord; it completely alters your path.”

—Adapted from original written by Royston Philbert
Cindy Tutsch

United States

When I retired, I looked forward to ‘warming a pew’ at church,” says former Ellen G. White Estate associate director and pastor Cindy Tutsch. Now, two and a half years after retirement, I’ve definitely enjoyed some travel and absolutely enjoy playing with our grandkids. But to my surprise, I’ve also enjoyed participating heartily in the life of our local church!

Tutsch was first asked to shepherd the youth Sabbath School. “I’ve loved getting to know the youth in our church,” she says. We’ve hosted the youth at our house for a party or planning session. A couple teens come to our house weekly for Bible studies.

Soon Tutsch was asked to serve as an elder. “I’ve pastored a couple churches, and I know that a ‘good’ elder does a lot more than just be the presiding platform leader. In the end, though, God nudged me to agree,” she recalls.

Recently Tutsch was driving to a local retirement center where she gives Bible studies to a handful of elderly people. “I remonstrated with God about this particular assignment,” she says. “God,” I complained, “I really don’t want to do this anymore.”

Almost immediately God impressed a text on her heart. “Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these … , ye have done it unto me” (Matt. 25:40, KJV).

“In that moment God gave me a heart transplant regarding those precious elderly people. Now when I go to teach them, I see Jesus. And when they hug me and tell me how happy they are that I come to pray and sing with them every week, I can answer honestly, ‘I’m glad, too’!” she says.

Tutsch knows she can’t meet every need in her community, but she can do something. “By God’s grace, when He asks me to serve, I will continue to say, ‘Here am I, Lord. Send me!’”

Matilda Radge

Malaysia

Being in the entertainment industry has helped me spread the gospel,” says Matilda Radge. “My first priority in life is to spread the gospel; the second is my music.”

As a producer and songwriter, Radge composes positive songs that speak of love for others, nature, and love in its purest form. “When clients come to us,” Radge says, “they trust us because they know we fear God. They know we will give them more than they ask for. We bring out the best in their voices. Our integrity is our testament of the God we worship, and we make sure they learn that from our character and work ethic.”

“Malaysia is a Muslim country, but because of the principles we hold, radio staff, clients, and even our fans/listeners who follow us on social media know about the Sabbath,” adds Radge. “When my husband and I did a Valentine’s Day interview for a top radio station, we used that opportunity to speak about the biblical principles we practice in our marriage. Every time we are called for TV or radio interviews, we give credit to God.”

“We have fans and listeners who follow us [on social media] and want to know more about us,” Radge says. “I use this to share the gospel. I post statuses and testimonies that glorify God. Many who comment and ‘like’ my posts are not Christians. But when they go through tough times, they message me and ask me to pray for them.”

Before starting production on new projects, Radge prays that they write and produce songs that honor God. “We ask Him to bless our work. From beginning to end, we pray, pray, pray. We seal the production with a dedication prayer. What usually happens is a hit song! We make sure our clients know that the song’s success belongs to God.”
In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. On them is shining wonderful light from the Word of God. They have been given a work of the most solemn import—the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages. There is no other work of so great importance. They are to allow nothing else to absorb their attention.

**Give Yourself**

God expects personal service from everyone to whom He has entrusted a knowledge of the truth for this time. Not all can go as missionaries to foreign lands, but all can be home missionaries in their families and neighborhoods. There are many ways in which church members may give the message to those around them.

One of the most successful is by living helpful, unselfish, Christian lives. Those who are fighting the battle of life at great odds may be refreshed and strengthened by little attentions which cost nothing. Kindly words simply spoken, little attentions simply bestowed, will sweep away the clouds of temptation and doubt that gather over the soul. The true heart expression of Christ-like sympathy, given in simplicity, has power to open the door of hearts that need the simple, delicate touch of the spirit of Christ.

My brethren and sisters, give yourselves to the Lord for service. Allow no opportunity to pass unimproved. Visit the sick and suffering, and show a kindly interest in them. If possible, do something to make them more comfortable. Through this means you can reach their hearts and speak a word for Christ.

**Investing in Eternity**

Eternity alone will reveal how far-reaching such a line of labor can be. Other lines of usefulness will open before those who are willing to do the duty nearest them. It is not learned, eloquent speakers that are needed now, but humble, Christ-like men and women, who have learned from Jesus of Nazareth to be meek and lowly, and who, trusting in His strength, will go forth into the highways and hedges to give the invitation: “Come; for all things are now ready.”

There is earnest work for every pair of hands to do. . . . There are so many that need to be helped. The heart of him who lives, not to please himself, but to be a blessing to those who have so few blessings, will thrill with satisfaction. Let every idler awake and face the realities of life.

Take the Word of God and search its pages. If you are doers of the Word, life will indeed be to you a living reality, and you will find that the reward is abundant.

The Lord has a place for everyone in His great plan. Talents that are not needed are not bestowed. Supposing that the talent is small. God has a place for it, and that one talent, if faithfully used, will do the very work God designs that it should do.

Church members, let the light shine forth. Let your voices be heard in humble prayer, in witness against intemperance, the folly, and the amusements of this world, and in the proclamation of the truth for this time. Your voice, your influence, your time—all these are gifts from God and are to be used in winning souls to Christ.
Visit your neighbors and show an interest in the salvation of their souls. Arouse every spiritual energy to action. Tell those whom you visit that the end of all things is at hand. The Lord Jesus Christ will open the door of their hearts and will make upon their minds lasting impressions.

Tell them how you found Jesus and how blessed you have been since you gained an experience in His service. Tell them what blessing comes to you as you sit at the feet of Jesus and learn precious lessons from His Word. Tell them of the gladness and joy that is in the Christian life. Your warm, fervent words will convince them that you have found the pearl of great price. Let your cheerful, encouraging words show that you have certainly found the higher way.

There are many who can and should do the work of which I have spoken. My brother, my sister, what are you doing for Christ? Are you seeking to be a blessing to others? Are your lips uttering words of kindness, sympathy, and love? Are you putting forth earnest efforts to win others to the Savior?

**Total Consecration**

Consecrate yourselves wholly to the work of God. He is your strength, and He will be at your right hand, helping you to carry on His merciful designs. By personal labor reach those around you, become acquainted with them. Preaching will not do the work that needs to be done. Angels of God attend you to the dwellings of those you visit. This work cannot be done by proxy. Money lent or given will not accomplish it. Sermons will not do it. By visiting the people, talking, praying, sympathizing with them, you will win hearts. This is the highest missionary work that you can do. To do it, you will need resolute, persevering faith, unwearrying patience, and a deep love for souls.

Find access to the people in whose neighborhood you live. As you tell them of the truth, use words of Christlike sympathy. Remember that the Lord Jesus is the Master Worker. He waters the seed sown. He puts into your minds words that will reach hearts. Expect that God will sustain the consecrated, unselfish worker. Obedience, childlike faith, trust in God—these will bring peace and joy. Work disinterestedly, lovingly, patiently, for all with whom you are brought into contact. Show no impatience. Utter not one unkind word. Let the love of Christ be in your hearts, the law of kindness on your lips.

Heavenly angels have long been waiting for human agents—the members of the church—to cooperate with them in the great work to be done. They are waiting for you.
YOUR BEST PATHWAY TO HEALTH GOES TO LA-LA LAND

Organizers look for volunteers for the Los Angeles event.

By Andrew McChesney
Preparations for the largest Seventh-day Adventist free clinic in U.S. history are coming together with budding support from big-name Hollywood celebrities, but more volunteers are needed, organizers say.

Your Best Pathway to Health, the organizer and main sponsor of the April event, intends to provide more than $29 million in free services to a record 10,000 people over two and a half days in Los Angeles.

About 700 volunteers have signed up to provide a wide range of medical and dental services similar to what Your Best Pathway to Health in partnership with the Seventh-day Adventist Church offered last year at free clinics in San Antonio, Texas, and Spokane, Washington. But with high demand expected in a city in which homelessness is a growing concern, organizers will expand their offerings to provide more free clothing, including shoes for the first time, and two new departments: free legal and financial services.

A total of 3,000 volunteers are needed, especially in dentistry, eye care, and surgery, said Lela Lewis, president of Your Best Pathway to Health, a service of ASI, a supporting ministry of the Adventist Church.

“We are in desperate need for volunteers right now,” Lewis said. “We need everyone. There is a place for everyone.”

A sign-up form and information about discounted hotel rates are available at pathwaytohealthvolunteer.org, the Web site for the April 27-29 event.

Several Adventist-affiliated organizations have agreed to assist with the free clinic, including Adventist Health West, whose White Memorial Hospital in Los Angeles is making operating rooms available for hysterectomies, gallbladder surgeries, and other procedures. Loma Linda University Health is helping recruit skilled volunteers.

Support From Hollywood

Essential support has also come from outside the church, Lewis said. The adage “it’s not what you know but who you know” appears to be especially true in Los
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...by following Jesus Christ.
Angeles, where free clinic organizers made a breakthrough in preparations after winning the backing of Jimmy Sedghi, a founder of the Beverly Hills Academy of the Arts, and former advisor to Iran’s shah.

Lewis met Sedghi through a recent Adventist convert, a woman who was baptized through John Bradshaw’s It Is Written television ministry and belongs to the Beverly Hills Academy of the Arts. “She is really connected all through Hollywood,” Lewis said.

Upon learning about the free clinic, the woman arranged for Lewis to meet Sedghi at his home, the first of several meetings between the two. At that first visit, Lewis showed Sedghi a video of the free clinic held last April in San Antonio, where nearly 6,120 people received $20 million in free health care over two and a half days.

Sedghi had tears in his eyes when the video ended, Lewis said.

“This is what we should be doing,” Sedghi told Lewis. “Why are we all fighting about religion? It is so wrong. This is true religion.”

Later Sedghi took Lewis and several of her associates on a tour of the Beverly Hills Academy of the Arts, where he introduced her group as “members of the church of angels.”

Sedghi, who is of Jewish heritage, has also praised the Adventist Church for observing Saturday as Sabbath, telling Lewis, “It is wonderful to meet people who keep Shabbat.”

Lewis said Sedghi has “thrown his entire weight” behind Your Best Pathway to Health and was enlisting Hollywood stars to cosponsor the free clinic. She said it was too early to announce any names.

“I cannot name the Hollywood movie stars who are looking to get involved as sponsors, but it is very interesting to have this opportunity to witness to these people,” she said. “There are some whom I have viewed as highly influential celebrities, people I would see in a magazine. I feel that if Jesus were here, He would be witnessing to these people.”

Health Vans and a Homeless Program

With the support of Sedghi and city lawmakers, Lewis has reached a tentative agreement to lease the Los Angeles Convention Center, a 400,000-square-foot (37,160-square-meter) facility in the heart of the city. Volunteers will start setting up the free clinic on April 25, and a special worship service will end the event on April 30 with speakers Mark Finley, well-known Adventist evangelist; Daniel R. Jackson, president of the Adventist Church in North America; and Duane McKey, assistant to the president of the Adventist world church for the Total Member Involvement and director of the church’s Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Department.

As a follow-up program, organizers plan to dispatch mini-clinic health vans to Adventist churches in the community to provide medical and dental care for those unable to attend the main event. Scores of people have been unable to receive treatment at previous free clinics because of high
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Above: Dental care is a popular and useful aspect of every Your Best Pathway to Health event. Below: Dr. Lela Lewis (right) has coordinated Your Best Pathway to Health events in the San Francisco Bay area and San Antonio. The next event will be held in Los Angeles.

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR PATHWAY-LA

To the surprise of many, the most valuable volunteers for Pathway-LA need no medical training. The number one criterion for volunteers is a smile and a heartbeat! In fact, Pathway-LA estimates 70 percent of the needed volunteers are nonmedical.

Nonmedical volunteers are specifically needed to help with administration, registration, hospitality/escort services, electrical support, contractor/manual work, communications, information technology, and other services. In addition, volunteers are needed in beautician/barber services, new clothing distribution, food service, and a men's suit department. A new and greatly needed legal services department will be offered in Pathway-LA.

Similar to other Your Best Pathway to Health (YbPTH) events, Pathway-LA needs volunteers to offer comprehensive whole-person services, including physical, mental, and spiritual health. In addition to regular medical services—including outpatient multispecialty medical and surgical services—major surgeries will be offered at cooperating hospitals.

These medical specialties will include pediatrics, emergency medicine, gastroenterology, rheumatology, pulmonology, infectious disease, family practice, gynecology, general surgery, orthopedics, radiology, dermatology, podiatry, and mental health. Full spectrum dental and optometric care will also be provided, along with medical massage, physical and occupational therapy, speech therapy, audiology, laboratory services, a full in-house pharmacy, plus radiologic services.

We are honored to have the Los Angeles County Health Department, plus several governmental agencies, cosponsor Pathway-LA. As noted in the accompanying article, various influential individuals in Hollywood and Beverly Hills have been touched as they observe Seventh-day Adventists present Christ to the masses following His method of whole-person physical, emotional, and spiritual healing.

One prominent individual asked: "There are many megachurches with thousands of members everywhere, but where are the free mega events for the homeless and those in need?" In answer to his own question he said, "Pathway-LA is just that! This is something I believe in and want to support!"

With God's leading, Your Best Pathway to Health-Los Angeles will be the largest Seventh-day Adventist mega event in the United States. It has the potential to bring unprecedented positive attention to God's church while impacting patients, volunteers, and communities in a way we have never seen.

We need your personal involvement as never before! We estimate that we need 1,500 volunteers to reach 10,000 patients. Financial gifts will go to purchase necessary medical equipment to make this a reality. Consider partnering, volunteering, and giving sacrificially to reach men and women for Jesus. Visit PathwaytoHealthVolunteer.org or call 1-888-44-Pathway and become involved in this life-changing ministry. You may never be the same!

By Lela Lewis

March 2016 | Adventist World — NAD 35
She just told us what she’s thinking. Will you?
Continued from page 33

demand for specialized services, particularly dental care.

“We'll go from Adventist church to Adventist church so the thousands of people who didn't have opportunities to get in will now be able to,” Lewis said.

Your Best Pathway to Health is organizing the vans in cooperation with Adventist Community Services.

Your Best Pathway to Health is also working with the Adventist Church to submit a proposal to Los Angeles authorities about a follow-up program to assist those who are homeless.

Facing a 12 percent increase in homeless people in two years, Los Angeles declared a public emergency in September and proposed spending $100 million on housing and other services to deal with the situation. About 45,000 homeless people live in Los Angeles and Los Angeles County, according to city estimates.

Homeless people will be a primary focus of the free clinic, Lewis said. “We will cater our services to make sure we are meeting the needs of the community, especially homeless people,” she said.

Andrew McChesney is news editor for Adventist World and Adventist Review magazines.

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Annual Day of Giving Sabbath, April 9

CRSBday.org
The story of Balaam (Numbers 23; 24) might seem an odd place to begin an article on Total Member Involvement. It is remembered most for a talking donkey, but a closer reading reveals more.

Balak, king of Moab, had a problem. Balak has offered Balaam riches if he will agree to curse the Israelites. Balaam accepts cautioning to say only what God tells him. Fast-forward to the end, and Balaam does not curse the nation, but instead, speaks three blessings. Angry, the king refuses to pay him for his service.

Before leaving, Balaam offers one more prediction—this one for free. “I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; a Star shall come out of Jacob; a Scepter shall rise out of Israel” (Num. 24:17).

Learning the Why

Promoter Simon Sinek recently developed three words—what, how, why—into a marketing concept. He arranged them into a “golden circle,” where the center circle is “why,” the middle is “how,” and the outer circle is “what.” These three circles moving from the outside circle to the innermost circle represent Sinek’s theory on how people think. First, they ask “What?” followed by “How?” and finally “Why?” Sinek’s point is that inspiring leaders or organizations think, act, and communicate differently—that is, upside down or inside out. Successful leaders begin with “Why?”

Look again at Balaam and Balak. Together they look at the “what,” they develop the “how,” but they never reason the “why.” What they wanted to do was rid the earth of Israelites. How to do it rested in cursing them. Never once do they speak about “why” the Israelites are there in the first place. After Balak’s frustration and Balaam’s ambivalence, God gives Balaam one last prophecy and in it reveals the why: I love them. I want to spend eternity with them. I have a plan.

Applying this concept to God becomes an eye-opening experience. Throughout Scripture, God, from a human perspective, is an upside-down communicator. Think about Jesus and His disciples. During most of His ministry the disciples are scratching their heads. They’d ask a question (what or how), and He’d answer (why). Nicodemus asks Jesus what and how—Jesus answers why (John 3:16). The woman at the well asks what; Jesus answers why (John 4:26). On the road to Emmaus Jesus reveals the “why” throughout Scripture—I created you. I love you. I want to be with you forever. The “how” is sending His Son to die for you. The “what” becomes easy—living with Him for eternity. The excited disciples run all the way back to Jerusalem. When you understand the “why,” hearts and perspective are transformed. Upside-down thinking changes the world.

“Why” Can Change Everything

Churches can be guilty of thinking more about “what” than “why.” We tell others what we are, we describe how we work, but often don’t communicate why. Does this sound familiar? “You should know Jesus as your Savior” (what). “To know Him, you need to [attend church, become a vegetarian, reform your lifestyle, read more of your Bible, …] (how). The implication is “This will make your life better” (what). Some will join, but many will not. It isn’t inspiring.

But what if the order is turned upside down? “I believe that Jesus is my Creator, Savior, and Best Friend” (why). I believe that Jesus is coming soon, He’s creating a home for me so I can live with Him forever, and He grants me an abundance of blessings because He loves me” (how). “Wouldn’t you like to know Him?” (what). This doesn’t suggest that the other method is incorrect, but highlights that it doesn’t necessarily lead to a full heart conversion. Upside-down thinking communicates passion, love, mercy, and grace—and people respond.

When the Bible is read with upside-down thinking, it changes
everything you might have thought about God. The “why” of God is found from Genesis to Revelation. The message is about saving you because He loves you. And when you grasp that, you are moved to tell others. You’re inspired to change the world.

**Total Member Involvement**

Total Member Involvement is about evangelism. It’s about enthusiastically telling others about Jesus. It should be easy, but it isn’t. Mostly because we’re stuck in our thinking. When the “why” of Jesus is understood, things happen. When the “why” of the Sabbath is understood, the day is amazingly joyous. When the “why” of worship is understood, you want to be with fellow believers.

One church in Maryland, U.S.A., was transformed by “why” thinking. Those from outside perceived the church as large and unfriendly. Members decided it wasn’t their problem, but everyone else’s. Pastors now and again would endeavor to fix the issue, but nothing endured, and membership support was lackluster. Yet one day something changed everything—upside-down thinking.

During nominating committee about a dozen individuals were placed together in a room with the challenge to create a plan for a friendlier environment. The leader repeatedly spoke to them about discovering the “why” of hospitality. The group continued to respond: What is hospitality? How about doing this? But the leader continued to encourage their “why” thinking—“Why be friendly? Why are we here?” Three weeks later it clicked. That day they got excited. Twelve members changed their church.

In less than three months these 12 individuals recruited more than 300 members to participate in a new program called HIS Team. HIS Team members help, inform, and support their church and each other because Jesus loves them (why). They do this in a variety of creative ways incorporating every person’s gifts from the moment a person enters the campus (how). And the what? Former members are returning, an evangelistic series resulted in baptisms, youth and young adults are talking about their church to their friends, and pastors from other congregations are asking how they can make this happen in their church. The success comes from thinking like Jesus—upside down.

A church in Massagno, Switzerland, had a similar experience. They had dwindled to six members. They lacked vision, leadership, and church growth. In May 2010 one of the youngest members decided, with God’s help, to take the lead. Having no experience as a pastor, but having studied principles of business, he decided to apply them, along with prayer, to church growth.

The new young pastor put the well-being of the people over the programs. He delegated responsibility to the members according to their giftedness. He increased communication to the members offering spiritual encouragement. Sabbath mornings were transformed by offering a genuine welcome to each person. In three years the group grew from five to 40 regularly attending, with nine baptisms and members of all ages. In March 2015 the small group was officially established as a church.

Certainly the Lord has blessed these churches. They transformed their thinking from “what” and “how” to identifying “why” then developing the “how.” Both were so successful that they didn’t need to define the “what”—people were encouraged and inspired, so they joined and committed.

Total Member Involvement is about using the gifts that we have been given for Jesus. It is, however, more than that. It is identifying the “why” of our Christianity. When we do this, we transform not only ourselves but also the world.

Merle Poirier is operations manager for Adventist World.
My Soul-winning Business
Meet a travel agent for heaven.

By Halsey Peat

Carl Chin keeps trying to convince people that he isn’t a pastor. But sometimes his love and service to them for the sake of the gospel seem to challenge his words.

Chin’s Commitment

The constant comparison with a pastor disappoints Chin. “I’m simply doing what every layperson is called to do,” he says. “Soul winning is not supposed to be left to the paid clergy. As a church, we believe in the priesthood of all believers so we must all go out and talk to others about how God has been good to us.”

Chin was gripped by the conviction to talk about Jesus when he first learned about salvation nearly 40 years ago. “This is just too good to keep to myself,” he told himself, and asked his pastor, Rick Bacchus, if he could accompany him on Bible studies. Soon Chin was giving Bible studies and looking out for visitors to his church who wanted to study the Bible.

“One of these,” he recalls, “was a prostitute. My wife, Cindy, and I worked with her. Imagine our joy when we witnessed her being baptized! Meanwhile, she had introduced us to a number of her former colleagues, and for nearly two years I gave Bible studies to a group of prostitutes. I witnessed changed lives, and I knew that this was just the beginning. No one is so sinful that God cannot save them.”

International in Canada

At his present church, Willowdale Adventist Church, in the Canadian city of Toronto, Chin helped Cambodian believers develop from a small group into an established congregation with their own pastor. After 20 years their congregation still refuses to allow Chin to leave their fellowship. He regularly attends two worship services on Sabbath: one with his own congregation, and another with the Cambodian group for three hours in the afternoon. Through an interpreter he leads a regular Bible study and often preaches as well.

“My time with the group is precious,” he says. “They say that I’m helping them, but I’m the one being blessed as I hear of their struggles back in Cambodia under earlier despotic rule.” The group gains at least three new converts every year.

Chin also has a close relationship with the Chinese Seventh-day Adventist Church in Toronto that began more than 30 years ago when a group of 10 then met for worship in a classroom at Crawford Adventist Academy, adjacent to Chin’s local church. Chin was with them every week, until they erected their own church building. He is their annual guest speaker for Chinese New Year service, usually introduced as one of those who helped make them what they are today.

Chin seems to be perpetually involved in a new evangelistic project for Jesus. With the Cambodian and Chinese churches firmly established and growing, he turned to missionary agitation at his home church. His pastor shared his vision, and within a few weeks Chin was appointed chairperson of a church plant committee.

“We soon discovered the nucleus of a small group looking for a sponsoring church,” Chin explains, “and it was not
long before we began working with them and made them an official church plant.” They became the first South Asian Adventist congregation in Ontario. Pastor Rick Bacchus, who many years earlier had given Chin his first Bible studies, worked very closely with the group and, though retired, continues to oversee the group.

One on One
Chin prays daily that God will keep using him. God answered by leading him to Susan, an immigrant to Canada from mainland China who was paying her first visit ever to a Christian church of any sort. Chin takes up the story:

“As usual, seeing a new face, I approached her to welcome her and to introduce myself. Her English was fairly basic at best, but she understood me. As soon as I learned that it was her first visit to a Christian church, I asked if she’d like for Cindy and me to give her Bible studies. She was very happy and agreed for us to visit her.

“Our first visit was fairly challenging because we had never met someone who had absolutely no knowledge of the Bible. We had to change our usual approach to Bible study. By the third visit I suggested that she learn the sequence of the books of the Bible. It would give her some familiarity with the Bible. I suggested that she try learning them three at a time.

“By our next visit, Susan was able to faultlessly recite the sequence from Genesis to the Psalms. In no time she was able to recite the 66 books in correct sequence and showed voracious hunger to understand the Bible’s message.

“Susan read The Desire of Ages in just two weeks. We gave her the entire Conflict of the Ages Series, which she completed in three to four months. As the Bible studies came to a close, she said she wanted to be baptized but was hesitant to do so. We soon learned that her sister in China was questioning her journey into Christianity, and Adventism in particular. Susan had been teaching her sister everything we had been teaching her about Jesus. We kept praying for her.

“She had also been worried for another sister, who had been diagnosed with cancer. We began praying for the sick sister and encouraged Susan to do so also. When news arrived from China that her sister was recovering, Susan attributed it to God’s power and enthusiastically told her skeptical sister so. The skeptical sister became more receptive, and soon her daughter began attending a church in China.

“We were so happy to witness Susan’s baptism at our local church. She is very much part of our family now.”

Reflecting now on the far-reaching impact of his work with Susan, Chin is quick to say: “I realize that if we allow ourselves to see God’s Spirit work through us, we will see how the results of our efforts will mushroom. Even though I know this, and I’ve seen how God has worked, yet somehow He still surprises me with people like Susan!”

The Ethics of Chin’s Witness
To those who insist that religious faith must be private, Chin warns that Seventh-day Adventists must not fall victim to that lie. There is nothing private about faith. Jesus’ life was one of reaching out to people, and we should live as He did, demonstrating love to people in their situation or circumstance, not simply praying for them from the comfort of our homes. He says, “It is as we engage with people that we are able to talk to them about the love of Jesus and invite them to meet Him.”

Chin, who runs a travel agency, is committed to the privilege of witnessing for Christ as long as he is able. He lives by a missionary principle: “Being a travel agent is my work, but soul winning is my business!”

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Halsey Peat is communication director of the Ontario Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.
In seeking to answer your question, I will comment on the context of the passage, examine how it is interpreted in the Gospels as it refers to Christ, and discuss how it might be fulfilled in the last days.

1. **Contextual Considerations:** Malachi 4 begins with an announcement of divine judgment and its effects on the fate of the wicked (total extermination) and of those who revere/fear the Lord (victory, salvation, and joy [verses 1-3]). This is followed by a call to “remember [i.e., keep] the law” God gave to Israel on Sinai (verse 4). In this context the coming of Elijah is announced and dated (verse 5): He will come “before the great and dreadful day of the Lord” (verse 5; cf. verses 1-3; Joel 2:31). The prophet’s mission will be to “turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers” (verse 6).

A literal reading of the text is possible, but the context suggests the need of the new generation to be as faithful to God’s law and covenant as were their faithful forefathers. In other words, Elijah was to prepare God’s people for the coming of the Lord by calling them to return to the faith of the fathers.

2. **Christological Interpretation:** The kingdom of God forcefully interrupted human history in the person and ministry of Jesus. He was the Messiah. The Jews argued that He could not be the Messiah because Elijah had not yet come (Matt. 17:10). Affirming His messiahship, Jesus answered that Elijah had already come in the ministry of John the Baptist (verses 11-13). John denied being the incarnated Elijah (John 1:21), though he came “filled with the Holy Spirit” (Luke 1:15) and “in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just” (verse 17). Through his ministry John would “bring back . . . to the Lord” many of the people of Israel (verse 16, NIV) in order “to make ready a people prepared for the Lord” (verse 17). His prophetic task was to “prepare the way of the Lord” (Matt. 3:3).

3. **End-time Interpretation:** The partial fulfillment of the prophecy of Malachi in the ministry of John the Baptist will find its ultimate fulfillment before the coming of Christ. A brief look at the book of Revelation points, first, to the coming of a false Elijah who will cause “fire [to] come down from heaven” (Rev. 13:13; cf. 1 Kings 18:36-38) in order to gather the kings of the earth in preparation for the “battle of that great day of God Almighty” (Rev. 16:14). Second, this false Elijah is not an individual but an apostate movement claiming to have the spirit of Elijah, when in reality deceptive miracles are performed through the power of demonic spirits (Rev. 16:13, 14). Third, the work of a false Elijah points to the end-time mission of the true Elijah as summarized in the messages of the three angels (Rev. 14:6-12). It refers to a movement raised by God to invite His people to come out of Babylon (Rev. 18:4). This movement is called the end-time remnant (Rev. 12:17); they are “faithful followers” of the Lamb (Rev. 17:14, NIV). Fourth, their message, in agreement with Malachi, announces the judgment of God that will bring salvation through the eternal gospel to those who “fear God” (Rev. 14:7), and destruction to the wicked (verses 10, 11). Those who fear the Lord obey/keep God’s commandments (verse 12). They restore the faith of their apostolic fathers as found in the New Testament, calling God’s people to return to Him. Fifth, they are, like Elijah and John the Baptist, possessed by the power of the Spirit. They listen to what the Spirit said to the church (Rev. 3:14-22), and, empowered by the angel of Revelation 18:1, they will illuminate the earth with God’s glory in a last attempt to prepare the world for the coming of the Lord. They receive the outpouring of the Spirit of the Lord, announced in Joel 2:28, 29, and that will happen “before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord” (Joel 2:31, NIV).

The work of Elijah should be our work.

Angel Manuel Rodriguez is retired after serving as director of the Biblical Research Institute of the General Conference.
This month we will continue our study about the life of Moses. In our last study we focused on Moses’ intimate relationship with God as a close friend. In this lesson we will explore Moses’ commitment to trust God in the challenges and difficulties of life. We will discover a God who honors the positive choices His people make and glorifies His name by working miracles for those who trust Him. These miracles may not always come in the form of spectacular, supernatural wonders (although sometimes they do), but God always supplies the miracle of divine grace to strengthen us to face the challenges we all must meet.


Moses chose to “suffer affliction with the people of God” rather than to enjoy the pleasures and wealth of Egypt. By faith he grasped the divine reality that this life has little to offer in the light of eternity. The passing pleasures of earth fade into insignificance compared with the eternal treasures of Christ.

How did God reward Moses’ faithfulness? What amazing promise did He make to both Moses and the children of Israel? Discover the answer in Exodus 6:6-7. Moses’ trust in God opened the door for God to work unusual miracles for the children of Israel. God’s greatest miracles are reserved for His friends who trust Him explicitly.

What crisis did Israel face at the Red Sea, and what counsel did God give Israel that revealed Moses’ trust in God? Read Exodus 14:13, 14.

When the Israelites passed through the Red Sea, and their oppressors, the Egyptians, were drowned in the raging waters, God’s people burst out rejoicing in a song of deliverance. Their victorious strains of praise echoed throughout the camp. One day at the end of time, when God’s people stand rejoicing on the sea of glass, we too will sing a song of praise and victory. The Song of Moses, the song of God’s mighty hand of deliverance, will echo throughout the universe.

Although God repeatedly worked miracles for His people as they wandered on their wilderness journey, they often bitterly complained of the difficulties that confronted them. When they had little to eat, they murmured against God. But Moses, once again, exhibited His trust in God. What counsel did He give? Read Exodus 16:6, 7.

In Exodus 20 God gave the Ten Commandments—principles of His divine government—to His people. What promise did He also make to those who lovingly obey His commands through His power? Read Exodus 34:1, 6, 7, 10.

One of the things God longed to teach His people in the Old Testament is that there is a blessing in obedience; disobedience forfeits these blessings. God works in special ways for those who trust and obey Him.

When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, what condition clearly indicated that He had been in the presence of God? Read Exodus 34:29.

God reveals His presence in marvelous ways to those who trust Him. Today, no matter what challenges we face in our lives, if we live lives of trust we will see His miracle-working power and reveal God’s glory to others.
Letters

Looking for Legalism, Finding Hypocrisy (November 2015)
In response to this article, please remember these truths from the Word of God: “When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross” (Col. 2:13, 14, NIV).

“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God” (Rom. 5:1, 2, NIV).

“This is the wonderful gift from God. Praise His name!”

Nancy Reed
via e-mail

Did God Create Dinosaurs? (November 2015)
I read this article with interest and realized that I had already read an answer to this in one of Ellen White’s books. It is found in Spiritual Gifts, volume 3, in the chapter about the Flood. Mrs. White states that every species of animal that God had created were preserved in the ark. The confused species that God did not create, which were the result of amalgamation, were destroyed by the Flood.

Just a thought to pass on to your readers.

Fred Herzel
North Carolina, United States

Further Information on Parkinson’s Disease Treatment
I was pleased to see the article on Parkinson’s disease in the November 2015 edition, but I was disappointed in the lack of specific information regarding deep-brain stimulation (DBS) surgery.

I was diagnosed with Parkinson’s more than 20 years ago, so I know firsthand what sufferers go through. I was checked thoroughly by the Stanford University Medical Center (California, United States) and was approved for DBS. I opted not to undergo the procedure for two reasons: (1) the thought of having tubes and/or wires poked in and through my brain did not appeal to me; and (2) a friend of mine had the surgery and improved for only two or three months before going into a rapid decline from which he never recovered.

I am not a doctor, but if you are considering DBS, please go to a reputable clinic with a doctor who has experience in this.

Don Blum
via e-mail

Using Adventist World for Others
I am not an Adventist, but I read your magazine’s July 2015 edition. I religiously cut out the GLOW tract on mental health and gave it to a patient on his deathbed. He decided to give his life to Christ after reading it. I want more of your magazines in the future.

Moses Auma
Kenya

Love AW, but Would Love It on Time
The October edition of Adventist World arrived November 6. I hope the next one isn’t quite so late, as it is nice to have them on time.

Lova McLeod
via e-mail

Letters Policy: Please send to letters@adventistworld.org. Letters must be clearly written, 100-word maximum. Include the name of the article and the date of publication with your letter. Also include your name, the denomination, state, and country from which you are writing. Letters will be edited for space and clarity. Not all letters submitted will be published.
I like to serve God and I have long hoped to work as an evangelist, and finally a path has opened in my area. Pray for me.

Gerard
Ivory Coast

Please pray for my soul, for I am truly lost without Him.

Felix
Kenya

I am facing financial hardship with my two children attending Adventist school. Please pray for us.

Ngain Thang
Myanmar

I want to hear God’s voice and see His excellent work.

Kwame
Libya

Thank you for the prayers for heart surgery. It turned out well.

Monica
Argentina

I have seen that evil forces are fighting against my finances. Kindly help in prayer.

Isaac
Ghana

I am unemployed and need money for college. Please pray for me.

Kevin
Kenya

Please pray for me. I completed high school in 2014 and now want to go to university but have no money. I have been looking for a job since then, but to no avail.

Brighton
Zimbabwe

On March 3, 1949, the Manila Sanitarium and Hospital reopened following the repair of damage it suffered during World War II.

Adventist medical work in the Philippines began in 1928, when a physician, H. A. Hall, and three nurses opened a dispensary on the first floor of one of the mission buildings located in Malate, a neighborhood in Manila. As demands on the dispensary increased, another building was turned into a small hospital with two wards, one operating/delivery room, and a capacity of 10 beds. A new three-story building went up in 1929, and in 1930 a school of nursing was established. A second three-story building was built in 1931.

In 1940 a four-story concrete building was constructed in Pasay City. During World War II Japanese used the building as a navy hospital. In June 1945, amid the ruins caused by the war, Adventists opened a temporary clinic on the first floor to serve the community.

The institution is now part of Adventist Health Services/Asia of the Southern Asia-Pacific Division.

When Kids Go to Church

One Sabbath when our daughter visited us, the children’s Sabbath School dismissed early, so she and her family slipped into the adult Bible study, which featured a lesson I was teaching about the book of James.

After a few minutes of hearing “James clearly says,” and and “according to James,” our 4-year-old granddaughter turned to her mother and asked, “Mei-mei, what is Paien [grandfather] doing?”

To which her mother replied, “Shh! He’s talking.”

A few moments later my granddaughter church-whispered, “But Mei-mei, why is he talking only about himself?”

—James Warji, Hong Kong Adventist International Church
Where in the World Is This?

Idea Exchange

Be Part of the Exchange

Adventist World’s Idea Exchange is looking for submissions. To reflect the wide world of Seventh-day Adventists, send us:

- High-resolution photographs (with captions and photo credits)
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- Brief spiritual lessons
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- Quotes worth repeating

Send them to Letters@AdventistWorld.org.

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