Distance Learning Program
Margie Seely, AU Education Leader, Cedartown, GA

In 2007, David Budzinski traveled to South Africa’s Kruger National Park. Packed away in his luggage was his new video camera that he was anxious to try out. Little did he know that the footage he would shoot that day would become one of the most widely viewed amateur videos ever.

As the safari reached the Transport Dam, a popular watering hole for many animal species, David noticed a large herd of water buffalo calmly feeding by the water’s edge. He also noticed a group of teenage lions sunbathing and seemingly oblivious to the herd at the other end of the dam.

An hour passed, and the two groups maintained their distance. Refreshed at last, the buffalo began to file away, when they suddenly became keenly aware that danger was present. The lions, now very much alert, crouch silently, waiting for their chance to attack. The buffalo flee; the lions charge. In the subsequent confusion a calf is caught.

The lions are sure of their catch until a wily crocodile emerges from the waters to steal away the calf. It then becomes the prize in a gruesome tug-of-war between lion and crocodile. This distraction gives the buffalo herd a moment to reorganize and launch a counterattack! The herd stampedes, frightens off the lions, and successfully reclaims their own.

The video reminds me of our fight to save our children from the roaring lion so eager to snatch them away from the fold of God (I Peter 5:8). The scenes remind me in a graphic way of the following admonition: “There can be no more important work than the proper education of our youth. We must guard them, fighting back Satan, that he shall not take them out of our arms…. Satan is making earnest, persevering efforts to corrupt the mind and debase the character of every young person; and shall we who have more experience stand as mere spectators, and see him accomplish his purpose without hindrance? Let us stand at our post as minute men, to work for these youth, and through the help of God hold them back from the pit of destruction.” –Education, pp. 89-90.

The American Union Education Department is working very hard to prepare a distance-learning education program for the benefit of the children of church members. A distance-learning program is an online school that allows students the opportunity to learn on an individualized basis. Instruction is done through online lectures and demonstrations. Questions are answered via Skype or email.

The education this program offers will be Christ-centered and uniquely tailored to meet each child’s learning style. Our website will also offer a tutoring program for children and assistance to families who are currently home schooling but need instruction in only one or two subjects.

However, before we can proceed further in developing this program, we need feedback. A survey has been sent out to all the churches. Please be sure to fill it out and return it to me by Friday, April 12.

“Let us work for the youth with all the powers God has bestowed upon us, and He will bless our well-directed efforts. Our Saviour longs to save the young. He would rejoice to see them around his throne…. He is waiting to place upon their heads the crown of life, and hear their happy voices join in ascribing honor and glory and majesty to God and the Lamb in the song of victory that shall echo and re-echo throughout the courts of heaven.” –Education, p. 90.
Children’s Science Camp Invitation
Lisbeth Hunger, Southeastern Field Education Leader, Cedartown, GA

You are invited to participate in the Southeastern Field’s sixth Children’s Conference to be held May 24-27, 2013, at the IMS General Conference Headquarters in Cedartown, Georgia, located at 625 West Avenue. All age groups are invited, but the science camp is specifically planned for children and teens with their parents or guardians.

The entire program will focus on God’s science. Worship, group activities, nature walks, hands-on experiments, healthful meals, and river rafting are included. Even your smiles are part of the true meaning of science, as you will discover.

Lodging: The Cedartown church would like to welcome you with their hospitality. You will find lodging in the church facilities, as well in some members’ houses. If you prefer a private place, there is a hotel nearby that charges only $50 per night for a room with two queen-sized beds.

Fee: Each person, aged five and older, will be charged a flat $20 fee for the entire weekend. This will help cover the costs of food and materials. (Donations are always welcome!) If you plan to attend the water excursion on Sunday, please bring extra money.

What to bring: Be sure to bring your Bible, sturdy hiking shoes, a musical instrument, appropriate/modest clothing (especially for the water activity), and a happy spirit.

Registration deadline: To plan properly, we need to receive your registration by Friday, May 3, 2013. You may call 770-715-0419 or email your plans to lisbethhunger@yahoo.com.

We pray for a happy time together and nice weather and that the Lord’s presence will be the source of all our scientific explorations.

Baptism of Andrew Petrovich
Pastor Henry Dering, Cameron Park, CA

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.” Mark 16:15, 16.

Even though the American River was still very cold, Sabbath, March 16, was a beautiful, warm and sunny day in Sacramento, California. It was the baptismal day of one fine young man, Andrew Petrovich, the oldest son of Sister Anne Petrovich and Tom Petrovich, and Sr. Evelyn Holmstroem’s grandson, who publicly testified of his personal commitment to Jesus Christ. We were all thrilled to witness Brother Andrew’s baptism by which he confessed his faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and testified of death to sin and rebirth in Jesus.

“There are three living persons of the heavenly trio; in the name of these three great powers— the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—those who receive Christ by living faith are baptized, and these powers will cooperate with the obedient subjects of heaven in their efforts to live the new life in Christ.” – Special Testimonies, Series B, No. 7, pp. 62, 63 (1905).

“All heaven is interested in the salvation of the soul. Then what reason have we to doubt that the Lord will and does help us?” –Signs of the Times, Oct. 3, 1892.

May the Lord richly bless our dear young Brother Andrew as he begins his new life with Jesus. May he be faithful until the end.
Missionary Minute: Youth in Ministry
Pastor Joel Barnedo, General Conference Youth Department Leader, Denver, CO

In the story and experience of Queen Esther we can learn many lessons. God knew her mission. While she was growing up under her uncle’s care, God was preparing Esther for a special and important task—to save the Jewish people from annihilation.

Esther was a precursor of Jesus, God’s instrument for saving humanity. After Jesus’ birth, Herod commanded that all the Jewish boy babies in Bethlehem be killed. Also, in Esther’s time one can see how the Jews would all have been killed if she had not acted immediately. Her uncle urged her to do something right away, without delay. Similarly, Jesus commanded His disciples to go everywhere and preach the gospel. Revelation 12:17 explains that the dragon is very angry with God’s remnant church; the devil wants to kill every Christian, because time is short. In all our churches, we need more Mordecais, who will rally the youth to do God’s bidding. “And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness; and then shall the end come.” Matthew 24:14.

The youth are the hope of today. Young people, boys and girls, are called to continue the mission of Queen Esther. She never thought that her decisiveness would be an encouragement and inspiration throughout succeeding centuries right down to our time. But it has been. In the same way, youth who are committed to Christ may not realize the impact they have on their peers and others.

The youth today have a very important work to do. If each young person unhesitatingly invited a friend to his/her earliteen or youth Sabbath school class, what a lively church we would have.

Ask your church leaders to make you a choir member, or learn to play a musical instrument. People are drawn to Christ through music. I remember how Sister Juliana, a pioneer of our church in Manila, came to know the truth. One day, as she was walking to the market, she heard people singing a song from the Adventist hymnal. The words wafting through the air were, “I would love to tell you what I think of Jesus.” She entered the small chapel where the music was coming from, and that song led her to became an Adventist. One day she met Brother Raul Escobar and accepted the message of Reform. Now there is a church standing in her small town as a memorial of what one song can do.

Revival can begin with one person. The Old Testament gives many examples of young people like that of King Josiah, a 9-year-old boy who started a revival and reformation by cleaning up the temple, destroying all the high places where idols were worshipped, and restoring true worship in Israel. God needs you, my dear youth. Age doesn’t matter when preaching the gospel. Jesus was twelve years old when He corrected the misperceptions of the priests regarding the Messiah. He explained to them about Isaiah 53, that Christ would suffer before becoming King. Children in our churches need to be trained to explain the Scriptures to their cousins, uncle, aunts, relatives, and classmates. Each family should recognize that their mission is to prepare their children to become kings and queens for Jesus. If parents will lead the minds of their children so they know that they are called by God to become channels of the truth, then we will have modern Josiahs in our churches today. If we learn to do missionary work when we are young, we will have a wonderful future and be good workers for God.
Health Beat: Are You Eating Nails for Breakfast?
Melite Hunger, Cedar Christian School Student, Cedartown, GA

If you had cold cereal for breakfast, you had iron.
To prove this you can perform a small experiment. You will need a small, heavy-duty Ziploc bag, some cold breakfast cereal, and water. Total brand cereal is probably the best to use, because it has 100% of the daily iron requirement.

To do this experiment, you have to put about one cup of cereal into the Ziploc bag, then fill it three quarters of the way full with water. The next step is to shake it well and let it sit for half an hour. After that time, it should look soupy.

Now comes the fun part. Hold a neodymium magnet in one hand, place the soupy cereal mixture in the Ziploc bag on top of the magnet, shake the bag around, and flip it over. Ta-dah! You will see your cereal’s iron collected in one spot. This iron is called food-grade iron. Food companies put it into bread and other foods, like breakfast cereal, to boost the iron content.

You can also use this experiment to compare the amount of iron in one cereal with that in other cereals. The cereal I compared Total with was Millville Corn Squares, which has 50% iron. I also compared Total with Great Value Multi-Grain Flakes Cereal, which has 100% iron. When you perform the experiment on the Millville Corn Squares, you can see a little bit of iron. But when you try it on the Multi-Grain Flakes Cereal you can’t see any iron flakes at all! How come? The difference is that the Multi-Grain Flakes Cereal has natural iron in it. That’s why it won’t be attracted to the magnet.

Is the iron in Total beneficial for you? No, it’s not, because it’s in its raw, metallic form. (By the way, you can make a real nail out of the iron you get from your breakfast cereal. You would only need about 4-5,000 boxes!)

Find out which cereals in your home contain natural iron and which contain metallic iron. That way, the next time you go shopping for cereal, you will know which cereals won’t make you eat nails for breakfast.

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2013 - 2014 Calendar

- April 13, 2013: Special Sabbath in Marietta, GA
- April 26-27, 2013: Special Services in Houston, TX
- May 24-27, 2013: Eastern Field Children’s Conference Science Camp, Cedartown, GA
- August 2-4, 2013: Canadian Field Conference (more information coming soon)
- August 14-18, 2013: American Union Conference, Mountain Center, CA
  Register online for the Conference now at: https://adobeformscentral.com/?f=SElv6HoSjCOq9vTgZViA
  For more information contact Barbara Watts at: barbara.watts@nda1888.org or 916-765-3389
- September 25, 2013-March 16, 2014: Bethsaida Missionary School, Cedartown, GA

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