A Unique Art Department—
Patterned After the Old Masters
FEATURES

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IN THIS ISSUE...

Students from the Atlantic Union College Art Department successfully completed a major commercial, professional production that was hosted by the Takoma Park Seventh-day Adventist Church in Takoma Park, Maryland. Read the story on page 4. In this issue you will also find Positions of Our Faith on page 7, and Youth Talk on page 8. The cover photo was taken by Jeremy Bowcock, a sophomore art major at AUC.

MISSION STATEMENT

To faithfully chronicle the work and progress of the church in the Atlantic Union territory and inform, instruct, and inspire our church members.

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May 2007 March 9
June 2007 April 13
July 2007 May 11

The GLEANER deadline schedule is available online at www.atlantic-union.org/gleaner4.htm.
To say that our times are calamitous is an understatement. We live in perilous times with no calm in sight. Daily destruction of life and property, whether by psychological torture, sickness, or death, seems to be the order of the day. Scripture warned us that this would be. “This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come”—2 Timothy 3:1. Job understood this well. Driven to desperation, he fell back on the truth and justice of God. He declared “I know that my redeemer liveth”—Job 19:25. There are three things that Job had that gave him hope and certainty amid calamity. I entreat you to let them be instructive to you in these turbulent times in which we live today.

First, Job had a true friend amid cruel friends. He looked to his Redeemer friend in his time of trouble. Even as his so-called friends abandoned him, his kinsman, vindicator, and redeemer Friend was always there. For every false charge and true charge, Jesus, our redeemer, bore our sin Himself, becoming our righteousness, thus justifying us. Everywhere Satan places guilt and sin, Jesus places grace and mercy. He redeems us both by price and by power. We never need worry when we have the Redeemer as our true Friend.

Second, Job had real property amid absolute poverty. In other words, when everything else was gone (see Job 19), Job still had the Redeemer as his own who still lived for him. Reduced to abject poverty, Job still owned a piece of heavenly real estate called “my Redeemer.” To Him Job would cling forever with unabated tenacity. The redeemer would be his only hope in life and death. He may lose everything, but never the redemption of God and the kinship of his Savior. Likewise today, we too may own a piece of that real property in the midst of this world’s calamity.

Lastly, Job had absolute certainty amid uncertain events. The words “I know” had no sort of inherent doubt. Everything else might be questionable, but this was certain and sure. His faith made him certain. It made him “know.” His trials could not make him doubt. In the midst of Job’s dark night of sorrow, he discovered the bright light of God’s justice which declares with absolute certainty, “Though he slay me, yet will I trust him”—Job 13:15. And even if he died undefended and years went by while worms consumed his body, yet a Vindicator would arise and restore Job’s body to life again. That’s the kind of light that streamed through the narrow window of Job’s citadel of faith. His faith then could laugh at impossibilities. His faith then was ashamed to talk of difficulties. Job stared down death and declared, “Mr. Death, one day, I will attend your funeral.”

Job lived long before the Savior burst upon this earth. But what an honor it is for us who live in the clear sunshine of the gospel to embrace Job’s Redeemer, Kinsman, Vindicator, and Friend. In the midst of this world’s calamities and woes, we have a Savior, we have a Redeemer, ’tis Jesus Christ our Lord.

Donald G. King is president of the Atlantic Union Conference and chairman of the Atlantic Union College Board of Trustees.
A Unique Art Department—

An art program that produces prolific, professional, respectable, viable, leading artists in the world of fine arts; and developing these artists who would use their talents and careers according to God’s purpose is best done in an atelier.

—Professors Wayne and Maria Hazen

The Atelier

The Atlantic Union College Art Department’s new approach to art education is to help young artists develop their talents and become artists after the manner of an atelier. Atelier is a French word for a professional working studio that took on apprentices.

When it came to major works of art in size and significance, the old masters rarely worked alone. They worked in their workshop or studio, an atelier, with a staff that consisted of their apprentices. These students would have formal demonstrations by the masters, and explanations and critiques interwoven into the daily schedule. They also learned to complete the master’s commissions by the due dates.

The success and popularity of great masters like Michelangelo Buonarroti depended not only on their individual art talent and skills, but also on the ability to teach their students to follow in their footsteps. By the time apprentices became independent, they had skills equal to those of their masters, a thorough knowledge of the field, and were well-networked into the master’s professional circles.

The Ateliers at AUC

Professors Wayne and Maria Hazen moved their complete art studios to Atlantic Union College and brought with them 50 years of combined experience teaching art at four Seventh-day...
Adventist colleges. They also graduated from AUC in 1975.

Simultaneously with the move, they contracted to do a commercial, life-size, 30-ft. x 100-ft., stage set of a Bethlehem-like village for completion and installation in Washington, D.C., by December 8, 2006. Not even one art major was present on campus yet.

After recruiting art majors, a team of 12 students was put together from among the larger group. Now the task was to teach these students, in three short months, how to design, draw, use color theory, sculpt, construct, install, speak, and negotiate on a professional level.

Like the masters of old, our studios were the students’ classrooms and our explanations and demonstrations were their classes. Their attempts and exercises became their portfolio samples and the project was their first professional experience. Our philosophy is that only by making viable art professionally can professional, viable artists be made.

Patterned After the Old Masters
permits for the live Bethlehem Nativity re-enactment that would tell the story of His Christmas gift to Washington, D.C., for nine nights in December.

And, three-and-one-half months since the art students began their work, they, too were ready for the performances, which began on December 15. The Atlantic Union College Art Department successfully completed a major commercial, professional, life-size, stage set for The Bethlehem Nativity re-enactment viewed by thousands.

The atelier approach worked. The 100-ft. long project consisted of designing, constructing, aging, and installing the Bethlehem-like village—a palace, temple, and two city gates large enough to fit three wise men riding camels—all this out of huge columns and blocks of Styrofoam.

A seating capacity for 500 viewers was surpassed for the duration of nine nights and the attendance more than doubled on some nights. The viewers came from all walks of life and faiths to see how Christ was born in a sinful and violent Bethlehem and how He was miraculously protected from all attempts to be eliminated.

FOX News TV reported, “It was not just a nativity, it was an experience.”

A Mission Served

When no other groups were allowed to speak out in public about Jesus over the Christmas holiday season, the Takoma Park Seventh-day Adventist Church members and AUC’s students and faculty were!

In addition to the professional mission, the art department is accomplishing the training of students to be leaders in a creative, problem-solving approach to share the good news of Jesus Christ through their career field.

Art Student Testimonial

Elíasib Apodaca, who had the lead role in construction said, “I did not expect to be as challenged as I was. I did things I had never attempted before by myself. This program challenged me to function in and at a professional level from the beginning. When you get out there and really have to do it, you go out there with confidence. I especially appreciated working with a good, close-knit team, a team that is like a family—a Christian family, that loves me. This shows me God’s love.”

Maria Roybal-Hazen, Atlantic Union College Art Department chair, writes from South Lancaster, Massachusetts. www.auc.edu, enroll@auc.edu
In order to increase awareness of the views of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on various subjects, the Atlantic Union GLEANER will publish monthly one of the position statements or guidelines voted by church leadership since 1980. These official statements were issued by the General Conference in session, the General Conference Executive Committee, the General Conference Administrative Committee, or the office of the General Conference president.

As the church continues to grow and make an influence, its role in the society will require that its views and what it holds true become known. Such will continue to be the demands of the society, and such will be the need to define Adventism’s relevance, or present truth, to those who are asking questions and seeking answers to their dilemmas and problems.

The documents presented here are not an end in themselves, but a reflection of a movement sensitive to its calling and the people who “know how to answer everyone” (Colossians 4:6, NIV).

Seventh-day Adventist Position Statement on Homosexuality

The Seventh-day Adventist Church recognizes that every human being is valuable in the sight of God, and we seek to minister to all men and women in the spirit of Jesus. We also believe that by God’s grace and through the encouragement of the community of faith, an individual may live in harmony with the principles of God’s Word.

Seventh-day Adventists believe that sexual intimacy belongs only within the marital relationship of a man and a woman. This was the design established by God at creation. The Scriptures declare: “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh” (Genesis 2:24, NIV). Throughout Scripture this heterosexual pattern is affirmed. The Bible makes no accommodation for homosexual activity or relationships. Sexual acts outside the circle of a heterosexual marriage are forbidden (Leviticus 20:7-21; Romans 1:24-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11). Jesus Christ reaffirmed the divine creation intent: “‘Haven’t you read,’ he replied, ‘that at the beginning the Creator “made them male and female,” and said, “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh”’? So they are no longer two, but one” (Matthew 19:4-6, NIV). For these reasons Adventists are opposed to homosexual practices and relationships.

Seventh-day Adventists endeavor to follow the instruction and example of Jesus. He affirmed the dignity of all human beings and reached out compassionately to persons and families suffering the consequences of sin. He offered caring ministry and words of solace to struggling people, while differentiating His love for sinners from His clear teaching about sinful practices.

This statement was voted during the Annual Council of the General Conference Executive Committee on Sunday, October 3, 1999, in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Resources
Listed are some resources that will help you learn more about the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s beliefs, positions on specific topics, and established guidelines.

Web sites
Official Statements voted since 1980: www.adventist.org/beliefs/statements/index.html
Guidelines: www.adventist.org/beliefs/guidelines/index.html
Fundamental Beliefs: www.adventist.org/beliefs/fundamental/index.html
Other Documents: www.adventist.org/beliefs/other_documents/index.html

Books
Available online at AdventSource or your local Adventist Book Center (ABC)

STATEMENTS, GUIDELINES AND OTHER DOCUMENTS
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH MANUAL

Atlantic Union Gleaner, March 2007
Youth Talk

Atlantic Union youth share their opinions and ideas on various topics.

What impact would you like to make for God in your ministry as a youth leader?

These responses are from youth who attended the “Yes You Can!” January 2007 Northeastern Conference Youth Ministries Convention in Stamford, Connecticut.

“In my ministry I would like to teach the Pathfinders about the love of God so that they can learn to know who God is for themselves. In addition, I would like to empower my Pathfinders to be distinguished, Christ-centered, and heaven-bound children of God.”—Racquel Allen, 25, Pathfinder director, Cambridge church, Medford, Massachusetts

“As a youth leader, I would love to bring more people into the church. I would also want to try to get at least five people to become baptized. I am also in Pathfinders, so I can use that to my advantage to bring people into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.”—Shawn Perkiss, 13, volunteers in the audio/visual department and is the Pathfinder club assistant drum corps leader at Hanson Place church, Brooklyn, New York

“I would like to empower youth to be excellent leaders in their church, schools, and homes. The Solid Rock church would like to accomplish this by implementing a mentorship program to bridge the gap between the adults and the youth, while allowing these mentors to impart knowledge and biblical truths to them.”—Diedrian Williams, 23, associate AYS leader, Solid Rock church, Far Rockaway, New York

“In 2007 I want to recruit more young people my age to do God’s work. In addition, I plan to conduct more Bible studies in the community. My ultimate goal is to tell someone about Jesus in each conversation I encounter each day.”—Kyle Smith, 24, deacon, assistant in the AYS department, Pathfinder counselor, Kingston church, Kingston, New York

“I would like to be a better servant for God. I want to expand my singing and preaching ministry. I want to reach many individuals with my ministry.”—Anisha Lovemore, 16, Pathfinder counselor, Adventurer deputy director, Riverdale Avenue church, Yonkers, New York

“The impact I want to make for God is [reclaiming] the youth that have left the church. I believe that the church is held accountable for each individual because we know that they are lost. Before the church can go out and [bring in new individuals] we need to bring back the ones that have left. I want to see heaven filled.”—Diedra Hamilton, 18, Pathfinder senior counselor, Flatbush church, Brooklyn, New York

If you are 30 years or younger, and would like to join these young people in sharing your opinions and ideas, e-mail the GLEANER editor at gleaner@atlanticunion.org. Put “Youth Talk” in the subject line. Photos: Ednor A. P. Davison.
Amérique du Nord: Une équipe d’étudiants adventistes en compétition de ‘mock-trial’ se montre en faveur de l’observation du sabbat

“Je suis tout simplement fière que nous ayons été si loin et que nous ayons terminé sur une bonne note. Je n’ai pas de regrets d’avoir abandonné la compétition à ce stade.” Tels furent les propos tenus par Kaitlyn Serikaku, capitaine de l’équipe de ‘mock-trial’ (simulacre de procès) de l’académie adventiste de Loma Linda. L’équipe a quitté la compétition de mock-trial de San Bernardino, école du district de Californie, lorsque les demi-finales tombèrent le samedi (ou sabbat) 9 décembre.

Depuis, la communauté environnante a manifesté son soutien à la décision des étudiants. Marion Gamundoy, entraineur et avocat-conseil des réclamations au bureau adventiste du management des risques à Riverside en Californie, dit: “Nous sommes fiers des étudiants de notre institution. Ils ont dû choisir entre participer à la compétition et tenir ferme pour leurs croyances religieuses. Ils ont pris la bonne décision.”


M. Gamundoy rapporte que plusieurs avocats et juges locaux se sont portés volontaires pour arranger la situation, de façon à ce que l’équipe de Loma Linda puisse ‘jouer le match’ le vendredi, jour où les tribunaux ont davantage de disponibilité pour ouvrir de larges salles d’audience à la compétition. “C’est le temps qui nous a manqué” ajoute M. Gamundoy, mais “d’après la réponse des juges et avocats du comté de San Bernardino, le procureur de la République indique qu’il planifie de permettre des ajustements l’an prochain.”

Le journal local ‘Redlands Daily Facts’, rapporte qu’en 25 ans de compétition, l’équipe de 18 concurrents de l’académie de Loma Linda est la première école privée à avoir atteint les demi-finales et la seule équipe de l’histoire de cette compétition à avoir déclaré forfait. Selon le même article, Tyler McCalloch, capitaine d’une autre équipe, affirma: “Ce fut tellement sympa de voir jusqu’d où nous aurions pu aller, mais la religion compte plus que la compétition.”

Depuis que l’équipe s’est retirée, les dirigeants de l’église locale et les entraîneurs de mock-trial de toutes dénominations se sont ralliés au règlement des étudiants en faveur de l’observation du sabbat. Un ancien entraineur dit: “Dans une société où l’on est si prompt à se débarrasser de Dieu, c’est magnifique de voir des jeunes gens prendre Dieu plus au sérieux qu’un trophée.”

Robert Nixon, GC Office of General Counsel
Adventist News Network
9 Janvier 2007

Eglise mondiale: Les dirigeants proposent aux adventistes en compétition de vivre “une relation de rapport mutuel” avec les croyants d’autres religions

Le 23 Janvier dernier, Docteur John Graz, directeur du Département des affaires publiques et de la liberté religieuse de l’église adventiste mondiale, a déclaré: “Les adventistes du septième jour ne sont pas une île dans ce monde. Nous désirons connaître davantage les autres religions et souhaitons qu’elles aussi, elles nous connaissent mieux.”

“Une relation de rapport mutuel” entre les adventistes et les autres croyants veut dire que nous souhaitons aller au-delà de la communauté chrétienne pour partager des relations égales avec d’autres religions. Cela veut aussi dire que nous voulons avoir de bonnes relations entre les croyants de diverses religions. M. Ryan dit: “Lorsque les autres religions nous comprennent bien, le message passe dans toute la communauté et c’est cela qui fait la différence.”

Les dirigeants de l’église affirment qu’une compréhension mutuelle n’entraîne pas de changements dans notre doctrine, tout comme certains adventistes pourraient le craindre... J. Graz fait remarquer “Engager le dialogue ne signifie pas que nous partageons un ordre du jour oecuménique. Cela veut dire que nous souhaitons aller au-delà de la communauté chrétienne pour partager avec d’autres religions. Cela veut aussi dire que nous voulons avoir de bonnes relations.”

En plus du changement de nom, les membres du conseil qui se sont réunis au siège social de l’église adventiste mondiale, ont voté pour que le conseil inclue davantage de représentants du Bureau de la mission adventiste et d’autres organisations de l’église orientées vers la mission, afin de garder l’évangélisation au premier plan des préoccupations de l’église.

Elizabeth Lechleitner, assistante de la rédaction
Adventist News Network
9 Janvier 2007

at www.atlantic-union.org

Atlantic Union GLEANER, March 2007
Montserrat: Los líderes de la iglesia oran ante la amenaza de un volcán

Los líderes de la Iglesia Adventista para la región Interamericana están solicitando a los líderes de la iglesia y a los miembros de todo el mundo que oren por sus hermanos adventistas de la isla de Montserrat, debido a la actividad volcánica que amenaza afectar una vez más lo que queda de la comunidad adventista local. El gobierno ha realizado advertencias respecto de una posible evacuación. "Pedimos que oren por nuestros hermanos de Montserrat," dijo el Pastor Israel Leito, presidente de la iglesia en Interamérica durante una reunión administrativa el pasado 10 de enero. "La infraestructura de la iglesia en el lugar ha sufrido mucho en el pasado, por lo que necesitan sus oraciones," añadió. Una gran erupción en 1997 del volcán Soufrière Hills destruyó seis de las siete iglesias adventistas, dos escuelas, varias propiedades y se cobró la vida de dos feligreses. Esa destrucción tornó inaccesibles dos tercios de la isla, incluyendo la ciudad capital, el aeropuerto y las áreas cultivadas.

El Pastor Eugene Daniel, presidente de la iglesia en la Asociación Unión del Caribe, dijo que están muy preocupados por los cerca de 500 feligreses que todavía se reúnen en el único templo que quedó en la isla. Según el Pastor Daniel, antes de la erupción de 1997 la feligresía de la isla superaba las 12,000 personas pero la mayoría se reubicó en Antigua y en otras islas vecinas. "La iglesia está preparada para responder y ayudar a los necesitados," dijo el Pastor Daniel. "El plan que tenemos es colaborar temporalmente en la evacuación de los feligreses y de los miembros de la comunidad hacia nuevas ubicaciones con la ayuda de la Agencia Adventista de Desarrollo y Recursos Asistenciales (ADRA) de la región," añadió. ADRA Interamérica está lista para involucrarse y colaborar con fondos, dijo Wally Amundson, director de la agencia en la región. Poco después de la erupción de 1997, se construyó un Centro de Refugiados de Emergencia con capacidad para 100 personas, añadió Amundson, y explicó que el centro está funcionando y cuenta con una cocina completa y con provisiones para ayudar a los que necesiten ser reubicados.

Desde su primera erupción en 1995, que causó flujos de lava y fango, el volcán Soufrière Hills ha sido uno de los volcanes más estrechamente monitoreados en el mundo. Montserrat está ubicada en las Islas Leeward en el Mar del Caribe, y tiene aproximadamente una extensión de 16 kilómetros de largo por 11 de ancho. La isla es un territorio de ultramar del Reino Unido.

Líbna Stevens, División Interamericana Adventist News Network Staff
16 de Enero del 2007
Traducción: Marcos Paseggi

Norteamérica: Juicio de estudiante adventista le garantiza la observancia sabática

"Me siento orgulloso de decir que llegamos hasta aquí y que terminamos bien. No me lamento el haber insistido," dijo Kaitlyn Serikaku, capitana del equipo de simulacro de juicio de la Escuela Secundaria de Loma Linda, una institución de la Iglesia Adventista. El equipo se retiró de la competencia de simulacros de juicio del distrito escolar de San Bernardino, California, cuando las semifinales cayeron en sábado el pasado 9 de diciembre.

Desde entonces, la comunidad se unió en apoyo a la decisión de los estudiantes. "Estamos orgullosos de nuestros estudiantes," dijo Marion Gamundoy, entrenadora del equipo y Asesora de Reclamaciones de la oficina de Riverside, California, de Adventist Risk Management. "Tenían que elegir entre participar en la competencia y defender sus creencias religiosas. Y tomaron la decisión correcta." Cuando el equipo de esa institución se unió a la competencia, era su debut en el tema. "No teníamos idea de que llegaríamos a las semifinales," dijo Serikaku. Pero cuando el equipo ganó la cuarta ronda, Gamundoy, junto con Ted Steam, otro entrenador del equipo, analizaron el tema de la observancia sabática con el director del distrito escolar. Se informó a los representantes de la institución que para reprogramar la competencia se debía presentar una solicitud por escrito con anterioridad.

Gamundoy informa que varios abogados y jueces locales se ofrecieron para acomodar el equipo el viernes, cuando los juzgados probablemente tendrían lugares disponibles para llevar a cabo la competencia. "Nos quedamos sin tiempo," dijo Gamundoy, pero "sobre la base de la respuesta de los abogados y jueces del condado, el fiscal del distrito indica que espera hacer los arreglos correspondientes para el año que viene." Un periódico local, el Redlands Daily Facts, informó que en los 25 años de historia de la competencia, los 18 miembros del equipo de la Escuela Secundaria de Loma Linda fue el primero de una escuela privada que llegó a las semifinales y el único equipo que alguna vez decidió retirarse. "Hubiera sido lindo ver a dónde podrían llegar," dijo Tyler McCulloch, otro capitán de equipo, según el mismo artículo, "pero la religión es más importante que la competencia."

Desde que el equipo se retiró, los líderes de la iglesia local y los entrenadores de todas las denominaciones se han manifestado a favor de la decisión de los estudiantes. "En una sociedad que es tan rápida para sacarse de encima a Dios, es muy bueno ver a jóvenes que toman a Dios más en serio que a un trofeo," expresó un ex entrenador.
BERMUDA

The Bermuda Conference
Health Ministries
Department successfully
offered three health promo-
tion opportunities during
the week of January 14–20.

**Health Screening**

Approximately 200 persons
were screened in various
areas, including visual
screening. This particular
screening revealed that
there may be genetic pre-
dispositions to glaucoma
within our community. It
is recommended that these
screenings be included in
future health events.

**Celebration.** Public
health lectures featured
evidenced-based talks by
world health experts. An
average of 150 persons per
night were given informa-
tion on how to reduce
the risks associated with
Bermuda’s biggest health
problems—heart disease,
cancer, and stroke.

**Certification/Continuing Education Credits.** Some 65 persons
will receive certificates of
completion and/or continu-
ing education credits in the
following area:

- **Charters** with Dr. Alan
  Handysides, General
  Conference Health
  Ministries department
director.

- **Nutrition** with Stoy
  Proctor, General
  Conference Health
  Ministries department
  associate director. He is
  responsible for establish-
ing nutrition position
  statement papers for the
  world church.

- **Youth Alive**, a drug
  awareness prevention pro-
  gram, with Dr. Kathleen
  Kuntaraf, General
  Conference Health
  Ministries department
  associate director.

- **ICPA** with Dr. Peter
  Landless, associate
director and the
  church representative
to the International
  Commission on the
  Prevention of Alcohol
  and Drug Dependency.

One participant
shared in the
evaluation that
“This should be
an annual event.
I enjoyed the pre-
senters who were
all friendly, help-
ful, and eager to
share their wealth
of knowledge.
The screenings
were excellent!
Thanks to all the
volunteers!”

Many thanks for the
vision of Dr. Ronald
Lightbourne, the exception-
al organizational skills of
the departmental secretary,
Lynnette Albuoy, the com-
mitment of the Hamilton
church family, the endear-
ing support of churches
in Bermuda, the financial
support and encouragement
of the Bermuda Conference
administration, and the
warm embrace of the com-
munity. We look forward to
establishing future com-
nunity friendships and part-
nerships in preparation for
the Lord’s coming.

Mellonie Furbert
Health Ministries director
Bermuda Conference

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**Bermuda Conference Holds Successful Health Event**

The Bermuda Conference
Children’s Ministries
Department held its first-
ever Children’s Ministries Certification
Workshop on January 19-20 at the Grotto
Bay Hotel Resort. The two-day inten-
sive seminars were conducted by Astrid
Thomassian, Atlantic Union Conference
director of education; Jerrell Gilkeson,
Atlantic Union Conference associate direc-
tor of education, and his wife, Eve; Phyllis
Washington, North American Division
Children’s Ministries director; and Sylvia
Pitman, educator.

On Friday evening more than sixty
individuals—Sabbath School teachers,
Adventurer and Pathfinder leaders and
assistants, Children’s Ministries directors,
educators, and even teenagers—gathered
to begin the training. Those who were on
time were presented with a gift. There was
representation from every Adventist church
on the island.

Topics presented included Understanding
Children, Learning Styles/Modes of Learning,
Children’s Praise and Worship, Memorization
With Tears, and Temperaments. Sessions
on Crafts that Teach, Teaching Children to
Think, and Teaching from Nature rounded
out the seminars offered.

The participants responded with enthusi-
asm and are making plans to attend the next
level of certification which will be held at the
Atlantic Union Conference office in South
Lancaster, Massachusetts on April 14–15.

Frederica Tucker, Children’s Ministries director
Bermuda Conference
Greater New York Conference Elects New Treasurer

The Greater New York Conference Executive Committee at its November 9, 2006, meeting, elected Benjamin Santana, CPA, as its new treasurer effective December 1, 2006. He replaced Richard Marker who was elected president of the conference at the 53rd Triennial Session held on September 17, 2006.

Santana has served in a variety of financial positions, most recently as a General Conference auditor. He completed his undergraduate work in accounting at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee. Three years later, he completed the certified public accountant exam.

When asked his thoughts on accepting this new assignment, Santana said, “After much prayer and fasting, my family and I felt impressed that coming to the Greater New York Conference was a call from God. Serving the Lord as treasurer of His conference is a responsibility that cannot be taken without a daily communion with our Lord. My family and I are grateful to our Lord Jesus for granting us the opportunity to be part of the Greater New York Conference family.”

Santana will assist in providing leadership to the approximately 23,000-member conference with 142 churches and 19 companies. He and his wife, Edith, have three children: Matthew, 9, Joshua, 7, and Emily, 1.

Tamara Terry, assistant editor
Atlantic Union GLEANER

GNYC Family Ministries Director Receives Award

Alanzo H. Smith, Greater New York Conference Family Ministries director, received an award for outstanding work in Family Ministries from the North American Division (NAD) Family Ministries Department.

The presentation was made at the NAD Ministries Convention in Tucson, Arizona. Willie Oliver, NAD Family Ministries director, commended Smith for his outstanding work and contribution to Family Ministries in North America as well as other parts of the world.

Smith’s new book, SERMONS THAT STRENGTHEN FAMILIES, published by AdventSource, was also launched at the convention.

His wife, June Smith, a professor at Long Island University, was commended for her contributions to Family Ministries, as well.

Lisa González, communication department administrative assistant
Greater New York Conference

Nineteen Baptized at New Life in Christ Evangelistic Meetings

The Three Angels and Shalom Seventh-day Adventist churches in the Bronx, New York, held the “New Life in Christ” evangelistic meetings for 21 days beginning October 1, 2006. Veteran evangelist, Alanzo Smith, director for family ministries and communication in the Greater New York Conference, was the first guest speaker. His powerful messages included the sermons, “Why Do People Tell Lies?” and “That Woman.” During the second week guest evangelist Pastor Oriel Thomas presented messages, including one entitled “Sweetheart, You’ve Got to Go.” The host pastor, Conrad J. White, wrapped up the third week of meetings and included “The Day the Devil Preached” as one of his topics.

Behind the scenes doing the hard work of following up with the candidates were the members of both churches and the Bible workers Jenesse Johnson and Clifford Cromwell.

People of all ages were present and God blessed these district churches with 19 people choosing to be baptized.

Carrie Adams, communication director
Three Angels church

Pastor Conrad White and Bible workers Jenesse Johnson and Clifford Cromwell join the candidates who were baptized as a result of “The New Life in Christ” evangelistic meetings.
The members of the Queens Faith Temple Church worked with zeal and fervor for the Lord in 2006. The church experienced tremendous growth under the leadership of Pastor Ernie Wright. The year started off on a high note with the church’s emphasis on evangelism. During the month of February, Edward Jackson, principal of the Hanson Place Seventh-day Adventist School, initiated the first in the “Jesus Is the Answer” evangelistic series. Through this effort eight individuals were added to the church.

Pastor Wright guided meeting attendees through two weeks of prophetic teaching from June 18 to July 7. Finally, G. Earl Knight, executive secretary of the Greater New York Conference, ended the year’s evangelistic emphasis with a series of meetings. Forty-two individuals were added to our church in 2006—25 baptisms and 17 transfers.

Other outreach activities during 2006 include: the organization of a food bank which opened on May 15. This project is spearheaded by Pearl Mack. This center works to:

- Assess eligibility for health and supplemental benefits.
- Facilitate prompt referral to appropriate resources in the community.
- Offer such services such as: food stamps, WIC (Women, Infants, and Children), health insurance, legal and counseling services.

Queens Faith Temple embraces a vibrant prison ministry under the leadership of Loretta Saunders. Each Saturday the team of workers visits the men and women at the Rikers Island prison. Recently Pastor Wright had the privilege of baptizing more than 40 inmates.

Our church and community were blessed as we celebrated two Community Guest days—on April 22 and October 28. In April the Sabbath School, under the leadership of Juliet Turner, welcomed and recognized Emergency Medical Services (EMS) workers from the Fire Department of New York. Captain Charlie Fraser, commander of Battalion 44, expressed sheer joy for the opportunity to worship with the members. Plaques and tributes were also presented in absentia to the New York Fire Department, Ladder 165/Engine Company 317, and Councilman James Saunders.

The education department, under the leadership of Patrice Douglas, launched an enrichment-tutoring program to help students in grades 3 through 8 prepare for the New York State Mathematics examinations. April 1 was Education Day and the emphasis was on Christian education. Astrid Thomassian, education director for the Atlantic Union, was the morning speaker and an afternoon program, entitled “From the School of Eden to the School of Eternity” was presented. Graduates from pre-K through college were recognized on the weekend of June 24-25. The weekend culminated on Sunday with a banquet at the Grand Ballroom of the Ramada Plaza, JFK. The keynote speaker was Andre Hepkins, general assignment reporter for Fox 5 News.

October 14 was Sickle Cell Awareness Day. The worship service speaker was Cheryl Wright, the pastor’s wife. Merlene Sotillo, in conjunction with the outreach department, launched a fundraising drive and as a result, a check of $900 was presented to the Queens Sickle Cell Advocacy Network.

November 18 was a day of celebration as the Kings Herald Quartet thrilled the packed congregation with their soul-stirring singing. November 25 was our annual Thanksgiving/Harvest celebration as worshipers offered praise to God for His mercies during the year. The year culminated with a special holiday service on December 23 and an Agape Feast on December 31.

The members of Queens Faith Temple are committed to completing the work of the gospel. We know there will be many challenges and hurdles to overcome, but we anticipate many victories because we know “we have nothing to fear for the future unless we forget the way God has led us in the past.”

Sonia Barrett, communication director Queens Faith Temple church
Six years ago the only joyful noise to be heard in the Saranac Lake church was the congregation singing hymns a cappella. The church had an organ, but no one knew how to play it.

The recent arrival of eight individuals whose memberships are pending either by baptism or church transfer made the holidays extra special this past year as the new members performed a Sacred Advent program on Sabbath evening, December 16, 2006.

The program covered the life of our Lord and Savior from His conception to His anxiously awaited soon coming. There were flute duets, flute and guitar duets, piano duets, a piano and organ duet, a song in German, a ladies trio, a women’s choir, and a mixed choir.

We are still singing praises to the Lord for the growth of our church and for two of our new members, Gabe and Jennifer Arruda, who are studying in California to become Bible workers as they feel the Lord’s calling to help spread the Word in the Adirondack Region.

Jenni Carr, church clerk
Saranac Lake church

Lay Members Leading the Way

The Sandy Creek church has dedicated 2007 as the Year of Evangelism for the Rochester area. The members have chosen three purpose-driven goals: to save souls, to bring back missing members, and to train more lay members for evangelism. They decided they could accomplish these goals in three phases. The first phase started with an evangelistic series.

One of the preachers for this series was Rob “Turtle” Turlington of the Rochester Genesee Park church. Rob was raised a Seventh-day Adventist, but in his youth separated himself from the church and from God. After serving in the Vietnam War, he returned to the U.S. and a life of motorcycles, drugs, and alcohol. It was in the motorcycle club that Rob received the nickname “Turtle.” Seven years ago, God called Rob back to a new relationship. He and his wife, Sharon, were baptized and married on the same day. Since that time God has been preparing them both for the ministry they have now begun.

Rob began to preach about a month before his evangelistic debut at Sandy Creek. “I was really out of my comfort zone,” Rob reports, “but in the end, it was very much worthwhile. What a blessing it was to me!” Sharon sang for the meetings and felt her own relationship with Jesus grow stronger as she ministered through her God-given gifts.

Phase two includes a series of up to 20 lay-led evangelistic meetings throughout the Rochester area in March 2007. That will lead to phase three in September. Lay people from the Rochester area churches and across the North American Division are being invited to preach for one of at least 50 series to be conducted throughout Rochester during that time.

As a result of the phase one meetings, two people requested baptism, two missing members began coming back to church and prayer meetings, and 19 Adventist lay people from five Adventist churches in the area came to the training meetings to get ready to be a part of phase two.

There is a long way to go. Much prayer is needed and more lay people are needed to serve. Rob and Sharon are ready to do their part. “We wouldn’t miss it!”

Gary Wagner, pastor
Sandy Creek church

One of the preachers for this series was Rob “Turtle” Turlington of the Rochester Genesee Park church.
A Unique Twelve Days of Christmas

The Dexterville church members and church school students participated in a unique Christmas outreach to shut-ins and non-attending members. On each of twelve consecutive days during the month of December members secretly delivered small gifts to targeted individuals with a modified verse from the lyrics to the song “The Twelve Days of Christmas” (For example, *On the first day of Christmas we bring these oranges to you. We would have brought the partridge, but from the tree it flew*). The twelve days ended on a Sabbath so, that evening, participants met at the church for supper and then headed out to carol and reveal their identities to their gift recipients. In addition, students from the school chose the names of children from a Salvation Army Christmas tree and purchased gifts which they delivered to the organization for distribution. This creative outreach was greatly appreciated.

Kim Kaiser, communication director
New York Conference

Dedication and Mortgage Burning at Olean Church

Members and friends of the Olean Seventh-day Adventist Church celebrated the dedication and mortgage burning of their new church building located at 620 W. Sullivan Street in Olean, New York. It was a pleasure to welcome friends, former members, and pastors from past years for the October 14, 2006, event. Guests came from as far away as Georgia, Tennessee, Colorado, Texas, Maine, and upstate New York.

The day’s programs started with Sabbath School led by former pastor Al Cyr and his wife, Darlene, who played the piano as well as musical selections presented by several other individuals. During the worship service, Paul Hoover, ministerial secretary for the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, preached on the topic, “What Does a Church Look Like?” Special music was presented by Ruthann Rizzo of the Olean church, Rae Light from the Salamanca church, and Al and Darlene Cyr.

During the fellowship luncheon, a slide program of the church’s history and construction of the new church was presented. A scrapbook of pictures, newspaper articles, and keepsakes brought recollections of old friends and past times, as well as the sacrifices and dedication of those who helped establish the church.

The afternoon program began with music presented by Susan Caster from the Jamestown church. Leading out in the dedication and mortgage burning ceremony were Bill McNeil, Olean church’s pastor, Stan Rouse, New York Conference president, and Angel Rodriguez, New York Conference executive secretary. A history of the church was read by Joe Carrier, an elder and member since the 1940s. A special tribute and thank you was presented by Joe Avery, an elder, to Alex and Soni Vigh for their inspiration and tireless efforts in the construction of the building which is handicap-accessible and centrally located.

It is our prayer that this building will be a beacon of God’s light and allow us to share the love of Jesus in our community.

Ann Fuller, chairman
Church Dedication Committee

Jamestown Service Now On Cable

The Jamestown church broadcasted a sermon by Pastor Samuel Indreiu for the first time on Public Access Cable Television on October 31, 2006. The programs are recorded on Sabbath morning, edited and refined during the week, then given to the production manager at Time Warner Cable in Jamestown. Additional programming, or taped discussions on the sermon subject, is edited in during post-production to complete the one-hour time slot.

Dan Kelly, owner of Danwood Productions, states: “It is difficult to bring people into a theological or prophetic lecture series if they have never heard of you.”

“It is our hope that these public access presentations will alert the general public to the fact that we have a message of love and salvation,” said Indreiu. “Our greatest joy would be to introduce Jamestown and the outlying community to the true God.”

Dan L. Kelly, head elder
Jamestown church
Every year dozens of young people from North America strike out on their own to find out what life and mission are all about. This year was no exception. The two-week extreme adventure—Ultimate Workout—is designed to challenge teens to build up their spiritual muscles with high-energy service projects, and an intense spiritual experience. The 16th annual Ultimate Workout for teenagers was a smashing success in Chiclayo, Peru.

Jared Slack from Amesbury, Massachusetts, went on his first Maranatha mission trip last year. It was immediately obvious that he had earned quite a reputation with the children. There were always several crowding around him pulling on his pockets, vying for his attention. “We were just talking in small groups today about what will change when we go back home,” says Jared. “I really hope I can change my personal devotions. Hopefully, I can get into the routine of waking up and doing personal devotions before I start out on my day.”

While personal devotions give meaning to the trip, hard work gives substance. The adventure began as kids came off their separate planes to a rowdy Ultimate Workout greeting party in the airport. Teens boarded the five travel buses for the 12-hour overnight ride to their respective towns. Groups started in as soon as possible mixing mortar and laying brick for the church structure.

The coastal area around Chiclayo, Peru, gained five brand-new churches, built by 182 Maranatha volunteers from Canada, Peru, and the United States. The five groups lived in varying conditions, but all were roughing it! Some slept on concrete floors, others in tents under the stars. The days consisted of building, cooking, cleaning, conducting medical clinics, holding Vacation Bible Schools, offering free shoeshines, passing out literature, singing in the streets, hugging kids, playing soccer, and much more.

“Ultimate workout is an opportunity for youth to get out of the United States and see places that you could never imagine,” says Jared. “It’s amazing how much we take for granted back home. And when you come here you can really see people with nothing. But they’re still so happy to see you and it’s just a real blessing to see that.”

Each of the sites has a spiritual leader as well as the site leader, construction superintendent, and other

The experienced leadership team from Maranatha Volunteers International, and a time-tested system allows young adults, 14-18 years old, to independently take a step toward spirituality and mission on their own terms. And the results might surprise you.

Jared Slack and his digital camera were a big hit with the children in Chiclayo, Peru. Jared and other youth interacted with the community through a variety of outreach projects during their stay.

Five Atlantic Union teens helped build five much-needed church buildings in Peru in 2006. Maranatha Volunteers International orchestrates this teens-only project every summer.
support staff. The teens learned to see God, themselves, and the world in a new way.

Mario James from the Canarsie church in Brooklyn, New York, took his very first jaunt into mission on the Ultimate Workout this year. What he found was a welcoming and purposeful spiritual environment. “In the morning time we come to praise, and pray together, and we talk about a text that will drive us for the day. My text today was Genesis 2:7. “It talks about Jesus giving us special breath and it keeps us alive,” says Mario. “I read my Bible a lot more here than I do in New York. I have nothing else to do at night! We have to go to sleep at ten o’clock. So I’m just up reading my Bible at night and writing in my journal, and praying more to God.”

Jared has experienced spirituality in a new way during his Ultimate Workout experience. “Right after breakfast we divide into small groups. And the group pastor appointed me as small groups leader, which is not something I would do back home. But it has brought me out of my comfort zone. So it’s good! And then at night, we have a long worship and we pass out fliers and sing, so that’s been fun too. I play the guitar, and I’m leading out in song service. We pick out songs and go out in the streets. While we do that we pass out tons of fliers to people who are looking out their window. We are definitely helping.”

The projects attracted a lot of attention in town. Women watched, children teased, and some men even volunteered to help out with the construction. Many of the Ultimate Workout volunteers were able to make friends and connect, even without speaking Spanish! The community people were very accepting and grateful for the help to build a sanctuary that they could never have done on their own. Local church members hope to capitalize on the interest generated by the Ultimate Workout experience.

The young missionaries have high hopes as well. “I’m really thinking about coming back more often to really help other people,” says Mario.

The Ultimate Workout has been challenging teenagers to take a hands-on view of spirituality and the world for 16 years. The 2007 Ultimate Workout experience will be in Ecuador, July 17-30. For more information, visit www.maranatha.org or call (916) 920-1900.

Mario encourages others to take the opportunity of a lifetime. “It really will change your life and how you view everything. Really, it’s the best thing I’ve done in the 18 years that I’ve been alive.”
Bethany Youth Awarded for Being Good Stewards

Deloris Graham, left, Bethany Seventh-day Adventist Church Stewardship Department director, awards youth of the church for demonstrating good stewardship. The award recipients are Janelle Ifill, Amelia Patrice Flynn, Candice Mitto, Victorious Roberson, and Yanniqua Mitto (not pictured).

Sydni Baker, junior writer
Bethany church

Shalom Church Dedicates New Ramp

When the Shalom church purchased its building in July 2004, there was no access to the sanctuary for handicapped persons. They had to be carried up the stairs in order to participate in the services. With a strong desire to open its doors to all worshipers, regardless of their abilities or disabilities, the congregation made it a project to install the proper ramp system. And on November 4, 2006, members bowed in prayer to thank God for the ramp and to dedicate it to serving the church and the community. Now, such members as Lionel Edwards and Vern Scatliffe can take advantage of the ramp and have easy access to the sanctuary under their own power.

Charles E. Creech, communication secretary, Shalom church

Brooklyn Faith AYS Makes a Difference on the African Continent

Standing firm to the promises of Philippians 4:13 and Matthew 28:19, the Brooklyn Faith church Adventist Youth Society committed to a church-planting project aptly named “To the Seven Churches of Africa.”

Launched in July 2005, the group committed to raising $24,500 within a year to help build seven churches in Africa. This would help accommodate the rapid growth of Adventism on the African continent.

The group was divided into seven “Family Units” and named after seven of Jacob’s sons. Each member was asked to give $4 per week for one year.

As they neared the July 2006 deadline the group became a little discouraged. With the church in the midst of an evangelistic meeting, the African project seemed to take a back seat. Committed to the cause, the group decided to extend the deadline to August 26, 2006.

On the final day the group was still more than $700 short of their goal. After sharing the news with members, they were amazed to find they had received double the amount needed. The total amount raised for their African church project was $25,581.77.

Working with Global Missions four church locations have been identified so far: Nedjo-Levi project, Ethiopia Union; Kyavaghendi–Gad from North Kivu Field, North East Congo Attached Territory; Kakanda-Reuben from Lower Congo Mission, West Congo Union; and Kinkatoto-Judah from West Congo Field, West Congo Union. Each church name was created by combining the name of the community where the church will be built and the name of the coordinating church.

The Brooklyn Faith Youth Ministries department would like to thank all those who gave to this project.

Jason Dryden, AYS leader
Brooklyn Faith church
Retirement services were held in honor of Pastor Doctor J. Smith on Sunday, December 17, 2006, at the Holiday Inn and Conference Center in Suffern, New York. More than 400 people attended; a testament to Pastor Smith’s effective leadership. Ministers, church members, and representatives attended from as far west as California to as far north as Maine.

In recognition of his outstanding ability to proactively influence lives, national, state, and local elected officials presented him with plaques, citations, and an American flag that had flown over the United States Capitol building.

Donald King, Atlantic Union Conference president was the keynote speaker. Prior to his message, King presented Smith with the Atlantic Union Conference President’s Medallion. He praised Smith for being a godly man, having worked long and hard during his pastoral ministry by empowering people with the Word of God. King also noted that Smith can look to the past with pride and to the future with the challenge of knowing that God is not yet finished with him.

Smith distinguished himself by his reputation and character. He preaches and practices the Golden Rule. He is people-oriented and, above all, grounded in the Word of God.

Smith was accompanied by his son, Ron Smith, editor-in-chief of MESSAGE magazine and a vice president at the Review and Herald Publishing Association, as well as his daughter, Cheryl Smith, a psychology major and registered nurse, two of his sisters, Dixie and Katie, and a host of nephews and nieces.

Among the invited guests were Vernon J. Dawson of the Wilderness Ministry of Massachusetts, Pastor Reginald Washington of Gainesville, Florida, John Jones, pastor of Emmanuel and Mount Olive Seventh-day Adventist churches, Washington Johnson, project director of MESSAGE magazine, and Louis E. Sanders, pastor of St. Charles A.M.E. Zion Church in Sparkill, New York.

Heavenly Praise Ascends From Bethany

December 23, 2006, marked a heavenly day at Bethany Seventh-day Adventist Church. It was all praise and worship! There was no sermon, but there were narrations about Jesus’ birth and childhood done by Loris Laborde, Haydn Smith, Shirley Hilaire, Stephen Carryl, and Errol Cameron. There were musical selections by Jony Hyppolite, Gregory Perrier, Ange Pierre, Sydni Baker, and Kay Fray.

Special thanks goes to Gregory Perrier and his family who recently joined the church and brought with them a wealth of musical talent.

Leigha Carryl, junior writer
Bethany church
You Never Know How God Will Connect the Dots...

Until my retirement in May 2003 I was employed by the Southern Maine Agency on Aging as a regional coordinator in their nutrition program, better known as “Meals on Wheels.” Included in my responsibilities was staffing meal sites within my area of supervision. In the early 1990s the meal site at Casco was without staff for a few months, so I became the staff person, while at the same time advertising and recruiting to hire.

One day as I was working at the Casco site, a young man called inquiring about the job. I invited him for an interview and hired him. His name is Merlin Knowles. He told me that he was a new pastor and needed supplemental income to support his young family. He stayed with the job for several months, but unfortunately, for all who had gotten to know him, he had to give his notice because pastoral duties conflicted with the Meals on Wheels job. Before leaving the job, Merlin told me of the plight facing his family. They would soon not have a place to live. They did have access to a small camper trailer, but had no place to put it. As a temporary solution I offered to let Merlin and his family park the trailer on my property adjacent to my house and plug into power and water. So, for several months they were my good neighbors.

I remember one day Cheryl invited me in to see the inside of the trailer. Since she was in the process of making soymilk from scratch, she explained how it was done and gave me a taste. It was good!

On an occasion or two the subject of the Sabbath would come up, but my defensive walls were up firmly. After all, I was brought up in the Southern Baptist church! Eventually, the time came for Merlin and his family to head up to Jay, Maine. After they left we lost contact.

In March 2002 I responded to a newspaper ad for a Prophecy Seminar to be held at University of Southern Maine, which sounded interesting. Thinking it would be just one meeting, I marked my calendar and attended. The first meeting was so intriguing that I decided to go to the next one, and so it went until I had attended every one. I was one of 27 persons baptized on April 20, 2002, becoming a member of the White Memorial church.

On December 4, 2005, at the Freeport church kitchen, I was helping my friend Susie Leighton with preparations for a special Christmas meal for the Northern New England Conference employees. As the people were beginning to arrive and socialize Susie and I began bringing the food out to the buffet tables.

As I was heading back into the kitchen, I noticed a gentleman standing near the door. After a few seconds I realized it was Merlin Knowles. I immediately walked over and introduced myself. Merlin was surprised to see me and even more surprised when I told him that I had become a Seventh-day Adventist. He said, “Cheryl is in the buffet line, let’s go surprise her!” At first she didn’t recognize me, but then she broke into a smile and gave me a warm hug. Merlin and Cheryl invited me to join them at their table and we had a wonderful time sharing and catching up. I reminded them of how they had planted the seeds of Sabbathkeeping with me and God, in His time, did the rest.

As I was on my way out after helping Susie with the cleanup, Merlin motioned to me to join him and Cheryl with the group of conference employees. They took the opportunity to publicly thank me for sharing my property with them some 15 years ago. At that time I didn’t think it was a big deal. I was just helping because I could. And I was present on this particular night because Susie had asked me if I could help her. So what does all of this mean? God is so patient with us and He will never forget us—even when we forget about Him. The events of our lives are not accidents. God’s hand is there connecting the dots.

Lois Webber, center, with Merlin and Cheryl Knowles had a wonderful time sharing and catching up.

For more information, please contact:
Kelly Veilleux (207) 314-7546
ekellyv2@midmain.com

Sponsored by the Northern New England Conference Prayer Ministries Department
Pathfinders from around Northern New England Conference (NNEC) made the long trip to Mount Desert Island in Maine (home of Acadia National Park and Cadillac Mountain) for their fall camporee.

Radio reception was spotty. However, the news came that on Friday morning, September 22, 2006, from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., five earthquakes had occurred on Mount Desert Island. The most intense registered 3.5 on the Richter scale, but there was no reported damage or injuries. This could be a very interesting camporee! With God’s blessing, however, there were no earthquakes while the Pathfinders enjoyed their fall camporee.

With the implementation of the Teen Leadership Training program (TLT), camporees have a new slant in NNEC. Our TLTs (age 16 and up) plan and run the fall camporees with assistance from the area coordinators. Their responsibilities range from deciding the theme for the weekend to suggesting guest speakers and planning the Sunday activities. It also involved taking charge of all the flag ceremonies, morning worships, and other items. This planning helps them develop the leadership skills that will make the next generation of Pathfinder directors in the NNEC great leaders.

This year, while a lot of rain fell on Sabbath, we had the pleasure of having Pathfinder historians, Arnold and Dixie Plata, as the keynote speakers. We had a newer group of Pathfinders this time. In fact, a newly reorganized club from the Barre-Montpelier church in Vermont attended. These new Pathfinders were thrilled to hear how our organization got started. The Platas also brought with them a display of patches and uniforms from years past. Sabbath afternoon was spent exploring Acadia National Park—most parts have free admission. Our Saturday night program revealed new talent in the group—Mike Kinney, a teen leader in training from the Limington Lanterns. As master of ceremonies, Kinney stole the show, to everyone’s enjoyment, by showing his talent as a stand-up comedian using his own material. The drier weather on Sunday morning allowed us to hold our games. After a weekend of events with a lot of physical exertion, the long drive home was conducive to napping.

Elaine French, TLT and Pathfinder area coordinator
Northern New England Conference

**Pathfinders Attend Camporee on Mount Desert Island in Maine**

**Voices of Zion**

Appearing in Concert
March 24, 2007
4:00 p.m.
Seventh-day Adventist Church
(next to Parkview Adventist Medical Center)
333 Maine Street
Brunswick, Maine

Bradley Krueger
First Tenor
Adjunct Music Faculty
Andrews University

Brendan Krueger
Second Tenor
Principal and Band Teacher
Pine Tree Academy

Bob Mills
Baritone
Pastor in Wisconsin

Melville Andrade
Bass
Pastor in Pennsylvania

Concert to benefit
Pine Tree Academy

For more information call:
(207) 865-3665
Pine Tree Center for the Arts at Pine Tree Academy
(207) 729-3346
Brunswick Adventist Church
Southern New England Conference students in grades five through eight tapped their creative side during its Art Clinic on January 25 sponsored by the conference.

The Atlantic Union College Art Department teachers and students along with three community members shared their talents, instructing the elementary students in such classes as drawing and painting, wood sculpture, 3-D design, and more. Three murals were ongoing projects with two groups contributing to each design.

One class, Mailbox Painting, was an all-day event with each student painting a mailbox in either sports balls or flowers. Another unique class utilized Styrofoam®. The students carved the Styrofoam® into a bird shape and then glued feathers onto it to give it a realistic look.

The seventh- and eighth-graders were able to select a class in digital photography and Photoshop. The students took pictures of each other, downloaded them on the computer to modify them in Photoshop, a photo editing program, and printed them out.

Seventh- and eighth-grade students were able to photograph each other posing in a “studio” made for the Art Clinic. After the digital photographs were taken they were downloaded and printed. Shown in finished form are Laurel Oaks Adventist school students from Hamden, Connecticut: Jayline Johnson, top; Ramona Sangster, bottom left, both in the eighth-grade; Michael Henderson, left, and Martin Kambaki, bottom left photo, both in the seventh-grade.

“The Art Clinic is a great way to introduce a variety of art forms and techniques to students,” says Gary Swinyar, superintendent of schools for the Southern New England Conference. “One never knows if there might be a future artist or professional photographer in our group.”

“Coming together like this enables students in small, sometimes isolated schools, to see that they are part of a larger school system,” adds Ruth Pope, associate superintendent.

In total 123 students in grades five through eight from 13 of the 14 elementary schools in the conference, including the virtual school, attended this fun-filled day.

Tamara Michalenko Terry
assistant communication director
Southern New England Conference
Photos: Tamara Michalenko Terry
"Let Freedom Ring"—A Student-led Evangelistic Series

Edgewood elementary and Greater Boston Academy (GBA) students along with youth from the Lynn church will present “Let Freedom Ring,” a 14-part evangelistic series promoted as “a celebration of the great stories and timeless truths of the Bible, in the setting of America’s culture and heritage.”

Pastor Skip Johnson, who wrote all 14 sermons, is organizing the meetings as well as preparing the students for speaking. More than 60 young people, including Edgewood and GBA students in grades 7 through 12, and several public school youth from the Lynn church, will speak at four locations: Stoneham Memorial church, Lynn church, Greater Boston Academy, and Beverly church.

Johnson worked with three other school groups in the past on similar projects and says that every student participating is able to succeed “in what they are being asked and trained to do.”

“They are on the cutting edge of what we expect many other students and schools will adopt as a regular part of our school life,” Pastor Skip says. “These students will be able to say, ‘I was with the first group that spoke when I was in school.’”

A consecration service will be held at Greater Boston Academy on March 9 for those participating. The meetings will begin on Friday, March 16, at 7:00 p.m., at Greater Boston Academy, Stoneham Memorial church, and Beverly church, and on March 17 at 11:00 a.m. at Lynn church.

Stephanie Nwaoha and Jonathan Gilbert, two eighth-graders from Edgewood, review their sermons for the “Let Freedom Ring” evangelistic series.

Southern New England Conference Elects New Planned Giving and Trust Services Director

The Southern New England Conference Executive Committee, at its January 21 meeting, elected Thomas Murray as Planned Giving and Trust Services director beginning July 1. He replaces Bob Daum, who is retiring effective April 1. Daum will continue to serve part-time as an associate director.

Murray has served in a variety of financial positions, most recently as president and CFO of Murray Brothers Construction, Inc. He completed his undergraduate work in business administration with an emphasis in marketing at Fitchburg State College in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. Four years later, he received a master’s in business administration from Anna Maria College in Paxton, Massachusetts.

When asked his thoughts on accepting this new assignment, Murray said, “My mind goes to a simple, short, compelling passage in 1 Chronicles 16:8 ‘Give thanks to the Lord, call on His name; make known among the nations what He has done.’”

Excited about Murray accepting the position, Daum said “His vision for the Planned Giving and Trust Services department is such that he will stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before him and will take it to the next level.”

He and his wife, Idalmis, a nurse at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center have six children: Deborah, 23, an accountant at Murray Brothers Construction, Inc.; Vanessa, 20, a sophomore at Atlantic Union College; Kevin, 18, a missionary in Guyan, South America; Jaenia, 17, a junior at South Lancaster Academy; Victor, 14, an eighth-grader at Browning Elementary; and Alicia, 10, a fifth-grader at Browning elementary.

Tamara Michalenko Terry, assistant communication director
Southern New England Conference

at www.atlantic-union.org

Atlantic Union Gleaner, March 2007 23
When was the last time you laughed, cried, and even cheered... all in one night? At the SONscreen Film Festival, attendees have been known to experience a range of emotions while watching films made by young Adventist filmmakers.

Now in its fifth year, the SONscreen Film Festival will be held at the Adventist Media Center in Simi Valley, California, April 12–14. SONscreen was created by the North American Division (NAD) to nurture Christian filmmakers in their craft, career development, and spiritual life. The SONscreen Film Festival is the annual gathering for Adventist Christian young adults who have a passion for using film and video for the purpose of creating timely and relevant productions for social awareness, outreach, and uplifting creative entertainment. Since its debut in October 2002, the festival has become the destination for established and up-and-coming Adventist filmmakers to share their creative work, gain exposure, attend seminars, and network with other media and film professionals in a spiritually uplifting environment.

Festival organizers include new executive producer, George Johnson Jr., producer and founder, Stacia Dulan of George Johnson, Jr., executive producer
SONscreen

George Johnson, Jr., executive producer
New England Adventist Book Center®
2007 Spring Delivery Schedule

The Adventist Book Center® will be visiting a church or school near you! Locate the stop closest to you and call in your order by the deadline shown!

March 11 – Orders due March 7, 5:00 p.m.
9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Laurel Oaks School, Hamden, Conn.
11:30 – 12:30 p.m. Omega Church, New Haven, Conn.
2:30 – 3:00 p.m. Shalom Church, Waterbury, Conn.

March 18 – Orders due March 14, 5:00 p.m.
10:00 – 10:30 a.m. Rochester Church, N.H.
12:00 – 12:30 p.m. Laconia Church, N.H.
1:00 – 1:30 p.m. Concord Church, N.H.

March 25 – Orders due March 21, 5:00 p.m.
9:30 – 10:00 a.m. Calais Church, Maine
12:30 – 1:00 p.m. Presque Isle Church, Maine
2:00 – 2:30 a.m. Oakfield Church, Maine
4:00 – 4:30 p.m. Lincoln Church, Maine

Pine Tree Academy Music Festival & Truckload Food Sale
– Freeport, Maine
• March 29 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
• March 30 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
• March 31 Saturday Night after Concert

April 1 – Truckload Food Sale (In-store sale only)
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. So. Lancaster, Mass.
1:00 – 6:00 p.m. Stoneham, Mass.

April 8 – Orders due April 4, 5:00 p.m.
10:00 – 10:30 a.m. Bennington Church, Vt
11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Rutland Church, Vt
2:30 – 3:00 p.m. Morrisville Church, Vt
4:30 – 5:00 p.m. South Newbury Church, Vt.

April 13 – 15
SNEC Women’s Retreat, Ayer, Mass.

April 22 – Orders due April 18, 5:00 p.m.
9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Laurel Oaks School, Hamden, Conn.
11:30 – 12:30 p.m. Omega Church, New Haven, Conn.
2:00 – 2:30 p.m. Shalom Church, Waterbury, Conn.
4:00 – 4:30 p.m. Hope Church, Bloomfield, Conn.

April 27 – 29
SNEC Spanish Women’s Retreat, Camp Winnekeag

Call 1.800.435.0008 to place your order!
Atlantic Union College Homecoming 2007—The College’s 125th Anniversary!

Mark your calendar: Thursday, April 12-Sunday, April 15, 2007

A few highlights include:
• Thursday evening—Banquet catered by Atlantic Union College Executive Chef Sualua Tupolo
• Friday morning—Golf Outing
• Friday afternoon—Chef Tupolo will present a health/cooking class
• Friday—Continuing Education classes for nursing alumni which will count toward required CEU credits
• Sabbath—Guest Speaker, Dr. Benjamin Reaves
• Saturday night—The English Department will present Shakespeare’s King Lear

You’re invited:
• Alumni and friends
• Those who attended—even if you didn’t graduate, we want you to come
• Former staff and faculty
• Area residents

For more information contact the alumni office at (978) 368-2340
Sunset Table

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ATLANTIC UNION

ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE

Degree in Chaplaincy—If you are a working adult who wants to specialize in chaplaincy ministries, a new master’s degree in education with a concentration in clinical ministry (chaplaincy) is now being offered. There are twice yearly intensives—two weeks each on campus—January and May. A 3-year completion is possible and financial aid is available.

NORTHEASTERN

Tune in to Voice of Hope every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m., on WMCA 970 AM. Warner A. Richards, pastor of the Corona church in Queens, NY, hosts the program. Listen live on the Internet on the WMCA Web site, www.wmca.com, click the “Live on the Internet” link, and then click on “WMCA 970 Live Stream.”

SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND

South Lancaster Academy Alumni Cruise to Alaska, July 9-20, 2007. This time we are heading for Alaska. Two options are being offered. A 7 day cruise from Vancouver, BC to Anchorage (Whittier) or a 12 day Sea and Land tour which continues on to Denali via glass domed train where we spend two nights, then to Fairbanks for two additional nights. For more information contact our travel agent: Kathy Rice at (215) 412-8367, e-mail: ronald.harris3@comcast.net. Also contact June Harris at (978)368-1667, e-mail: krice@aaaeastpenn.com. Also e-mail: selowik@comcast.net. Space is limited, so call soon.

OUT-OF-UNION


50th Anniversary Celebration—The Atholton Adventist church, Columbia, Md., will be celebrating 50 years in God’s service the weekend of April 27-29. All former members and friends are encouraged to join us. Needed are pictures, missionaries, and musicians that were former members. For more info call (410) 997-8093 or visit our Web site at www.atholton.org.

50th Anniversary, La Mesa Adventist Community Church. La Mesa, Calif., May 5. A full orchestra and choir presentation, “I Can Only Imagine,” will lead the worship in two thrilling services (1st Service – 9:00 a.m.; 2nd Service – 11:30 a.m.). Seating is free, but reservations are required. Call (619) 461-5703 for service and seating information.

Stonecave Homecoming Association is pleased to announce Homecoming 2007 on July 11–15, in Chattanooga, Tenn. If you once attended the (former) Stonecave, Castle Valley, Soneybrook, or Beautiful Valley Academies, we invite you to come to rebuild friendships, reconnect with classmates and reunite with alumni. Featuring Penny Turner for a ladies retreat and Bill Young for our Homecoming special. For more information: (863) 385-1856 or www.beautifulstonecavecastlesoc.org.

“Ye Olde CLA Alumni Reunion” will take place June 7 to 10, for Cedar Lake Academy alumni and warmly welcomed schoolmates of 1957 and earlier, on the campus of Great Lakes Adventist (formerly CLA). Honor classes: ’37, ’47, and ’57. For information, call the GLAA Alumni Office (989) 427-5181, or visit: www.GLAA.net.

MINISTERIO HISPANO
CELEBRA SU RETIRO DE ANCIANOS

Bajo el lema “Dilo al Mundo, Dilo a tu Mundo, en Atlantic Union”

Abril 13–15, 2007

Hudson Valley Resort Kerhonkson, New York

Para registrarte

Llámanos a la oficina del Departamento Hispano de la Unión del Atlántico (978) 368-8333 ext. 3016 • Fax: (978) 368-7948

Correo Electrónico: hispanicministry@atlanticunion.org

Pagina en el Internet: www.atlantic-union.org/hispanicretreat2007.html

Costo de Registración: $205 por persona – 2 Personas por habitación.

Fecha limite de Registración: 1 de Abril 2007

Thank you in advance for your prayerful gifts to the Semi-Annual Offering for Atlantic Union College on May 12, 2007.
Advertisements
SNEC Women's Ministries Retreat

Staying Vertical... In A Horizontal World


The Southern New England Conference Women's Ministries Department is pleased to present a weekend of spiritual growth and emotional renewal featuring Keynote Speaker Carolyn Sutton.

Carolyn's focus, drawing freely from her own personal losses and recovery, is to help others cope purposefully with life's often painful challenges.

Carolyn is a wife, mother, cancer survivor and co-host of the television program, Time Out. She is also a retired educator, former missionary, previous Guide editor and author of six books.

To register, please contact Linda Tooley at the Southern New England Conference to request a Retreat Application. (978) 365-4551 ext. 28

Register by March 5, 2007

Retreat Fees (Hotel accommodations NOT INCLUDED):

$ 99 per person for Full Weekend Retreat Seminars and ALL Meals

$ 59 per person for Sabbath Day Retreat Seminars, Lunch and Dinner

Please contact SpringHill Suites by Marriott at (978) 772-3030 to book overnight accommodations. A block of rooms is reserved for attendees on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Mention the SNEC Women's Retreat to get a special $119 per room, per night rate for this event. Hotel rooms include 2-Queen beds to accommodate a maximum of 4 occupants.

Women's Ministries Director:
Lisa Paden: LisaKPaden@aol.com

Sexto Retiro Espiritual Para Damas

Guiadas en Victoria

Oradora Invitada:
Liz Enid Polanco

Cantante Invitada: Anibel Peña O'Connor

Abril 27-29, 2007
Campamento Winnekeag
Costo: $80

Comuníquese con la Directora de Damas de su Iglesia. Para más información puede llamara a: Rosalina A. Frias (978) 365-5985

Patrocinado por Southern New England Conference Oficina del Coordinador Hispano
Children In Ministries Workshop
For leaders in Children’s Ministries across the Atlantic Union

April 13 – 15, 2007
Atlantic Union Conference Office
400 Main Street
South Lancaster, Massachusetts

For more information, visit
www.atlantic-union.org/childrens2007.htm
or call (978) 368-8333 ext. 3020.

Attendees will receive
ten credit hours toward
Track II certification.

Sponsored by the Atlantic Union Conference Children’s Ministries Department

ADVENTIST COMMUNITY SERVICES (ACS) CONVENTION
SPONSORED BY THE ATLANTIC UNION CONFERENCE

A Revolution of the ACS: From the Back Burner to the Forefront of the Church

May 17 – 20, 2007
(Registration 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on May 17)

TRACKS AVAILABLE:
• Disaster Response
• Health Screening/ Van Ministry
• Crisis Care Response
• Tutoring/Mentoring

FOR: conference directors and staff, pastors, church ACS directors and staff, and lay people

The Westin Stamford Hotel
1 First Stamford Place
Stamford, CT 06902

REGISTRATION FEE:
$125.00 – Through April 8, 2007
(Early-bird Special)
$150.00 – After April 8, 2007

LODGING:
Make your own reservation at The Westin Stamford Hotel
(203) 351-1841
$95.00 per night for single/double occupancy
(Mention Atlantic Union ACS Convention)

For more information, contact your local Conference ACS Directors. Atlantic Union Conference: Louis B. Metellus (978) 368-8333 x3012 or Margarette T. Voyard (978) 368-8333 x3013
E-mail: mvoyard@atlanticunion.org

REGISTRATION FORMS AND MORE DETAILS WILL BE MAILED OUT SOON.
www.atlantic-union.org/acs2007.htm

Atlantic Union Conference
400 Main Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561
Phone (978) 368-8333, Fax (978) 368-7948
Web site: www.atlanticunion.org

Atlantic Union GLEANER Staff
E-mail: gleaner@atlanticunion.org

Correspondents
Bermuda: Sheila Holder, sholder@bermudaconference.hm
Greater New York: Alanzo Smith, ajlune77@aol.com
New York: Kim Kaiser, kimm@nyconf.com
Northern New England: Trevor Baker, taker@northeastern.org
Northern New England: Lynn Ortel, lortel@nnec.org
Southern New England: Frank Tocherman, ftocherman@cononline.org
Atlantic Union College: Cindy Kurtzhals, cindy.kurtzhals@auc.edu
Parkview Adventist Hospital: Public Relations

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Vice President, Haitian: Louis B. Metellus
Vice President, Hispanic: Dioniatio Olvo
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Revolving Fund: Clifford O. Pope
Sabbath School: Leon D. Thomassian
Stewardship: Leon D. Thomassian
Trust Services/Inner City/Loss Control: Leon D. Thomassian
Women’s Ministries: Charlotte L. V. Thomas
Youth Ministries/Pathfinder/Adventurer: William Wool

Local Conferences and Institutions
Bermuda: Jeffrey Brown, President; Kenneth Manders, Secretary; Derek R. Furbert, Treasurer. Office Address: Box 1170, Hamilton, Bermuda. (441) 292-4110. Web site: www.tagent.org/bdconf


New York: Stanley Rosse, President; Angel Rodriguez, Secretary; Doug Falle, Treasurer. Office Address: 4930 West Seneca Turnpke, Syracuse, NY 13213. (315) 469-6921. Web site: www.nyconf.com

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Southern New England: Frank Tocherman, President; Juan Borjes, Secretary; Randall Terry, Treasurer. Office Address: 34 Sawyer St., South Lancaster, MA 01561. (978) 368-4551. Web site: www.southernnewengland.org

Atlantic Union College: George P. Babcock, President; 338 Main Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561. (978) 368-3683. Web site: www.atlanticunion.org

Atlantic Union GLEANER, March 2007

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As you begin to think about where it is you want to spend your college years, consider Atlantic Union College for the time of your life.

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