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Church members have a great opportunity to impact their community. What is your church doing to get involved in starting relationships with the neighbors around you? The cover story, beginning on page 4, features several churches that are conducting programs that benefit the community at large. In addition, you will find our regular features: Positions of Our Faith, Adventist Education, and Youth Connections. The cover photo was taken by Ednor A. P. Davison.
Attention, all! See the marvels of God! He plants flowers and trees all over the earth, banishes war from pole to pole, breaks all the weapons across his knee. “Step out of the traffic! Take a long, loving look at me, your High God, above politics, above everything”—Psalm 46:8-10, MSG.

Halfway between standing and kneeling by my bed one day recently, the words “O for a closer walk with God” came strongly to mind. It was early one morning and I had just gotten up, but I was feeling exhausted. It was still very dark outside and I was tempted to get back under the covers, but I resisted and I began to dialogue with God.

“It’s another day Lord. I’m exhausted, and I feel as though I haven’t really slept. At the beginning of this new day, I’m relying on you to take me safely through it. No matter what may come my way, I’m going forward with you.”

I am sure there are others who have had similar experiences at one time or another. Life has become so busy; everything seems to be rushed. There are deadlines to meet and so many things to do, and it appears that there are not enough hours in which to do them. The days are filled with one challenge after another that must be handled. Overwhelmed is a word that could best describe what it is like going through these experiences.

Thankfully, on that particular morning, in the quietness of the room, I took the time to remind myself once again that, no matter what I was going to face, I needed to start the day with God. I reminded myself of the great promises He has placed in the Bible for us. That morning I chose Psalm 23: “The Lord is my shepherd; I have all that I need. He lets me rest in green meadows; he leads me beside peaceful streams. He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name”—Psalm 23:1-3, NLT.

In those special, sacred, quiet moments I received what I needed to “kick start” my day. I asked the Lord to order my steps and to help me to hold on to Him throughout the day. Then, I began to sense the need to pray for others in similar situations who needed an extra special touch from God. Included in that prayer were my immediate family, extended family, friends, coworkers, students everywhere, those who have asked me to specifically pray on their behalf, those who were feeling as though the shadow of darkness was overtaking them, and the list goes on.

Along with my prayer, I claimed the remainder of Psalm 23 for them as well: “Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me. You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies. You honor me by anointing my head with oil. My cup overflows with blessings. Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the Lord forever” (vs. 4-6).

When I left the quietness of the room, I knew that God had heard my prayers, would keep His promise, and be close to me throughout the day. I also knew He would be close to the many people I prayed for that morning as well. I felt reassured that He heard the simple prayers I prayed and that all would be well. That night, when I went to bed, even though I had faced numerous challenges throughout the day, I was able to give God thanks and praise for many answered prayers.

So, as you move along on your life’s journey, be encouraged. Remember, in spite of what you are going to face, to start your day off with God. It is a sure way to develop a closer walk with Him.

Ednor A. P. Davison is the editor of the Atlantic Union Gleaner and assistant to the president for communication in the Atlantic Union Conference.

at www.atlantic-union.org

Atlantic Union Gleaner, October 2007
Nine years ago, members of the Bethany Seventh-day Adventist Church in Westbury, New York, implemented a police adoption program, which was the beginning of the church’s commitment to the local police precincts to be available to minister to their needs. Since that time, the church has sponsored an annual Community Adoption Program, where the officers from various precincts in Nassau County and firemen from the Uniondale Fire District are honored. It is the church’s way of saying “thank you” to the men and women who serve their communities. On October 27, Bethany church members will be joined by officials and community leaders to mark the 9th anniversary of the program.

The Police Adoption Program, which was initiated years ago in the Northeastern Conference by Clement A. Murray, a former communication director for the conference, is a vital ministry for the Bethany church members. The ministry to these men and women goes beyond the annual celebration and involves remembering their birthdays and visiting the precinct to pray with them and much more.
Other churches in the New York City area have also implemented police adoption programs. It is a ministry that goes beyond Sabbath services and Wednesday night prayer meetings. It is a ministry that allows participants not only to reflect on the character of Jesus Christ, but also to give the Adventist church a face in the community. It is just one of many community outreach programs occurring in churches throughout the Atlantic Union.

Here are a few more examples of programs that have been implemented to benefit not only church members, but the entire community.

Learning 201 . . .

The leaders of the Bronx Seventh-day Adventist Church’s Education Department took action and launched a tutoring program when they recognized that there was an urgent need to come to the aid of elementary and high school students who required assistance in understanding their assignments and completing their homework.

The program began in September 2006 under the direction of Esmie Scott, the church’s education department leader, with the assistance of teachers Hermalee McLean, Florence Richards, Walton Philips, and Joy Lloyd. It is open to church members as well as children in the community. The education department is fortunate to have teachers in the church who are willing to volunteer their services to the program, which requires commitment, dedication, and sacrifice.

Students meet with their tutors on Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The youngsters range in age from 7-17 and are in grades 2-12. A program that began with six students now numbers 14—nine from the church and five from the community.

Parents have been enthused by the success of the program and the difference it has made in their children’s class participation, interest, and confidence in attending school.

The classes are set up so that the tutors can interact with each student on a one-to-one basis and evaluate the progress of each student to determine if more time on a particular subject or topic is required. They are willing to do whatever it takes for the child to fully comprehend the material, improve their study skills, and increase their self-esteem. These experienced teachers are able to recognize specific areas of weakness and implement skill-building exercises and techniques that have the kids anxious to learn and, ultimately, become more confident and effective learners.

The teachers are invaluable to the program and, yes, the students are blessed to have such interested and caring Christian individuals so involved and dedicated to their learning and scholastic futures.

“I am grateful to the teacher-volunteers and also to the parents for entrusting the education department with their confidence and support,” says Esmie Scott.

Acrylic Painting Class . . .

During the month of July one of the outreach projects at the Elmira Seventh-day Adventist Church in Elmira, New York, was a free acrylic painting class.

Instructor Cameron Macdonell oversees the work of his students during this outreach acrylic paint class. Many who attended were non-members.

This was open to the community and taught by one of the members. The instructor, Cameron Macdonell, holds a degree in art education and is listed in WHO'S WHO IN AMERICAN ART.

Classes were held two nights per week for four weeks. Twelve students attended, most of them from the community. Following the last class a reception was held in the church fellowship hall. The students’ paintings were displayed as well as several by Cameron. Many church members came and enjoyed talking to the guests and viewing their artwork. Another class is scheduled for February 2008 and many are already looking forward to attending.

GED Program Beginning its 5th Year . . .

In late 2003, Jermaine Richardson, an elder at the Hamilton Seventh-
day Adventist Church, realized there was a need for a GED program in the community. He did all the necessary research, conducted a survey in the church, and, armed with the information, approached Kenneth Manders, the church’s pastor, about getting a program started in their church.

An excited Pastor Manders gave him the green light to go ahead with the program, and, with the volunteer services of professional teachers, the program was launched in November 2003 with 50 individuals ranging in age from 15 to 60.

The first graduation ceremony was held on June 26, 2004, at the Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church and proud parents, friends, and church members were on hand to celebrate with the graduates.

Over the past four years, the GED program has expanded beyond the doors of the Hamilton church to other communities on the island. The Southampton, Pembroke, and Midland Heights churches became involved in offering the program in subsequent years and several graduations were held in June.

Pembroke church has recently reevaluated its program to meet another pressing need in its community. As of September 10, they began offering free community tutoring. Individuals of all ages—boys, girls, men, and women—can go to Pembroke church’s community education building Monday through Thursday evenings to get assistance with homework, reading, spelling, writing, and math.

The impact of the GED program on the island of Bermuda will have a far-reaching effect on the individuals in the community.

Establishing Relationships . . .

Talking about establishing a program that impacts the community is one thing; actually implementing a program and maintaining it on a consistent basis is another. Stop for a moment and think about the programs and activities at your church. For whom are the programs geared? If a survey was conducted at your church and one of the questions posed was, “What is your church doing to establish relationships with those in the surrounding community?” what would your response be? It is understandable that the answers to this question will vary from individual to individual. However, it is a question that church members and leaders should be asking and thinking about as programs are implemented.

The Atlantic Union Conference with its more than 538 churches and 98,000 plus members has the potential to reach thousands for Christ through outreach ministries. Why not go beyond the borders of your church, claim your community for Christ by intentionally establishing long-lasting relationships. And when you’re asked, “If your church no longer existed in its current location, would the community around your church miss your church’s presence?” you can answer “yes” with certainty, knowing that your church is making a difference in its community.

This article is a compilation of information submitted by Mary Cameron, the communication director for the Bethany Seventh-day Adventist Church; Loma McKinnon, the communication director at the Bronx Seventh-day Adventist Church; Sharon Reynolds, the clerk at the Elmira Seventh-day Adventist Church, and Sheila Holder, the communication director for the Bermuda Conference. — Ednor A. P. Davison, GLEANER editor

Connecting with Your Community

If your church has a long-term community outreach program that you would like to see featured in the GLEANER, submit the information via e-mail to the editor at gleaner@atlanticunion.org.

What is your church doing to establish relationships in your surrounding community?
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).

A Statement on Pornography

Diverse courts and cultures may debate the definitions and consequences of pornography (the literature of sexual deviance), but on the basis of eternal principles, Seventh-day Adventists of whatever culture deem pornography to be destructive, demeaning, desensitizing, and exploitative.

It is destructive to marital relationships, thus subverting God’s design that husband and wife cleave so closely to each other that they become, symbolically, “one flesh” (Genesis 2:24).

It is demeaning, defining a woman (and in some instances a man) not as a spiritual-mental-physical whole, but as a one-dimensional and disposable sex-object, thus depriving her of the worth and the respect that are her due and right as a daughter of God.

It is desensitizing to the viewer/reader, callousing the conscience and “perverting the perception,” thus producing a “depraved person” (Romans 1:22, 28, NEB).

It is exploitative, pandering to prurience, and basally abusive, thus contrary to the Golden Rule, which insists that one treat others as one wishes to be treated (Matthew 7:12). Particularly offensive is child pornography. Said Jesus: “If anyone leads astray even one child who believes in me, he would be better off thrown into the depths of the sea with a millstone hung around his neck!” (See Matthew 18:6.)

Though Norman Cousins may not have said it in biblical language, he has perceptively written: “The trouble with this wide-open pornography… is not that it corrupts, but that it desensitizes; not that it unleashes the passions, but that it cripples the emotions; not that it encourages a mature attitude, but that it is a reversion to infantile obsessions; not that it removes the blinders, but that it distorts the view. Prowess is proclaimed but love is denied. What we have is not liberation but dehumanization.”—Saturday Review of Literature, September 20, 1975.

A society plagued by plunging standards of decency, increasing child prostitution, teenage pregnancies, sexual assaults on women and children, drug-damaged mentalities, and organized crime can ill afford pornography’s contribution to these evils.

Wise, indeed, is the counsel of Christianity’s first great theologian: “If you believe in goodness and if you value the approval of God, fix your minds on the things which are holy and right and pure and beautiful and good” (Philippians 4:8, 9, Phillips). This is advice that all Christians would do well to heed.

This public statement was released by the General Conference president, Neal C. Wilson, after consultation with the 16 world vice presidents of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, on July 5, 1990, at the General Conference session in Indianapolis, Indiana.

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 (www.adventsource.org) or your local Adventist Book Center (ABC) (www.adventistbookcenter.com)

Statements, Guidelines and other Documents
Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual
Les adventistes du septième jour sont confrontés au rétablissement et au chagrin, alors qu’ils viennent en aide aux résidents d’un tremblement de terre d’une magnitude 8 qui a frappé la côte du Pérou à 145 kilomètres au sud-est de Lima, la capitale, le 15 août dernier.

Ce tremblement de terre a fait aux moins 500 morts et a blessé plus de 1.600 personnes dans toute la région côtière, selon les rapports des autorités de protection civile péruviennes.

Les officiels de l’église dans la région disent que trois membres d’église sont morts et que le tremblement de terre a détruit les logements de 400 membres d’église. On rapporte que de nombreuses écoles et églises adventistes ont aussi été endommagées.

Le gouvernement péruvien a déclaré l’état d’urgence à Ica, province côtière située à 265 kilomètres au sud de Lima, qui est la région la plus lourdement touchée avec de nombreuses maisons et bâtiments démolis.

Marañon Voluntarios International, organisation chrétienne adventiste qui construit des bâtiments pour répondre à des besoins urgents dans le monde entier, explique que les matériaux de construction qui sont habituellement utilisés au Pérou, résistent rarement à des catastrophes naturelles telles que les tremblements de terre. Ces matériaux sont composés de plastique, de contreplaqué et de briques de boue. Cinq édifices d’église construits par Marañon dans cette région servent d’abri aux familles qui ont perdu leurs logements lors du tremblement de terre.

L’Agence Adventiste d’Aide et de Développement (ADRA) du Pérou a mis en œuvre une opération pour tenter de répondre aux besoins les plus urgents des rescapés de la province d’Ica. Cette aide comprend soins médicaux d’urgence, eau, nourriture, tentes et couvertures. Les églises adventistes de la région servent de centres d’approvisionnement et de distribution.

En collaboration avec d’autres agences d’entraide du Pérou, ADRA va continuer d’évaluer la situation pour répondre aux besoins des rescapés, besoins qui évoluent. Des mises à jour seront communiquées alors que les efforts se développent.

Adventist News Network Staff
16 Août 2007
Traduction: Stephanie Elofer

Pérou: un tremblement de terre endommage des églises et des écoles

La déclaration de foi de la WEA, qui met l’accent sur la Bible en tant que Parole de Dieu, la trinité, la personne de Jésus-Christ et son œuvre salvatrice, la justification par la foi, la prière, la conversion, la sanctification et le second retour du Christ.

Selon le communiqué, plusieurs points de désagrément sont apparus entre les deux organisations au sujet des enseignements adventistes tels que le jugement investigatif, le rôle et l’autorité d’Ellen G. White, et le sabbat comme jour d’adoration des chrétiens.


WEA représente quelques 420 millions de chrétiens évangéliques issus de différentes dénominations dans 127 pays. L’église adventiste compte 15 millions de membres dans plus de 200 pays.

Les conversations de ce mois-ci sont la suite d’une série de discussions initiales entre les deux organisations, discussions qui ont eu lieu à Prague, en République Tchèque, en août 2006.

“Chaque dénomination [du WEA] a sa propre identité distincte, le but n’est pas de réduire les différences, mais de les reconnaître et les respecter” fait remarquer A. Rodriguez. “Nous ne cherchons pas à faire fusionner les deux institutions.”

Les experts de l’église adventiste écrivent une déclaration commune avec l’Alliance Evangélique mondiale
Dilo al Mundo, Dilo a Tu Mundo, en la Unión del Atlántico fue el lema elegido para el Retiro de Ancianos Hispanos y Portugueses el cual se llevó a cabo del 13 al 15 de Abril. Más de doscientos delegados se reunieron en el prestigioso Hudson Valley Resort & Spa en Kerhonkson, Nueva York para este evento, el cual proveyó una experiencia espiritual para cada uno de los presentes. El Departamento Hispano de la Unión del Atlántico organizó el evento con el apoyo de los administradores de la Unión, los pastores y las iglesias locales las cuales proveyeron las herramientas necesarias para entrenar a los líderes en la tarea de ganar almas y el crecimiento de iglesias.

Cuatro presentadores fueron invitados a participar de esta celebración. Los seminarios discutieron varios aspectos de las responsabilidades de los ancianos en la iglesia. El Dr. Silvestre Quezada Case presentó un seminario titulado “Cumpliendo con el Privilegio.” El Dr. Holando Guesualdo habló acerca de “Los Principios Básicos de la Consejería Espiritual,” y los pastores Daniel Escarone y Nilton García presentaron temas sobre “La Cristiandad y la Cultura Contemporánea” y “La Multiplicación de Discípulos,” respectivamente.

Al finalizar el retiro los participantes estaban muy entusiasmados. La experiencia proporcionó a los delegados la oportunidad de renovar su relación con Dios, formar nuevas amistades y desarrollar sus destrezas como ancianos y líderes.

Otro evento que ocurrió recientemente fue el “Entrenamiento de Discípulos y Líderes de Grupos Pequeños (GD-7).” El mismo fue organizado por la División Norteamericana y diseñado específicamente para líderes de grupos pequeños. El evento se llevó a cabo del 4 al 6 de mayo en el Campamento Tranquil Valley en Nueva Jersey. La Unión del Atlántico tuvo la mayor representación de delegados, contando con aproximadamente 50 por ciento de los delegados participantes. Algunos de los delegados eran pastores, otros laicos, pero todos asistieron con el fin de aprender como ganar almas para Cristo. Ya se han visto resultados positivos de este entrenamiento.

La obra Hispana y Portuguesa en la Unión continua hacia delante. Hay muchos otros eventos planificados para el futuro. Le pedimos a los pastores, líderes y miembros que se mantengan informados de lo que está ocurriendo y que nos ayuden a promover estas actividades para que unos podamos crecer espiritualmente y ganar muchas almas para el reino.

Dionisio Olivo es el vicepresidente del ministerio Hispano y Portugués y el director de los departamentos de Hogar y Familia y Escuela Sabática en la Unión del Atlántico.
As shoppers strolled along Newkirk Plaza and people whizzed to and from the busy subway station, they were greeted by children from the Brooklyn church. On July 1, many from the children’s Sabbath School classes distributed bottles of water and tracts to people along the bustling stretch.

The children, from 2 to 12 years old, made it a fun-filled outreach venture as they ministered to this diverse community. Five-year-old Joshua Clarke and seven-year-old Carlton Parks bravely approached one man who was smoking and gave him a “Stop Smoking” tract while admonishing the man about the dangers of smoking.

The man took the tract and immediately threw his cigarette on the floor. He stomped on it while proclaiming, “I can’t smoke anymore!”

In another instance, these two unstoppable literature evangelists met two men in minister’s attire. The men politely refused the tracts saying they were “already saved.” As one of the men reached out his hand to shake Joshua Clarke’s hand, he seized the opportunity to swiftly give the man a tract. No one was off-limits for learning the truth about salvation.

The children present at the outreach venture included Daniel Roberts, 3; Jasmine Brooks, 6; Mekala Hagley, 8; Neil Hagley, 11; Kendra Diamond, 9; and Krishtel Diamond, 12. Also among the group were Savannah Parks, 2; and Christiana Michel, 2, who observed and learned lessons in the art of evangelism.

Within a short time, the young people had distributed dozens of bottles of water, generously provided by the Brooklyn church members, and a shopping bag filled with tracts, courtesy of the church’s Personal Ministries department.

“It made me feel happy to see people smiling and taking the tracts. I hope it makes them see that there is a God who can change their life,” said Kendra Diamond.

One woman who received a tract upon exiting the subway station called our church seeking help just a few days later. She is currently receiving counseling from our church pastor, Artemas Julien.

Cradle Roll and Kindergarten leader, Marsha Clarke, and her staff, organized the evangelistic event. She says the main reason for undertaking this project was to help our children realize at this early stage that sharing their faith with others is a vital part of being a Christian. “By the time they get to youth, I want this to be already ingrained in them.”

Debbie Michel, communication director
Brooklyn church
A Salvaged Marriage Leads to a Baptism

Growing up in Georgetown, Guyana, Arnold Hamer lived next door to Sandra Frith, a “beautiful girl” with an unforgettable smile. They eventually married in 1982 and he joined her in Brooklyn, New York. After only a year, the marriage disintegrated. The two went their separate ways and had no contact with each other.

God, in His grace, allowed Sandra to be invited to an evangelism crusade in Brooklyn. She accepted the invitation and there she was introduced to Christ Jesus, a man who could mend her broken life. She was baptized into the Adventist church in 1989 and a decade later became a member of the Brooklyn Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Around this time, Arnold was plodding through life in New York and hitting rough spots. He battled self-destructive habits, seeking to fill a void in his life.

In 1999, almost 20 years after their marriage, both Sandra and Arnold, who never divorced each other, reconnected through a mutual friend and decided to give their marriage one more try. “We realized our love for each other wasn’t dead,” Sandra says. “There was still something there.” Sandra was now an Adventist Christian, though, and her husband wasn’t. Arnold, who was raised Lutheran, was resistant to the idea of attending church with Sandra. He felt the idea of worshipping on Saturday was “simply ridiculous.” Sandra says she told him, “I am not stopping you; it’s just not for me. You go and enjoy your God.”

Sandra prayed relentlessly for God to trouble Arnold’s spirit, and it wasn’t long before her prayers were answered. He started visiting church with her, but only sporadically. Sandra was very discouraged that the change wasn’t happening fast enough. She also found his sinful habits becoming more intolerable.

In 2005, Sandra’s sister died and the sister’s three young children were left to Sandra’s care. Sandra had to move to a bigger place and she used this opportunity to move away from Arnold for a second time and start life anew. But she didn’t stop praying for Arnold to give his life to Christ.

In the summer of 2006, Arnold showed up unexpectedly at the Brooklyn church. “I was rememining and realized I missed my wife,” he says.

Sandra agreed to take him back, with one provision—he had to go to church with her regularly. He agreed to this and began attending church with the entire family every Sabbath.

Subsequently, Arnold was introduced to a small group that met every Thursday evening. Personal Ministries leader Anston Roberts and Community Services leader Albert Hutchinson were studying with about two dozen individuals at a home in Brooklyn. “It was a wonderful, one-on-one discussion,” Arnold says. “I learned a lot of things I didn’t know. I was motivated to read and find out more about what was missing in my life.”

In May 2007, Arnold opened his heart to the leading of the Holy Spirit. “It was a good feeling,” Arnold says. “I knew I had made the right decision to be baptized.” As Arnold was baptized by Pastor Linford Martin, the members rejoiced with God and His holy angels and were thankful that a marriage that once appeared hopeless was now salvaged.

As the 52-year-old construction business owner presses forward on his spiritual journey, he knows there are times when he may miss the mark. Nevertheless, he has resolved to hold firm to God’s hand, as He is the One that controls the future. “I now know right from wrong,” Arnold says, “but it’s not an easy road. I will be in the fight all the time but I’m not going to give up.”

Debbie Michel, communication director
Brooklyn church

Mother’s Day Tea and Fashion Show

Our first Annual “Mommy and Me” Mother’s Day Tea and Fashion Show was held at the Poughkeepsie Seventh-day Adventist School. This spectacular event was a tremendous success and a blessing to all the families present.

The outstanding models were our own students and their moms. The fashionable clothes and outfits from Kohl’s Department Store were captivating and exquisite. The day-to-day “fun-in-the sun” dresses and “spoils” wear were graciously displayed by the young students who were beaming with smiles as they promenaded aside their moms.

But it didn’t stop there! The music played and songs echoed from around the world. The highlight on the stage created a buzz of excitement as the women paraded down the runway in their native dress from India, Africa, and the West Indies.

“This is one unusual show indeed and the selection of food is unique,” said one gentleman at the refreshment table as he sipped tea from a collector’s tea cup and sampled the cuisine of the countries represented.

The event brought us closer together. It made us all appreciate our most precious possessions, our children, and it opened the door for further communication with our families in bridging our cultures. This day was truly a “gift” of being one in the Spirit.

Janet Boehm, communication director
Poughkeepsie church

at www.atlantic-union.org
Parkview Adventist Medical Center and Atlantic Union College Work Together

Parkview Adventist Medical Center in Brunswick, Maine, is partnering with Atlantic Union College to provide professional development and career prospects for AUC students at the state-of-the-art, community-focused facility.

“We are very pleased with this business alliance,” says Robin White, assistant vice president for human resources. “Michelle Sundin and Anna Phillips are working for us this summer as CNAs.”

This opportunity is a result of Parkview CEO/president Ted Lewis’s emphasis on affiliations with Adventist organizations, especially in the recruitment arena. “Because AUC is in the Northeast, we want Adventist students to know we are here,” says White.

White and Lewis recently hosted a meeting with Dr. Lenora Follett, chair of AUC’s Department of Nursing, and Hebe (Abby) Soares, Office for Advancement vice president. Parkview also committed to donating equipment to enhance student learning.

White has visited AUC over the years, bringing nursing students information about the hospital, prayer ID bands, bottled water, and granola bars. “Parkview is very mission oriented,” shares White. “We pray with our patients, serve totally vegetarian meals, and offer a complete wellness department. It’s a good fit for AUC students.”

Hebe (Abby) Soares, Office for Advancement vice president and Cindy Kurtzhals, public relations director Atlantic Union College

Second-year AUC nursing student, Anna Phillips, worked as a CNA this summer at Parkview Adventist Medical Center in Brunswick, Maine. Parkview is known for its caring, faith-based approach to health.

“Second-year AUC nursing student, Anna Phillips, worked as a CNA (certified nursing assistant) at Parkview Adventist Medical Center this summer. This is what she says about her experience.

“I loved it. The nurses I worked with, all work together wonderfully. All knew each other and were friendly; it was almost like a family. It was a real good experience and all the nurses were extremely helpful.

“The whole atmosphere was great. It’s a Seventh-day Adventist hospital and they promote prayer and are open about God.

“If a patient is wearing a prayer ID band, that means they want the staff to pray with them. And, if they ask you to pray with them, you may, or you can ask the patient if they would like you to pray with them. The staff wear angel wings on their nametag to show that they would be willing to pray with the patient. I thought this was really unique. Parkview is prayer positive.”

Phillips’ mom, Carol Kohls, also works at Parkview. She is a physical therapy assistant.
A Teacher of Teachers—AUC Professor Named Advisor to International Education Study

Ian Bothwell, Ed.D., chair of the Atlantic Union College Department of Education and Psychology, has been appointed one of 16 outstanding leaders in education chosen to advise directors of CognitiveGenesis.

CognitiveGenesis is the first large-scale study to assess Adventist academics in elementary and secondary schools. Researchers for CognitiveGenesis at La Sierra University, in conjunction with the North American Division Office of Education, are undertaking a multi-year project. It will document academic achievement of some 37,000 students in the division and examine factors that influence that achievement.

All students in grades 3 to 9 and 11 in all Adventist schools in the United States, Bermuda, and Canada are participants. Working in partnership, students in Adventist schools, their teachers, administrators, and parents will provide information through a series of questionnaires. When the questionnaire information is correlated with student scores on standardized achievement and ability tests, factors will be identified that can be associated with academic achievement.

Questions being examined include:

- How well are students in Adventist schools performing academically?
- What factors related to students, parents, teachers, and schools are associated with student academic achievement?
- Are there unique, identifiable characteristics attributable to Seventh-day Adventist education and, if so, what are they?
- Is there an Adventist advantage?

www.cognitivegenesis.org

About Dr. Ian Bothwell

As an advisor to CognitiveGenesis, she brings her skill as a teacher of teachers and her expertise in language and literacy. Her spirit of mission and commitment are valuable assets to the advisory committee. Bothwell says, "I have a passionate belief that our best evangelistic tool is quality education."

Professor Bothwell teaches at Atlantic Union College, where she has been since 1994. From 1994-1998, she directed the Adult Degree Program. Since 1998, she has been a professor in the Atlantic Union College Department of Education and Psychology and is currently chair.

Bothwell holds an Ed.D. in Language and Literacy from the University of California at Berkeley.

—CognitiveGenesis
La Sierra University
Riverside, California

“Still Sharing the Light” 1882–2007

Mission Statement

Atlantic Union College is a Christian liberal arts college in the Seventh-day Adventist tradition. As a diverse learning community, its mission is to develop the whole person by inspiring faith in a loving creator God and encouraging a passion for knowledge, truth, and service to humanity.
The Bethany Seventh-day Adventist Church recently took the time to pay special tribute to the elders of the congregation for their hard work and dedication to God. A family member of each elder paid special tribute to the elder’s accomplishments.

Pastor John Talbert told the elders they were in service as servants of God and that he appreciated the service and devotion they give to our church family.

In addition, each elder received a citation from Nassau County Legislator presiding officer Roger Corbin and Legislator Kevan Abrahams (1st District). The Legislators congratulated the elders and thanked them for their spiritual leadership in the various communities.

Special music was provided by the Ebenezer church. The moderators of the program were Beryl Williams and Mary Cameron.

Special thanks to Vinnette Barnes-Baker, Shirley Hilaire, Angela Matthews, and Marcia Roberson for their participation in this program.

Crena Brown Celebrates 100 Years

When Crena Brown was born 100 years ago in Arouca in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, West Indies, the country had no cinemas, no buses, no highways, nor had there ever been a general election. Not even the pulsating rhythms of the steel band had even been heard in the streets! Nevertheless, on May 12, 1907, Crena Brown made her entrance into the world.

During her youthful years she attended church each Sunday. As an adult she thought that her new neighbors Pastor James T. and Mrs. Beryl Carrington and family, who attended church on Saturdays, were odd. She had to admit, however, that there was something different about them and that they were nice neighbors.

One day, she noticed a large tent being pitched and, shortly after, a series of evangelistic meetings began. She was invited by her neighbors to attend, but each night she had an excuse. In order to stop these invitations they decided to attend just once. Under the leading of the Holy Spirit, her interest was piqued and she never stopped attending and was baptized in the early 1950’s. Her love for the Lord is as strong now as it was then and she eagerly anticipates His soon return.

On May 12, 2007, Brown was privileged to celebrate her 100th birthday with family and members of her church, the Hanson Place Seventh-day Adventist Church. Although she is no longer able to leave her home, she was, on this occasion able to acknowledge her guests, and when asked by her pastor, Melwyn Mounter, what her favorite hymn is, she sang softly, “Jesus Loves Me This I Know.” She also confirmed that her longevity is the result of God’s goodness to her and she greatly appreciated the hymns sung by guests, as well as the beautiful rendition of “Thanks Be to God,” by Lynda Straker.

Brown, who has been a resident of Brooklyn, New York, for approximately 40 years, resides with her only child, Avril Mitchell, who is her primary caregiver. During most of these years Brown worked in the child care profession and, as a result, adopted many children and grandchildren who continue to shower her with love and attention.

Brown’s life has been enriched by her love of travel to other Caribbean countries, Hawaii, and the Holy Land; her involvement in church and community projects; a healthy diet, a good, cheerful disposition and willingness to help others; and most of all, her abiding faith in God.

As part of the May 12 celebration, greetings from several government and Seventh-day Adventist Church officials were read. In addition a special tribute was paid to her daughter on behalf of the guests, for the excellent way in which she cares for her mother, a factor that helped to contribute to her longevity. Brown is the grandmother of one and the great-grandmother of two.

Crena Brown and her family are appreciative of the demonstration of love and support extended by family, friends, and church members.

Maureen O. Burke, elder Hanson Place church

Crena Brown celebrated her 100th birthday on May 12.
Bronx Church Breaks Ground for Senior Housing Development

Sunday, April 29, was a special day for Bronx church members as they broke ground for their senior housing development. It was the culmination of lots of hard work by Pastor Farrell Jones, Trevor McLean, and the building committee.

Sharon Mohammed, Rachel Jones, along with Jones and McLean, participated in the dedication service. Former pastor Calvin Harrison gave a history and overview of the project. Stennet Brooks, chairman of the Soundview Housing Development Association, representatives from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Bronx Borough president’s office, architects, and Northeastern Conference president Trevor Baker each spoke briefly on the importance of this project.

Carlos Ramos provided musical selections before the moment of truth arrived, the actual ground breaking. Cameras were in action everywhere including those of the local TV station, Channel 12, that was on location to record this historic event.

Northeastern Academy Students Awarded for their Academic Excellence

At the 61st annual Northeastern Academy baccalaureate for the graduating class of 2007, the Delisa Gonzales Knight Esq. Academic Achievement Award was presented to valedictorian Donald Bryan. He is the first male to receive the award since it was introduced in 2005 in memory of the late Delisa Gonzales Knight. Donald graduates with a G.P.A. of 3.98 and will attend Atlantic Union College where he will enroll in the pre-dentistry program.

Also receiving the award was salutatorian Bernice Osei Akoto. Bernice graduated with a G.P.A. of 3.84 and will attend Binghamton University where she will major in nursing. Each recipient received a monetary award of $800 and $600 respectively, making the total amount of monies provided by this award to date $4,200.

For the second year in a row through the B. Kevin Robinson program, the charitable arm of the organization, a presentation of $300 was made to pay the transportation cost of the student from the academy selected to attend the MITHS (Minority Introduction to the Health Sciences) program at Loma Linda University in Loma Linda, California. This year’s recipient is Adrienne Greene, a junior whose G.P.A. is 3.83.

Barry Thomas, president Northeastern Academy Alumni Association, Inc.

Children’s Day Celebrated at Bethany

The Bethany annual children’s day was a big success! The voices of the Bethany children’s choir, the Tappin sisters, and the junior praise team were raised in praise to God.

Bethany’s own Leigha Carryl, a fifth grader at the Long Island School for the Gifted, spoke on the topic “It’s All in the Genes.” The sermon focused on three points, reminding us who we are. First, we are made in God’s image. Second, we are from the lineage of Abraham to whom God promised great blessings and, finally, we are sons and daughters of God, paid for by the blood of Jesus. We were encouraged to like and be proud of who we are for those reasons. We were told not to insult God by being ordinary, but to be like thoroughbreds who are bred for a particular reason: to be winners, as we, too, are winners in Christ.

Samella Carryl, church member Bethany church

From left to right: Jerlene Johnson, guidance counselor; Bernice Osei Akoto, Barry C. Thomas, Northeastern Academy alumni president, Donald Bryan, valedictorian, behind him Cameron Bowen, Marlene Alvarez, principal; and Edward Herndon.
Atlantic Union Conference personnel, Astrid Thomassian and Jerrell Gilkeson, led out on August 6-8 in the 2007 new teacher in-service training hosted by the Northeastern Conference. Participating were teachers from the Bermuda, Greater New York, and Northeastern conferences. First-year teachers, as well as teachers entering the Atlantic Union teaching force from another area, made up the class of 2007.

“The teachers displayed enthusiasm and typical Adventist dedication to presenting Christ in the classroom,” said David Cadavero, Greater New York Conference superintendent of schools, who shared survival tips with the group. Sheila Holder, Bermuda Conference superintendent of schools, shared that new teacher in-service training sessions provided time for her to bond with new teachers at Bermuda Institute. Holder shared ideas about how to hold a parent-teacher conference.

Presentations on classroom management were widely hailed as very valuable. Breakouts for the elementary and academy teachers gave each group a chance to address specific needs. Other topics ranged from how to handle emergences to how to handle a school board. Most of the presentations included hands-on experiences.

Teaching a music class with Carol Swinyar, from the Atlantic Union College Thayer Performing Arts Center, was a popular session. Learning about the Teacher Bulletin resource was an eye-opener to teachers listening to Martha Ban, a Southern New England Conference teacher. Glenn Cassimy talked to the group about working toward excellence in the teaching profession.

Many of the teachers marked on their evaluation forms that they would like to have this kind of support, whether they were new teachers or have taught for several years. Once again, we solicit your prayers for each of our schools’ administration, teachers, students, and parents.

By Astrid Thomassian and Jerrell Gilkeson

Astrid Thomassian, the Atlantic Union Conference education director, and Jerrell Gilkeson, the Atlantic Union Conference associate education director, write from the office in South Lancaster, Massachusetts.
I was sitting in a room several years ago with a personnel committee of a local conference that was interviewing me about becoming their youth director. A committee member asked me a question that made me stop and think for a few moments. The question was “How would you like to be remembered as a youth director after you complete your ministry in this conference?” I would like to share with you what my answer was and would still be today if asked the same questions.

First of all, I want our youth to feel good about their church! Young people do not always make their decision for Christ between the ages of 9-12. One of the rewards we all receive as a youth worker is to witness the youth giving their lives to Jesus, but we may not observe that for many years. During this time our church should project a positive image in the minds of our youth. We project a positive image by planning quality youth and Sabbath School programs. We project a positive image by providing a nice place to have their meetings. We project a positive image by providing quality social programs. We project a positive image by being a positive role model. We project a positive image by keeping our promises to the youth. We project a positive image by not shortchanging our youth on anything we do for them in the church. Let’s conduct our youth ministry in such a way that our youth will feel good about their church and be proud of their church.

Secondly, I want our youth to learn to know and love Jesus; I want them to catch God’s grace! How can we make this happen? Bailey Gillispie, in the new resource book for Adventist youth leaders, Getting it Right, p. 218, suggests six steps.

1. We learn about Jesus through the witness of people that know Him.
2. We sense His presence in times of greatest need.
3. We learn objective things about Him by reading the only book written to tell us about Him.
4. We live in a world where, if we look carefully enough, we can see glimpses of His presence.
5. We sense His presence in quiet moments of reflection.
6. We are touched by His grace when we take time to talk and listen in prayer.

Competent youth ministry provides all six of these options during the regular course of ministry. A youth worker can do no better than to help our youth catch God’s grace through youth ministry.

Last, but not least, I want our youth to be involved in the ministry and mission of the church. Youth evangelism and outreach is an important ingredient in successful youth ministries. There is a plethora of ways in which our youth can be involved in successful evangelism. They can hold evangelistic meetings. There are great opportunities for young people to conduct their own public meetings and they are doing so in the Atlantic Union. Youth-led evangelistic meetings enable a team of youth to work together to make this a successful event. Young people can be involved with the advertising, prayer, programs, ushering, finances, and other necessary responsibilities. I challenge each of our AY societies to plan and hold an evangelistic meeting.

There are many other traditional forms of outreach our youth can be involved in. Let’s put this great army of youth we have in the Atlantic Union to work preparing others for the second coming of Jesus. “With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Savior might be carried to the whole world! How soon might the end come—the end of suffering and sorrow and sin!”—Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students, p. 556 and Messages to Young People, p. 196.

Bill Wood is the youth, Pathfinder, and Adventurer director for the Atlantic Union Conference.
Normally an academy campus is a quiet place during the summer, however, this summer was an exception for Union Springs Academy. For one week, from July 29 to August 5, there was lots of activity and excitement on the USA campus. It was during this week that we had our first-ever Teen Skills Week and it was a tremendous success.

Seventy-eight young people from all over the Northeast participated, enjoying a week of fun, skill building, and spiritual awakening. Young people were given the opportunity to learn many different skills. Building a shed, canoeing and kayaking, pizza making, personal finance, drawing and painting, gymnastics, and choir were just a few of the skills sessions for which they could sign up. In all, there were 42 sessions offered over the course of the week, with many of them running two or three times in order to allow more participation.

In addition to the learning portion of the week participants were able to enjoy hours of recreation with newfound friends. Each night there were planned activities involving team sports, such as soccer, softball, volleyball, and ultimate frisbee, as well as time for swimming, water slides, and other water activities.

The best part of the whole week was the eye-opening experience of the worships. Roberta Fish, a religion and psychology professor at Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, was the special speaker for the week. She spent the week helping participants see that God created them with a specific design and that they are each His masterpiece. By opening their eyes to who they were created to be, she encouraged the participants to set aside the things of this world and follow God’s design for them.

This experience was made possible through the help of volunteers and committed individuals who gave their time and resources for the week. Through the support of these individuals, USA was able to offer this week to young people completely free of charge. The week was such a success that we intend to make it an annual event here at USA. We look forward to next year when we can do it again and hope that many more young people will be able to attend.

Andrew Fish, vice principal
Union Springs Academy
NYC Conducts a Native American Diabetes Awareness Camp

According to the Centers for Disease Control, diabetes affects Native Americans far more than any other racial or ethnic population and has been increasing for the past 16 years. In response to this trend, the New York Conference held a Native American Diabetes Awareness Camp at Camp Cherokee July 15-22. There were 11 campers, three adult counselors, and three Camp Cherokee counselors who attended the lectures and were blessed by nutritious cooking designed to help prevent or control diabetes. Attention was given to spiritual as well as physical health, and two teenagers from traditional native backgrounds were introduced to Jesus for the first time. Their questions revealed a desire to know the Savior more personally.

Enthusiasm for the experience has already led to plans for another camp next year as funds allow. Significant funding was provided by the North American Division Children’s Ministries Department.

The results of learning about lifestyle changes can truly be seen in those who attended the camp, however, only in heaven will the results of this unique ministry be fully known.

Bruce Wilkinson, Native American Ministries coordinator New York Conference

Radio Station Presents Second Annual Hometown Christian Concert

“Our gift to the community” was how Michael Kelleher, station manager, described the second annual Hometown Christian Concert. WBLN-LP hosted the concert in Glens Falls City Park on July 14. The popular a cappella group One Voice performed. Group members took turns giving inspirational messages to introduce each song. The enthusiastic audience came prepared with lawn chairs and blankets for two hours of music on a beautiful summer day.

The Kingsbury Seventh-day Adventist Church operates Better Living Radio in Glens Falls. The 100-watt station, broadcasting at 104.9 FM, has been on the air for more than two years. Chief Engineer Gary Bombard visited with audience members during the concert who reported enjoying the local station’s music and live call-in programs.

“It was great meeting our listeners face to face,” reported Bombard. “They picked up a lot of books and other literature that was offered.”

WBLN-LP is part of the Life Talk Radio Network and also broadcasts locally produced programming. One Voice members conducted the morning worship service and the church hosted a fellowship meal prior to the afternoon concert.

Kim Kaiser, communication director New York Conference

Cousins Kathryn and Ashley Halbritter attend the Native American Diabetes Awareness Camp.
Adventists Celebrate 130th Anniversary on Cliff Island

The day was sunny and bright when Adventists came to celebrate Adventism's roots on Cliff Island, August 11. A ferry arrived at the island around noon in time for picnic lunches and good fellowship. At 1:00 p.m. the service began with Peter DiPetriantonio giving his annual Sabbath School lesson study. Bill Wood, Atlantic Union Conference youth director, presented the worship message. An inspiring musical program followed, bringing the day's events to a close in time to catch the evening ferry back to the mainland.

It was 130 years ago when a group of new Adventists first organized, and then 22 years later, in 1899, when they built a church. Samuel Pettengill, grandfather of church pianist Chester Pettengill, deeded the land and furnished the timber for the present and only church on the island. Adventist historians refer to Cliff Island as the “Pitcairn of the Atlantic.” In the early 1900s just over 50 percent of the island residents were Adventist and the rest were sympathetic Methodists.

A thriving Adventist Christian school building was added to the church in 1903 and stayed in operation until 1934. The late Gloria Dyer DePalma attended that school and grew up in the house directly across from the church.

Currently, during the summer months, scores of residents use the church for Sunday services. A community hymn sing, with local violinists and gifted piano player, Chester Pettengill, fills the church most every Friday evening during the summer.

There remain four year-round residents who love the Sabbath and their church: Paul McVane, Chester Pettengill, Louise Hoffmeister, and Mark Lombard. They, along with others, keep this rich history alive by hosting the annual Cliff Island Day every second Saturday in August. Praise God for the dedication of the three Griffins: Dotty Krueger, Joan Cannuli, and Bob Griffin, who also contribute their musical expertise. Together, these precious people do everything they can to “Let the lower lights be burning” on this historic island.

The annual Cliff Island Day is celebrated every second Saturday in August. For more information call the Northern New England Conference office at (207) 797-3760.

Dr. Krueger led song service in the church on Cliff Island.
The skies were brilliant and the crowds were eager to attend the 32nd annual South Berwick, Maine, Strawberry Festival on June 30. More than 4,000 pounds of strawberries waited for the estimated 20,000 people from around the country, but God had something better than strawberry shortcakes in mind.

A small company of believers in South Berwick was at the Strawberry Festival prepared to fill the spiritual needs of the festival attendees. The goal was to give out 100 “Final Events” DVD’s from Amazing Facts, but the Holy Spirit had other plans as 500 eager families took advantage of this free DVD.

One of our favorite evangelism quotes from the Spirit of Prophecy is, “The gospel is to be carried forward by aggressive warfare, in the midst of opposition, peril, loss, and suffering. But those who do this work are only following in their Master’s steps.”

What a beautiful time in this earth’s history to carry out the work that He has asked us to do. Please pray for the seeds sown that a harvest will follow and all the glory will go to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Parkview Adventist Medical Center in Brunswick is going green in a big way. Oleg Opalnyk, Parkview Adventist Medical Center’s new executive chef, is the first in Maine to sign the Healthy Food in Health Care Pledge. The pledge is a framework that outlines the steps Parkview and other healthcare institutions around the country will take to improve both public and environmental health. Chef Oleg has already started to increase the amount of fresh produce bought from local farms and plans to rely more on local suppliers such as Native Maine Produce and Specialty Foods. He plans to make all meals from scratch as well as eliminate all trans-fats from hospital food for both patients and visitors. The hospital has also started to introduce more environmentally-friendly dishesware, replacing foam with biodegradable corn-based materials and recycled paper.

Hospitals that sign the Healthy Food in Health Care Pledge agree to purchase products that are grown or manufactured without the use of chemicals, hormones, or other contaminants and are produced by environmentally- and socially-conscience companies.

Chef Oleg received his degree in culinary arts from the Cooking and Hospitality Institute of Chicago Le Cordon Bleu. He has worked in Chicago and several of Maine’s top restaurants. His extensive travel has exposed him to many of the world’s cuisines, and he incorporates ingredients from all over the world into his cooking at Parkview. “Every cuisine has something unique to offer,” he said. He was also recently featured in the summer issue of the national Spirit of Women magazine in an article titled “Go Organic.”

Parkview Signs the Healthy Food in Health Care Pledge
SLA Welcomes New Principal and Staff

Ron Huff, Principal
Ron and Shari Huff relocated to the South Lancaster area from Dakota Adventist Academy in Bismarck, North Dakota. Huff has experience in both junior academy and boarding academy settings and looks forward to a positive Browning/South Lancaster Academy (SLA) experience.

Jeff Lambert, SLA History and Journalism Teacher
Lambert attended Browning elementary and South Lancaster Academy from kindergarten all the way through academy! After graduating in 2002, he attended Southern Adventist University before coming back to Massachusetts and completing his B.A. in history at Atlantic Union College this spring.

Milca Amich, Spanish Teacher for Grades 7 and 8 and Spanish I and II (SLA)
Originally from Hialeah, Florida, Milca attended Atlantic Union College in the fall of 2005. She graduated this spring with a B.A. in English. Currently, she is completing her teacher certification in Spanish. Milca resides in South Lancaster, and in her spare time, enjoys playing basketball, reading, and going to the beach.

Colombia, and at the age of nine, migrated to the United States. He is an Atlantic Union College graduate with a B.A. in theology/religion and A.S. in early childhood education. Nino has worked for two years as a chaplain/Bible teacher at Garden State Academy in New Jersey, and two years as an elementary teacher at the Waldwick school. He is married to Gina Plata-Nino. Both Gina and Jonathan Nino have also worked in the Ignite Ministry, a youth ministry geared toward college-age students, for the past five years.

Jonathan Nino, SLA Bible Teacher and Campus Ministries Director
Pastor Jonathan Nino was born in San Cristobal, Venezuela, raised in Edgewood/Greater Boston Academy held its first annual basketball camp. Initiated by the new seventh- and eighth-grade teacher, Bobby Jackson, the camp far exceeded its expectations. Friend and former NBA pro, Anthony Bowie (most recently of the Orlando Magic), served as coach.

With support and financial assistance from the Southern New England Conference Office of Education, Jackson prepared the five-day intensive activity for young people ages 5 to 18, boys and girls alike. On opening day a dozen boys and girls gathered at center court, introduced themselves, and talked about the importance of teamwork. Then came the stretching, the exercises, the drills, the videos, and, finally, the scrimmages.

Each day, Jackson brought the campers together to focus on a concept such as commitment—to themselves, the game, their school, and most importantly, to their church and their God. Each day Coach Bowie showed patience, kindness, and understanding as he expertly empowered each one individually to be and do his or her best. The numbers grew until, by week’s end, there were...
On July 28 in Virgil, New York, the family of Clarice Reiss gathered at the home of her proud grandson and his wife, Dan and Leslie Morrison, to celebrate her 100th birthday. There were at least 55 family members attending, as well as close friends.

Clarice, affectionately known as Grammy Reiss, was born on September 24, 1907. She had eight children, John, Jr., Bob, Lorraine, Jim, Carolyn, Connie, Paul and Steve. John and Bob have predeceased her. She has 17 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren, and eight great-great-grandchildren. She is in the care of her two loving daughters, Carolyn Jodlowski and Connie Stone. She still does the six-month split between Titusville, Florida, and Smithville Flats, New York.

She enjoys watching nature at its best. There isn’t a bird or flower she still does not recognize. Trips to the beach are part of her Florida fun. She is happy to get the monthly newsletters from her home church, Merrimack Valley, so she can keep up with what is going on in her absence.

Clarice was baptized on September 2, 1944, at the Lowell church. She has enjoyed many church positions since then, but the one she enjoyed the most was being the Dorcas Society leader. You cannot even begin to count the amount of clothing and food baskets that were distributed by her and her faithful assistants.

If she could share one thing with you today, it is that the signs of the times are all around us. “Jesus is coming soon, so be faithful!”

Joanie Reiss, daughter-in-law
Merrimack Valley church

Each day Coach Bowie showed patience, kindness, and understanding as he expertly empowered each camper individually to be and do his or her best.

30 young people eager to learn from a professional player.

“It’s all about the kids,” Bowie said. “If, at the end of the day, I can say I helped one kid believe in themselves, helped one kid experience success in a way they hadn’t before, I know I’ve done my job,” he said. “It’s not about the money. It’s about making a difference.” Bowie signed certificates for each camper and Jackson gave them each a T-shirt to commemorate their experience.

A mini-camp with Bowie is already being planned during Christmas vacation. Chances are there will be more than 30 kids at center court on that first day.

Rondi Aastrup, principal
Greater Boston Academy

At the conclusion of Greater Boston Academy’s first annual basketball camp, the campers posed for a picture commemorating this time spent together.

At www.atlantic-union.org

Atlantic Union GLEANER, October 2007
Knowing the Times
Reflections on Bermuda Conference Camp Meeting 2007

Lively singing, inspirational and powerful preaching, informative workshops, prayer groups, health messages, excited children, healthy breakfasts, friends greeting friends, morning manna, baptisms, and recommitment—these were some of the activities at the Bermuda Conference Camp Meeting 2007. From July 6-14 the Bermuda Institute/Southampton church complex sprung to life as members, friends, and guests experienced the blessings of another camp meeting.

Randy Stafford, Henry Wright, R. Vincent Dehm II, Manny Cruz, Gina Brown, Gale Murphy, Grace Landy, Justin Davis, Charles Haugabrooks, and Joel Thompson were some of the guests at camp meeting. “Through the speakers, musicians, and prayer stations, God equipped His people spiritually and practically for the serious times in which we live,” said Jeffrey Brown, Bermuda Conference president.

We share pictorial highlights of Camp Meeting 2007.

Sheila Holder, communication director
Bermuda Conference
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There are twice yearly intensives—two weeks each on campus—January and July. The next seminar is January 7-17, 2008. Info: 1-800-282-2030, (978) 368-2300, adp@auc.edu.

GREATER NEW YORK
The Babylon Seventh-day Adventist Church in Babylon, N.Y., is having a 75th Anniversary Celebration on October 26-28. There will be festivities throughout the weekend. Come and celebrate with us this special anniversary. For more details visit our Web site: babylon22.adventistchurchconnect.org or call (631) 661-1890.

STEWART, Joyce O.—78; b. Jun. 11, 1928, in La Ceiba, Honduras; d. Feb. 17, 2007, in Boston, Mass. She was member of the Berea Seventh-day Adventist Church where she served as a deaconess, a member of the Adventist Community Services department, and was a member of the Golden Jet Setters. She was a supporter of Adventist Christian education. She leaves to mourn and cherish her memory her nine children, Sandra Dick, Alice Palmer, Mazie Anckle, Margarita Johnson, Iris Lindor, Elizabeth Van Allen, Brenda Lee Bozman, Peter Roney Stewart, and Marcos David Stewart, 17 grandchildren, Hustes Jr., Kenneth, Justin, Samona, Morvin, Chris, Toni, Danielle, Javier, Craig Jr., Cameron, Ymani, Maya, Kianni, Peter II, Chelsea, and Marcus; six great-grandchildren; four sons-in-law; two daughters-in-law; one sister, Yvonne Bennett of Rochester, N.Y.; three brothers, Carlos Brown of New Orleans, La.; Edwin Eden of Boston, Mass.; and William Eden of Honduras.

HANSCOM, Julianne (Weaver)—86; b. Sept. 16, 1920, in Bridgeport, Conn.; d. Jun. 28, 2007, in Fletcher, N.C. She graduated from the New England Sanitarium nursing program in 1943. She worked from 1943 until 1949 as a nursing supervisor and nursing educator at the White Memorial Hospital in Los Angeles, Calif., then earned a B.A. degree from Pacific Union College in 1950. She married Dr. Alfred C. Hanscom of Loma Linda, Calif., on November 22, 1951. Over the course of their nearly 56 years of marriage, they lived in Rhode Island, Maine, New Hampshire, California, Michigan, Tennessee, and North Carolina, leaving a legacy of many friends around the country. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Alfred C. Hanscom of Fletcher, N.C.; three sons, Dr. David A. Hanscom of Seattle, Wash., Alan C. Hanscom of Salem, Mass., and Robert B. Hanscom of Andover, Mass.; a daughter, Carol J. Haney of Fletcher, N.C.; eight grandchildren; one great-grandchild, and five nieces. She was preceded in death by her parents, Michael and Juliana (Gish) Szucs-Weaver, her brother, Dr. Michael L. Weaver of Brunswick, Maine; and her sister, Margaret Mozar of Placerville, Calif.

To register, contact: Millicent Corbett (866) 933-4491 millicentcorbett@sbcglobal.net

Tell the World...

ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE Degree in chaplaincy

Atlantic Union Chapter Annual Meeting Adjacent to the Atlantic Union College Campus Gloucester, October 19 and 20

Greatly missed is the memory of Alberta E. Hanks, who passed away on July 7-17, 2008. Info: 1-800-282-2030, (978) 368-2300, adp@auc.edu.

OUT-OF-UNION

Adventist Homecoming: Andrews Academy will be holding their alumni homecoming weekend on Oct. 19–21. All alumni of Emmanuel Missionary College, Andrews University Academy, and Andrews Academy plan now to join us for special services on Friday evening and all day Saturday. Honorees are 1938, ’43, ’48, ’53, ’58, ’63, ’68, ’73, ’78, ’83, ’88, ’93, ’98, and 2003. For more details, contact the Academy Alumni office at (269) 471-6140, or e-mail acadalum@anders.edu.

OBITUARIES

EELLS, James Calvin—87; b. Nov. 24, 1919, in Pierrepoint, N.Y.; d. Dec. 23, 2006, in Hermon, N.Y. He was a member of the Canton Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canton, N.Y. He is survived by his sons, Wayne, Sr., and Robert, his daughter, Patricia Briggs, brother, Edgar, sister, Cora Bice, nine grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. He was pre-deceased by his wife, one daughter, three brothers, and two sisters. He was a third generation Adventist and a cousin of Carolyn Eells.

Tell the World...
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Atlantic Union College: Norman Werdhi, President; 338 Main Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561; (978) 368-2800. Web site: www.aucc.edu

at www.atlantic-union.org
“As long as TIME shall LAST we SHALL have NEED of SCHOOLS.”

Fundamentals of Christian Education, p. 359

Seventh-day Adventist Elementary Schools and Academies (High Schools) in the Atlantic Union Conference

BERMUDA
Bermuda Institute (K-12)

CONNECTICUT
Central Conn. Adventist Virtual
Fairfield County
Hartford Area
Laurel Oaks
Maranatha Regional

MAINE
Forestdale
North Star Christian
Pine Tree Academy (K-12)
Riverview Memorial

MASSACHUSETTS
Bayberry
Berea
Berkshire Hills
Brockton Area Academy
Browning
Cedar Brook
Edgewood
Greater Boston Academy*
South Lancaster Academy*
South Shore
Springfield
Wachusett Hills Christian
Warren
Worcester

NEW HAMPSHIRE
Amesbury
Cady Memorial
Capital Christian
Estabrook
Pioneer Junior Academy

NEW YORK
Bronx
Bronx-Manhattan
R. T. Hudson
Brooklyn
Bethel
Brooklyn
Brooklyn Temple
Excelsior
Flatbush
Hanson Place
Hebron Bilingual
Long Island
Bethesda
South Bay Junior Academy
Whispering Pines
New York City
Northeastern Academy*
Queens
Greater New York Academy*
Jackson Heights
Jamaica
Linden

Eastern
Kingsbury
Middletown
Pearl River
Poughkeepsie
Westchester
Oakview Preparatory
Westchester Area

Western
Arthur S. Maxwell
Bay Knoll
Buffalo Suburban
Dexterville
Frontenac
Jamestown
Mohawk Valley
Parkview Junior Academy
Rochester Junior Academy
Union Springs Academy*
Sandy Creek
Southern Tier

RHODE ISLAND
Lincoln

VERMONT
Brownell Mountain
Central Vermont Academy (1-12)
Forrest Ward
Green Mountain
St. Johnsbury

* Grades 9-12