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Cover: The New York City skyline background was designed by SermonView. Photos: Ralph Featherstone, Ednor Davison, and Odel Powell.
Blessings of Salvation

In Psalm 103, ‘A Creation Hymn of Praise,’ David expresses his “all-pervasive attitude of gratitude to God for the marvelous things He has done in his life, in nature, in his personal salvation experience, and for the redemption of God’s covenant people.” It is said that “praising God for His goodness is the highest form of prayer, and it rises above all petitions and laments” (Andrews Study Bible, p. 752).

In Psalm 103:2-5 (NKJV), the Psalmist says, “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with loving kindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.” It is very clear in these verses David’s reasons for his gratitude to the Lord:

• The Lord forgives (our greatest need).
• God heals.
• God redeems.
• God sustains life and rescues from the grave.
• God crowns with love and compassion.
• God shows mercy.
• God provides for all needs.
• God satisfies our deep desires and renews strength.

“God’s benefits enclose the past, the present, and the eternal future. Metaphor for long vitality—eagles were known to live much longer than most other animals” (Andrews Study Bible, p. 752). Reasons to praise God can and should go on and on; that is why the proclamation of the blessings of salvation is so important in these days, during NY13 and until Jesus comes! As His people, may we not only receive these blessings, but dare to share them so that everyone may know and experience them too!

Carlyle C. Simmons is the Atlantic Union Conference executive secretary and director of the Health Ministries, Human Relations, and Prayer Ministries departments.
More than 12,000 people attended the Joint Camp Meeting of the Greater New York and Northeastern conferences at the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Uniondale, New York, on June 29. It was the first time these two conferences opted to forgo camp meeting at their usual locations and unite in one location. The event marked the midpoint of the NY13 Revelation of Hope evangelistic meetings that have been in progress in the metro New York area since April.

“This assembly is inspired by the desire of both conferences in New York City to work in unison in the proclamation of the Adventist Message,” Daniel Honoré, Northeastern Conference president and chairman of the Joint Camp Meeting Planning Committee, said. “Today’s gathering transports us back to the days of old when God called the children of Israel to holy convocations. It also carries us forward to the day foretold by John, when the redeemed of the Lord will stand before His throne in a great multitude which no man can number.”

Showing support for this historic event were representatives from every level of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. “We say a special thanks to our leaders from the higher organizations and to pastors/evangelists from around the world for their contribution to the advancement of the gospel of Jesus Christ in our territory. We also thank our local pastors, church workers, and our faithful members for their sacrifices, commitment, and dedicated service. Only heaven will reveal the extent of your labor,” G. Earl Knight, Greater New York Conference president and co-chair of the Joint Camp Meeting Planning Committee, said.

Ted Wilson, Seventh-day Adventist World Church president, who had just completed a three-week series of meetings at the Manhattan church, presented the morning’s message. He reflected on the early beginnings of the church and encouraged members to continue the work “until Jesus comes.”

About 150 individuals were baptized following the worship service. Presidents Ted Wilson, Donald King, and Daniel Honoré were among the pastors who took part in the baptism. So far, more than 2,000 people have been added to the church in both fields, and more are expected as the meetings in metro New York continue.

Dan Jackson, North American Division president, brought greetings on behalf of the 1.1 million Adventists in North America. “The eyes of our division are on New York City because, in a literal way, we believe if you can make it here, you can make it anywhere,” Jackson said. “We are not just watching New York City, we are praising God with you.”

Adventists from all over the Atlantic Union territory were a part of this spiritual gathering. “We have come together to meet with God, to express our sincere fellowship in the Lord Jesus as Savior and King, and to participate in the building up of His kingdom,” Donald King, Atlantic Union president and NY13 Steering Committee chair, said.
Public officials attending the event recognized the Seventh-day Adventist Church for its positive impact in the community. Attending were Mayor Wayne J. Hall, Sr., of Hempstead, New York; Bill de Blasio, who holds the citywide office of New York City Public Advocate; and Una S. T. Clarke, a former New York City Council member and mother of U.S. Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke. Addressing the worshippers, de Blasio said, “Thank you on behalf of New York City. You, every day, make us a better and stronger city.”

In the afternoon, Adventist youth and young adults participated in two compassion projects. They partnered with Soles4Souls, collecting shoes for later distribution to those in need, and they visited two rehabilitation centers to distribute roses with Bible promises attached and to pray with and for each patient and staff member. (See page 9.)

A team of medical missionaries conducted a health fair, providing water, literature, information on healthy food alternatives, massages, health screenings, and more.

“I think NY13 is the beginning of something that ought to continue. One of the things that I find exciting about the group of pastors that I’m working with is that the camaraderie is real. I have also found when churches work together, members become more excited about the project, because unity of leadership leads to unity of membership,” said Cameron Bowen, pastor of the Elim and Mt. Moriah churches. He brought two candidates for baptism and also participated in the baptismal ceremony.

The day concluded with a testimony and praise concert highlighting the work God is doing in the lives of the people in the city. Included among the day’s musical guests were the Alto Brothers Chorale, Charles Haugabrooks, Strings of Harmony, the South American Division Kings Herald Quartet, along with several local choirs, and musical artists.

Mark Finley, assistant to the General Conference president, presented the vesper meditation. “God never accomplished anything through doubt!” Finley said. “God wants you to be actively involved in His service. Don’t allow your fears to paralyze you. Step out in faith in Christ.”

The event was broadcast live on Hope Channel and Three Angels Broadcasting Network and streamed live on Atlantic Union Adventist Media (AUAM) and Praizevision. Online viewers watched from such places as Australia, Brazil, Ghana, Texas, Georgia, Antigua and Barbuda, Trinidad and Tobago, the Philippines, Washington state, and more. Viewers were also engaged using the NY13, Atlantic Union Adventist Media, Atlantic Union Conference, Greater New York Conference, and Northeastern Conference Facebook pages.

Audra and Roland Mark, members of the Southeastern Conference from Boynton Beach, Florida, who were traveling to Massachusetts for a meeting at the Atlantic Union Conference office, heard about the camp meeting and decided they wanted to be part of the event. They summed it all up, saying, “Our hearts were filled with Ted Wilson, Seventh-day Adventist World Church president, speaking for the worship service.
joy as we watched the historic coming together of the Greater New York Conference and the Northeastern Conference. The auditorium radiated with praise and thanksgiving. The spiritual energy that we experienced lifted our hearts and gave us a foretaste of what heaven will be like. The speakers, the music, the baptism, and the general atmosphere were unlike anything that we had ever experienced. Congratulations to the Atlantic Union, the leadership of the Greater New York Conference, and the leadership of the Northeastern Conference.”

The NY13 Revelation of Hope evangelistic meetings are continuing in metro New York through the end of October. “Let us hold fast to the hope we profess, with the full assurance of faith, that we may encourage one another, young and old, in love, as we see the day of His Second Advent approaching,” said Donald King. ¶

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

Delegates Vote Two New Administrators at Constituency Session

Delegates attending the 36th Constituency Session of the Southern New England Conference on July 14 voted to elect a new president and executive secretary to serve the conference for the next four years. David Dennis, pastor of the Village church in South Lancaster, was elected to serve as president, and José Alarcón, Hispanic Ministries coordinator for the conference, was elected to serve as executive secretary. New executive committee, constitution and bylaws committee, and association board members were also elected to serve for the next four years.

In his response to the delegates after the vote, Dennis called upon department heads and churches to work together as a family and as a team. “Let us bridge the gap between one another and become that family God wants us to be,” Dennis said. “If the world is going to be at war with God’s church in these last days, now is not the time for us to hide ourselves behind the safety and the security of the walls and doors of our churches. Now is the time to go on the offensive, throw open the doors of the church, invite these people in, and let them see the Holy Spirit work in their lives.”

Departmental directors returned to office are Tom Murray, association board secretary and Planned Giving/Stewardship director; Pat Giese, superintendent of schools; and Josué Feliciano, Youth/Family Ministries/NSO director. Judy Gillett, the associate manager for the Adventist Book Center, was voted to serve as manager on an interim basis, and John Amoah, a pastor in the conference, was voted to serve as Ministerial/Evangelism director. New executive committee, constitution and bylaws committee, and association board members were also elected to serve for the next four years.

Eleven new churches were voted into the sisterhood of churches: Greater Hartford Ghanaian, Nouvelle Arche Haitian, Nuevo Amanecer, Lowell All Nations, Attleboro Spanish, Shrewsbury, Danbury Nuevo Horizonte Spanish, West Lynn Spanish, Pawtucket Cape Verdean, Leominster All Nations, and Mount Horeb.

Eight congregations were recognized as companies: Gardner Spanish, Taunton Cape Verdean, Greater Bridgeport Ghanaian, New Bedford Cape Verdean, Jerusalem Haitian, Fall River Spanish, Nantucket, and Bethune Haitian. Three churches were disbanded: Cape Cod Portuguese, Medford Group, and Manchester Spanish Company.

Daniel Honoré, Northeastern Conference president, was present with his wife, Fritzie, and he delivered the morning’s devotional, titled “Will the Real Leader Please Stand Up!” Honoré encouraged the leaders to leave the kind of legacy behind that when their story is told, it would be said of them “The Word of the Lord came to the leaders of the Southern New England Conference and they went into all of Southern New England preaching a baptism of repentance and the forgiveness of sins.”

Frank Tochterman and Whitford Shaw, who served as president and executive secretary and Ministerial/Evangelism director, respectively, announced their retirement prior to the constituency session. At the completion of the session agenda, both men took time to thank their wives, Sally and Gloris, for supporting them in their ministry.

They also thanked the delegates for their support during their time at Southern New England.

The officers and directors elected for the next four years will provide leadership for the approximately 16,804 members in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island, along with 116 churches, 13 elementary schools, two academies, one summer camp, two Adventist Book Centers, and many community services centers.

—Ednor A. P. Davison, GLEANER editor
Nine students graduated during the Northeast Evangelism Training School’s (NETS) first graduation program at the Spanish Broadway church in New York City on June 30. Two additional students received certificates of participation. The ceremony signaled the completion of the first NETS four-month program held in conjunction with the NY13 evangelistic meetings at the Manhattan church with Ted Wilson.

Administrators from every level of the Adventist Church were present to show their support. Ted Wilson, Seventh-day Adventist World Church president, thanked the graduates for what they’ve done for NY13. “Only in heaven will you truly understand the work you are involved with,” Wilson said. He referred to NETS as “a jewel that will propel evangelism in the Atlantic Union that the Lord will be delighted with.”

Kenneth Denslow, assistant to the North American Division president, thanked the graduates for their ministry to the Adventist Church and said, “May you know that Jesus is by your side and that you are accomplishing His will.”

Donald King, Atlantic Union Conference president and chairman of the NETS’ Board of Governors, shared a brief history on NETS and said, “We owe a debt of gratitude to Ted Wilson, Mark Finley, and Dan Jackson for the establishment and inauguration of the NETS program, and to the six conferences for their support.” He acknowledged the presence of conference presidents Jeffrey Brown (Bermuda), G. Earl Knight (Greater New York), and Daniel Honoré (Northeastern), and also Duane Cady, interim president for Atlantic Union College. Addressing the graduates, King said, “As you embark on this journey, lower your nets on the right side of the ship.”

Anthony Romeo, pastor of the Manhattan church, read 2 Timothy 2:1-4. He also shared a personal experience and reminded the graduates that they “shouldn’t be ashamed of the gospel or the Seventh-day Adventist Church.”

The commencement speaker, Mark Finley, assistant to the General Conference president, said, “NETS has unusually unique potential to make a dramatic difference, not only in the Atlantic Union, but the North American Division.” He told the graduates that “being Christ’s man and being Christ’s woman is priority,” and encouraged them to “know the Master; know the message; know the moment; and know the mission.” In his closing thoughts to the graduates Finley said, “Some day in a place called Glory, in a place called Heaven, you’ll get your reward.”

Steven Toscano, who responded to the commencement address, said, “We wholeheartedly accept the charge and earnestly desire to know the Master; know the message; know the moment; and know the mission.”

In a charge to the graduates, Carlyle Simmons, Atlantic Union Conference executive secretary, encouraged them to “go out and create a new history in soul winning for the church and for Jesus Christ.”

Eric Flickinger, NETS director, and assistant directors Kevin Sears and Lois King, presented the graduating class and awarded the certificates.

Lucille Thomas, who received a Certificate of Participation, said “I want to be used by God to finish His work. I plan to diligently fast and pray and ask God for wisdom as I take this official professional training and go light God’s world.”

NETS is an evangelistic training school that prepares soul winners who are cross-trained in Bible work, health evangelism, and public evangelism. Graduates are prepared for an entry level career in lay ministry or to more effectively serve God in their own churches, communities, or schools.

Upcoming certificate programs will be held on the campus of Atlantic Union College. The fall program runs from August 16 to December 10, 2013, and the spring program runs from January 24 to May 24, 2014. Learn more at www.netsatlanticunion.org, e-mail: registrar@atlanticunion.org, or call (978) 696-6043.

—Ednor A. P. Davison, GLEANER editor
Math Clinic Reveals Christ Through Numbers

Fifty-four students participated in a Math Clinic at the Brooklyn school on June 24-28. It was one of several clinics scheduled this year in conjunction with the NY13 evangelistic meetings.

For the entire week math skills were taught using the Bible as a textbook. Adventist as well as non-Adventist students from the neighborhood were challenged to find examples and analogies from the Bible to illustrate the concepts taught. For example, students studying the numeral seven had to find examples in the Bible where seven was used. When the numeral seven is flipped, it forms the letter L. Students then had to find a word beginning with “L” that summed up each story.

During the week, several parents stopped by to listen and learn. They expressed appreciation for what their children were learning and were bewildered that their children were so enthusiastic to attend this clinic when all year they were reluctant to attend school. Superintendents David Cadavero and Viola Chapman stopped by during the week to lend their support.

Friday evening was the culminating event. It featured students demonstrating and explaining their learned skills and sharing the biblical analogy. Laura Mayne, principal of the Brooklyn school, welcomed parents, relatives, and friends to this event. Each clinician introduced their students. The clinicians for the math clinic were Paulette Harrison-Davis, grades K-1; Merine Williams, grades 2-4; Sonia Barrett, grades 5-6; and Wayne Edwards, grades 7-10.

Adventist Youth Participate in Compassion Projects

Hundreds of youth, young adults, and adults participated in several compassion initiatives during the Joint Camp meeting of the Greater New York and Northeastern conferences on June 29 at the Nassau Coliseum in Uniondale, New York. The projects included a shoe drive with Soles4Souls and a Rose with a Promise,

Young people prepare roses and cards to distribute at a rehabilitation center.

along with a visit to a nearby rehabilitation center. They distributed roses in their hands. They distributed roses to people on the streets as they made their way to the rehabilitation center a mile away from the Coliseum. Many boxes were filled with all types of shoes that were donated that day to share with those who are in need of shoes.

In the afternoon, more than 500 roses were distributed together with a card containing a promise that read: “Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand”—Isaiah 41:10 (NRSV).

The streets around the coliseum were filled with hundreds of people wearing compassion T-shirts and carrying roses in their hands. They distributed roses to people on the streets as they made their way to the rehabilitation center a mile away from the Coliseum.

Nurses, staff, and patients expressed surprise as youth and young adults approached them with smiles, roses, a promise, and a prayer to brighten their day.

The compassion initiatives were organized by José Cortés, Jr., Atlantic Union Conference Adventist Youth Ministries director, and Andres Peralta and Roger Wade, youth ministries directors for the Greater New York and Northeastern conferences, respectively, and their associates, together with a team of leaders from both conferences, including Aurora Sandoval, Natalie Noble, and Roy Davidson, who led the events for the day.

—Joanne Cortés, communication assistant, Atlantic Union Conference
Update Regarding Degree-granting Authority at Atlantic Union College

The Board of Higher Education of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Mass BHE) has accorded Atlantic Union College the authority to award the degrees of Bachelor of Arts in Theology/Religion and Bachelor of Science in Health Science/Biology.

We are delighted with this decision and will be working over the coming months to develop faculty and staff, to seek accreditation, and develop plans for recruitment.

Also, a public hearing was held by the state of Massachusetts on July 2 in Boston as part of the approval process. The hearing was successfully accomplished.

Further and ongoing information will be forthcoming as soon as it is available. We thank all who have been praying and patiently waiting for this positive outcome from the Mass BHE.

—Duane Cady, interim president, and Donald King, board of trustees chairman, Atlantic Union College

For inquiries regarding this notice or other Atlantic Union College-related questions, please contact Premila Willmott, administrative secretary at the Atlantic Union Conference, via e-mail: pwillmott@atlanticunion.org or call (978) 368-8333.

Caring Heart Award Recipients

Each year juniors and seniors from the eight academies in the Atlantic Union are nominated for the Caring Heart Award for Christian Service. The students are recognized for demonstrating their active involvement in service and witnessing activities. Each recipient receives a scholarship award of $500 and a plaque. This year’s Caring Heart Award winners are:

- **Rodney Bruno**
  Greater Boston Academy in Stoneham, Massachusetts

- **Caleb Carter**
  Pine Tree Academy in Freeport, Maine

- **Krystal George**
  Greater New York Academy in Woodside, New York

- **Htoo Moo**
  Union Springs Academy in Union Springs, New York

- **Rosalba Valera**
  South Lancaster Academy in South Lancaster, Massachusetts

- **Victoria Williams**
  Northeastern Academy in New York, New York

- **Xe’na Daé-Chauntaé Simons**
  Bermuda Institute in Southampton, Bermuda

- **Sydney Michal Yendell**
  Central Vermont Academy in Barre, Vermont
At the Midland Heights church on May 25, our home, church, and school family was able to realize the true meaning of the text that tells us to “Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days.”

It actually started many years ago when a family believed in Christian education. Though my nephew, Ronnae Lowe was raised in a Seventh-day Adventist home and attended Bermuda Institute from kindergarten to grade 12, he strayed from what he was taught. However, the prayers of family and the grounding of Seventh-day Adventist education never released their hold on him. Bread had been cast upon the waters.

It was truly a day of relieving joy when Ronnae decided that enough was enough—enough of the world and time to return to the way of the Lord and the teachings of his family. The bread cast upon the water returned after many days.

Ronnae changed his life, went back to church, and is now actively involved, even singing with the praise team. This had a tremendous effect on everyone, including his non-Adventist wife, Wendy.

The old adage still rings true—it takes a village to raise a child. The village was at work—the home, the church, and the school. When one facet was challenged, the others were at work. Interestingly, although Ronnae himself had strayed from the Christian path, when it was time to place his son, Shelton (Shelty) in school, Bermuda Institute was the school of choice. Here goes more bread casting!

Shelton enjoyed Bermuda Institute. So did his mother, Wendy, who was, remember, not raised as an Adventist. At school Shelton joined the Bible class with the conference Bible worker. So, when his dad went to church, Shelton went too. The church also began casting bread—they involved Shelty as one of the sound technicians in training. Now, he had another reason to make sure he did not miss church.

When we take this text seriously, cast our bread upon the waters, and let God take over, miracles happen and His plans are realized. May 25 was a high day for our family. We saw the real benefit of Christian education and the partnership of the church, home, and school. Shelton was baptized. Praise be to God. Hats off to the partnership, and, thank God for Seventh-day Adventist education. We are truly building lives for eternity.

—Lois Tucker, principal, Bermuda Institute

Members Participate in Countdown to Pentecost

As a prelude to the Breath of Life summer revival with evangelist Carlton Byrd, Michelle Hill, Bermuda Conference Prayer Ministries coordinator and interim pastor for the Pembroke church, spearheaded Countdown to Pentecost—50 days of prayer and fasting. The countdown began on June 8 and officially ended on July 27. Church members elected to carry the prayer baton every day as they fasted and fervently prayed for family, friends, neighbors, and everyone they desired to see in God’s kingdom.

Prayer, the heartbeat of revival, was what Hill had in mind when she called prayer warriors to an all night prayer session on behalf of Bermuda. Each hour throughout the night, seasons of prayer were led by different participants. They highlighted various texts on prayer and personal experiences, and relayed prayers of such Bible greats as David, Nehemiah, and Elijah.

Members were encouraged by personal testimonies about answered prayer and God’s faithfulness. The group petitioned God on behalf of a member’s request while laying hands on that member who was placed in the center of the group. It was an awesome time of prayer—seasons of praying individually, with a partner, in small groups, and in large groups—for revival across Bermuda, beginning with each individual.

—V. Kathleen Wilson Allers, vice principal, Bermuda Institute
Two Greater New York Conference Teachers Receive National Award

Catherine Farkas and Reymelinda Villaruel are among 10 teachers selected by the Alumni Awards Foundation (AAF) to receive the 2013 Excellence in Teaching Award. The award includes a medallion and a $2,000 gift.

“Catherine Farkas is recognized as a top-notch educator and a reading and mathematics specialist. For the past three years, her students have had improved test scores on the New York State Math Standardized Test and the Iowa Test of Basic Skills Exam. Some students have scored well above grade level on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills in Language Arts. During the 2009 and 2010 summers, Farkas was able to attend Singapore Math workshops at Union College to learn how to better present math topics. Each year, she also coordinates a fundraising program at the school for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital that benefits cancer survivors using Math-A-Thon materials, where more than $7,000 has been raised in the last few years.

“She is an exceptional teacher who inspires her students for excellence,” Lionel Jean-Jacques, Middletown school’s principal, said.

Villaruel has a passion for gardening, which influenced her to apply for the AeroGrow Growing Kids Award and, as a result, received a grant. This funding allowed Villaruel and her students to grow indoor organic vegetables and experience God’s intent for pure uncontaminated vegetable products.

“It is very fulfilling and rewarding to know that all of my students leave my classroom with the assurance of a great foundation in academic skills to help them be successful in their lives now and for eternity,” Villaruel says.

AAF is a nonprofit organization that has awarded grants to Seventh-day Adventist schools and teachers totaling more than $2 million.

—Kayce Foote, communication and donor relations coordinator, Alumni Awards Foundation

From left are David Cadavero, Greater New York Conference superintendent of schools; Catherine Farkas, Excellence in Teaching Award recipient; and Lionel Jean-Jacques, Middletown Christian school principal.

From left are Zephaniah Mahabee, Jackson Heights school board chair; Reymelinda Villaruel, Excellence in Teaching Award recipient; David Cadavero, Greater New York Conference superintendent of schools; and Veronica Quinones, Jackson Heights school principal.
What does it mean to follow Jesus on a secular campus? This is the question that about 100 Adventist and non-Adventist students faced at the ninth annual Adventist Collegiate Summit. Lisa Clark Diller, professor and author from Southern Adventist University, was the featured speaker for the event that took place at the Church of the Advent Hope in Manhattan.

Following the spirit of NY13, the event focused on non-Adventist university students. Diller unpacked Matthew 6:24 (NIV), which says, “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money,” in two presentations.

In Friday night’s presentation Diller explained that, because the love for money was foundational in the construction of the modern western states we inhabit today, the love for money is also present at the core of our identities. She went on to say that the love for money is what undermines democracy and environmental sustainability today.

On Saturday, Diller introduced a number of historical figures who loved Jesus above all, several of them from New York City. She explained how these individuals found in Jesus the inspiration and the strength to work for the weak, poor, and disenfranchised. Drawing from Isaiah 58:5-12, Diller encouraged the students to love Jesus, be His disciples, and make a difference in New York City.

The summit also addressed the needs of Adventist students on secular campuses. Dustin Hall, pastor and author from the New York Conference, facilitated a workshop on dating and relationships. Robert De Guzman, a mental health counselor, held a seminar on spirituality for wellness. Ruben Sánchez, university chaplain for GNYC, spoke on science and religion.

The ninth annual Adventist Collegiate Summit on April 19-20 was organized by the Columbia University Adventist Christian Fellowship with the support of the Greater New York Conference Youth Ministries, Atlantic Union Conference Youth Ministries, and NY13. Adventist Christian Fellowship (ACF) is the official organization for Adventist campus ministry on public college and university campuses within the North American Division.

—Communication staff, Greater New York Conference
Camp Meeting Theme Encourages Members to Shine Their Lights

Camp Victory Lake in Hyde Park, New York, was overflowing with members and guests as they gathered at the campground for the second weekend of camp meeting on July 6.

Guest speakers for the worship services included Carlton Byrd, Breath of Life speaker/director; Keith Gray, special assistant to the president at Southwestern Adventist University; Furman Fordham, South Central Conference pastor; and Damali Boston, Greater New York Academy teacher.

The afternoon program included a concert and the ordination of pastors Jenks Brutus, Jose Cruz, James Gbolo, Neville Lendor, and Rohann Simpson. The ordination charge was presented by Sherwin Jack, a former Northeastern Conference pastor who now pastors in the South Atlantic Conference.

Members were pleasantly surprised to see the recent improvements to the campground, such as the refacing of the boys’ dorm, the enhanced prayer room, and the camp store. A new feature at camp meeting included cooling stations in the Bland House for those who needed a brief break from the intense heat that saturated the day.

Of special note was the rededication of the cafeteria in the names of former president George Earle and his wife, Vernelle. An air conditioning system was added to the cafeteria along with other improvements.

Honoré and the administrators also announced the purchase of 10 acres of land abutting the campground. They plan to bring a master plan to the members, which is scheduled to go into effect in two years.

Vespers concluded the day’s events with a message presented by Abdele George, pastor of the Elmira and Friendship churches in Western New York.

—JeNean Johnson, communication director, Northeastern Conference
The 2013 Northeastern Conference Hispanic Camp Meeting was like no other. Despite the cold weather, the camp was filled to capacity for the annual event that lasted four days. The camp meeting theme was “Let Your Light Shine in 2013.”

The camp meeting speaker was Hermes Taveras, pastor of the Bay Shore Spanish church. The pastor spoke about Jesus as our intercessor and encouraged those who attended to trust and rely on Jesus as our Savior. Other presenters included Tony Demorais, a native of Angola, who focused on the importance of maintaining good health, and Tony Avila, a presenter for youth.

The weekend was full of activities, including a baptism, a Pathfinder drill exhibition, a Master Guide investiture, a concert, a social, and a banquet to bring the weekend to a close.

Joseph G. Burroughs, Northeastern Conference Hispanic Ministries coordinator and his team were in charge of planning the program for the weekend. Conference administrators, Daniel Honoré, president; Oswald Euell, executive secretary, and Edson Bovell, treasurer, and their wives were present for the entire camp meeting.

—JeNean Johnson, communication director, Northeastern Conference

### Highlights of Hispanic Camp Meeting 2013

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### Momentos Memorables del Campestre Hispano 2013


El orador principal fue el Pastor Hermes Taveras de la Iglesia Hispana de Bay Shore. El pastor habló de Jesús como nuestro intercesor y estímulo a los asistentes a que confiaran y dependieran de Jesús como Salvador. Otros presentadores incluyeron a el Dr. Tony Demorais, nativo de Angola, el cual enfocó sus temas en la importancia de mantener una buena salud y Tony Avila, un presentador para los jóvenes.

El fin de semana estuvo lleno de actividades, las cuales incluyeron un bautismo, una exhibición de marchas por los Conquistadores, una investidura de Guías Mayores, un concierto, un social y un banquete para cerrar el evento.

El Pastor Joseph G. Burroughs, Coordinador Hispano de la Asociación del Noreste y su equipo de trabajo estuvieron a cargo de la planificación de la programación del fin de semana. Los administradores de la Asociación, el Dr. Daniel Honoré, presidente; el Dr. Oswald Euell, secretario ejecutivo; y Sr. Edson Bovell, tesorero, dirigieron una sesión de preguntas y respuestas.

—JeNean Johnson, director de comunicaciones, Asociación del Noreste

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Several Master Guides were invested at camp meeting. Standing behind them are Roger Wade, Northeastern Conference Youth Ministries director, right, and Kenneth Jones, associate director.

Varios Guías Mayores fueron investidos durante el campestre. Parados detrás de ellos están, a la derecha, Roger Wade, director de Jóvenes de la Asociación del Noreste, y Kenneth Jones, director asociado.
I attended the North Country Women’s Retreat for the first time and I had no idea what to expect. I had, however, been to Camp Cherokee as a child, so I knew the setting would be delightful. I almost didn’t go to the retreat because I did not want to go by myself, but God knew I needed to be there and arranged all the details.

I was raised in a small Seventh-day Adventist church in Pulaski, New York, where the speaker’s husband, Mike Ortel, was the pastor when I was a baby, and he dedicated me. Lynn Ortel remembered the dedication and presented me with the book *Jesus Calling*, describing it as the dedication present that she hadn’t given me all those years ago.

Our first night was quite the experience. Lynn Ortel spoke about Mary of Bethany, who anointed the head and feet of Jesus at Simon’s house. Following the first seminar, there was a foot washing. I shy away from foot washing, so I tried to hide in the back of the crowd, but that didn’t work. God made it possible for me to be at the retreat and He ensured that I participated in all that the retreat had to offer.

At the next couple of seminars I could tell that the Holy Spirit was present. I was deeply touched by the testimonies that day, and must have used a whole box of tissues myself. Sharon King, one of the retreat coordinators, said it was a way for my soul to replenish itself.

I learned a great deal from Lynn on how to be forgiven and how to forgive. I am glad that God made it possible for me to attend this women’s retreat. He knew it was just what I needed.

—Maria Lake-Lenway, participant, North Country Women’s Retreat

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Union Springs Academy Graduates 18

Union Springs Academy proudly conferred diplomas on 18 graduates on June 2, in a commencement service held at the Union Springs church. In addition to receiving their high school diplomas, the graduates were rewarded for their commitment to academics and service with scholarships from Adventist colleges and the Union Springs Academy alumni, as well as awards from the North American Division, the New York State Comptroller, and President Barack Obama.

“Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things.” This exhortation from the class verse, Colossians 3:1-4, set the theme for the weekend. During the consecration service on Friday evening, New York Conference acting president Angel Rodriguez encouraged the seniors to allow God’s guidance in directing their paths for the future. On Sabbath, James Black, Sr., director of youth ministries for the North American Division, addressed the topic of success versus significance in one’s lifework.

As the commencement speaker, the Honorable Mark H. Fandrich, a judge for the Cayuga County Surrogate’s Court, reminded the graduates that while life’s path may take twists and turns, one’s inner moral compass should be a trustworthy guide forward.

The class aim, “to unify in light of love,” was illustrated through special events throughout the weekend. Following Rodriguez’s address at the consecration service, the seniors presented lit candles and new Bibles to the members of the junior class as tributes written for the class of 2014 by the graduates were read aloud. This ceremony represented a passing of the spiritual and social leadership of the student body from one senior class to the next.

During a vespers program on Sabbath evening, graduates also honored their parents, siblings, and other loved ones who supported them in reaching their goals. On Saturday night, the class treated their guests to a variety show, presenting their talents through lighthearted skits and musical performances. The evening ended on a high note as the class presented their class gift to the academy. In cooperation with the class of 2012, a new scoreboard is being purchased for the gymnasium as a joint class gift.

—Andrea Starr-Tagalog, development and alumni relations coordinator, Union Springs Academy
Missionary Impossible Team Help in Haiti

Twenty-four youth, young adults, and adults from the Southern New England Conference went to help the people of Petit-Goâve in Haiti as part of the Missionary Impossible mission trip. This was the second trip for Missionary Impossible.

The mission for this trip was to paint the inside of a large church, run two Vacation Bible School programs, lead two evangelistic meetings, teach art and music classes in two public schools, and prepare and distribute hygiene packets and clothing. A donation was collected to provide a well for a town in the hills called Trou Chouchou.

Missionary Impossible’s purpose is to work in the mission field while focusing on changing the hearts of young people for God. The young people faced many challenges, but the group was resilient. There was joy each day in the group because they had God and each other. By sharing their experiences nightly and worshiping in the morning, they stayed in tune with the mission.

Some youth shared that they were considering leaving the church before the trip, but experienced a change of heart by recognizing that they want to help the church. Other youth came to life in endless activity.

An amazing thing happened through an unexpected turn of events. The paint project was completed one day early, causing the leaders concern about what work they would give the team to do. The team ended up visiting a local Adventist family, a husband and wife who were disabled from the waist down. The house was in need of repair and the family barely had food to eat.

When this information was shared with the team, they wanted to donate their spending money to help the family. An offering of approximately $600 was collected by the team. With the money, supplies were purchased for the repairs of the house and a food care package was assembled. The team members said they felt fortunate to be able to provide it.

When youth put themselves into God’s hands to be of service, what seems impossible becomes a reality. Through Missionary Impossible, God not only provided for the people of Haiti, but also changed hearts.

—Josue Feliciano, youth director, Southern New England Conference
Compassion Goes Viral

We envisioned a version of the Compassion Movement. We hoped it would become a lifestyle for many. We prayed it would catch a life of its own and that it would create a positive effect around our union. And, yes, we prayed it would go beyond. We wished it would go viral and just spread around the world. As you read today, just eight months after the official launch of the Atlantic Union Conference Adventist Youth Ministries Compassion Movement, you can be assured it has gone viral individually, as well as corporately.

On a cold February day, many of the youth and young adults across the Atlantic Union went on the streets with smiles on their faces to help dig out their neighbors' cars after a big snow storm. A few days later, the One Year in Mission Team, composed of young adults from each corner of the world, went out in Union Square, New York City, wearing compassion T-shirts advertising “Free Hugs,” and they just hugged people and told them Jesus loves them.

In March, the students from Sandia View Academy in New Mexico spent their spring break showing compassion to the Hurricane Sandy survivors. Then came the Global Youth Day, sponsored by the General Conference Youth Ministries Department, that was inspired and named “One in Compassion” after our movement. The New York City annual rally drew thousands who participated in scores of projects and marched for compassion and against violence as they crossed the Brooklyn Bridge.

Since then, springs of compassion have been popping up everywhere. The young adults in South Lancaster have held several Compassion Days. The infamous Boston Marathon bombing brought more than 200 young adults to Copley Square and to the sites of each explosion to pray, sing, hug, and give roses with a Bible promise to those who were grieving.

The students at Parkview Junior Academy joined in with “Make an Impact With Compassion” in Syracuse, New York, and their help has now been requested by the city leaders who have come out and worn our compassion T-shirts, together with school teachers and conference administrators.

In Bermuda, about 200 Adventist youth and young adults took to the streets of the capital, Hamilton, to distribute clothes, food, shoes, and diapers. They also conducted free health screenings, paid for people's parking, prayed, and hugged the less fortunate. In Worcester, Massachusetts, New Haven, Connecticut, and Corona, New York, youth, young adults, and adults are joining the movement and becoming the heart, hands, and feet of Jesus.

Recently, Compassion Day photos from La Paz Adventist Church in the Dominican Republic, were sent to us. Then we heard that young people in Johannesburg, South Africa; Sydney, Australia; and Manila, Philippines, are planning compassion rallies. Acts of compassion always generate more acts of compassion. It is the gift that keeps on giving. It goes viral because, though it is not new, it is fresh, timeless, global, and transcends all languages.

It is hard to go anywhere in the Atlantic Union and not see a compassion T-shirt in action. The union magazine is talking about it, and the church’s global magazine has mentioned it several times. Secular media and newspapers have also covered it in New York, Boston, Syracuse, and Hamilton, Bermuda. If you type the following hashtags in Twitter or Instagram you will see it #compassionwknd, #compassionday, #compassionbda, #compassion, and #bostonstrong. Join the movement right where you are and help others to become His heart, hands, and feet.

José Cortés, Jr., is the director of Adventist Youth Ministries in the Atlantic Union.
AdventSource Celebrates Grand Opening

AdventSource employees, board members, and friends gathered on April 17 to celebrate the grand opening of AdventSource’s new building located on the campus of Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska.

The exterior of AdventSource’s new facility.

As the official ministry resource distribution center for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America, AdventSource serves local churches by providing ministry-focused books, DVDs, seminars and curricula, apparel, Pathfinder and Adventurer club uniforms and supplies, webinars, event registration, and more.

The new 17,300 square-foot building houses all of AdventSource’s departments, including the call center, graphic arts, meeting planning, accounting, IT, resource development, and Web site support, along with operations and warehouse space. The new building also contains some additional space for future growth.

“We’re excited about our new space,” said Judy Glass, AdventSource treasurer. “It’s designed to fit us and the flow of our work. We are very excited about the future and the possibilities available to us in this new space.”

NAD President Dan Jackson said, “We appreciate this partnership and we will appreciate it long into the future. It is a mutual blessing.”

If you would like to learn more about the many services AdventSource provides to churches across the North American Division, visit www.adventsource.org or call (402) 486-8800.

—Excerpts from article by Cassie Mihnes Martsching, communication director, AdventSource

North American Adventist Publishing House Boards Asked to Consider Merger

On Wednesday, June 19, 2013, the General Conference and North American Division administrations forwarded to the boards of Pacific Press Publishing Association and Review and Herald Publishing Association a request for the two organizations to consider a merger in the near future.

The proposal comes in response to church administrators’ analysis of the current publishing mission setting along with related distribution systems. It builds upon the work of several commissions and groups that over the past several years have studied the challenges and opportunities arising from rapid technology changes in publishing as well as changes in how society accesses information.

The boards of both institutions met separately Wednesday evening, and each, by overwhelming majority votes, expressed agreement to consider a yet-to-be-developed merger proposal. In addition, each board authorized its chair and president to represent the institution on a taskforce whose assignment will be to develop a detailed merger proposal for future consideration by the boards and constituents.

General Conference administration asks that church members pray for God’s guidance upon church leaders and publishing house boards so that what is done in this matter will result in the most effective evangelistic print and digital publishing program to proclaim the three angels’ messages, advance God’s work through His power, and hasten the second coming of Jesus Christ.

—Excerpts from article by General Conference Administration. Read the entire article at Adventist News Network (http://goo.gl/sr22A)

Transition Manager Appointed for Adventist Media Center

Retired Southwestern Union Conference president Max Treviño, has been appointed by the North American Division (NAD) administration to serve as the transition manager of the Adventist Media Center (AMC) in Simi Valley, California. The appointment was also ratified by the Union President’s Cabinet, which is comprised of the nine union presidents of the North American Division.

This decision comes after the April 29 vote by the AMC Board to allow the media ministries to relocate from Simi Valley and to recommend to the NAD Executive Committee the closure and sale of the Adventist Media Center.

As transition manager, Treviño will direct on behalf of the North American Division and AMC entities in all matters relating to the transition. In this role, he will report directly to NAD President Dan Jackson and the NAD administration team. “Max brings to the table specific management and leadership qualities that are needed to carry us through this major venture as we seek to strengthen media in the North American Division,” said Jackson. Warren Judd, who has been serving as the Interim AMC Manager, will continue to manage the day-to-day operations of the AMC.

—NADNewsPoints, June 19, 2013. Read a related article at Adventist News Network (http://goo.gl/zZQDY)
LETS MOVE! DAY
Sunday, September 22, 2013

HELP US REACH OUR 2 MILLION MILE GOAL!

Whether you host a 5K run/walk, join a community event, or organize other activities, consider how your team can involve as many people as possible in physical activity. Invite your community to join your church, school, or hospital as we move together and promote a healthier lifestyle.

Find resources and information at www.AdventistsInStepForLife.org

LET’S MOVE! DAY is an event of Adventists InStep for Life. It is sponsored by the North American Division Health Ministries Department in partnership with Adventist Community Services, Children’s, Disabilities, Education, Family, Women’s, Youth, and Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries, and the Ministerial Department.

South Lancaster Academy
Alumni Weekend
October 11-13, 2013

Registration begins at South Lancaster Academy (SLA) Friday, October 11, at 3:00 p.m., followed by a Spaghetti Supper, sponsored by the SLA senior class. The Friday night program at 7:30 p.m. will be a musical event by the SLA choir and the New England Youth Orchestra.

The keynote speaker for worship service on Sabbath is Roberta Sprague Fish ’63. Sabbath luncheon tickets are available in advance or at the door. Please contact Jon Nosek, director of development at (978) 365-5225 or at jnosek@sla-browning.org for tickets or more information.

After lunch at 3:00 p.m., honor classes will have the opportunity to visit and update each other, or, alternatively, a tour of the area will be available with the new SLA bus, including local and historical narrative, and a stop at Tower Hill Botanical Gardens in West Boylston.

After Vespers, the Saturday evening activities include a pizza supper, or a basketball game of students vs. alumni for women, followed by the same for men.

Honor classes are years ending with 3 and 8. We look forward to seeing you there and catching up with all our classmates.
announcements


Out-of-Union

Forever Faithful International Camporee to Feature Symphony Orchestra and Mass Choir. The Forever Faithful International Camporee will have a new addition in 2014, the introduction of a symphony orchestra and mass choir. The Center for Youth Evangelism is currently looking for Pathfinders ages 9 to 19 who play an instrument or sing to join this special group. For more information, or to audition for the orchestra or mass choir, visit our Web site at www.camporee.org, or contact Catrina LeSure at catrinalessure@yahoo.com.

Forever Faithful International Camporee Theme Song Competition. The Forever Faithful International Camporee is still looking for submissions in our theme song competition. The winner will receive two free tickets to the Oshkosh Camporee. For rules and regulations visit our Web site at www.camporee.org, or contact Catrina LeSure at catrinalessure@yahoo.com.

Sunnydale Adventist Academy Alumni Weekend—Oct. 3-6. Honor classes are: ’48, ’53, ’63, ’73, ’78, ’83, ’88, ’93, ’98, ’03, and ’08. Activities begin Thursday evening with the Silver Showcase Banquet, continues on Friday with a Career Day. The Sabbath speaker is Ron Scott, class of ’59, former youth director for the Iowa-Missouri Conference. Sunday is the Alumni Gold Tournament and 5K walk/run. For additional information, call (573) 682-2164 or visit www.sunnydale.org.

Sunset Table

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The Cross in Search of Us... NNEC Fall Prayer Retreat

Speakers:
- Pastor Bill Brace
- Pastor Jerry Finneman
  - Principals of the Cross
  - The Counterfeits
  - Worship, Prayer & Fellowship
  - Prayer Breakfast
  - Families Welcome
  - Children’s program ages 5-12
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SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a mathematics professor to begin August 1, 2013 or January 1, 2014. Master’s degree in pure or applied mathematics required; doctoral degree preferred. Contact Dr. Amy Rosenthal at (817) 202-6212 or arosenthal@swau.edu.

NURSE PRACTITIONER OR PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT JOB OPPORTUNITY for growing Outpatient Psychiatric Practice in Auburn, Calif. Beautiful Minds Medical, Inc., focuses on whole-person care by integrating holistic lifestyle principles, Christian counseling, and evidence-based practice into mental health treatment. Nestled in the beautiful Sierra Foothills, great place for outdoors enthusiasts! Contact information: (530) 648-2592, ext. 116; e-mailing hr@guamsda.com, or visiting our Web site at www.adventistclinic.com.

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SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST GUAM CLINIC is embarking on a major expansion and is seeking physicians in Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, General Surgery, Orthopedic Surgery, Cardiology, Rheumatology, Pulmonology, Gastroenterology, OB/GYN, Urology, Pediatrics, ENT, Optometry, and Dermatology. Contact us to learn about our benefits and opportunities by calling (671) 648-2592, ext. 116; e-mailing hr@guamsda.com; or visiting our Web site at www.adventistclinic.com.

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or Darlene Keith (931) 724-6706; (931) 724-2443. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org.

YOU'RE INVITED to the 2013 Maranatha Volunteers International Convention (Roseville, Calif.). This FREE event features speakers from around the world and musical guest Steve Green. September 20-21. Register at www.maranatha.org.

DEMAND IS HIGH for managers of skilled nursing facilities and senior care centers. Southern Adventist University offers a degree in long term care administration. Work as a leader in the business of caring. Call (800) SOUTHERN or e-mail: ltc@southern.edu for information.

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Adventist Child India is an official project of the Southern Asia Division of Seventh-day Adventists, (301) 680-6228, www.acichild.com, or childcare@sud-adventist.org.

PLANNING AN EVANGELISTIC SERIES OR HEALTH SEMINAR? Have questions? Need affordable, professionally prepared handbills, brochures, signs, banners, and mailing services? Call free (800) 274-0016 and ask for HOPE Customer Service or visit www.hopesource.com. You deserve the best with confidence and peace of mind. Your friends at Hamblin’s HOPE deliver on time.

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Southern New England Conference Women’s Ministries Department

Women’s Fall Retreat

Joy Overflowing

Heather Dawn Small

Women’s Ministries Director

General Conference

October 25-27, 2013 • Springhill Suites, Devils, MA

www.snecwomen.org

at www.atlantic-union.org

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Atlantic Union College, Inc.: Duane M. Cady, Interim President; 338 Main Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561. Web site: www.au.edu

NETS (Northeast Evangelism Training School): Eric Fleckinger, Director; Kevin Sears, Associate Director; Lois King, Assistant Director. Office Address: P.O. Box #44, South Lancaster, MA 01561. (978) 606-6413. E-mail: registrars@netsatlanticunion.org. Web site: www.netsatlanticunion.org

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Atlantic Union Adventist Media Union-Wide Offering

AUGUST 10, 2013
Online Donation link: www.auam.tv

Events and Television Programs Recorded Include:

- **Let’s Connect Live with Donald King** — archived shows are on AUAM (www.auam.tv)

- **Pathway of Hope with Abraham Jules** — airs on the Hope Channel (www.hopetv.org) and 3ABN Dare to Dream Network (www.3abn.org)

- **Families 4 Heaven with Alanzo Smith** — airs on 3ABN and 3ABN Dare to Dream Network (www.3abn.org)

Some Events Include:

- Greater New York Conference Women’s Ministries Retreat

- Northeastern Conference Elders Symposium

- Atlantic Union Conference Festival of the Laity

Camp Meetings:

- Northeastern Conference Camp Meeting

- Greater New York Conference Camp Meeting

Donald G. King, President; Carlyle C. Simmons, Secretary; Leon D. Thomassian, Treasurer; Ednor A. P. Davison, Communication Director; Rohann D. Wellington, Managing Director
Atlantic Union Conference, P.O. Box 1189, South Lancaster, MA 01561

We are available for your next event. Contact us at:
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