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From the Ashes, We Will Rise!

- ❖ God Has Been Forever Faithful
- * Four Receive Awards at Adventist Ministries Convention

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What in the World Is Going On?

hen one observes the assortment of news that comes at us each day from all sides, especially in recent weeks, one may wonder, What in the world is going on? Is the world about to spin out of control? Are we approaching the end of time? Are the events we are witnessing a precursor to the final episodes of Earth's history? These are relevant questions that many conscientious Seventh-day Adventists and other Christians are asking.

Politicians are creating an atmosphere of uncertainty in the world; nations are questioning what's next. Terrorism is a real threat to the stability of our society. The United States, having just experienced the inauguration of a new president, is strongly divided along party lines. With these radical changes taking place, many people are uncertain and even cynical about the future. Some are asking, Where is God in all of this?

When we consider the rising crime rates in certain cities, the vicious attacks on the innocent and the vulnerable, the increase of natural disasters, we must ask the question: Where can we find relief? The answer is found in God. Human wisdom has miserably failed! It is high time to turn to the true Source of all wisdom, God Himself.

The Psalmist said, "Cast your burden on the Lord, and He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved"—Psalm 55:22, NKJV. For various reasons, many are losing hope and have turned to quick fixes that do not last. However, our only answer is in Jesus, our Savior, who has promised to

come again to rescue the faithful from this sin-cursed earth. He declared before He left the earth: "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also"—John 14:1-3, NKJV.

Distrust in God brings on uncertainty, which results in fear. As children of God we are expected to put our confidence in Him; He knows the beginning and the end, and all that goes in between. Nothing happens without His attention and permission. Ellen White declared: "We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history"—Testimonies, vol. 9, p. 10.

My encouragement is, as Moses said to Joshua, "Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the Lord your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you"—Deuteronomy 31:6, NKJV.

In our quest for all sufficiency, humanity has made a mess of things and, try as we may, we can't fix it all by ourselves. I pray that we will acknowledge our helplessness and turn to the all-wise God for help. He will hear and answer, if we ask in faith. Let us trust in the Lord with all our hearts and He will deliver us from all evil. ①

G. Earl Knight is president of the Atlantic Union Conference and chairman of the Atlantic Union College Board of Trustees.



"As children of God we are expected to put our confidence in Him; He knows the beginning and the end. and all that goes on between."





o say that the events of Sabbath, December 3, 2016, at Union Springs Academy (USA) were unexpected would be an extreme understatement. The evening before was filled with lots of activity as we hosted our annual "Walk Through Bethlehem." In this event, visitors were escorted through a series of stations that presented the story of Jesus' birth in a unique way. It was a great evening.

Sabbath morning continued as usual, with students attending Sabbath School and church, followed by lunch in the café. This was when things changed to the unexpected. At 1:40 p.m. students and our maintenance person, Steve Fraker, saw smoke pouring out of the administration building roof. Emergency services were called, and then began the lengthy process of getting the fire under control, determining what caused it, and

cleaning our way out of the mess it generated.

The fire originated in the worship room, which has four large archways that open onto the main hallways of the school. Even though the fire was contained in this relatively small space, the smoke and hot gases created by it damaged things in every corner of the building. Virtually every system of the building was damaged in some way, resulting in the need for electricians, plumbers, computer network specialists, telephone system specialists, carpet layers, painters, and others.

The Union Springs church members graciously opened their doors to us, and we have set up office space, four classrooms, a computer lab, and are using the sanctuary as a chapel. It appears that we will be occupying the church for the remainder of the school year, while repairs to the building are completed.

When things like this happen, it can seem that our losses might be more than we can bear. In reality, however, this fire has helped us realize how many friends we truly have. People from all over the country have contacted us, sharing their support, through tangible means, whether with financial support or items we needed. The moral support through letters, phone calls, Facebook messages, and prayers have been of



Smoke rises from the roof of the administration building at Union Springs Academy.

such encouragement to us, and we are so grateful.

Through it all we have sensed the hand of God leading us, and we have come to know that we will emerge from this better and stronger than ever before.

Jere Clayburn is the Union Springs Academy principal.

From the Hearts of Some **USA Students**

"Every day since the fire, I have prayed that God would help the spirituality of the school and that we would be more conscious of His presence. We can overcome everything we have gone through and take the best from it. . . . I can appreciate the fire, because it has drawn us closer to each other and made me love the school even more. I am looking forward to my future walk with God as I continue to learn at USA and to graduating with my class next year."—Shane Linder, junior

"This fire experience has brought me closer to God, more than I expected. . . . I now have a joy in my heart and peace that it's going to be OK. It has been different since the fire, being all bunched up in classes, but now we have more people to talk to and spend time with. I wonder how the gym is going to look when we get back in. I'm sure ready to play basketball again in there!"—Riniel De Leon, junior

"Since the fire, it has been hard for my senior class to move forward with events and fundraising efforts we planned for the school year. I have been thankful for the staff who have helped our school get the things we needed. The teachers have worked hard to make things as normal as possible for us. Even though I won't be here next year, I am thankful returning and new students will have a much better school experience enjoying the remodeled 'ad building'."-Breanna Cenecharles, senior



Among the items damaged is the piano that was in the chapel, < The photo on the top left of page 4 shows the hallway that leads from the worship room into the rest of administration building



Students will attend classes at the Union Springs church until repairs to the administration building are completed.



The Union Springs Academy administration building houses offices, classrooms, and the gymnasium.





Workers complete repairs in the Union Springs Academy gymnasium that was damaged during the December 3, 2016, fire,

"The fire was a shock to all of us! Thankfully, none of us were inside the school when the fire started. My hope is that from this incident we can all remember how good God is, and how He always takes care of us."—Abigail Ingersoll, senior

"Since the fire has happened I have wondered what will happen to my graduation this spring. I am glad to know the gymnasium should be opened so we can march there in June. Where I felt the fire was trying to stop us from being here, now I know through God nothing can stop us! I can't wait to graduate here at Union Springs Academy and see my picture on the wall with all the other alumni!"-Jew Luis, senior

"Since the fire happened, life at school has changed drastically. Going to school in the church has been hard, since all of my resources were in the 'ad building'. I came out of my comfort zone, which God challenges us to do, so He has taught me to lean on Him. Besides leaning on God, I can also lean on my wonderful friends."-Wilken Beltre-Romero, junior

God is So Good!

To echo the words of our principal and students, we have a lot to praise God for at Union Springs Academy this school year. We have received tremendous support from our beloved alumni, many churches in the New York Conference, the Atlantic Union Conference, and the New York Conference. In addition, we have also been touched by the efforts and benevolence coming from local churches of various denominations, schools, and civic groups, who have taken up offerings, made donations, opened their gymnasiums, and so much more. This has not only helped the teachers and staff to provide a level of education significantly better than making do, it has been a great source of encouragement to the students during this difficult time.

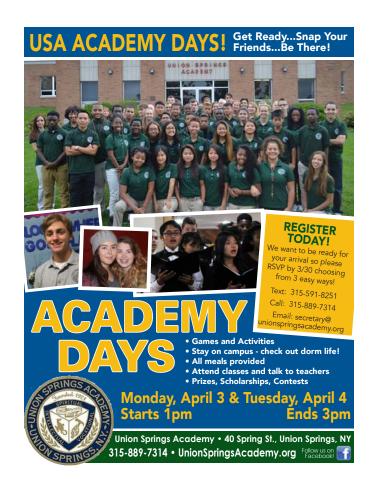
Not all areas will be covered with the insurance claim from the fire in the administration building, but USA is moving forward to restore our school. USA is excited to announce a partnership with Maranatha Volunteers International to hold the fourth annual Campus Renovation Week—Operation USA, July 2-16.

This mission trip to our school will be comprised of volunteers from around the country, joining USA alumni, New York Conference members, and people from the local community. Volunteers will work together on various building projects, repairs, and updates to make improvements to the campus buildings and grounds. The amount of campus projects we can accomplish will solely depend on the fundraising efforts of the academy. Maranatha only provides funding for the international mission trip projects.

To find out more information about USA, the status of repairs to the administration building, and the joint endeavor with Maranatha Volunteers International, call us at (315) 889-7314; e-mail development@unionspringsacademy.org, or visit our Web site at unionspringsacademy.org.

During this critical time of need, we know the Lord will provide for our school. Indeed, God was not finished with His work at Union Springs Academy on December 3, 2016. USA will continue to remain strong, educating our young people's minds here on earth and their hearts for eternity.

Janica Caster, '90, is the development and alumni relations director at Union Springs Academy.





By Pat Giese

God Has Been Forever Faithful!

"As I reflect on the years of service, I am

ow! Have you ever noticed how time passes by so quickly? School starts—then it ends; and another year is over. For me, that cycle has continued for almost 42 years; but this year that cycle ends, as I have retired from denominational work. Oh, at the time of this writing I'm still working three-quarter time, but that doesn't change the fact that the time went by quickly!

As I reflect on the years of service, I am grateful for the privilege of working in and for Adventist education! I have been blessed by working with

privileged to be part of their growing experience in education and life-students who became doctors, lawyers, pastors, teachers, carpenters, administrators, professors, moms and dads, plumbers, physical therapists, nurses, entrepreneurs, IT professionals, etc., and, especially, strong Adventist church members!

I have worked with so many parents who are dedicated to Christian education, who give of their time and talent. Some parents have set out on a journey with their children hoping for the best and giving them the best, yet who that made the difference in the lives of young people! Young people who were/are worth every penny spent on them to bring them to an understanding of a relationship with Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. Indeed, for me there is/was no other passion greater than working with and for our (actually your) children!

At this time when it would be easier to cut church subsidy to our schools, let us not grow weary in doing good especially to the household of faith (Galatians 6:9-10). Let's continue to give our kids something that demonstrates that God answers financial prayers, even for them. Let's demonstrate that when God says He will provide, He will—even for our students!

We are a people longing for Jesus to come, but, in the meantime, let us not forget our purpose! Our young people are worth the sacrifice that every Adventist must make for Christian education to be successful! Adventist education equals evangelism! And how we as a people demonstrate our support to Adventist schools will demonstrate to our young people what we really believe!

After 42 years in denominational work with Adventist education. God has never failed and He has been forever faithful! Believe it! 1

grateful for the privilege of working in and for Adventist education!"

dedicated teachers who have given up so much to work with other people's children. I have seen awesome teachers who loved the Lord and served Him in spite of little appreciation, always working on a shoestring budget, yet giving their best day in, day out, year after year, who have allowed me the privilege of working with them and for them.

Throughout the years, I have been blessed by working with such amazing students. All of them had such unique and God-given characters that I was

have lost their children in accidents. war, or to the world—but these faithful parents continue to hope in Jesus' resurrection and promises! These parents are awesome!

I have also been blessed to work with amazing administrators, both at the school level and at the conference level. Men and women who loved the Lord and weren't afraid to do that which was best for Adventist Christian education!

Overall, it has been a fulfilling 42 years of service, because working in Adventist education was a work



Pat Giese, the Southern New England Conference superintendent of schools, has retired after 42 years of service in Adventist Christian education.



Four Receive Awards at Adventist Ministries Convention

Leaders from all levels of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America attended the North American Division's Adventist Ministries Convention in Tucson, Arizona, January 9-12. At the biennial convention, North American Division department directors took time out to recognize individuals for their outstanding work. Four people from the Atlantic Union were among the 43 individuals presented with awards.

Tracy John — Excellence in Ministry Award



John Mathews, North American Division Stewardship director, presents Tracy John, Sharon church member, with the Excellence in Ministry Award.

Tracy John, a member of the Sharon church in Bronx, New York, served as treasurer until she decided to step down from that responsibility in order to present "Faith & Finance" seminars in area churches. John is also enrolled in the North American Division Stewardship Certification program.

She has completed all of the video work (40 hours of viewing) and is currently conducting the required field work. She completed her first stewardship weekend in May 2016 at the North Bronx church.

John believes that we must focus on the spiritual lives of the members, not on the church budget. One group she wants to focus on is young adults who are not active in giving financially to their churches.

Andrés Peralta — Excellence in Ministry Award

Andrés Peralta is the Atlantic Union youth ministries director. His passion for youth ministry is palpable in his



North American Division Youth Ministries associate directors Tracy Wood, left, and Armando Miranda, Jr., right, present Andrés Peralta, Atlantic Union Conference Youth Ministries director, with the Excellence in Ministry Award.

demeanor, his engagement through social media, and his never-ending energy. He served the Greater New York Conference as their youth director for five years until 2016, when he was called to serve in youth ministries in the Atlantic Union. His initiatives and his vision for servant leadership have shaped many leaders wherever he has been.

Dionisio Olivo — Lifetime Achievement Ministry Award

Dionisio Olivo serves as vice president for Hispanic and Portuguese ministries in the Atlantic Union Conference, as well as director of the Family Ministries, Sabbath School, and Adventist Chaplaincy Ministry departments, and the Medical Cadet Corps. He is the founder of the initiative "Nurturing the Nurturer," aimed at giving emotional, spiritual, and professional support to the family ministries directors in the Atlantic Union Conference.



North American Division Family Ministries director and associate director, Claudio and Pamela Consuegra, present Dionisio Olivo, Atlantic Union Conference Family Ministries director, with the Lifetime Achievement Ministry Award.

Throughout his career, Olivo has served as church pastor, conference department director for youth, family ministries, Sabbath School, and personal ministries, among others. He is also a former president of the Greater New York Conference, having served for 10 years in that capacity.

Jasmine Hoyt — Lifetime Achievement Ministry Award

Jasmine Hoyt has served in youth ministries for more than 30 years with a resolve to reach and teach young people about the grace that they can only find



Tracy Wood, North American Division Youth Ministries associate director, presents Jasmine Hoyt, Northeastern Conference, chair of the North American Division Master Guide Advisory/ Focus Groups, with the Lifetime Achievement Ministry Award.

in Jesus. She has been involved in Youth Ministries and Pathfinder Ministries in the Northeastern Conference and has chaired the Master Guide Advisory/ Focus groups for the North American Division Youth Ministries Department for the past few years, where she has helped shape and mold the Master Guide curriculum and direction. This award recognizes her passion to serve God through youth ministry.

The Atlantic Union Conference administrators and staff congratulate these individuals for a job well done in representing themselves, their respective churches, conferences, and the Atlantic Union in their work for the Lord.

— GLEANER editor

Atlantic Union Conference Welcomes Lileth Coke

The Atlantic Union Conference
Administrative Committee voted
to ask Lileth Coke to serve as assistant
director of education, effective January
1. Her job also includes serving as
Early Childhood Education and Care
and Children's Ministries assistant
director, certification registrar, and
coordinator of student services and
teacher professional development. She
succeeds Marlene Alvarez, who currently serves as the associate director of
Education, Early Childhood Education
and Care, and Children's Ministries.

Most recently, Coke was Northeastern Conference's director of Pupil Personnel Services for Special Education and Counseling. She also worked in the Greater New York and



Lileth Coke is the new assistant director of education for the Atlantic Union Conference.

Northeastern conferences as a teacher and school/conference administrator.

Coke is an alumna of Northern Caribbean University, Atlantic Union College, and Andrews University. She graduated with a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from Andrews University in 2013.

Her husband, George Coke, is the pastor of the Dimensions of Hope and New Hope churches in New York City. The Cokes are the parents of two daughters.

The Atlantic Union Conference administrators and employees pray for God's guidance for Lileth Coke in her new assignment.

—GLEANER editor

More Than 300 Attend GODencounters 2017

Tore than 300 young adults from across the Atlantic Union attended the GODencounters Young Adult Retreat at the DoubleTree Hotel in Leominster, Massachusetts, on the weekend of February 10-12. The Atlantic Union Conference Youth Ministries Department team, comprised of the youth directors and staff from all the conferences in the union, successfully coordinated the weekend retreat.

Benjamin Lundquist, Oregon Conference Young Adult Ministries director and North American Division Young Adult Life coordinator, was the featured speaker. He presented powerful messages on Friday evening, Sabbath morning, and Saturday evening. Lundquist's messages encouraged the young adults to care for their soul, know their roles, and protect the goal—the mission that God has for their life. "No matter what is going on with your life, don't ever doubt your standing with

Jesus," Lundquist said. "If we step into the role for which we are called, we will find peace."

The group was blessed with music from the praise team, the musicians, as well as guest musician Terell Davy from the Florida Conference. The prayer room was open and available all weekend for the participants to spend time with God apart from the other activities.

Merline and Christine Agenor, first-time participants at GODencounters, were excited they made the decision to attend. "It was a well-needed reconnection with the Holy Spirit," said Christine Agenor. "This was one of the best encounters I've had with God," said Merline Agenor.

Four seminars were presented—Elias Zabala, Jr., Atlantic Union Conference treasurer, presented a seminar on finances. Rohann Wellington, Greater New York Conference communication director and assistant to the president for



Young adults from around the Atlantic Union participate in the worship service at the 2017 GODencounters Young Adult Retreat.

strategic planning, presented a seminar on millennial faith. Buell Fogg, Union College associate chaplain, presented a seminar on relationships. Ray Queen, Camp Kulaqua summer camp director, presented a seminar on addictions.

Other segments of the weekend included an Open Mic Café that allowed the participants to share their talents, an outreach project allowing them to offer prayer for people in the community, and an evening of activities at the gym on the campus of

Atlantic Union College.

Annalisa M., another first-time attendee, said "GODencounters 2017 has helped me to realize that there is hope for my life, despite all I have done and that I should let go and let God!"

GODencounters 2018 is scheduled for February 23-25, 2018.

—GLEANER editor

To view GODencounters 2017 photos, visit https://goo.gl/WYnoJf.

The Blessed Hope Painting Unveiled at Bermuda Institute

The old adage "a picture is worth a thousand words" took on relevant meaning when Bermuda Institute reopened after the Christmas break. What better way to begin the second half of the year than with a strong spiritual focus?

On January 4, we launched a 21-day spiritual initiative involving students and teachers in a study of the devotional All the Way In by Debleaire Snell, pastor of the First Seventh-day Adventist Church in Huntsville, Alabama. He encouraged us to go all the way with Jesus in a personal and meaningful relationship with Him.

In an effort for the school and the pastors of the Bermuda Conference to work together, using Bermuda Institute as an evangelistic field, we were delighted to work with this brainchild of Ulrich Hetsberger, pastor of the Midland Heights church in Bermuda. All of the students and staff were provided with a copy of the devotional, compliments of the Bermuda Conference.

As a climax to the joint K-12 chapel, we segued to a focus on the official unveiling of the painting "The Blessed Hope" that was gifted to the school by the artist Nathan Greene and some donors in the North American Division. As pastors, parents, students, and staff trailed by to view the painting, after it was officially unveiled, their expressions and reactions were touching.

Telling the children that Jesus is coming again is necessary. Telling them that He is coming for everyone, no matter what the race, is important. Telling them that His kingdom will be made up of a diverse group of believ-



Bermuda Institute students view "The Blessed Hope" painting gifted to the school by the artist, Nathan Greene, and donors in the North American Division.

ers who may have suffered all kinds of trials during their life on earth is a standard part of what they are taught.

Nothing, however, makes the lesson as vivid as the Nathan Greene painting did for the school that day. Of particular note is our Grade 4 class. The teacher, Brian McDaniel, took the opportunity to have the students actually write their reactions to the painting. The written expressions of the students qualified the value of Seventh-day education. Notice some of the direct quotations taken from their written scripts:

- "Have you ever seen 'The Blessed Hope' painting by Nathan Green? Well, I have. . . . It has people from different cultures. It also has people rising from the dead. But what grabs my attention is that an old lady let go of her walker. Jesus is in the middle of the sky. All the angels are on both sides of Jesus. . . . The painting made me feel that Jesus loves me. He loves all of us."—Leighnae
- "The painting gave me hope that one day Jesus will come back to earth. It also brought me comfort.

It reminded me how much He loves me. It reminds me that we will all be together again. We will see each other in heaven."—Ryanna

- " 'The Blessed Hope' painting made me feel special. It made me feel special because I know God loves me and He wants to take me to heaven with Him. The painting also gave me hope. I felt hope because I know that if I die in the Lord. He will take me to heaven. I will live with God forever."—Milan
- "This picture gives me hope. . . . It also reminds me that we will see our people in our family who died. . . . I know I will see them in heaven one day. That was one of my best pictures ever. I love it!"—Sariah
- "The 'Blessed Hope' is a beautiful painting. I saw land forms, people, angels, and I saw Jesus. This made me feel like God loves everyone of all shapes and sizes. He loves every one of different cultures."—Taylor
- "The painting was a beautiful sight of artwork. What the painting reminded me

of was when God was talking to the man on the cross and when God said we shall meet again in Paradise. And if God can do so many miracles, then He can save us from our sins, only if we ask Him."—Inaya

- "Have you seen Nathan Greene's painting? Well, I have. It was beautiful. [On a scale of] one to 10, I would say 10.5. The painting made me feel like I had hope. It made me feel like I could rise up when Christ comes again. The painting was merciful."—S'Niyah
- "Have you ever seen 'The Blessed Hope' picture? Well, I have. It looks like people coming from the dead. Then I saw angels coming out of the sky with Jesus in the middle of the sky. The painting reminds me about my father. It gives me comfort that Jesus is coming again. So He is taking me and my daddy."—Tajae
- "I saw cultures like Indian, Asian, African, and many more. It made me feel like God was coming right now and that we have hope that we all are going to go to heaven."—Seth

We will continue to tell our students about the love of Jesus and His soon return, but a thousand words do not adequately resonate to the hearts of our young people who saw differentiation at its best, who saw diversity in the flesh, and who feel a renewed conviction in the hope that Jesus will return for them.

A thousand words cannot adequately express our gratitude for this gift. So, we'll limit ourselves to "Thank you!"

-Lois Tucker, principal, Bermuda Institute



Religious Liberty Supporters Lay Foundation for New and **Stronger Network**

Religious liberty supporters came together on November 18-20, 2016, to lay the foundation for a new and stronger network supporting religious liberty in New York. Themed "Building a Bridge for Freedom and Religious Liberty," the meeting was the second event in a process of building a network including the Atlantic Union Conference and the three local conferences covering New York State: New York Conference, Greater New York Conference, and Northeastern Conference.

The November meeting was a three-day strategic planning session using the Future Search model during which the participants examined the past and the present before laying plans for the future. The objective was to build a statewide network of Seventh-day Adventist Church organizations and lay members who will collaborate in supporting religious liberty in New York.

G. Earl Knight, Atlantic Union Conference president, opened the meeting by welcoming the group, emphasizing the importance of building a strong network to support religious liberty in New York, and praying for the power of the Holy Spirit to guide and empower the group. Alan Reinach, Public Affairs and Religious Liberty director for the Pacific Union Conference, laid a spiritual foundation for the group, pointing out that religious liberty and freedom of choice is fundamental to God's principles of ruling the universe.

Others with extensive religious liberty expertise who participated in the



Nations Relations director: Todd McFarland, General Conference Office of General Counsel associate council; James Standish, former congressional liaison for the General Conference: and Melissa Reid, LIBERTY magazine's associate editor. Also present for the meeting to offer technical advice was Josh Hey, Pacific Press Publishing Association director of specialty printing.

As the group analyzed trends, dynamics, and influences that impact their ability to successfully advocate and have an impact on religious liberty, they identified many major trends, including the tendency to value security over freedom, lack of clarity in defining religious liberty, tension between civil rights and biblical principles, a rise in religious intolerance, the busyness of life, and a lack of clarity in understanding lastday events.

During the event, small groups worked together on

tasks of analysis and planning and then reported back to the full group for further discussion. The group discussed such issues as keeping the church in New York better informed about religious liberty, more effectively circulating LIBERTY magazine to thought leaders in New York, developing more effective support for people who experience religious liberty problems, and building a network of people who can support religious liberty through contacts with government and community leaders and media.

The event ended with volunteers forming seven action teams that have begun organizing, recruiting, and planning for training, support, and advocacy.

We are grateful to the Atlantic Union Conference, Greater New York Conference, Northeastern Conference, and the North American Division for their generous financial support that made this event possible.

Readers desiring more information or desiring to be a part of the New York Bridge to Freedom team should contact Claude Morgan at Greater New York Conference, Lawrence Brown at Northeastern Conference, or Miguel Crespo at New York Conference.

—Janice Da Silva, associate director, GNYC Office of Planned Giving and Development



More than 550 Attend Leadership Symposium

The Northeastern ■ Conference Ministerial Department and Elders Council hosted their first leadership symposium, achievement award and consecration ceremony for elders, deacons, and deaconesses on November 5, 2016. The venue was Machlan Auditorium on the campus of Atlantic Union College in Lancaster, Massachusetts. The Spirit-filled, energizing event kicked off with lively singing, power-packed seminars, and dynamic preaching.

The auditorium, filled with more than 550 attendees, included those who came to celebrate with the elders, deacons, and deaconesses their successful completion of the PELC EQUIP World Class Leaders and Officers Training, facilitated by professors from Oakwood University (OU). It was a momentous occasion, since it was the first of its kind in the North American Division. The theme for the weekend was, "So Send I You."



More than 550 people participate in the Northeastern Conference leadership symposium in Machlan Hall on the campus of Atlantic Union College.

One of Ainsworth E. Joseph's goals as Northeastern Conference ministerial director is to empower and provide cutting-edge training for elders, deacons, and deaconesses within the Northeastern Conference territory, thereby making them better equipped for service, working in partnership with pastors, to "punch holes" into the kingdom of darkness.

The event culminated a year and a half of the intentional deployment of strategies to accomplish the goal for leadership training. Joseph reminded and challenged participants that training is only

a part of the journey, but there is still more work to be done.

Easton Bell, Northeastern Conference Elders Council chair, who played a key role in coordinating training events, reminded participants to "keep their tools sharpened" through active engagement in ministering to the lost. During Sabbath School, Trevor Frazer. OU associate professor, gave a presentation on "Leadership in a Multi-Cultural World," and Ifeoma Kwesi, OU assistant professor, gave a presentation titled "Spiritual Disciplines for Spiritual Leaders."

Jesse Wilson, OU associate professor, empowered the graduates during the worship service with a dynamic message. He reminded them that they are survivors and challenged them to "be the seed that is planted on good ground!" After lunch, provided by Atlantic Union College, the afternoon sessions continued with seminars for deacons and deaconesses. a report from the chairperson of the Elders Council, election of new executive officers of the Elders Council for the ensuing year, and the achievement award and consecration ceremony.

A new executive was elected to serve for the ensuing twoyear term. G. Russell Seay, Jr., OU assistant professor, was the keynote speaker for the achievement award and consecration ceremony.

The graduates emerged from the symposium renewed, empowered, convicted, and filled with Holy Ghost power, to go forward proclaiming, "Here am I Lord, send me."

—Alma McKee, public relations assistant, Northeastern Conference Elders Council

Brockton Portuguese Church Hosts Two-day Health Extravaganza

The Brockton Portuguese L church in Brockton, Massachusetts, hosted a two-day health extravaganza this past fall. It started with a march on Sabbath against substance abuse, followed by a health fair on Sunday.

The march began at the church in the afternoon and circled around downtown Brockton. Participating in the march were the Brockton Portuguese, Taunton Portuguese, Dorchester Portuguese, and Brockton Cape Verdean churches.

Pathfinders of the neighboring church, Brockton Temple, marched with their drum corps, followed by the Brockton Portuguese church's

White Eagles Pathfinders. People came from their homes to see what all the commotion was about, and, in doing so, heard the marchers chanting "Drugs, tobacco, just say no." Some onlookers joined the march until the end. At the end of the march, a speaker, while standing on a truck and using a megaphone, spoke about the importance of health and healthcare.

To compliment a successful march and rally, on the following day, the doors of the church were opened to the community for a health fair. The health fair provided several medical and personal services, including health



Adventist churches in the Brockton, Massachusetts, area participate in a march against substance abuse.

screenings, free haircuts, and massages. Even the kids had a good time with an inflatable bounce house that was placed outside in the parking lot. It was a day full of smiles, relaxation, and healthy information for all participating.

The members of the Brockton Portuguese church hope to continue this project and make it an annual gift and ministry to the Brockton community.

—Joao L. Cardoso, communication department, Brockton Portuguese church

10 Baptized During Elders' Revival Campaign

When Ainsworth E. Joseph was elected Northeastern Conference (NEC) ministerial director in 2012, he expressed his goals to train, equip, and foster the spiritual growth of pastors, as well as local elders, deacons, and deaconesses of the churches.

Joseph did not confine his efforts to ministers only, but to the local elders who are serving the 181 churches in the conference. This led him to partner with PELC (Pastoral Evangelism and Leadership Council) and Oakwood University to develop a four-module leadership certification training for elders. The areas covered were in homiletics, leadership, church growth, and personal spiritual growth. Elders were charged and expected to implement

learning as they execute ministry in their churches.

The elders are subdivided into several regions throughout the conference. Easton Bell serves as the head of the NEC Elders Council. Each subdivi-



J. Kendall Guy, Northeastern Conference Personal Ministries director, baptizes one of the candidates during the evangelistic meeting.

sion also has an elder who serves as liaison for the council, as well as provides leadership for their region/districts. Under Pickett's leadership, the elders were energized and motivated to take the gospel from the pews to the public.

The Bronx-Manhattan

new life and vision when in

former first elder in one of

the churches in the Bronx,

January 2016, Myrtle Pickett,

Elders Council received

After several face-to-face meetings and conference calls, the group consolidated plans to conduct a two-week evangelistic campaign. The meetings took place September 17-October 1, 2016. This evangelistic initiative resulted in 10 baptisms. The goal is to make this an annual experience in different areas of the region.

The two elder-evangelists were Donald McLachlan, from the Ephesus church, and Nehemiah Joseph, from the Willis Avenue church. J. Kendal Guy, NEC personal ministries director; Sednak Yankson, Willis Avenue church pastor; and Anthony Usher, Sharon church pastor, provided counsel, as well as spiritual support.

—Coordinator, Bronx-Manhattan Regional Elders Council

Choir Members Get Active in the Community

n the weekend before Thanksgiving 2016, members of the Sharon Gospel Choir, along with their leader, Staren Soanes, joined forces with the Coalition for the Homeless and went to various locations in the Bronx to distribute coats to adults and children. With warm smiles on their faces and God's love in their hearts, choir members moved quickly to find coats suitable for everyone in need. Members reported it was a joyful experience and that it was a privilege and a blessing to be able to serve others. They look forward to the next opportunity to serve.

It has long been a desire of Soanes to get the choir involved in helping communities by ministering to their needs. Luke 3:11 (NIV) says, "Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same." This was a small step and the choir plans to continue in this endeavor.

—Diana John, member, Sharon Gospel Choir



Ainsworth E. Joseph, Gospel Renaissance Revival evangelist, and his wife, Gillian, seated, third and fourth from right; and Vernon Jordan, Trinity Temple church pastor, and his wife, Mirlande, seated right, take a photo with some of the newly-baptized members.

21 Baptized During Gospel Renaissance Revival

The Trinity Temple church in Poughkeepsie, New York, hosted the Gospel Renaissance Revival this past fall. Vernon Jordan, the church's pastor, along with members and guests, met nightly, except Thursday nights. Ainsworth E. Joseph, Northeastern Conference Ministerial Department director, was the evangelist. As a result of the effort, 21 people were baptized.

Church members worked cooperatively, along with the Bible instructors, Pauline Charlot and Arthur Ebanks, and the singing evangelists, Marcia Joseph and Shirley-Ann Thomas, as they reached the community for Christ.

—Mirlande Jordan, member and pastor'S wife, Trinity Temple church



The Healing Project: Christ's Method Alone

The Ellsworth church in ■ Down-East Maine has launched a novel healing project, and it is gaining true interest in the local community. The project is based on the fairly simple idea that people are not very interested in changing their health practices but they are interested in getting relief from the aches, pains, and other symptoms related to lifestyle choices and living in a toxic world. The project uses healing to introduce people to true spiritual change, and by doing so, it uses the same approach that Christ used in His ministry.

The project teaches participants six separate hydrotherapy ("water treatment") methods. These simple, natural, yet very effective forms of treatment can provide significant relief from joint pain, headaches, congestion, muscle tension, etc. However, the true strength of the project lies not only in the effectiveness of the treatment, but in the relationships that are built during the training and education of the community participants.

On a recent Sunday afternoon, the basement of the



The Ellsworth project team gathers in prayer shortly before the program begins. The project team wears color-coded monogrammed T-shirts—white for the pastor, purple for the prayer warriors, dark blue for the technical trainers, and red for the kid-wranglers.

Ellsworth church was filled to capacity. Not only were there a dozen community members in attendance (the maximum the project can accommodate), but there were also some 18 church members working as staff for the project-whether as hydro-therapy trainers, kid-wranglers, prayer warriors, or general support staff. The room was not only packed, it was joyful. Returning community members hugged and joked with church members, then traded stories about using the previous week's hydrotherapy method at home.

The program started with a lecture on how to make a

clay poultice, and the lecture contained a series of compelling spiritual points that, together, formed an underlying sermonette. The participants then teamed up with their trainers, and were taught how to give a hot foot bath. This involved half the participants being swaddled in warm blankets while their feet soaked in a hot Epsom-salt solution. A cool cloth on their head completed the treatment. The treatment achieves several effects, one of which is to clear the sinuses. One of the community members sat, wide-eyed and swaddled in blankets, proclaiming, "I can breathe! I can actually breathe!"

The project brings caring church members into close and supportive contact with community members in need. It acts out in real life the admonition found in The MINISTRY OF HEALING, p. 143: "Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good."

The project is made possible by the dedication and technical proficiency of church members who have completed training at Uchee Pines Institute in Alabama. The Ellsworth church will complete a second program series, then plans will be made to replicate the project in other churches in the area, probably with direct support from Uchee Pines. If your church wants to know more about this project, call Scott Christiansen at the Northern New England Conference (207) 797-3760, ext. 223.

—Scott Christiansen, communication director, Northern New England Conference

Natural Church Development Initiative Launched

Recently the sisterhood of Adventist churches in Northern New England Conference (NNEC) kicked off a long-term church-strengthening initiative with the help of Tom Evans, North American Division Evangelism Institute associate director. Evans guided our pastors to a basic understanding of "Natural Church Development" (NCD), which starts with assessing and understanding church health.

Why is it important to measure church health?

Well, we know that healthy (and growing) churches score high in eight specific areas: empowering leadership, gift-based ministry, passionate spirituality, effective structures, inspiring worship, holistic small groups, need-oriented evangelism, and loving relationships. By assessing church health in each of these areas, it is possible to understand the strengths and weaknesses of each church.

The NCD process walks a church through a self-evalu-

ation to help gauge strength in core areas. Research has shown that when the lowestscoring areas are strengthened, churches naturally begin to grow. NNEC pastors now have a working knowledge of NCD and will begin to schedule NCD surveys for their churches. Leaders experienced in the NCD approach will serve as coaches to help churches interpret survey results and understand the areas of church life that may be inhibiting growth. We are hopeful that every church in

our conference will participate in an NCD survey, and believe that this tool can help churches become healthy churches, so they can naturally begin to grow. That's why it's called, "Natural Church Development."

The Natural Church Development initiative is the third and final major effort to be announced in 2017. Each of these efforts, which include long-term church planting, an evangelism field school, and NCD, fit together and strengthen each other. Add them all together and what you have is a comprehensive effort that reinvigorates existing churches through outreach and through a systematic

analysis of areas that can be strengthened. Then, added to that, there is an aggressive effort to raise up new churches in areas where there are currently no congregations. It is a full-court press and I feel that such an aggressive approach is necessary, given the increasingly secular nature of our conference and the

extraordinary shortness of time we have left to work for the Lord.

-Bob Cundiff, president, Northern New England Conference

Evangelism Field School Coming to NNEC in 2018

Field School of Evangelism is com-Aing to the sisterhood of Adventist churches in Northern New England in 2018! What is a field school? It's a full evangelistic series that is widely promoted in the host community, and it doubles as a learning environment for pastoral students at the Seventhday Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. The field school is sponsored by the North American Division Evangelism Institute (NADEI).

The field school will take place in the twin cities of Lewiston/Auburn in Central Maine in May 2018. Since evangelism is best learned by doing evangelism (as opposed to sitting in a classroom listening to lectures on evangelism), the seminary has developed the method of sending students into the field to assist and learn from practicing evangelism in a real-life setting.

At least six seminary students will come and assist the evangelist, which means we are being entrusted to help train pastors in the art of public proclamation. But there is actually a lot more going on than the training of seminary students and the holding of an evangelism campaign, because the conference is also asking all of our full-time pastors to come and support the series.

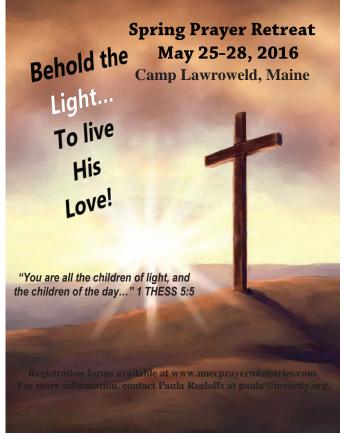
Our goal for the field school is twofold. First, to plant a new church in the wake of the series—we are praying that God will pour out such a blessing that a new church will form as a result of the field school. Second, the field school will serve as an evangelistic refresher course for our pastoral team.

Though our pastors are already trained in the art of public evangelism, a refresher course that exposes them to the cutting-edge and best practices of evangelism will benefit our sisterhood of churches. With the refresher experience and the enthusiasm it builds, our pastors will then be fitted to conduct a full message series in their own district.

The members of the Northern New England Conference live, work, and witness in the most secular and post-Christian region in the United States—it is literally the most extreme mission field in the North American Division. But with extreme challenges comes extreme power, and we praise God that He is guiding, blessing, and fitting us for His purpose!

-Bob Cundiff, president, Northern New England Conference





SNEC Children's Ministries are Growing Remnants

Illen G. White wrote in $oldsymbol{\mathbb{L}}$ the book Education, p. 17, "It is the work of true education to develop this power, to train the youth to be thinkers, and not mere reflectors of other men's thought." "Growing Remnants" was the theme for the Southern New England Conference (SNEC) Children's Ministries weekend held December 9-11 at Camp Winnekeag in Ashburnham, Massachusetts.

About 100 children and their parents attended as Joshua White, an international speaker from A Thinking Generation ministry, spoke to parents and young people about the importance of limiting the use of technology and spending more time communicating with Jesus and their parents. White stressed a need for children to be outdoors and to connect with God through nature. "Parents have the awesome responsibility to act as their children's first teacher," White said. He speaks from personal experience, as he was homeschooled by his mother and did not start his formal education until he was 11 years old.

On Sabbath morning, every chair was filled with parent and child as White spoke to parents about keeping the family connected to Jesus. Young people participated in the service by reading scripture, praying, taking the morning offering, and sharing an inspiring children's story.

The Sabbath meal, prepared by Evita Wilbur and her family, members of the Florence church, included a large array of healthy foods. Later in the afternoon the children participated in several activities.

During Sabbath School, Yazmik Cantillano, member



During Sabbath School at the Southern New England Conference Children's Ministries weekend, Yazmik Cantillano discusses with the children the importance of honoring the Ten Commandments.

of the Marlboro Spanish church, discussed with the children the importance of honoring the Ten Commandments. Each child made a clay tablet reminding them of the meaning of each commandment. During the afternoon session they put the finishing touches on their tablets, so they could take them home as a reminder of what they learned.

Later in the afternoon, parents and children assembled around three tables and worked together in a math lab conducted by Nancy Smith, member of the Cumberland church in Rhode Island. Parents worked with their children as they used math manipulatives to learn about nature, outer space, and the world around them.

The evening festivities for the children were the brainstorm of Cantillano and, together with Guadalupe Montour, SNEC administrative assistant, they took the children back in time and learned what life was like for a Hebrew child. The children ate unleavened bread and fruits as part of the evening



Children participate in afternoon activities during the Children's Ministries weekend.

meal. Dreidels were available and the young children learned to play a game with them. Coins of that time period were distributed along with other goodies.

Once again, White spoke to parents and reiterated the dangers of excessive use of cell phones, computers, and video games. Children desire time with their parents, and when this happens, they receive a healthy message of love and acceptance. White's plea was that we need to start now to grow "remnants."

On Sunday morning, Marlene Alvarez, Atlantic Union Conference education associate director, gave a commission to each parent to commit their lives to Jesus so that their children will be saved in the kingdom. The participants went home with a refreshed and renewed commitment to grow healthy remnants.

Chrystine Amoah, SNEC's Children's Ministries coordinator, thanked all those who helped to make the weekend a blessing. Amoah, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, spent tireless hours and months of preparation to make the retreat a success. It is Amoah's desire that every church make their young people a priority.

—Laura Kryger, member, Cumberland church



Jerusalem Church Youth Feed the Homeless

T ave you ever done Lsomething that made you feel good?

It all started with an idea. A small group of youth at the Jerusalem church in Cranston, Rhode Island, sat in their church one Sabbath afternoon thinking about the negativity in the world. They were astounded with the pain and suffering we are facing today. "What is one negative thing we [can] change in the world?" one person asked. "One thing I can think of is giving back to the homeless population," replied another. "What can we do?" another person added. "We can help by giving out care packages during the holiday season," another person suggested.

I thought the idea of giving back to their community was enlightening. They were so concerned with the issues happening around

them, they felt the urge to do something about it. And that's what they did. They had an idea, developed a plan, and acted on it.

It was time to get the ball rolling. We informed the church and church board. With everyone's approval, we were able to begin the project process. The youth tediously worked on researching food vendors that can provide a large quantity of foods. We narrowed down our options to markets such as BJ's Wholesale Club, Restaurant Depot, and WalMart.

We gathered a variety of items and decided to target areas in Providence, Rhode Island, where there are high numbers of poverty and homelessness.

We began our volunteer service at the Providence Kennedy Plaza bus terminal and then moved north onto



Jerusalem church youth share food with the homeless in downtown Providence, Rhode Island.

Broad Street. With God's help and guidance, we were determined to serve 100 homeless people.

The lunch bags were filled with goodies. During a difficult time like the holiday season, it is hard for the homeless to find encouragement and guidance, so we decided to attach a "Bible verse key" to the lunch bags. We also provided a prayer circle for those who wanted prayer.

During this experience, I was angry and shocked to discover that the majority of homeless people in our neighborhoods are youth. When I witnessed that our young people were living in these streets, my heart dropped. I can honestly say this experience has opened my eyes to see the job that

needs to be done with our youth today. I believe we can make a difference in their lives by encouraging them to go to school, follow God, believe in themselves, give back to those in need, and live a kind-hearted life.

God is mighty and wonderful. He has taught us to love Him and our neighbors. All people were created by God and we must treat them with care and concern. I can honestly say that Sabbath afternoon was a blessing, not only to us, but to the population we served. I am proud of the community outreach our youth are doing. I pray that God will continue to lead them to where they should go.

-Rebeca Presendieu, member, Jerusalem church

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Southern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Constituency Session

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the 37th Constituency Session of the Southern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists called to convene at 9:00 a.m., Sunday, May 21, 2017, in the Southern New England Conference Pavilion, on the Southern New England Conference grounds, 34 Sawyer Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561. The purpose of this meeting is:

- 1. To receive reports.
- 2. To elect conference officers, departmental directors, an Executive Committee, a Constitution and Bylaws Committee, and an Association Board.
- 3. To consider amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of the conference.
- 4. To consider amendments to Set Fund Guidelines.
- 5. To accept new churches or disband churches as may be necessary.
- 6. To transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates. According to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Southern New England Conference, Article 3, Section 5, A1 "each Church shall be entitled to select one Delegate for the Church and one additional Delegate for each thirty-five (35) members or major fraction thereof, provided that each Church shall be entitled to select not less than two (2) Delegates."

Lunch will be provided.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the Organizing Committee will convene at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 5, 2017, in Bailey Hall, on the Southern New England Conference grounds, 34 Sawyer Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561, for the purpose of appointing members of the Nominating Committee to serve for that meeting. According to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Southern New England Conference, Article 3, Section 8A "each Church shall select, from its Delegates, one (1) representative for the Church, and one (1) additional representative for each five hundred (500) members of that Church or major fraction thereof." Lunch will be provided.

> David Dennis, President Jose Alarcon, Secretary

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Southern New England Conference Association Regular Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Regular Constituency Session of the Southern New England Conference Association, a Massachusetts corporation, is called to meet in the Southern New England Conference Pavilion, on the Southern New England Conference grounds, 34 Sawyer Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561 on Sunday, May 21, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., concurrently with the regular session of the conference.

The purpose of the meeting is to elect officers and a board of trustees, to receive reports, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates. Delegates of Southern New England Conference Constituency Session will be the delegates for the Southern New England Conference Association.

Lunch will be provided.

David M. Dennis, President Tom Murray, Secretary



Academy Students Participate in Basketball Tournament at AUC

n energy of excitement was felt on the campus of Atlantic Union College (AUC), not just because the spring semester had started, or from the light descent of snow decorating the campus, but also because AUC held a basketball tournament in which several Seventh-day Adventist high schools in the Northeast participated on January 19 and 20.

Chris Tulloch, AUC's enrollment manager, will not take credit for creating this event involving the high schools. "God was the inspiration behind it all," he says.

As enrollment manager, it is Tulloch's job to travel from one Adventist high school to the other to promote AUC's academic programs. During his travels, he noticed that there

weren't too many events bringing students from different high schools together. Through prayer and meditation, Tulloch conceived the idea of holding a basketball tournament for the high schools at AUC.

Five Atlantic Union schools were involved-Greater Boston Academy, Pine Tree Academy, Northeastern Academy, South Brooklyn Academy, and South Lancaster Academy—along with Boston Dream Academy from Dorchester, Massachusetts. In total, 118 students participated six men's basketball teams and four women's basketball teams.

The games were a success. Students, alumni, and members of the community filled



Northeastern Academy's men's basketball team hold the trophy for winning the men's championship, and supporting them are Jerrell Gilkeson, Atlantic Union Conference education director, left; and Chris Tulloch, Atlantic Union College's enrollment manager, right.



Pine Tree Academy's women's basketball team hold the trophy for winning the women's championship, and supporting them are Jerrell Gilkeson, Atlantic Union Conference education director; back left, and Chris Tulloch, Atlantic Union College's enrollment manager, back right,

the seats to watch the teams compete and offer cheers and encouragement. In the end, Northeastern Academy's men's basketball team won the men's championship and Pine Tree Academy's women's basketball team won the women's championship.

The real victory was that the students from different high schools got to meet each other, some for the first time. Many of them made new friends and bonded through the games. Prayer was always emphasized at

the beginning and end of the games. The evenings were spent in fellowship, singing, and prayer.

Plans are already in progress to continue and expand the tournament for next year. Atlantic Union College looks forward to helping strengthen the bond between young people.

-Emmanuel Ortiz, communication manager, Atlantic Union College

ALUMNI HOMECOMING WEEKEND

April 27-30, 2017

Thursday, April 27

7:00-9:00 p.m.:

Registration, Meet and Greet Chan Shun Dining Commons

Friday, April 28

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.:

Alumni Choir Rehearsal

College Church 1:30-4:00 p.m.:

Seminars

7:00-9:00 p.m.:

Vespers – College Church

Saturday, April 29

College Church

Song Service/Sabbath School

9:15 a.m.:

11:00 a.m.:

Worship Service

Chan Shun Dining Commons

1:00 p.m.: 3:00 p.m.: Lunch Updates

College Church

5:00 p.m.:

Musical

Sunday, April 30

Sunday Brunch/Alumni Meetings

10:00 a.m.:

3:00 p.m.:

Thayer Hall VIP Reception/Fundraiser Chan Shun Dining Commons

For more information, contact Emmanuel Ortiz at (978) 368-2254 or emmanuel.ortiz@auc.edu.

To view the weekend full schedule, visit: auc.edu/alumni.



ASI Atlantic Union Spring Conference

Almost Home

Almost Home

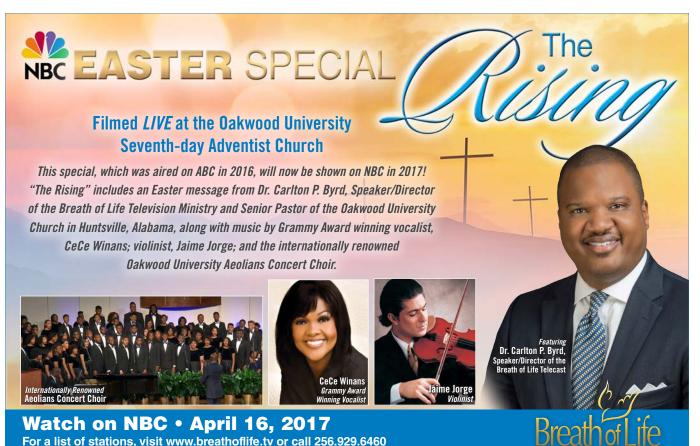
April 7-9, 2017

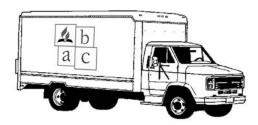
With Featured Speaker Andre Waller at the Hilton Mystic Hotel, Mystic, Connecticut

For more information, visit asiatlanticunion.org









New England Adventist Book Center® 2017 Spring Bookmobile/Delivery Schedule

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

Sunday, Mar. 5 - Orders due by Feb. 27 - Delivery Only

9:30 - 10:00 a.m. Danbury-Bethel Church, Bethel, CT 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Laurel Oaks School, Hamden, CT 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Omega Church, New Haven CT 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Waterbury Spanish Church, Waterbury, CT

Sabbath, Mar. 11 - Go to Grow Weekend! - Orders due by

Mar. 6 – Delivery Only

After Sunset Rome Church, Rome NY

Sunday, Mar. 12 - Go to Grow Weekend! - Orders due by

Mar. 6 – Full Set up and Delivery

1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Rochester Genessee Park Church Rochester, NY

Friday - Sunday, Mar. 24-26 SNEC Spanish Women's Retreat, Waltham, MA

Thursday - Sunday, Mar. 30 - Apr. 2 Pine Tree Academy Music Clinic & Open House Freeport, ME

12:00 - 6:00 p.m. Thursday, Mar. 30 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Friday, Mar. 31 After the Concert Saturday, Apr. 1 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Sunday, Apr. 2

Sunday, Apr. 2 - Southern New England ABC Spring **Open House**

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. 34 Sawyer St., South Lancaster, MA 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. 11 Gerry St., Stoneham, MA

Sabbath, Apr. 8 - Go to Grow! - Orders due by Apr. 3

Full Set up and Delivery

After Sunset Westvale Church, Syracuse, NY

Sunday, Apr. 9 - Orders due by Apr. 3 - Delivery Only

9:30 - 10:00 a.m. Fulton Church, Fulton, NY 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Watertown Church, Watertown, NY 1:00 - 1:30 p.m. Natural Bridge Church, Natural Bridge, NY 3:00 - 3:30 p.m. Canton Church, Canton, NY 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. High Banks Church, Saranac, NY

Sunday, Apr. 16 - Orders due by Apr. 10 - Delivery Only

9:30 - 10:00 a.m. Bennington Church, Bennington, VT 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Rutland Church, Rutland, VT Morrisville Church, Morrisville, VT 3:00 - 3:30 p.m. 4:30 - 5:00 p.m. St. Johnsbury, VT 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. South Newbury, VT

Sunday, Apr. 23 - Orders due by Apr. 17 - Delivery Only

1:30 - 2:00 p.m. Lincoln Church, Lincoln, ME 3:30 - 4:00 p.m. Oakfield Church, Oakfield, ME 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. Presque Isle Church, Presque Isle, ME

Monday, Apr. 24 – Orders due by Apr. 17 – Delivery Only

12:00 - 12:30 p.m. Calais Church, Calais, ME

Sunday, Apr. 30 - Orders due by Apr. 24 - Delivery Only

10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Laurel Oaks School, Hamden, CT 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Omega Church, New Haven CT 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Waterbury Spanish Church, Waterbury, CT 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. Hope Church, Bloomfield, CT

Wednesday, May 10 - Orders due by May 8 - Delivery Only

4:30 - 5:00 p.m. Saratoga Springs Church, Saratoga Springs, NY 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. Greater Albany Church, Cohoes, NY

Friday, May 12 - Orders due by May 8 - Delivery Only

11:00 - 11:30 a.m. Olean Church, Olean, NY 1:30 - 2:00 p.m. Curriers Church, Arcade, NY

Saturday, May 13 - Buffalo Lay Training Institute

Full Set up and Delivery

After Sunset Buffalo Suburban Church, Lancaster, NY

Sunday, May 14 - Orders due by May 8 - Delivery Only

9:00 - 9:30 a.m. Erie Church, Erie, PA 11:00 - 11:30 a.m. Jamestown Church, Jamestown, NY 1:00 - 1:30 p.m. Perrysburg Church, Perrysburg, NY 3:30 - 4:00 p.m. Batavia Church, Batavia, NY

Call 1.800.435.0008 to place your order!





Sunset Table				Daylight Savings Time
April 2017	7	14	21	28
Bangor, ME	7:11	7:20	7:29	7:38
Portland, ME	7:16	7:24	7:33	7:41
Boston, MA	7:18	7:26	7:34	7:41
South Lancaster, MA	7:20	7:28	7:36	7:44
Pittsfield, MA	7:27	7:35	7:42	7:50
Hartford, CT	7:24	7:31	7:39	7:47
Providence, RI	7:19	7:26	7:34	7:42
New York, NY	7:28	7:35	7:42	7:50
Albany, NY	7:27	7:35	7:43	7:51
Utica, NY	7:35	7:43	7:52	8:00
Syracuse, NY	7:39	7:47	7:55	8:03
Rochester, NY	7:45	7:53	8:01	8:09
Buffalo, NY	7:49	7:57	8:05	8:13
Hamilton, Bda	7:42	7:47	7:52	7:57

ATLANTIC UNION

ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE Atlantic Union College presents Royal Etiquette for God's Chosen, Mar. 23 at 6:00 p.m. in the Banquet Room at the back of Chan Shun Dining Commons, with speaker Telaine Buisson, pastor, and moderated by Avis D. Hendrickson, Atlantic Union College president. This event is part of the Presidential Lecture Series. Donations: General \$25.00; Seniors \$20.00; Students \$15.00. For additional information regarding this seminar, please contact Emmanuel Ortiz at (978) 368-2254 or emmanuel. ortiz@auc.edu.

Come join Us! Northeast Family Retreat, May 25-28 at the Kingsbury Seventhday Adventist Church in Hudson Falls, N.Y. Be energized and gain direction for your family purpose and personal walk. Messages will center on the theme: "Truth Will Triumph," on 2 Corinthians 2:14. To register, visit: www.restoration-international.org/ nefr, call: (518) 866-9962, or e-mail:

OUT OF UNION

nehost@rifamilyretreat.org.

Okanagan Adventist Academy-100th Anniversary Centennial Celebration— Calling all alumni, teachers, students, and staff (anyone who ever attend or was otherwise involved) to join us June 30-July 2. Go to www.okaa.ca click on 'Alumni' to register for the weekend, Sabbath lunch, and to reserve an OKA(A) history book. For questions please e-mail okaaalumni@shaw.ca.

110th John Nevins Andrews School Anniversary Celebration—Apr. 1 at Takoma Park church and at JNA, 117 Elm Ave., Takoma Park, MD. Registration: 10:00 a.m.; worship service 11:15 a.m.; fellowship luncheon: 2:30 p.m.; class reunions, JNA school tours, 4:30 p.m. Musical concert and JNA memories, light supper, alumni basketball game. RSVP mrevollo@jna. org, (301) 270-1400. Last homecoming and alumni celebration before school closes and moves to the new Takoma Academy Preparatory School site. More info to come on Facebook: John Nevins Andrews School Alumni and Friends



Announcing Union Springs Academy's 4th Annual Campus Renovation

WHEN? July 2-14, 2017

WHERE? Located at 40 Spring Street, Union Springs, NY

WHAT? A two-week renovation operation where volunteers will work together to renovate and improve the

campus of Union Springs Academy.

WHO? Maranatha Volunteers International will be leading the team of volunteers, joined by USA alumni, and

anyone with a willing heart and hands!

To register to volunteer or donate to our projects please visit unionspringscademy.org or call 315-889-7314.





ANNOUNCING TO ALL Union Springs Academy Alumni

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ALUMNI HOMECOMING WEEKEND

May 5-7, 2017

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1962 ~ 55 Year Class	1992 ~ 25 Year Class
1967 ~ 50 Year Class	1997 ~ 20 Year Class
1972 ~ 45 Year Class	2002 ~ 15 Year Class
1977 ~ 40 Year Class	2007 ~ 10 Year Class
1982 ~ 35 Year Class	2012 ~ 5 Year Class

For more information about alumni weekend, visit unionspringsacademy.org or check out Union Springs Academy Alumni on Facebook.

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All advertisements should be sent, together with payment, to your local conference office for approval by the communication director. For advertisements originating within the Atlantic Union the rate is \$35 for each insertion of 40 words or less, and 50 cents for each additional word. For all other advertisements the rate is \$40 for each insertion of 40 words or less and 50 cents for each word over the 40. There is an 80-word maximum. Check or money order should be made payable to Atlantic Union GLEANER or Atlantic Union Conference.

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GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST'S OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

is seeking a law student for an 8-10 week summer clerkship. This position is not a full-time, hire-track position and is best suited for 1Ls. Duties include legal research and other projects, emphasis is on religious liberty and First Amendment work. Must be Adventist church member. Interview and/or relocation expenses will be applicant's responsibility. Send résumé, writing sample, and transcript to Jennifer Woods at WoodsJ@gc.adventist.org.

FIVE COLLEGE FARMS, an Adventistowned and operated organic farm in Hadley, Mass., seeks General Laborers. Farm experience is a plus. Help a growing community of committed workers develop sustainable industry in the Pioneer Valley. Visit fivecollegefarms. com to apply, or e-mail info@ fivecollegefarms.com for inquiries. Find us on Facebook and Instagram.

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SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S NURSING DEPARTMENT seeks a full-time nurse educator. Doctorate desired; M.S.N. considered. Experience in mental health, medical/surgical or pediatrics preferred. Must enjoy working with young people who are excited about service. Must have, or be able to obtain, an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Send CV and cover letter to Dr. Amy Rosenthal (arosenthal@swau.edu).

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