

ATLANTIC UNION

# GLEANER

JULY/AUGUST 2022

## How the Church Operates

JESUS IS THE ANSWER

ACADEMY STUDENTS  
RECOGNIZED FOR SERVING  
THEIR COMMUNITIES

CELEBRATING 140 YEARS OF  
ADVENTIST EDUCATION AT  
SOUTH LANCASTER ACADEMY

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# Anchored in Christ

*“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me”—John 17:20, 21 (NIV).*

**T**hese words of Jesus in the heart of His farewell address looked beyond the cross toward the future that the apostles were going to face after the death of Jesus Christ. They also refer to the mission of the church and express what is needed for the success of the church even today.

**Jesus prayed for His disciples.** We have the assurance that our Savior continues to pray for us. Knowing that Jesus is praying for us gives us the strength to carry on in times of difficult challenges.

**Jesus prayed for those who will believe in Him through the work and preaching of His apostles.** Each generation of church members and leaders is trusted with the sacred duty to continue the mission of the church to “go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”—Matthew 28:19 (NIV).

The imperative of mission and evangelism has kept the Atlantic Union Conference growing for 121 years. The mission is still the same in 2022. We may utilize different approaches and adjust the methodologies of evangelism to the times, but the mission is still the same. The message remains the same, and the foundation upon whom the church is built is immovable. “For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ”—1 Corinthians 3:11 (NIV). “The church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord; she is his new creation by water and the Word. From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride; with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.”—Stone, S.J. (1866), *The Church Has One Foundation*, Retrieved June 13, 2022, <https://sdahymnals.com/Hymnal/348-the-church-has-one-foundation>.

**Jesus prayed for his disciples to be one, united.** This unity, not to be confused with uniformity, encompasses

unity of mission, purpose, and destiny. I still remember when I was a little boy in the Pathfinder club repeating the Pathfinder aim: “The Advent Message to all the world in my generation.” This aim remains the same for this generation of youth, young adults, and older Adventists living in 2022. We—members, pastors, teachers, directors, and administrators—are agents of hope in this continuum of believers who are united to go and share with the world the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord. This sacred bond and legacy of mission, purpose, and hope binds us together with all generations of leaders who labored with the aim to preach “the Advent Message in my generation.”

**Jesus prayed that a result of our unity is that the world will believe that the Father has sent Him.** If we are sent by God, it means that we are ambassadors. As such, we do not bring our own message. We carry the message of the One who sent us. Our message to the world must be the Word of God and not our own word. The power that will transform the world is in the Word of the living God. As ambassadors, we are accountable to the One who has commissioned us.

Each generation is called upon to remain anchored in Christ, the solid Rock, and, at the same time, to build on what has been accomplished before and make a difference for the good of the church. A lot has been accomplished in the history of the Atlantic Union Conference, and there is still much more to be achieved. May God help this generation of leaders and members to be united so we can accomplish our mission and fulfill our responsibilities faithfully and with dignity and honor. ①

*Pierre E. Omeler is president of the Atlantic Union Conference and chairman of the Atlantic Union College Corporation.*



*“Knowing that Jesus is praying for us gives us the strength to carry on in times of difficult challenges.”*

# How the Church Operates

**F**irst and foremost, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is a spiritual movement with a focus on hastening the coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and preparing people to meet Him. The Seventh-day Adventist Church is also an organized community of believers from around the world.

With more than 21 million people as members, the church has a system of organization based on five levels: the local church, the local conference, the union conference, the division, and the General Conference. Each level of the church has the same overall mission but functions differently in carrying out the mission.

The Adventist Church has a representative form of government. Church members at each level are part of a constituency—a group of voters representing a specified region who address church business, elect representatives, and have ultimate say in who leads the church. The church business meetings, or constituency sessions, typically occur every four years (quadrennium) or five years (quinquennium).

On August 14, 2022, designated delegates representing church members from around the Atlantic Union Conference territory will meet in Boxborough, Massachusetts, for the 31<sup>st</sup> Regular Atlantic Union Conference Constituency Session. The coronavirus pandemic and its resulting restrictions, lockdowns, and general health

concerns prompted the postponement of many constituency sessions—from the General Conference down to the local conference.

The Atlantic Union Conference Constituency Session, which is usually held every five years, was scheduled to convene in June 2021, but was also postponed due to the pandemic. Thus, 2022 is an unusual year in that the Atlantic Union Constituency Session takes place in the same year as the 61<sup>st</sup> General Conference Session, as well as several conference sessions.

## How Are Delegates Selected?

The Atlantic Union Conference is made up of six local conferences: Bermuda, Greater New York, New York, Northeastern, Northern New England, and Southern New England. Each local conference is represented by one delegate “without regard to conference membership,” plus one additional delegate for each 250 “church members or major fractions thereof,” based on the total membership of the church as reported at the end of the fourth quarter of the previous year, or in this case, December 31, 2021.

The executive committee from each local conference chooses the delegates and must adhere to guidelines established in the Atlantic Union Conference Constitution and Bylaws to ensure a diverse representation, “including women, youth, and repre-

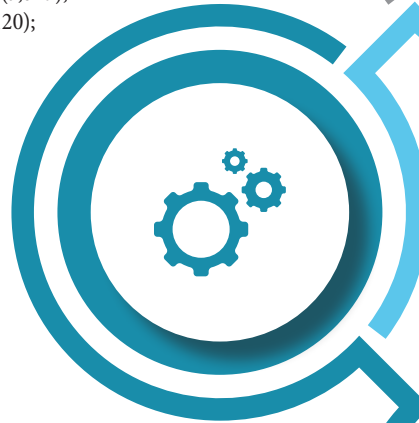


### THE LOCAL CHURCH

In the chain of church organization, the local church is the most important. It is here that fellowship, friendship, caring, worship, sharing the good news about Jesus, and making a difference in the community takes place. The concentrated effort of all levels of the church organization is focused on a growing, vibrant church community. There are 604 churches and 97 companies/missions in the Atlantic Union territory (as of December 31, 2021).

### THE LOCAL CONFERENCE

State and area conferences are made up of a number of churches in their territory with the purpose of facilitating, strengthening, and coordinating the work of the church. The local conference headquarters serves as an administrative and departmental resource for the local churches. There are six conferences in the Atlantic Union: Bermuda (3,937 members); Greater New York (32,576); New York (6,032); Northeastern (61,081); Northern New England (5,327); and Southern New England (20,120); (membership statistics as of December 31, 2021).



### THE UNION CONFERENCE

Union conferences are the third level of church organization which are made up of the local conferences within their territory. The union's primary work is administrative and financial, focusing on education, youth, religious liberty, legal issues, language groups, and trust services. Unions coordinate and unify the emphasis of mission among the conferences. Planning for accountability and binding the efforts of the church together are the union's main functions.

### THE DIVISION

The World Church is divided into divisions—the next level of church organization. The North American Division, one of 13 divisions, of the Adventist Church, has oversight for all the churches, conferences, and unions in the United States, Bermuda, Canada, Guam, and Micronesia. It has the responsibility of coordinating the division's mission projects, evangelistic efforts, and health and educational institutions. The North American Division has 1,267,711 church members in its territory comprised of nine unions and one mission (as of June 30, 2021).



There are 129,073 members within the Atlantic Union territory (as of December 31, 2021). The Atlantic Union is the fourth largest of the nine unions in the North American Division.



### THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

The General Conference world headquarters of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is made up of 13 divisions and attached fields with a total membership of 21,852,721 and 93,928 churches (as of June 30, 2021).

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“Those who stand in positions of leadership ‘will have to wrestle with difficulties, carry burdens, give advice, plan and execute, constantly looking to God for help.’ ”

—GOSPEL WORKERS, p. 417

sentatives of major ethnic groups.” In addition, at least one-half of the delegates must be laypersons, or people not employed by the denomination, and approximately half of those persons must be women.

Some of those who attend the session are “delegates-at-large.” These persons have all the rights and privileges of regular delegates but make up a small percentage of the total number of delegates. Delegates-at-large may be members of the Atlantic Union Conference Executive Committee, Atlantic Union Conference Association or Constitution and Bylaws Committee; members of the General Conference and North American Division executive committees; and staff of the Atlantic Union Conference and its institutions.

### What Happens at a Constituency Session?

The delegates will receive reports from union leaders for the past six years ending December 31, 2021, and conduct additional church business, including electing officers, departmental directors, and an executive committee and a constitution and bylaws committee. The session is also an opportunity to discuss any changes made to the union constitution and bylaws. Delegates will also vote on these proposed changes.

Another way of looking at a constituency session is that it is also a time to praise God and give Him thanks as we celebrate accomplishments and highlights from various ministries, department activities and events, evangelism, and more.


### How Are Individuals Selected to Serve in Leadership Positions?

During the constituency session, the delegates select an Organizing

Committee that selects a Nominating Committee and other committees as may be necessary. The Nominating Committee prepares a list of individuals to serve as officers and departmental directors for the next term of office in the Atlantic Union Conference. The committee convenes in an area separate from the constituency session to discuss the nominees. They later return to the session to recommend the names to the delegates who in turn discuss and bring the names to a vote.

The days and times in which we are living call for men and women in positions of leadership to faithfully carry forward the work. The Atlantic Union Conference serves to support and facilitate our six conferences and institutions in reaching all people with the Adventist Christ-centered message of hope and wholeness. Those who stand in positions of leadership “will have to wrestle with difficulties, carry burdens, give advice, plan and execute, constantly looking to God for help,” — GOSPEL WORKERS, p. 417.

### 10 Days of Prayer

Prior to the 31<sup>st</sup> Atlantic Union Constituency Session, we invite you to join us for 10 Days of Prayer from August 4 to August 13. Each day at 7:15 p.m., join the Atlantic Union Conference Prayer Ministries Department on Zoom to pray for the upcoming session and for God’s Spirit to lead each decision. On Zoom, use the Meeting ID: 950 4037 5162 and Passcode: 205302. 

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*Debra Banks Cuadro is the assistant communication director for the Atlantic Union Conference.*

By Marlene Alvarez

## Jesus is the Answer

Something is not right in the world. A pandemic, earthquakes, hurricanes, wars, hunger, homelessness, mass shootings, gun violence, abductions, murders, rapes, and kidnappings are just some of the results of the virus of sin. Everyone is stressed over those problems, even our children. When will it all end? Where is God? Does He care? Is there an answer?

God is here, and He cares! He is the answer. The promise and hope found in Psalms 46:1 (NKJV), “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble,” is as true today as it was when it was written. God’s Word reminds us to “Trust in the Lord with

course of study. It has to do with the whole person, and with the whole period of existence possible to human beings. It is the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers. The source of such an education is brought to view in these inspired words that point to the Infinite One: In Him ‘are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.’ Col. 2:3”—TRUE EDUCATION, p. 9.

In the midst of the challenges our institutions face today, the answer is still to follow the blueprint given by God, to do our part, and place our trust in Him. In 1903, Ellen White, in the book EDUCATION, p. 13, reminds

both in big and small ways, from early childhood to grade 12, that their purpose is to go on missions for God wherever He leads them.

- Inspire them to be ready. Ready or not, Jesus is coming. Each day through encounters with Jesus, teachers will inspire their students to fall in love with Jesus and develop a relationship with Him.

The delivery has changed (we have traded our chalkboard for a Smartboard, a notebook for a laptop), but the goal remains the same. Adventist education through Bible-based values endeavors to prepare children for this world and the world to come. “Education is not a tool for development—individual, community, and the nation. It is the foundation for our future. It is an empowerment to make choices and emboldens the youth to chase their dreams,” says Nita Ambani, an Indian philanthropist ([www.brainyquote.com/quotes/nita\\_ambani\\_641632](http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/nita_ambani_641632)).

Amid uncertainties, fears, and chaos, Jesus is still the answer. Amid the storm, Adventist education is still the light on the hill that points children in the right direction. “Adventist education is one of the most effective ways to prepare young people for the second coming of Christ”—HOW TO KILL ADVENTIST EDUCATION (AND HOW TO GIVE IT A FIGHTING CHANCE!), p. 12. ①

*Marlene Alvarez is the Atlantic Union Conference interim director of education, early childhood education, and children’s ministries.*

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**“In the midst of the challenges our institutions face today, the answer is still to follow the blueprint given by God, to do our part, and place our trust in Him.”**

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all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths”—Proverbs 3:5, 6 (NKJV). We can trust His promises. He never lets us down.

The answer for our sick world and our hurting children is found in Jesus. His answer tells us that we don’t have to fear. In the war against violence and sin, He is with us, and He has given us tools to defeat the enemy. Education is one of the tools that equips our children, keeps them safe, and leads them to victory by preparing them for now and for eternity. “True education means more than pursuing a certain

us that education is the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual. With those thoughts in mind, the goal of Adventist education in the Atlantic Union is to:

- Train our children to lead by utilizing best practices and new technologies that engage them and prepare them for the changing world.
- Empower them to serve by instilling in their hearts the love of God and the love for mankind, leading them in activities that reach their local community and the world at large. Remind them

# Academy Students Recognized for Serving Their Communities

**E**ight students from academies across the Atlantic Union Conference received the 2022 Caring Heart Award. This award was established to recognize students attending Adventist academies who have “demonstrated a personal commitment to active participatory service and witnessing activities and programs.” Each recipient receives a scholarship award of \$500 and a plaque. Congratulations to this year’s recipients.



**Alera Dore** is a senior at Bermuda Institute. She currently serves as the Student Association president. She has the ability

to marshal her peers into getting projects done. Alera epitomizes caring. One example was when a classmate had nowhere to stay because her guardian had to travel overseas for surgery. Alera volunteered to have her classmate spend a month at her home while her guardian recuperated.

Alera knows the importance of service and giving back to her community. She volunteered as a product distributor and a marshal in the PGA Tour held at Port Royal, Bermuda, every year from 2019 to 2021. Alera also finds ways to show her kindness to her classmates and fellow students.

Alera loves children. She worked in summer camps and as a babysitter. She aspires to study child psychology and become an early childhood educator. She is a compassionate individual who knows how to get things done.



**Jenice Rodriguez** is a senior at Greater New York Academy. She is an outgoing and adventurous person who explores every

possible option of sharing kindness with others.

She purposed in her heart to meet her spiritual goal to help others with their spiritual struggles. As a result, she shares her testimonies of how she overcame by the power of God.

Jenice intends to pursue a career as a veterinarian or zoologist. She had many household pets while growing up, and she wants to care for and help animals that are suffering. She believes that, in doing so, she can make a real difference.

Her contributions to society include paying special attention to the Explorer Class and Youth Ministries department at her church, which carries out multiple outreach initiatives under her guidance and support. She is also the leader of the baking club at her school. Jenice is a dedicated young Christian who

intends to give God her best in every way possible.



**Marinela Cruz** is a senior at Northeastern Academy, where she currently serves as the student council vice president,

senior class president, and National Honor Society president.

Marinela enjoys reading, drawing, and playing the violin. She also enjoys challenges where she can use her problem-solving skills to better herself and those around her. Starting with an early interest in technology and computing, she wishes to pursue a degree in computer science at Southern Adventist University, where she plans to continue her studies in the summer of 2022.

Marinela places special importance on her relationship with God. She lives by the principle of doing her best in life. She hopes to succeed, not only in her earthly life, but in securing eternal life.



**Elyana Serenity Jarvis** is a senior at the Northeastern Academy Boston Campus, where she has maintained

a cumulative GPA of 3.8 and has taken several advanced placement and advanced classes. She is also a member of the Northeastern Academy chapter of the National Honor Society. After her graduation in June 2022, Elyana plans to attend Oakwood University and major in Finance.

Having performed in numerous choirs, praise teams, and musical groups, Elyana has devoted herself to her passions: singing and musical knowledge. She prides herself on being a hard worker, compassionate Christian, and genuine individual as she strives to do her best and make positive impacts in the lives of everyone she meets.



**Abigayle Stearman**, a senior at Pine Tree Academy (PTA), regularly volunteers at the Brunswick church where

she worships. Every month she helps in the church supply pantry, preparing and then delivering bags containing toiletries, non-perishable food, and fruit for individuals in the community who are in need. She volunteers at the community services center when she is able.

Abigayle also participates in a church Christmas program called “The Greatest Gift.” This annual program shares with hundreds of attendees the story of Jesus coming to this world. She has volunteered in the

kindergarten department of her church as well.



**Shane Nolan** is a senior at South Brooklyn Academy who is going to college to pursue his dream of becoming an

engineer and a computer science professional. As a child, his mind was always filled with so many ideas that he would draw them out or build small-scale models.

He is a creative art student who, for his final semester, made two 2D animation projects called, “The Last Hand Sanitizer” and “PSA Smoking.” His determination led him to be a part of the National Honor Society with the highest honor.

Shane’s dream is to become CEO/founder of his future company called “Beyond.” He made a book titled “HAND BOOK 1.” In this document, he drew prototypes of future models that he desires to make a reality within his company. Shane wants to utilize his future innovations to benefit the world and revolutionize the state of technology.



**Nathan Neidigh** is a junior at South Lancaster Academy (SLA), which he has attended since the fourth grade. He volunteers

at Camp Sunrise, the summer day camp at SLA, and is a conscientious caregiver for the children. He enjoys assisting with the audiovisual system at the College Church in Lancaster, Massachusetts, and volunteers for the Greater Lancaster Holiday Food

Drive each year. He spends countless hours providing computer support for the school and helped set up security and Ethernet connectivity, saving thousands of dollars for SLA.

Nathan is also an active leader and has held many offices in his high school career—class vice president, class treasurer, vice president of the school’s chapter of the National Honor Society, captain of the cross country team, and captain of the First Tech Challenge robotics team. He plays the trombone in the New England Youth Ensemble and the Atlantic Wind Symphony. Nathan plans to become an engineer and looks forward to seeing how he can use his skills to help others.



**Josue Escriban** has served an integral role in the musical life of Union Springs Academy. His warm, deep voice can be heard in

the choir, on praise teams, during special music, and in the hallways of the administration building. An accomplished oboist and saxophonist, he has played in church, the band, and at every special event requiring musical talent.

Running deeper than his love of music is his love for God. Josue is planning to enter pastoral ministry. His relationship with Jesus can be seen in how he treats everyone around him with respect and dignity while still holding to Bible standards. He embodies the loving, respectful attributes of Jesus. He has spoken for church and worship services, served diligently in campus ministry, and inspired his peers to take an active role in the spiritual leadership of the school.

## Everything Will be Alright, Todo Va Estar Bien

“A great opportunity to preach the good news; . . . a platform for the fostering of a culture of evangelism,” this was the reflection of Bledi Leno, Greater New York Conference (GNYC) Multi-Ethnic Ministries director, about the May 21-28 conference-wide evangelistic series hosted by the Greater New York Conference at the Philadelphia church in Bronx, New York. The theme for the series was “Everything Will Be Alright,” with Henry Beras, Greater New York Conference president, as the evangelist for the meeting.

Over the week, GNYC, along with their five ministry sectors: English, Spanish, Korean, Haitian, and Multi-Ethnic, led a significant mission effort that saw more than 75 individuals baptized across the conference and more than 50 individuals in participating countries. Among those were the Dominican Republic and Mexico.

As the evangelistic series began, organizers felt an overwhelming sense that



The media team that worked behind the scenes of the “Everything Will Be Alright” evangelistic series at Philadelphia church in Bronx, New York, pause for a photo.

they were on the brink of something special. As they look back on the hand of the Lord, maybe something special can be traced to many unique features that were present.

First is the season and context in which this evangelistic series was conducted. Among those are the real implications of COVID-19, the safety considerations and travel logistics for individuals in attendance, and managing the live broadcast for the virtual audience. This was also the first conference-wide series in more than three years.

Beras indicated that they held the evangelistic

series now because “the proclamation of the gospel of Christ is something that we must never cease to do.” But more importantly, he noted that “Though the pandemic has created much desperation and challenges in families and countries across the world, the message of the gospel of Christ must never be seen as a part of the problem or burden, but the solution.”

This context gives reason for the unique approach to this evangelistic series. Beras shared that he felt directed to speak to the harsh realities of the people. It was essential to “think about all the individuals who have lost so many family members, [or those who have] lost jobs. People must be reminded that, in God, everything will be alright.”

“The messages were packaged and presented to capture the most complex theological and salvific concepts in ways that a child could relate,” Earl Baldwin, evangelist and Philadelphia church pastor, said.

Alanzo Smith, Greater New York Conference executive secretary, said, “Dr. Beras was on point in

discussing the stories of the Bible and relating them to practical everyday issues of life. It is interesting to see how the challenges and struggles of God’s people today are like those of biblical times. To challenge your listeners to trust God, no matter what, and to believe that He will make everything all right, is a daunting task, especially in these uncertain times. With genuine passion, the preacher touched hearts with hope and healing.”

One of the most notable ministry features throughout the series was the broad ethnic reach of individuals who participated across the conference. Indeed, this evangelistic series embodied the distinctive characteristic that gives this conference its “Greater” effect.

Each night, individuals representing varying ethnic and cultural backgrounds joined hands and hearts to spread the gospel. They prayed, ministered, and rejoiced in their language, and shared the gospel in their ministry sectors and communities.

Strength in diversity was personified in the praise team that ministered throughout the week. The group was comprised of individuals from Kenya, Ukraine, Dominican Republic, Haiti, and the United States. Beras noted, “This was not by accident. The administration was intentional in communicating that it doesn’t matter the language or differences, but that we are a part of one great family, the family of God.”



Pictured are Greater New York Conference ministry leaders who worked together to ensure a successful evangelistic series.”



The praise team ministers to the in-person and online viewers during the “Everything Will Be Alright” evangelistic series.

“Our diversity is a key factor in our strength.” It is this idea that Manuel Rosario, GNYC Personal Ministries director, noted that he was “impressed to see firsthand what the Holy Spirit can do when we come together as one body. I felt the presence of God in each one of the services and features of the program.”

Another unique element of this evangelistic series was the dynamics of the preacher-interpreter concept. During the series, Beras spoke in his native tongue

while Camil Carvajal, a church member, interpreted. An evangelistic series of this nature provided much insight into greater possibilities. “This was not just a novel experience but a new blueprint for future evangelistic ventures,” Baldwin said. According to Bancroft Daughma, GNYC English Ministries director, these factors led to a “consistent energy and support of the people throughout the week.”

Regarding approaching a major evangelistic series

in such a difficult time, Beras noted that initially, he was reluctant to accept the assignment from the evangelism committee. After much prayer and consideration, he felt the need, as GNYC’s chief servant, to lead the way in rekindling the flame of evangelism in New York City. “This was an excellent opportunity for every pastor, member, missionary, and administrator to get involved in the work of evangelism. Regardless of our responsibilities, we must never forget to remind the people of the soon coming of the Lord and that by the grace of God, ‘Everything Will Be Alright, Toda Va Estar Bien.’ ”

Whether it was diversity, the musical gifts presented, the powerful and relevant preaching of the gospel,

or sharing with the many baptized individuals, this evangelistic experience was indeed a blessing. And maybe, just maybe, this was the reminder they all needed in a world of great confusion, crime, violence, hate, senseless killings, and ongoing suffering that in Christ, everything will be alright.

This hope prevails in the timeless counsel of Ellen White, “The more you trust your Redeemer, the more you will love Him. . . . Jesus knows every throb of pain, every throe of anguish and distress, and He will give His children grace to endure the afflictions that He permits to come upon them”—SIGNS OF THE TIMES, February 28, 1906.

—Clavour R. Tucker, communication director, Greater New York Conference

**OFFICIAL NOTICE**

**Greater New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the fourth regular quadrennial and fifty-seventh regular Constituency Session of the Greater New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at 9:00 a.m. (registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.) on Sunday, October 23, 2022, at Camp Berkshire, 680-1 Berkshire Road, Wingdale, NY, 12594.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect officers and departmental directors and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

Each church is entitled to one delegate for the organization, and one for every 75 members. Each church is entitled to elect alternate delegates who may be seated at the Conference Session in place of any regular delegate not present. (Article III, Section 2:1, 2)

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a meeting of the Organizing Committee is being called for Saturday evening, October 2, 2022, at 8:30 p.m., at North Bronx Seventh-day Adventist Church, 3743 Bronxwood Avenue, Bronx, NY 10469. All members of the Organizing Committee should plan to be present.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a meeting of the Nominating Committee is being called for Sunday morning, October 16, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., at the Greater New York Conference Office, 7 Shelter Rock Road, Manhasset, NY 11030.

Henry Beras, President  
Alanzo H. Smith, Secretary

**OFFICIAL NOTICE**

**Greater New York Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the fourth regular quadrennial and fifty-seventh regular meeting of the Greater New York Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in conjunction with the fifty-seventh regular Constituency Session (fourth regular quadrennial) convening at 9:00 a.m., on Sunday, October 23, 2022, (registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.) at Camp Berkshire, 680-1 Berkshire Road, Wingdale, NY, 12594. The delegates to the fourth regular quadrennial session of the Conference are also delegates to the fourth regular quadrennial session of the Greater New York Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists.

The purpose of the meeting is to elect a board of trustees for the coming quadrennial period, to receive reports, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

Henry Beras, President  
Lloyd Scharffenberg, Secretary

**OFFICIAL NOTICE**

**Adventist Home Inc.**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the regular quadrennial meeting of the Adventist Home Inc. will be held in conjunction with the fifty-seventh regular Constituency Session (fourth regular quadrennial) of Greater New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists convening at 9:00 a.m., on Sunday, October 23, 2022, (registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.) at Camp Berkshire, 680-1 Berkshire Road, Wingdale, NY, 12594. The delegates to the fourth regular quadrennial session of the Conference are also delegates to the fourth regular quadrennial session of the Adventist Home Inc.

The purpose of the meeting is to receive reports and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

Henry Beras, President  
Claude Morgan, Secretary

## USA Celebrates its Annual Passion Play

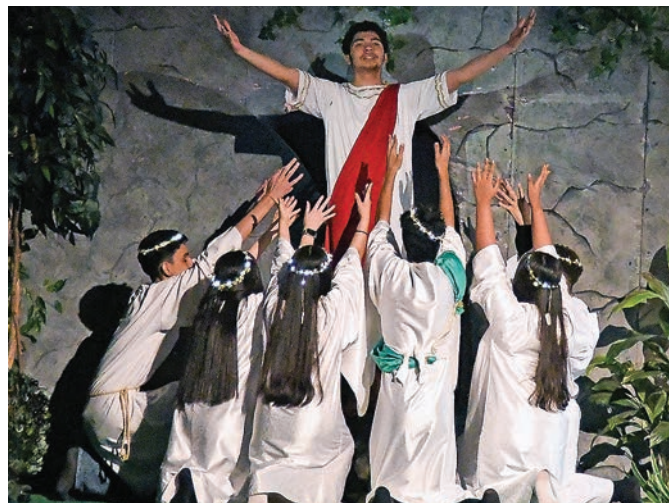
Union Springs Academy (USA) in Union Springs, New York, celebrated its annual Passion Play musical. The Passion Play is a great representation of the people who surrounded Christ during the hours of His prayer at the Garden of Gethsemane and the process that led to His crucifixion and resurrection.

“The Passion Play has continued to be the spiritual highlight of our spring semester for nearly 30 years,” said Jeremy Garlock, USA principal. “This year, we were blessed to experience the Passion Play with biological and church families, [and] our many community members who watched the play for the first time. It was a pleasure to see God fulfill His promise that when we lift Jesus up, He will draw all men unto himself.” The Lord’s mercies and the dedication of the staff and students alike made this year’s Passion Play, showcased on April 15 and 16, a special event because of the turmoil that COVID-19 has caused over the past couple of years.

Thomas Dunham, Passion Play director, history teacher, and vice principal at USA,

said, “It was a privilege and a pleasure to work with all of our students and staff on Union Springs Academy’s Passion Play 2022. I know many were blessed, both participants and audience members. We want to thank God for using all of us to play a small part in showing people His love. And may the theme of this year’s production be the goal of each person: ‘God and You, Together Forever.’” For the last few years, the Passion Play has also been shown online via Facebook or YouTube.

Thanks to the collaboration of the students, the Passion Play is a great opportunity for students and staff to help each other teach about the love of Christ to others. Giovana Rossi, an eleventh-grader from Brazil, expressed her feelings about the play by saying: “What an experience! In the last scene, where I was an angel in the Second Coming, I was able to stop for a second and watch. I had tears in my eyes watching people reconnect with each other. It was beautiful! I know it was just acting, but I felt how it will be on that great day when Jesus comes to get us! Now



“He is Risen!” actor, eleventh-grader, Ben Arriola, from Stoneham, Massachusetts, plays the role of Jesus this year.



Mary Magdalene, played by Jessica Cordon, is at the feet of Jesus being cursed by her accusers.

I am sure it will be the most beautiful scene ever!” It was a marvelous weekend for all the kids and family members who attended.

The Passion Play was created and began in

the late 1990s under the vision and leadership of former Bible teacher Gary Blanchard, who is now president of the Northern New England Conference and the former youth leader for the General Conference. It has since grown each year and now is the largest attended event during the school year at USA.

—Janica Caster, director of advancement, Union Springs Academy; and Reynolds Rodriguez, communication director, New York Conference



“War in Heaven!” actors, center, are Nickollas Silva, God; Ben Arriola, Jesus; and Lucifer played by Kaitlyn Lyseight-Shields.

## Joy of Troy Members Acknowledge Peace Officers Memorial Day

Members from the Joy of Troy church in Troy, New York, delivered a catered lunch to the Troy Police Department in honor of Peace Officers Memorial Day on May 15. They also presented a gift card to the firefighters at the Lansingburgh Fire Department. Peace Officers Memorial Day, recognized each year on May 15, and Police Week, May 15-21, is a designated time to thank law enforcement officers for giving their all in service to their community and to remember those who have given their lives in the line of duty.

First responders also received hand-written cards from the church, thanking them for their service to the Troy community and the neighborhood Quadrant. Joy of Troy church adopted the Quadrant as a part of its mission-at-home focus. It is an area of Lansingburgh surrounding the church where approximately 4,000 people live. The church prays for the Holy Spirit and the angels to descend on this area because they want the quadrant to meet Jesus.

—Annette Barnes, elder, Joy of Troy church



Church members visit with the Lansingburgh Fire Department personnel and present them with a gift card thanking them for their service.



Joy of Troy church members deliver a catered lunch to the Troy Police Department in honor of Peace Officers Memorial Day.

## NYC Lay Training Series Focuses on Evangelism

This year's Lay Training Series (LTS), celebrated at Union Springs church in Union Springs, New York, focused on developing strategies for evangelism during the time period highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Ministry during COVID-19 was emphasized by New York Conference officials Miguel Crespo, president; Claudio Gomez, executive secretary; Reynolds Rodriguez, communication director; and Joan Payne, New York Conference Faith Community Nursing co-coordinator, who had a brief presentation during the meeting that took place on May 15.

Carlos Muñoz, Amazing Facts Center of Evangelism director, was the guest speaker for the conference's special theme about evangelism. The Lord blessed the attendees through Muñoz's presentation. Throughout the week leading to May 15, Muñoz preached about the book of Revelation in different sessions at several churches in the conference.



During the Lay Training Series, the conference's communication team unveiled a new App for the New York Conference. This App is a great tool for sharing information with friends and members alike. The New York Conference App is currently in a trial version that can be downloaded using the QR code in the picture, but it's being placed on the App Store and GooglePlay Store in July and August, free of charge.

A very interesting and educational aspect of the event involved Josue Nico, pastor of the Utica International church, and his wife, Juana. Gomez interviewed the couple and they spoke about the importance of developing relationships with the community and

its leaders. "We cannot miss such a great opportunity to connect with the leaders of our communities and get involved," Nico said.

—Communication staff, New York Conference

## Mount Sinai Church Moves Forward in Ministry

Mount Sinai church in Queens Village, New York, was excited to announce on May 1 that Richard Means, Jr., their new pastor, completed his first 100 days in office. Means was installed on January 22 by Northeastern Conference associate secretary Nicardo K. Delahaye. He took office amid the harsh winter season and the continuing pandemic. In the days since his installation, he has taken the church on a spiritually-uplifting journey to be closer to Christ.

In May, church leaders presented the State of Mount Sinai to the congregation, which included many accomplishments since the pastor's installation. Under his leadership, Mount Sinai church was able to provide meals to 300-500 people at the food pantry each week. From their online ministry, 500 people requested Bible studies and 400 people committed their lives to Christ through baptism. The church also dedicated six children to the Lord for families in the community.

On Community Guest Day, under the leadership of the Sabbath School director, Patricia Green, the church took steps to recognize and honor several neighbors who live in the community. One of the honorees was the mailman, who was recognized for his support throughout the pandemic. "This church has saved so many lives during the pandemic," said one of the honorees, who also gave his testimony on how he was able to obtain food from the Mount Sinai church food pantry to give to an elderly

neighbor who was in dire need of food.

The congregation was blessed to have Jumaane Williams, New York City Public Advocate, with them on Community Guest Day. Williams shared a short testimony about what God has done in his life.

During the month of April at Wednesday night prayer meetings, Means taught the members "how to have a fresh start" by living out their purpose and breaking away from their comfort zone. Since May is Mental Health Awareness month, the pastor's focus was on "Strategies for a Sound Mind." Members received tools on how to "protect their peace" and "reclaim their brain." As a result of Means' evangelistic ministry, the church has had a dramatic increase in the visits on their YouTube and social media channels.

Mount Sinai church members look forward to working together with their



Mount Sinai church youth pose for a photo on Youth Day in April.



Richard Means, Jr., Mount Sinai church pastor, left, is with Warner A. Richards, Northeastern Conference assistant to the president, during his visit to the church in March.

pastor in accomplishing the work God has called them to do in their community.

—Andrea D. Hicks, communication director, Mount Sinai church



Richard Means, Jr., introduces Jumaane Williams, New York City Public Advocate, left, to the Mount Sinai church members.

Photos: Monica Prendergast

# ACS Volunteers Assist the Buffalo Community After Mass Shooting

The Northeastern Conference Adventist Community Services (ACS) in conjunction with the New York Conference, the Atlantic Union Conference, and the North American Division continue offering in-person support and training to the local team in Buffalo, New York.

Eighteen individuals from the Northeastern and New York conferences have been trained and are already in the field offering services to a community that is hurt, grieving, and visibly crushed. The three-day training course offered by the division in partnership with Johns Hopkins University and Loyola University will enable the trainees to be a resource within the community.

Within 48 hours following the shooting, Rodney Grissom, Emmanuel Temple church pastor, met with local leaders and conference leadership. The Northeastern Conference Adventist Community Services Disaster Response team organized a team of volunteers to coordinate needed services.

Before meeting with the ACS volunteers, the ACS Disaster Response team met with the local Red Cross leaders in Buffalo. This is an important step, since it will be the local leaders who will be present once those from the outside leave.

Mark Davis, the national director of Disaster Services



Adventist Community Services volunteers from the New York and Northeastern conferences who participated in a three-day training session to become emotional and spiritual care providers in Buffalo, New York, are with Derrick Lea, North American Division Adventist Community Services director, seated front row, center; Jose Joseph, Atlantic Union Conference Adventist Community Services director, seated front row, left; and Mario Augustave, Northeastern Conference Adventist Community Services director, seated front row, second from right.

for the Red Cross, arranged the meeting because he wanted to help ensure that ACS was connected to the Red Cross on the local level. Davis introduced the ACS team to the regional chief executive, Nicholas Bond.

Individuals must receive training before being deployed in the field. The local Red Cross leaders found this information helpful and asked the team to prepare a schedule of their availability to serve.

about the violence that has affected the community. The local leaders and the Department of Justice team will collaborate on the plans for these important conversations.

The real work is just beginning, and ACS is positioned to serve in a productive manner in the future. ACS plans to work with local leadership, pastors, civic leaders, and member partners to enable the ACS departments of the two conferences to work together to manage the effort in the coming days. The Northeastern Conference, New York Conference, Atlantic Union, and the North American Division will continue to offer support for these much-needed services.

“Eighteen individuals from the Northeastern and New York conferences have been trained and are already in the field offering services to a community that is hurt, grieving, and visibly crushed.”

The conversation centered around what the Red Cross is currently doing in the recovery effort and ACS leaders explained their role in outfitting an Emotional Spiritual Care team trained to assist those affected by the mass shooting. The ACS leaders also described the level of training these

In addition to the time spent with the Red Cross, the Department of Justice again reached out to the group and arranged for a meeting at the Tops Grocery Store. The group connected them with the local leadership and are planning to hold a series of conversations within the community

—Mario Augustave, Adventist Community Services and Disaster Response director, Northeastern Conference

## Adventurer Spring Escape Has Returned!

In-person Adventurer Spring Escape came bounding back to the Northern New England Conference (NNEC) May 20-22. After two years of virtual Spring Escapes, Adventurer families from Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont were excited to come together at Camp Lawroweld to focus on superheroes of the Bible.

Each Adventurer received a cape and mask as they began their superhero training on Friday evening. Throughout the weekend, the families enthusiastically sang songs and listened to stories about Abraham, David, Gideon, and others. The Agape League, modern-day superheroes, visited several times to show Adventurers how the Holy Spirit can empower them to stand for God.

Many of the children woke up quite early on Sabbath morning, eager to continue their adventure.



At morning flag-raising, several NNEC Pathfinders instructed some Adventurers on how to raise flags. After Sabbath School and lunch, families rotated through eight learning stations where they made crafts, looked at constellations, imagined what heaven looks like, and were chased by Egyptians through the Red Sea. Sunday morning before breakfast, many Adventurers participated in a fun run with half-mile and one-mile options. Later that day, each Adventurer received a special "training manual," their very own Bible. The event concluded with outdoor activities, including a bounce house.

The many volunteers who made the weekend possible can be sure that their hard work made a positive impact on those who attended. The camp was filled with happy faces and positive attitudes. Eight-year-old Micah of Manchester, New



Adventurer families from Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont meet at Camp Lawroweld for Spring Escape for the first time in two years.





Hampshire, proclaimed that he wanted to stay there forever. Ten-year-old Cohen, for whom this is his final year as an Adventurer, stated that he wants to come back next year as a Pathfinder helper. May God guide the Adventurer leaders as they plan next year's Spring Escape.

—Virginia Thomas, Adventurer leader, Manchester church



## Gary Blanchard Elected Northern New England Conference President

The Northern New England Conference Executive Committee met on Sunday, May 15, and elected Gary Blanchard as the newest president of the conference, effective immediately. He succeeds Ted Huskins, who now serves as executive secretary of the Atlantic Union Conference.

Blanchard has served as the Youth and Young Adult Ministries director for the General Conference for the past five years. He has led division youth directors, created resources for youth leaders, and preached around the world at countless youth rallies, camporees, and churches.

Blanchard was born in Portland, Maine, attended Pine Tree Academy, and spent many summers at Camp Lawroweld. His father and mother (Gary and Karen) have been serving in the Northern New England Conference for many years. Blanchard also served in the conference for two years as the Freeport church pastor and Pine Tree Academy Bible teacher from 2000 to 2002.

Blanchard graduated from Southern Adventist University with a degree in Religion and received a Master of Divinity degree from Andrews



Gary Blanchard is the newly-elected president of the Northern New England Conference.

University. He has more than 20 years of experience working for the church, serving as a pastor, church planting coordinator, and youth ministries director. Territories in which he has served include Maine, New York, Northern California, Texas, and Washington.

Blanchard and his wife, Erica, have three young adult children who are married and living in various places

throughout the United States. "I enjoy leading leaders, training the laity in ministry, and creating mission initiatives. I get excited when others become successful in ministry! I also enjoy inspiring young people with the three angels' messages and organizing initiatives that 'rightly train' them in local church and conference ministry," Blanchard said.

As president, Blanchard will lead the Northern New England Conference administrative team, directors, and staff overseeing the work in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. The membership of the Northern New England Conference stands at 5,320, and the territory currently includes 57 churches, six companies, nine elementary schools, one secondary school, and numerous community-based ministries (*Atlantic Union Conference First Quarter 2022 Secretary's Statistical Report*).

The Northern New England Conference invites you to join them in praying for Gary Blanchard as he and his family make the transition to Maine to lead the conference in the Lord's work.

—Dustin Johnson, Communication department, Northern New England Conference

## Celebrating 140 Years of Adventist Education at South Lancaster Academy – October 7-9

On the anniversary of the “shot heard round the world” that marked the beginning of the Revolutionary War, a group of Sabbatarians opened a small school in South Lancaster, Massachusetts, with faith that the students would spread light around the world. As one of the oldest Seventh-day Adventist secondary schools, South Lancaster Academy has continued the mission those visionary leaders established 140 years ago.

The unnamed school, known simply as “that New England school,” began with 19 students, one teacher, and a principal in an abandoned carriage house. The school board chose Wednesday, April 19, 1882, as the start date to allow students to leave their homes from throughout the New England area at the beginning of the week and arrive in time for instruction. Also, the 10-week term would conclude in time for haying season, giving students the opportunity to work and earn money for the next term. The enrollment quickly grew to



Academy Hall, known now as Founders Hall, was built for South Lancaster Academy circa 1900.

24 students for the first term. By the time September came, they had already outgrown the converted carriage house and moved into the basement of the Village Church.

The school was officially named South Lancaster Academy (SLA) in December 1883. A couple of years later the school established a college preparatory curriculum to compare favorably with a high school education. SLA celebrated its first graduating class, comprised of four girls, on May 12, 1888.

South Lancaster Academy continued to grow and Academy Hall (later known as Founders Hall) was built for the expanding school. By 1918, with the addition of 14 grades, the school was renamed Lancaster Junior College. It was renamed yet again in 1922 to Atlantic Union College with advanced degrees being offered. At this time, the academy formed its own school board and the academy and college students continued to share the campus. College students attended classes in the morning and worked in the afternoon while academy students worked in the morning and attended classes in the afternoon.

In 1965, Browning Elementary moved into its new building that



South Lancaster Academy celebrated its first graduating class, comprised of four girls, on May 12, 1888.

John Schumacher-Hardy Collection

currently houses the preschool through sixth grade classes. The academy students soon followed upon the completion of the construction of the current building in 1967, which also holds the junior high classes. In 1985, the administration for Browning Elementary and SLA merged into one, and in 2009 both schools were officially named South Lancaster Academy.

To commemorate 140 years of Adventist education and service, South Lancaster Academy invites all former staff and alumni (attended or graduated) from Browning

Elementary and SLA, along with community members, to the celebration on Alumni Weekend, October 7-9, 2022. Festivities will honor SLA's anniversary throughout the weekend, including a historical tour, and culminating with a big birthday bash on Sunday, October 9 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. There will be food trucks, games, mini golf, a photo booth, inflatables, and many fun activities for all ages to enjoy. Prizes will be given for those who raise the most money for the Founders Day Fun-a-Thon. The goal this year is to raise

\$140,000 for the newly-established Founders Fund to continue SLA's legacy of Adventist education until Christ's return. Hopefully, SLA will enjoy the largest gathering of SLA alumni this side of heaven at the 140<sup>th</sup> celebration.

While the name has changed a few times over the years, that New England school began a legacy of

Adventist education that has influenced thousands of students to "Serve. Love. Achieve."

For more information, visit [www.mysla.org](http://www.mysla.org) or contact Shauna Neidigh, development director at [development@mysla.org](mailto:development@mysla.org) or (978) 598-5260.

—Shauna Neidigh, development director, South Lancaster Academy

## Three Baptized at Hudson Church

For more than six years, Robert Sierra, then pastor of the Hudson church, and David Bracetti, Hudson church pastor, who was then the assistant pastor, met with Luis Garcia and Erick Rivera to research the Bible to find answers to biblical questions. Feeling confident that the information was true, Garcia and Rivera chose to be baptized. Joining them was Everett

Liborio, who rededicated his life through baptism. Pastor Bracetti baptized all three men on Sabbath, May 7.

Afterward the church family encircled the perimeter of the sanctuary with joined hands, and sang "Family of God." Church members voted all three men to become part of the Hudson Seventh-day Adventist Church family.

—Cheryl McMaster, communication director, Hudson church



Pictured from left are newly-baptized member Everett Liborio, David Bracetti, Hudson church pastor, and newly-baptized members Luis Garcia and Erick Rivera.

### OFFICIAL NOTICE

#### Southern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Constituency Session

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** of the 38<sup>th</sup> Constituency Session of the Southern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists called to convene at 9:00 a.m., Sunday, September 11, 2022, 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.
7. 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 forty-five (45) 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, June 26, 2022, in the Village Church of Seventh-day Adventists, 75 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 M. Dennis, President  
Cesar Perozo, 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, September 11, 2022, 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

## Creativity and Innovation of Teachers at Bermuda Institute

When children first enter school, everything seems new and exciting. A world of adventure beckons them. They have an irresistible need to touch, explore, and have fun while simultaneously learning alongside their peers.

Unfortunately, this passion at the beginning of a student's young years can be quickly suppressed when teachers allow little or no room for creativity, and educators continue to think that one size fits all. Sometimes before the students enter school, or on the first day of school, teachers close the doors of their passion, imagination, and discovery by instructing them to sit still and be quiet.

Bermuda Institute has created an environment that fosters a sense of creativity and innovation among its teachers, which has triggered in the students a passion for creativity, critical thinking, and problem solving.

Often, ideas and success stories begin in someone's garage. However, success happens for Ian Richardson, the technology teacher, as he interacts with his colleagues. Richardson has revolutionized the technology at Bermuda Institute. The elementary and high school labs are places where students find themselves at every opportune time. The library and

the robotics program have opened students' passion for discovery and innovation, of which they seem unable to get enough.

For Richard Sutton, the art teacher, ideas are constantly flowing. In allowing his students to be creative, they have designed a model that reconfigures Darrell's Island (one of Bermuda's isles) to become a modern tourist attraction. It features an urban setting with a lazy river, an underground cinema, and an aquarium with many exciting adventures.

Vice principal Owen Simons and music teacher Dwayne Foster, together with Richardson, have designed a music lab that is the envy of the island. Several schools have sent scouts to Bermuda Institute to catch the vision so they can adopt the model. Students can now create instrumental music, add lyrics, record, and even sell their products.

This type of creativity is welcomed at Bermuda Institute. From Pre-K to Grade 12, students have the opportunity to be creative. Dwayne Caines, Bible teacher, has allowed the students to be creative in their presentation and delivery during Bible classes and chapels. Students such as Jordan Lightbourne and Sunny Erquiaga have shared their talents and skills with the student body.



In the music lab, students can create instrumental music, add lyrics, and record.



This is Bermuda Institute's Giraffe Library.



The students designed a model that reconfigures Darrell's Island (one of Bermuda's isles) to become a modern tourist attraction.

Unfortunately, space does not allow for us to feature teachers such as Dawn Kirk, Deonae Dickinson, Wendie Warren, and others who inspire their students to excel in creativity.

At Bermuda Institute, our goal is to let students discover their internal paths of interest, use their imaginations, explore their creativity, stop unnecessary rote memorization, and set them up to be change agents in this world. When teachers are inspired, students are allowed to develop, grow, and discover their talents. As Seventh-day Adventists, we can be proud to watch our students develop their ideas into God-inspired greatness.

—Wayne Edwards, principal, Bermuda Institute

**OFFICIAL NOTICE**

**Bermuda Conference of Seventh-day Adventists**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the third Quadrennial Session of the Bermuda Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at the Bermuda Institute auditorium, Southampton, Bermuda on Sunday, September 25, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. The Organizing Committee will meet on Sunday, July 10, at 10:00 a.m. and the Nominating Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, July 12, at 5:30 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is to elect officers, executive, trustees and constitution and bylaws committees, and departmental directors for the ensuing term; to receive reports; and to transact such other business as may properly come before the session.

Each church is entitled to one delegate for the organization and one additional delegate for each 25 members or major fraction thereof. Additional delegates are members of the executive committee, the constitution and bylaws committee, the board of trustees of the Bermuda Conference; members of the executive committee of the Atlantic Union Conference; all employees holding credentials and licenses issued by the Bermuda Conference; departmental directors, associate or assistant departmental directors, and members of the General Conference/NAD executive committee who may be present. The number of General Conference/NAD delegates shall not exceed 10% of the total number of regular delegates.

Kenneth Manders, President  
W. DeJaun Tull, Secretary

**OFFICIAL NOTICE**

**The Trustees of The Seventh-day Adventist Church of Bermuda**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a meeting of the Trustees of the Seventh-day Adventist Church of Bermuda, a legal corporation, will be held in connection with the Conference Session of Seventh-day Adventists at the Bermuda Institute auditorium, Southampton, Bermuda, on Sunday, September 25, 2022. The first meeting of the legal corporation will be held at 11:00 a.m.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect a board of trustees and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Delegates to the Conference Session of the Bermuda Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are the delegates to the Conference Session of the Bermuda Conference Legal Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists.

Kenneth Manders, President  
W. Aaron M. Spencer, Secretary

**Annual William Miller Camp Meeting**

July 30, 2022



**Featured Speaker**

David Dennis  
President  
Southern New England Conference

Sabbath School..... 9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service ..... 11:15 a.m.  
William Miller Home and Chapel Tours begin at 1:30 p.m.

1614 County Route 11, Whitehall, NY 12887

**Phone:** (518) 282-9617

**Email:** williammillerfarm@gmail.com

**OFFICIAL NOTICE**

**Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the 31st Regular Constituency Session of the Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at the Boxboro Regency Hotel & Convention Center, 242 Adams Pl., Boxborough, MA 01719 on August 14, 2022. The first meeting of the session will convene at 10:00 a.m., Sunday, August 14, 2022. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

This constituency session is being held for the purpose of receiving reports for the last quinquennium ending December 31, 2021, the election of officers, departmental directors and an executive committee; and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

The Atlantic Union Conference constitution, Article III, Section 1: Voting Representation – Regular Delegates, defines who are the members of this constituency and outlines the formula for arriving at the number of delegates to be chosen as follows:

- a. Each member organization shall be represented at union conference constituency meetings by duly accredited delegates as follows:
  - 1. Each local conference be entitled to one (1) delegate without regard to conference membership and (1) additional delegate for each two hundred fifty (250) church members or major fractions thereof. Calculations for delegate allotments shall be based upon the conference memberships as of December 31 of the year preceding the session.
  - 2. Delegates shall be chosen by each local conference executive committee and shall be representative of the diversity in the local conference membership including women, youth, and representatives of major ethnic groups.
  - 3. At least one-half of the delegates appointed to the union conference constituency meeting provided for in Section 1. a (1) above, shall be persons who are not denominationally employed, of whom approximately one-half shall be women.

**DELEGATES-AT-LARGE**

b. In addition, the following shall be delegates-at-large with all the rights and privileges of regular delegates, at the union conference constituency meetings:

- 1. Members of the executive committee of this union conference.
- 2. Members of the board of the Atlantic Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists.
- 3. Officers of the local conferences.
- 4. Members of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee.
- 5. Members of the General Conference and North American Division Executive Committees who may be present at any constituency meeting of the union conference. The number of such delegates representing the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists shall not exceed five percent (5%) of the total number of delegates provided for herein above in Section 2.a.(1) of Article II of these bylaws.
- 6. Such other persons from the Atlantic Union Conference staff, representatives from health care systems/institutions serving the union, church institutions owned and operated by the union or local conferences, as may be recommended by the union conference executive committee and accepted by the regular delegates in session; the total number of delegates from this category not to exceed ten percent (10%) of the total number of regular delegates provided for herein above in Section 1.a.(1) of Article II of these bylaws.

Pierre E. Omeler, President  
Theodore A. Huskins, Secretary

**OFFICIAL NOTICE**

**Atlantic Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a meeting of the Atlantic Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, a corporation, will be held in connection with the 31st session of the Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, August 14, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. at the Boxboro Regency Hotel & Convention Center, 242 Adams Pl., Boxborough, MA 01719.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect a board of trustees and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Delegates to the 31st session of the Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are delegates to the 31st session of the Atlantic Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists.

Pierre E. Omeler, President  
Theodore A. Huskins, Secretary

**CLASSIFIEDS**

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.

The Atlantic Union GLEANER reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. The rejection of any advertisement should not be construed to constitute disapproval of the product or service involved.

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**EMPLOYMENT**

**UNION COLLEGE'S** Business Program is seeking a marketing/management teacher. Master's degree, excellent communication/interpersonal skills required. Ph.D., teaching/business experience highly desirable. Interested applicants may apply online at [ucollege.edu/employment](http://ucollege.edu/employment) or contact Lisa L. Forbes at [lisa.l.forbes@ucollege.edu](mailto:lisa.l.forbes@ucollege.edu) or (402) 486-2600, ext. 2300 for more information.

**UNION COLLEGE** Lincoln, Neb., is accepting applications for Director of the Ella Johnson Crandall Memorial Library. A master's degree in Library Science is required. Please view the full job description and instructions for application at [ucollege.edu/employment](http://ucollege.edu/employment). Contact Dr. Edward Allen at [ed.allen@ucollege.edu](mailto:ed.allen@ucollege.edu) for more information.

**ANDREWS UNIVERSITY** seeks faculty—Computing (emphasis in cybersecurity). The position holds a faculty appointment and has academic, service, and scholarship responsibilities consistent with the mission and philosophy of the Department of Computing and of Andrews University. The Department of Computing has programs in Computer Science, Information Systems, Informatics, Data Science, and Cybersecurity. [https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job\\_4](https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_4).

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** is seeking qualified candidates for the following teaching positions: Faculty—School of Education and Psychology, School of Business, Biology/Allied Health department, Physics and Engineering department, and School of Health and Kinesiology. Adjunct—German instructor (Modern Languages department). For detailed

descriptions and qualifications, see [southern.edu/jobs](http://southern.edu/jobs).

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** is seeking qualified candidates for the following staff positions: Salaried—School of Visual Art and Design Productions, Equipment and Facilities Manager, Director of Alumni Relations, Special Advisor to the President on Diversity and Strategic Planning (President's Office), Graduate Studies Coordinator (School of Business). Hourly—Patrol Officer (Campus Safety), Vitamin Associate (Village Market), Cafeteria Floater (Cafeteria), Office Manager (School of Religion), Cafeteria Worker (Cafeteria), Deli Supper Cook (Village Market), CK2 AM Shift Supervisor (Food Services), Student Finance Advisor (Student Finance), Cook Coordinator (Cafeteria), Part-time Cashier (Village Market). For a detailed description and qualifications, see [southern.edu/jobs](http://southern.edu/jobs).

**FARM HELP NEEDED** An established Adventist-owned orchard with vegetables is seeking farm helpers, tractor and truck drivers, mechanically gifted persons, general farm helpers who can weed, whack, operate chainsaw, mow, plant, reap/pick, etc. Must enjoy the outdoors and agricultural work.

Free housing for workers. Call Albrin Fruit Farm (315) 946-6444.

**REAL ESTATE/HOUSING**

**HOME SHARING** in New Hampshire. Nine minutes from hospital—ideal for traveling nurses. The interested party must be female, practicing Seventh-day Adventist Christian, and be willing to do a background check. For more information, please call (603) 547-7153.

**LAKEFRONT PROPERTY** located in Sherwood Forest of the town of Beckett, Massachusetts, for sale by Adventist. Recently assessed at \$115,900. Annual taxes are \$2,340.60. Will accept best offer. Call (203) 260-3297.

**UPSTATE NEW YORK** Finger Lakes area land for sale—with or without fruit trees. Ready for building and cultivating. Price starts at \$27K and increases depending on acreage and other factors. Situated on quiet cul-de-sac, 10 minute drive from all amenities. Ideal location for Adventist nature lovers. For more information, call Gee (917) 809-0443.

**Sunset Calendar**

Daylight Saving Time

	Aug. 5	Aug. 12	Aug. 19	Aug. 26	Sept. 2	Sept. 9	Sept. 16	Sept. 23	Sept. 30
Bangor, ME	7:54	7:44	7:32	7:20	7:08	6:55	6:41	6:28	6:15
Portland, ME	7:57	7:47	7:36	7:25	7:12	7:00	6:47	6:34	6:21
Boston, MA	7:57	7:48	7:37	7:26	7:14	7:02	6:50	6:38	6:25
South Lancaster, MA	8:00	7:50	7:40	7:29	7:17	7:05	6:52	6:40	6:28
Pittsfield, MA	8:06	7:57	7:46	7:35	7:23	7:11	6:59	6:46	6:34
Hartford, CT	8:02	7:53	7:43	7:32	7:20	7:08	6:56	6:44	6:32
Providence, RI	7:57	7:48	7:38	7:27	7:15	7:03	6:51	6:39	6:27
New York, NY	8:05	7:56	7:46	7:36	7:24	7:13	7:01	6:49	6:37
Albany, NY	8:09	7:59	7:48	7:37	7:25	7:13	7:01	6:48	6:36
Utica, NY	8:16	8:06	7:55	7:44	7:32	7:19	7:07	6:54	6:42
Syracuse, NY	8:19	8:09	7:59	7:47	7:35	7:23	7:10	6:58	6:45
Rochester, NY	8:25	8:15	8:05	7:53	7:41	7:29	7:16	7:04	6:51
Buffalo, NY	8:29	8:20	8:09	7:58	7:46	7:33	7:21	7:08	6:56
Keene, NH	8:03	7:54	7:43	7:32	7:20	7:07	6:55	6:42	6:30
Manchester, NH	8:00	7:50	7:40	7:28	7:17	7:04	6:52	6:39	6:26
Portsmouth, NH	7:58	7:48	7:37	7:26	7:14	7:01	6:49	6:36	6:24
Brattleboro, VT	8:04	7:55	7:44	7:33	7:21	7:08	6:56	6:43	6:31
Burlington, VT	8:11	8:01	7:49	7:38	7:25	7:12	6:59	6:46	6:33
Rutland, VT	8:08	7:58	7:47	7:35	7:23	7:11	6:58	6:45	6:32
Hamilton, Bda	8:12	8:05	7:57	7:49	7:40	7:31	7:22	7:13	7:03

**DON'T JUST RETIRE . . .** Live with purpose at Fletcher Park Inn, an independent living retirement community located on the campus of Fletcher Academy near Hendersonville, North Carolina. Join our family, take part in the many opportunities for staying active, volunteering, making new friends, and living with a purpose. Call (828) 209-6930; ask for our marketing department to find out more about our apartment and villa homes, or visit [www.fletcherparkinn.com](http://www.fletcherparkinn.com).

## SERVICES

**KINDERGARTEN DAILY WORK** is a kindergarten curriculum developed by an Adventist kindergarten teacher of 18 years for homeschooling and classroom teachers. It is a complete school year of phonics-based reading, writing, handwriting, and arithmetic lessons. Included are 119 Student Reader Booklets, 52 Picture Prompt Student Writing Books, and over three months of daily, independent academic Center Time activities. To view and download FREE examples, visit [teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Kindergarten-Daily-Work](http://teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Kindergarten-Daily-Work).

**ANDREWS UNIVERSITY** expands undergraduate programs online. A new Adult Education Center supports mature students advancing their career or retooling to go where God leads. Earn an online certificate in Christian Discipleship, Missions and Global Awareness, Ministry (in Spanish), English as a Second Language, or Technologist in Microbiology, Chemistry, or Hematology. Complete a degree

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**ANDREWS UNIVERSITY** adds graduate certificates and degrees online. Responding to the needs for professional development online, degrees in Medical Laboratory Science (MS MLS), Social Work (MSW), Nutrition and Wellness (MS), Nutrition and Dietetics graduate certificate, Occupational Therapy (DscOT), Physical Therapy (DscPT), Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (DNP), Healthcare Administration (MHA), Business Administration (PhD), and Discipleship in Lifespan Education (MA) will be available online from Fall 2022. Learn more about online graduate programs at [www.andrews.edu/distance/degrees/grad](http://www.andrews.edu/distance/degrees/grad). Apply soon!

**SHOP NEW/USED ADVENTIST BOOKS: TEACH** Services offers used Adventist books at [www.LNFBOOKS.com](http://www.LNFBOOKS.com). Find new book releases at your local ABC or [www.TEACHServices.com](http://www.TEACHServices.com). Authors let us help you publish your book with editing, design, marketing, and worldwide distribution. Call (800) 367-1844 for a free evaluation.

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**Save The Date**  
**2022 Atlantic Union College Homecoming July 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>**

**In-person Guest Speakers**  
**Pastor Mark & Ernestine Finley**

**Visit**  
**Alumni of AUC.com for more information & Registration**

**Be blessed!**

# ATLANTIC UNION GLEANER

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## Atlantic Union GLEANER Staff

E-mail: [gleaner@atlanticunion.org](mailto:gleaner@atlanticunion.org)

Editor . . . . . Ednor A.P. Davison  
 Circulation/Back Pages/Proofreader . . . . . Debra Banks Cuadro  
 Copy Editor (off-site) . . . . . Pat Humphrey  
 Layout & Design (off-site) . . . . . Hazel Olivera

## Editorial Contributors

Bermuda . . . . . Joi Tyrrell, [gardensidetoo@northrock.bm](mailto:gardensidetoo@northrock.bm)  
 Greater New York . . . . . Clavour Tucker, [ctucker@gnyc.org](mailto:ctucker@gnyc.org)  
 New York . . . . . Reynolds Rodriguez, [reynoldsrodriguez@gmail.com](mailto:reynoldsrodriguez@gmail.com)  
 Northeastern . . . . . Duddley Francois, [dfrancois@northeastern.org](mailto:dfrancois@northeastern.org)  
 Northern New England . . . . . Dustin Johnson, [djohnson@nnec.org](mailto:djohnson@nnec.org)  
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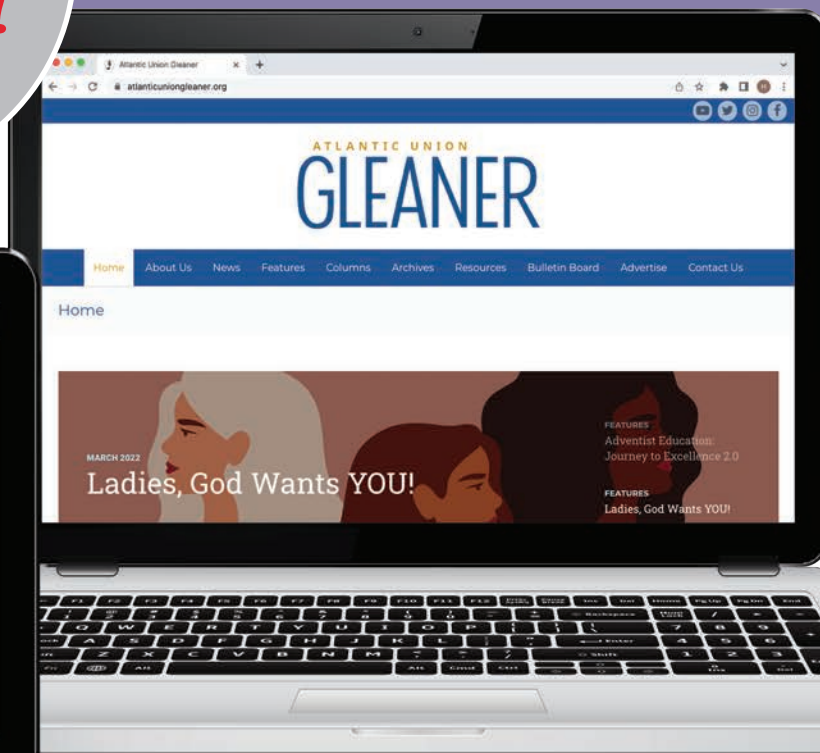
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