WELCOME TO CAMP MEETING

Plus: Dreams Come True in Africa
Spotlight on ABCs
Where Did Veggie Meat Come From?

2008 Camp Meeting Guide
When I was a student, I heard a preacher speak about the subject of books. He noted that when we first arrive on Earth, our names are recorded in a book. When our parents first take us to the doctor, our names are written in a book. When we start school, join an organization, or get married, our names are written in a book. Even when we die, our names are written in a book. A point that we live and die by the book is well taken.

If I could continue the discourse of this preacher a little further, I would add that there is a record being kept on each of us in a Book, which will determine our eternal destiny. In light of that fact, God, through His Book, encourages us to “study to show thyself approved unto God” (2 Tim. 2:15). And Jesus, while in dialogue with the Sadducees, told them, “You do err, not knowing the Scriptures” (Matt. 22:29). Knowing and understanding God’s purpose for our lives is very important if we desire to have our names recorded in the Book of Life. And we also will err if we deviate from His holy Book.

BLESSED WITH THE BOOK BUSINESS

God has not only blessed mankind with His Word, He has blessed the Seventh-day Adventist Church with the Spirit of Prophecy. These books are to guide us to our future eternal home. The publishing ministry of our church has a major role in equipping the saints for life on this Earth and the Earth anew. Some may see our publishing houses and Adventist Book Centers (ABC) only as places of business. Not just ordinary businesses, they are about the King’s business. The resources God has made available to us are not just for members of the church. They are designed to reach every corner of this globe.

In one of her writings, Ellen White states, “This is a work that should be done. The end is near. Already much time has been lost, when these books should have been in circulation. Sell them far and near. Scatter them like the leaves of autumn. This work is to continue without the forbidding of any one. Souls are perishing out of Christ. Let them be warned of His soon appearing in the clouds of heaven” (Review and Herald, Aug. 13, 1908).

How appropriate that, as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the writing of The Great Controversy, we can tell the world that our loving Father has a special Book—the Book of Life. We can tell them that He desires everyone to have knowing the Scriptures” (Matt. 22:29). Knowing and understanding God’s purpose for our lives is very important if we desire to have our names recorded in the Book of Life. And we also will err if we deviate from His holy Book.

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With such an important work at hand, how can you help spread the word? I would love to see each congregation present newly baptized members with a selection of books from White’s writings and an engraved Bible. They’re all available at your ABC, which you’ll read more about in this issue of the Visitor.

Columbia Union Conference treasurer Seth T. Bardu (sbardu@columbiaunion.net) also serves as publishing director.
Kettering Names Academic Dean

William “W.G.” Nelson, Jr., has accepted the position of dean for Academic Affairs at Kettering College of Medical Arts (KCMA).

“It is clear to me that Kettering is a positive educational and healthcare environment where good things are happening,” he says. “I look forward to the opportunity of working with our president, Charles Scriven, and KCMA’s faculty, staff, students, and administrative team, as we chart a strategic direction for the college’s future.”

Nelson joins Kettering after spending six years as a graduate professor in the School of Education at La Sierra University (Calif). Since 2006 he also has chaired the university’s Department of Administration and Leadership. Prior to his term at La Sierra, Nelson served as president of Washington state’s Walla Walla College (now Walla Walla University) from 1994-2001. From 1988-94 he served in various positions, including as vice president for academic administration at Southwestern Adventist University (Texas). During the 1980s, he was principal at Potomac Conference’s Shendoah Valley Academy in New Market, Va.; at Indiana Academy; and at Mile High Academy in Denver.

Nelson, who will begin work at KCMA this summer, is a 1972 graduate of Atlantic Union College (Mass.), where his predecessor, Norman Wendth, now serves as president.—Mindy Claggett

Adventist Leads State Board

For the past year, William G. “Bill” Robertson (right), president and CEO of Adventist HealthCare (Rockville, Md.), has been chairing the Governor’s Workforce Investment Board—Maryland’s chief policy-making body on workforce development. He collaborated with top business leaders to create initiatives that will lead to a highly qualified workforce that is both available to current employers and attractive to future employers throughout the state of Maryland, helping it compete in the 21st century. The board’s work was highlighted at the 2008 Governor’s Workforce Creation Summit, which drew 500 stakeholders from business, education, government, and nonprofit organizations, and was hosted by Gov. Martin O’Malley.

Sabbath Offering to Benefit CUC

The Columbia Union Conference has designated May 31 as “CUC Sabbath,” a time for congregations to dedicate a portion of their Sabbath services to learning more about their church and showing support by giving a special offering. “This is a great opportunity for our churches to get firsthand information on the recent changes at Columbia Union College (CUC) and plans we’re beginning to implement,” says union president and CUC board chairman Dave Weigley. “It’s also a chance for constituents to meet some of our talented teachers, students, and administrators.”

CUC will provide printed material to each church. Speakers and musicians can be booked through the marketing and communications office at (301) 891-4125.—Scott Stroud

Union Entities Support Education in Ghana

A transatlantic partnership between several Columbia Union Conference entities has made possible a new academic building on the campus of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s Valley View University (VVU) in Ghana. In the presence of Ghanaian government officials, church leaders recently dedicated the new building. A Columbia Union delegation (above) participated in the celebration, including retired Columbia Union president Harold Lee; current Columbia Union officers Dave Weigley, Neville Harcombe, and Seth Bardu; Allegheny East Conference (AEC) officers Charles Chetham, Henry Fordham, and Lawrence Martin; and Kettering Adventist HealthCare president and CEO, Frank Perez (above).

“Seeing this university step into the field of healthcare and train young men and women in their own country to give care to their fellow citizens, in a state-of-the-art environment, with state-of-the-art knowledge, was very powerful and, for me, very personal,” noted Perez. “They will be an extension of our ministry for decades to come.”

The three-story health education facility, built to accommodate the university’s newly established nursing and medical equipment technology programs, has already eased space problems on the campus of 2,500 students. It houses a departmental library, lecture rooms, a conference hall, a science laboratory, offices, and a nursing skills development center.

Much of the money needed to complete the project came from Adventist HealthCare, Kettering, and AEC. “Since the Columbia Union is the umbrella body for the donor organizations, we thought it appropriate to name the facility (above) after the union,” said university president Seth Laryea (center with Columbia Union officers and the Ghana Union president).

The partnership between the Columbia Union and the Ghana Union was formed in 2005 to “enrich and improve the Church’s work in Ghana,” Laryea explained. Lee spearheaded it through the Columbia Union’s Missions Abroad initiative, which supports projects in many parts of the world.

“When leaders of our healthcare systems, conferences, and I visited the university and saw what they were attempting to do, we were so impressed with the vision, mission, and faith of President Laryea, that we wanted to help,” Lee recalls. He also sent Gina Brown, chair of Columbia Union College’s nursing department (now its graduate school dean), and Minnie McNeil, an AEC departmental director, to help develop the nursing program. Lee says the program has been accredited and students are now being trained in the new facility. Their education will be further enhanced through Kettering’s faculty exchange program.

—Solace Asafo and Taashi Rave/Adventist News Network
News from the Multilingual Ministries Department

Master of Pastoral Ministry Offered
The Multilingual Ministries department of the Columbia Union Conference, along with the Institute of Hispanic Ministries at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University (Mich.), will offer intensive classes for pastors interested in receiving a Master of Pastoral Ministry. The classes will be conducted in Spanish at the Columbia Union headquarters as follows: August 10-14, Church Leadership; August 17-21, Studies in the New Testament Exegesis; February 1-5, 2009, Hispanic American Culture. The union will cover tuition; students are asked to cover travel, lodging, and food expenses. For more information, email sgarcia@columbiaunion.net.

School of Theology Established
Another partnership with the seminary is the development of the School of Theology for Disciples, which will offer Spanish-speaking members theoretical and practical instruction on a variety of topics. The goal is for every believer to develop his or her spiritual talents to accomplish the work that the Lord has commissioned. Certificates are currently available in small group leadership, Bible instruction, evangelism, and assistant pastor. The Potomac Conference pioneered this program and recently held their first graduation (below). The program is now being launched in the Pennsylvania and Ohio conferences.

Union City Hosts Health Seminar
Recently the Union City (Pa.) Spanish church, hosted a health seminar for more than 100 members and visitors. Presenter Rubén Ramos, assistant to the president for Multilingual Ministries, encouraged them to maintain a healthy physical and spiritual lifestyle through proper eating, exercise, and Bible study (below). Secondly, to survive as a denomination, we must plant new churches to replace those that are dying or at a plateau. The final fruit of a church is not just new believers, but another church that nourishes and produces new believers. Compare it to an apple tree. The final fruit is not just apples; it is the ability to—through the fruit’s seed—produce other trees that will produce apples. The cycle continues, and, like an apple tree, a church might eventually die, but only after it has already produced other churches. This leads to the third reason for church planting: It is the most effective way to finish God’s work and enlarge His kingdom.

What would happen if every newly planted church committed to planting another congregation? What if, in the next two years, every district were committed to planting another congregation? What would happen if every newly planted church committed to planting another in the following two years, continuing the cycle? The Lord’s return would be hastened. That’s why the Multilingual Ministries department of the Columbia Union is joining the local conferences to establish new multilingual churches, where there presently are none. Last year a church of over 70 Hispanic members was established where there was previously not a single Hispanic Adventist member. This church—Roanoke (Va.) Spanish (left)—has now branched out into Lynchburg and Martinsville, starting church plantings there too. In 2007 over 100 new believers were baptized. “The key to our success has been hard work and a desire to see Christ’s soon return,” says Pastor Omar Fismed.

Multilingual Ministries is now partnering with the Pennsylvania Conference to plant churches in Philadelphia and Harrisburg/ Chambersburg. Ohio Conference’s Worthington church will also participate by launching plans for three new church plants in the Columbus metro area. For more information or to get involved, email sgarcia@columbiaunion.net or call (410) 997-3414, ext. 586.

Efforts Underway in Virginia, Ohio, and Pennsylvania
Members of the Richmond Evangelistic Center in Virginia dedicated their new facility to the Lord last month. Some 500 people, including the officers of the Potomac Conference, representatives from local government, leaders from Maranatha Volunteers International (which helped build the facility), and members of area churches attended the Sabbath celebration. Right after the September 11 tragedy, their previous facility was burned. Now that it’s rebuilt, Pastor Lrián Olivera and his congregation are committed to an ambitious outreach program and want to plant four new congregations in the Richmond metro area.

Following a week of reaping meetings by Rubén Ramos, 14 people (below) were baptized in Columbus, Ohio. Local Hispanic leaders are embarking on an initiative to plant three Hispanic churches and one Portuguese church in the Columbus metro area during the next three years. At their annual lay festival in Strasburg, Pa., more than 250 Pennsylvania Hispanics enjoyed seminars by guest speaker Carlos Martin on church growth and discipleship. Then, led by conference Hispanic coordinator Juan Lopez, they committed themselves to bring 375 people to Christ this year.

Department Prioritizes Church Planting
Why is church planting such an important part of ministry? First and foremost, it is God’s will. From the very beginning of this Earth’s history, God commanded us to “fill the earth.” It was His plan that man would continue planting other gardens, until the Earth was covered. God’s command did not end with the introduction of sin. “To the people of Israel and to “spiritual Israel” (today’s church), God’s commission is the same. That is, to fill the Earth with the knowledge of His love and will, reaching all ethnic groups and languages and planting the seeds of the Good News. In the history of the early church, the disciples went to every corner of the world establishing churches. That was Paul’s main strategy of evangelism.

Why is church planting such an effective way to finish God’s mission? It is for every believer to develop his or her spiritual talents to accomplish the work that the Lord has commissioned. The denomination is not just new believers, but another church that nourishes and produces new believers. The cycle continues, and, like an apple tree, a church might eventually die, but only after it has already produced other churches. This leads to the third reason for church planting. It is the most effective way to finish God’s mission.
The Wonder of Jesus: He Still Touches Hearts

Roy Adams

This quarter’s Adult Bible Study Guide author is Roy Adams, associate editor of the Adventist Review/Adventist World and a member of Potomac’s Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md. He also wrote the companion book, The Wonder of Jesus: He Still Touches Hearts, available at your ABC. “When given a choice as to which subject I’d like to tackle, I immediately chose to write about my best Friend,” he says. “I tried to write about Jesus from a perspective that’s deeply personal. ... Socrates taught for 40 years, Plato for 50, Aristotle for 40, Jesus for not even four. Yet the impact of His short ministry infinitely exceeds that of the combined 130 years of those three Greek giants. His life and ministry merit our repeated thoughtful contemplation.”

How Many Pushups Can You Do?

If floor-based pushups are too difficult, start by leaning against a wall or countertop and pushing up. Depending on your ability, add one hand or both to the equation. Having a strong upper body isn’t just about looking good, however. Strength exercises like the pushup can prevent the loss of muscle mass that occurs with aging so you can continue to perform everyday tasks, like lifting or carrying. Pushups can also provide the strength needed to reach out and break a fall (and get back up again).

So how many pushups did you do? Check out www.exrx.net/Calculators/PushUps.html to calculate your score, then set a realistic goal for yourself to increase that number.

Only an Adventist ...

can make a connection between the numbers 3, 7, 666, 1,260, 1844, and 144,000.

In the Spotlight >

Dick Thomas

Ever heard of a magabook? These “message books” help illuminate Christ’s message of hope with the community and produce money for Adventist education. It all started in 1987 when North Pacific Union Conference administrators were looking for a way to support the growing financial needs of Adventist schools and students. “It was suggested that we follow the counsel of Ellen White and have students and teachers sell books door to door,” says K. Dick Thomas, a veteran literature associate and current pastor of Chesapeake’s Catoctin View church in Thurmont, Md., and Middletown Valley (Md.) church.

The first magabook, He Taught Love, was created from 12 chapters of White’s Christ’s Object Lessons and printed by the Review and Herald Publishing Association. Thomas says the venture was successful and hundreds of thousands of beautifully designed magabooks were distributed for donations of $15-$20.

This prompted church leaders to create a series that included children’s books, a health book, a cookbook, and message books from the Desire of Ages, The Great Controversy, and Steps to Christ.

Twenty years later, the program is in no way losing steam. “The publishing house reports that more message books are being placed in the community now than at any time in the history of our church,” Thomas gladly notes. And he should know. Not only did he help start the program, he’s still promoting it and using it. For two weeks last summer, he and a group of student LEs visited every home in his district where they “placed” 2,000 magabooks for $20,000 in donations. “We also received over 100 requests for Bible studies in person or via correspondence,” Thomas reports. The effort also yielded testimonies. One family that purchased three magabooks, confessed to an LE that they were Adventist members who hadn’t been to church in 15 years. They’re now engaged in Bible studies. Another Adventist family, who also hadn’t been to church in years, is now attending the Middletown Valley church.

To get your students involved, call Dale Thomas at the Review and Herald Publishing Association at (301) 393-4120.
On the hot, sunny Sabbath that the Ga-Kgapane Seventh-day Adventist Church (1) was dedicated to the Lord, there was rejoicing in heaven and on Earth because a dream had come true.

The new windows, the new doors, the new light fixtures, the cement floors, the freshly painted pale green walls, the new baptistry, the chairs laced with ribbon, and even the new handcrafted wooden pulpit—still sticky with drying varnish—echoed the people's praises to God (2).

They sang, they prayed, they danced, they clapped, they cheered, they even rang their tongues, “ululating” in the traditional tribal way and adding to the cacophony of praise. “La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la,” they shouted, “La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, … ”

They officially opened every entrance to the church—the gate, the front door, the side door, the windows, the pulpit, and the baptistry—with prayer, speeches, and the cutting of ribbons. Though the church had only 25 official members, it overflowed with visitors and pastors from other churches, conference and union officials, the city mayor, a renowned tribal chief, and even a delegation from the Rain Queen’s council (3).

“I know that many hours, many dreams, many resources, many prayers, and many board meetings have gone into this church, and you may be proud of this place,” said Francois Louw (4, right), president of the Southern Africa Union. “This is an historic moment in the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, as we have planted a lighthouse in this city to the honor and glory of God.”

“IT was 1954 when my father married my mother and brought her here,” says David Mohosana, now of Johannesburg. “His mother, Monica, told my mother, Rebecca, that she must put away her Seventh-day Adventist beliefs and become part of her new family’s African Methodist Episcopal Church.”

Knowing the importance of tradition in her culture and wanting to keep the peace, Rebecca agreed on two conditions. “She asked for time to adjust to this request and that her mother-in-law study the Bible with her every afternoon,” says David (5), who brought his father, Richard, to celebrate the opening of the new church, partly the fruits of his mother’s (now deceased) labor.

So every afternoon the two women studied the Bible together until one day, Monica, the mother-in-law, made the decision Rebecca had prayed for: “We will not continue going to that church because we have found the truth of the Sabbath,” she said. Because there was no Adventist church nearby, they worshipped at home.

Then Rebecca started going door to door asking parents to send their children to her home for evening prayer. “The parents agreed and if they didn’t come, she’d go after them,” David recalls. The ministry grew into a home church, attracting parents and grandparents who also accepted the Sabbath truth. In time they rented a school where, led by pastors like Eric Masungwini (6), they worshipped for many years, all the while dreaming of having a real church home. One of the children taught by Rebecca and Monica was Stephen Maringa, elder of the Ga-Kgapane church. He well
remembers the experience that grounded him in his faith and agrees that the new building is a dream come true. “The love of God that is being shown to this church is quite marvelous and I lack ways to express it,” he said admiring the oblong facade. “This challenges me to fill it with people.”

But long before this day was possible, while they were yet praying for a church home, God heard and started to answer their prayers through someone they didn’t even know. Ten years ago, at the cafeteria of the Adventist World Headquarters in Silver Spring, Md., Neville Harcombe, president of the Chesapeake Conference at the time, saw the president of the Southern Africa Union at the time, who told him about the need for church buildings in Harcombe’s native South Africa. With the support of enthusiastic Chesapeake members, they built two churches and started work on the Ga-Kgapane site. “We also bought the drum sets the Pathfinders are using,” he noted, watching them perform drills.

As the celebration progressed, Harcombe, now executive secretary of the Columbia Union Conference, told the worshippers why this day was so special to him and his brother Doug (18), also in attendance. “When I was a little boy, my father was president of the Adventist Church in this region,” he announced to the crowd’s surprise and delight. “Now that we’ve helped complete this church, we wanted to help fill it.”

“I HEARD THE MESSAGE”

When Dave Weigley (9), Columbia Union president, heard about the local church leadership’s desire to hold a meeting here, he volunteered. In preparation, two men (10) partnered to pave the way, knocking on doors in the area and leading interests through Discover Bible School lessons. Freddy Hlungwani, a retired highway worker, has been doing evangelism for 50 years. His white hair and beard cannot mask the warm, spiritual glow that exudes from his chocolate brown skin. “Now that I’m retired, I go wherever the conference needs me,” he said. His partner and protégé, Lethabo Rapitsi, a senior theology major at the Adventist-owned Helderberg College, displays equal passion for ministry. “I know I’m called to seek and save those who are lost,” he said.

Weigley also wants to seek and save the lost. For nine nights, with a PowerPoint presentation and a translator—Bernard Molopa, conference stewardship director—he shared messages of hope that spilled out the doors and windows of the new church and into the community. From the youngest to the oldest, the people came—by bus, by car, by foot—to hear a word from the Lord.

On Saturday they could not wait to be baptized. Late in the afternoon, when the dedications, the ribbon-cuttings, the lunch cooked in large kettles over outdoor fires, and the speeches were all finished, they were baptized—67 in all.

“I heard the message by Pastor Dave that taught me about the Sabbath and baptism,” said 18-year-old Johannes Sathekge (11) who loves music and wants to be a social worker. “He brought powerful words here.”

After Sathekge and dozens of others had been baptized, another young man rose from his seat and repeatedly motioned to himself and then the baptistry. Though the church and the adjoining tent were packed with onlookers, and dozens more watched through the open windows, he managed to get a seat in the sanctuary on the second row. When the elder, Stephen Maringa, realized what this hearing-impaired visitor was saying, he escorted him to the baptistry. Though he could not join the shouts, singing, or ululating that accompanied his rebirth, he beamed with joy upon receiving new life in Christ.

“My heart has been blessed by being in Africa with you,” Weigley told the crowd. “This building is on a hill so it can shine throughout the community. But after the presidents, the guests, and all of us have left, the light will continue to shine through you—the members.”

And for Monica (now aged 100), the members, the pastors, the conference and union leaders, the visitors and special guests, the newly baptized believers, and the heavenly host in attendance, that’s a dream come true.

On the Web: In addition to this eight-page report, visit www.columbiaunion.org to enjoy videos, podcast interviews, and photo blogs featuring Missions Abroad 2008.

Missions Abroad 2008

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AGAINST A COMMON ENEMY

Dwarsoop, South Africa — “What do you need to further your ministry here?” asked Columbia Union Conference president Dave Weigley upon arriving in Dwarsoop to visit Paul and Martha Mawela.

“We need a van to transport our caregivers who walk long distances, the orphan children we feed, the sick, and the elderly who need to go to the hospital,” came the answer from the man known as “Mawela.”

“These are the keys to your new van,” said Weigley, handing Mawela the keys andmotioning to the brand-new, 14-passenger, white Toyota van with rainbow stripes (1).

Gasps accompanied by looks of disbelief moved through the small group of workers who gathered to greet Weigley and his team from the Columbia Union. Soon disbelief turned to shouts of joy, joy to tears of gladness, and tears to singing as the Mawelas and their staff piled into the vehicle and headed down the bumpy dirt road outside the newest of their two community centers (2).

They returned a few minutes later, still singing praises to God in the Shangaan (aka Tsongan) language of their people. “It tells those who are looking that they will find, and those who are knocking, that the door will be opened,” explained Martha between smiles.

“This van is going to be used to advance the kingdom of Jesus in this community,” announced her husband, still trying to contain his emotion.

Every day, through the Nhlengelo Community Home Based Care, they feed 769 orphan children from 12 villages who otherwise would starve. Every day, their 42 caregivers visit the homes of sick people (360 a month) to bathe them, dress their wounds, and make sure they’re taking medicine. And every day, at their new facility, the Khomelela Community Center, they work to help the sick who are often rejected and the elderly who are often neglected.

It all started shortly before his 2004 retirement when Mawela—a pastor, administrator, evangelist, and president of three conferences—and his wife, a teacher and literature evangelist, settled in Dwarsloop, South Africa.

“We want to go to the caring church,” and then two. “Soon our budget couldn’t carry all the people we were feeding,” he says. A meeting with government officials encouraged them to find a way to help the growing number of orphans and sick people in the region. Then their neighbor took Mawela to meet Ezekiel Mashaba, pastor of the local Apostolic Faith Mission. “He introduced my husband to other pastors in the area who agreed to start an interdenominational program,” says Martha, who serves as project manager of the Nhlengelo center, which opened in 2001.

Purchased with a corporate donation, this three-building complex houses a kitchen, an office, and a lapa (a small pavilion) where children aged 5-17 gather after school each day to eat, do homework, and get the attention of caring adults.

They also offer educational classes about HIV/AIDS and other diseases, seek grants for the center, and keep careful records so the children will qualify for foster care and childcare grants. The government provides money for the lunch program, which on this day includes soft white porridge, fried chicken, bean soup, cooked cabbage, and juice.

“The Caring Church”

A few miles from the orphan program, at their church, which houses the new adult center, Mawela and his staff are still trying to comprehend their surprise visit and the much-needed gift.

“I think where it says in the Bible that elders will have dreams is coming true, because Pastor Mawela’s dream was to provide transport and care for the sick and elderly,” says Constance Mkhari, a local church member and treasurer of the new center.

“We are very thankful for the Adventist Church and the government for helping us,” added Pastor Mashaba. “This project is prospering because you are giving so much.”

Both programs are growing, “but so are the needs,” said Neville Harcombe, Columbia Union executive secretary, who developed a relationship with the Mawelas when he was president of the Chesapeake Conference.

Mavela agreed. “We need medical equipment so we can weigh them, take their blood pressure, measure glucose, and,” he hesitated, “you’ve done so much already that I’m afraid to ask for more.”

“Make a list,” said Weigley encouraging him. “We’ll see if we can’t get you some of these things.”

Mavela’s greater burden then became evident; he’s learned so much from this experience that he wants others to catch the vision. “In 44 years in the ministry, we didn’t learn what we now know,” he confessed. “I’ve discovered that when you meet the needs of the people, they’re willing to listen. For example, if you ask for the Seventh-day Adventist church here, the people don’t know what you’re talking about. You must say, ‘We want to go to the caring church,’ and then they’ll point you in that direction,” he said.

“Why is my church not doing more of this kind of service? If we want the kingdom of God to come, maybe we should do something about it.”

Indeed, with two community centers, 45 baptisms, and a growing church, they’re well on their way.
Her name was Rirhandzu, and today when we visited the Mawelas’ program, this tall, skinny teenager—dressed from head to toe in a matching blue sweater, skirt, and socks—came for lunch and agreed to show us her home. Rirhandzu lives down a long dirt path (1) within walking distance of Nhlengelo Home Based Care, and it has become a raven in the desert of her life. Without them,” she says, “I would not live.”

It’s hard to believe that this region, less than a day’s journey from the sprawling city of Johannesburg, is rife with people suffering and dying from malaria, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, diabetes, and hunger. It’s also hard to believe that there’s a little girl who washes herself and her clothes in the river down the bushy embankment from her house (2). There appeared to be electricity, but there was no running water, bathroom, air conditioning, television, or lamps. To cook anything she has to gather wood and build a fire in the adjacent dirt-floor kitchen (3).

But cooking is the least of her problems—because she has no food. In her house there are no cabinets or pantries with crackers, soup, bottled water, or other staples. Five or six bowls, pots, pans, and a huge kettle sat unused on the cement floor as monuments to days gone by when her three-room cinderblock house was filled with parents, structure, love, and laughter—the meaning of her name.

On the other side of the room, her equally tall 13-year-old brother, Themba, barely filling his torn, sky blue dress shirt and gray pants, leaned against a small white refrigerator turned on its side. “That’s where we store our dishes,” Rirhandzu told me. I looked inside and spotted two or three plastic plates, a pastel-colored plastic cup, and a cutting knife. There was another knife on the small white table where we sat to talk. Surrounded by four white plastic chairs, it was dusty, and when I leaned on it, I realized it was broken and the legs were wobbling. Themba, whose name means “believer” (seems everyone in South Africa can tell you what their name means), didn’t smile often, but brightened when asked if he has a favorite soccer team. “The Pirates,” he answered through giggles. He has their posters on the back of the bedroom he shares with his sister. Their room featured a queen-sized bed; a large bay window draped with a sheet; a steel clothing rod with four or five wire hangers, which held the extent of their collective wardrobe; and a wooden shelf holding a few toiletries (4). The only other room in the house belonged to their 17-year-old brother, who was not home.

When I asked Rirhandzu for her parents, her eyes dropped to the table. “They passed down away,” she said. They died in 2003 when she was 9 and Themba was 8; but she said she didn’t know why. It could have been malaria, the most common cause of death in this region, or tuberculosis. But most likely, it was AIDS, which is ravaging the continent and causing a strange, but all-too-common phenomenon—child-headed households. Martha Mawela, from Nhlengelo, told me that 90 of the 769 orphaned children they help come from child-headed households. She and her staff of 42 visit these homes to look after the children and feed them when they come to the center.

I gave her a bag of things for the children: colored pencils, coloring books, cartoon-character erasers, small bottles of scented bubbles, a pullover, and two black backpacks. Since there were hundreds of kids, and I could only squeeze a few dozen items into my suitcase, they would have to share. But when we left to go to Rirhandzu’s home, I grabbed the backpacks and one grape-scented bottle of bubbles.

“It is lotion?” she smiled excitedly. “I want lotion.”

I flashed back to my life—some 14 hours away by plane. It was filled with lotion—at my desk, in my car, in my purse, and even in my gym bag. Lotion was everywhere in my life because the last thing I want to be is “ashy.” But here I was in Dwarsloop, South Africa, in the cool, dark kitchen of a cinderblock house, a half-mile down a dirt path with a 14-year-old girl who lost both her parents to AIDS, who goes to school without breakfast and goes to bed hungry, washes her clothes and her body in the river, has no bathroom and no running water, and has holes in her socks.

And I brought bubbles.
More Than Just a Paycheck

Fifteen years ago, a tall man walked into the Potomac ABC. He introduced himself to the book department buyer, Paul Glenn, and said his name was Johnny Johnson. “I’ve checked out your store,” he said, “and I’d like to place my book here.” Glenn soon learned that Johnson was the assistant secretary of the United States Navy. He had written an autobiography titled Beyond Defeat. Glenn took the book home, read it, and found it to be an inspiring life story. Soon the Potomac ABC was selling it and hosting book signings for its author.

Glenn invited Johnson to share his story with the store’s staff at worship, and soon after that, with his Triadelphia church Sabbath School class in Clarksville, Md. A friendship developed and, in time, Johnson and his wife, Juanita, joined the Adventist Church. His book was reprinted, this time by Pacific Press Publishing Association (Idaho). Today Johnson runs a training program for unemployed fathers in Washington, D.C. As for Paul Glenn’s role in the story, Johnson says, “Paul didn’t tell me what Adventists are like; he showed me what Adventists are like.”

Adventist Book Centers have many employees like Paul Glenn. They consider their work much more than a job. And they get much more from it than a paycheck. Many have stories of their own. Take Herb Shiroma, manager of the New Jersey ABC. His family converted from Buddhism when he was a small boy—because of Adventist books. “The ministry of the written word touched my life personally,” he says. “When I share our books with others, I do it with confidence. I know they change lives; I’ve seen it happen.”

Or take Jay Cole, manager of the Pennsylvania ABC. “I think my spiritual gift is helping people,” he says. God knew this before Cole did. Clyde Kinder, then manager of the Potomac ABC, hired him—barely out of Columbia Union College. An accounting major, Cole was working in Washington, D.C., and saw his career heading in the direction of government service. But Kinder (and God) had other plans. Now Cole’s vision for the Pennsylvania ABC is to help church members and non-members find the ministry of the written word touched my life personally,” he says. “When I share our books with others, I do it with confidence. I know they change lives; I’ve seen it happen.”

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Will you pray with me?” The soft-spoken woman had been waiting a long time for the opportunity to speak to Ben Carson, MD, who was signing books in an Adventist Book Center (ABC). When it was her turn to meet him, she made her hesitant request. And even though there were at least 300 people in line behind her, Dr. Carson put down his pen, bowed his head, and quietly said a prayer.

Incidents like this happen frequently in Adventist Book Centers. Unlike other retail stores, they are unique places of ministry, places where the Holy Spirit works. The ministry of Adventist Book Centers is nearly as old as the Seventh-day Adventist Church itself. Most Adventists know something about the beginnings of our publishing work, but few are aware that organizing a “tract society” was a vital part of the establishment of each conference. The Virginia Tract Society—the forerunner of the Potomac ABC—was established in Richmond in 1894, and had evolved into a bookstore by 1904. The Pennsylvania Tract Society was also actively distributing witnessing materials to members in 1904—this at a time when the conference had only 800 members. ABCs are the direct descendants of those early ministries. And more than a century later, they still provide a vital ministry for the Adventist Church.

After 100+ years, Adventist Book Centers still provide a vital service to the Adventist Church.
How can you help ABCs fulfill their mission?

- Introduce new members to the ABC and its services.
- Provide feedback—tell them what you and your church need.
- Let them know when you have special events in your church.
- Keep them in your prayers.

right materials for their spiritual growth and witnessing needs.

Cole is especially excited about his store’s new bookmobile. Bookmobiles are a unique part of the ministry of many ABCs. Pennsylvania’s bookmobile, for instance, makes more than 50 stops during the 12 weeks of its annual spring run, taking vegetarian foods, books, and other materials to shoppers in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Allegheny East churches.

A sense of urgency about sharing the gospel is what drives Aggie de Castro, the Adventist Book Center manager in Ohio. The store in Mt. Vernon has just been remodeled. Because it’s located adjacent to the Knox County Fairgrounds, they often participate in community events that are held there. “We want to place soul-winning literature in people’s hands,” says de Castro. “We say to our members, ‘Let us know what your witnessing needs are,’” he adds. “No matter your budget, we have something you can afford.”

Among its many activities, the Allegheny East ABC, managed by Joan Cummings, supports the conference’s annual fitness camp in a big way. It supplies the campers—most of whom are not Adventists and are striving to adopt healthier lifestyles—with health-oriented reading materials, vegetarian cookbooks, and meat alternatives to set them on the path to a new lifestyle.

Potomac ABC has a long-standing reputation for being on the cutting edge. Back in the 1960s, the conference made a decision that has guided its store’s path ever since—to become a full-service, community-focused Christian bookstore devoted to promoting better living through food, literature, and music. Clyde Kinder, and Lois Butler before him, led the way, choosing the product line, extending store hours, and running the store so that it would be a light in the community while still supporting the needs of church members.

“I looked up from my desk one day,” Kinder remembers, “and saw a Muslim, a Catholic priest, and a rabbi all shopping in the store at the same time. I knew then that we were meeting our mission.” During his long tenure, the store sponsored frequent special events, children’s story time, and book signings, hosting a wide range of authors and artists such as Rosa Parks, Sandi Patti, Tipper Gore, and the provost of the National Cathedral.

Current manager Maurine Wahlen and her staff continue that tradition, drawing large crowds for book signings and performances by Christian musicians. In addition, they reach out to the community using radio, print advertising, and the Internet. “Our vision,” she says, “is not just to sell books, food, or anything else, but to engage in ministry.” Wahlen, a certified public accountant, knows whereof she speaks. The daughter of missionaries and a former missionary herself, she gave her first Bible studies as a high school student in Singapore, after going door to door to invite people to attend.

Together in Ministry

Though spread across the mid-Atlantic, the Columbia Union ABCs work together in ministry. In addition to serving their walk-in customers, providing bookmobile service, and supporting conference events such as camp meetings, they handle countless mail, phone, and Internet orders through www.adventistbookcenter.com, which is shared by the 50 or so ABCs in North America. It’s evident that just as in the days when our denomination was in its infancy, Adventist Book Centers still form a vital part of the church’s mission.

Retired after many years in the publishing ministry, Susan Phelps Harvey and her husband, Rhea, now divide their time between Hagerstown, Md., and Seattle, Wash., and are members of the Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md.
Seventh-day Adventists have our own vernacular where food is concerned. Haystacks, FriChik, and Stripples mean nothing to the average person, but to an Adventist those words mean lunch.

Case in point. Every year during Potomac Conference Camp Meeting, my mother would drag me to the improvised Adventist Book Center (ABC) on the campus of Shenandoah Valley Academy (SVA) in New Market, Va., to stock up on products that she’d otherwise have to drive hours to get in Maryland.

“How am I supposed to cook without this?” she’d reply rhetorically, putting an end to my questions. How indeed? Breakfast without Stripples and Sabbath dinner without FriChik was almost unimaginable.

**Adventists and Veggie Meat—The Beginning**

Adventists began our lengthy, tasty, and profitable relationship with the meat-replacement food product industry about a century ago. In an era where bacon-n-eggs were the breakfast du jour, a few individuals thought differently. One of them was John Harvey Kellogg, MD (right), the arguable founder of “veggie meat.” Kellogg was physician-in-chief of the Battle Creek Sanitarium (Mich.), Adventist-affiliated during the first portion of his leadership. Kellogg purported a healthy lifestyle and practiced what he preached, living to age 91. In 1896 he developed America’s first meat analog product.

Despite a rift occurring between Kellogg and the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1907, his influence on other entrepreneurial Adventist food producers remained. Some other major Adventist contributors to the “veggie meat revolution” include Harry Miller, MD (who invented the beloved Vega Links and is known by some Adventists as “the China doctor”), and George T. Harding III, MD, who in 1939 founded Special Foods, which later became Worthington Foods, Inc.

The Adventist Church, during Kellogg, Miller, and Harding’s time, prescribed largely a strict dietary plan, nearly unheard of at the time. This plan—emphasized by Kellogg at the Battle Creek Sanitarium and by Adventist co-founder Ellen G. White in multiple works—prohibited consumption of pork, ham, shellfish, caffeine, and tobacco and suggested limited consumption of meat, spices, cheese, eggs, and milk. Some of these guidelines were based on biblical interpretation (pork and shellfish), some on health beliefs (caffeine and tobacco), and others on health benefits (like those seen in Adventist hospitals that served vegetarian menus).

Due to the uncertainty about the ease of cooking on such a strict diet, the way was paved for industries specializing in food production to serve the growing number of people adhering to the Adventist diet.

**A Vege-Dog is Born**

Though they’ve fluctuated greatly during the last century, Adventist-owned brands have a wide following among consumers. Some older-generation Adventists may recall NESPAK foods out of the New England Sanitarium; meat analogs named Nuttose and Proteose out of the Washington Sanitarium (now Washington Adventist Hospital in Takoma Park, Md.); Hillcrest Health Products; and Millstone Foods.

Another Adventist-owned brand—Cedar Lake Foods—which grew out of Cedar Lake Academy in Michigan, was sold to Adventist-owned Country Life Natural Foods in the early 1980s. Cedar Lake offers meat replacement products such as Quik-Burger, Vegi-Franks, and Breakfast Sausage. They also make numerous frozen products, such as Tofu Franks and Vege-Dogs.

The most widely known Adventist-owned food producer, however, is Worthington Foods, Inc., which has owned the Loma Linda brand of health food since 1990. Worthington Foods also owns Morningstar Farms, which has far greater distribution than any of its other brands. During the 1990s, Morningstar Farms won several prestigious contracts with major fast food companies (i.e., Burger King and Subway). In 1999 it was sold to the Kellogg Company, John Harvey Kellogg’s legacy.
As of the sale, Morningstar Farms was the fastest growing brand in the frozen section of U.S. supermarkets and had a 47 percent market share in the meat substitute category,” says Dale Twomley, PhD, former president and CEO of Worthington Foods and current principal of SVA. He led Worthington for 17 years and was instrumental in the negotiation and sale, which he was initiated by Kellogg.

Are We Still Eating Veggie Meat?

The Adventist Health Study-2, currently being analyzed, suggests that nearly 32 percent of the nearly 5.7 million Americans were vegetarian. In 2000, 10 percent of 18- to 29-year-olds were vegetarian and the total list on display at the store recently is quite lengthy. “We don’t know why these products were discontinued. Some of them were kind of the favorites,” said Potomac employee Gabriel Merrill. “[Loma Linda’s] Nureena and Sandwich Spread [come to mind].” With these discontinuations comes the promise of new and better products, but Merrill pointed out that the newest items in the store were manufactured by Cedar Lake Foods, a much smaller entity than those owned by Kellogg. “In general, our strategy with our Worthington Foods Morningstar Farms range of products is to offer more of new and better products,” said Merrill. “And we will continue to introduce new products that provide great taste, nutrition, and convenience for our consumers.”

The Future of Meat Analogs

While health, convenience, tradition, and a rich history of Adventist-affiliated food production keeps many Adventists using meat replacement products, the market is rapidly transcending our culture. The corporate ownership of once-small food production businesses signals healthy business margins and more options for an ever-growing consumer base.

Statistics show that the number of vegetarians in the United States has doubled since 1994. In addition, the 2000 U.S. Census estimated there to be a total of 5.7 million American vegetarians, or twice that in 1943 Gallup Poll in which only 2.5 million Americans were vegetarian.

All these vegetarian consumers are translating into hard profits for the veggie meat industry. Of Kellogg Company’s $11 billion profit in 2007, $500 million came from the sale of frozen foods. Morningstar Farms is now considered one of the “big three” frozen retail brands under Kellogg and claims a huge 67.9 percent dollar share.

But, with large corporate ownership, there’s always a new marketing focus to be considered. “[Morningstar Farms] is not simply about meat substitutes anymore,” said Jim Poppens, Kellogg’s vice president of Marketing, by phone. “It’s about the positives and presence of vegetables.”

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Kellogg, the company has gone from five Morningstar freezer products to more than 40, including their Morningstar Organics line. “In addition, we created a whole new category of ‘veggie’ style products such as our Morningstar Frenzy Black Bean Burgers—that are made from vegetables, not designed to mimic meat, but are just great-tasting vegetarian products for consumers,” he noted. He promised that Kellogg would continue to expand its range of offerings, “with new flavors, new forms, and expanded vegan options.”

It only takes a cursory glance into the freezers to see that the veggie meat offerings are changing. Instead of singular meat substitute items like FriChik, patrons can pick up lasagnas, breakfast burritos, and other ready-made meals from a variety of companies. In addition, competition is growing with the dawn of Vibrant Life, Boca, Yves, and other brands.

As long as there is a vibrant Adventist consumer market for old favorites, and a curiosity about new ones, it doesn’t seem as though the Worthington, Cedar Lake, or Loma Linda brands will go away completely. That’s not to say, however, that there aren’t a significant number of people who will miss their favorite stand-bys. “I can’t believe they discontinued [Worthington Food’s] Numette!” exclaimed shopper Brandon Day, a member of Chesapeake’s Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Md., and a lifelong Adventist vegetarian. “I loved that stuff.”

Jaclyn Wiley, a senior public relations major at CLUC, loves Worthington Scallops coated with Cajun seasoning and grilled on the stove, with a little bit of olive oil.

**Ingredients:**
- 16 oz bottle of Kraft Thousand Island Dressing
- 18 oz jar of apricot preserves or jam
- 1 roll of Worthington Chic-ketts
- 2 cups Kellogg’s Cornflake Crumbs
- 2 beaten eggs or substitute eggs (optional)
- 3 dashes of Goya seasoning (optional)
- 1 bottle of Kraft Thousand Island Dressing
- 2 tablespoons of Goya seasoning (optional)

**Method:**
1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees and heat cooking oil in deep frying pan.
2. Roll Chic-ketts in cornflake crumbs, brown in about 90 seconds, and drain excess grease on paper towel.
3. Spoon preserves into a baking dish or separate bowl. Pour salad dressing over meat.
5. Bake for 30 minutes.

**股权文本**

**focused on God’s mission**

When I feel the pressures of the healthcare environment, it’s not with a sense of discouragement or a feeling of being overwhelmed. Instead, I am thrilled to know that God is working through His church and healthcare organizations to touch people’s lives in a most powerful way. It is His mission.

Mission service is not only a location, but a state of mind—an attitude of sincere love put into action. That’s why Kettering Adventist HealthCare demonstrates a deep and active commitment to our local communities. We continue to expand our reach into the lives of people in the Miami Valley of Southwest Ohio. We see this in our recent collaboration with the U.S. Air Force, Siemens International, and other partners in a fatigue research initiative. There’s also the appointment of Thomas Hardy, DO, vice president of Medical Affairs at our Grandview Medical Center, to a government taskforce that serves Medicare patients (see stories, p. 26).

Mission also drives us to provide the highest quality of care for our patients. Our hospitals continue to distinguish themselves by winning multiple and consecutive awards for patient outcomes, technological development, and overall quality (see story, p. 26). What do these awards mean to you and to our church family? The answer lies in every area of our organization. In all departments, we strive to reflect a sense of mission expressed through excellent care that is a physical manifestation of God’s love.

Our drive for excellence and compassion in mission goes far beyond the borders of Ohio and even the United States. In recent months we have been honored to celebrate the dedication of a much-needed hospital in Haryana, India (see next page), and the opening of the first private Allied Health Education Center in Ghana, Africa (see story, p. 5).

As you read this edition of Your Healing Ministry, plans are being laid for expanded outreach to our local communities, and foreign mission opportunities are being developed. Please join us in supporting these endeavors with your prayers! God bless you.

Frank J. Perez is CEO of Kettering Adventist HealthCare, located in Kettering, Ohio.
Joyous Celebration Marks Hospital Opening in India

Kathryn Stiles

Recently community members flocked to a joyful celebration and dedication that marked the opening of the Sukhdev Raj Soin Hospital in Haryana, India. The beautiful, full-service medical center was the result of a collaboration between Soin Foundation USA and Kettering Adventist HealthCare. It will serve a population desperately in need of healthcare in the village of Banchari, located in Hodal, Haryana, India, in the southern region.

Raj Soin and his wife, Indu, created Soin Foundation USA for the purpose of supporting philanthropic causes in areas of education, healthcare, and the arts. In 2000 Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, renamed its business college The Raj Soin College of Business to recognize his contributions to them and the community. The school has been recognized by Business News magazine as one of the best business training centers in the United States.

The Soins also dreamed of building a hospital in honor of Raj’s father, the late Sukhdev Raj Soin, in their family’s village in India. That noble dream was realized at the opening of the hospital. The Soins funded the hospital construction and operations while KAHC provided professional consultation and medical equipment. It is the only medical facility in a 10-mile radius and will support a community of 2.3 million people.

Raj Soin is a member of the Kettering Health Network Board of Directors. His son, Vassal Soin, is an executive in business, and his other son, Amol Soin, MD, is a Kettering Medical Center pain medicine specialist.

Musicians in celebratory dress add to the joyous atmosphere of the opening ceremony.

The dedication ceremony was filled to capacity with grateful members of the community, church leaders, and healthcare professionals.
New Facility Provides Services in the Suburbs

Nationwide healthcare trends show growth in the suburbs with patients and physicians seeking convenient locations and easier access to services. Kettering Adventist HealthCare is responding with expansion into suburban areas. A prime example of this quest for improved customer service is last month’s opening of the 75,000 sq. ft. Sugarcreek Health Center in Sugarcreek Township, Ohio, near Kettering. Several specialty and family practice physician groups including obstetrics, sports medicine, physical medicine, and EMG physician specialists are based in the building, which is three stories in the center and two stories on the north and south ends. Offerings currently include lab services, X-ray, and EMG. Expanded services such as CT, MRI, DEXA, ultrasound, sports rehabilitation, physical therapy, and hand therapy will be added by the time the final 23,000 sq. ft. of the building are fully operational in September.

The Air Force Research Laboratory will soon be added by the time the final 23,000 sq. ft. of the building, which is three stories in the center and two stories on the north and south ends. Offerings currently include lab services, X-ray, and EMG. Expanded services such as CT, MRI, DEXA, ultrasound, sports rehabilitation, physical therapy, and hand therapy will be added by the time the final 23,000 sq. ft. of the building are fully operational in September.

Kettering Adventist HealthCare’s Grandview Medical Center, has been appointed by Gov. Ted Strickland to serve on the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) Medical Care Advisory Committee. This group is responsible for developing and refining Ohio’s Medicaid program.

Dr. Hardy, selected from 80 applicants to serve a three-year term, is actively engaged in caring for Medicaid patients at theVictor J. Cassano Health Center and brings that unique perspective to the committee.

The committee advises ODJFS regarding policy development, program administration, and financing decisions for Ohio’s Medicaid program and other publicly funded healthcare programs administered by ODJFS.

Kettering Makes Top 100—Again

For six consecutive years, Kettering Medical Center has been named among the Thompson Top 100 Hospitals in the Nation (previously Solucient Top 100 Hospitals). Another campus, Kettering Medical Center-Sycamore has received the honor for a second consecutive year. The award recognizes patient quality care and measures implementation of cutting edge technology.

In addition, Kettering’s Grandview and Southview hospitals are among only 63 American hospitals to have won the HealthGrades Distinguished Hospital for clinical Excellence Award five years running, from 2004 to 2008. That award demonstrates superior patient outcome and highest quality of care delivery.

KAMC campus.

Grandview Vice President to Serve on Governor’s Committee

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Kettering Collaborates With Military on Sleep Study

The Air Force Research Laboratory will soon share state-of-the-art research facilities and equipment with Kettering Adventist Medical Center (KAMC). This collaboration includes Siemens Medical Solutions USA and the University of Dayton Research Institute. These four institutions are partnering on a human effectiveness study aimed at predicting negative effects from sleep deprivation. They will also work to develop imaging techniques for creating individualized diagnostic and treatment options for people in poor health.

“This is extremely exciting news for the future of healthcare and business in Dayton,” says Gary Lustgarten (left), vice president for corporate development at KAMC’s Kettering Health Network. “It also goes directly back to our mission to improve the quality of life for the people in the communities we serve, but these advancements could be significant well beyond our nine-county area.”

Air Force Col. Patricia A. Reilly indicated the research would also have implications that go well beyond military uses. “This counter-fatigue study can be a breakthrough for a wide range of the populations, from truck drivers to commercial airline pilots and physicians.”

Physicians and support staff will be employed to spearhead this collaborative effort and will work out of the Wallace-Kettering Neuroscience Institute on the KAMC campus.

Spiritual Revival: God’s Answer to Our Dilemma

Pine Forge Academy • June 26-July 6

Welcome

It is always with joy that I welcome you to the best camp meeting this side of heaven. My joys would be eternal if our heavenly Father were welcoming us to the great camp meeting He has prepared for us. Yes, our Father has prepared a great camp meeting and is waiting for us to ready ourselves to attend. However, I am fearful that most of God’s people have gotten so comfortable with life on Earth that they have forgotten that we are supposed to be preparing for that journey. It is in light of that dilemma that we have selected our theme this year.

We have invited Charles D. Brooks and other leaders to inspire us to make the proper arrangements for our travel. As always, we will have the best environment for the greatest spiritual renewal, including seminars of various kinds. We have also planned special events and department theme events, plus music out of this world. It will be a taste of the divine experience that will be a breakthrough for a wide range of the population, from truck drivers to commercial airline pilots and physicians.

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Divine Worship • June 28 • Charles D. Brooks is speaker/director emeritus of the Breath of Life Television Ministry, and has served the denomination for more than 56 years and is, as he says, “still going.” Brooks has actively worked on six of the seven continents, baptizing more than 14,000 people for the kingdom of God. He was included in the book Who’s Who in Religion, named in Notable Americans, and inducted into the Martin Luther King Jr. Board of Preachers, the Board of Sponsors and the Collegium of Scholars. He has served as a pastor, evangelist, and field secretary for Columbia Union Conference, and most notably the world church. He and his wife, Walterene, have two adult children: Daywane and Kimberly.

Sabbath School • July 5 • Clifford Goldstein is editor of the Adult Sabbath School Quarterly and a prolific author. He served as editor for Religious Liberty and as associate director for the North American Division Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty until 1999.
Youth Ministries is the founder on June 30-July 4. He is a number of talented and Godly speakers will address the young people.

On June 28, senior youth will be addressed by Abraham Jules, young adults by Pete Palmer, and teens by Jonathan Rollie. On July 5, senior youth will receive words of wisdom from Wesley Knight, young adults from Eric Thomas, and teens, again, from Jonathan Rollie.

Prison Ministries is July 4, 10:30 a.m. With Minnie McNeill, conference Prison Ministries director, will discuss the integral parts of ministry within correctional facilities. Topics will include resource development, documentation, and church organization within prison facilities. During this afternoon session, McNeill will also explore a full range of ministry covering issues like literacy, emotional support, and more. Also, hear reports about how God is transforming lives and bringing hope through the service of prison ministers.

Women’s Ministries, Presenting WINGS is June 30-July 4. Vernée Annette Stoddard is the founder and director of WINGS, a Christian etiquette organization for young girls. WINGS—worth, integrity, nurture, growth, and spirituality—helps prepare girls spiritually, socially, and physically for victorious Christ-centered lives and for conveying the biblical values of beauty, purity, compassion, confidence, and humility. It also helps distinguish them as respectful young individuals in society.

“The Holistic Woman” is June 29-July 1, 10:30 a.m. Melva Brown, MD, received her medical degree at Loma Linda University (Calif.) and completed her residency at the U.S. Public Health Hospital in Baltimore. She is an instructor at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and is board certified in internal medicine. Dr. Brown is an elder at the Liberty church in Baltimore and has spoken at many venues across the country and abroad. She is a favored speaker for Women’s Ministries. Ladies will explore the historical journey of women in ministry, and the amazing possibilities for the future.

Adventist Community Services is June 30-July 2, 1:30 p.m. Mark McCleary, pastor of the First church in Washington, D.C., will speak about “Recognizing What You Have Been Given to Give to Others.” This seminar will provide basic biblical insights for understanding, identifying, and implementing your spiritual gifts for the edification of God’s kingdom. It includes a comprehensive theological foundation, passionate explanation, and a simple survey. A textbook and workbook will be made available to all attendees. Bring your Bible and notepad to capture the lecture and presentations that encourages questions for clarity.

“The Adventist American Health Dilemma” is June 30-July 2. The history of Israel would read altogether differently if God had not demanded that they maintain a healthy lifestyle. The story of the manna from heaven gives a new twist on the meaning of healthy living—because it was not just the manna. Could it be that God taught Israel a lifestyle secret? The conference Health Ministries department will unveil some of the historic reasons African-Americans consistently fall at the bottom of most health charts. In addition to wonderful seminars by superior speakers, there will be walking and aerobic exercise sessions each morning, a healthy cooking demonstration, and breast and prostate screenings.

Health Screenings is The conference’s Health and Wellness Department is partnering with PreventFirst, a division of Ultrasound Services of America, Inc., to provide a mobile health physical and assessment for heart attack and stroke prevention. The day will include preventative ultrasound screenings for carotid (stroke), cholesterol, diabetes, blood pressure, and body mass index. There will also be testing for thyroid, complete blood counts, body chemistry, and prostate cancer screening. The Adventist American Health Dilemma is a dynamic lecturer, writer, television personality, radio host, and producer. Recognized as an authority and leading advocate of preventive health, Dr. Watkins is convinced, after treating thousands of patients whose lives have been devastated by the “diseases of lifestyle,” that people need to be taught the principles of a healthy lifestyle if they are going to increase their longevity and eliminate a number of preventable diseases. He is a graduate of Oakwood College (Ala.), now Oakwood University, and Howard University College of Medicine in Washington, D.C., where he completed a five-year residency in surgery. In 1983 he left surgery and became a proponent and practitioner of alternative medicine.

Jim Sharps, ND, PhD, holds doctorates in Naturopathy, Herbolgy, and Nutritional Science. He is a health educator, author, and consultant with a private practice in Columbia, Md., where he conducts both onsite and tele-consultations. He lectures extensively on natural health to a broad spectrum of audiences. Dr. Sharps will share how we are part of the solution for today’s health dilemma. His contagious enthusiasm makes natural health both an enjoyable and informative experience.

Jeanne Charleston, MSN, BSN, RN, is currently on faculty in the Bloomberg School of Public Health, School of Nursing, and School of Medicine. She is the director of Clinical Research Operations at an off-campus, community-based research facility of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. She is also the director of CHAMP (Church/Community Health Awareness and Monitoring Program) with the University of Maryland. She has 25 years experience working with the faith-based community and the community at large in implementing innovative health programs with an emphasis on cardiovascular disease and diabetes.

Louvenia Anderson is the president and founder of Totally You LLC, an award-winning faith-based organization in Baltimore. She is a certified personal trainer through the American Aerobic Association International and International Sports Medicine Association (AAASI/MSAM) which is geared toward weight management and obesity. She is also a certified kids and teen instructor, a fitness motivational speaker, the conference’s Baltimore Area Health Network coordinator, and the president of Sisters of Serenity.

Colby Matlock, pastor of the First church of Millsboro, Del., is a graduate of the Adventist seminary at Andrews University (Mich.) with a Master of Divinity. Matlock is a thoughtful leader and inspiration to his congregation. This enthusiastic presenter is also an avid physical fitness buff. Living what he preaches, he walks and runs miles every day.
Welcome

Paul the apostle reminds us, “We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places” (Eph. 6:12). In essence he is telling us there is a war going on.

Conference family, since we are in battle, we should be prepared and ready to gain the victory. Thus, our theme for camp meeting this year is under the general heading “Victorious Spiritual Warfare,” more specifically, “Prepare for Battle: Bring It On!”

Our purpose will be to not only realize that we are in the midst of a war for our very soul’s salvation, but also to prepare for the battle. Jesus told us “we are more than conquerors,” therefore we need to remind ourselves of what God has promised us: “no weapon formed against us shall prosper.” Not only are we in a battle, but we are designed to be victorious. With that in mind, as conquerors, we do say, “Bring It On!”—James Lewis, President

Victorious Spiritual Warfare—Prepare for Battle: Bring It On!

Allegheny West Campgrounds ■ June 25-29

Speakers

Divine Worship ■ Charles D. Brooks is speaker/director emeritus of the Breath of Life Television Ministry, and has served the denomination for more than 56 years. Brooks has actively worked on six of the seven continents, baptizing more than 14,000 people for the kingdom of God. He was included in the book Who’s Who in Religion, named in Notable Americans, and inducted into the Martin Luther King Jr. Board of Preachers and Collegium of Scholars. He has served as a pastor, evangelist, a field secretary for Columbia Union Conference, and most notably the world church.

Youth Divine Worship ■ Myron Pelote Edmonds is the pastor of the Oakland Park church in Murfreesboro, Tenn. He responded to the call of the gospel ministry while a student at Oakwood College (Ala.), now Oakwood University. He graduated from Andrews University (Mich.) with a Master of Divinity, and remains there in pursuit of a Doctor of Ministry with a concentration in Family Ministries. Edmonds served with distinction as the associate pastor at the First church in Huntsville, Ala., under Pastor Benjamin Jones. While there, he led the church into a successful young adult ministry.

Friday Ordination Service and Workshop Presenter ■ Norman Miles, Sr., PhD, senior pastor of the Trinity Temple church in Newark, N.J., has more than 35 years experience as a pastor, professor, and church administrator. Miles previously pastored in Mississippi, Michigan, and Illinois; was professor of Urban Ministry at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University (Mich.) for 17 years; and was an adjunct professor of Religion at the University of Michigan for nearly 11 years. He has preached and taught in many other countries including England, Jamaica, Trinidad, Nigeria, South Africa, and Canada.
Speakers

Women’s Ministries Saturday, 6:15-7:30 p.m. Speaker Lisa Hood is a homeschool parent of three teenagers, part-time teacher in the Canton City School System, and private tutor and mentor. Hood’s husband, Stan, is pastor of the New Hope church in Canton, Ohio. Their three children are Julius (17), Tristan (16), and Kalena (14). Hood believes in enjoying life and worshipping in spirit and truth.

Disabilities Ministries Friday, 2-3:30 p.m. Under the theme “Understanding Our Neighbors Who are Disabled” participants can learn about autism, how to start a Disabilities Ministries in their own church, and the difference between generational differences and the disabled? Presenter Don Miller has served as Disabilities Ministries director for a number of organizations, including the Columbia Union Conference. During his tenure at the union, Miller coordinated the largest Disability Awareness Day (March 9, 2002) in the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church with 53 churches participating.

Ordination Service Friday, 7:30-9 p.m. Speaker Norman Miles, PhD, will lead in the ordination of Collin Parkinson, the conference’s new Superintendent for Education. Parkinson has extensive experience in both pastoral and educational ministry and remains the pastor of the Present Truth church in Cleveland.

Youth Night Thursday, 7:30-9 p.m. Speaker Christopher Thompson was born and raised in Beaufort, S.C., and attended Oakwood University. He now pastors the Rock of Faith church in Pittsburgh and is pursuing his master’s degree in pastoral studies at Oakwood. He loves children as well as playing, coaching, and discussing basketball.

Multicultural Ministries

Guest speaker for Hispanic attendees is Pastor Carlos Rando. Rando comes from Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he is the retired ministerial secretary for the Chilean Union. He is also the former ministerial secretary for the Austral and Incaica unions.

Guest speaker for youth is George Perez. Born in Mexico but raised in Texas, he has a vivid experience of both cultures and languages. With a background in marketing and a master’s degree from Andrews University (Mich.), Perez worked in several IT and marketing positions before entering the newspaper publishing business. He is the recipient of a number of awards, including the Entrepreneur of the Year, Cincinnati Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in 2007; and Business Person of the Year, LULAC Award in 2007.

Calendar

May
16-18 Bible Instructors Advanced Course AWC Campgrounds
23-25 Children’s Ministries Symposium AWC Campgrounds

June
8 District Leadership Training Northern Ohio
20-22 Trailer Owners Retreat AWC Campgrounds
22-26 Fitness Club Kickoff AWC Campgrounds

July
11-13 Haitian Symposium Roanoke, Va.
13-20 Youth Camp AWC Campgrounds
Our plans for a traditional camp meeting have, of necessity, been changed due to the work being done this summer on the campus of Highland View Academy. As a result, we are seizing the moment and taking on a new and exciting challenge. A series of single-day mission conferences are being planned throughout Chesapeake. The first will be held in Hagerstown, Md., on September 20. The second one will be conducted in the eastern region on October 11. Additional dates, venues, and participants are being lined up for the coming year.

As a people, we have a great longing and desire for the coming of God’s kingdom. First and foremost, our desire is that His kingdom be extended in human hearts. These mission conferences will bring together powerful preaching, great music, and practical training. It is our sincere hope that more members will be inspired and motivated for mission than was ever possible with our traditional approach. Join us at one or all of the conferences as we look forward to, prepare for, and hasten the coming of God’s kingdom.

—Rob Vandeman, President

**Thy Kingdom Come!**

**Hagerstown, MD • September 20**

**Presenters**

Ron Halvorsen, Sr., continues a lifestyle of service in his retirement as prayer coordinator for the It Is Written television ministry and by conducting evangelistic meetings throughout the North American Division. His rich background in ministry includes work as an evangelist, as senior pastor of several major Adventist churches, and for 17 years as the Church Growth director of the Southern Union. He has conducted more than 30 field schools of evangelism, has produced a lay pastoral assistant program, and taught more than 4,000 members how to assist their pastors in ministry within their local congregations.

Gary Krause is director of the Office of Adventist Mission at the Seventh-day Adventist Church World Headquarters. This office has the twin tasks of caring for the church’s Global Mission initiative and informing church members on how their mission offerings are changing lives around the world. Krause—born in Fiji to missionary parents—his wife, Bettina, and their daughter, Bethany, are now missionaries in the asphalt jungles of North America. Krause is the principle contributor to this year’s third quarter Adult Bible Study Guide.

Marvin Ponder has been a pastor for more than 38 years. Herman Harp resides in Georgia and has a gospel music ministry with his wife, Sonnie. Gene Jennings is a court reporter and has his own firm in Nashville, Tenn. Marie Golden is an executive coach and corporate consultant.

**Ponder, Harp & Jennings (PH&J) is an award-winning and much-loved gospel group that toured throughout the country from 1974-96. During this span, the group recorded 10 gospel albums, two of which received the Angel Award for best gospel group and best CD. PH&J articulates the gospel message with energy and thoughtfulness. While not performing, each member has their own profession.**

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Welcome

What a privilege we have to share the ministry of Jesus in the marketplaces of Mountain View just prior to His second coming! The challenges of the enemy and the power of the cross require a trained, drilled, and disciplined gospel army to carry out the human aspects of our Lord’s salvation initiatives.

Our theme this year will highlight the work of our lay members’ ministries in Mountain View. This is a year of witnessing the uniting of lay members, pastors, and teachers in doing the work of ministry in each local church. More than 75 reaping meetings will be held this year, with over 50 of them being held by lay members alone. This year’s camp meeting will focus on hearing how God has used lay members to reach the lost for Jesus.

As always, it is the goal of the Camp Meeting Planning Committee that attendees will gain a richer knowledge of Jesus and His will for their lives.

Bill Boggess
President

Anointed, Disciplined, Disciples—Telling Our World Now!

Valley Vista Adventist Center • June 20-28

Speakers

David Asscherick’s frequent appearances on 3ABN are a favorite of young and old alike the world over. He is an avid rock climber, surfer, bird watcher, nature photographer, fly fisherman, and reader. He and his wife, Violeta, are the parents of two energetic and fun-loving boys. Asscherick is the associate pastor of the Troy (Mich.) church and the director of the ARISE school. In his spare time, he writes and records a commentary on the Sabbath School Quarterly.

Robert Folkenberg, Jr. has served for three years as the associate director of ShareHim, an international evangelistic ministry operated by the Carolina Conference. Before this he served for nine years as a missionary in China and six years as a pastor in the Florida Conference, leading out in many evangelistic endeavors. He holds a degree in religion from Southern Adventist University (Tenn.) and Doctorate of Ministry from Andrews University (Mich.) in the field of Church Growth and Evangelism.

Leo Schreven has spent the last 26 years conducting seminars across the country and overseas. His seminars are so popular that they are booked three years in advance and keep him traveling about 320 days a year! Schreven will help you start an incredible journey of life with personal power. For years he has entertained international audiences as one of the most exciting teachers of life mastery. His teachings through the All Power Seminars are based on solid biblical wisdom and principles. His incredible speed and dynamic presentations will take you through the positive pleasure of improving your life in every aspect. Schreven doesn’t just teach this, he lives it! From sidesplitting laughter to deep personal insights, he guarantees to make this a week to remember.
Seminars

Saturday-Saturday, 6:30 a.m. • Leo Schreven will get attendees going each morning. He has presented the All Power Seminars in several churches throughout Mountain View, and the conference looks forward to having him return.

Monday-Friday, 9:45 a.m. • Mike Jones, director of Voice of Prophecy (VOP) Reclaiming Ministry, will discuss “How to Create a User Friendly Church.”

Monday-Friday, 11:15 a.m. • Seth Bardu, treasurer of the Columbia Union Conference, will challenge disciples in Mountain View to proclaim the gospel. This native of Liberia, West Africa, has been treasurer for a number of conferences around the United States, and worked at the Southern Union Conference and Adventist Health System.

Tuesday and Friday, 2:30 p.m. • Frank Bondurant, Columbia Union Conference vice president for Ministries Development, will be presenting “How to Witness for Jesus Without Embarrassing God or Losing Your Friends.”

Sunday-Wednesday, 2:30 p.m. • Patrick E. Vincent, DMtM, is senior pastor of the Mount Calvary church in Tampa. He will speak about the SWAT soul-winning concept he created, an effective method of evangelism that mobilizes the local congregation to add more converts. Vincent’s many talents also keep him in demand as a seminar leader, lecturer, and revitalist.

Thursday and Friday, 2:30 p.m. • Frank Bondurant, Columbia Union Conference vice president for Ministries Development, will be presenting “How to Witness for Jesus Without Embarrassing God or Losing Your Friends.”

Sabbath School • 9:15 a.m. • Randall Murphy will be the Sabbath School superintendent. Murphy retired in 2002 after serving as conference president for more than 13 years. The special emphasis will be the 2008 Mission Trip to Peru.

Outside Focus

Larry Evans, undersecretary for the Seventh-day Adventist Church worldwide, will teach the Sabbath School lesson. He will also be the featured speaker on Sunday evening.

Divine Service • 11 a.m. • Robert Folkenberg, Jr., will speak.

Special Features

Youth Conference Center Grand Opening • Friday, June 20, 6 p.m. Join in the festivities as conference leaders cut the ribbon and officially open the new youth conference center.

Prayer Convocation • Friday, June 20, 6:30 p.m. Gather at the flagpole to pray together and ask for the Lord’s blessing as camp meeting is officially opened.

Ordination Service • Saturday, June 21, 11 a.m. Witness two Mountain View pastors being ordained to the ministry during the Sabbath divine service.

ShareAll Graduation • Saturday, June 21, 5:15 p.m. Robert Folkenberg Jr. will lead out in this recognition of participants from the ShareAll boot camp held in September 2007, and those who have and will be holding evangelist meetings across the conference.

Lay Advisory • Sunday, June 22, 8:30 a.m. The lay advisory will be held in the auditorium. Everyone is invited to join in this meeting and brainstorming session.

ABC Book Sale • Sunday, June 22, 10:30 a.m. Come to auditorium and stock up on reduced priced food items, music, books, and resources.

Shepherdess Dinner & Meeting • Monday, June 22, 5:15-6:45 p.m. All Mountain View pastors’ wives are welcome to join in this dinner and meeting, located in the lobby, room 10. Health specialist Vicki Griffin will discuss “Rest for the Stressed.”

Education Hour • Saturday, June 28, 4 p.m. Cheryl Jacko will lead in this report about Mountain View education. Find out what these conference schools have been up to and what they are planning to do. It’s all about their role in accomplishing the mission of the church. Everyone is welcome!

Sunday-Wednesday, 4 p.m. • Vicki Griffin, is author, speaker, and director of Lifestyle Matters Health Intervention series, and Health Ministries director for the Michigan Conference. She has lectured and traveled worldwide to better mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual health. Griffin’s seminars are centered on the theme “Building the Broken Brain: Healing the Church, Helping the Community.”

Opening Sabbath

Devotional • 6:30 a.m. • Leo Schreven will begin the morning series with “Anointed Disciples.” Fasten your seatbelts for the “machine gun speaker.”

Sabbath School • 9:15 a.m. • Randall Murphy will be the Sabbath School superintendent. Murphy retired in 2002 after serving as conference president for more than 13 years. The special emphasis will be the 2008 Mission Trip to Peru.

closing Sabbath

Devotional • 6:30 a.m. • Leo Schreven will conclude his weekly-long study. Don’t miss it!

Sabbath School • 9:15 a.m. • Cheryl Jacko will be the Sabbath School superintendent. Jacko serves as principal of Highland Adventist School in Elkins, W.Va., and as associate superintendent of schools. The special emphasis will be the 2008 Mission Trip of Mountain View Conference schools.

Youth

Weymouth Spence, EdD, newly elected president of Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Md., will present the grand opening of the youth center.

Divine Service • 11 a.m. • David Asscherick will present God’s Word.

Musicians

Ysis Espana • Saturday, June 20, 4 p.m. Born in Cuba, Espana received musical training in piano and voice at an early age. During the communist regime, she immigrated to the United States under difficult circumstances, but her husband, Angelo, was not allowed to leave and it was nearly three years before they were reunited in Texas. Espana has appeared on SafeTV and 3ABN, has been identified as having a “big traditional sound.” More importantly, the group has a well-balanced blend of voices and personalities that allow for quite a variety of styles and moods during every concert. If you enjoy laughing, you will not be disappointed.

The PromisedLand Quartet • Saturday, June 28, 2:30 p.m. Formed in March 2000, the PromisedLand Quartet is an exciting group of male vocalists based in Edinburg, Va. Individually they have ministered in churches, concert halls, schools, and outside events in nearly 25 states, and have performed on regional television and played on gospel radio nationwide. Collectively, they have more than 60 years of gospel experience, which is remarkable considering their average age is only 42! PromisedLand has been identified as having “a big traditional sound.” More importantly, the group has a well-balanced blend of voices and personalities that allow for quite a variety of styles and moods during every concert. If you enjoy laughing, you will not be disappointed.

Guest speakers for the youth will be Leo Schreven and Cherie Peters, founder of True Step Ministries, a faith-based, nonprofit organization. Both will address the young people under the theme “This is Your Time: Stand for Him or Fall for Everything.” Meetings will occur at 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. every day in the new youth center located next to the main lodge. A special thank you goes out to all those who helped make this new facility a reality for our young people!

Other activities for the youth include games and Olympics on Monday and Tuesday. On Wednesday and Thursday, kids will have the chance to participate in outreach activities. Geoff Star, conference Youth director, is organizing all youth activities.

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Ysis Espana • Saturday, June 20, 4 p.m. Born in Cuba, Espana received musical training in piano and voice at an early age. During the communist regime, she immigrated to the United States under difficult circumstances, but her husband, Angelo, was not allowed to leave and it was nearly three years before they were reunited in Texas. Espana has appeared on SafeTV and 3ABN, and currently works for the Texas Adventist Church.

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People With a Vision
Tranquil Valley Retreat Center
June 20-28

Welcome

It is one thing to have visual perception, and another to have a real vision of life as it pertains to current events. The latter allows us to foresee future possibilities where others only see shortcomings. A vision based on past experience and present truth permits us to hope toward a future with assurance and purpose.

Wise Solomon said, “Where there is no vision, the people perish…” (Prov. 29:18). He is referring to a spiritual and mental connection above where wisdom resides. It is a vision that aided the prophets of old and continues to sustain successful leaders today. It is a vision given by God to enable His people to be victorious in daily living, especially in the fulfillment of His commission.

Dear brethren, we must be eyes for those who are spiritually blind. As people of the living God, we have been chosen to be faithful to the celestial vision. We must live it for the benefit of the church and the world.

This camp meeting, let us pray and study the pillars, which not only sustain but also help us fulfill our God-given vision. I’ll meet you there!

—José Cortés, President

Speakers

Alejandro Bullón is a well-known international evangelist, author, and ministerial secretary of the South American Division. His evangelism campaigns—via satellite, Internet, and personal sermons—attract thousands, and many people have been baptized through his efforts.

Neville Harcombe, executive secretary for the Columbia Union Conference, was born and raised in Africa by missionary parents. He was educated at South Africa’s Helderberg College and earned a BA in Theology from Southern Adventist University (Tenn.).

Jason McCracken was the first African-American student missionary to Brazil. He is a soul winner and once baptized more than 2,000 people during 25 youth crusades in five countries. During his leadership in the United States, since 1997, McCracken has baptized more than 1,100 young people for the Lord. Currently, he is the director of Enrollment Management for Oakwood University (Ala.).

Dave Weigley, Columbia Union Conference president, has served the Adventist Church as a pastor, evangelist, conference communication director, stewardship director, executive secretary, and conference president. Weigley remains heavily involved in evangelism, holding at least one evangelistic meeting a year.

R. Ernest Castillo was elected a vice president of the Adventist Church at the North American Division year-end meeting in 2005. He served as executive secretary of the Pacific Union Conference, but started his ministry as a pastor in the Southeastern California Conference, and then the Southern California Conference.

Allsop Inskip has ministered throughout the world sharing his passion for God and has pastored several churches in the United States and his native Trinidad and Tobago. Inskip later decided to study naturopathic medicine and currently has a solo practice in Silver Spring, Md., and travels worldwide giving lectures on health.
Camp meeting attendees this year will be offered several new and exciting activities such as a food festival, flea market, and sports tournaments. Seminars on health and wellness led by international chef Julio Barrillas will surely educate and encourage healthful living. Come and enjoy the bountiful blessings God has for His people.

Commune With God
Every weekday during camp meeting, early risers can enjoy morning walks and worship with conference president José Cortés. Attendees can also commune with God each morning and evening at the Garden of Prayer directed by Spirit-filled speakers. These will be moments to refresh and renew your spiritual walk.

Mass Choir
For the first time at New Jersey Conference Camp Meeting, attendees will be blessed with the heavenly music of a 100-plus-member choir accompanied by a full orchestra of talented musicians. Directed by Efrain Duany, the conference’s associate director for worship, these musicians have been practicing hard to make sure every song service is blessed with their leadership. If you are interested in joining or participating, contact Duany at duany1@yahoo.com.

Youth Program
This year separate Sabbath worship and weekday services will be offered for juniors (ages 10-12), teens (ages 13-17), and collegiates (ages 18 and up). The weekday program for juniors and teens will focus on sports. A day trip to an aqua park and sky challenge will top the week, along with an evening trip to an ice skating rink and batting cages. However, the spiritual emphasis will also give the young people a chance to experience community outreach and a connection to Christ. During Sabbath evenings, youth can meet and greet others at the beach party.

Speakers
Corey Johnson is a high school student in Philadelphia who believes his mission is to tell as many as he can about the saving power of Jesus Christ, no matter what the obstacles. Johnson served as co-chaplain of PAYA (Philadelphia Area Youth Association), but his recent ministerial endeavor is through his Broken Ministries outreach program, which aims to reach young people from all walks of life.

Matthew Gamble was born Catholic, but his spiritual journey includes atheism and the Rastafari movement. God led him to a Christian pastor who awakened a desire to explore the teachings of Jesus. Gamble is currently a full-time pastor with the Washington Conference where he recently planted a new church in Seattle.

Steven Hernandez was born into a first-generation Adventist home and benefited from a Christian education throughout his life, including that of Greater New York Academy. In 1993 Hernandez completed a bachelor’s degree at Atlantic Union College (Mass.) and is attempting to become a published children’s author.

David Negron is a member of the Maranatha Spanish church in Philadelphia. In 2006 the Lord called him from a prison cell to be a preacher of the everlasting Gospel. Negron has a burden to reach the youth of this generation for Jesus.

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<td>9:00</td>
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<td>Go Wide with God</td>
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<td>10:00-11:00</td>
<td>Welcome to Camp Meeting</td>
<td>Worship Zone</td>
<td>Sport Zone</td>
<td>Warm-up</td>
<td>Aqua Park &amp; Sky Challenge</td>
<td>Warm-up</td>
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<td>11:00-12:30</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Divine Praise</td>
<td>Food Fair</td>
<td>Sports Zone</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
<td>Directed Study</td>
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<td>12:30-1:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30-2:00</td>
<td>Christ Cafe</td>
<td>Puzzles of Noah</td>
<td>Sports Zone</td>
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<td>4:00-5:00</td>
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<td>7:30-8:30</td>
<td>Just Hunger</td>
<td>Vespers 8:30 pm</td>
<td>Buckle Time</td>
<td>Ice Skating 6:00-9:45</td>
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<td>8:45-9:45</td>
<td>Worship Party</td>
<td>Games</td>
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<td>9:45-10:45</td>
<td>Worship</td>
<td>Games</td>
<td>Sports Zone</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
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All Sports Zone - Softball/Volleyball
PM Sports Zone - Basketball
Competition will be held on Friday.
This year Children’s Church will be offered June 21, and Children’s Sabbath School June 28. The program will be full of action and entertainment and will be a great opportunity for children to worship and express themselves. They will pray, sing, and worship God in creative ways. Weekly activities include a trip to a water park, ice skating, and a soccer sports program.

Son Harvest County Fair
During the week, children aged 6 and 7 in the kindergarten and Primary 1 category will learn about the fruits of the Spirit and how they develop in their lives. Madeline Valez, conference VBS teacher, will lead the kindergarten program while Ana Jacobo, a member of the Pan-American church in Vineland, will teach the primary lesson.

PowerZone Sports Camp
During the week, children aged 8 and 9 in the Primary 2 category will participate in a sports program infused with spiritual lessons. Directed by Lynda Cortés, conference Children’s Ministries coordinator, young people will get to hurdle together and learn spiritual truths from their “life coaches.”

Speakers
Children’s Church ■ June 21
Jé’Zonn Clermont has been known as Mr. Jé since 1998 when he founded Tiny Tunes, a hands-on, high-energy humanities and music program for children aged 3 to 10. The success of Tiny Tunes educational curriculum in schools led to the creation of Tiny Tunes Ministries. Mr. Jé has traveled extensively presenting workshops and training seminars on Children’s Ministries and has pastored and consulted in churches of varying faiths and ethnicities. He is also an accomplished musician who stresses the power of song and music in teaching children. Visit www.its-theatrebox.com.

Children’s Sabbath School ■ June 28 ■ Troy Hicks and his Divine Creations puppet ministry return from Camp Meeting 2007. Divine Creations is a multimedia ministry and production company through which Hicks creates an environment of worship and learning that effectively engages young people’s emotions. The company specializes in creative ministry—puppetry, drama, gospel illusions, and balloon twisting—for a number of special events for young people. Hicks has also presented two puppet-training seminars for the conference.

Speakers
Smuts Van Rooyen, PhD ■ Monday–Friday, 11 a.m.; Saturday, 4 p.m. ■ Van Rooyen is senior pastor of the Vallejo Drive church in Glendale, Calif. Originally from South Africa, his ministry has helped people know Jesus in a new and wonderful way. His series, “Heaven is Cheap Enough,” will help you love Jesus too.

Marwood Hallett, DMin ■ Monday–Friday, 9:15 a.m. ■ Hallett is the conference’s director of Clergy Care and Leadership Development. He will conduct a series of Bible studies titled “Revelation Study It Again for the First Time!” Study like the Adventist pioneers with a Bible and concordance. Themes include “The Revelation of Jesus Christ,” the “Last Man,” “Principles of Interpretation,” “Worship the Creator,” and “Babylon.” To prepare, read Revelation 1 and 14.

Paul Richardson ■ Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 4:15 p.m.; Wednesday, 3:30 p.m. ■ Richardson is the director of the Center for Creative Ministries. He works with the North American Division as well as local conferences and churches, providing resources and training to aid in outreach and nurture. His series on how to create a church culture that welcomes, involves, and retains people will have practical and useful information. He aims to help each church be a community of love, acceptance, and forgiveness.

David Taylor, DMin ■ Monday–Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. ■ Taylor is the retired dean of the School of Religion at Loma Linda University (Calif.). He has served the church as pastor, youth director, professor, and administrator and is a dynamic preacher whose messages on “The God of Grace and Glory” will inspire and bless you.

His Incomparable Grace
Mount Vernon Academy ■ June 8-14

Calling All Singers!
The camp meeting choir will be an important part of the song service at the daily 11 o’clock hour and evening worship. Join us for our first Choir Camp, Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Learn some of the greatest gospel songs of all time. Lunch will be provided. Daily choir practice will be from 6:30-7:15 p.m., Monday–Friday.

Please register through email at information@ohioadventist.org or call (740) 397-4665, ext. 165.
Sabbath Speakers

Charles Scriven, PhD ■ 10 a.m. ■ Scriven is the president of Kettering College of Medical Arts in Kettering, Ohio. He is known for his depth of theological understanding and thought-provoking teaching style. Sabbath School attendees can expect a very stimulating study of God’s Word.

Lori Whitted ■ 3 p.m. ■ Whitted is the pastor of Ohio’s Canton and Wibster churches. Hear her incredible testimony of how God led her through pain and disappointment to a calling into the gospel ministry—an inspiring story of God reaching down to lift up one of His daughters. You won’t want to miss it.

Raj Attiken, DMin ■ 7 p.m. ■ Our conference president’s address is an opportunity for members to understand his heart for God, for the mission of the church, and for integrity in relating to God’s Word and God’s world. Attiken has served in Ohio for more than 30 years.

Special Features

Walk for Life ■ Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. ■ Start each day with a walk to get your blood flowing, and breathe deeply from God’s great outdoors! Start this as a good habit at camp meeting and continue for life. Meet in front of the auditorium and end just in time for Soul Cafe.

Soul Cafe ■ Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. ■ Every morning Soul Cafe will help campers begin their day in the Word of God with new friends. Pick up your favorite drink and pastry and join small groups to engage in an interactive study group to deepen your understanding and love of God.

Chris VanDenburgh Show ■ Monday-Friday, 2-15 p.m., Saturday, 9:15 a.m. ■ VanDenburgh, the conference’s director of Health Ministries, will interview various medical professionals about some of the most important health topics. Monday features Reg Burgess, NAD coordinator of “In Step for Life.” On Tuesday Dan & Richa Stevens will present how humor is the best medicine. On Wednesday’s “Biggest Winner” contest, contestants will share their testimonies of health and fitness. Friday features Steven Smith, MD, who will focus on preventive healthcare and holistic medicine. On Sabbath morning, chaplain Linda Farley from the Kettering Health Network and Dick Tibbits, PhD, from Florida Hospital will present the theme “Forgive to Live.” They will reveal exciting discoveries in the field of forgiveness and health. The Sabbath program will culminate with $10,000 being awarded to the “Biggest Winner” church.

Prayer/Personal Ministries ■ Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 3-30 p.m. ■ Bobby McGhee, associate pastor of the Worthington church, will lead out in prayer and personal testimonies. Hear the stories of church members who have seen God do wonderful things. Learn from His trusting children about a God who can answer prayers.

Children/Youth

“God’s Big Backyard—Where Kids Have a Blast Serving Jesus” is the theme for the beginners, kindergarten, and primary age groups. The children will have an exciting time as they discover the world of forgiveness. Each day a service experience will take place in the form of serving Jesus by helping family, friends, and neighbors. Pastors and experienced staff will direct the Junior, Earliften, and Youth departments, offering a full complement of spiritual, social, and recreational programs. Your children will long cherish the memories of their camp meeting experience.

Musical Concerts

Booth Brothers ■ Sunday, June 8, 7:30 p.m. ■ Gaither Family Reunion favorites, the Booth Brothers will present the free annual community concert that is sure to attract hundreds of friends and neighbors to camp meeting’s opening day. This is the perfect opportunity to invite others to a night of wonderful music from one of America’s most sought-after groups. Be sure to come early to find the best seats.

Jamie Thietten ■ Sabbath, June 14, 7:30 p.m. ■ Camp meeting attendees first heard Thietten in 2004, and the conference is pleased to welcome her back! Thietten’s commitment to God becomes evident as she sings from the depths of her soul in a concert that will lift you to your feet in joy and then drop you to your knees in worship. Her vision is to minister to the body of Christ through her music and spread the message of forgiveness within the church. Thietten was voted Female Vocalist of the Year and was the Song of the Year recipient at Indie/leave’s 2007 Momentum Awards of Christian independent artists.

Experience Mohaven Magic

Wednesday, June 11, 2-6 p.m. ■ An afternoon of fun and fellowship for the whole family at Camp Mohaven in Danville! Enjoy all sorts of activities:

- Horseback Trail Rides
- Canoeing
- Disc Golf
- Ropes Course
- Swimming
- Mountain Biking
- Archery
- Nature Walk
- Plus a free chuck wagon supper at 5 p.m. at the camp lodge!

Women’s Tea

Theme: “Summer Picnic Bliss” ■ Thursday, Noon-2 p.m. ■ Women’s Ministries hosts this free camp meeting tradition designed to pamper, celebrate, and inspire women who attend this much-anticipated annual event. The talented planning committee produces exquisite decorations, collectable gifts, a fabulous luncheon, and an inspiring devotional. A drawing and give-away follows with wonderful and inspiring gifts donated by various sponsors. Due to limited space, attendees are welcomed on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets are available during the week at the information booth.
This one-day event—9 a.m. to 5 p.m.—will commence with small group Bible studies of the Sabbath School lesson, led by facilitators from Ohio churches. The worship service will feature guest speaker Leo Ranzolin, retired vice president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Ranzolin was born in Brazil and served the worldwide Adventist Church for many years as youth director. He has spoken to young and old all over the world and will bring his rich experiences to camp meeting.

The afternoon program will consist of reports on Outreach Ministries by Hispanic churches in Ohio. The day’s program will include music by various groups from Ohio churches.

Welcome

Pray that your family will be drawn to live and serve only Jesus Christ. That is the challenge in these days right before His second coming. Is everything in your life committed to “serving only Jesus,” because that is where our real joy will be found.

—Ray Hartwell,
President

Random Acts of Mission
Meet outside the Locating office each afternoon at 1 p.m. to join a team of missionaries who will head out into the community to do small home repairs, yard work, and other tasks for senior citizens and others in need. Wear work clothes, sturdy shoes, gloves, and bring a water bottle and any tools you’d like.

 Speakers

Frank González, DMin • June 13-14

González is the speaker/director of the international radio and television ministry La Voz de la Esperanza (The Voice of Hope) based at the Adventist Media Center in Simi Valley, Calif. In his three-part worship series, González will explain how to know God’s point-specific will for your life and fulfill your destiny as part of God’s special last generation.

Michael Card • June 15

In a career that spans 25 years, Card has recorded more than 20 albums, authored or co-authored more than 14 books, hosted two radio programs, and written for numerous magazines. Card encourages his audience to join him in his journey to know and be known by God. Invite family and friends to join you for this ticket-only concert. Artist Circle tickets can be purchased in advance through the ABC for $20. A limited number of free general admission tickets are available through your local church, by contacting the conference office, or at Locating.

Bill Knott • June 20-21

Knott is the editor and executive publisher of Adventist Review and Adventist World magazines. Before joining the staff in 1997 as an associate editor, he served as a pastor in New England, Michigan, New York, and Washington. In 2006 he completed a PhD in American Religious History at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

 MUSICIANS

Daniel Pabon and Tre’ Voice • Sabbath, June 14

Moses and A’Lisa Andrade • Sabbath, June 21
Seminars

Frank Bondurant is vice president of Ministries Development for the Columbia Union Conference. Join him in looking at Mark's other major themes in the New Testament—“Miracles, Myths, and Misanthropes: Meeting the Master in Mark.” Then connect with him during “How to Be a Witness for Jesus Without Embarrassing God.”

Gaspar Colón, EdD, will examine the process that the Seventh-day Adventist Church underwent to develop its distinctive doctrines during “E.G. White and Adventist Theology.” Colón is associate professor of religion at Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Md., and serves as executive director of the school’s Center for Metropolitan Ministry.

Ty Gibson, co-director/speaker for Light Bearers Ministry, will discuss “The Church, Militant and Triumphant.” Learn about God’s plan for leading His church through its final triumphant phase. Then listen weekday evenings as Gibson presents “Images at War,” where he will explore the conflicting images of God at war in “War,” where he will explore the conflicting images of God at war in

Timothy Jennings, a board certified psychiatrist and international speaker. His afternoon presentation is based on the theme “Healing the Mind.” Jennings will also present “Healing the Mind.”

Pastors Jan and Phil White will offer keys to family life in their seminar “Keys to the Castle,” weekday afternoons in the chapel. In her seminar “Women Called by God,” Jan will focus on God’s calling to women and how they can personally use their God-given spiritual gifts in building up His kingdom.

Ray Hartwell, conference president, will address the question, “What does it mean to be a church eagerly awaiting the second coming of Christ?” Hartwell’s other seminar is themed “A Second Coming Church and the Gospel of Pants.”

Don Bonchack is the Volunteer and Donations Program coordinator for the Federal Emergency Management Agency. He will present “Adventist Disaster Response: Critical to End-Time Events?”

Bobbette Stewart is a life expansion expert who has a passion for seeing God’s gifts fully magnified in His people. In “He Said, She Said, But I Heard . . .” Thomas will help attendees learn to listen on multiple levels and know how it is the single most powerful gift we can give others.

Clara Iuliano, RD, LDN, will inspire attendees with great tasting, plant-based foods that can be prepared in 30 minutes or less. Iuliano is a nutrition consultant at the Adventist WholeHealth Wellness Center in Reading. A shuttle will be provided.

Linda McCabe is a Spiritual and Volunteer Services coordinator for a hospice. Join her as she examines the differences between tasks and tools. Later hear churches and youth tell inspiring stories that demonstrate how God is using them to complete the task.

Laurie Mumma will discuss how to start a Children’s Ministries program, develop staff and volunteers, and make an interesting program for children. Mumma is director of the Carlisle church’s quickly growing Children’s Church program.

Art Randall, CPA, chief financial officer of a 100-bed hospital, will explain how to establish a household budget, select the right mortgage, train your children to handle money, and prepare for retirement.

James Standish, director of Legislative Affairs for the world-wide Adventist Church, knows what it means to be an Adventist Christian in a democratic society. Join him to review where our vision ends and our action begins.

Health Professionals Breakfast Workshop Saturday, June 14, BMA Gymnasium Enjoy a great meal, time for networking, and an inspirational presentation.

Health Ministry Coaching Training Workshops ■ Saturday and Sunday, June 14 and 15 ■ Registration is required due to assigned reading and activities to complete prior to the workshop. Workshop cost of $35 covers a light lunch on Sunday. For more information or to register, email receptionist@awhn.org or call (610) 685-9900.

The Superfit Family 1-Mile or 5K Fun Run/Walk Challenge Sunday, June 15 ■ This one-mile walk sponsored by Adventist WholeHealth includes a scavenger hunt for kids as they learn more about health, fitness, and living “superfit.” Registration forms available at www.awhn.org or Locating.

ABC Book Sale ■ Sunday, June 15, BMA Gymnasium ■ This is the biggest ABC sale ever! Great deals on books and vegetarian products.

Free Senior Luncheon ■ Sunday, June 15, Blue Mountain Elementary, Reservations Required ■ The Trust Department invites seniors over 65 to this second annual luncheon. Discover what your “Senior Powers” have accomplished in the past few years. To RSVP, call (610) 374-8331, ext. 208.

Special Features

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AWHN Van: Screening ■ Sunday, June 15 ■ Check out Adventist WholeHealth’s mobile screening unit while they check out their cholesterol, glucose, and blood pressure.

Medicare and Medicaid and All You Want to Know ■ Sunday, June 15 ■ Sherra Zavitsanos, a public affairs specialist for the Social Security Administration, will answer questions and help provide guidance for the future.

Reverse Mortgages: What are They and Are They Good for All? ■ Sunday, June 15, Chapel ■ How do people over 62 get by on just Social Security benefits? Learn how reverse mortgages may be a way to increase peace of mind. Sponsored by the Trust Department.

Small Group Bible Studies ■ These weekday study topics include: “A People After God’s Own Heart” with Dave Bower; “The Sanctuary: Then and Now” with Fred Morgan; “Mission Requires CASH” with Sue Shobe; and “The Sealing of God’s People” with Kerry Stahl. Get more information at Locating.

Hispanic Camp Meeting ■ Sabbath, June 21, Chapel ■ The Doctor Frank González, graduado con suma cum laude del Seminario Teológico de la Universidad de Andrews, es el Orador/Director del programa internacional radial y televisivo de La Voz de la Esperanza (The Voice of Hope) situada en el Adventist Media Center en Simi Valley, Calif. Él será el orador principal de nuestro Campeonato Hispano, el Sábado, Junio 21 en la iglesia de la Academia de Blue Mountain.
An excitement is spreading across our conference territory. It’s an excitement we hope you experience this year at camp meeting. We want to look to the author and finisher of our faith for holy boldness to make our churches radiant with His love and vibrant with His energy.

We’re on a mission to create healthy, disciple-making churches whose members find great joy in service. Please know that this is not some temporary program; this is the biblical mission that our Lord commissioned us to undertake. It’s the most exciting task in the world, but too large for sinful people to grasp alone. We need power and changed lives to enter this work. To get that power, we must come in contact with Jesus. Camp meeting is the place where that can happen.

Let’s unite to find revival for the next leg of the journey. It is a spiritual journey that promises to make a mighty difference in our lives. It is my hope that when camp meeting ends, we will all say that we have beheld the Lamb in His glory. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

—Bill Miller, President

**Welcome**

**Behold the Lamb**
Shenandoah Valley Academy • June 17-21

**Speakers**

**Dick Duerksen** is assistant to the president of Maranatha Volunteers International (MVI) where he serves as storyteller. Duerksen hosts MVI’s weekly television show Maranatha Mission Stories and authors a variety of articles and stories. He and his wife, Brenda, work as “story catchers” while traveling to Maranatha project sites around the world. He is also well known for his professional photography. Duerksen worked as a pastor, administrator, editor, planner, and consultant for creative ministry.

**Bill Kilgore**, DMin, ThD, has touched many lives in a variety of ways from his positions in pastoral ministry to higher education. He is currently in his 19th year of teaching theology at Southwestern Adventist University (Texas). Before entering higher education, Kilgore served as a district pastor and a campus chaplain, including four years as chaplain at Shenandoah Valley Academy in New Market, Va. This Columbia Union College graduate continues to help students and lay leaders develop stronger preaching skills.

**Barry C. Black**, DMin, PhD, is the 62nd chaplain of the U.S. Senate, a position he’s held since July 2003. Prior to his Capitol Hill position, Black served in the U.S. Navy for more than 27 years, ending his distinguished career as the Chief of Navy Chaplains. As rear admiral, his personal decorations included the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals (two awards), and numerous unit awards, campaign, and service medals.

**Mark A. Finley** is a general vice president for the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church and director for its Center for Global Evangelism. Evangelism is where Finley has made his mark, having led in more than 100 campaigns around the globe with resulting baptisms numbering in the thousands. He is best known as a television speaker, first for the It Is Written telecast for 20 years, and most recently for three international “Net” evangelism satellite series.
Sabbath Musical Concert

The Wedgwood Trio was formed in autumn 1964 at Newbold College in England where members were studying. Bob Summernour was from north Georgia, while Jerry Hoyle and Don Vollmer hailed from the mountains of western North Carolina. With Summernour alternately on five-string banjo and lead guitar, Hoyle on the string bass and harmonica, and Vollmer on guitar, the trio sang its way through the British isles and Europe, and over the next five years in every part of the United States, performing at colleges, churches, convocations, and camp meetings.

Summernour is a psychiatrist, Hoyle a clinical psychologist, and Vollmer a pastor, all living within miles of each other in Southern California. However, one weekend or so a month, and during their vacations, they are off together again somewhere in the world, still sharing those favorite, familiar Wedgwood songs. Potomac is proud to have them share their ministry during camp meeting.

Potomac Praise is a select male ensemble from within the conference. They will gather for an exciting first-time performance. Professional musicians Michael Dortch, Joe Fordham, Javier Gonzalez, Dan Pabon, Desmond Pierre-Louis, Brian Ringer, Clever Salazar, and Ronald Woodfork, accompanied by Rick Labate and under the direction of Joelle Ringer, will share a variety of music to the glory of God.

Both groups perform on Saturday at 3 p.m.

Seminars

Choosing to Forgive ■ Gerry Fuentes, pastor of the Takoma Park (Md.) church, will present a seminar on learning to experience the healing power of forgiveness. Forgiveness is foundational to the Christian faith and community. It also impacts physical and emotional health. This seminar shows why we benefit from choosing to forgive, and how to forgive sincerely, no matter how deeply you have been hurt.

Partnership in Preaching ■ Bill Kilgore’s “Partnership in Preaching” workshop is designed to assist those who are called upon to preach. It is a practical hands-on approach to sermon construction that allows individuals to work together in developing skills for preaching.

Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts ■ Patrick Williams, pastor of the Cornerstone church in Herndon, Va., will utilize biblical passages, assessment instruments, discussion group exercises, and practical advice to move you toward an understanding of your particular spiritual gifts, leading to a fulfilling, lifelong ministry for Christ.

Disaster Preparedness ■ Bob Mitchell, conference Disaster Response coordinator, will present a new disaster preparedness course from the Adventist Community Services Disaster Response program. It will assist individuals, families, and churches in being prepared for small and large disasters. Learn how you can help lessen the impact of disasters on yourself, your family, and your church.

The Sanctuary and the Mission of the Church ■ Robert Banks, conference ministerial director, will explain the meaning of the sanctuary as a revelation of the mission of Christ to save the world, and the part we play in reaching a lost world. The great commission is as old as the plan of salvation in the heart of God: Learn what application this has for Adventists in the last days.

Growing Disciples ■ Bonita Shields, editor of the Sabbath School Bible Study Guides, will be asking questions like: What does it mean to be a disciple? How does a person grow as a disciple? What does a growing disciple look like? Whether you are a new Christian or have been one your entire life, exploring these questions will reap great rewards in your relationship with Christ.

Becoming a Disciple and Living to Enjoy It ■ David Ripley, pastor of the Austin (Texas) First church, wants to know if your church has a culture of discipleship or membership? Do you know how to be a disciple before you do the ministry of one? Discipleship is for all the followers of Christ. You can live and enjoy being a disciple!

Lessons from the Book of Acts on a Discipleship Church ■ David Ripley remembers the amazing events that happened in the early church relating to discipleship. Can they happen today? Come and study lessons for today’s church from the Book of Acts. He encourages attendees to read through Acts in preparation for the class.

Mirror Image: Recreated in His Image ■ Dean Waterman, pastor of the Chesapeake, Redeeming Grace Fellowship, and Portsmouth churches in Virginia, proposes that becoming like Christ is more than a wish, it’s God’s desire for us. Through everyday spiritual practices, we can be everything God desires.

Children’s Ministries ■ The children’s divisions will be focusing on the life of Jesus and what it’s like to experience times and customs from His day, Games, crafts, stories, and music will reflect Jerusalem at the time of Christ. Most importantly, teachers and leaders will emulate His love and attention to the young ones under their care. Parents are welcome to accompany their child on an imaginary journey through heaven on Sabbath afternoon.

Adult Schedule

Lessons from the Book of Acts on a Discipleship Church ■ David Ripley remembers the amazing events that happened in the early church relating to discipleship. Can they happen today? Come and study lessons for today’s church from the Book of Acts. He encourages attendees to read through Acts in preparation for the class.

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It is always exciting when guests come to visit. Whether family or friends, a large or small group, I look forward to and enjoy company. Plans are made, food is prepared, the house is cleaned; you make sure everything is ready. This was certainly the atmosphere as our student body anticipated the visit of students and staff from Pine Forge Academy (PFA) for vespers. Though the two schools are just 30 miles apart, and though they have both been in operation for more than 50 years, the two had never come together in worship prior to this school year.

This visit took a great deal of preparation. Chaplains Ricardo Woolcock from PFA and our own David Ferguson brought student leaders from each school together to brainstorm and plan the vespers program. There were songs to choose, talks to plan, skits to create, all done by our students! They were thrilled to have this opportunity, and they put their very best into the event.

When the day finally arrived, and the PFA group came to our campus, you could feel the excitement. We had come together to praise God, and praise God we did! The joy of the music that was presented was incredible. The passion of the speakers was intense. The message of the drama was clear. The energy throughout the evening was high, and the praises were even higher. Many students have shared with me what a powerful worship experience it was for them and that we must do this again. All I can say to that is Amen!

Joint Worship With Pine Forge Academy Inspires Students

Class of 2009 Performs “Made for Music”

The junior class recently presented a program titled “Made for Music” as part of Junior Presentation weekend. The program featured a series of musical vignettes highlighting selections from classic musicals such as My Fair Lady and The Sound of Music, as well as popular songs from the first half of the 20th century. Under the direction of Nancy Manente, art, home economics, and textiles teacher, the unique variety of songs was tied together with themes of love and humor. Nearly all class members were involved in the production, planning, organizing, acting, or musicianship. The program closed with the students singing their class song, an original piece written by several class members, followed by the unveiling of the class banner. A big thanks goes out to all the parents, students, and sponsors who helped make this excellent evening possible.—Dan Wagner ('09)
Academic Excellence Honored at Awards Chapel

Various academic departments at Columbia Union College (CUC) presented students with awards and scholarships for their outstanding academia, leadership, and community service during a recent awards chapel. Among them were 25 full-time, first-year students who each had a 3.5 GPA or above. They also received nomination into the National Freshman Honors Society known as Phi Eta Sigma.

Many students were honored for their academic achievement during an awards chapel service.

Professor Publishes Book on Black Missionaries

Carol Hammond, PhD (below), a CUC adjunct professor, recently wrote Precious Memories of Missionaries of Color, a book about the lives of African-American missionaries. The 460-page paperback is a compilation of letters and stories collected from more than 100 missionaries of color from 1892 to present day. Hammond and her husband, James, former chair of CUC’s Department of Psychology, served as missionaries in Africa for 13 years, and she included several of their experiences in the book. “We thought we were going there to serve them but interacting with the people drew us closer to the Lord,” said Hammond. “We saw what it was like to give our lives to those who needed us and it enriched our lives.” Proceeds from the sale of the book will go toward scholarships for students who desire to do the work of God. The book can be purchased at amazon.com or through you local Adventist Book Center.—PR Staff

Coming EVENTS

May
4-5 Academy Days
23-25 Graduation Weekend
August
18 2008-09 School Year Begins

COMMUNIQUÉ:

Students Take Leadership Roles at Music Fest

If you fail to read this article because you think it is just a recap of the same type of event that gets reported in the same way, you will miss a very important secret. It has been well reported that more than 140 students from all over Pennsylvania in grades 5 through 10 recently participated in choral, band, and individual performances during the two-day Music Fest. Many people also know that the students “endured” repeated practice in a 180-plus-member choir; countless stops and starts in band; and long lines in the café, but those are not the undisclosed details of this year’s event.

Even the fact that students made friends, laughed, took pictures, ran through a giant inflatable obstacle course, got a rousing “Amen!” during the sacred worship hour, or felt nervous during individual perform-

ances, did not make this activity unique. You might think that the secret of Music Fest is that two extremely talented musicians directed the participants: Eric Engen (band), and Hector Flores (choral), but as special as these gentlemen are, they are not the secret. The unique yet seldom-mentioned part of Music Fest is how it comes together and flows under the direction of… teenagers!

The reason this fact is seldom the focus is because Blue Mountain Academy has an established environment that assures its student can be entrusted with responsibilities that most adults would cringe at giving to a teenager. Because its mission is to provide a distinctly Seventh-day Adventist education that leads students into lives of service for God, they are comfortable giving a junior girl—in this case, Katie Paris—the responsibility of co-coordinating all aspects of Music Fest; a junior boy—Justin Fritz—assisted Emily students living lives of influence. To find out how you can unleash your child’s abilities, visit www.bma.us.

To your child’s abilities, visit www.bma.us.
Filipino American Club Hosts Culture Night

The Filipino American Student Association (FASA), one of CUC’s most active campus clubs, hosted its second annual Philippine Culture Night in the atrium of the campus’ Silgo church. An opening reception featured a variety of delicious Filipino cuisine, including fresh butter lettuce and pansit wraps, egg rolls, cassava pudding, cantaloupe tea, and more. Club members used a skit to explain the Filipino culture and heritage. Lloyd Yutuc, director of CUC’s bookstore and FASA faculty sponsor, and his wife, Ellen, helped prepare the food and organize the event. “It’s an important event that shares the rich heritage of the Philippines,” explains David Hughes, junior Health and Fitness Management major. “It is a fun, interactive, educational experience that is meant for all.” At the end of the night, the audience was invited to join participants up front in a cultural song and dance. “It was nice to remember the traditions and get back in touch with my heritage,” said Joy Casey, director of the School of Graduate and Professional Studies MBA program.—Michael Martell

Halcyon Hall Hosts First Mother and Daughter Weekend

The women at Halcyon Hall recently hosted the first Mother and Daughter Weekend. Under the title “The Master’s Jewels,” the event was designed for all female students living both on and off campus. The spirit-filled weekend featured uplifting worship services and special activities. “We wanted female students to know how precious they are in God’s eyes and in ours,” said Adrienne Matthews, dean of women. “The process of becoming a jewel is intense, and some of our young women have been through intense situations.” Matthews planned the event along with Nemeka Mason, first-year residence life coordinator. Wendy Bray, Women’s Ministries director for the Metropolitan church in Hyattsville, Md., offered the keynote address during the Friday night vespers service. The event culminated on Sunday with a luncheon held in the Columbia Union Conference banquet hall in Columbia, Md. At the luncheon, speaker Debbie Eisele (left), pastor at the campus’ Silgo church, challenged attendees to remember the value that God has for all of His children. Jean Warden, vice president of student life and retention, hopes that the weekend will become an annual event. “We want to help students embrace the idea that they have jewel-like qualities, and value, and that they have a rightful place in God’s kingdom,” said Matthews. The next Mother and Daughter Weekend is scheduled for March 27-29, 2009.—PR Staff

Helping Our Children Be Ready for Christ’s Return

Our senior pastor recently preached a sermon on the second coming. It was right on target, the focus where it needed to be. Are we ready for Jesus to come? At Spencerville Adventist Academy (SAA), a core part of our mission statement reads: “To provide a distinctively Seventh-day Adventist education...” As we near the end of another school year, it is with deep satisfaction that I know our teachers have been teaching the distinctive message of the Adventist Church. It is so comforting to hear a second-grader say, “I love Jesus and I want Him to come back soon,” or to watch a junior take a stand for Jesus Christ in front of her peers. These are examples of what it means to be ready for His soon return.

The end-time clock is moving closer to that glorious event, and it is so comforting for me to know that my children are hearing the same message at school, home, and church. I challenge you to consider the messages that your children are receiving. Do whatever it takes to bring them into alignment. If your child is in an Adventist school, make a point of thanking their teacher for the daily commitment they make to your child and the message of our church.

Basketball Players Travel to Texas

Spencerville’s varsity basketball teams recently traveled to Keene, Texas, to participate in the annual basketball tournament sponsored by Southwestern Adventist University. This year, there were 24 teams in each division competing, 12 girls and 12 boys. The Spencerville Hornets competed in the large school category. Spencerville boys took second place overall and were undefeated until the championship game on Saturday night. Spencerville girls placed fourth overall and won the Spirit Award for exhibiting qualities of teamwork, leadership, and sportsmanship at all times during their games and interactions with others.

Fourteen parents and two alumni also made the trip to support the SAA students. “The character, behavior, and talents of our students were wonderful,” remarked one parent. All students agreed that the weekend was a fantastic experience to meet new friends, visit with old ones, and connect—spiritually and physically—with their peers.
Students Tune in to Christ at Annual Retreat

A nd so, I petition to you that we get back to the basics. Ladies and gentlemen, this is a Bible.” Gathered in the smoky lodge basement at Mt. Aetna Camp in Hagerstown, Md., more than 70 Spencerville Adventist Academy youth recently mused over the simplicity of this retreat opener. Elementary though it seemed, the weekend’s message yielded a challenging and profound effect. Strangers from the school halls turned into prayer partners, filling the building with the Holy Spirit. An energetic hum of blended voices filled the room as students used their imaginations to discuss thought-provoking Bible study questions.

After an afternoon of community outreach, students eagerly shared tales of the miracles of serving others in Christ’s name. New life sprung up on dry bones. Filled with hope and a purpose, an army awakened. The message was simple, the mission clear: With a solid foundation, we are more than the future of the church; we are the church.

Honorabile Guest Treats Ringers to Rare Workshop

A chain of God-promptings culminated in an event that began only as a dream for the Shenandoah Valley Academy (SVA) Handbell Ensemble and their director, Cynthia Coston. The event was an on-campus clinic with arguably the greatest name in the handbell world: Kevin McChesney. This composer and arranger of handbell music has more than 700 titles in print. The ensemble has admired his music for a many years and performed many of his compositions. To them McChesney had become “the person to know” in the handbell world.

Back in September 2007, an exciting but improbable thought occurred to Coston.

“He was a lot different than I expected; not stern and sober, but really nice, fun, and out there.” The concert on Sabbath afternoon featured McChesney’s compositions, some of which he conducted. Among the sentiments shared with the audience, McChesney said, “We began rehearsing at 9 a.m. yesterday, and by 9:10 I knew that I was not working with a youth group; I was working with a group of musicians.” He added, “They gave 10,000 percent all day. I think it’s because they are lit up from within.” McChesney was so impressed with the group and their director that he extended to them a rare invitation to come to Colorado Springs to work with his group, perform, and hold area clinics. “This group is poised on the edge of something,” claimed McChesney. “They have the capacity to change the handbell world.”

As great a challenge as a trip to Colorado seems, the group has learned not to underestimate divine workings. They have seen in this experience the clear hand of God. They cannot wait to see what will happen next.

HAPPENINGS

www.shenandoahvalleyacademy.org

SHENANDOAH VALLEY ACADEMY

JUNE 2008

Prospective Students Experience Academy Life

The strong and welcoming spirit of Spencerville Adventist Academy’s staff and high school leaders was ready as approximately 60 students cautiously entered the SAA gym recently to attend Academy Day 2008. Following registration and refreshments, the morning moved quickly as students made new friends and renewed old acquaintances. Short icebreakers, including towers built of drinking straws and team taco building, were followed by a worship service presented by the Student Council. Juniors Justin Calhoun and Jordan Roe presented a video introduction they prepared featuring the teaching staff and SAA programs. Visiting students participated in a small group scavenger hunt, giving them an overview of the campus. Opportunities were also given for the visitors to compete for academ ic and extracurricular scholarships.

The Music Department, which included bells, choir, and band, performed a stellar show and a preview of this year’s musical, Annie. Following lunch, SAA’s Acrosquad performed amazing feats of agility and strength and then scholarship awards were presented. The day ended with a slideshow that captured the day’s events accompanied by background music from the newly formed SAA Jazz Band.

Everyone at SAA looks forward to welcoming these students back and hopes they are excited about the prospect of attending the school in the fall.—Rod Kerbs

National Honor Society Inducts New Members

Recently Spencerville’s chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) was pleased to induct 17 new members (pictured), with a total membership now at 43. “We are proud of our students who display the qualities of scholarship, leadership, service, and character that is so valued by the NHS,” said NHS sponsor Nathan Hess. Congratulations to the new members: Teddy Griffin, Benjamin Herzel, Meagan Hess, Addison Hudgins, Brady Knott, Kaia Kretschmar, Robert Machado, Cassie Marroquin, Benjamin Mohr, Lisa Porier, Sarah Quimby, Jezreel Saraz, Ethan Snider, Andrew Stevens, Dana Straub, Meagan Thompson, and Hosanna Tran.

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CALENDAR

May
29 8th-Grade Graduation
30 Senior Commencement
31 Senior Baccalaureate
June
1 Senior Commencement

Spotlight is published in the Visitor by the Spencerville Adventist Academy 10530 Good Hope Rd., Silver Spring, MD 20905 • Phone: (301) 421-9101 • www.spencervilleacademy.org Principal: Brian Killieen Editor: Heidi Wetmore

Visiting students enjoyed a variety of activities at Academy Days 2008.
Adventist Education Needs Your Support

Education is about ministry, and Takoma Academy’s (TA) distinct ministry is to offer Seventh-day Adventist education. As we approach the end of time and Christ’s soon return, a lot of questions are being raised about the importance of Adventist education. “The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons” (1 Tim. 4:1, NIV).

Surveys always confirm the excellence of our education and its performance above the public sector, yet there is still a lack of commitment. Some people prefer sending their children to other Christian schools or public schools because of the multitude of programs they offer, most of which Adventist schools cannot afford. I don’t believe that’s how things should be. Nonetheless, TA will continue to share its academic excellence without compromise, and we pray that the commitment to Adventist education will grow despite the devil’s attempts to weaken it.

Adventist Education Needs Your Support

C. Dunbar Henri
Principal

May 2008

16 Inducted into National Honor Society

Congratulations are in order for the new members of TA’s National Honor Society (NHS) chapter: Ryan Cephas, Tamanda Chanza, Tiffany Coates, Luke Hecht, Steven Holness, Ashley Horne, Whitney Hucks, Kelsea Malin, Elyssa Nascimento, Noelle Reid, Darnell Robin, Rachel Rupert, Cheryl Simpson, Brandon Singh, Lashawn Thomas, and Sheri Thorn. The celebratory event included a complimentary dinner for inductees, their parents, and friends put on by NHS leadership and a subsequent induction service was filled with messages by school and NHS leaders.

Graduation Services Planned

TA’s upcoming graduation will be filled with blessings as usual. The weekend begins with Consecration at Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md., at 7 p.m., Friday, June 6. The Sabbath morning Baccalaureate will also take place at Sligo church, starting at 11:15 a.m. The guest speaker will be Wilie Oliver (top right), Family Ministries director for the North American Division (NAD). Oliver’s 20 years of service to the Adventist Church have included being a youth and senior pastor, a conference and union director for Youth and Family Ministries, and NAD director of Pathfinder and Camp Ministries. Oliver and his wife, Elaine, have two children who are TA graduates: Jessica (‘05) and Julian (‘08).

Commencement on Sunday, June 8, will take place in the school’s J.P. Laurence Auditorium, starting at 10 a.m. The guest speaker will be Washington Johnson II (left), Message magazine editor. Johnson’s pastoral ministry spans more than two decades. He currently serves as a chaplain (Lieutenant Commander) in the U.S. Navy Reserve assigned to the Naval District in Washington, D.C. He and his wife, Joyce, are parents to 9-year-old Washington III.

Calendar

May

4 SAT Testing
5-9 Teacher Appreciation Week
7 Asian Pacific Assembly
15, 18 Fine Arts Spring Production
19 Finance and Board Appreciation Dinner
22 Junior/Senior Banquet
28 Academic Awards Assembly
30 Spring Picnic
Spiritual Dedication Service, 7 p.m.

TA Today is published in the Visitor by Takoma Academy, 8100 Carroll Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912 • Phone: 301-434-7400
Principal, C. Dunbar Henri • www.ta.edu
COUNTRY LIVING IN SOUTHERN MARYLAND: Relax in a 4-acre garden with 380 blueberry bushes, 380 strawberry plants, and 380 blackberry vines. A warm and inviting home with a wrap-around deck overlooking a pond and a garden pond. The home features three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a living room, a dining room, a kitchen, a family room, a study, and two car garages. Additional amenities include a wine cellar, a home theater, a pool, and a hot tub.

The home is located in a quiet neighborhood with easy access to major roadways and public transportation. The property is perfect for families who enjoy outdoor activities such as hiking, biking, and fishing. The owner is looking for a buyer who shares the same passion for nature and enjoys spending time with their loved ones in a peaceful and serene environment.

For more information, please contact:

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are invited to join us for this evening of good food and fellowship.

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mdmenoffaith@verizon.net

www.mmof.org

September 18, 1916, in Michigan; died October 8, 2007, in Michigan; married Dr. Merlin E. Graham in the 1940s, and

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mdmenoffaith@verizon.net

Phone

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Baltimore CityFirst Church

OBITUARIES

GALLAGHER, Eunice R. Howes: born September 18, 1916, in Michigan; died October 8, 2007, in Michigan; taught at Washington Adventist University (Washington Adventist College) in the 1940s, and

worked as Gladys E. Fromm’s "Prophetic Path of Faith" at the University of Washington and the Herald Publishing Station. She was a member of the Washington Adventist University Board of Trustees, and a member of the school’s "Heath Ministries team leader,

Health Ministries team leader, church outreach team leader, and church worker. She is survived by her wife, Donna; sons, W arren, Stephen, and

DAVID W. "Bill" Fromm: born November 24, 2000, in Clearfield, Pa. He was a member of the Maryland (MD) Gethsemani Adventist Church. Bill was a gifted

tutor, and for the quarterly online magazine, Witnessing hope to the world, take part in debates, interviews, chat, and forums. Since 1993, Asian Americans. Thousands of successful matches. Top ranked.

BOHIS: William W. "Billy" Fromm: born November 24, 2000, in Clearfield, Pa. He was a member of the Maryland (MD) Gethsemani Adventist Church. Bill was a gifted
donald; sons, W arren, Stephen,

Culver; 16 grandchildren; and

one great-grandchild.

COUNTRY LIVING IN SOUTHERN MARYLAND: Relax in a 4-acre garden with 380 blueberry bushes, 380 strawberry plants, and 380 blackberry vines. A warm and inviting home with a wrap-around deck overlooking a pond and a garden pond. The home features three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a living room, a dining room, a kitchen, a family room, a study, and two car garages. Additional amenities include a wine cellar, a home theater, a pool, and a hot tub.

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For more information, please contact:

[Contact Information]
The words were, “Bind Us Together, Lord.” I can’t say I looked forward to it, but it definitely became part of my DNA. And now that I have my own home, where Austin and I often worship in front of the computer with Doug Batchelor and Zac Central, I really miss it.

WE ARE FAMILY

Another song they sang in South Africa helped me understand why I felt so at home so far from home. The words were, “Bind us together, Lord; Bind us together, Lord; Bind us together with love.” No matter where we go in the world, Adventists are bound together as a family of believers. We uphold the same doctrine, study the same Sabbath School lessons, sing the same hymns, baptize and do communion the same way, and read the same Spirit of Prophecy. Most importantly, you’ll find us focused on the same mission—preparing people for Christ’s soon return.

And though I often complain that I don’t want to see my church left behind, I do cherish the things that make us uniquely and familiarly Adventist—like worship. We may do it differently, and in this age of technology, we may find new ways to do it, but it’s nice to know we’re all reading—and singing—from the same page.